

## **EXECUTIVE ORDER N<sup>o</sup> 15**

### **ESTABLISHMENT OF AN AD HOC INDEPENDENT COMMISSION TO INVESTIGATE ALLEGED IMPROPRIETIES BY CERTAIN OFFICIALS OF GOVERNMENT IN REFERENCE TO EMAIL EXCHANGES ON THE WEBSITE OF FRONTPAGEAFRICA.COM RELATIVE TO THE GOVERNMENT OF LIBERIA AND LISCR NEGOTIATIONS.**

**Whereas**, certain email exchanges have been circulated on the website of frontpageafrica.com, a United States Internet based entity, wherein the said emails contain allegations of improprieties by certain government officials in connection with the negotiations of a new Agreement between LISCR and the Government of Liberia relative to the Management of Liberian's Maritime and Corporate Programs; and

**Whereas**, the allegations contained in these publications by frontpageafrica.com, if true, would be a violation not only of Government policies but also a violation of the Penal Laws of Liberia, title 26, Liberian Code of Laws Revised, for which there can be criminal prosecution; and

**Whereas**, it is in the best interest of the Government and people of Liberia that an independent, fair and expeditious inquiry be conducted into the publications and the allegations set forth therein.

**Now therefore**, with a view to ensuring that an independent investigation is conducted into the alleged improprieties contained in the email exchanges in circulation on the website of FrontPageAfrica.Com, and that a full report be made to the President and to the Office of an Independent Special Prosecutor, and to inform the public of the findings and the action determined or recommended to be taken, it is hereby ordered:

1. That an Ad Hoc Independent Commission consisting of seven (7) Liberians of integrity, deemed impartial and independent, is hereby established to fully investigate and probe into alleged improprieties attributed to certain Government officials, in reference to email exchanges in circulation on the website of FrontPageAfrica.Com.
2. That Dr. D. Elwood Dunn is hereby appointed Chair of the Ad Hoc Independent Commission
3. That the Chair of the ad Hoc Independent Commission is hereby authorized and empowered to appoint independently the other six (6) persons to serve on the Commission, as well as engage and employ the services of experts and legal counsel, local and international, and including experts in information technology, deemed to be necessary and as may be required to facilitate the Commission's works.

4. That the Commission shall have the scope and authority to seek and acquire any information from any domestic and international sources bearing on the investigation;
  
5. That in order to facilitate its investigation within the Republic of Liberia, the Commission is vested with the authority and power to cause or secure the issuance of writs of subpoena by courts of competent jurisdiction, for any records or documents required by it and to secure access to any emails or other sources for the purpose of its work; and the Commission shall also have authority to cite any person to give statements in respect of the investigations, inclusive of the Government officials named in the mentioned emails, which cooperation from the officials shall in no way or manner be withheld from the Commission.
  
6. That all persons holding positions in the Executive Branch of Government are hereby directed to cooperate fully with the Commission, and to provide all necessary information and documents that the Commission may duly require in the course of its investigation;
  
7. That the duration of the Commission shall not exceed three (3) months as of the date of commencement of its work; or the effective date of this Executive Order, whichever first occurs. At the conclusion of its investigation, the Commission shall submit a report to the President and to the Office of an Independent Special Prosecutor, specifically designated to prosecute all matters or persons determined to be implicated in any improprieties in connection with the GOL-LISCR negotiations. The report shall be made public along with action taken by the President.
  
8. That in order to ensure that the work of the Commission is pursued most expeditiously and professionally, an adequate budget, any required support staff, and any equipment needed and necessary shall be made available to the Commission for the period of its duration.

This Executive Order shall take immediate effect on the 30<sup>th</sup> day of October A.D. 2008.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF THE REPUBLIC OF  
LIBERIA THIS 30<sup>th</sup> DAY OF OCTOBER, A.D. 2008

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ELLEN JOHNSON SIRLEAF  
**PRESIDENT**  
REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA