

A Special Independence Anniversary Edition

EXECUTIVE HORN

Magazine of the Presidency of the Republic of Liberia
VOL.3 NO. 3

Liberia @178

The story of Resilience,
Courage, Patriotism
and Optimism



HIS EXCELLENCY
JOSEPH NYUMA BOAKAI
PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA



RACE CAR ON THE RACE TRACK



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EDITOR'S NOTE:

Welcome to Vol. 3 No. 3 of the Executive Horn, a Magazine of the Presidency of the Republic of Liberia.

In this Edition, we featured the RACE CAR, His Excellency Joseph Nyuma Boakai, Sr. and the speed with which development projects that are being implemented.

We also brought you in retrospect, the sacrifices of past Liberian Presidents from Joseph Jenkins Roberts, Liberia's first President to the current President and their contributions over the past 178 years in briefs. It is always a pleasure to have our readership informed of the happenings at the Presidency.

Included are high-definition photos from activities of the President for your viewing and reading enjoyment while at the same time providing you with highlights of developments as they unfolded at the Executive Mansion.

If you have come to the country from abroad for the celebration of the 178 Independence Day of Liberia, take time off to see interesting historical sites and enjoy the Liberian cuisine at restaurants and cook shops around the city and beyond.

This is the time of year that Liberians cherish very much, and we welcome you to the LAND OF LIBERTY.

Atty. George K. Saah
Assistant Minister of State for
Public Affairs
Editor-In-Chief



ATTY. GEORGE K. SAAH
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF



HAPPY INDEPENDENCE DAY

July 26, 2025, is Liberia's 178th Independence Anniversary, the most important holiday in the Republic of Liberia.

Liberia means "Land of the Free" the first nation on the African continent to gain its independence on July 26, 1847.

Liberia gained its independence from the American Colonization Society, the ACS. In 1980 Liberia lost its democratic credentials when President William R. Tolbert, Jr. was overthrown in a bloody military coup that shocked the world. Three elections have taken place in Liberia since the guns went silent in 2003. These elections were described as peaceful, transparent, free, and fair by Liberians and the international community.

With the Unity Party and its Alliance at the helm of power, series of steps have been taken to ensure that the nation remains peaceful and to also make certain that a culture of accountability is instituted in the public sector. The Liberia Anti-Corruption Commission is also investigating accusations of corruption and misuse of public resources as documented by the General Auditing Commission, the GAC. The President by an Executive Order has established the Office of War and Economic Crimes that is working out the modalities for the establishment of War and Economic Crimes Court to bring to justice those that bear the greater responsibility for the commission of war and economic crimes during the fourteen year civil war. The President has also established the Office of the Ombudsman to investigate individual's complaints against maladministration in the public sector.

This is another chapter in Liberia's history under the 26th President of the Republic of Liberia who has vowed that the Government and the people of Liberia will not tolerate business as usual.

The celebration of 178 years of freedom is happening against the background of wounds and destruction left behind by the civil crises and the strive to heal the nation, its people and pursue development.

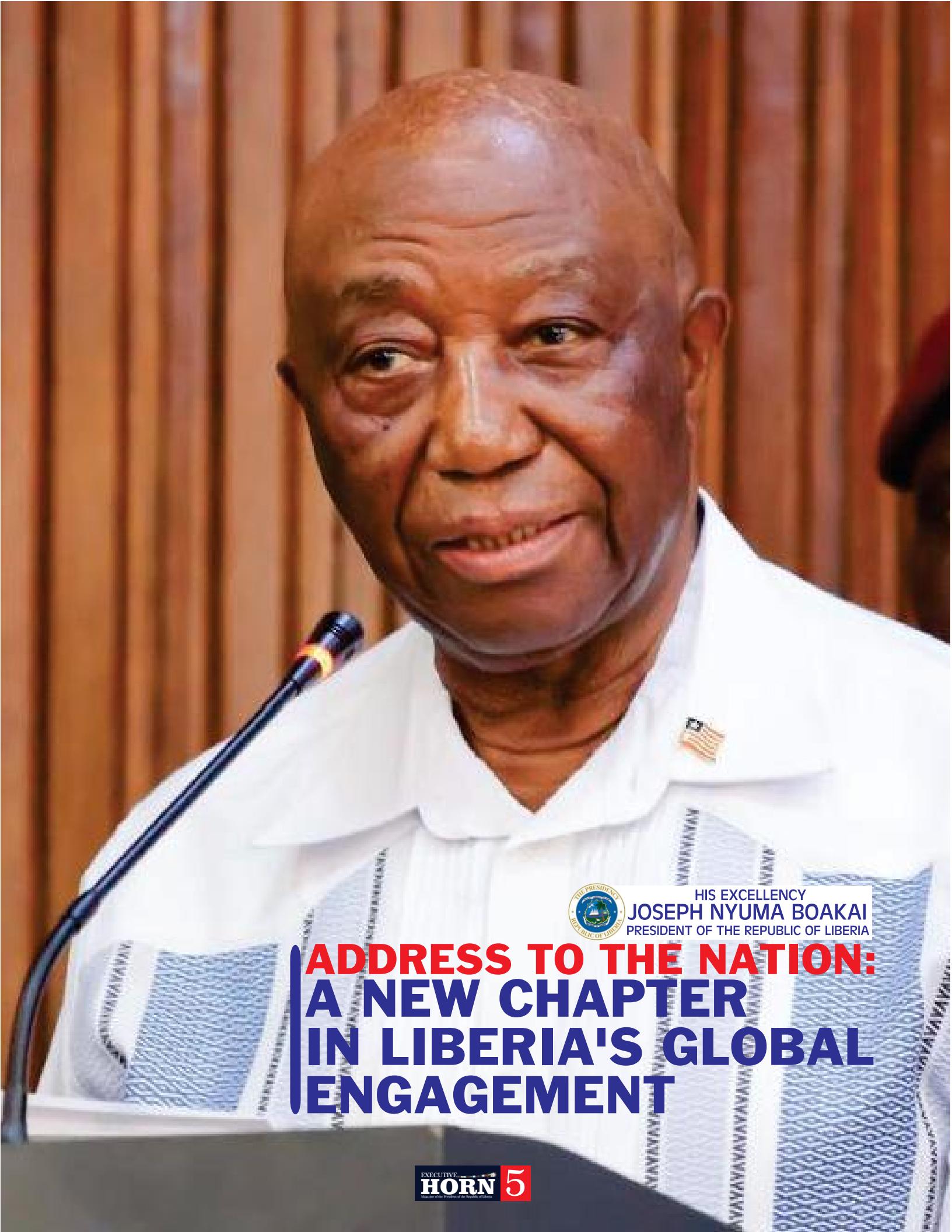
Three elections have taken place since the guns went silent in 2003 considered to be very peaceful, transparent, free, and fair by the international community.

Liberians are enjoying peace and stability but not without the usual rough rides in any democratic society. With the Unity Party and its Alliance at the helm of power series of measures have been taken to continuously put the nation on an even keel. There are investigations on accusations of corruption and misuse of public resources, a war and economic crimes office that is seeing the establishment of the War and Economic Crimes Court has been effectively established, the Anti-Corruption Commission has cases on its dockets for prosecution and the Ombudsman office has been created by an Executive Order of the President of Liberia.

This is another chapter in the history of the nation under the 26th President of Liberia, Joseph Nyuma Boakai who has frowned on the way things have been done in Government and will not tolerate business as usual.

With the Arrest Agenda in full swing, it is the hope of all Liberians at home and abroad that we can achieve the level of development that is required of us as a nation and people.

This is possible with a new mindset, love of country and commitment. The President His Excellency Joseph Nyuma Boakai summed it all when he said all Liberians should Think Liberia, Love Liberia and Build Liberia.



HIS EXCELLENCY
JOSEPH NYUMA BOAKAI
PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA

ADDRESS TO THE NATION: A NEW CHAPTER IN LIBERIA'S GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT



President Joseph Nyuma Boakai

**Delivered by His Excellency Joseph Nyuma Boakai, Sr.
President of the Republic of Liberia on Liberia's
election to the Non-Permanent Seat of the United
Nations Security Council.**

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Monrovia, Liberia

June 3, 2025

**Excellencies.
Distinguished Delegates.
Fellow Liberians.
Friends of Liberia:**

Today, we stand at the threshold of a new chapter in our nation's history. The United Nations Security Council has honored us with a non-permanent seat for 2026-2027, recognizing our resilience, commitment to peace, and dedication to global cooperation.

We extend our deepest gratitude to all UN Member States for their confidence. This is a moment of honor

and humility for our 178-year-old republic, Africa's first independent nation, whose long and storied journey continues to inspire.

Our election is not just a national achievement. It symbolizes African perseverance and is a tribute to generations of Liberians who have held firm to freedom, self-governance, and global solidarity. From our role in the League of Nations and as a founding member of the United Nations to our contributions to African independence, Liberia has always punched above its weight on the global stage.

We honor the memory of Ambassador Angie Brooks-Randolph, Africa's first female President of the UN General Assembly, whose call for substance over symbolism still echoes. And we recall the foresight of President William R. Tolbert Jr., who warned that global peace was impossible without African freedom and justice. Liberia has walked a difficult road from conflict to recovery, but it has never been alone. We remain grateful to the United Nations, ECOWAS, and the African Union for their role in our peace process. We especially pay tribute to the two hundred and two United Nations peacekeepers who died in the cause of Liberia.

From the ruins of war, Liberia has risen as a democracy, holding successive peaceful elections, and achieving historic power transfers. Today's election affirms Liberia is again a credible and

relevant voice on the world stage.

Unlike our first partial term in 1961, today's election is a testament to our nation's journey toward peace and reconciliation. We have overcome conflict and are poised to contribute meaningfully to global peacebuilding and conflict resolution. It validates Liberia's commitment to international peace and our readiness to contribute meaningfully at the highest level.

We take on this responsibility during global uncertainty, marked by persistent conflicts, climate-related insecurity, terrorism, and development disparities. Liberia will be a principled and dependable voice on the Council.

We will advocate for Africa, the developing world, and inclusive, lasting peace.

Drawing from our own experience of reconciliation and nation-building, we will promote conflict prevention, support peacekeeping reform, and champion the protection of civilians, especially women and children.

Liberia will also continue its growing role as a troop-contributing country to UN missions.

To our African brothers and sisters, we pledge to be your voice. To the global South, we offer solidarity. And to all UN members, we promise constructive engagement and bridge-building diplomacy rooted in Liberia's humility, honesty, and freedom values.

We stand on the shoulders of giants, including Presidents

Joseph Jenkins Roberts, Edwin Barclay, William V.S. Tubman, William R. Tolbert, and Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, who flew the flag of Liberia high on the international stage, other icons of this democracy we enjoy today, as well as countless unsung heroes who kept our nation's spirit alive through adversity. This moment is the fruit of their labor and prayers.

To all Liberians at home and abroad, this victory is yours. Let us rally together to make this tenure a success. When Liberia sits at the Council, it will be your hopes, resilience, and dreams that she will carry.

I thank our Foreign Minister, Her Excellency Madam Sara Beysolow Nyanti, Liberia's Permanent Mission to the UN, campaign teams in New York, Monrovia, and Addis Ababa, and all those across government who made this achievement possible. You have worked hard to open a new chapter in our nation's global engagement.

As promised in our campaign, Liberia's voice at the Council will reflect our people. We will consult with women and youth nationwide to ensure our representation is inclusive and grounded.

This new chapter in our global engagement presents opportunities for growth, collaboration, and progress. I call upon all Liberians to embrace this moment and work together to build a brighter future for our nation and the world.

May God bless the Republic of Liberia, ECOWAS, the African Union, and the United Nations.

Thank you.



President Joseph Nyuma Boakai And Vice President Jeremiah Kpan Koung

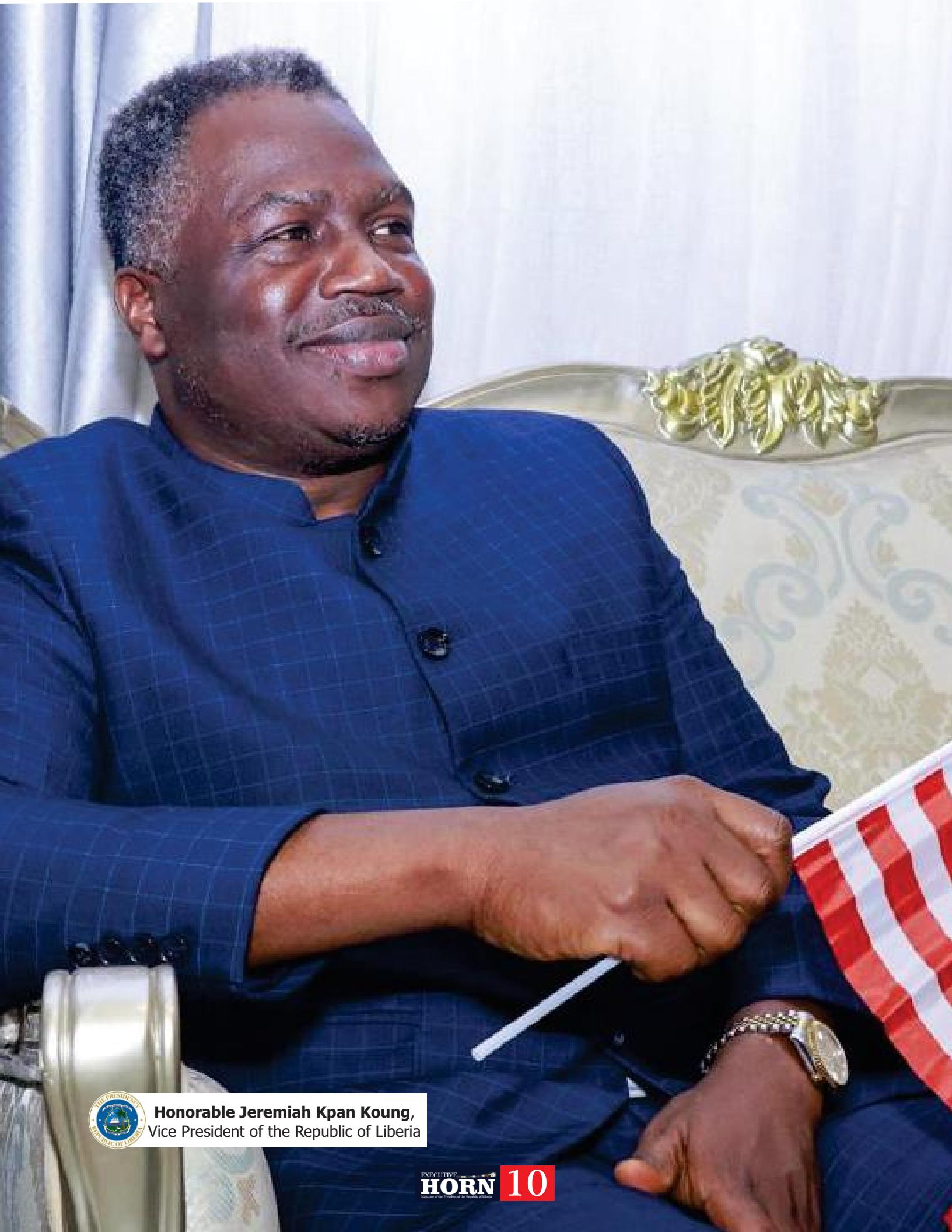


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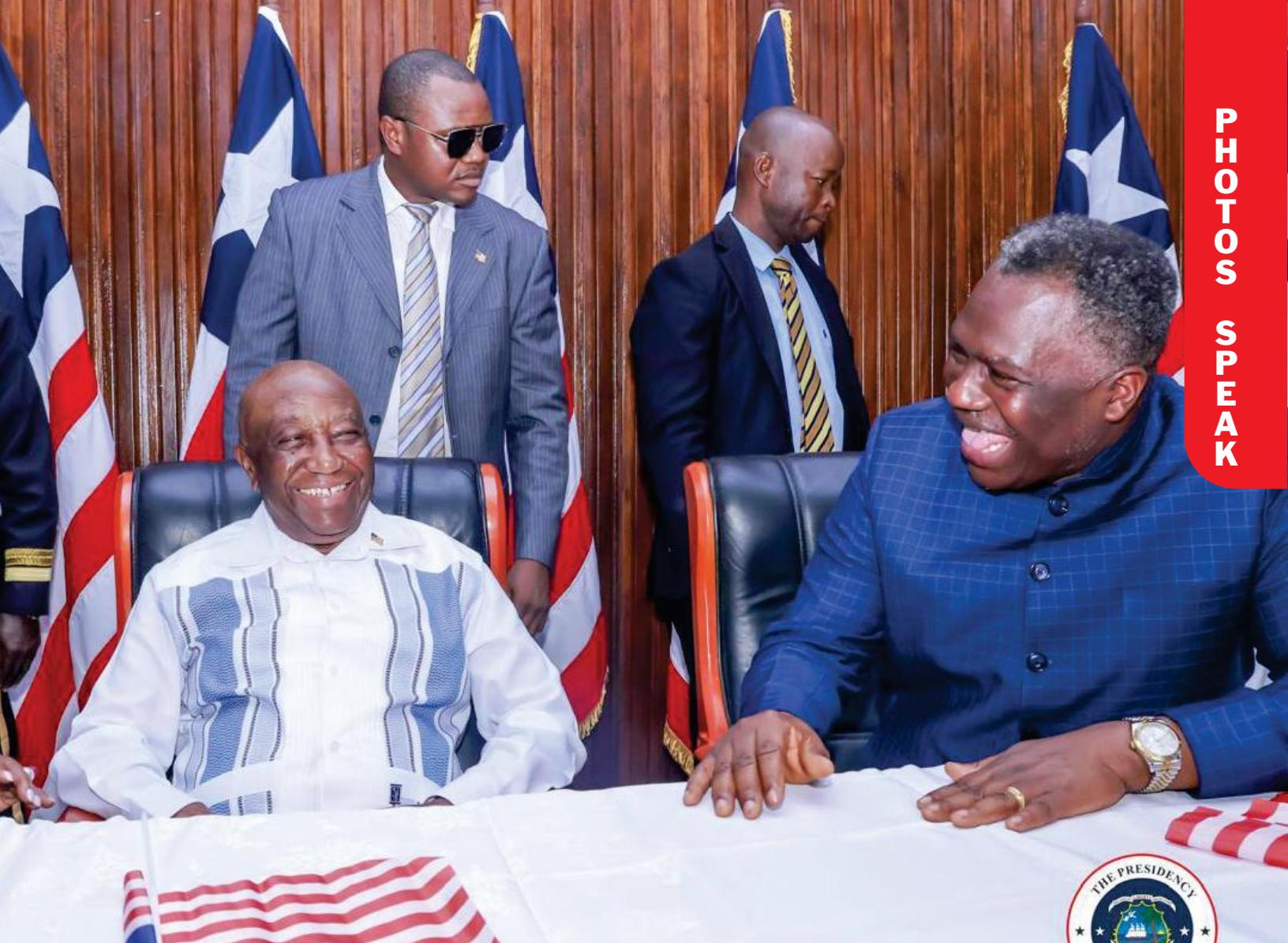
Liberia celebrates election to non-permanent seat on the United Nations Security Council

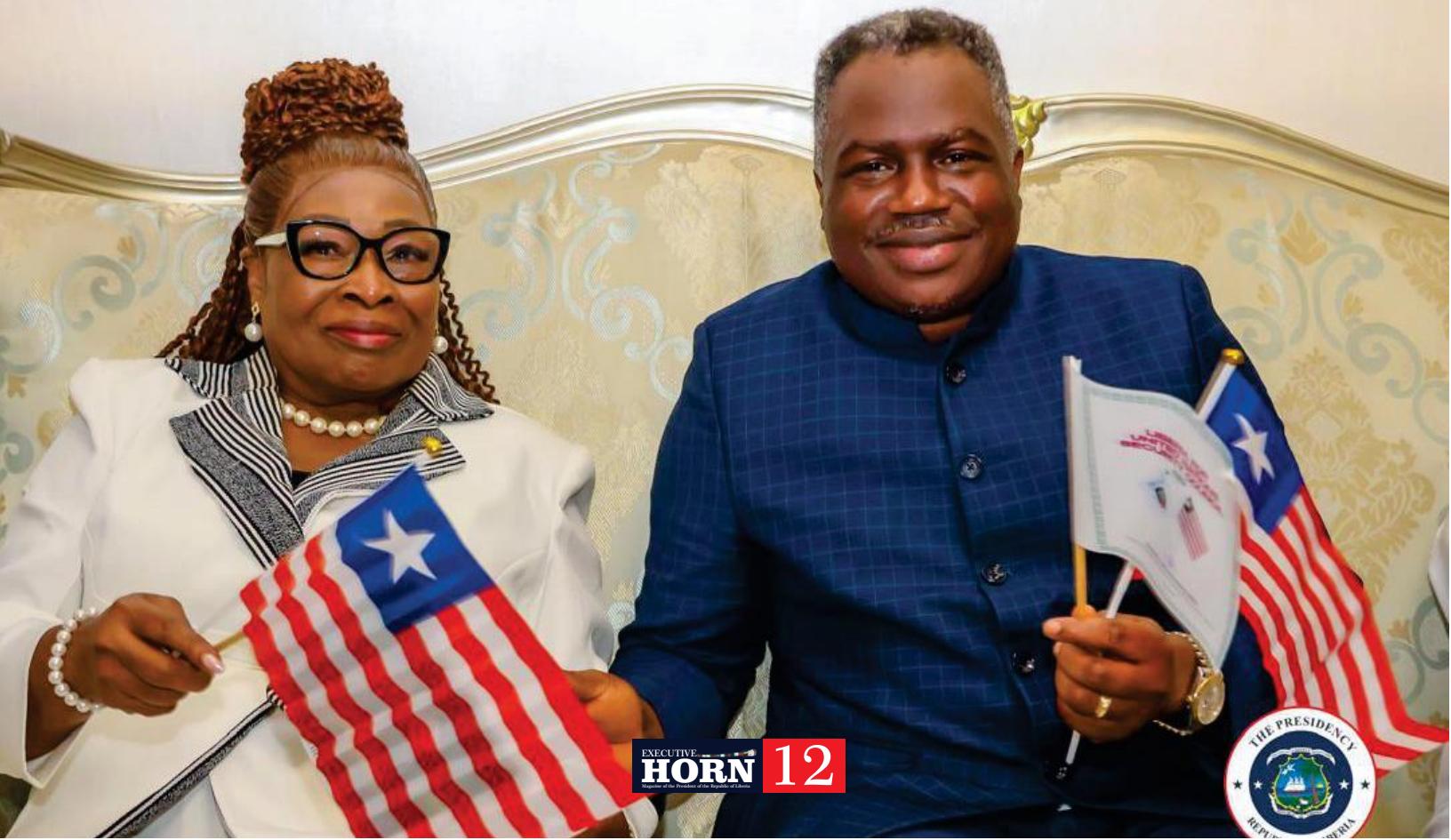
PHOTOS SPEAK





Honorable Jeremiah Kpan Koung,
Vice President of the Republic of Liberia









BRINGING TO A CLOSE LIBERIA'S TURBULENT PAST, RECONCILING THE NATION AND HOPE FOR THE FUTURE

The events of April 12, 1980, set into motion a very chaotic period in the history of Liberia. Liberia's 20th President William R. Tolbert, Jr. was toppled in a bloody military coup followed by the execution of thirteen members of his cabinet.

