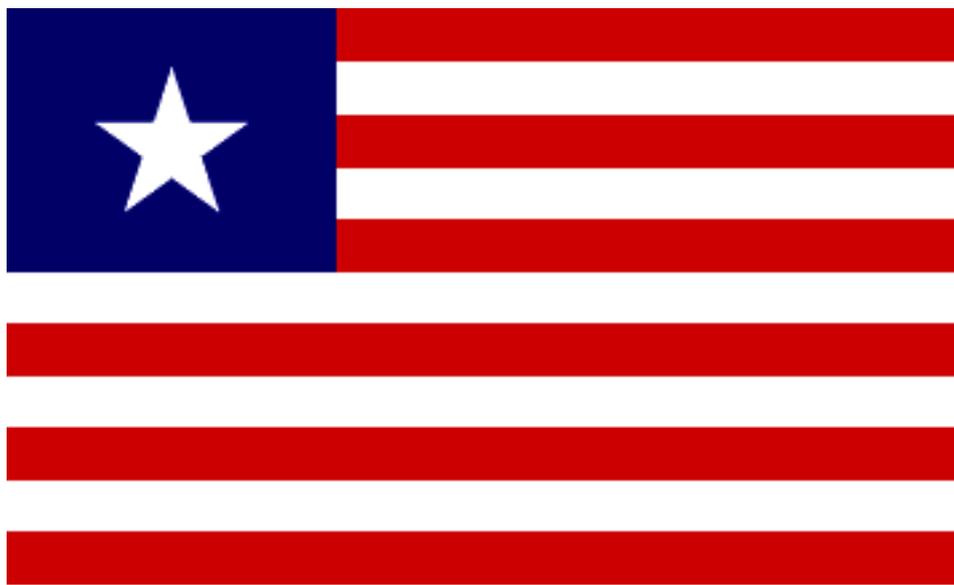

LIBERIA'S ACCESSION TO THE WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION (WTO)



Liberia's Post Accession Implementation Plan (2016-2017)

December 16, 2015



**H.E. ELLEN JOHNSON SIRLEAF
PRESIDENT, REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA
SPECIAL STATEMENT DELIVERED AT THE MC10
ON ACCESSION OF LIBERIA TO THE WTO
DECEMBER 16, 2015**

Your Excellency, Uruhu Kenyatta, President of Kenya

Madam Chair of the 10th Ministerial Conference, Dr. Amina Mohammed

Mr. Director General, Roberto Azevedo

Ministers, Heads of Delegation, Distinguished Delegates

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Good afternoon. I trust your deliberations yesterday, the first day of this very important ministerial meeting were productive. Every hour spent on these negotiations is critical to a successful outcome.

Madam Chair, Liberia's accession to the World Trade Organization today marks yet again another turning point in our history as we embark on a journey of economic transformation for inclusive growth. Although long and tough, the road to accession has come with milestones of economic growth.

Proudly, with over ten unbroken years of peace and stability, Liberia created the fiscal space by removing our external debt burden of \$4.9 billion dollars through the HIPC process. Domestic revenue increased from \$80 million to a peak of \$470 million in 2014, and substantial support to invest in trade facilitation infrastructure is being mobilized.

In the power sector, electricity on the national grid has increased from zero and by the end of 2017 will be at 150 megawatts reaching a target of 54,000 households across the country.



However, this will not meet all the needs of our population. Consequently, we have joined in the West Africa Power Pool and have recently passed a new electricity law that allows private participation in power generation under an independent regulatory authority.

In the transport sector, we are expanding our road networks to improve access to markets for producers. The high cost and severe climatic conditions have made this challenging. Nevertheless, we remain committed to expanding our road infrastructure and are pursuing investment opportunities to achieve our objectives.

We continue to solidify investments in our ports of entry and are aggressively pursuing new investment opportunities that will modernize our ports infrastructure.

In the social services sector, targeted investments have been made to provide better services for our people. School enrolment increased to over 1.5 million in 2015, with girls' enrolment constituting nearly 50%. By 2017, we expect this number to increase to 2.6 million. Some 10,000 teachers have been trained to support this ambition.

While it is true Ebola exposed the fragility of the health sector, access to health services increased from 41% in 2007 to 71% in 2013, which was made possible through increase in health facilities from 354 in 2006 to 712 by 2012. We remain committed to rebuilding a more resilient health system.

