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[Home](#) > Liberian Ambassador, Lois C. Brutus Leads delegation to an Inquiry on D.E.D at U.S. State Department

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Embassy of the Republic of Liberia in the United States , Thu, Apr 5, 2018

On the morning of April 3, 2018, a delegation of Liberians lead by H. E. Lois Cheche Lewis Brutus, Liberian Ambassador to the United States, visited the U.S, State Department in Washington D.C. The sole purpose of the visit was to get some clarification on the recently pronounced “12-month Deferred Enforcement Departure wind-down period”, granted by President Donald J. Trump.

Representing the U.S. Government were representatives from the Office of West African Affairs, the bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration (PRM) and the United States Citizens and Immigration Services (USCIS) led by Sandra Clark, Director of West African Affairs. The Liberian delegation included Embassy staff; Consul General, Liberian Consulate, New York; Liberian Honorary Consul, Minnesota, Hon. Jackson George, and the leadership of the Union of Liberian Associations in the Americas and the Liberian Community Association, DC Metro.

Ms. Sandra Clark told the group that after years of civil war and an Ebola outbreak have ended in Liberia, the country is on a positive trajectory although there is still a need for development assistance. Nonetheless, she said civil crisis and Ebola are no longer justification for Temporary Protective Status (TPS) and DED. Ambassador Brutus offered thanks and appreciation to President Donald J. Trump and to the group of US government representatives who attended the meeting for the “window of opportunity” granted to Liberians on DED.

The Ambassador said she brought a delegation of Embassy staff and Liberian diaspora representatives so that everyone could receive first-hand clarification on President Trump’s determination and ask questions regarding ending DED status for Liberians for later dissemination of the information.

Following the 40 minute discussion, there was a question and Answer period where several questions were raised by members of the Liberian delegation ranging from work authorization to opportunities for change of status.

Standing in the photo below are (L-R) Liberian Embassy Immigration Consul, Nyanda Finda Davis; Lucy Kear, LCA Washington D.C.; Rudolph Sherman, Liberian Consul General, New York; Liberian Ambassador to the U.S., H.E. Lois Cheche Brutus; Jackson George, Hon. Consul General, Minnesota; Sophia Mawlue, Minister Counselor for Economic Affairs, Embassy of Liberia; Nardia S Kamara, Counselor, Legal and Diaspora Affairs; Vamba Fofana, President of ULAA; Mrs. Decontee Clements Kanneh, Executive Secretary to the Ambassador; Mrs. Vickie Ward, Special Assistant, Office of the Ambassador; Josiah Dommah, First Secretary and Financial Consul.



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