On the eve of Christmas in 1989 former General Services Director General Charles G. Taylor launched an invasion from the north of Liberia to topple President Samuel K. Doe.

That was the beginning of a fourteen-year war that destroyed lives and property, and it is estimated that a quarter of a million Liberians died in that war, while more than a million Liberians were displaced in West Africa and other parts of the world.

The Liberian civil crises were a series of wars involving more than seven warring factions fighting for control of territory and power. Liberia was plunged into chaos.

By September of 1990 two presidents have been killed, President William R. Tolbert, Jr. who was killed on April 12, 1980, and President Samuel K. Doe was killed on September 9, 1990, both Presidents were gruesomely murdered.

The nation became more divided and devastated by these terrible events. The international community stepped in beginning with the ECOMOG Intervention Force comprising of troops from the ECOWAS.

Billions was spent by the United Nations to restore peace to Liberia and at the time the Largest Peace Keeping Mission in the world close to seventeen thousand troops from all over the world.

The war officially ended in 2003 with deep wounds inflicted on the nation by its own citizens followed by peace conferences and elections.

Today, Liberia's 26th President His Excellency Joseph Nyuma Boakai has taken bold steps to confront the past



President Joseph Nyuma Boakai

and bring reconciliation and healing to a very divided country beginning with his pledge to finally lay to rest Presidents William R. Tolbert, Jr., and Samuel Kanyon Doe.



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PICTORIAL OF REBURIAL OF PRESIDENT SAMUEL KANYON DOE AND BURIAL OF FIRST LADY NANCY BOHN DOE IN ZWEDRU









A PICTORIAL OF MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR PRESIDENT WILLIAM RICHARD TOLBERT, JR., REBURIAL AND MAUSOLEUM















Remarks by Honorable Kartumu Yarta Boakai, First Lady of the Republic of Liberia, delivered at the 7th Inauguration of Merck Foundation on June 17, 2025



Honorable Kartumu Yarta Boakai, First Lady of the Republic of Liberia

Your Excellencies, My Revered Sisters, First Ladies of Africa and Asia, Professor Frank Stangenberg-Haverkamp, Chairman of the Merck Foundation Board of Trustees, Senator Dr. Rasha Kelej, Dynamic CEO of Merck Foundation, Honourable Ministers, Development Partners, Merck Foundation Alumni, Distinguished Guests, Members of the Media, Ladies and Gentlemen—

I greet you today with the warmth, hope, and strength of the Liberian people—and as a deeply proud daughter of Africa. I bring you greetings from the loving people of Liberia, Africa's first and oldest republic. I also bring you heartfelt regards from the President of the Republic of Liberia and my beloved husband of 53 years, His Excellency Joseph Nyuma Boakai, Sr.

It is both an honor and a blessing to be here again for the second time as Guest of Honour for the 7th Edition of the Merck Foundation First Ladies Initiative Summit. Last year in Tanzania, I stood on this platform for the very first time. I was inspired,



Honorable Kartumu Yarta Boakai, First Lady of the Republic of Liberia

challenged, and energized by the extraordinary work my sisters are doing across the continent. Today, I return—more committed, more emboldened, and more determined than ever to carry the torch of transformation for women, children, and communities across Liberia.

I have not come merely to speak—I have come to declare that Liberia is no longer asking for a seat at the table. We are building our own table of solutions, with women at the center.

As we mark the 8th Anniversary of the Merck Foundation and the 13th Anniversary of its programs across Africa, Asia, and underserved communities, I would like to express—on behalf of an entire grateful nation—my deepest appreciation to the Merck Foundation for being a trustworthy and tested partner in progress. But let us be clear: this is not just a celebration of years—it is a celebration of lives changed, systems built, and futures unlocked.

Professor Frank and Dr. Rasha, thank you. Your vision is not only transforming lives but also rebuilding nations. In every hospital ward, in every clinic tucked away in

rural hills, the echo of your impact is heard—in the heartbeat of a mother who lived, in the cry of a newborn who thrived. Ladies and Gentlemen,

In Liberia, the Merck Foundation has not only made promises; it has delivered history. And I am proud to say that we are no longer just catching up—we are leading forward.

Under the Merck Foundation Healthcare Capacity Building Initiative, 50 Liberian doctors have received advanced scholarships in highly specialized, underserved fields. These are not just numbers—they are life-saving investments. These doctors are stationed not only in the capital but also in hard-to-reach counties where their presence means the difference between life and death.

One young doctor put it this way:

"Before my Merck Foundation training, I watched patients die from treatable complications. Now I have the tools to save lives—and the confidence to lead."

Let me share the breakdown of this transformational support—This is not charity—it is capacity. Not aid—it is agency. It is the restoration of dignity, the architecture of a resilient health system built from within.

26 scholarships to specialists trained in Fertility, Embryology, and Sexual and Reproductive Health. These are Liberia's first fertility specialists, and they are restoring hope to couples once

Before my Merck Foundation training, I watched patients die from treatable complications. Now I have the tools to save lives—and the confidence to lead.



Honorable Kartumu Yarta Boakai, First Lady of the Republic of Liberia

trapped in silence and stigma. They are champions of the "More Than a Mother" vision—a movement I am proud to lead as a champion.

5 scholarships in Oncology—four of whom have completed training and now stand as Liberia's first oncologists in the public sector. Today, our people no longer need to travel abroad to fight cancer. They now fight it at home—with dignity, with expertise, and with hope.

10 scholarships in Diabetes Management—where trained specialists have established the first diabetes clinics in several counties, offering treatment, prevention, and life-saving education.

8 scholarships in Acute Medicine, Pediatrics, and Dermatology—planting seeds for a future where Liberians can access specialized care at home.

And here's the crowning jewel—Liberia's current Minister of Health is herself a proud Merck Foundation alumnus. What better testament to the life-changing ripple effect of your investment?

Because proper health is not just the absence of disease—but the presence of dignity, equality, and respect for every woman's story and every mother's worth

But what is health without dignity? What is care without culture?

As Ambassador of the "More Than a Mother" Campaign, I have been proud to spearhead initiatives that go

beyond clinical care. Together with the Merck Foundation, we have dared to challenge the unspoken. We have confronted stigma with storytelling, silence with song, and shame with power.

Together, we've launched:

Media, Music, Film, and Fashion Awards—to drive creative advocacy because when art speaks, society listens.

Storybooks for Children—planting seeds of respect and awareness at the roots.

Health Media Training—arming journalists not just with facts but with purpose.

And Awareness campaigns that boldly confront gender-based violence, infertility stigma, child marriage, FGM, and chronic diseases like diabetes and hypertension.

We are not whispering change—we are thundering transformation through every art form, every headline, and every child's bedtime story. These are not campaigns. They are movements. They are ripples turning into waves of liberation, education, and healing. From marketplaces to mosques, from classrooms to radio stations—our message is clear: our women deserve more.

Let me now speak of the future—our daughters.

Through the Educating Linda Program, 20 bright, marginalized girls receive full annual scholarships in Liberia. Not just to attend school—but to finish school. To be equipped, empowered, and emancipated from the cycles of poverty and early marriage.

Moreover, thousands more children have received school supplies, ensuring no child's dream is extinguished by lack.

Because we know when you educate a girl, you are not just helping one child—you are igniting a nation. When a girl learns, a generation rises. When she leads, a nation evolves. And when she is lifted, the whole world is elevated.

My sisters, my fellow warriors for change,

The Merck Foundation has given us the blueprint. The question is not whether it works—the evidence is overwhelming. The real question is this: how far are we willing to go?

How bold can we be with our voices?

How relentless can we be with our advocacy?

How unified can we be as First Ladies—across borders, across languages, across faiths—to fight for every mother and every child?

We are not here to be ceremonial figures—we are here to be catalytic forces—forces that shift mindsets, reshape systems, and reclaim the destiny of our daughters.

Let me be clear: We will not rest. Not while a girl drops out of school due to poverty. We cannot rest while a girl is forced to choose marriage over mathematics. We

cannot pause while a woman dies in shame for something her body cannot do.

We will not look away while mothers die, bringing life into this world.

As I close, I want to reassure you that today, I recommit Liberia's full support to the Merck Foundation. We are not just participants; we are partners. We are not just grateful—we are galvanized.

To my sisters—First Ladies across Africa and Asia—thank you for standing shoulder to shoulder in this vineyard of hope—and for being my fellow laborers in the vineyard of transformative change.

And to the mothers and daughters across the continent, hear me clearly: You are seen. You are valued. And you are not alone—Our Fight is your fight, and our victory is your promise.

As the African proverb reminds us: "If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together." And I add—if we want to change the world, let us go together—with purpose

Together, we are not just writing a new chapter.

We are building a new future.

Together, we rise. Together, we heal. Together, we prevail.

Thank you. May God bless you. And may God bless our beloved Africa.

And Awareness campaigns that boldly confront gender-based violence, infertility stigma, child marriage, FGM, and chronic diseases like diabetes and hypertension.



ZWEDRU

Statement by His Excellency Joseph Nyuma Boakai, Sr.
President of the Republic of Liberia
At The State Funeral Service and Reburial of Former
President Samuel Kanyon Doe, Sr. and Burial of former
First Lady Nancy Bohn Doe

At the Zwedru City Hall, Zwedru City, Grand Gedeh County

June 27, 2025

Mr. Speaker and Members of the Legislature;
Mr. Superintendent;
Officials of Government;
Members of the Clergy;
Family and Friends of the late President Samuel Kanyon
Doe and the late Mrs. Nancy Doe;
Distinguished Guests;
The Media;
My Fellow Citizens:

We gather here today with solemn hearts and a shared sense of reverence to honor and reinter the remains of our former Head of State, President Samuel Kanyon Doe, and his loving wife, the late former First Lady, Mrs. Nancy Bohn Doe.

This is not just a burial; it is a moment of national reflection, a time to reconcile with our history, to heal from our wounds, and to remember with respect and purpose. President Samuel Doe led Liberia through a decade of immense challenges, from 1980 to 1990. He rose to power as a young man with a bold vision to empower ordinary Liberians and uplift the voices of those long marginalized. His Administration laid foundations in infrastructure, education, and industry. Many of these efforts remain visible and relevant today. His dream was to transform Liberia into a nation where every citizen could thrive.

I speak not only as President, but also as someone who served under President Doe. I served first as Managing Director of the Liberia Produce and Marketing Corporation, and later as Minister of Agriculture.

Through our work together, I came to know him personally. He was determined. He was sometimes misunderstood. But he was always committed to improving the lives of the Liberian people. Our collaboration was built on mutual respect and a shared vision of national service.

This reburial carries weight far beyond Grand Gedeh or the Doe family. It symbolizes a broader effort to reconcile with our past and to heal our nation. The civil conflict that followed his tragic death inflicted deep scars. But through God's grace, we have enjoyed peace for over two decades. Let today be more than a symbolic gesture. Let it be a chapter turned, a mark of our readiness to move forward, to make peace with the past, and to uphold justice, unity, and truth.

This dignified reburial reflects our national maturity and our collective will to heal. It underscores my Government's policy to remove the lingering shadows of conflict and to foster reconciliation for all Liberians.

As I stated in my Annual Message earlier this year, reconciliation and healing are central to our development agenda. We cannot build a prosperous Liberia on broken



President Joseph Nyuma Boakai

foundations. Our future depends on unity, on confronting the past through truth, forgiveness, and a shared commitment to progress.

To our youth, many of whom were not yet born during those difficult years, I say this: learn from the lessons of our history. Understand the cost of division. Let unity, peace, and service to country be your guiding stars.

To the Doe family, I urge you to remain united and continue to lead by example. Let your legacy be one of strength, dignity, and national healing.

To the people of Grand Gedeh, and all Liberians across our fifteen counties, this is our time to come together. Let us reconcile. Let us heal. Let us build a Liberia where no region is forgotten, no citizen is overlooked, and no past injustice is allowed to define our future.

Let us reject bitterness. Let us reject division. Let us walk forward with hope, guided by love for our country and faith in our shared destiny. Let us protect the peace we now have with vigilance and cherish it with patriotism.

Even as we celebrate the legacy of our late former President, I must pay special tribute to the late Mrs. Nancy B. Doe, whose passing while preparing for this very ceremony, added another layer of sorrow to today's solemn occasion.

I had the privilege of knowing Mrs. Nancy B. Doe personally. As First Lady, she was the very embodiment of grace, dignity, and quiet strength. In the face of profound loss, she bore her sorrow with remarkable composure and unwavering devotion to her family and to the Liberian people.

She did not shrink from the immense shadows cast by the wings of her late husband's state leadership. Rather, she stood firmly by President Doe's side; not as a figure eclipsed, but as a light of her own. She was resolute, gracious, and unafraid. With poise and courage, she stepped into the full weight of parenthood, filling the void left by the demands of the presidency that often drew a loving father away. Her legacy is one of resilience, honor, and steadfast love.

She touched the lives of many with compassion and generosity. Today, we remember and celebrate her life as we lay her to rest beside her husband. May their reunion be peaceful and eternal.

May the souls of President Samuel Kanyon Doe and Mrs. Nancy B. Doe rest in perfect peace.

May God bless us all and save the Republic.

Thank you.

LIBERIA @178

The Story of Resilience, Courage, Patriotism and Optimism of the Nation and its People

By Atty. George K. Saah

Assistant Minister for Public Affairs



President Joseph Nyuma Boakai

July 26, 2025

Liberia was founded in 1822 by freed American Slaves "as a result of the American Colonization Society's mission to resettle freed African Americans in West Africa. The ACS, a private organization in the United States, aimed to provide a new home for formerly enslaved people outside of the United States and, for some a chance for a better life." The first settlement was established at Cape Mesurado, which later became the capital city of Monrovia. Liberia declared its independence on July 26, 1847, establishing itself as the first independent African Republic. Liberia declared independence from the American Colonization Society in order to establish a sovereign state and create its own laws. The United States did not officially recognize Liberia's independence until 1862. The descendants of the settlers played a significant role in shaping Liberian society and politics. They maintained control of the State for nearly a century and a half until the military coup in 1980.

"The founding of Liberia in the early 1800s was motivated

by domestic politics of slavery and race in the United States as well as by United States foreign policy interests."

The founding of Liberia was unique as compared to other African Nations that were colonized by world powers that put in place systems that their nations built upon to get to where they are. In some former colonies they left behind infrastructure and foundations that made it easier for them to transition to independence and start their nations.

Starting a nation by former slaves and their descendants was one of the greatest challenges in the life of a new nation as guiding the political process was the sole responsibility of people who were learning the art of statecraft. That was the challenge face by the new Republic and in the face of adversity the founding fathers stood with resilience, determination, and patriotism to chart the course of a nation that provides a home for Black people everywhere who seek a home of freedom.

There were challenges in uniting the sixteen tribes, there were also challenges in the body politic of the country and the structure of governance. No one should believe that putting

this nation together and all its institutions was an easy task.

From 1847 to the present, there have been challenges and there will be challenges ahead. Challenges will always come, how we manage them as a people make the difference. Every one of the 26 Presidents of Liberia had their difficult and challenging periods in the making of Liberia, from Joseph Jenkins Roberts to George Manneh Weah and now Joseph Nyuma Boakai. They had their successes and shortcomings, it has never been a smooth ride for any president of Liberia, a nation that emerged out of difficult circumstances and left on its own to survive. No future president of Liberia will inherit a nation free from problems, have a smooth ride especially, with the shrinking global economy and natural disasters. There will always be problems, but with the will power have the people united together and with the will power of the leadership these challenges can be overcome.

These are the Presidents of the Republic of Liberia lets reflect on each of them as each president played a key and significant role in the development of

the nation. They faced challenges, they persevered, they persisted in their quest for what was best for their country at the time or else we would not be where we are today.

The thread that runs through with each of these leaders is the resilience, courage, and patriotism to move ahead no matter the circumstances. They played their part; it is time for us who are at the helm of power to play our part not only the President but all of those who are in the position of power.

We salute the Past Presidents of the Land of Liberty, and we salute those who are still alive to see this celebration of the 178th year of our existence as a nation and people.

President Joseph Jenkins Roberts: The first major challenges faced by the administration of President Joseph Jenkins Roberts (1848-1856) were securing international recognition, navigating internal political strife, and managing economic instability. President Roberts who served as Liberia's first and seventh President made significant contributions to the development of the nation as the first Black governor of Liberia and securing recognition for the newly independent state and played a key role in establishing Liberia College and served as its first president.

Liberia declared its independence on July 26, 1847, establishing itself as the first independent African Republic. Liberia declared independence from the American Colonization Society in order to establish a sovereign state and create its own laws.



President Stephen Allen Benson: (1854-1856) during his four-term presidency, Liberia expanded both its internal and external trade, and in 1862 the United States recognized the country diplomatically. Perhaps his biggest accomplishment was the annexing of the colony of Maryland into the Republic of Liberia in 1857.

President Daniel B. Warner: (1864-1868) His main concern as President was his government's relationship with the Indigenous people, particularly those in the interior of the country and he organized the first settler expedition into the interior in 1868.

President James Spriggs Payne: (1876-1878) during his presidency, worked to end slave trade that still took place along Liberia's coast. During his first term, he improved government relations with the Indigenous communities in Liberia, who he believed early settlers and leaders had ignored.

President Edward James Roye: (1870-1871) During the Presidency of President Edward James Roye, Liberia was marked by several issues including a controversial loan, political tensions and ultimately his removal from office. Roye served as Senator in 1856 and later as Chief Justice of the Supreme Court from 1865-1868. He operated several businesses and published a newspaper the Liberia Sentinel in 1845.

President James S. Smith: (1871-1872) served as Secretary of State from 1856 to 1860 and was later elected as a senator from Grand Bassa County from 1868 to 1869. In the 1869 presidential election Smith was elected Vice President under President James Roye. The two were the first True Whig politicians to hold their respective offices. He was the sixth President of Liberia.

President Anthony William Gardiner: (1878-1883) served as the ninth President of Liberia from 1878 to 1883. He was the first of a series of thirteen True Whig presidents who held uninterrupted power until 1980.

President Alfred Francis Russell: (1883-1884) was an Americo-Liberian Missionary, planter, and politician who served as the tenth President of Liberia from 1883 to 1884 after serving as Vice President under Anthony William Gardiner who he succeeded as President. He served as Methodist Minister, elected to the senate, and served as President Pro Tempore of the Liberian Senate.

President Hilary Wright Johnson: (1884-1892) served as the 11th President of Liberia. He was elected four times. He was the first Liberian President to be born in Africa. He served three times as secretary of State and once as Secretary of the Interior prior to becoming President.

President Joseph James Cheeseman: (1892-1896) 12th President of Liberia, born at Edina, Grand Bassa County, was elected three times on the True Whig ticket.

President William David Coleman: (1896-1900) resigned after a fallout with political allies and his own cabinet over his policies place more pressure on his administration, he resigned from office in December 1900. His successor was his Secretary of State, Garretson W. Gibson since the Vice President had



already died in office. He served as 13th President of Liberia.

President Garretson Wilmot Gibson: (1900-1904) was the 14th President of Liberia. He was born in Baltimore, Maryland, USA. Served as rector of the Episcopalian Trinity Church in Monrovia. Served as Chaplain of the Liberian Senate, President of the Board of Trustees of Liberia College and one time President of Liberia College.

President Arthur Barclay: (1904-1912) The Liberian constitution was changed during the administration of President Arthur Barclay giving citizenship to the people of tribal origin, and a system of "indirect rule" was introduced. He also tried to open up the country to foreigners and foreign capital by granting concession agreements and attracting international loans. He was the 15th President of Liberia.

President Daniel E. Howard: (1912-1920) With the outbreak of World War I attempted to maintain the country's neutrality, though he tended to support the Allies, whose colonial territories in Africa surrounded Liberia. Despite German protests he allowed



the French to operate a wireless station in Monrovia. He was the 16th President of Liberia and Secretary of the True Whig Party.

President Charles Dunbar Burgess King: (1920-1930) will be remembered for championing the establishment of the Booker Washington Agricultural and Industrial Institute in Kakata, Liberia, in 1929. This institution was a significant step towards vocational education in Liberia. He also represented Liberia at the 1919 Paris Peace Conference and the First Pan-African Congress.

President Edwin James Barclay: (1930-1944) served as Liberia's 18th President. He was a member of the True Whig Party that dominated the political governance of the country for decades. Under Barclay's leadership, Liberia was an ally of the United States during World War II. President Barclay is credited with helping the country survive some of the greatest threats to its sovereignty.

President William V.S. Tubman: (1944-1971) President Tubman faced several challenges including economic instability, social inequality, and political tensions within Liberia. His administration also grappled with issues of

poverty, fragmented society, and resistance to certain policies. President Tubman known as Father of Modern Liberia spearheaded a policy of national unification. He served as 19th President of Liberia.

President William R. Tolbert, Jr: (1971-1980) served as Liberia's 20th President from 1971 until his assassination in 1980, by the Peoples Redemption Council led by Master Sergeant Samuel Kanyon Doe, ending 133 years of Americo-Liberian rule in Liberia. Tolbert abandoned Tubman's strong pro-West foreign policy, adopted one which focused on promoting Liberia's independence and a non-Alignment stance. He entered the House of Representatives in 1943 for the True Whig Party and was elected the 23rd Vice President of Liberia to William V.S. Tubman.

