

## REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS MONROVIA, LIBERIA

## A PROCLAMATION BY THE PRESIDENT

**WHEREAS**, the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance, known as Ramsar Convention, was adopted in the Iranian City of Ramsar on the shores of the Capsian Sea, and, as designed by the United Nations is observed on the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of February every year, as **World Wetlands Day**, and has been celebrated by all UN member countries worldwide since 1997; and,

**WHEREAS**, the purpose for observing the World Wetlands Day is to focus worldwide attention on the importance of wetlands, their values and benefits in general and the Ramsar Convention in particular, to stimulate political attention and action; to empower people to become active agents of sustainable and equitable development; and,

**WHEREAS**, the celebration of this Day is to raise awareness and to highlight the vital roles of healthy wetlands in reducing the impacts of extreme events such as floods, droughts and cyclones on the communities, and in helping to build resilience; and,

WHEREAS, the Republic of Liberia, being a contracting party of the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance, will celebrate the World Wetland Day on February 2, 2018 in Montserrado County, Liberia, under the Global Theme: "Wetlands for a Sustainable Urban Future" and National Theme: "Save the Wetlands, Save Our Future":

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GEORGE MANNEH WEAH, President of the Republic of Liberia, by virtue of the Authority in me vested, do hereby declare and proclaim Friday, February 2, 2018, as "World Wetlands Day" to be observed throughout the Republic as a Working Holiday:

**Furthermore,** I call upon all people residing in the territorial confines of the Republic of Liberia to join the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), in an effort towards the sustainable management of wetlands and water bodies and execute appropriate programs to make the day meaningful.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF THE REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA, IN THE CITY OF MONROVIA, COUNTY OF MONTSERRADO, THIS 12<sup>th</sup>DAY OF JANUARY, IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD, 2018 AND OF THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE REPUBLIC, THE 171<sup>ST</sup>.

GEORGE MANNEH WEAH
PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA

BY ORDER OF THE PRESIDENT

GBEHZONGAR M. FINDLEY

MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS