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Washington, D.C. – February 27, 2017: In continuation of its educational outreach program, the Embassy of Liberia in the United States held a special briefing for students of the University of Houston in Texas on Thursday, February 23, 2017. The University of Houston was among several universities in the United States, Canada and Korea which participated in the 15th annual National Model African Union Conference, held at Howard University in Washington D.C. from February 23-26, 2017. The University of Houston represented Liberia at the Model AU Conference, which provides a unique opportunity for the students to study Africa and the African Union through simulation. The briefing at the Embassy was intended to increase awareness of the functions and activities of the African Union relative to Liberia's role. The briefing also focused on major economic, political and security issues related to Liberia and the African Continent in general. Welcoming the students and faculty representatives from the University of Houston, Hon. Jeff Gongoer Dowana, Acting Chief of Mission at the Embassy of Liberia, underscored Liberia's leadership role in the establishment of the Organization of African Unity (OAU), renamed the African Union (AU). Hon. Dowana highlighted Liberia's role in promoting peace, security and economic progress in Africa through strong support of the AU, and the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), currently chaired by President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf of Liberia. The Minister Counselor for Press and Public Affairs, Hon. Gabriel I H Williams, coordinated the briefing, while the Minister Counselor for Economic Affairs, Hon. Famatta Deline Manu, also briefed the students on Liberia's economic policies and programs, and the role of women, among others. In a related development, the Embassy of Liberia participated in a day-long Catholic University Global Fest Embassy Exhibit, held January 15, 2017 at the Catholic University in Washington, D.C. The event featured an exhibit of cultural displays from several countries, including Liberia. Ms. Vickie Ward, Special Assistant to the Ambassador, and Mrs. Decontee Clements-Kanneh, Executive Assistant, represented the Embassy of Liberia at the event, during which Liberian art, cuisine, national flag and dresses were displayed in a booth. Ms. Ward and Mrs. Kanneh used the opportunity of the occasion to interact with faculty, staff and students. Catholic University has 420,000 students from 70 countries around the world. Below are photos from the Houston University briefing and the Catholic University event.











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