President Samuel Kanyon Doe: (1986-1990) Doe's Presidency was marked by both significant political and economic changes as well as a period of great turmoil.

His period saw an open-door policy to foreign investment. He opened Liberian ports to foreign ships, attracting Canadian, Chinese and European Investment. He overthrew the True Whig Party Government of President William R. Tolbert, Jr. in 1980 and subsequently suspended the constitution. He ordered the rewriting of the constitution and became President in 1985.

President Charles Ghankay Taylor: (1997-2003) Taylor's administration attempted to rebuild the nation after years of conflict with emphasis on infrastructural development and reconciliation. His administration also faced criticisms including allegations of corruption, human rights abuses, and the continuation of ethnic tensions.

President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf: (2006-2017) won the 2005 election and took office on 16 January 2006 and was reelected in 2011. She was the first woman in Africa to be elected as President of her country. She won the Nobel Peace Prize in 2011, in recognition of her efforts to bring women into the peace-keeping process, her non-violent efforts to promote peace and her struggle for women rights. President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf is one of the leading promoters of democratic rule, women empowerment, peace, justice, and freedom (Africa Center for economic Transformation ACET, 2022; Wellesley College, 2019)

President George Manneh Oppong Weah: (2018-2024) Served as 25th President of Liberia, and as Senator of Montserrado County. He played as a striker in his 18-year professional football career. Weah is the first African former footballer to become President.

President Joseph Nyuma Boakai (2024-) is running the nation on the manifesto of AGRICULTURE, RULE OF LAW, ROADS, EDUCATION, and SANITATION AND TOURISM, known as ARREST. He served as Vice President to President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf for 12 years. He is currently the Standard Bearer of the Unity Party and President of Liberia.

As Liberia celebrates 178 years of existence let us count the cost of the civil war in lives, property, and logistics as well as the numerous peace conferences that took place around the sub region and elsewhere.

It took resilience, courage and patriotism for a people that had given up hope during the crisis to come up victorious. Most nations experienced similar turbulent periods, some the most



developed nations today went through civil wars and learned tough lessons. In the end they all vowed and said NEVER AGAIN and that is what Liberians said after the war, never again no matter what happens we will sit around the table and make peace. Those who beat drums of war in today's Liberia are fools someone said. For the young generation who did not experience the crises, this should be a warning to you- read below: This was the tough road to peace that we enjoy today, it was not without a price than a quarter of a million Liberians died in the 'senseless war' that spanned 14 years. Peacekeepers laid their lives down on our soil for the sake of peace. President Joseph Nyuma Boakai has made it clear that all who contributed to the attainment of peace in Liberia will be honored.

"NEVER AGAIN" SHALL WE TURN OUR PRUNING HOOKS INTO SPEARS, USE THEM FOR PEACE

"The Banjul I Peace Accord: On 30 September 1990, an ECOWAS-sponsored All-Liberia Conference was convened in Banjul, the Gambia. The meeting brought together the leaders of Liberia's various political parties, interest groups and warring.

The Banjul II Peace Accord: On 24 October 1990, a meeting was held in Banjul, Gambia, under the auspices of ECOWAS. The meeting was attended by representatives of the interim government of Liberia, and the INPFL. The Taylor-headed NPFL refused to attend.

The Bamako Accord: After intensive diplomatic efforts, particularly with the support of Côte d'Ivoire and

Burkina Faso, ECOWAS persuaded Taylor to sign a formal ceasefire agreement with Johnson's INPFL and the remnants of Doe's army on 30 November 1990.

The Banjul III Peace Accord: On 21 December 1990, the leaders of the three warring factions – Taylor (NPFL), Johnson (INPFL), and Bowen (remnants of Doe's Army) – met in Banjul. In a clear concession to Taylor, the group agreed to convene a second All-Liberian Conference that would hold a new election for an interim administration.

The Lomé Peace Accord: From 12 to 13 February 1991, a meeting was convened in Lomé, Togo, to develop the modalities for the implementation of the ceasefire agreement. It was attended by members of the ECOWAS Standing Mediation Committee, the President of the Interim Government of Liberia, and the leaders of the three warring factions. Again, after the meeting, Taylor denounced the agreement that he had signed.

The Monrovia Peace Accord: In order to further appease Taylor's NPFL, a second All-Liberian Conference was held in Monrovia, Liberia, from 14 March to 2 April 1991, under the sponsorship of ECOWAS. The participants included Liberia's various political parties, interest groups, the warring factions, and representatives from ECOWAS, the then OAU and the United Nations.

The Yamoussoukro Peace Accords: ECOWAS sponsored four meetings in Yamoussoukro, Côte d'Ivoire between June, and October 1991. The central purpose of these meetings was to devise the modalities for implementing the ECOWAS Peace Plan. In a classic diplomatic stroke, ECOWAS designated then Ivorian President Félix Houphouet-Boigny, the NPFL's strongest supporter, as Chairman of the Group of Five, the committee

selected to ensure the full implementation of the ECOWAS Peace Plan.

The Geneva Peace Accords: Two rounds of discussion were held in Geneva, Switzerland. The central purpose of the first meeting, which was held under the auspices of ECOWAS in April 1992, was to clarify the mandate of ECOMOG, the ECOWAS Peacekeeping force, regarding the enforcement of the various peace accords. The second one was held in July 1993, under the auspices of ECOWAS, the then OAU, and the UN. The major purpose was to provide the Taylor-led NPFL with a final opportunity to abide by the terms of the myriad peace agreements, particularly with regard to disarmament, encampment, and demobilization.

The Cotonou Peace Accord: The Cotonou Peace Accord was the by-product of a meeting held in Benin in 1993 under the auspices of ECOWAS.

The meeting was attended by the various warring factions and the representatives of the Interim Government of National Unity. At the end of the meeting, a peace accord was formulated and signed by the warring factions.

The Akosombo Peace Accord: The Akosombo Peace Accord was the result of a meeting held in Ghana on 12 September 1994. The meeting, which was chaired by

President Rawlings of Ghana, who was also the then Chair of ECOWAS, was attended by Taylor (NPFL), Kromah (ULIMO), and Bowen (Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces of Liberia).

The Accra Peace Accord: On 21 December 1994, the leaders of the NPFL, ULIMO and the remnants of the Armed Forces of Liberia met in Accra, Ghana. Ghanaian President Rawlings chaired the meeting in his capacity as the Chair of ECOWAS. At the conclusion of the meeting, the 'new' peace agreement revolved around three major issues:

1. The establishment of a new deadline for a ceasefire.
2. The reconfirmation of the composition of the Council of State.
3. The holding of a national election and the subsequent installation of a new government in 1996.

The Abuja I Peace Accord: The Abuja I Peace Accord was the result of a meeting held in Abuja, Nigeria, on 19 August 1995. The meeting was attended by the six warring factions – NPFL, ULIMO-J, ULIMO-K, Liberian Peace Council, Lofa Defense Force (LDF), the NPFL-CRC, a so-called break-away faction from the Taylor-led NPFL – and the representative from the Liberian National Conference (LNC), the amalgam of civil society organizations and political parties.

The Abuja II Peace Accord: A little over a year after the Abuja I Peace Accord was signed, another meeting was convened in Abuja, Nigeria, on 17 August 1996. The meeting was attended by the six Liberian warring factions and the representative of the LNC. The meeting was designed to review the progress of the

Abuja I Peace Accord. At the end of the meeting, the determination was made to formulate another peace accord. The new peace agreement dealt with three major issues:

1. It selected a new civilian chair of the Council of State and Head of State of Liberia. Also, it stipulated that all other members of the council should be vice-chairmen with equal status.
2. It developed a new schedule for implementing the modalities for the transition from war to peace.
3. It extended the tenure of office of the transitional government to 2 August 1997."

This was an exceedingly difficult road to travel, and no Liberian should ever think of this again. It was not only difficult but tedious and expensive committing resources that should have otherwise been used to improve health and education.

As Liberia celebrates 178 years of existence let us count the cost of the civil war in lives, property, and logistics as well as the numerous peace conferences that took place around the sub region and elsewhere.

"NEVER AGAIN" SHALL WE TURN OUR PRUNING HOOKS INTO SPEARS, USE THEM FOR PEACE





HIS EXCELLENCY
JOSEPH NYUMA BOAKAI
PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA

THE RACE CAR IS ON THE RACE TRACK

By **Atty. George K. Saah**
ASSISTANT MINISTER FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS

July 26, 2025

During the 2017 political campaign in Liberia, Former Vice President and Standard Bearer of the Unity Party, His Excellency Joseph Nyuma Boakai told the Liberian electorate that he is full of energy, power, mental skill, quickness and is competent above all other political candidates to bring development to Liberia.

The Unity Party strongman, political icon and philanthropist likened himself to a shining new race car that generates horsepower, capable of accelerating to remarkable speeds of hundreds of miles per hour thereby making him an embodiment of a race car.

He told the Liberian people that even a new race car that has the energy to cruise at such high speeds must be put on the road to be tried and tested and that he wants the

Liberians to put him on the race circuit to know the speed by which he will run with development in Liberia.

This analogy was misinterpreted by detractors, prophets of doom and failed politicians who constantly anticipate negative outcomes and always inclined to predict failure.

These naysayers ran with the misinterpretation and misinformed the Liberian people in 2017, however in the 2023 political campaign, Liberians understood the meaning and elected His Excellency as President of Liberia.

Now the analogy of the race car is even more visible. The car is Liberia, the driver is His Excellency Joseph Nyuma Boakai, and the road represents the development that is being carried throughout the country at an incredible speed.

This analogy drawn by JNB that he is a shiny race car packed in a garage and must be put on the racetracks to be tested is now on

the road and you are watching how he runs, this is His Excellency Joseph Nyuma Boakai racing with projects throughout the country.

He wants clean drinking water for the people in the nation because water is life as there is no time to waste in this sector, as fast as we can, the people must have safe drinking water. The Liberia water and Sewer Corporation is on top of this sector,

is running with these projects around the country promising that county capitals will be connected to sustained water supply systems, it is just a matter of time. This is a sub pillar in the ARREST Agenda, the President considers very crucial as well.

The President His Excellency Joseph Nyuma Boakai is very impatient about the backwardness of Liberia, he cannot wait to see Liberia moved to development especially given the fact that

Liberia turns 178 in July of 2025 and continuously stressed the urgency that what we are doing now should have been done decades ago and that patriotic Liberians should be embarrassed at the snail pace by which the nation has been moving towards national development especially service areas that impact the lives of the people on a daily basis. His Excellency knows the country and people and he clearly understands the problems that beset the nation. Like a race car you must know all about it before venturing on the tracks.

