

**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 United Nations General Assembly, in December, 2000, adopted May 22, of each year to be observed as “**The International Day for Biological Diversity**”; and,

WHEREAS, the purpose for the observance of the Day is to increase understanding and awareness of biodiversity issues and to acquaint World Governments and other concerned interest groups, the manner in which our biological resources are mismanaged and unprotected, and placing emphasis on the conservation of biodiversity; and,

WHEREAS, many indigenous and local communities depend, traditionally, on the sustainable use and equitably sharing of benefits arising from the use of biological resources through traditional knowledge, all needed effort are to be exerted to conserve, protect and manage our biodiversity; and,

WHEREAS, the United Nations will celebrate May 22, 2009 as “**The International Day for Biological Diversity**” under the Theme: “**INVASIVE ALIEN SPECIES**”, and,

WHEREAS, The Government of the Republic of Liberia had, by an Act of the National Legislature of November 26, 1999, ratified the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity, and will join Member States of the United Nations in the celebration of the Day:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ELLEN JOHNSON SIRLEAF, President of the Republic of Liberia, by virtue of the Authority in me vested, do hereby call on the People of Liberia, all concerned agencies of Government, the United Nations, National and International Organizations, academic institutions and communities, to join the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and celebrate May 22, 2009, “**The International Day for Biological Diversity as a “Working Holiday**”, and undertake appropriate programs 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
18TH DAY OF MAY, 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

**WILLIAM V. S. BULL, SR.
ACTING MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS**