## **Liberian National Congress**



To: Media institutions

Subject: Press release

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The Liberian National Congress, LNC based in the United States over the weekend engaged UNICEF Ambassador George Manneh in a discussion about the political future of Liberia. The program, which is part of the LNC's series of discussions with different groups and personalities about the political future of Liberia, was held in Minnesota, USA and attended by a cross section of people including friends of Ambassador Weah.

Speaking during the program, Mr. Samuel D. Tweah, Jr., Chairman of the LNC, elaborated on the basis for a new political direction in Liberia, after successive failure of political leadership in the country. Mr. Tweah stated that the political failure afflicting Liberia is primarily a failure of leadership and not of institutions and that it in incumbent on the people of Liberia to redefine the dynamics of Liberian leadership. He added that Ambassador Weah stands the greatest chance of uniting the people of Liberia after a brutal conflict and that the groundswell of support for his yet-to be-decided candidacy in the 2005 general elections reflects the overwhelming trust he now enjoys among Liberians. The LNC presented the ambassador with a summary agenda for political change in Liberia.

Responding, Ambassador Weah thanked the LNC for its creative political initiatives of bringing people together to discuss the political future of Liberia. He said he has received calls from different quarters in and out of Liberia about contesting the presidency and added that what is more important is the unity of the Liberian people and the level of support they are willing to give to the political process. The ambassador stated that he is still holding consultative discussions with various segments of the Liberian population.

Also speaking at the program was Ms Meapeh Gono, a progressive youth activist from Atlanta Georgia, who applauded the LNC's initiatives in and out of Liberia and challenged Liberians to really be true in their declaration of support for ambassador Weah. Mr. George Yuoh spoke on behalf of the Friends of Ambassador George Weah. Mr. Yuoh thanked the LNC for its deliberations and said more work has to be done even as Ambassador Weah holds discussions and makes up his mind.

Signed:

James F. Kollie, Jr. Secretary-General LNC - USA