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Thank You Letter of Appreciation to Liberians & Friends of Liberia

Greensboro, North Carolina; Jan/15/2007: On behalf of the Board of Directors, officers and members of the Liberian History, Education and Development (LIHEDE), Inc., we express our profound gratitude to those of you who traveled to Monrovia, Liberia, to participate in the December 14-18, 2006 National Malaria Health Conference, organized by LIHEDE and our collaborators and sponsors.

The National Malaria Conference' goal was achieved when LIHEDE Executive Director Dr. Syrulwa Somah received a call from the US Embassy in Liberia during the conference to attend a special announcement by President George W. Bush. Dr. Somah, Dr. Mariah Y. Seton, Co-chair of the National Malaria Conference, and certain journalists were invited to the first of two video teleconferences, during which President Bush announced that Liberia had been selected as a focused nation for the President Malaria Initiative (PMI), which is operated by USAID.

As a focused nation, Liberia will receive an estimated \$2.4 million in 2007 and about \$8 million in 2008. LIHEDE will be a part of the PMI Assessment Team, which is composed of experts from USAID and CDC, and is scheduled to meet in Liberia from March 19 to April 1, 2007 to begin the assessment.

We greatly appreciate each and every one of you who kept us in their prayers, and gave us moral and financial support, as we deliberated the effects that malaria has on our people and discussed how to improve our nation's malaria control programs. Your contribution and presence reinforced our message that the health of our children and follow citizens must not be taken for granted. Moreover, your participation an added tremendous value to the education-filled National Malaria Conference, which was intended to protect and uphold our people's fundamental human right to live in disease free environment.

Finally, it is our passionate appeal that you and we will all redouble our efforts, to ensure that those who will administer the PMI funds do so wisely, so that malaria is soon eradicated from Liberia and every corner of Africa.

Signed:

Sam Togba Slewion
Director of Publications- LIHEDE

Approved:

Dr. Syrulwa Somah
Executive Director-LIHEDE