

**REMARKS BY HIS EXCELLENCY JOSEPH NYUMA BOAKAI, SR., PRESIDENT  
OF THE REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA AT THE COMMISSIONING OF GOVERNMENT  
OFFICIALS**

Executive Mansion, Monrovia

September 8, 2026

Senior officials of Government;

Members of the Judiciary;

Members of the Cabinet;

Officials to be Commissioned and your supportive family members and friends;

Distinguished Guests;

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Today, we gather for a simple but important purpose: to formally commission a group of Liberians who have been called to serve their country in different positions of responsibility.

Some of you will serve at our State-Owned Enterprises. Some at the National Elections Commission. Others will serve as Assistant Ministers, Superintendents, local government officials, deputies, assistants, and in other important positions across government.

Your titles and responsibilities may be different, but the obligation you assume today is the same: to serve the Liberian people faithfully, honestly, and effectively.

Let me therefore congratulate you all.

Your appointment represents the confidence we have placed in your ability to contribute to the work of this government. But I want you to understand that appointment to public office is not a reward. It is not an entitlement. And it certainly is not a license to exercise power for personal benefit.

Public office is a public trust.

The authority you receive today belongs ultimately to the Liberian people. You are only its temporary custodian.

And so, when you leave here today, do not simply leave with a commission and a new title. Leave with an understanding of the responsibility that comes with it.

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Our people are impatient for progress and improvement in their daily lives, and they have every right to be.

This is why our ARREST Agenda for Inclusive Development cannot simply remain a government document or a collection of promises. It must translate into results our people can see, feel, and experience.

And that responsibility belongs to all of us.

To those of you going to State-Owned Enterprises, remember that these institutions belong to the Liberian people. They must be professionally managed, financially responsible, transparent, and accountable.

State-owned enterprises cannot become places where resources are wasted or where employment and contracts are distributed simply because of relationships. They must deliver the services for which they were established and contribute to national development.

To the Chairman of the National Elections Commission, your responsibility is particularly sensitive. The credibility of our democracy depends heavily on the independence, integrity, fairness, and professionalism of the institutions that administer our elections.

You must therefore work with your colleagues and conduct yourselves in a manner that earns the confidence of all Liberians, regardless of political party, region, ethnicity, or personal association.

To the Vice Chairperson of the Liberia Anti-Corruption Commission, you assume office at a time when our people rightly expect greater accountability and integrity in public service. I urge you to discharge your responsibilities without fear or favor, guided solely by the law, the evidence, and the national interest. Our fight against corruption must be credible, impartial, and uncompromising.

To our Assistant Ministers and other officials in the Executive Branch, I expect you to work.

Support your Ministers and agency heads. Bring ideas. Solve problems. Respect the chain of command, but do not be afraid to offer thoughtful and professional advice.

Government cannot function effectively when officials are more concerned about titles than responsibilities.

And to our Superintendents and other local government officials, I want to speak directly to you.

You are the face of this government in our counties and communities.

For many Liberians outside Monrovia, their interaction with you is their interaction with this administration.

Be accessible to your people.

Listen to them.

Work with traditional leaders, legislators, civil society, women, youth, religious leaders, and communities.

Do not allow political differences to prevent you from serving anyone. Once you assume public office, your responsibility extends beyond those who supported you.

You are there to serve all Liberians.

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I also want to remind you that this administration has made accountability, integrity, and the rule of law central to its work.

We will support you when you do what is right. We will give you the opportunity to perform. But we will also hold you accountable.

And do not confuse access to government resources with ownership of government resources.

The cars, offices, budgets, equipment, and authority entrusted to you belong to the Republic.

Use them accordingly.

There will be challenges. You will sometimes have limited resources. You will face criticism. You will make difficult decisions.

But never allow those challenges to become excuses for inaction.

Our people have heard enough explanations about why things cannot be done. They want leaders who will find ways to get things done.

That is the standard I expect from all of you and those serving in government.

As President, I will continue to demand performance from every official entrusted with public responsibility. I expect you to set measurable goals, work collaboratively, and judge your own success by the difference your service makes in the lives of our people.

As you take your commissions today, remember that positions in government are temporary. None of us will occupy these offices forever.

What will remain is the record of what we did while we had the opportunity to serve.

So make your time count.

Serve with humility.

Lead with integrity.

Treat people with respect.

Work hard.

And wherever you are assigned, leave that institution, county, community, or office better than you met it.

I congratulate you once again and wish you success as you undertake these important responsibilities.

May God give you wisdom and strength to serve our country faithfully.

And may God bless the Republic of Liberia.

Think Liberia, Love Liberia, and Build Liberia.

I thank you.