

## **EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 6**

### **TOTAL BAN ON FIREARMS**

**WHEREAS**, the Government of Liberia is concerned that there is a prevalence of armed violence and crime within the country, and

**WHEREAS** the United Nations Security Council, in its Resolution 1521 and its subsequent resolutions on Liberia, decided that, with certain limited exceptions, all States should take the necessary measures to prevent the sale or supply to Liberia of arms and related material of all types, including weapons and ammunition, military vehicles and equipments, paramilitary equipment and spare parts for the aforementioned destined for any recipient in Liberia, and

**WHEREAS** the Firearms Traffic Act 1956 permitted private ownership of firearms in Liberia, requiring such firearms, with the exception of flintlock guns with unrifled barrels, to be registered, which registration process fell into abeyance in the years of conflict, as a result of which few, if any, privately held firearms in Liberia are currently registered or accounted for, and

**WHEREAS** the Government believes that the presence of firearms in Liberia at this time except those that are permitted in accordance with United Nations Security Council Resolution 1683, presents a grave danger to public safety and national security, and

**WHEREAS** the Government believes that measures to counter this situation are urgent and cannot be delayed,

**NOW, THEREFORE**, with the intention of achieving a firearms-free Liberia, until such time as the security situation may permit the introduction of an appropriate and effective firearms registration system for privately held firearms and ammunition, it is hereby ordered as follows:

1. That for the purposes of this Order, the term “firearm” includes all arms of precision and includes flintlock guns with unrifled barrels and shotguns, except for single barrels guns which shall be used primarily for hunting; and that such guns shall be registered with the Ministry of Justice through the Superintendent of the County.
2. That for the purposes of this Order, the term “shotgun” means a weapon designed or redesigned or made or remade and intended to be fired from the shoulder, and designed or redesigned or made or remade to use the energy of the explosive in a fixed shotgun shell to fire through a smooth bore either a number of ball shot or a single projectile for each single pull of the trigger.

3. That no individual, group, organization or entity other than the Government of Liberia may own, possess, or cause to be brought into Liberia any firearm of any type, caliber or design or any ammunition or parts for any firearm, or any tooling equipment intended for the purposes of manufacture, assembly, or re-tooling of firearms of any type. This prohibition includes any firearm previously registered under the provisions of the Firearms Traffic Act 1956.
4. That the provisions of the Firearm Traffic Act 1956 in respect of the registration or possession of privately owned firearms are hereby suspended.
5. That any person, group, organization or entity in possession of any firearm, ammunition or part for any firearm or tooling equipment with the County Headquarters of the Liberia National Police in his, her or its county of residence within Sixty (60) days of the issuance of this Order. That County Headquarters shall issue a receipt to the depositor in respect of that deposit.

**Given under my hand and the seal of the Republic of  
Liberia in the City of Monrovia, this 27<sup>th</sup> day of  
December in the year Two Thousand Six, and of the  
Independence of the Republic, One Hundred and Fifty-  
Nine.**

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**Ellen Johnson Sirleaf  
PRESIDENT  
REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA**