



**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 101**  
**REPOSITIONING THE NATIONAL FOOD ASSISTANCE AGENCY (NFAA)**

**WHEREAS**, the Government of Liberia affirms that the issue of food insecurity is critical to its flagship Pro-Poor Agenda for Development and Prosperity (PAPD) and, by extension, global efforts geared towards ending hunger and poverty by 2030; and

**WHEREAS**, the food-producing resources of the Republic of Liberia have been under-utilized for well over a decade and the Government of Liberia intends to encourage investment in this sector to ensure the sustainable development and the realization of food security in tune with goal one of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) which also aligns with pillar one of Government's Pro-poor Agenda; and

**WHEREAS**, the Government, in conformity with the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) which seeks to end global poverty by 2030 and government's flagship development program (PAPD) that aims at minimizing food insecurity across the country, deems it timely to call upon the World Food Program, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and all other international partners in the food assistance sector to provide logistical, technical and food support to the National Food Assistance Program (NFAA); and

**WHEREAS**, the Government of Liberia and its international partners, in keeping with the four pillars of the PAPD, endeavor to strengthen Agro-Liberian institutions so that they can take responsibility for reversing decades of deficiencies in the management, storage and distribution of food commodities to the ultimate Liberian beneficiaries and institutions; and

**WHEREAS**, the Government in furtherance of its intentions to begin to sustainably utilize its food resources, and recognizing that in order for the NFAA to complete its mandate and serve as the logistical arm of the Government of Liberia, it is imperative that the agency be granted an autonomous status to enable it meet up with the demands and trends of global food security; and





**WHEREAS**, the NFAA operated by Executive Orders in the 1970s, specifically 1970 and 1977, and has been operating with the statutory mandate to coordinate on behalf of the Government of Liberia food assistance from foreign sources such as the World Food Program (WFP), the Cooperative for American Relief Everywhere (CARE), etc.; and

**WHEREAS**, the duration of an Executive Order for a period of one calendar year, limits NFAA from fully executing its statutory mandate, even though, it has initiated certain activities in furtherance of fulfilling its mandate as identified by the administration of the newly appointed Director-General by the President, H.E. Dr. George Manneh Weah; and

**WHEREAS**, the Government of Liberia being cognizant of the lengthy processes involved with passing legislation to achieve certain objectives, like ensuring food security for the citizenry, especially in these critical times of the Coronavirus Pandemic, resonating with global efforts aimed at defeating the virus and eliminating hunger and poverty; realizes the need to empower NFAA to institute measures to ensure that Liberia begins the process of reforming its food assistance sector; and

**WHEREAS**, the Executive Power is vested in the President of the Republic, by the Liberian Constitution, to issue executive orders in the public interests, either to meet exigencies or address particular situations which cannot await lengthy legislative processes; and

**NOW THEREFORE**, I, George Manneh Weah, President of the Republic of Liberia hereby order the repositioning of the National Food Assistance Agency, and mandate the agency as herein stipulated as follows:

### **Section 1: Authority and Scope**

This Executive Order has established the authority, scope, functions and operations of the National Food Assistance Agency as stated below:





1. To work closely with the National Steering Committee of the COVID-19 Household Food Support Program (COHFSP), by providing numeration of household/beneficiaries and monitoring aspect to the Food Support Program.

Following the cessation of the global pandemic, the NFAA shall seek to achieve the following:

2. To make school feeding program sustainable through providing what we grow and donated food commodities. This approach will bring NFAA, local farmers, international partners and processors into cooperation, wherein NFAA will provide additional markets and incomes for farmers;
3. To purchase from farmers excess produce to be processed and stored for distribution to schools and other institutions in case of needs or emergency;
4. To introduce food stamp and free meal for the following categories of people:
  - a) Physically challenged persons
  - b) Single and vulnerable parents including young children, pregnant women and lactating mothers
  - c) The aged, sick and mal-nourished children
  - d) The Girl child without parental guidance and support
5. To establish storage and processing facilities for local crops (cassava, plantain, eddoes and rice) for distribution. This will augment food relief donation to Liberia.
6. To ensure that the National Food Assistance Agency (NFAA), receive, store and conduct an effective distribution and supply of good quality food commodities to reach the Liberian public.
7. To protect the Liberian public from the harmful effects of substandard and counterfeit food commodities while ensuring their good health at all times.

*Gmt*





## **Section 2: Application**

To ensure that the objectives of this Executive Order are fully implemented, the following measures will be taken:

1. Conduct a nationwide Rapid Assessment to collect baseline data on the prevalence of food insecurity and derive recommendations for the required support needed to reduce its effects in Liberia;
2. Conduct statistics and create a comprehensive database of both local and international food-related NGOs in Liberia;
3. Ensure a proper monitoring mechanisms of food donations from foreign sources and their ultimate distribution and supply to targeted Liberian beneficiaries and institutions.
4. Ensure the continuous existence of regional food banks across the country for timely interventions in food assistance during natural disasters such as flood, quakes, drought, etc.

