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Independence Day Message from Amb. Sulunteh

Embassy of the Republic of Liberia in the United States, Thu, Jul 19, 2012

Fellow Citizens and Friends of Liberia:

It is with exceeding joy that I convey to you, on behalf of Her Excellency President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, the Government and resilient people of Liberia, profound congratulations and sincere best wishes on this historic milestone commemorating the 165th Independence Anniversary of our beloved county. As the Diaspora Community joins Liberians everywhere and friends of Liberia in jubilation, we remain ever grateful to Almighty God for sparing our lives through another year of peaceful national existence. In our supplication, we cherish



our hard won peace which has produced, among others, two consecutively successful democratic presidential and general elections. Today, Liberia has been rated as a post-conflict success story looking forward to consolidate its new democracy and move towards sustainable economic growth.

As part of the Embassy's outreach program, I wish to commend members of the Liberian Diaspora Community for participating in a one day symposium held in Washington, DC as part of this year's anniversary celebrations to determine its role in the reconstruction and development of Liberia, as well as the critical issue of dual citizenship and its impact on development in Liberia. I hasten to recall that owing to her sagacity and the importance Government attaches to this sector of the Liberian population, President Sirleaf in her first term, designated the Liberian Diaspora as the "Sixteenth County" of Liberia. In this vein, the tremendous outpouring of support and your desire to play a pivotal role in the reconstruction and development of your country is praiseworthy. An outcome report of this auspicious gathering will be forwarded to Government to form part of its development strategy.

Let me thank our partners in progress, the Government and generous people of the United States for their continued support to Liberia's development agenda, and report that United States/Liberian relations remain strong. On this day of national unity, we encourage all Liberians to pursue constructive dialogue in our national discourse, to move our Country forward.

May God Almighty continue to guide and bless the works of our hands and bless Liberia.

HAPPY INDEPENDENCE DAY ANNIVERSARY!

Jeremiah C. Sulunteh

Ambassador of Liberia

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Source URL (modified on Jul 23 2012 - 10:14am):https://liberianembassyus.org/in-the-news/independence-day-message-from-amb-sulunteh