The private sector, no doubt remains the engine of growth. Policies and procedures are being put in place to ensure a more transparent and predictable business climate for equitable, inclusive growth – as demonstrated by Liberia's accession to the WTO. Special emphasis is being placed on small and medium-sized enterprises to drive our agenda of inclusion. In furtherance of that, our legislature has passed the Small Business Empowerment Act, which requires 25% public procurement for SMEs is to be from Liberian-owned businesses.

Despite progress over the last ten years, much is still to be done. The attack of the Ebola virus disease and the dramatic drop in global prices of two of our major export commodities - rubber and iron ore caused a severe drop in our GDP. With help from around the globe, this virus is better understood and is being defeated. Meanwhile, the economy is being diversified with an accent on agriculture (cocoa, rice, fisheries and agro-processing) and tourism to better withstand the vagaries of the global marketplace.

Madam Chair, Liberia is endowed with over 40% of West Africa's tropical rain forest, the largest in the region. We are home to some a most spectacular biodiversity, including the pigmy hippo. It is ideal for eco-tourism.

With over 580 kilometers of beautiful white sand beaches along the Atlantic, dare devil surfers have come to challenge some of the biggest waves in the world. Beautiful lakes, lagoons, rivers and streams abound offering attractive opportunities for coastal and marine



tourism. We therefore welcome investors in these sectors while offering our assurances of the most favourable incentives for investment.

Liberia also has a youthful, energetic population that constitute over 60% of our 4 million people. Most of them are under age of 25. They present opportunities for manufacturing and ICT.

Madam Chair, we recognize that our transformation can neither be done alone, nor in isolation, but by forging partnerships based on the foundation of mutual respect with mutual benefits.

In closing, we appreciate the collaborative efforts of our partners, particularly the Governments of Sweden, the United States of America, the European Union, China, and Japan, whose support have made this accession a resounding success. The Swedish National Board of Trade, the International Trade Centre, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the World Bank Group, the Economic Community of West African States, the Advisory Centre on WTO Law, the International Senior Lawyers Program, the law firm King & Spalding, and WTO's Enhanced Integrated Framework.

Special thanks to WTO Director-General Azevedo, Mr. Cheidu Osakwe and the team in the Accessions Division for their support. Equally so, I want to recognize and thank the Sweden's Ambassador Joakim Reiter for his leadership as the Chair of the Liberia Working Party over the years.

Again, I congratulate our host President Kenyatta and the people of Kenya for hosting this historic conference.

Mr. President, Madam Chair, Distinguished delegates, I take the opportunity of this occasion to extend warm congratulations to the people of Afghanistan on their accession to be celebrated tomorrow.

Finally, today would not have been realized without the talents of our Liberian technicians, public servants whose talents and commitment made today possible.

We also want to affirm that we fully subscribe to the common African position on strengthening the rules-based multilateral trading system for the Africa we want; founded on principles of respectable, fair, and transparent global trade with mutual benefits for all.

Madam Chair, let me assure you that Liberia intends to serve as an active member to foster trade as a tool for driving trade and investment for development and poverty reduction. We believe this organization has a critical role to play.

Let me wish you all a successful deliberation and I look forward to celebrating with all of you a positive Nairobi outcome. *Asante Sana.*



EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 74

IMPLEMENTATION OF LIBERIA'S POST ACCESSION PLAN (LPAP) AS A BASIS FOR INCLUSIVE GROWTH FOR POVERTY REDUCTION

WHEREAS, under Article 50 of the Constitution of the Republic of Liberia the Executive Power of the Republic is vested in the President as Head of State, Head of Government, and Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of Liberia;

WHEREAS, Liberia has experienced a devastating civil war coupled with a debilitating Ebola virus outbreak that have destroyed large parts of its economy;

WHEREAS, Liberia wishes to be re-integrated into the international economy and trading systems, while being sensitive to the interests of the domestic private sector;

WHEREAS, Liberia has developed the Liberia National Trade Policy (LNTP) with the intention to use trade as an engine of inclusive growth and as a vehicle to reduce poverty, especially among women, children, and the most vulnerable communities of the population;

WHEREAS, Liberia, in order to systematically implement the LNTP, has developed the Post Accession Plan (LPAP) 2016-2017 as a short to medium term approach;

WHEREAS, Liberia is in the process of acceding to the World Trade Organization (WTO) and has made commitments relating to WTO Membership that will be implemented in the LPAP;

NOW THEREFORE, I, Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, in accordance with the powers vested in me as President by the Constitution and laws of the Republic of Liberia, do hereby declare and order:

1. The ministries, agencies and private institutions mentioned in the LPAP, which is annexed as **Appendix I** and forms an integral part of this Executive Order, to timely and fully implement the activities described therein.
2. The Ministry of Commerce and Industry to coordinate the implementation process, whilst ministries and agencies with trade-related mandates are responsible for implementation in their respective organizations.

