

REMARKS

BY

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

AND

POLITICAL LEADER AND STANDARD-BEARER  
OF THE  
MIGHTY COALITION FOR DEMOCRATIC CHANGE

AT A

PROGRAM FOR IN COMMEMORATION OF THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF HIS  
ADMINISTRATION DURING HIS FIRST SIX-YEAR TERM

CDC HEADQUARTERS  
CONGO TOWN  
MONROVIA, LIBERIA

JULY 17, 2023

The Speaker, President Pro-Tempore, and Members of the 54th Legislature, here present;

The Dean and Members of the Cabinet;

Officials of Government;

Officers and Members of the Mighty Coalition for Democratic Change;

Officers and Members of the Liberia Marketing Association;

The Liberia Motorcyclists Association;

The Yana Boys Association;

The Liberia Fishery Sector;

The Liberia Farming Sector;

The Liberia Health Sector;

University and College Lecturers and Students;

High School Principals, Faculty, Staff, and Students;

All First-time Voters and Auxiliaries;

CDCians and WEAHsians under the sound of my voice, wherever you are in Liberia;

Members of the Fourth Estate;

Distinguished Guests;

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Today, as we gather to commemorate the achievements of my six years as President of our great nation, I stand before you with a deep sense of gratitude and humility. Your presence here today is a testament to the collective vision we share for a brighter and more prosperous Liberia. I want to express my heartfelt appreciation for the trust and mandate you bestowed upon me six years ago. It is a responsibility I have carried with the utmost seriousness and dedication.

When my team and I assumed office in 2018, we were well aware of the enormous challenges that lay before us. Our economy was in dire need of revitalization, our road infrastructure was in disrepair, and our schools, hospitals, and market buildings were neglected. It was our duty to address these pressing issues and ensure a better future for all Liberians.

In our relentless pursuit of progress over these six years, we have achieved significant milestones. We have constructed hundreds of kilometers of roads, transforming connectivity across the country. Our efforts have extended to the education sector, where we have built and rehabilitated numerous school buildings, providing access to quality education for our youth. We have also focused on improving healthcare services by establishing new hospitals and investing in the well-being of our people.

To secure a prosperous future for our young generation, we have prioritized their access to education and healthcare services. We understand the importance of removing barriers that hinder their potential. That is why we introduced and implemented programs such as free tuition and fee payments for WASSCE and WAEC.

But our commitment does not stop there. With increased resources, we aim to expand these programs to reach every young person in Liberia, regardless of their social, religious, or political

background. We firmly believe that the youth of today are the leaders we need right now, not just in the future. This is our time, and together, we will shape the destiny of our beloved nation.

Growing up in the slum communities of Monrovia, I personally witnessed the struggles of parents trying to provide for their children, especially when it came to affording their education. That experience ignited the fire within me to create change. It was the catalyst that led to the formation of the Congress for Democratic Change two decades ago. We were a group of Liberians tired of the failures of the old order, particularly its impact on the youth of our nation. We came together to make a stand, to make a difference. Sadly, some of our compatriots who embarked on this journey are no longer with us, but their dream of a better Liberia lives on through us and our leadership.

We united because we could no longer tolerate the same old politicians who talked about problems without offering solutions. We could not stand idly by while children were denied an education and our infrastructure crumbled. Liberia's position among the nations of the world was slipping away. We had to usher in a new era—an era of young leaders who are practical, dedicated, and ready to confront our challenges head-on. I am proud to say that we are well on our way to fulfilling the vision of our Pro-poor Agenda.

However, amidst our progress, some remnants of the old guard have launched a campaign of lies and vilification. They seek to deceive the Liberian people, both at home and abroad, about the unprecedented changes we are bringing about. But rest assured, the people are wise. They are tired of the relics of the past, tired of old parked cars.

As we approach the upcoming race, my competitors boast of experience. Yet, I stand before you today as the most experienced candidate, having served as President for the past five years. We have utilized our time in office to work tirelessly for the Liberian people. We have not squandered the opportunities that were entrusted to us.

Liberia is not a test tube for failed experiments. The lives and futures of our people are at stake. We deserve better, and we deserve development. The improvements in our economy and infrastructure are evident for all to see. We are on an irreversible path of progress, a path that touches every sector of society.

In the days to come, we will embark on a journey to every town and village, reminding every Liberian of the need to stand with the unprecedented level of development taking place in our country.

Liberia and its people have an inherent right to prosperity and development, just like any other nation in the world. We possess abundant human and natural resources, comparable to those of our neighbors and beyond. As the oldest Republic in Africa, it is disheartening that we cannot boast of corresponding development. It is even more disheartening that those who have contributed to this failure for over four decades are now raising their hands, seeking another chance to continue this sad narrative.

I implore you, my fellow Liberians, not to be swayed by the empty promises of the failed elite of this country. Let us not be tempted to drink the same old wine from the same old bottles. Instead, let us recognize, embrace, and celebrate the generational change in national leadership that has taken place under my guidance. And when the time comes, let us exercise our precious franchise wisely to maintain this momentum.

Liberia is a nation with immense potential, and together, we will unleash that potential. We will build a Liberia that thrives, a Liberia where every young person has the opportunity to succeed. I am dedicated to this singular purpose, and I pledge to continue working tirelessly to bring about the prosperous future we all deserve.

Before I close, however, I would like to make an important announcement. In this public manner, I am extending an open invitation to all former members of the CDC who have left the Party for any reason whatsoever, to come back home to your family, where you once belonged. Whether it was because of dissatisfaction, disappointment, disrespect, disgruntlement, disenchantment, or any other “dis”, let all bygones be bygones, and come home to join hands with your brothers and sisters in this GREAT COMMISSION FOR VICTORY!!!

Whatever you think we did to you that hurt your feelings or your pride, PLEASE FORGIVE US!!

Whatever you might have done to us that may have hurt our feelings or our pride, WE FORGIVE YOU!!!

You now have another opportunity to be with your people, the Liberian people. We are the mighty Coalition for Democratic Change, the People's Party. Come and take your rightful place and gain your respect in society.

The task ahead of us is formidable, but not insurmountable. We will need all hands on deck. We look forward to welcoming you back with open arms and with warm hearts.

Thank you, and may God bless you all.