## H.E. JULY 26<sup>TH</sup> MESSAGE TO THE PEOPLE

## "Celebrating Our Community as a Strong Foundation For Accelerated Development"

We stand tall as a nation during this 168<sup>th</sup>Independence Day celebration to recognize the leadership and courage of those who joined the fight against an unknown enemy during the course of a turbulent period. They mobilized, with a sense of individual and collective fortitude, patriotic service to their country. They took the future of our country and destiny into their own hands.

The leaders and people of our communities, in the protection of lives and livelihoods, demonstrated to the world that organization, coordination, sensitization communication, and education can make a difference. Today, our progress is owed to the valor and espirit de corps of our community's strength and tenacity to put our country first.

That is all the reason while is it our compelling duty and national obligation during these celebrations to give honor to those who replaced anguish with relief, substituted hopelessness for joy and dismissed fear in favor of confidence.

Our community's gallantry constitutes an embodiment of assurance, calmness, faith, happiness, trust, love, bravery, fearlessness and heroism. As we mourn and salute the families of the thousands of lives lost, we salute the people of Liberia who in an unprecedented show of unity and solidarity defeated the enemy and brought credibility to our country.