This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF THE
REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA THIS 10th DAY
OF DECEMBER A.D. 2015

Ellen Johnson Sirleaf
PRESIDENT
REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA



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1.0 LIBERIA POST ACCESSION PLAN (LPAP) 2016-2017

1.1 Purpose

On December 16, 2015 the members of the World Trade Organization will adopt Liberia Accession Package accepting Liberia as the latest of continental Africa and final member of ECOWAS to join the multilateral trading system at the Tenth Ministerial Conference of the WTO held for the first time in sub-Saharan Africa. This occasion will also mark the 20th anniversary of the World Trade Organization. At this historic occasion, the President of Liberia will sign the protocol on Liberia Accession. Within Liberia's accession package are key commitments made by the Government of Liberia to integrate Liberia in the multilateral trading system.

Most of Liberia's commitments are domestic reforms that enhance Liberia's business climate as a more transparent and predictable business environment that fosters trade in a competitive manner. Through the implementation of our national development plan, the Agenda for Transformation and Vision 2030, some of the reforms are already taking place. As such the goal of the LPAP is to identify those strategic activities of the accession package that are time bound for implementation in the short and medium term. While the LPAP is not a comprehensive catalogue of trade policy activities as documented in the National Trade Policy and the accession package, it focuses on those critical segments that are likely to positively unlock Liberia's potential to be a competitive destination for investment by strengthening its systems through domestic reforms.

1.2 Background

Liberia's post-civil war environment has been characterized by accelerating economic growth, climaxing at 8.7% growth rate at the onset of the health crisis in 2014. The extractive sector is the primary contributor to the GDP of Liberia. Although indicators suggest a downward sloping poverty rate, recent studies by a number of International development agencies, e.g., USAID, demonstrate that more than 75 % of Liberians are still classified as living on less than \$1.25 a day.

The 2014 outbreak of Ebola in Liberia, Sierra Leone and Guinea, coupled with the general dramatic drop in global price level of commodities in all sectors, posed severe social and economic challenges to Liberia, leading to a marked reduction in the country's economic performance. By the start of the first quarter of 2015, the negative effect on the country was catalogued at 0.3 percent. The direct adverse socio-economic impacts resulted in - the closure of borders, curtailment of air-flights, limited ships docking at our ports, fall in the liquidity



position of banks, and destabilization of the exchange rate, among others. These conditions negatively impacted Liberia's development efforts.

In response to the 2014 health crisis, Liberia launched the Post-Ebola Economic Stabilization and Recovery Plan, which derived from the Agenda for Transformation (AfT). The key aim of the Post-Ebola Economic Stabilization and Recovery Plan is to accelerate recovery and growth to attain pre-crisis levels, whilst ensuring inclusiveness and creation of new jobs. This will be achieved through stimulating private sector growth in value chain sectors that have most potential for export and trade.

1.3 Liberia National Trade Policy (LNTP)

The Liberia National Trade Policy (LNTP) 2014-2019 focuses on trade issues and is consistent with the AfT. The policy builds on the WTO accession strategy, the Diagnostic Trade Integration Study Update (DTISU) and the National Export Strategy (NES). The LNTP is considered as the primary reference document to guide Liberia's trade policy. Additionally, the LNTP is linked to other non-core trade related policy documents including the National Investment Code, the Food and Agriculture Policy and Strategy, the National Industrial Policy and the Micro, Small and Medium Sized Enterprise (MSME) of policy.

The objectives of the LNTP are as follow:

1. To promote international export competitiveness through a variety of actions ranging from infrastructure to export incentives.
2. To promote domestic trade and strengthen productive capacity, as a precondition for more businesses to become export ready.
3. To increase the efficiency of import and export administration, customs and border-control.
4. To promote regional trade and integration, in the context of the MRU and ECOWAS.
5. To promote global market access for Liberian goods and services, through WTO Membership and efficient use of preferential trade agreements and preference schemes.
6. To increase the effectiveness of Liberian institutions responsible for formulating and implementing trade policies and,



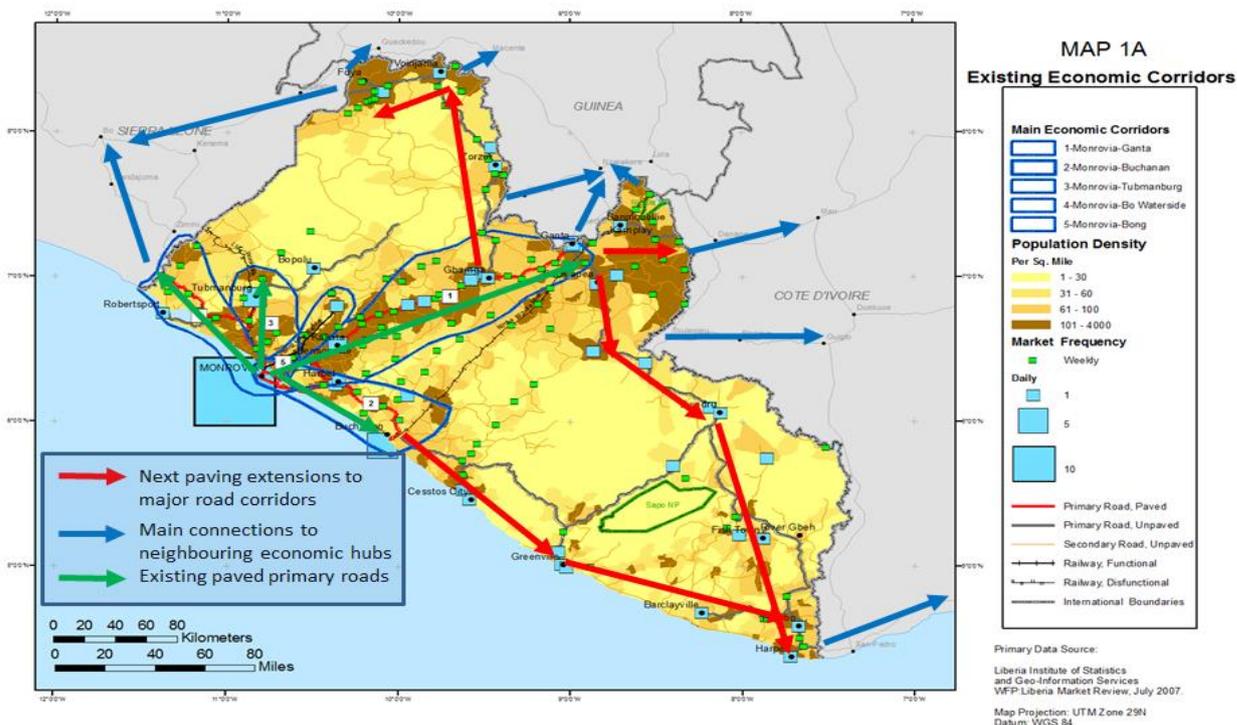
7. To enhance the Legal Framework and Good Governance for Trade.

1.3 Liberia Trade Facilitation Investment Profile

1.3.1 Roads

- In 2005 Liberia had 657 kilometres of paved road – most of which were in need of rehabilitation - and by 2017 we will have 960 kilometres of newly paved roads.
- This includes a major highway connecting the highly productive agricultural belt to Monrovia and the ports.
- Another 218 kilometres of newly paved road are currently planned and funded, while a further 686 kilometres of paved primary road need to be funded in order to open up all the country.

Map: Primary Paved & Planned Roads, with regional connections





1.3.2 Energy

- In 2005 on grid electricity generation was minimal (approximately 5MW) and limited to a few generators.
- Liberia is on course to have 142 MW¹ on the grid by 2017. Currently 32,000 households and businesses have access to electricity, but this is to rise to at least 54,000 households and businesses by 2017.
- Liberia's current demand is at least 300MW and help is needed to fill this gap.
- There is large potential for hydro and biomass generation: for example the St. Paul River alone (one of Liberia's 6 major rivers) can generate 800MW and by 2018 Liberia's grid will be connected to the West Africa Power Pool.

1.3.3 Ports and Borders

- Liberia has four deep-water ports and three are being expanded. APM Terminals is investing in the expansion of the Port of Monrovia; Bolloré in the Port of Buchanan and Kuwaiti support is helping Liberia upgrade the Port of Greenville.
- The efficiency of trade logistics systems and services has been improving through:
 - A planned central facility at the Freeport of Monrovia to provide a single location for the clearance of cargo;
 - A risk-based inspections regime to reduce physical inspections
 - ASYCUDA World, an automated customs clearance/data system.
- Assistance is now needed to streamline procedures and reduce the time it takes to import and export goods. As per the Doing Business Index it currently takes 15 days to meet border and documentary compliance for exports². Liberia wants to reduce these to 4 days.

