

REMARKS

BY

HIS EXCELLENCY DR. GEORGE MANNEH WEAH  
PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA

AT A PROGRAM TO LAUNCH

THE YOUTH ADVANCE ACTIVITY PROJECT

MONROVIA CITY HALL  
TUBMAN BOULEVARD  
MONROVIA, LIBERIA

MARCH 31, 2022

The Dean and Members of the Cabinet;

Other Officials of Government, here present;

The Doyen and Members of the Diplomatic Corps;

His Excellency Mr. Michael A. McCarthy  
United States Ambassador to Liberia;

Mr. Jim Wright  
USAID Mission Director for Liberia;

Mr. David Offensend  
President and CEO of the Education Development Center, Washington, D.C. USA

Mr. Steve Kamanzi  
Chief of Party, The Youth Advance Activity

Distinguished participants;

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I am delighted to be here this morning to launch this Youth Advance Activity Project, which is being implemented by the Ministry of Youth and Sports, in collaboration with the United States Agency for International Development and the Education Development Center of Washington D.C.

I have been informed that this project is designed to directly benefit 21,000 youths in Montserrado, Grand Bassa and Lofa counties for a five-year period, and that the intention is to increase the self-reliance and resiliency of Liberian youth by empowering them with relevant skills, work experience opportunities, and support to enable them to become productively engaged in their local economies.

This project therefore expected to have a significant impact on the youth empowerment policy of my Government, which is a fundamental pillar and objective of our national development plan, the Pro-Poor Agenda for Prosperity and Development (PAPD).

**DISTINGUISHED GUESTS, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:**

The youths of Liberia are particularly dear to my heart. My steadfast determination to provide transformational leadership to this country is driven by their hopes and aspirations; and by their trust and commitment to see us succeed. They are the ones that essentially power the pathway of our national developmental trajectory.

Therefore, the launch of this Youth Advance Project today, which targets our young men and women who are striving daily to make ends meet, is an important milestone in our quest to achieve transformative change outcomes that have a positive impact on their lives and livelihood.

I would like to note that, in these endeavors, we have received strong and committed support from our international partners, for which we are deeply appreciative.

In this regard, we are particularly grateful to the Government and People of the United States of America, ably represented here by you, Ambassador McCarthy, for the many positive and life-touching interventions which have been made across the country.

On behalf of the Government and People of Liberia, let me take this moment to thank you for the level of commitment shown toward supporting my Government's agenda for fostering democratic governance, social stability, manpower development, economic progress and overall national recovery. In all of these phases of our national experience, youth empowerment and strategic engagement is critical.

We are also grateful for the support we are receiving from the United Nations and its relevant agencies in Liberia, as we venture to address the situation of the At-Risk Youth and victims of drugs and substance abuse.

My Government will continue to remain engaged with all stakeholders in the youth space, including the youth themselves, in our drive to achieve positive and sustainable improvement in their living conditions.

I also would like to commend and encourage the Ministry of Youth and Sports to continue to demonstrate its commitment to fostering our transformative change vision, and to work in close collaboration with our development and bilateral partners in the youth sector. My government remains committed to giving all youth the opportunity to develop their potentials so that they will be able to compete in an enabling environment in this ever-changing world.

**DISTINGUISHED GUESTS, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:**

As I now officially launch this Youth Advance Activity, let me again express my appreciation to the United States Agency for International Development and our implementing partner, the Education Development Center, for working with my Government through the Ministry of Youth and Sports, to implement this important project.

To you our young generation, I promise to prepare and empower you so that you can take your rightful place in Liberia.

I now declare the Youth Activity Project officially launched.

I wish you every success in this endeavor.

Congratulations!

I thank you.