MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT H.E. ELLEN JOHNSON SIRLEAF TO THE DOCTORS OF LIBERIA

In 2006 in the start of the Administration, the salary and benefits of Doctors was \$70.00, or its equivalent in local currency, with several delays in monthly payments. Working conditions left much to be desired. Today the salary and benefits average US\$4,000.00 for Doctors and US\$1,500.00 for Government sponsored interns with on time monthly payments and improved working conditions.

Recent delays in payments reflect the need to make changes in the currency of payment, in reflection of the serious financial situation in the country.

Nevertheless, Cabinet discussions have centered on the need to improve the salaries and benefits of Doctors particularly those who are specialists to provide better incentive for their valuable service.

I therefore appeal to our Doctors to show patience and patriotism by continuing service.

I thank Senator Coleman, Ministers and officials who have ongoing consultation with them and I ask that they meet with me on my return to the country.