

**A
PROCLAMATION
BY THE PRESIDENT**

WHEREAS, being cognizant of the harmful effect and burden malaria poses on the human race, particularly in Africa, and the World over, a Declaration was adopted by the African Heads of State and Government Summit in Harare, Uganda, on 4th June 1997, which called on all Member States of the **Organization of African Unity (OAU), now African Union (AU)**, to initiate and implement plans of Action that would curtail Malaria and malaria related mortality rates in Africa by the year 2010; and,

WHEREAS, the serious economic burden and threats that Malaria places to the health and wellbeing of the human race worldwide, has been exceedingly costly to the Continent of Africa in billions of United States Dollars each year; and,

WHEREAS, more than a million people in Africa die each year from Malaria, and in fact, 80% of these deaths occur mainly in most of Africa's poorest countries, while the vulnerable victims are children under five years of age, and pregnant women; and,

WHEREAS, the Roll Back Malaria (**RBA**) **GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP** was launched in 1994 by the World Health Organization (WHO), **United Nation Children Fund (UNCEF)**, **United Nation Development Programs (UNDP)**, and the World Bank with a goal to control the consequence of Malaria by 2010, through the implementation of strategies and action; and,

WHEREAS, a subsequent follow-up on this Plan of Action to quench Malaria was made in 1998, in which strategies on the control and prevention of this Epidemic, in the 21st Century, under the slogan, "**ROLL BACK MALARIA**" was promulgated; and,

WHEREAS, in fulfillment of the previous **OAU Declaration** on the prevention and control of Malaria, during its Abuja, Summit on 25 April 2000, Heads of State and Government of Africa adopted a Resolution declaring the 25th day of April, each year, as "AFRICA MALARIA DAY" which was subsequently changed at its 60th World Health Assembly in March 2007 to "**WORLD MALARIA DAY**", in which World Leaders and their Governments were requested to strengthen the health system, and to ensure that pregnant women, and children under five years, are protected and treated; and,

WHEREAS, April 25th 2009, is the 2nd World Malaria Day, and the 9th Africa Malaria Day, which will be celebrated under the **theme: "COUNTING MALARIA OUT" with a slogan- "ACCELERATING MALARIA CONTROL TO REACH THE MDGS"**, the commemoration of the Day will also provide Malaria endemic Countries and their Partners the opportunity to put extra efforts in comprehensively tracking progress along the way to Universal coverage by 2010, near-zero deaths by 2015 and the gradual elimination of Malaria; and,

WHEREAS, the Government of the Republic of Liberia cognizant of the significance to protect the wellbeing of its Citizens and Foreign Residents, has ratified the Convention on the

Right of the Child to good health and nutrition, and , as a Member of the World Health Organization (WHO), will join other global health Partners in supporting all health programs:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ELLEN JOHNSON SIRLEAF, President of the Republic of Liberia, by virtue of the Authority in Me vested, do hereby Declare Saturday, 25th April 2009, “**WORLD MALARIA DAY**”, to be observed throughout the Republic as a “**WORKING HOLIDAY**”, when all Citizens and Foreign Residents should be prudently aware of the dangers Malaria poses to everyone’s existence, and particularly, the grave ill health it poses to the vulnerability of the young and the aged in our society, and resolve to do everything to prevent and eradicate the causes of Malaria.

FURTHER, I do request the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare, and other Government Agencies, Schools and other centers of learning, as well as local and International Organizations concerned, to initiate and execute programs to make the occasion meaningful, by calling the attention of the general public to the dangers of Malaria.

**GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF
THE REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA, IN THE CITY
OF MONROVIA, THIS 13th DAY OF APRIL,
IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD, 2009 AND OF
INDENPEDENCE OF THE REPUBLIC, THE
162ND.**

**ELLEN JOHNSON SIRLEAF
PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA**

BY ORDER OF THE PRESIDENT

**JOHNSON N. GWAIKOLO
ACTING MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS**