

**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**, the Government of the Republic of Liberia, **by an Act of the National Legislature in 1999, created the Drug Enforcement Agency** with the authority to combat the Cultivation, Production; Importation, Distribution, Sale or use of Narcotic Drugs and other Psychotropic Substances in the Republic of Liberia as a means of preventing and enhancing the International campaign against **the Illicit Trafficking and use of Dangerous Drugs** to protect the life and health of its citizens; and,

**WHEREAS**, drug trafficking and abuse have become major problems worldwide and the proliferation of Illicit Drugs in post war Liberia is very alarming and detrimental to the elderly, youths and the incoming generation.

**WHEREAS**, the number of drug abusers is **estimated at 185 millions**, the equivalent of **3 percent of the global population, or 4.7 percent** of the population between the **ages of 15 and 64 years**; and,

**WHEREAS**, one of the misconceptions about drug usage is that it is a permanent problem; but the truth being that, treatment for drug abuse can work and restore value and dignity to a person's life; and people with drug-related problems need to know that there is a solution and that effective assistance is available in different forms depending on the needs and situation of each individual; and,

**WHEREAS**, collaborative effort must be exerted by all member countries to campaign vigorously against the use of dangerous drugs and to provide appropriate treatment in order to transform Drug abusers; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Republic of Liberia will join the World through its Drug Enforcement Agency, in the celebration of the Day under the Theme: **“DO DRUG CONTROL YOUR LIFE”?**

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, ELLEN JOHNSON SIRLEAF**, President of the Republic of Liberia, by virtue of the Authority in me vested, do hereby declare and proclaim the 26<sup>TH</sup> day of June 2009 as **International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking** to be observed throughout the Republic as a **WORKING HOLIDAY** and I do call upon the citizens and Government Agencies concerned to join the **Drug Enforcement Agency** to execute meaningful programs befitting the occasion.

**GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF THE REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA, IN THE CITY OF MONROVIA, COUNTY OF MONTSERRADO, THIS 24<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF JUNE IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD, 2009, AND OF THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE REPUBLIC, THE 162<sup>ND</sup> .**

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

**BY ORDER OF THE PRESIDENT**

**OLUBANKE KING-AKERELE  
MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS**