

**A
P R O C L A M A T I O N
B Y T H E P R E S I D E N T**

WHEREAS, blood is the source of life and the need to save and preserve blood at all times can not be over emphasized; and,

WHEREAS, every second of everyday, some one in the world needs blood transfusion to survive as a result of accidents and injuries and other related disasters; and,

WHEREAS, the number of accidents and injuries is growing worldwide, and in Africa alone, 70% of all blood transfusions are used on children with severe anemia due to malaria, which had claimed the attention of the World Health Association; and,

WHEREAS, at the World Health Assembly in May of 2005, Health Ministers around World made a unanimous declaration of support for voluntary unpaid blood donation, and passed a Resolution **WHA 58.13**, designating June 14 of each year as World Blood Donor Day; and,

WHEREAS, the day was chosen in honor of the Nobel Prize Winner, Dr. Karl Landsteiner who was born on June 14, 1868 and had developed the system of classifying blood groups; and,

WHEREAS, the day is also celebrated to raise awareness of the need for safe blood and to appreciate and honor those who donate blood voluntarily and to encourage current and potential donors to continue to donate regularly on a voluntary unpaid basis; and,

WHEREAS, the Theme for 2009 celebration is: "**Achieving 100 percent non-remunerated donation of blood and blood components**"; and,

WHEREAS, Liberia is a member of the World Health Organization and will continue to support all programs of the WHO:-

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ELLEN JOHNSON SIRLEAF, President of the Republic of Liberia, by virtue of the Authority in me vested, do hereby call upon all citizens and foreigners within the territorial confines of this Republic, to celebrate Sunday, June 14, 2009 “**WORLD BLOOD DONOR DAY**” as a **Working Holiday**, and I do request the Minister of Health and Special Welfare and Donor Agencies concerned to execute appropriate program to make the day meaningful.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF THE REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA, IN THE CITY OF MONROVIA, COUNTY OF MONTERRADO, THIS 5TH DAY OF JUNE, IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD, 2009, AND OF THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE REPUBLIC, THE 162ND.

**ELLEN JOHNSON SIRLEAF
PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA**

BY ORDER OF THE PRESIDENT

**JOHNSON N. GWAIKOLO
ACTING MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS**

RL/MFA/0163/2-10/'09

June 5, 2009

Madam President:

I have the honor to present my compliments and transmit herewith, a Draft Proclamation declaring Sunday, June 14, 2009, “**World Blood Donor Day**”, to be **observed** as a **Working Holiday**, throughout the Republic for your kind approval.

Please accept, Madam President, the assurances of my highest esteem.

Respectfully yours,

Johnson N. Gwaikolo
ACTING MINISTER

H. E. Madam Ellen Johnson Sirleaf
President of the Republic of Liberia
Executive Mansion
Capitol Hill
Monrovia, **LIBERIA**