

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY ACTIVITIES – FRIDAY, AUGUST 28, 2015

- President Sirleaf has held talks with the Japan/AU Parliamentary Friendship League made of members of the DIET (Parliament) of Japan and discussed cooperation with Liberia and the African continent.

She also held talks with the President of Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), Akihiko Tanaka and delegation. They discussed JICA's activities in Liberia with emphasis on fast-tracking the resumption of work on the Somalia Drive Road and a plea to expand the Somalia Drive project to 4 lanes.

- Delivering the Keynote Address at the opening of the 2nd World Assembly for Women (WAW 2015) at the Grand Prince Hotel Takanawa in Tokyo on Friday, August 28, President Sirleaf reflected on the struggle of women across the globe that continues to prevent them from “shining” and praised Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe for organizing the World Assembly for Women (WAW) and all that he continues to do to promote the advancement and empowerment of women both in Japan and other parts of the world.

The Liberian leader stressed that if the world is to move “Towards a Society Where Women Shine”, we must continue to tackle with more forcefulness a world in which 30 percent of women around the world experience either physical or sexual partner violence; where 20 percent of women in sub-Saharan Africa suffer from non-sexual partner violence; a world in which 1.3 billion women do not have an account at formal financial institutions. The WAW 2015 was being held under the theme: “*Towards a Society Where Women Shine.*”

The 2nd Assembly, which has brought together about 140 leaders of various fields from more than 40 countries and 7 international organizations, discussed in a comprehensive manner various issues surrounding women and provided an opportunity for leaders who are active on the frontline in the political, economic and social arenas to have a frank exchange of views in their own words notwithstanding their country of origin and affiliation.