

### **REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA**

## LIBERIA REFUGEE REPATRIATION AND RESETTLEMENT COMMISSION



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## GOVERNMENT OF LIBERIA STATEMENT

# 74th SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER'S PROGRAMME (EXCOM)

GENEVA. SWITZERLAND

**OCTOBER 9-13, 2023** 

#### Excellencies and Distinguished delegates,

- 1. On behalf of His Excellency, Dr. George M. Weah, President of Liberia, I extend greetings and congratulations for hosting this significant event.
- 2. Liberia is honored to participate in the Seventy-Fourth Session of the Executive Committee of the High Commissioner's Programme (ExCom), addressing refugee and Persons of Concern (PoCs) matters in Liberia and the region.
- 3. As of August thirty-first, twenty twenty-three (August 31, 2023), Liberia shelters one thousand seven hundred eighty (1,780) individuals, including one thousand one hundred fifty-seven (1,157) refugees and six hundred twenty-three (623), primarily Ivorian nationals. We proudly adhere to international conventions related to refugees and prioritize peace and stability.
- 4. Liberia has facilitated the local integration of eight hundred sixty-five (865) Ivorian refugees through the September 2021 Roadmap for Comprehensive Solutions. Among them, eight hundred twenty-eight (828) have acquired resident permits, and thirty-seven (37) are in the process of seeking naturalization..
- 5. The Executive Order issued by the President mandates government agencies to assist in providing civil documentation and access to the National Identity Registry for Ivorian refugees undergoing integration. Liberia's Asylum Committee is in the final stages of processing five hundred eighty-three (583) cases related to the exemption process for former Ivorian refugees.

- 6. Furthermore, Liberia accommodates roughly twenty thousand (20,000) individuals from Burkina Faso, with twelve thousand (12,000) of them currently seeking asylum. We are implementing an Out of Camp approach with the aid of humanitarian support.
- 7. In 2015, Liberia made a commitment to the Abidjan Declaration of ECOWAS Member States on the Eradication of Statelessness. To date, we have successfully implemented ninety percent (90%) of our pledged initiatives.
- 8. We extend our appreciation to UNHCR for its financial support in the construction of the Liberia Refugee Repatriation and Resettlement Commission National Headquarters in Monrovia. The project is currently at eighty-five percent (85%) completion and still requires additional funding to be fully realized.
- 9. We are actively seeking your support, including technical assistance, to strengthen economic prospects for the integration of Ivorians, facilitate local integration, and assist Burkinabe arrivals and other Persons of Concern. Your expertise and collaboration in these efforts are highly appreciated.

10. Excellences and Distinguished delegates, I thank you.