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AUX DROITS DE L'HOMME

UNITED NATIONS
THE HIGH COMMISSIONER
FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

PALAIS DES NATIONS – 1211, GENEVA 10, SWITZERLAND

17 June 2026

Madam,

I have the honour to refer to the fourth cycle review of Liberia by the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) Working Group at its 50th session in November 2025. As the final outcome report on the review of Liberia was recently adopted by the Human Rights Council at its 61st session, I have taken note of the efforts of Liberia to implement specific recommendations since the previous review.

A matrix of thematically clustered recommendations, starting with those supported by Liberia, is available at OHCHR's website (https://www.ohchr.org/en/hr-bodies/upr/lr-index) and should be considered as part of this letter. The matrix indicates the recommending State and links each recommendation to relevant Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

In annex, I have also attached my Office's observations in light of the outcome of the fourth cycle of the UPR. In line with previous practice, I will be sending similar observations to all Member States once their fourth cycle UPR outcome is adopted by the Human Rights Council, with a view to follow-up action in close cooperation with national entities and other stakeholders.

I take this opportunity to draw your attention to the support available through the Voluntary Fund for UPR Implementation, which may be activated at the request and with the consent of a concerned State, along with tools such as the "UPR practical guidance" and the "UN good practices" repository on how the UPR process supports sustainable development, available at https://www.ohchr.org/en/hr-bodies/upr/upr-main, with a view to facilitating efforts to implement UPR recommendations in line with the SDGs.

Please accept, Madam, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Volker Türk

Her Excellency
Ms. Sara Beysolow Nyanti
Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Liberia

**Observations in light of the outcome of the fourth cycle of the Universal Periodic Review**

Positive note is taken of Liberia's reaffirmed commitment, during the UPR review, to abolish the death penalty, and of the information provided that a bill to this effect is currently undergoing legislative processes. It is also noteworthy that Liberia supported recommendations to ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty. Liberia is encouraged to issue a formal moratorium on the execution of death sentences.

Due note is taken of reforms implemented in the justice sector, including ongoing training for judges and prosecutors on human rights law and improvements to case-management systems to enhance access to justice. Liberia is encouraged to guarantee access to legal aid, address prolonged periods of pre-trial detention, and institutionalize, through legislation, the War and Economic Crimes Court to advance justice, ensure accountability, and promote national reconciliation, in line with relevant supported recommendations.

During the UPR, Liberia was commended for its efforts to harmonize national legislation with international human rights standards, but concerns were highlighted about the prevalence of, and insufficient protection from, discrimination. Due note is taken of the information provided by Liberia that the Government would intensify national campaigns to combat discriminatory norms and biases. Liberia is encouraged to implement all recommendations received on the prevention and prohibition of discrimination, including by considering the enactment of comprehensive anti-discrimination legislation that prohibits all forms of discrimination against all persons, including women and girls, LGBTI persons, and marginalized groups.

Positive note is also taken of the launching of the ARREST Agenda for Inclusive Development and of the support expressed by Liberia for recommendations to combat poverty, improve living standards, advance the implementation of food security strategies, enhance access to water and sanitation, and increase access to healthcare and education. Liberia is encouraged to work towards the full implementation of these recommendations.

Liberia is also encouraged to integrate the recommendations from the review into the third National Human Rights Action Plan for 2025 to 2030, in close consultation and cooperation with all stakeholders, in particular the parliament, the judiciary, the Independent National Commission on Human Rights, local and regional governments, and civil society organizations. In this regard, the matrix of thematically clustered recommendations may be of use. Liberia is encouraged to explicitly link each recommendation to corresponding recommendations from other international and regional human rights mechanisms and to the relevant SDG and its targets. This will, in turn, facilitate the creation of synergies between UPR implementation and SDG-related actions and reporting within the context of the Voluntary National Review (VNR).

During the UPR, Liberia stated that the national mechanism for reporting and follow-up required enhanced capacity to enable it to meet international standards and supported recommendations to fully operationalize the mechanism and to ensure it received sufficient budget for its operations. Liberia is encouraged to strengthen this mechanism, with the aim of ensuring a coordinated and effective approach to reporting to international human rights mechanisms, and to implementing the recommendations, in line with the guidance provided by OHCHR following regional consultations and the High Commissioner's report to the Human Rights Council (A/HRC/50/64).

Further, an important measure that could positively contribute to follow-up action is voluntary mid-term UPR reporting. All Member States are encouraged to submit a voluntary mid-term UPR report about two years after the adoption of the UPR outcome. In this regard, Liberia may wish to consider submitting a mid-term report on follow-up to the fourth cycle UPR recommendations by 2028, detailing both implementation efforts as well as challenges to implementation, including the possible need for technical or capacity-building assistance.

OHCHR
June 2026