1.3.4 Trade Comparative Advantage

- Liberia has a comparative advantage in a number of sectors and has embarked on public-private value chain approach to develop the potential of these sectors.
- These sectors are: rubber processing; rubberwood; oil palm including processing; fisheries (including aquaculture); cocoa; cassava, rice, horticulture and light manufacturing.
- Through the National Export Strategy, Liberia's goal is to create 500,000 new jobs and livelihoods in these value chains by supporting strategic investors and improving the enabling environment.

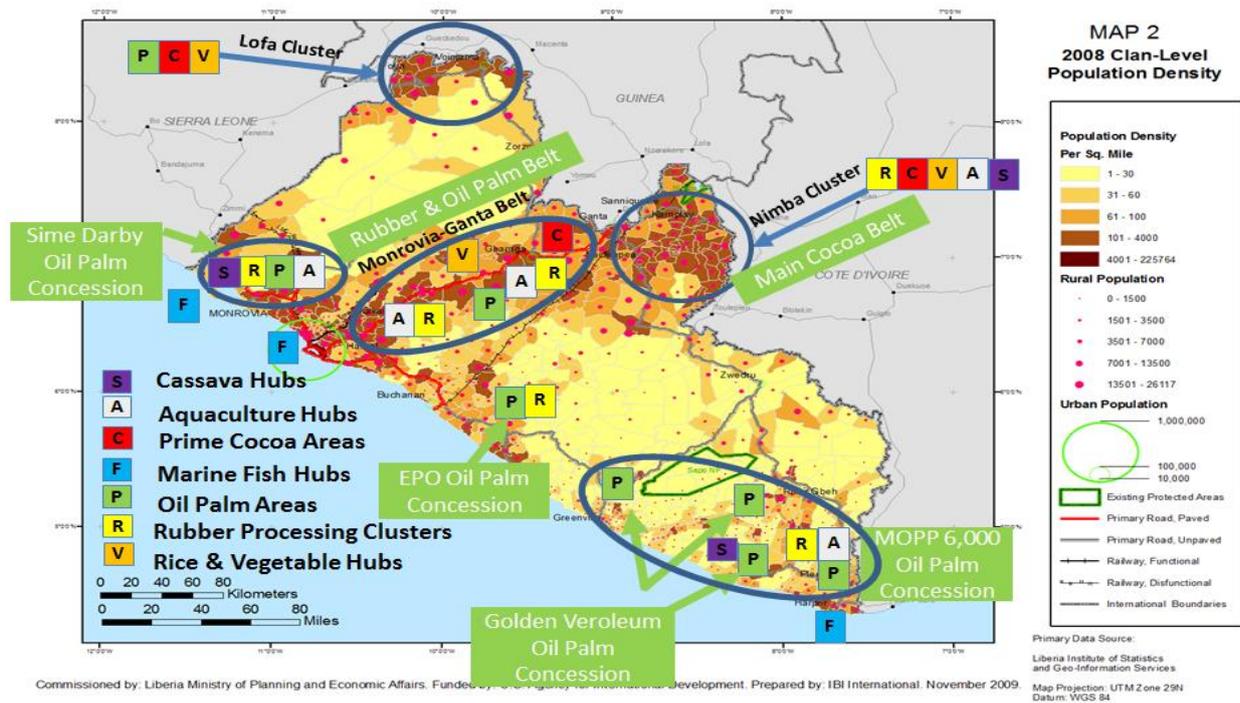
¹ 88MW Mt. Coffee; 6 MW Cross Border from Cote d'Ivoire; 38 new HFOs, 10 Old HFOs.

² <http://www.doingbusiness.org/data/exploreconomies/liberia/#trading-across-borders>



- Help is needed to streamline regulations, provide business support and development financing for these value chains.

Map: Prime Areas for Clusters for Agriculture Value Chain Development



1.3.5 Foreign Direct Investment

- In 2005 Liberia had \$82 million worth of FDI. In 2013, this figure rose to \$700m, after peaking in 2011 at \$1.3 billion³. Most of this investment has been in mining, oil palm and forestry, where \$16 billion worth of agreements have been signed.
- Liberia’s goal is now to attract strategic investors in the value chains mentioned above in agriculture, agro-processing and manufacturing, as well as transport services, value chain financing and energy.

³ <http://www.indexmundi.com/facts/liberia/foreign-direct-investment>



1.3.6 Ease of Doing Business

- Liberia has invested significantly in making it easier to start a business. As per the Doing Business Index, it takes a maximum of 4.5 days (and most-often less than 2 days) to register a business compared to 8 days in OECD High-Income countries and 27 days in Sub-Saharan Africa⁴.
- Now, help is needed in other areas of the Index, particularly Trading Across Borders, Construction Permits, Credit Registries and Contract Enforcement.

