



STATEMENT BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE NATIONAL ELECTIONS COMMISSION (NEC), HON. JAMES M. FROMAYAN, ON THE OCCASION OF THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE OFFICIAL RESULTS OF THE RIVER GEE DISTRICT #3 BY-ELECTION

**Wednesday, July 21, 2010 @ 3pm, NEC Headquarters,
Sinkor, Monrovia, Liberia**

Ladies and Gentlemen of the Press, as you may know by now, this Commission was notified by the House of Representatives on May 12, 2010 of a vacant seat for District #3 River Gee County following the death of Representative Albert S. Toe. Following that, the National Elections Commission (NEC) commenced preparations for the conduct of a by- election in collaboration with its international partners.

The River Gee District #3 By-election was contested by 4 candidates and ended on a peaceful note on yesterday. The Commission wishes to congratulate the candidates that participated in the by-election for conducting themselves in a peaceful and responsible manner.

The NEC, similarly, wishes to thank the registered voters for turning out and peacefully casting their ballots. By turning out to vote once again for a representative of their district, they demonstrated their commitment to contribute to the building of a sustainable democracy in Liberia.

The Commission importantly expresses gratitude and appreciation to local organizations, international partners, including UNMIL, USAID, IFES, NDI and the Media, especially the Liberia Media

Initiative, for their contributions one way or the other that helped enhance the transparency of the electoral process.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF FINAL RESULTS

Ladies and Gentlemen, the final results of the July 20, 2010 By-election in District #3, River Gee County as certified by the Board of Commissioners of the National Elections Commission are as follows:

County: **RIVER GEE COUNTY** Electoral District: **3**
Polling Places Reported: **16 of 16**

Candidates	Votes Obtained	Percent of Valid Votes
CHEA, Christian Snorteh (UP)	1,022	41.5%
QUENNEH, Marcus Saylee (Ind)	212	8.6%
TOE, Philbert G. (CDC)	701	28.4%
YOUNGE, SR., Francis Saywon (Ind)	529	21.5%
	Total Valid Votes	2,464
	Total Invalid Votes:	137
		2,601

Recorded Voter turnout is 36.97 % or 2,601 voters.
Invalid votes account for 1.95% or 137 votes

RUN-OFF

Considering the final results as have just been announced, it is clear that none of the 4 candidates received an absolute majority (50%plus 1 vote) of the valid votes cast in yesterday's by-election as required by Article 83(b) of the 1986 Liberian Constitution. Therefore, none of the candidates is qualified to be declared a winner. Consequently, a run-off election will be held on Tuesday, August 3, 2010, the second Tuesday after the announcement of the final results.

With the power vested in me as Chairman of the National Elections Commission, I hereby announce that the Run-Off Election, as prescribed by the Liberian Constitution, will be contested by the two candidates who obtained the highest number of votes in the July 20 by-election, namely, Christian Snorteh Chea of the Unity Party (UP) and Philibert G. Toe of the Congress for Democratic Change (CDC).

The Commission further announces that the campaign period for the Run-Off begins on today, July 21, 2010 and ends at midnight August 1, 2010, 24 hours before the Run-Off Election.

MOTIVATIONAL REMARKS

As we prepare for the Run-off election on August 3, the National Elections Commission encourages the 7,036 registered voters of River Gee District #3 to fully participate.

NEC wishes to remind you that District #3 of River Gee needs to have a voice too in the House of Representatives. I therefore encourage you to turn out in large numbers on August 3, 2010 to vote for either of the two candidates that are contesting in the Run-off Election. Whether the candidate you voted for in the first round is no longer in the race, you still have a right to be a part of the voting process for the person that will represent your district.

Just as it was on July 20, the polls will open at 8:00 in the morning and will close at 6:00 in the evening. Voters must bring along their voter registration cards, because without a valid voter registration card, you cannot vote.

The National Elections Commission admonishes the candidates to campaign peacefully and to reach voters to motivate them to turn out and vote on August 3, 2010.

Every single vote is important in this By-election Run-off. Please make use of this opportunity you have once again to elect your new representative for district #3.

I thank you.