Again before you drive a car, you must know what kind of vehicle it is, JNB knows Liberia, he knows himself, he knows Liberia's problems, he understands the steering and the capacity that is embedded in the engine, he knows how to trouble shoot the problems and knows the factors and players that have been pulling back the nation to stay in darkness and underdevelopment at the detriment of the Liberian people. That is why the six years are critical, Liberia must be developed at a neck breaking speed so that the people will experience decent lives in a nation that is endowed with natural resources. We have all

The Unity Party strongman, political icon and philanthropist likened himself to a shining new race car that generates horsepower, capable of accelerating to remarkable speeds of hundreds of miles per hour thereby making him an embodiment of a race car.



the resources needed to develop Liberia he says and that a precedent must be set for future presidents to follow and to stop playing with the lives of the Liberian people. The resources of Liberia have not benefitted the Liberian people due to corruption and wicked schemes in high places that have continuously undermined the forward march to economic freedom. Jobs must be created, bureaucratic bottlenecks that slow down investment must be removed with all deliberate speed. The old cartel must be removed, those who only care for themselves, their families, and friends. Check the lives of the Liberian people in the Southeast of Liberia, a region that has produced five Presidents compared to other regions in Liberia. This is no politics, it is about life and death, we must rise to the occasion where people must be held accountable for the misuse of public funds, we must stop playing with the lives of our people, they have suffered for too long.

President Boakai asked a question in one of his meetings "how many of you know how critical it is for our people to have jobs that will put food on their tables?" How many of you know the devastating conditions under which some of our people live? His passion to bring development to Liberia knows no boundaries, he has even paid more attention to those who did not vote for him in the 2023 elections. That is why any attempt to slow down development is like an arrow piercing his heart.

JNB and his Alliance are under extreme pressure to deliver and redeem the Liberian people from the shackles of corruption, nepotism, injustice, and ignorance. Late President William R. Tolbert, Jr. identified three enemies of the Liberian nation and people they are ignorance, disease, and poverty.

Like a race car packed in a garage and has been put on the road, there are factors that drive him.

Again before you drive a car, you must know what kind of vehicle it is, JNB knows Liberia, he knows himself, he knows Liberia's problems, he understands the steering and the capacity that is embedded in the engine, he knows how to trouble shoot the problems and knows the factors and players that have been pulling back the nation to stay in darkness and underdevelopment at the detriment of the Liberian people.

Race car drivers stay focused and are under pressure and make quick decisions and they expand their field of vision as well as understand their surroundings. These are some of the qualities that a race car driver must have according to Winfield School of Racing. So, when JNB said put me on the road and you will see how I run he has already calculated how he will lead this nation into development as quickly as possible.

Race cars are fast cars they do not waste time on the road, you refuel and change tires with team in less than a minute that requires high degree of discipline as communicating with the team is paramount. President Joseph Nyuma Boakai's race car team is the cabinet that is well informed, with the

President at the steering they know his next move because there is no time to waste, he got to go.

A well-informed team is a winning team that is why the government is winning at the Liberia Water and Sewer Corporation, Liberia Electricity Corporation, National Port Authority, the Ministry of Public Works, Health, Education, Internal Affairs, Agriculture, Labor, Post and Telecommunication, and Information. The Unity Party Alliance is winning because of this race car driver, there is progress everywhere

whether at the Ministries of Commerce and Industry, Defense, Justice, Transport, Youth and Sports and Mines and Energy, Finance and Development Planning, Gender, Children and Social Protection and Foreign Affairs etc., etc.

He always reminds his officials of government that they should come to this team with a mindset to move Liberia to the next stage of development with all deliberate speed because the people are suffering.

This team the Unity Party Alliance is here to fight corruption because corruption erodes the trust the people have in the government or the public sector. Corruption wastes





President Joseph Nyuma Boakai

taxpayers' money that are meant for important community projects. Right now, every aspect of the ARREST agenda which include the county development programs are a priority. Every program is a top priority, the UP Alliance is moving with all of the development programs at the same time, while fighting corruption at the same time.

"Corruption results in poor quality of services or infrastructure or projects never get off the ground, it undermines economic growth, hinder private sector development and fuel poverty and inequality."

That is why President Boakai has restated and declared corruption as not only public enemy number one but has also declared war against corruption and impunity

and that those who are found guilty of robbing the Liberian people of their country's wealth be held to account.

In this vein, the President has also called for a total review of all concession agreements. Some team members have been dropped and others brought on board, this is not business as usual. If any of the team members study President Boakai they will stay far away from stealing the people's money else, he will sack and prosecute you. At 178 years the nation has not gotten what it deserves because of crooked deeds, selfishness, and corruption.

JNB is the shiny new red race car that is on the road, he is no longer a packed car and all of you the prophets of doom are bearing witness to the developments that are taking place with speed in Liberia.

RACE CAR ON THE RACE TRACK

HIS EXCELLENCY JOSEPH NYUMA BOAKAI MEETS THE MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AT THE EXECUTIVE MANSION



President Joseph Nyuma Boakai

FRIDAY, JUNE 6, 2025

Mt. Tokadeh, Nimba County – President Joseph Nyuma Boakai, Sr. has officially inaugurated the US\$1.4 billion Concentrator Plant at the Mt. Tokadeh Mining Site in Nimba County, operated by ArcelorMittal Liberia.

The facility represents one of the largest private sector investments in Liberia's postwar history and signals a renewed era of industrial development, job creation, and economic transformation.

The President's visit included a guided tour of the newly completed facility which is scheduled to begin full operations later this month.

The plant, originally initiated in 2012, was paused due to the 2014 Ebola crisis. Construction resumed in 2021, integrating modern technology and updated engineering designs.

Speaking at the ceremony, President Boakai welcomed the launch as a strong vote of investor confidence in Liberia's stability and future.

"This level of investment is a testament to the growing confidence in the security and wellbeing of our state, and in the positive direction of our investment climate,"

This level of investment is a testament to the growing confidence in the security and wellbeing of our state, and in the positive direction of our investment climate.

President Boakai remarked. He furthered, "We are proud to witness this expansion—an achievement that touches the lives of our people and represents progress not just in infrastructure, but in human capacity and national pride."

The Project has already created over 5,000 construction jobs and is expected to generate 1,000 permanent positions. The Liberian Leader emphasized that the economic impact of such investment is far-reaching.

"This brings great relief to our economy. It is not just about the scale of capital—it is about the thousands of lives being touched, families being supported, and skills being developed," the President noted.

He commended ArcelorMittal Liberia for its vision and resilience, urging the company to continue advancing its additional investment commitments, including the Railway Expansion, Port Enhancement, and Power Plant Installations.

"We commend ArcelorMittal Liberia for this bold and courageous step, and we encourage continued momentum in all aspects of the company's investment roadmap," President Boakai said. "These projects are essential to deepening Liberia's integration into global value chains and unlocking long-term benefits for our people," he intoned.

He also emphasized the importance of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) and encouraged the company to expand its support in areas such as education, healthcare, and local commerce, reinforcing the mutually beneficial nature of sustainable development.

"No doubt, a project of this magnitude must enrich the corporate social responsibility envelope," he said, adding, "Our communities must feel the impact not just in employment, but in schools, clinics, and markets."

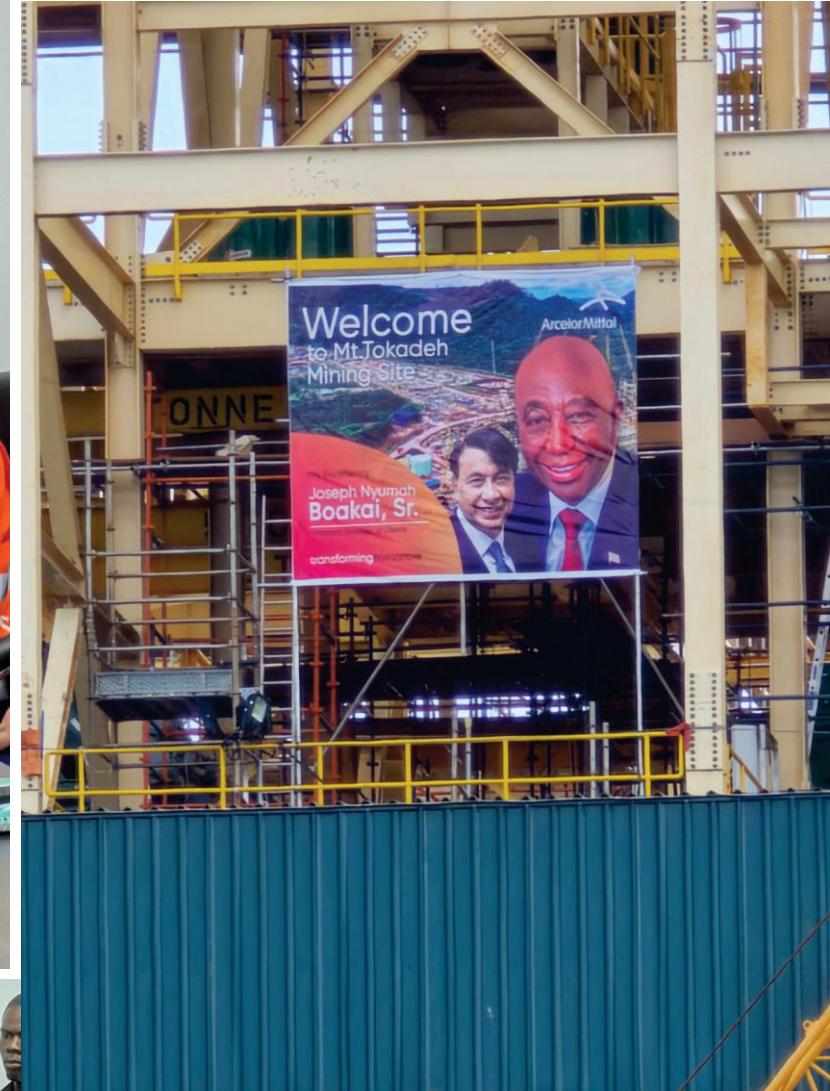
President Boakai concluded by extending appreciation to all stakeholders, particularly the engineers, workers, and community members who contributed to the Project's realization. He reaffirmed the Government's commitment to honoring agreements and ensuring a stable environment for investment.

HIS EXCELLENCY PRESIDENT JOSEPH NYUMA BOAKAI MEETS WITH MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AT THE EXECUTIVE MANSION



PRESIDENT BOAKAI INAUGURATES US\$1.4 BILLION ARCELORMITTAL CONCENTRATOR PLANT IN NIMBA COUNTY





Remarks Delivered on Behalf of His Excellency Joseph Nyuma Boakai, Sr. By Amb. Charles A. Snetter, Ambassador

-At-Large Minister of State for Presidential Affairs at the Groundbreaking
Ceremony of the Klay Fish HatcheryKlay, Bomi County

May 9, 2025

Members of the Board of Directors,
Mr. Acting Director General, Officials and Employees
of NAFAA,
Our International Partners,
Officials & Members of Government,
County, Local, and Municipal Dignitaries,
Our Elders and Citizens,
Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen.

It is an honor to join all of you here today, as I represent our President, and an adopted son of Bomi County, H.E. Joseph N. Boakai, Sr. The President sends his greetings and regrets for being unable to be physically present. However, he asked me to deliver these remarks on his behalf:

Today is a proud and hopeful moment for Bomi County and Liberia. We are here not just to break ground on a building, but to begin something bigger: a bold step toward a stronger, more sustainable future for our fisheries sector and our communities.

The Klay Fish Hatchery is more than a construction project. It is a symbol of this Government's commitment to food security, rural development, and economic opportunity. This work aligns closely with President Boakai's Agenda for Change, especially in the areas of agriculture, rural transformation, and national self-reliance.

Once completed, the facility for which we will soon be breaking ground will produce high-quality fingerlings to supply fish farmers across the country, making nutritious, affordable fish more available, all year round will also reduce pressure on our wild fisheries and support a shift toward modern, sustainable aquaculture.