1.3.7 Access to Land

- Over the past years, Liberia has developed a revolutionary draft Land Rights Act that will grant land rights and security to people and businesses.
- Support is needed to establish a Land Authority to administer and manage land rights and ease the challenges faced in accessing secure land for investment.

1.3.8 Tax Regime

- Liberia's income tax rate is a competitive 25% on profits or 2% of turnover. Support is needed to help streamline tax administration for strategic investors.
- There are no capital controls, so capital can easily be expatriated.

⁴ <http://www.doingbusiness.org/data/exploreconomies/liberia/#starting-a-business>



2.0 THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE LPAP

The LPAP provides the short to medium term implementation road map for the implementation of the LNTP. The LPAP will regularly be reviewed and updated in line with emerging trade priorities. The implementation focuses on core areas highlighted in Liberia's Accession Package including areas of trade facilitation commitments, sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS), trade integration, and economic diversification with emphasis on agricultural value chains.

2.1 Trade Facilitation

Trade facilitating measures reduce costs and lead to simplified bureaucratic processes for traders. Key activities include the introduction of the single window and commencement of full destination inspection at Liberia's port of entry.

2.2 Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) and Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) Framework

Improving this framework will help to ensure the use of international standards and protection with respect to health and safety and expand market access for exports. Key activities include setting up the national Standards Board and accrediting the National Standards laboratory

2.3 Trade Integration

Making Liberian Trade policy consistent with international and regional best practice. Key activities include putting in place the mechanism to expand market access for Liberia goods and services.

2.4 Economic Diversification

Diversifying the economy to include parts other than the extractive sectors is essential for job creation and resilience to crisis. Key activities include the promotion of trade in goods with particular focus on agriculture and agro-processing, fisheries and furniture manufacturing and trade in services with particular focus on tourism.

2.6 Economic Diversification – Agriculture Value Chains

Adding value to agricultural produce will lead to an overall improved agricultural business environment and job creation. Key activities include reviewing opportunities in the fishery and crustacean, cocoa, rubber and oil palm sectors.



3.0 Implementation Mechanism

The overall implementation of this strategy will be coordinated by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry. Activities set out in the matrix below, will be undertaken by other trade related Ministries and agencies.



4.0 THE LPAP IMPLEMENTATION ROADMAP

4.1. TRADE FACILITATION					
Policy objective	Activity	Impact of the Reform	Technical Assistance	Time-line	Key Entity*
4.1.1. IMPLEMENTATION OF A SINGLE WINDOW					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish a Single Window Platform Rollout Single Window to key operational ports 		Enhanced trade facilitation to improve predictability and transparency	<p>Technical Assistance on development of Tender Documents & implementation of the Single Window.</p> <p>Assistance also needed for implementing hard and soft infrastructure requirements to set up the single window.</p>	2017	LRA, MoCI, MoA, NPA, CBL, MoH
4.1.2 ACCESS TO INFORMATION THROUGH IMPLEMENTATION OF A TRADE PORTAL					
<p>Trade Portal</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish centralized information portal for exports, imports and transit: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Procedures Applied rates of duties and taxes Fees and charges (inc. schedule to ensure reflect true cost of service) 		<p>Increase in transparency resulting in more compliant trade.</p> <p>Increased compliance will lead to increased revenue.</p>	Technical Assistance to set up the trade portal and relevant enquiry and notification points	2016	LRA, MoCI, MFDP, MoA



<p>4) Laws, regulations, and administrative rulings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish enquiry points at identified entities. 				
4.1.3. REVIEW OF FEES AND CHARGES				
<p>National Fees and Charges:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review all fees and charges related to import and export to ensure implemented only on a cost recovery and not revenue-raising basis. 	<p>Increased transparency and predictability for traders.</p>	<p>Technical assistance for the comprehensive review of all fees and charges in relation to import and export</p>	<p>2017</p>	<p>MFDP LRA, MoCI</p>

Policy Objective/Activity	Impact of the Reform	Technical Assistance	Time-line	Key Entity*
4.1.4. MODERNIZING CUSTOMS PROCEDURES, PROCESSES AND INFRASTRUCTURE				
<p>Valuation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Full implementation of WTO Agreement on Customs Valuation. <p>Risk Management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish an effective risk management regime using risk profiling and criteria Ensure proactive uses of ASYCUDA by the Post-clearance Audit (PCA) team Implementing automated inspection using scanners 	<p>Consistent method of valuing goods at all Customs ports</p> <p>Reduce the number of days and time to do inspection.</p>	<p>Technical assistance is needed to establish an independent Customs Valuation Unit and its procedures;</p> <p>Technical assistance for the development of Tender Documents for a Destination Inspection Contract.</p>	<p>2017</p>	<p>LRA MFDP MoCI</p>



Policy Objective/Activity	Impact of the Reform	Technical Assistance	Time-line	Key Entity*
4.1.5. MODERNIZING CUSTOMS PROCEDURES, PROCESSES AND INFRASTRUCTURE (CONT'D)				
<p><i>Advance Tariff Information/Rulings</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop and publish administrative regulation providing guidelines on the issuance of information on advance tariff rulings. <p><i>Establishment and Publication of Average Release Times</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Measure and publish average release time of goods using Time Release Study. <p><i>Upgrade of port infrastructure</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Install automated systems, and equipment at all ports of entry <p><i>Reform Customs Brokers Licensing Regime</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess current broker licensing system, advance recommendations, and implement reforms. 	<p>Provide certainty and predictability to traders and consistency of application of correct tariff code by customs.</p> <p>Identify and eliminate bottlenecks and redundant procedures in the release process</p> <p>Enhanced port performance.</p> <p>Improved (customs) brokerage services</p>	<p>Technical assistance for the development of the advance tariff ruling procedures.</p> <p>Assistance in conducting regular Time Release Studies.</p> <p>Technical assistance, as well as, procurement and installation of equipment</p> <p>Technical assistance and capacity building for customs brokers</p>	<p>2017</p>	<p>LRA, MFDP, MoCI</p>



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Policy Objective/Activity	Impact of the Reform	Technical Assistance	Time-line	Key Entity*
4.1.6. BUILD LOCAL CAPACITY FOR IMPLEMENTING CUSTOMS REFORMS.				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training of customs personnel to strengthen enforcement • Training of Single Window Platform users • Improve the management and analysis of statistical trade information (i.e. in ASYCUDA). 	Improved capability to facilitate trade and enhance compliance	Capacity building to modernize customs system.	2017	LRA, MoCI
4.1.7. ESTABLISH AN EFFICIENT FRAMEWORK FOR PROMOTING PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP FOR PORT INFRA - STRUCTURAL DEVELOPMENT				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undertake feasibility studies for modernization of the physical infrastructure and operations of Buchanan, Greenville and Harper ports to include specialized services. • Establishment of feasibility fund 	<p>Improved trade facilitation</p> <p>Fast track investment in strategic areas</p>	<p>Technical assistance for transaction advisors in specialized port services</p> <p>Technical assistance to structure the fund and secure financing for feasibility studies</p>	2017	NIC, MPW, NPA, MFDP

Policy Objective/Activity	Impact of the Reform	Technical Assistance	Time-line	Key Entity*
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4.1.8. REDUCTION OF NON-TARIFF BARRIERS (NTBs)				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • E-commerce for Business Registration • Automation of tax procedures and processes • Streamline work permit • Automation of issuance of construction permit • Issuance of Visa on arrival and automation of residency permit • Introduction of modern airport cargo and security scanning 	Improved service delivery through e-Government	Technical assistance to develop tender documents to solicit private sector participation in the design of an e-Government platform.	2016	MoCI, MFDP BIN MPW MoL LRA
4.1.9. CLEAR PROCEDURES FOR APPEAL AND REVIEW				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhance appeal procedures for administrative processes in trade related MACs. • Publish procedure on appropriate government websites and on trade portals. • Publicize and ensure awareness of appeals procedures to the business community and the public. • Post Customs appeal system on its official website, and publish outcomes of appeals 	Provide enhanced opportunities for businesses to seek redress and a platform to provide trade information to the public	Technical assistance for effective service delivery by the Appeal Unit	2017	LRA, MoH, MoA, MoCI





4.2. SANITARY AND PHYTOSANITARY (SPS) AND TECHNICAL BARRIER TO TRADE (TBT)				
Policy Objective/Activity	Impact of the Reform	Technical Assistance	Time-line	Key Entity*
4.2.1. ESTABLISHMENT OF SPS FRAMEWORK				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enactment and implementation of: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Law on Sanitary & Phytosanitary Measures; 2) Livestock Policy; 3) Veterinary & Animal Disease Law. Adoption of SPS-related measures and procedures along international guidelines. 	Improved market access for agriculture producers in accordance with international standards	Technical assistance for the setting up of an SPS framework Capacity building for SPS technicians	2017	MoA, MoH, MoJ
4.2.2. FIRST PHASE IMPLEMENTATION OF SPS INFRASTRUCTURE				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthen and expand animal health and food safety laboratories Establish animal and plant quarantine stations at border posts 	Improved infrastructure for SPS.	Technical assistance for the establishment of the regional laboratories and quarantine stations at the border posts. Capacity building for SPS staff Funding to improve SPS infrastructure.	2017	MoA, MoH
4.2.3. ESTABLISHMENT OF TBT FRAMEWORK				



<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enactment and implementation of: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Legislation on Technical Barriers to Trade; 2) National Standards Board Regulation (Accreditation of the National Standards Laboratory) 3) Verification Of Conformity; and 4) Code of Good Practice. 	Improved infrastructure for TBT	Technical assistance and funding to improve TBT infrastructure.	2017	MoCI, EPA, MoJ,
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4.3. TRADE INTEGRATION				
Policy Objective/Activity	Impact of the Reform	Technical Assistance	Time-line	Key Entity*
4.3.1. FIRST PHASE OF IMPLEMENTING ECOWAS COMMON EXTERNAL TARIFF (CET)				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adopt ECOWAS Common External Tariff (CET) and start implement the migration plan for CET alignment. 	Integration into regional customs territory.	Capacity building to facilitate migration to the CET	2017	MFDP
4.3.2. DUTY-FREE, QUOTA-FREE MARKET ACCESS				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop and implement strategies to improve the utilization duty-free, quota free market access granted Liberian products. 	Making better use of available trade preference.	Technical assistance to utilize duty-free, quota free market access.	2016	MoCI, LCC, LRA

4.3.3 FACILITATING INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY SYSTEMS				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capacity development of Intellectual Property System 	Protection for creative	Technical assistance and	2017	MoCI, M



(IPS). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construction of new IP office • Training of IP officers • Anti-piracy framework 	works	support to strengthen the IPS.		oH, LRA
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4.4. ECONOMIC DIVERSIFICATION

Policy Objective/Activity	Impact of the Reform	Technical Assistance	Time-line	Key Entity*
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4.4.1 PROMOTE TRADE IN SERVICES

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish services portal for all business regulations, and licensing procedures; • Develop regulatory and institutional framework for distribution and insurance • Adopt tourism policy that identifies and set out the main priorities and actions for Liberia’s tourism industry. • Conduct a Services Policy Review. 	Promote and facilitate trade in services.	Technical assistance for enhancing services trade	2016	MoCI, CBL, MICAT
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4.4.2. IMPROVE TRANSPARENCY OF BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review and Implementation Changes to new Revenue Code 	Attract and increase investments in Liberia.	Technical assistance to review and amend the revenue and	2016	NIC, MFDP,
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and Investment Act in order to standardize the incentive regime for FDIs.		investment codes as necessary. Technical assistance and funding to conduct investment policy review.		MLME, MoJMoC I
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct investment policy review 				

Policy Objective/Activity	Impact of the Reform	Technical Assistance	Time-line	Key Entity*
4.4.3. INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT TO SUPPORT ECONOMIC DIVERSIFICATION				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Operationalization of Monrovia Industrial Park 	Improved infrastructure to support investment in agro-processing, agro-storage, light manufacturing.	Technical assistance for making industrial park operational and doing a full-scale feasibility study, as well as, investment proposal for the industrial park.	2017	NIC, MoCI, MPW

4.5. AGRICULTURAL VALUE CHAINS				
Policy Objective/Activity	Impact of the Reform	Technical Assistance	Time-line	Key Entity*
4.5.1. IMPROVE CONDITIONS FOR OUTGROWER SCHEMES				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop model and secure financing for outgrower schemes for four major oil palm concessions 	Outgrower schemes operationalized	Development finance for oil palm out grower pilots at	2017	NBC, MoA,



		Golden Veroleum and Sime Darby.		NIC, MFDP
4.5.2. IMPROVE SMALLHOLDER FARMER PRODUCTIVITY				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide targeted support (ideally also through private players like Rabobank) to cooperatives that operate in value chains where Liberia has a comparative advantage (cocoa, oil palm, rubber, cassava, fish, etc.) 	GoL extension services reactivated.	Technical assistance for establishing cooperatives for farmers. Reactivate GoL extension services and attract private investors who provide extension services.	2016	MoA, MoCI NIC
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attract new investors in cocoa, rubber compounding, rubber wood, oil palm processing and manufacturing; as well as agri-transport and rural energy providers (e.g. rubber & oil palm biomass) 	Increased export capacity	Technical assistance for investment promotion and facilitation and conduct feasibility studies.	2016	MoA, MoCI NIC