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# TALKING AGRIBUSINESS IN LIBERIA PROJECT



## SECOND COMMUNICATION EVENT REPORT *Africa Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) in Liberia - Involvement of Agro MSMEs*

VENUE: CORINA HOTEL, MONROVIA  
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### **Disclaimer**

This work was implemented under the Talking Agribusiness in Liberia project as part of the West Africa Competitiveness Programme (WACOMP). WACOMP is financed under the 11th European Development Fund (EDF). The views expressed herein are not to be taken to reflect the official position of the EU or ECOWAS.

The West Africa Competitiveness Programme (WACOMP) aims to support some selected value chains at national and regional levels to promote structural transformation and better access to regional and international markets while considering social and environmental concerns. Its overall objective is to strengthen the competitiveness of West African countries and enhance their integration into the regional and international trading system. Specifically, the programme will work to (i) Improve the performance, growth, and contribution to the industry, regional trade, and exports of selected value chains and (ii) improve the business climate at national and regional levels.

The WACOMP consists of one regional component and sixteen national components (15 ECOWAS Member States and Mauritania)

[www.wacomp.ecowas.int](http://www.wacomp.ecowas.int)

### **Cover Photo**

*Participants at the Second Communication Event of the Talking Agribusiness in Liberia project. [Photo Credit: CERATH Development Organization (CDO)]*

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## **Acknowledgment**

CERATH Development Organization (CDO) expresses its utmost gratitude to the European Union (EU) for funding the Talking Agribusiness in Liberia Project. CDO also expresses appreciation to the WACOMP Regional partners for their support.

Great appreciation goes to the Government of Liberia, particularly the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, for their partnership and cooperation. The team is grateful to the representatives of development partners and partnerships working in the area of international trade in Liberia for their co-operation.

CDO would like to thank all stakeholders who helped in conducting the research. Also, the team expresses its gratitude to various Liberian apex business bodies/ business associations and agribusiness enterprises for their presence and contribution to the event.

CDO further acknowledges Janet Alamisi Dabire for moderating the communication event. The team is grateful to all participants of the Talking Agribusiness in Liberia communication event.

We appreciate the media houses for capturing the communication event.

## **Acronyms And Abbreviations**

AfCFTA	African Continental Free Trade Area
CDO	CERATH Development Organisation
ETLs	ECOWAS Trade Liberalization Scheme
EU	European Union
LRA	Liberia Revenue Authority
MOCI	Ministry of Commerce and Industry
MOFDP	Ministry of Finance and Development Planning
MSMEs	Micro, Small and Medium-Scale Enterprises
NATWG	National AfCFTA Technical Working Group
NSL	National Standards Laboratory
TaAL project	Talking Agribusiness in Liberia Project
UNECA	United Nations Economic Commission for Africa
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
WACOMP	West Africa Competitiveness Programme

## **BACKGROUND AND INTRODUCTION**

The European Union (EU) through the West Africa Competitiveness Programme (WACOMP) has committed funds for the implementation of the Talking Agribusiness in Liberia project. WACOMP aims to strengthen competitiveness of West African countries and enhance their integration into the regional and international trading system. It consists of one regional, and sixteen national components including Liberia. The Liberia national component, the Cassava Transformation Project (CASTRAP), began in 2021.

The Talking Agribusiness in Liberia project is complementary to and implemented along with CASTRAP. The project is focused on the agri-/food business value chain and seeks to disseminate information and raise awareness in Liberia on:

- i. opportunities for business performance and growth (competitiveness),
- ii. regional (trade) integration of Liberia's agri-/food value chains, and
- iii. an improved environment for agri-/food businesses to thrive in accordance with the objective of the WACOMP.