Charles A. Snetter, Jr. Ambassador-at-Large, Ministry of State for Presidential Affairs

But some may ask, "Why Klay!" Well, Klay is the perfect place to start. From here, the benefits will reach not just Bomi, but nearby counties and eventually, the whole nation. The hatchery will create jobs, support small businesses, and open new doors, especially for women and young people in areas like fish farming, feed production, and processing.

We are also proud to restore a piece of history. As some of you may know by now, this site was once a hub of training and innovation when the U.S. Peace Corps first built it in the 1980s.

Today, we are rebuilding that legacy stronger, smarter, and ready for the future.

We thank the World Bank for its unwavering support through the Liberia Sustainable Management of Fisheries Project. We applaud the leadership of NaFAA, especially Acting Director General J. Cyrus Saygbe, Sr., and his hard-working and committed team. Collectively,

your vision to manage this hatchery through a Public-Private Partnership will help ensure it grows, thrives, and attracts the investment and expertise it needs.

To the people of Bomi County, this project belongs to you. Your participation, and protection of it will be key to its success. Let it serve as a model for what we can achieve when government, communities, and partners come together with a shared vision.

We encourage all stakeholders, public and private, to continue supporting this vital effort. Standing here today, shovel in hand, we are not just laying a foundation but planting a seed for a better Liberia.

Thank you, and may this hatchery bring growth, hope, and opportunity for generations to come.

With that being said, on behalf of the President, His Excellency Joseph Nyuma Boakai, Sr., I now break this soil symbolizing the formal beginning of reconstruction of the Klay Hatchery!

"Why Klay!" Well, Klay is the perfect place to start. From here, the benefits will reach not just Bomi, but nearby counties and eventually, the whole nation. The hatchery will create jobs, support small businesses, and open new doors, especially for women and young people in areas like fish farming, feed production, and processing.



BRINGING TO A CLOSE LIBERIA'S TURBULENT PAST, RECONCILING THE NATION AND HOPE FOR THE FUTURE

MONROVIA

Tuesday, July 1, 2025

Mr. Speaker and Members of the Legislature;

Madam Former President;

Mr. Superintendent;

Officials of Government;

Madam Former Vice President;

Members of the Clergy;

Members of the Tolbert Family;

Distinguished Guests;

The Media;

My Fellow Liberians:

We assemble here in solemn remembrance to honor the life and legacy of a statesman, a patriot, and a servant of the people, the late President William Richard Tolbert, Jr. This moment is also one of reflection, reconciliation, and national renewal.

Today, we gather memorialize, with full dignity and honor, a son of Liberia whose story is deeply connected to the history of our republic.

President Tolbert led Liberia during a time of tremendous transition, both at home and across the African continent.

As the twentieth President of Liberia and a former Chairman of the Organization of African Unity, he was known for his visionary leadership, his bold reforms, his Pan African spirit, his enduring belief in the young people of Liberia, social justice, economic empowerment, and the unification of all Liberians. He was a towering personality abroad and commanded much respect from the international community.

He was a man of deep conviction and immense discipline. A Baptist preacher by calling and a statesman by duty, he brought to the presidency a sense of moral clarity and a deep commitment to building a nation where all Liberians could find dignity in their citizenship. His leadership was grounded in humility, integrity, and service.

I did not serve under President Tolbert, but like so many of my generation, I was inspired by his intellect, his values, and his steadfast pursuit of a more equitable Liberia. His policies sought to bridge divides, uplift the poor, and expand opportunity. His vision for national development was anchored in the belief that Liberia could only thrive when justice and inclusion became the pillars of our democracy.

This memorial, decades after his tragic death, is not simply a ceremonial gesture. It is an act of national conscience. It is a moment to restore dignity, to acknowledge historical wrongs, and to reaffirm our collective commitment to truth, justice, and reconciliation.

We cannot reflect on this moment without acknowledging the long arc of pain that has shaped our nation's journey.

From the founding of Liberia and the unhealed tensions of the past, to the violent change of governments, and the tragic loss of nearly two hundred fifty thousand lives during our brutal civil conflict, Liberia has borne the wounds of history.



President Joseph Nyuma Boakai

These wrongs have left scars, but they have also left us with a responsibility—a responsibility to turn our sorrows into seeds of hope, to draw from our pain a renewed sense of purpose, and to ensure that the sacrifices of the past were not in vain.

We must let our shared suffering become the foundation of our shared strength. Let us allow our collective memory to serve not as a point of division, but as a force for unity. Let the stories of loss and resilience instill in us a deeper sense of patriotism and a lasting commitment to peace, justice, and reconciliation.

To the Tolbert family, I extend the deepest sympathy of a grateful nation. Your father, your grandfather, your relative served this nation with distinction. Your lives of tolerance have been irreproachable and magnanimous. I urge you to continue to honor his memory not only through mourning but through purposeful contribution to national unity and healing. To all Liberians, this occasion must inspire a renewed sense of patriotism. Let us reject the forces that divide us. Let us choose peace over vengeance, unity over discord, and progress over stagnation. The Liberia we seek to build must be one where the legacy of our leaders is honored with truth, with respect, and with accountability.

May this solemn occasion be a reminder that history must not be forgotten, and that reconciliation must be pursued not out of convenience but out of conviction.

Let us teach the younger generation about the life and leadership of President Tolbert, not only as a former head of state, but as a symbol of faith, hope, and dignity in public service.

May the soul of President William Richard Tolbert, Jr. rest in perfect peace.

May God bless us all and save our Republic.

Thank you.

Remarks by His Excellency Joseph Nyuma Boakai, Sr. President of the Republic of Liberia at the Iftar Dinner with the Muslim Community



EJS Ministerial Complex
Congo Town, Liberia
Tuesday, March 25, 2025

In the Name of Allah, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful,
Our Esteemed Imams and Islamic Clergy.
Distinguished Members of the Muslim Community.
Government Officials.
Members of the Media.
Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen:

Assalamu Alaikum!

It is with great honor that I re-join you this evening for this Iftar dinner as we observe the holy month of Ramadan. I am sure we all still share fond memories of our time together at this same edifice last year on a similar occasion.

Ramadan is a time of deep reflection, devotion, and self-discipline, a period when we draw closer to Allah through fasting, prayer, and acts of charity. It is also a time that reminds us of the values of compassion, unity, and sacrifice, which are essential in building a stronger and more inclusive Liberia.

As President, I recognize, as well as this nation

appreciates, the important contributions of our Muslim brothers and sisters to the growth and development of our nation.

Liberia is a land of diverse faiths and cultures, but we are one people, bound by a common destiny. In upholding this sanguine atmosphere of harmony, my Administration remains firmly committed to fostering religious tolerance, ensuring equal opportunities for all, and strengthening the bonds that unite us as Liberians.

This sacred month teaches us the power of empathy and generosity, reminding us of our duty to care for the less fortunate. It accordingly remains the prayerful hope of this nation that the spirit of Ramadan continues to inspire us to work together in peace and solidarity for the betterment of our beloved country.

As we break our fast together tonight in this solemn and serene atmosphere, let us renew our commitment to love, justice, tolerance, and national unity. Let us pray for a peaceful, prosperous, and united Liberia, where every citizen, regardless of faith or background can thrive and contribute to our collective progress.

May Allah, the Almighty, accept your fast, your prayers, and your good deeds, lending great dividends to the forward march of our Republic.

Thank you and may Allah bless Liberia.
Allahu'akbar!!

MINISTRY OF GENDER, CHILDREN AND SOCIAL PROTECTION

Empowering Liberia's Future: The Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection at the Forefront of Change



MINISTER OF GENDER, CHILDREN AND SOCIAL PROTECTION, MGCSP

Madam Gbeme Horace-Kollie

In the heart of West Africa, Liberia is undergoing a quiet but powerful transformation—with focus on the lives of women, children, and the most vulnerable. At the helm of this transformation is the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection (MGCSP), a government's institution steadfast in its mission to promote gender equality, protect children's rights, and strengthen social welfare systems across the country.

Many efforts have been made in different spheres to promote the work of the Ministry since its establishment in 2001 by an Act of the National Legislature. The MGCSP's mandate includes promoting the development, empowerment, and protection of women, girls, and children, as well as the welfare and integration of persons with disabilities and other vulnerable groups.

Visioning a brighter future

In February 2024, a new dawn emerged at the Ministry of Gender, Children, and Social Protection. The current leadership brought with it a fresh mindset, introducing innovative approaches to advance gender equality, promote

children's rights, and uplift vulnerable populations. Placing the welfare of street children at the forefront of its agenda while addressing other pressing issues.

THE STREET CHILD PROJECT – Save a Child, secure the future:

In 2022, joint research conducted by the Government of Liberia and UNICEF published a report that raised alarms with staggering figures on the number of children living on the streets of Liberia without direct parental care. Addressing this growing crisis seemed almost impossible for any government like ours, particularly given the severe limitations in available resources. But the government under the leadership of President Joseph Boakai, seems determined to address this problem despite the grave nature of the existing challenges surrounding the already existing problem, told a giant step. In August 2024, to launch the Street Child Project with the intention of removing children from the streets—children who had been left to fend for themselves.

Progress

One year into its ongoing initiative, the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection, despite the challenges, is reporting considerable progress in addressing the plight of children in street situations. To date, the Ministry has successfully removed, document, Family Traced, or Reunified 5,479 Children, of which 1,405 of them are currently enrolled in nineteen public and twenty-eight private schools across Montserrado County, ensuring access to formal education and critical support services. The Report also revealed that one of the underlining causes of children been in the streets is poverty. Most parents, especially mothers cannot afford to care for their children, allowing the children to become bread winners alongside their struggling mothers. To address this, the Government, through the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection has embarked on economic empowerment interventions (Small Business Grants) to support 1,685 caregivers with 150 of them currently enrolled into TVET Programs for livelihood skills. Also, 395 of the total number of caregivers have already received the grant support for small businesses, while 1,290 of them are being processed to receive grants. In addition to the 5,479 children documented and Reunified, 128 children attached to forty-nine caregivers have separately been enrolled into family strengthening & Livelihood programs for five years based on specific terms.

This data is a crucial step in designing sustainable interventions tailored to the needs of both children and their families.

Looking ahead, the Ministry has set ambitious targets for the next 18 months. It aims to directly remove 7,500 children from the streets and provide them safe care and educational

opportunities. This will be achieved through a combination of outreach, community engagements, and support programs across Montserrado County. These efforts underscore the Government's commitment to safeguarding vulnerable children and advancing long-term social protection measures throughout Liberia.

Tackling Gender Based Violence and abuse:

Gender-Based Violence (GBV) remains a pervasive and deeply entrenched issue in Liberia, stemming from a complex interplay of historical, social, and cultural factors. Despite notable progress toward gender equality in the years following the end of Liberia's devastating civil conflicts (1989–2003), GBV—especially violence directed at women and girls—continues to pose a significant threat to human rights and national development. The impact of war, which normalized violence and disrupted traditional social structures, has contributed to an environment where acts of sexual and gender-based violence are often underreported, inadequately addressed, and, in many cases, met with impunity. While the government and various civil society organizations have implemented policies and programs aimed at prevention and support for survivors, systemic barriers—including limited access to justice, entrenched patriarchal norms, and widespread poverty—continue to hinder meaningful progress in eradicating GBV in Liberia.