## **Section 3: Structure and Organization**

The Agency shall be structured to have:

1. A Board of Directors;
2. A Director-General, who shall be responsible for running the Agency along with two deputies: one for Administration, while the other is for Operations; and
3. Directors heading the following different units of the Agency:
  - a) Human Resources
  - b) Public Relations
  - c) Planning and Research
  - d) Inspectorate
  - e) Finance





- f) Procurement
- g) Maintenance
- h) Project and Program
- i) Monitoring and Evaluation (M & E)

#### **Section 4. The Board of Directors**

1. The Board of Directors shall have nine (9) voting members, to be appointed by the President of the Republic of Liberia. Membership of the Board of Directors shall consist of the following:

- a) Ministry of Agriculture which serves as chair
- b) Ministry of Finance and Development Planning (MFDP) as co-chair
- c) Ministry of Education - member
- d) Ministry of Commerce - Member
- e) Ministry of Internal Affairs - Member
- f) General Services Agency - member
- g) Liberia Chamber of Commerce
- h) Liberia Marketing Association
- i) National Food Assistance Agency as secretary

However, international organizations such as Food Agriculture Organization (FAO) and World Food Program (WFP) can attend Board meetings as observers and partner with the National Food Assistance Agency to execute programs.

2. The Board of Directors shall have the powers and duties to:

- a) Approve regulations for implementation of this Executive Order;
- b) Approve the strategic plans of the Agency;
- c) Approve appointments and dismissals of staff made by the Director-General of the Agency;
- d) Approve the annual workplan and budget of the Agency. However, such annual workplan and budget shall be submitted to the President for approval before implementation;
- e) Review the annual reports presented by the Director-General;





- f) Monitor and evaluate implementation of this Executive Order;
- g) Establish committees whenever it deems necessary; and
- h) By a majority vote, of quorum in meeting, recommend to the President, for the removal of the Director General for cause, including any acts incompatible with the Agency's or Board's rules or regulations.

3. Without prejudice to the provisions of this Executive Order, the Board of Directors shall issue its own rules of procedure for the conduct of meetings, and establish a code of conduct governing the activities of the Board and members of the Board within the first month of this Executive Order.

#### **Section 5. The Director-General of the Agency**

1. The Director-General, a qualified Liberian, shall be appointed by the President of the Republic and, shall serve as the administrative and technical head of the Agency, and shall direct and administer the day-to-day activities of the Agency. He/She shall serve at the will and pleasure of the President.
2. The Director-General shall appoint and dismiss staff for various departments of the agency with the prior approval of the Board.
3. The Director-General shall in consultation with his technical and administrative teams exercise the following duties:
  - a) Exercise the functions and duties of the Agency;
  - b) Administer personnel of the Agency consistent with the basic principles of the Liberian Labor Law and Civil Service Standing Order;
  - c) Promulgate regulations as necessary to meet its responsibilities of the agency, including regulations providing for administrative hearings necessary for effective enforcement of the agency's mandate;
  - d) Develop and disseminate guidelines, procedures, guidance and other materials necessary for effective implementation of the functions of the Agency;
  - e) Provide current and unbiased information on food commodities donated from foreign and local sources to the general public;
  - f) Be responsible for its human resources development;





- g) Promote, monitor, and evaluate the implementation of the agency's duties;
  - h) Receive and investigate complaints regarding alleged violations of any regulations promulgated by the Agency, and impose appropriate sanctions in accordance with regulations promulgated by the Agency, and consistent with the Administrative Procedure of the Republic of Liberia and with due process of law;
  - i) Carry out other functions as deemed necessary by the Agency for the effective and fair implementation of the agency's mandate;
  - j) Prepare and submit to the Board of Directors the annual plan and budget of the Agency for approval, which shall be implemented upon approval by the President;
  - k) Effect payments in accordance with approved budget in line with the approved annual plan of the Agency;
  - l) Submit monthly and annual reports to the Board of Directors;
  - m) The Director-General may delegate part of his functions to other employees of the Agency to the extent necessary for the efficient performance of its activities;
4. In performing its functions, the Agency shall apply principles of Good Regulatory Practices, which include but not limited to:
- a) Ensuring transparency and accountability;
  - b) Promoting stakeholders' participation and building consensus; and
  - c) Observing a code of conduct and managing any potential conflict of interests.
5. Within the first month of this Executive Order, the Director-General shall submit the Agency Organizational Chart, all Staff's Job description, Workplan and Budget to the Board of Directors for approval. Subsequently, he/she shall report to the Board on a monthly basis outlining successes and challenges of the Agency.

Gmt





This Executive Order shall take effect on the 27<sup>th</sup> day of April A.D., 2020.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL  
OF THE REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA, THIS 27<sup>th</sup>  
DAY OF APRIL A.D. 2020

A handwritten signature in green ink, appearing to read "George M. Weah, Sr.", written over a horizontal line.

George M. Weah, Sr.

**PRESIDENT  
REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA**

