

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 31

RE-INSTITUTING THE SUSPENSION OF THE PROTECTIVE TARIFF ON CEMENT & EXEMPTING SELECTED ENTITIES FROM CUSTOMS DUTIES ON FUEL

WHEREAS, to encourage the establishment of local industries for the supply of goods to the general public, the Government of the Republic of Liberia granted certain incentives to local industries, including CEMENCO, for the production of cement;

WHEREAS, the Government under Executive Order No. 9 imposed a suspension on the protective tariff of two United States Dollars (US\$2.00) for 50kg bag on Portland cement used for construction as required under the Revenue Code of Liberia tariff number 25.23;

WHEREAS, Executive Order No. 9 has expired but the need still exists to encourage local industries to supply cement to the general public at reasonable prices;

WHEREAS, the Government recognizes the need to protect the consuming public by mitigating the adverse effect from the global price increase in certain strategic commodities, including cement, the cost of which continues to rise on the market to the disadvantage of the consumers and the national reconstruction efforts;

WHEREAS, the generation of electricity at a reasonable cost is essential to maintain an affordable balance in the cost of living;

WHEREAS, in the absence of hydro or alternative power, fuel is the key ingredient in the generation of electricity in Liberia by the Liberia Electricity Corporation;

WHEREAS, Government seeks to minimize the cost of transportation provided by the National Transit Authority in serving the general public; and

WHEREAS, the need for custom duty exemption on fuel to generate electricity, power public transportation, minimize the operating costs of schools, clinics and hospitals that are not adequately covered by Government's budgetary appropriation or subsidies is imperative at this time of rising costs and rapid development;

NOW THEREFORE, the Government of the Republic of Liberia in the interest of national reconstruction and development hereby:

1. Re-institutes a suspension of the two United States Dollars (US\$2.00) protective tariff per 50kg bag Portland cement imposed under the Revenue Code of Liberia, Tariff Schedule No. 25.23; and
2. Exempts from customs duty all fuel for the use of the Liberia Electricity Corporation (LEC), the Liberia Broadcasting System (LBS), the National Transit Authority (NTA), and schools, clinics and hospitals that are deemed by the Minister of Finance to be inadequately covered by Government's budgetary appropriation or subsidies.

This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF THE
REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA THIS _____ DAY OF
APRIL 2011.

Ellen Johnson Sirleaf
PRESIDENT
REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA