

**DRAFT ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATION  
ESTABLISHING AN ENQUIRY AND NOTIFICATION POINT  
FOR TECHNICAL REGULATIONS**

**10 July 2015**

## **Article 1: General Rules**

WHEREAS, Part II, Executive Branch Generally; Chapter 10, General Provisions; Section 10.5 of Title 12 Liberia Code of Laws Revised (Executive Law); grants authority to the head of each ministry or independent agency in the Executive Branch, subject to the approval of the President, the power to prescribe regulations not inconsistent with the law of the operation of the ministry or agency, the accomplishment of its lawful functions;

WHEREAS, Chapter 29, Section 29.2 (a) of the Executive Law mentioned supra, grant the Minister of Commerce and Industry the power to establish trade and commodity standards;

WHEREAS, Liberia is in the process of becoming a member of the World Trade Organization (WTO) and wishes to abide by all of the rules set by the WTO; and

WHEREAS, Article 10 of the WTO Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade mandates each member to create enquiry points which is able to respond to all reasonable enquiries from other members and interested parties in other members and to provide the relevant documents regarding technical regulations, standards adopted, any conformity assessment procedures, etc.

NOW THEREFORE, issues the following Administrative Regulation

## **Article 2: Purpose and Scope**

1. This Regulation is designed to establish an Enquiry and Notification Authority in line with the obligations of the World Trade Organization Agreements, to allow for the mutual sharing of information between the Government of the Republic of Liberia and the Members of the World Trade Organization and other interested stakeholders.
2. All products shall be subject to the provisions of this Regulation concerning the provision of information on the nature, scope, and content of regulations covered by this Regulation except as explained in subparagraph 3 of this Article.
3. This Regulation covers all technical regulations and the conformity assessment procedures to ensure that these are met, except when such regulations and procedures are sanitary or phytosanitary measures as explained in Article 1.2 of the Draft Ministerial Regulation Establishing an Enquiry and Notification Authority for Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures of the Republic of Liberia.

## **Article 3: Definitions**

1. The following definitions apply to this Regulation:
  - 1.1. Technical regulation: Document approved by a central or local Liberian governmental body which lays down product characteristics or their related processes and production methods, including the applicable administrative provisions, with which compliance is mandatory. It may also include or deal exclusively with terminology,



central or local governmental or non-governmental bodies or any other recognized bodies of the Government of Liberia to ensure that such actions are consistent with its international obligations.

- 3.2. Publication of technical regulations: As soon as the text of technical regulations is received, the TBT ENA shall publish draft technical regulations to allow domestic and international public and private interested stakeholders to review and comment on the draft regulations. This publication shall be made in the Liberia Official Gazette as well as on the webpage of the TBT ENA, without prejudice to other means of publication such as newspapers or webpages of the other relevant central and local governmental or non-governmental bodies, or other recognized bodies.
- 3.3. Together with the publication, the TBT ENA shall notify the draft technical regulations to WTO Secretariat for its circulation to WTO members.
- 3.4. Comment Period: The TBT ENA shall allow for comments by interested stakeholders during a period not less than 60 calendar days from the date of publication or circulation to WTO Members, whichever is later.
- 3.5.

4.3. The relevant central and local governmental or non-

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_  
AXEL M. ADDY  
MINISTER OF COMMERCE