The implementation team is expected to organise six (6) communication events preceded by respective thematic background research on agribusiness topics validated among stakeholders in Liberia. The events are to create platforms for (1) deliberations by stakeholders on the requirements for the competitiveness of agribusinesses in Liberia, regional (trade) integration of Liberia's agribusinesses, and the role of policies and different actors; and (2) participatory forums for key conversations among vital stakeholders and wider audiences toward raising awareness of the opportunities for growing Liberia's agribusiness sector

The second communication event titled "African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) in Liberia: the involvement of agribusinesses in Liberia" was organised by CDO on April 4, 2023, at the Corina Hotel in Monrovia, Liberia. The objective of the communication event was to provide the platform for disseminating the Talking Agribusiness in Liberia project research findings and spur discussions among key stakeholders.

The event provided the platform for stakeholders to deliberate on the ratification process of the AfCFTA and the benefits agribusinesses in Liberia tend to gain from it. There were 58 participants in attendance from government ministries and agencies, development partners, and partnerships working in the area of international trade in Liberia, Liberian apex business bodies/ business associations, agribusiness

enterprises, and the media (See Appendix B for the list of participants).



## PROCEEDINGS FROM THE WORKSHOP

### Program Opening, Welcome Address, and Purpose of Gathering

The Finance and Administrative Manager of CERATH Development Organization (CDO), Gladys T. Gborie, commenced the event with an opening prayer.

The Country Director for CDO Liberia, Leroy N. S. Kanmoh, delivered the welcome address and explained the purpose of the communication event. He extended a warm welcome to all participants on behalf of CDO. Leroy N. S. Kanmoh provided a brief overview of the Talking Agribusiness project (TaAL project), a communication-based initiative to raise public awareness of the potential for business performance and growth, regional trade integration of Liberia's agri-value chain, and a better environment for agribusiness. He then introduced the focus of the event which was on - African Continental Free Trade Agreement (AfCFTA) in Liberia: the involvement of agribusinesses in Liberia. He stressed that the event aimed to disseminate information on Liberia's efforts toward AfCFTA ratification.



Figure 1: Leroy N. S. Kanmoh, Country Director, Liberia, delivering his welcome address

He asserted that in view of the AfCFTA, Liberia's ability to industrialise and foster an export-driven economy was essential given the nation's small population. He stressed that the AfCFTA provided an opportunity for African solutions to African problems and that it naturally could advance African unity on both the economic and cultural fronts. He highlighted further that it would take the concerted efforts of Liberia's governmental and private sectors, particularly those engaged in agribusiness, to ratify the trade agreement.

Leroy N. S. Kanmoh asserted that CDO sought contributions that would help build a prosperous African economy, with a strong preference for Liberia. In addition to the TaAL project, he added, CDO was carrying out the Cassava Transformation project in the Southeast, which involved supporting the National Standards Laboratory (NSL) to improve accreditation in Liberia.

In concluding his remarks, Leroy N. S. Kanmoh appreciated all the ministries, representatives of development partners, and partnerships working in the area of international trade in Liberia, Liberian apex business bodies/ business associations, and agribusiness enterprises for their support during the research period. A special appreciation went out to the European Union (EU) for all their support toward the Talking Agribusiness in Liberia project and the Cassava Transformation Project. He thanked the participants and encouraged them to contribute their insightful thoughts to the discussion on the AfCFTA.

## **Opening Remarks from the EU and Representatives of the Government of Liberia**

### **Remarks from the European Union**

Jeroen Witkamp, Head of Cooperation, EU Delegation to Liberia, delivered remarks on behalf of the EU. In his speech, he noted three primary reasons why the European Union was paying close attention to the AfCFTA. First of all, the European Union had a wealth of experiences to draw upon as they were the ones who first established the continental trade area, focusing on the importance of open borders for allowing people and goods to move freely from within. Jeroen Witkamp spoke about the challenges posed by the AfCFTA, particularly because it had twice as many members as the EU. However, he did appreciate the EU's desire to share issues and experiences. The second was the belief that trade and job creation were the best means and drivers of further economic and social development. Wealth redistribution would only be possible if there was trade, according to Jeroen Witkamp, notwithstanding the existence of programs, funds, and support for the work on regional trade governance. As a result, he emphasised how important the private sector's roles were. The last was that they had a common interest because Africa and the European Union were neighbours. He clarified that increased trade activity and respectful sustainable promotion of all available opportunities would benefit the EU in the long run.

