

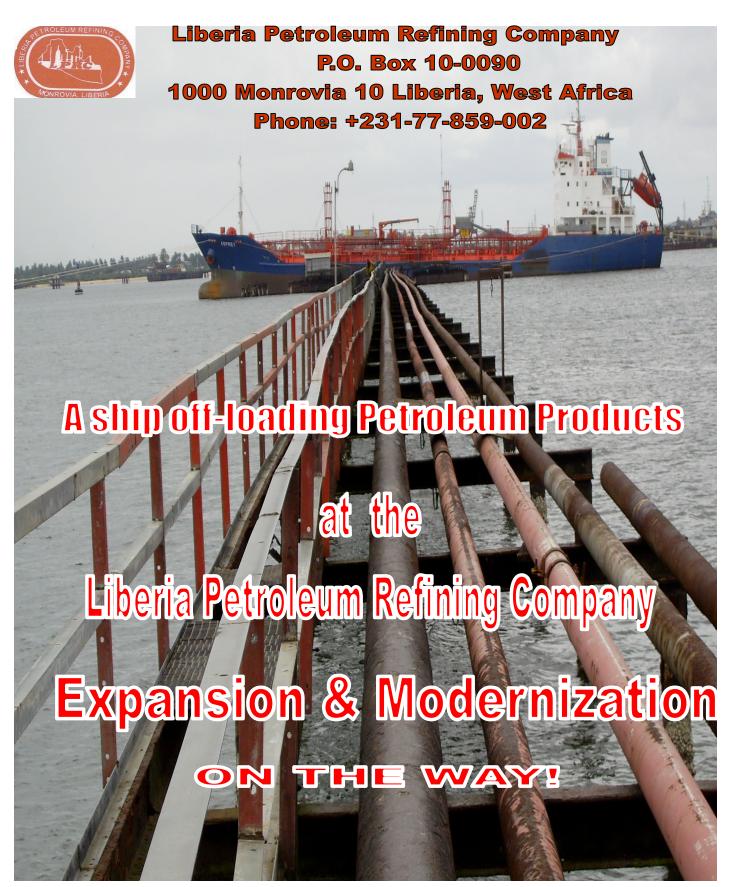
# Special Tax Incentives

Under the *Economic Stimulus Taxation Act of 2009*, as the amended Revenue Code of 2000 is otherwise referred to, there are attractive reduced rates specifically intended to direct more investments towards Liberia's rural areas.

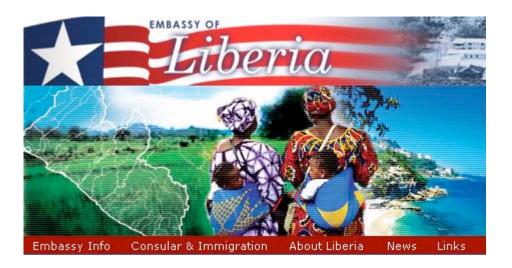
According to the newly amended act, an investment activity, qualifying under Section 16-2, calls for special tax incentives for a period of five years from the commencement of investment as stated in the Finance Minister's certification.

Categorizing the under-developed counties and those located further from the Capital as an economically-deprived zone, the *Economic Stimulus Taxation Act of 2009* places a high tax reduction for would-be investments in these counties. For example there is a 12.5 percent tax reduction for Liberia's Southeastern counties of River Gee, Gbarpolu, Grand Kru and Rivercess, while there is a 7.5 percent tax reduction for investments in Maryland, Grand Gedeh, Sinoe, Bong, Nimba and Lofa Counties. Finally, with the exception of areas in the Capital region, otherwise referred to as the Greater Monrovia area, there is a 5 percent reduction for Bomi, Margibi, Grand Bassa, Grand Cape Mount and Montserrado Counties.

There are incentives for the manufacturing, energy, tourism, health services, real estate, transport and technology sectors.



Liberia Petroleum Refining Company - the only name involved with the handling of petroleum products. Through the expansion and modernization exercise, investors will be encouraged to import petroleum products.



# Immigration & Visa Information

All persons entering Liberia who do not hold a Liberian Passport are required to have a Visa; this includes Liberian nationals living in the United States who are naturalized US citizens. Visas may be obtained at the Embassy of Liberia in Washington, D.C.

### Requirements for Visa and entry into Liberia:

- a. Valid Passport
- **b.** Two (2) passport size photographs (FULL face view on a White background)
- **c.** Medical Certificate from a recognized physician indicating that the applicant is in good health and free from all communicable diseases (waived in general)
- **d.** Application for visa to be completed in duplicate
- e. Letter requesting for visa indicating place of accommodation in Liberia
- **f.** Self-addressed prepaid envelope (overnight) for return of passport

#### **Types of Visas Issued**

- > Diplomatic
- Official
- Visitor

- Consular section opens from 10:00am to 2:30pm, Eastern Standard Time, Monday through Friday. Phone: 202-723-0437, Fax: 202-723-0436
- There is a waiting period of, at most, Seven (7) working days for processing ALL documents
- For a 24-hour rush processing, there is an additional \$50.00 fee

In accordance with International Health Regulations, all persons entering Liberia are required to have a Valid Certificate of Immunization against Yellow Fever.

#### Non-Refundable Visa Processing Fees are as follows:

- All fees are to be paid in U.S. Dollars via Money Orders, Cashier Checks or Bank drafts and made payable only to Embassy of Liberia. Personal checks are not acceptable. ABSOLUTELY NO CASH will be accepted as payment.
- Fee for US Citizens: 1-3 months, \$131.00; 1-Year multiple, \$200.00, 2-Years multiple, \$300.00; 3-Years multiple, \$400.00; Citizens of all other countries: 1-3 months, \$70.00; 1-Year multiple \$150.00; 2-Years multiple, \$250.00

#### Embassy of Liberia in Washington D. C.

5201 16th Street, NW Washington DC, 20011 Telephone: (202) 723-0437 Fax: (202) 723-0436

http://www.embassyofliberia.org/

#### The Permanent Mission of Liberia to the United Nations

866 UN Plaza Suite 480 New York, NY 10017 Telephone: (212) 687 1033

#### The Consulate General of the Republic of Liberia in New York

866 United Nations Plaza Suite 478 New York, NY 10017 Telephone: (212) 687 1025 Fax: (212) 599 3189

Embassy of Liberia Trade & Investment Liaison Office

1528 Walnut Street, Suite 1000 Philadelphia, PA 19102

E-mail: Tetagibson2006@yahoo.com, +1- 484-908-2955

# Established Treaties

Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) was established by the fifteen countries in the West African region. Founded in 1975, its mission is to promote economic integration in "all fields of economic activity, particularly industry, transport, telecommunications, energy, agriculture, natural resources, commerce, monetary and financial questions, social and cultural matters." The fifteen States that make up ECOWAS are:

The Republic of Benin
Burkina Faso
The Republic of Capo Verde
The Republic of Cote D'Ivoire
The Republic of Gambia
The Republic of Ghana
The Republic of Guinea
The Republic of Guinea

The Republic of Liberia
The Republic of Mali
The Republic of Niger
The Federal Republic of Nigeria
The Republic of Senegal
The Republic of Sierra Leone
The Republic of Togo

The Everything But Arms (EBA) is an initiative of the European Union (EU) under which all imports to the EU from the least Developed Countries (LDC) are duty and quota-free, with the obvious exception of armaments.

The African Growth and Opportunity Act of the United States of America (AGOA) was established to foster economic development in eligible African countries by offering them the most preferential access to the U.S. market available outside of a free trade agreement until 2015. The Act covers over 6,400 items and it requires that the countries benefitting from this program make progress towards establishing, inter alia, a market economy, the rule of law, policies to reduce poverty, and a system to combat corruption.



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# Contact Information for Government Ministries and Commissions

## **PUBLIC SECTOR:**

The Executive Mansion - http://www.emansion.gov.lr

Ministry of Finance - http://www.mofliberia.org

The National Investment Commission (NIC- http://www.nic.gov.lr

Ministry of Agriculture - http://www.moa.gov.lr

The Ministry of Planning and Economic Affairs -- http://www.mopea.gov.lr

The Ministry of Commerce and Industry -- http://www.moci.gov.lr

Ministry of Foreign Affairs - http://www.mofa.gov.lr

Ministry of Information - http://www.micat.gov.lr

Liberia Maritime Program, R.L. - http www.bma-liberia.com

Liberia Broadcasting System (LBS) - http://www.liberiabroadcastingsystem.com

### PRIVATE SECTOR

#### **Liberian Chamber of Commerce (LCC)**

Capital Hill, Monrovia

• Monie R. Captan, President

Phone: (+231) 6-510-913, E-mail: <u>liberiachamber2006@yahoo.com</u>

• Ms. Massa R. Lansanah, Secretary General

Phone: (+231) 77-857-805, E-mail: liberiachamber2006@yahoo.com

Mr. Menipakel Dumoe, Trade & Industry Director

Phone: (+231) 6-841-582, E-mail: mdforyou07@gmail.com

#### **AGOA Resource Center**

• Mr. Anthony Flahn, Administrator

Phone: (+231) 77-586-102, E-mail: aflahnlcc@yahoo.com

#### **Liberian Business Association (LIBA)**

Corina Hotel, 24th Street, Monrovia

• Mr. Sam Mitchell, President

Phone: (+231) 6-514-708/77-514-708, E-mail: samamitchelljr@yahoo.com

• Mr. Nasi Broh, Administrator

Phone: (+231) 6-557-322, E-mail: libainc@yahoo.com

#### **Concerned Liberian International Business Organization (COLINBO)**

Water & Mechlin Streets, Monrovia, Liberia

• Mr. Fomba Trawally, President

Phone: (+231) 6-511-679, Email: fombatrawlly@yahoo.com

• Mr. Freeman S. Yattorh, Vice President

Phone: (+231) 77-554-185, E-mail: fyattorh@yahoo.com

#### **Liberia Women Chamber of Commerce (LWCC)**

Raymond Building, 2nd floor, Broad & Gurley Street

• Elizabeth Bannerman, President

Phone: (+231) 6-510-924, E-mail: <u>lizroyalairline@yahoo.com</u>

#### **Liberia Better Business Forum (LBBF)**

World Bank Country Office (IFC Annex) Bright Building, Mamba Point Monrovia, Liberia

• W. Bako Freeman, National Coordinator

Phone: (+231) 6640-560

Tel: (+231) 6-930-916/77-930-916

E-mail: <u>info@liberiabetterbusinessforum.com</u> Website: www.liberiabetterbusinessforum.com

# Funding Agencies for Sub Saharan Africa

U.S. Sub-Saharan Projects Database - www.export.gov/africa

**USAID Projects in Africa -** http://www.usaid.gov/press/releases/2009/pr090306.html E-mail: gda@usaid.gov \* Web: www.usaid.gov/GDA \* Phone: 202-712-0600

#### **United States African Development Foundation (USADF)**

http://www.adf.gov/USADF-QuickSourceCountryPortfolioPage-Liberia.htm

#### **Overseas Private Investment Corporation (OPIC)**

\*Contact: E-mail:Bruce.Cameron@opic.gov

CHF International (with offices in Liberia -LEDFC) Bob Johnson/OPIC Fund

E-mail: jmoyer@chfinternational.org or phone: 301-587-4700

#### International Finance Corporation (IFC) A World Bank Group

Contact: Jim Emery at jemery@ifc.org

## **U.S. Agencies Contacts for guidance:**

US Dept of Agriculture: Souleymane Diaby at <u>Souleyman.Diaby@fas.usda.gov</u> US Dept of Treasury: Oren Whyche-Shaw at <u>Oren.whyche-shaw@do.tres.gov</u> USAID: Rockfeler P. Herisse, Senior Alliance Advisor at <u>rherisse@usaid.gov</u>

USAID: Jeffery Jackson at <a href="Jeffjac50@gmail.com">Jeffjac50@gmail.com</a>

**Technology For Africa Financing** - Contact Dr. Lee Barnes at barneslee1221@gmail.com

# Some of the Top Accommodations & Hotels in Liberia

## RLJ Kendeja Resort & Villas

Built by American Billionaire Robert Johnson, The RLJ Kendeja Resort & Villas is located a short twenty-five minute drive from Liberia's international airport. With first-class amenities that cater to international travelers, the seventy-eight villa- styled rooms, which are sprawled across acres of beach front property, offers a luxurious atmosphere and is one of the premier hotels in West Africa.

Liberian Telephone #: 011-231-22100-100 or U.S. Telephone #: 240 744 7850 Web Address: http://www.rlikendejaresort.com/



# Thinkers Village Hotel and Beach

Located on the highway between Roberts International Airport and Monrovia, this hotel has a large conference rooms. It also has 1 & 2 bedroom apartments and bungalows for weekly and monthly rentals.

Tel: +231-6-588-382 / +231-6-657-978 E-mail: <a href="mailto:thinkersvillage@yahoo.com">thinkersvillage@yahoo.com</a>



### Mamba Point Hotel

A country lodge boutique hotel set in private grounds located in the Diplomatic Quarter, overlooking the Atlantic Ocean and set in a Magnificent Tropical Garden.

Telephone Number: 011 231 6 440000 or 6 441000 Web site at: www.mambapointhotel.biz



## Palm Springs Resort & Casino

This Resort & Casino is located only fifteen minutes from downtown Monrovia. With a fascinating view that overlooks the Atlantic Ocean, the resort's bar and restaurant offers an appetizing variety of international and local cuisine.

Telephone Number: 011-231-58-78763 Web Address:

http://www.creativedenghana.com/palmspringliberia/Palm Spring Resort/Home.html



# National & Public Holidays

January 1 - New Year's Day

February 11 - Armed Forces Day

March 11 - Decoration Day

March 15 - Joseph Jenkins Roberts Birthday

April 10 - Fast and Prayer Day

May 14 - Unification Day

July 26 - Independence Day

August 24 - National Flag Day

1<sup>st</sup> Thursday in November - Thanksgiving Day

November 29 - William V.S. Tubman Birthday

December 25 - Christmas Day



The Po River in Montserrado County

<sup>\*</sup>All information provided by the *Travel and Investors Guide to Liberia* has been put together with the utmost care, and fact checking. However, we assume no liability for the accuracy of the information provided.\*







