

**President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf's Peace Message to the World
Delivered at the Nobel Peace Prize Concert
Oslo Spektrum
Oslo, Norway, December 11, 2011**

Good evening and thank you very much.

If my compatriots at home were watching this show tonight, they would be laughing, because we don't wear boots in our formal attire. But I'd rather have them laughing because I have on boots than to have them crying because I slipped and fell on the snow.

The Nobel Peace Prize award is an extraordinary recognition, this year, of the role women have played in challenging the wrongs in their society; of the role women have played in responding to the needs of society; in the role women have played in moving their children toward a better future.

The events surrounding the awarding of the Prize are even more extraordinary. All the events I have participated in, over these past few days, have just been so amazing, so fulfilling. Tonight the real climax of four days of meeting wonderful people, being exposed to such great talents, being able to walk out of the hotel room and see people in the cold waving, greeting, connecting with you. There can be no experience more self-satisfying than that which we've been through.

To the Nobel Peace Prize Committee, I express, on behalf of the Liberian people, and the people from Africa, our profound appreciation for this recognition, a recognition not so much for me, but for them, for all they have suffered, for all that they have persevered, and for the wonderful future which you have given them through the recognition that we have had in these past few days. I thank all of you for being here, for being a part of what will go with us as a memorable event, something we'll never forget.

We take back the message of hope to our people. We take back to them what you have given to us: the great love, the acceptance, the recognition. Thank you.