

# Universal Human Rights International

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Her Excellency Ellen Johnson Sirleaf  
President, Republic of Liberia  
Executive Mansion, Monrovia, Liberia

Subject: **Gratitude for Keeping Your Campaign Promises**  
Ref: **Liberian Refugee Immigration, United States of America**

Dear Madame President,

I write to thank you for the manner in which you have graced the world stage and the presidency of the Republic of Liberia with your wisdom, visionary leadership, compassion and dedication to justice. Specifically, I write to thank you for fulfilling the campaign promise you made in 2005 at the Roxbury Community College, Boston, Massachusetts, when you vowed to join the fight for legal immigration for all Liberians in the United States of America and around the world. Liberians abroad suffered tremendously during the years of civil war. All over the world many Liberians and non-Liberians alike sacrificed everything to stand up for the suffering masses through advocacy, community organizing and the sharing of resources. However, without your strong support and the support of your friends in government in the US and around the world, our efforts could have proven futile. Please extend our best wishes to Ambassador Minor who has done exceptionally well in representing Africa and the Republic of Liberia. Thank You Madame President for scoring a major victory for Liberian refugee families. You did what you said you would do!

On a broader scale, it is also important to note that we were not fighting alone--God was with us. It is important to also thank elected officials who led the struggle for Liberian refugees. Many of them, having never visited Liberia, stood ready to help Liberians. These include members of the Congressional Black Caucus, Senator Jack Reed (D-RI), Congressmen Patrick J. Kennedy (D-RI), Keith Ellison (DFL-MN) and Tim Walberg (R-MI). Please convey my thanks and appreciation to the Honorable House of Representatives and Hon. Dunah for their role in championing this cause not

just for Liberian citizens but also for the many American citizen children and their Liberian mothers who were denied protected status since their evacuation in 2003. Others fighting for immigration included presidents and parliaments of South and Central American countries whose vision of immigration focuses on the future of our world and how their citizens can strategically position themselves for global leadership.

Thank God Liberians won the battle for immigration and the numbers speak volumes. The tiny country of Liberia was among the top ten countries of origin for refugees admitted in the United States. Even more significant is the fact that lives have been changed. With the economy in ruins, basic services non-existent, unemployment skyrocketing and the national infrastructures broken, there is still good news. Thanks to the benefits of immigration, young Liberian men and women are attending world class universities across the United States of America, studying to become nurses, doctors, engineers, craftsmen, and taking on the challenge of making our world a better place. Disabled people paralyzed by bullets are getting a second chance because of advance medical treatment at hospitals across America. People with kidney disease are living longer because of dialysis treatment made possible by 24 hours supply of electricity across America and the expertise of some of the best doctors in the world. Liberian workers are sending home millions of dollars in remittances to help pay rents, school fees and school supplies; others are building or rebuilding their homes and starting new businesses. Looking back, I believe fighting for refugee immigration was indeed a worthy cause.

With increased remittances from Liberian immigrants abroad, it is exciting, Madame President that you are already taking the lead in establishing programs to expand the economic impact of said monies by Liberians abroad. You are setting up mechanisms whereby financial institutions in the money transfer business can help customers to build credit histories and gain access to insurance, pensions and certain business and housing loans. Your administration is sending high-level government officials to engage Liberians abroad and help them take control of the economy of their country at all levels. You have established another mechanism of indirect assistance to Liberia through your program that promotes sister-state and sister-city relationships. Your Market Women Initiative is not only changing the way women do business but also changing lives. It is my hope that American places of worship, as beneficiaries of philanthropy will join you and allocate a portion of their tithes and offerings to be used for scholarships to deserving

students in Liberia. With your initiative and leadership, many religious organizations will get on board with such a program.

Madame President, the time to marshal the potentials and talents of all Liberians is now. Your administration is turning the opportunities created by a successful immigration campaign into new business opportunities, scholarships, jobs, and innovation in technology that benefits not only Liberia and Africa but the whole world.

Once again, I am grateful to you for keeping your promise and for the exemplary leadership of Ambassador Minor and his staff who have improved the image of Liberia in the eyes of Liberians and foreigners alike through their dedicated and selfless services. May God Bless.

Sincerely Yours,

Torli H.Krua, Founder, UHRI