

REMARKS

BY

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PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA

AT THE OPENING OF A TRAINING PROGRAM FOR PROTOCOL OFFICERS

HELD AT THE THEATER HALL OF THE FORKY KLON JLALEH FAMILY
FELLOWSHIP CHURCH

BAPTIST SEMINARY COMMUNITY

PAYNESVILLE

MONROVIA, LIBERIA

MAY 24, 2019

Hon. Gbehzohngar Findley, Dean of the Cabinet

Hon. Edwin Melvin Snowe, Member of the House of Representative

Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen:

I am pleased to have been invited here today to launch this Training Course for Protocol Officers of the Government of Liberia

This is a very welcome and much-needed initiative being undertaken jointly by the Office of the Chief of Protocol of the Executive Mansion, and the Office of the Chief of Protocol of the Republic of Liberia.

Protocol officers are an essential interface between the public and the leadership of the organizations which they serve. Their responsibility is to ensure that all customs and regulations dealing with diplomatic formality, precedence, and etiquette, are organized in advance, and then well-coordinated and professionally executed.

To be effective and efficient in this role, it is important that they be properly trained. The importance of training cannot be overemphasized, as it marks the difference between being an amateur and being a professional.

I have personally observed that the lack of basic training has led to many mistakes in the handling of official programs and ceremonies, as well as the travel and itineraries of the Head of State, as well as visits to Liberia of his counterparts. This has oftentimes led to confusion, disorganization, and even embarrassment to the Government and people of Liberia.

Therefore, it is expected that our Protocol Officers will take full advantage of the opportunity provided them to attend such a course, and apply themselves diligently to their studies.

By so doing, they gain a greater understanding of their responsibilities and functions within their role, and be better able to perform in their jobs.

As you return to active service at the end of your studies, we will all look forward to the new level of professionalism that you will bring to your respective assignments.

I thank you.