Current Situation

As part of strengthening the system to respond to Gender Based Violence cases, and to effectively provide survivors with knowledge on how to access the referral pathway, launched the 116 GBV Call Center situated at the Ministry

of Gender, Children and Social Protection. In the first quarter of 2025, the Ministry received 166 calls from thirteen counties. Of these, 39% were related to gender-based violence, while 61% were non-GBV cases.

Strengthening Liberia's Social Protection System:

The Government of Liberia, through the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection (MGCSP), has made significant strides in strengthening Liberia's national social protection system by leading a comprehensive update of the National Social Protection Policy, aimed at making the policy framework more inclusive, adaptive, and responsive to current socio-economic realities. These efforts reflect the government's commitment to institutionalizing a robust and coordinated social protection system that prioritizes the most vulnerable.

Unconditional Cash Transfers

A key component to strengthening Social Protection is the implementation of Social Cash Transfers (SCT) across four counties—Grand Bassa, Grand Kru, River Gee, and Rivercess, where the most vulnerable and food insecure are targeted. As of May 2025, a total of 9,996 beneficiary households have been enrolled in the SCT program of the targeted 16,000, with 80.39% of the primary cash recipients being women.

To further promote gender equity and financial empowerment, couples from households have been enrolled in a joint financial planning intervention, receiving mobile phones to support inclusive decision-making and better household financial management. It is also the government's policy to ensure that all beneficiaries of social protection programs receive national identification cards. These integrated efforts are transforming the way social assistance is delivered in Liberia, promoting dignity, inclusion, and resilience at the household level.





President Joseph Nyuma Boakai

**Statement By
His Excellency Joseph Nyuma Boakai, Sr.
President of the Republic of Liberia
at the Opening of the 73rd Annual Council Meeting
of the West African Examinations Council (WAEC)
EJS Ministerial Complex
Congo Town, Liberia**

March 18, 2025

Honorable Minister of Education, Dr. Jarso Maley Jallah.
Distinguished Members of the West African Examinations Council.
Ministers and officials of Government.
Esteemed Guests.
Members of the Diplomatic Corps.
Administrators, Teachers, Students.
Fellow Citizens of Liberia and West Africa.
Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen:

It is an immense honor for me to stand before you today at this significant milestone — the 73rd Anniversary of the West African Examinations Council and its General Conference being held in Liberia

this year.

Let me extend warm greetings and heartfelt welcome from the Government and people of Liberia to all present as we celebrate this momentous occasion together.

As we gather here in Monrovia, we are reminded of the critical role that education plays in shaping the future of our nations. Education is not only a pathway to knowledge but also an essential instrument of empowerment, economic growth, and social development. To echo the words of the late iconic South African Statesman, Nelson Mandela, "Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world."

For more than half a century, WAEC has been at the forefront of educational assessment in West Africa, ensuring that our students receive credible and standardized examinations. WAEC has played very well its part in providing a framework that allows for transparency, accountability, and fairness in assessing

academic achievements across the region.

WAEC has also been instrumental in 1) Facilitating a Common Curriculum, 2) Ensuring Quality Assurance, and 3) Promoting Regional Integration.

This 73rd year journey of WAEC is a testament to the resilience of our educational systems and the commitment of our educators in nurturing the leaders of tomorrow.

Today, we also honor the tireless efforts of educators who sacrificially dedicate their lives to imparting knowledge and guiding our youth.

To our students, as you sit here today, remember that education is a privilege as well as it is a responsibility. Your success is not only defined by the results you achieve but also by the character and integrity you build along the way. Strive for excellence, work hard, and dare to make your dreams a reality.

To our Educational Engineers, Minister, Deputy Ministers, Assistant Ministers, Presidents and Deans of Universities and Colleges, School Superintendents, County & District Education Officers, School Administrators; and also, our parents, you are the backbones of our education systems, and your hard work does not go unnoticed. You inspire future generations to dream big, think critically, and become responsible citizens.

As we celebrate the achievements of WAEC and its contributions to education in West Africa, let us also commit ourselves to addressing the challenges that remain.

Let us together undertake the commitment to ensure: Equitable Access: That every child, regardless of socio-economic background, has access to quality education. Investment in Education: That we continue to prioritize educational funding, infrastructure, and teacher training programs and the certification and licensing of teachers to enhance learning outcomes.

Embrace Technology: As we live in a digital age, let us adapt our educational methods to integrate technology, fostering digital literacy among our students.

Distinguished Ladies and General.

Every child, regardless of his or her circumstances, should have access to the tools needed to succeed. Yet, we know that students and individuals with disabilities often face significant barriers that hinder their ability to learn and demonstrate their knowledge effectively as compared to others.

Today, I urge WAEC to recognize the urgency and importance of creating inclusive examination

policies and practices. It is essential that we design testing environments that are accessible to students with disabilities, ensuring that they have equal opportunities to highlight their skills and earn the qualifications they deserve.

By implementing accommodation such as additional time, alternative formats, special care and accessible testing locations, we can break down the barriers that hinder our students with disabilities. We can foster an educational landscape where every learner is empowered and given the chance to shine; "even brighter than people expect them to shine."

Imagine the profound impact that such a change would have—not just on the lives of those students and their families but on our society.

An inclusive education system sends a powerful message: that we value diversity, and we are committed to ensuring that every single citizen can contribute to our nation's development.

Let us work together to make this vision a reality. I invite WAEC to collaborate with us, to hear the voices of those who are often unseen, and to champion the rights of all learners as we strive for a truly equitable education system for our nation and region as well.

In closing, let us remember that the strength of our nation lies in our ability to uplift and empower every citizen, ensuring that no one is left behind. Let this 73rd Anniversary of WAEC ignite a renewed passion for education in our hearts.

Let us work collaboratively for a brighter future where every child in West Africa has the opportunity to succeed.

Together, we have the opportunity to forge a brighter future, one that is inclusive, equitable, and filled with promise for all.

As we move forward, let us be guided by our shared commitment to progress and the belief that education is the key to unlocking potential.

I urge each one of you to join me in this vital mission, as together, we can create a more just society where every voice is heard, and every dream is nurtured.

Thank you all. May we continue to work together cohesively for the betterment of us all.



UNITED STATES PRESIDENT DONALD J. TRUMP HOSTS PRESIDENT BOAKAI AND PRESIDENTS FROM GABON, GUINEA-BISSAU, MAURITANIA AND SENEGAL AT WHITE HOUSE FOR U.S-AFRICA SUMMIT





THE PRESIDENT OF BARBADOS, HER EXCELLENCY SANDRA MASON VISITS LIBERIA



MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTER OF STATE AND CHIEF OF STAFF TO THE PRESIDENT, HONOURABLE SYLVESTER M. GRISGBY



*Honorable Sylvester M. Grigsby
Minister of State and Chief of Staff to the President*

Dear Fellow Liberians:

On the occasion marking the 178th Independence Anniversary of the Republic of Liberia that comes on the 26th of July 2025, I am pleased to inform you that all is well at the Presidency.

We remain committed to implementing the ARREST Agenda with all of our hearts and minds.

The ARREST Agenda include Agriculture, Roads, Rule of Law, Sanitation and Tourism.

This we have pledged to implement in order to bring

development and relief that is so much needed in the way forward for our country.

I will always ensure that you are informed about the happenings at the Executive Mansion, through this medium and through our spokespersons.

You are entitled to this information; it is your right to know what the President is doing at the Executive Mansion and at the level of the cabinet.

As we celebrate the 178th anniversary it is my hope and prayer that all of us cultivate a new mindset as we strive to build our country free from vices that undermine development.

Thank you.

MESSAGE FROM THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF STATE FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS



Anthony V. Kesselly

My Dear Compatriots,

The task of nation building requires commitment, sacrifice, devotion and a total allegiance to the State.

Given the herculean task that lies before this Government, it is always a pleasing duty to bring to you happenings at the Executive Mansion.

The President, His Excellency Joseph Nyuma Boakai has put Liberia on the map, our job now is to inform the Liberian people, our partners and friends of Liberia how we are executing the ARREST Agenda to bring relief to the people of Liberia after the United States-Africa Summit and previous regional and sub-regional conferences.

His Excellency Joseph Nyuma Boakai remains hundred percent committed to the promises he made in 2023.

The roads are being built, health care is being restored, and education is a top priority to name a few.

Join the President, His Excellency Joseph Nyuma Boakai as we move Liberia to another level of development.

This is only possible by teaming with the Government to achieve these goals of development because the political will to bring development to the nation is at the highest degree.

We will continue to fight corruption, we will make the culture of impunity something of the past under this Administration.

Thank you

Anthony V. Kesselly

Ministry of State for Presidential Affairs
Executive Mansion
P.O. Box 9001
Capitol Hill, Monrovia
Republic of Liberia

Liberia's National Port Authority: Pioneering Maritime Excellence Under Hon. Sekou A. M. Dukuly



Hon. Sekou A.M. Dukuly
Managing Director

In 2024, the National Port Authority (NPA) of Liberia, led by Hon. Sekou A. M. Dukuly, has reshaped the nation's maritime landscape, achieving groundbreaking milestones that have elevated Liberia's port sector to new heights of efficiency, safety, and global relevance.

A Vision of Empowerment & Innovation

The NPA has made impressive strides in capacity building, with 25 employees receiving advanced training in China on port logistics technology, and 15 women empowered through specialized training in West Africa. These initiatives set a global benchmark for modern port management while driving gender inclusivity. Alongside this, the NPA's digital transformation is in full swing, with a new website, biometric systems, and streamlined payroll reforms enhancing transparency and efficiency across the board.

Financial Stewardship & Operational Excellence

The NPA's commitment to Liberia's economic growth is evident through its \$3 million contribution to the national budget, coupled with a comprehensive audit initiative to ensure transparency. These reforms have positioned the Freeport of Monrovia as a secure, competitive global trade hub. Notably, the NPA achieved the highest-ever score in the West African region in the US Coast Guard ISPS Code compliance audit in over seven years, marking a major leap in port security and operational excellence.

Infrastructure & Global Growth

The NPA's modernization efforts include cutting-edge 24-hour lighting at the Freeport of Monrovia and advanced navigational aids, boosting safety and efficiency. Strategic global collaborations, like the partnership with China for a master port plan and the expansion of the LMC pier with TagerMed of Morocco, promise to attract substantial international investments.

Environmental & Employee Welfare Initiatives

In a significant move toward environmental responsibility, the NPA contributed to Liberia's first-ever oil spill response strategy. The NPA also prioritized employee welfare by reinstating essential benefits and addressing over \$300,000 in social security payments, strengthening internal morale and national compliance.

A Thriving Future

With transformative collaborations, such as APM Terminals' donation of state-of-the-art digital equipment, the NPA is poised to lead Liberia's port sector into a new era of innovation and competitiveness. Through these comprehensive reforms and global partnerships, Liberia is now more than ever a beacon of maritime excellence, setting the stage for a prosperous 2025 and beyond. The NPA remains a cornerstone of Liberia's economic development, enhancing its role in the global maritime industry.

**PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, HIS EXCELLENCY
DONALD J. TRUMP AND HIS EXCELLENCY JOSEPH NYUMA BOAKAI,
PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA AFTER THE SUMMIT**

