

**Statement by H.E. President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf to the Nation
Monday, October 17, 2011**

My Fellow Liberians:

I want to congratulate each of you who turned out to vote on Election Day, and also for the discipline and tolerance you demonstrated.

We commend the National Elections Commission (NEC) for the professional manner in which it conducted the process which was judged by most to be free, fair and transparent.

We thank the Liberian Council of Churches, the Liberian Muslim Council and all national and international groups that have called for peace and requested all political parties to refrain from actions that will undermine the peace of our nation.

We condemn acts of violence and destruction, and call upon all Liberians to refrain from violence and threats as we prepare to once again exercise our political franchise by voting in the run-off election which we are certain will be equally free, fair and transparent.

After all, we are all Liberians – one history, one culture, one future. When this election is over, we'll all be Liberians, and it will require the collective effort of all of us to continue the process of rebuilding our country and to ensure that peace, stability and democracy continue to prevail.

We ask all religious bodies, and all of our people, to continue to pray for our nation.

May God bless us all.