



THE PRESIDENT

REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 153

RENEWAL AND REFOCUSING OF EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 136 ESTABLISHING THE LIBERIA NATIONAL RAILWAY AUTHORITY

WHEREAS, Article 50 of the Constitution of the Republic of Liberia vests Executive Power in the President to ensure the effective governance, management, and regulation of the resources and infrastructure of the State;

WHEREAS, Executive Order No. 136, issued on October 10, 2024, established the Liberia National Railway Authority (LNRA) as a temporary regulatory body for the purpose of overseeing the development and management of railway infrastructure as a public facility, with an initial mandate of one year;

WHEREAS, railway infrastructure remains a critical and strategic enabler of Liberia's long-term economic development, regional integration and competitiveness, particularly in facilitating multi-user access for mining, agriculture, forestry, and other productive sectors;

WHEREAS, there exists an urgent and continuing need to institutionalize a permanent, independent, and technically competent Railway Authority to regulate, facilitate, and promote inclusive and sustainable railway development, consistent with international best practices;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Joseph Nyuma Boakai, Sr., President of the Republic of Liberia, by virtue of the authority vested in me under the Constitution and laws of the Republic, do hereby issue this Executive Order renewing and refocusing the mandate for the establishment of the Liberia National Railway Authority:



SECTION 1: Continuation and Mandate of the Liberia National Railway Authority

1. The Liberia National Railway Authority (LNRA) shall continue to exist and operate as the national regulatory and facilitative body to promote railway development in Liberia.
2. The LNRA shall serve as custodian of national rail policy, with responsibility for ensuring equitable multi-user access, safety, efficiency and sustainability of railway infrastructure.
3. Pending the enactment of an enabling legislation by the Legislature, the LNRA shall operate under the authority of this Executive Order.

SECTION 2: Engagement of Advisory and Technical Entity

1. The Government of Liberia shall engage the services of a qualified advisory and technical entity with demonstrated international expertise to provide guidance and technical assistance in railway regulation and infrastructure development.
2. The advisory entity shall operate under the supervision of the Ministry of State for Presidential Affairs and in consultation with other relevant institutions of government as needed. In furtherance of this objective, there shall be a Rail Authority Liaison Officer appointed with a mandate to facilitate the implementation of this Executive Order. The Civil Service Agency (CSA) shall second two support staff to support the work of the Liaison office.

SECTION 3: Scope of Work and Terms of Reference of the Advisory Entity

The advisory entity shall provide comprehensive technical, legal, financial, and institutional support in the following areas:✓



3.1. Institutional and Legal Framework

- a) Draft enabling Legislature for the formal establishment of the Liberia National Railway Authority to be submitted to the Legislature.
- b) Review and harmonize existing laws and regulations governing rail operations to ensure consistency.
- c) Develop a transparent and predictable regulatory framework aligned with global standards.

3.2. Governance and Organizational Structure

- a) Design the governance and organizational structure of the LNRA, including staffing and technical departments.
- b) Propose training and capacity-building programs for Liberian regulators, engineers, and legal professionals.
- c) Establish accountability and oversight mechanisms to ensure transparency and operational independence.

3.3. Concessions and Multi-User Access

- a) Develop a framework for equitable multi-user access to national rail corridors.
- b) Draft model concession agreements and guidelines for private sector participation.
- c) Design dispute resolution mechanisms for conflicts between operators and users. ✓



3.4. Technical and Economic Advisory Services

- a) Conduct a comprehensive diagnostic study of the rail sector.
- b) Provide feasibility studies for modernization and expansion of existing corridors, with priority given to the Yekepa–Buchanan line.
- c) Propose sustainable financing models, including public-private partnerships (PPPs) and blended finance instruments.

3.5. Safety, Standards, and Compliance

- a) Develop national railway safety standards consistent with global benchmarks.
- b) Establish operational standards for signaling systems, rolling stock, and maintenance protocols.
- c) Design a compliance monitoring system to ensure adherence to regulatory requirements.

3.6. Stakeholder Engagement and Coordination

- a) Facilitate consultations with government ministries, concessionaires, local communities, and development partners.
- b) Develop public communication strategies to promote awareness of the benefits of a modern railway infrastructure.
- c) Ensure alignment with regional frameworks including the ECOWAS Regional Rail Policy.



3.7. Environmental and Social Safeguards

- a) Develop environmental management frameworks consistent with Liberia's Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) commitments.
- b) Establish social safeguard policies addressing resettlement, compensation, and benefit-sharing.
- c) Integrate climate resilience standards into railway design and construction.

3.8. Deliverables

The advisory entity shall produce the following deliverables:

- a) Draft Act establishing the LNRA.
- b) Institutional and regulatory framework report.
- c) Organizational design and staffing plan.
- d) Model concession agreements and multi-user access framework.
- e) Technical standards and safety guidelines.
- f) Final advisory report with a roadmap for full operationalization of the LNRA.

SECTION 4: Duration

This Executive Order shall remain in effect until:

- a) The Legislature enacts the formal legislation establishing the Liberia National Railway Authority, or
- b) It is revoked or amended by the President.



SECTION 5: Effective Date

This Executive Order shall take effect immediately upon issuance.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE
SEAL OF THE REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA
THIS 14th DAY OF OCTOBER A.D.
2025.




Joseph Nyuma Boakai, Sr.
PRESIDENT
REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA