



THE PRESIDENT

REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA

January 18, 2018

H.E. António Manuel de Oliveira Guterres, GCL GCC
Secretary General
The United Nations
New York

Excellency:

As my tenure as President of the Republic of Liberia comes to a close, I wish to extend the deepest appreciation of my government, and the people of Liberia, for the invaluable and irreplaceable contributions of United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNMIL) to Liberia. Since 2003, UNMIL has been with us, ensuring the peace, supporting civil society, and through training and mentorship, empowering our security sector. On behalf of all the people of Liberia, thank you.

UNMIL has always been more than a military mission, and a series of outstanding Special Representatives of the Secretary General (SRSG) have played vital roles in overseeing 18 diverse United Nations organizations working in Liberia.

I applaud the current Special Representative, Farid Zarif, who will close this Mission, for his leadership in coordinating the international support for our recent general and legislative elections. Liberia's historic transition was enabled in no small part by the good men and women of the UN who served in the country in various capacities, from the peace keepers, to UNMIL radio, to the partners supporting civil society.

As I depart my presidency, I celebrate the UN's contributions to Liberia's peace and democracy, and hope it's role in our country stands an example to member states of the invaluable role that peacekeeping plays in mitigating conflict and enabling democratic institutions.

I should be grateful if you would bring this letter to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

Sincerely,


Ellen Johnson Sirleaf