Jeroen Witkamp emphasised that one of the lessons learned about free trade through the years was the importance of the private sector. He was, therefore, pleased to see a large number of participants from the private sector. He also claimed that because AfCFTA was a pan-African concept, the government had the appropriate backdrop for sharing information. Concerning corporate governance and the business climate, he emphasised the significance of the government's engagement in the AfCFTA. He cautioned participants to consider and keep track of the AfCFTA experience not just on a national level but especially

on the sector and county levels.



Figure 2: Jeroen Witkamp, Head of Cooperation, EU Delegation to Liberia, delivering his speech at the event

Jeroen Witkamp reaffirmed the EU's continued support of Liberia. He mentioned support projects like the Cassava Transformation Project and the TaAL project. Based on advice from experts, he also indicated potential support for identifying food systems and the private sector. He emphasised a recent call from the EU known as the Global Gateway that Liberia could take advantage of. He explained that the Global Gateway was a new strategy that the European Union made about a year and a half ago to connect countries, not just in Africa, but also support Africa for a strong, inclusive, green, and digital recovery and transformation by accelerating the green transition, digital transition, sustainable growth, and the creation of decent jobs, strengthening health systems, and improving education and training. In concluding his remarks, he encouraged participants to contribute to a lively discussion on AfCFTA in Liberia.

### **Remarks from the Ministry of Finance and Development Planning**

Mr. James Dorbor Na-kulah Sao, Sr., Assistant Minister for Economic, Macro & Financial Sector Policy from MOFDP, commended the EU for supporting the CDO project. He emphasised how the EU's collaborations over support for the agricultural sector had made the CDO's action so far achievable. He opined that one industry where Liberia might gain from competitive trade was the agricultural sector. He remarked that even though the ECOWAS Trade Liberalization Scheme (ETLs) — which allowed

Liberian commodities to be marketed to other African nations — had been ratified, there were more imports than exports in Liberia. He claimed that the potential and value addition that the AfCFTA offered might be the solution to Liberia's trade deficit. He stated that structures were being put in place so that the ratification of the AfCFTA would provide opportunities for Liberians. He reassured partners that the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (MOCI) and Ministry of Finance and Development Planning (MOFDP) were establishing a mechanism to guarantee that AfCFTA was approved in the same way as ECOWAS ETLs.



*Figure 3: Mr. James Dorbor Na-kulah Sao, Sr., Assistant Minister for Economic, Macro & Financial Sector Policy from MOFDP delivering his opening remarks*

Mr. James Dorbor Na-kulah Sao, Sr. reaffirmed Liberia's commitment to cooperating with its partners to ensure that their agricultural products were highly competitive so they could profit from export. He said, by developing more industries, they aimed to ensure value addition and jobs were increased. He reiterated his appreciation of how various development organisations, especially the EU, had aided Liberia.

### **Remarks from the Ministry of Commerce and Industry**

Minister Peter D. Somah, Assistant Minister of Commerce & Industry commended CDO and the EU for engaging stakeholders and the ministry on the important high-level event. He extended his gratitude to international partners, especially the EU, for supporting WACOMP. He asserted that Liberians now have the opportunity to prioritise the development of the agriculture sector thanks to the WACOMP programme.

He opined that they were aware of the AfCFTA's overall regional goal was to remove trade barriers and significantly increase intra-African trade, particularly value-added trade production, and trade across

sectors of the African economy, which would eventually result in industrialization across the continent. He emphasised Liberia needed to be ready to take advantage of the intra-African trade initiative and develop economic toughness that could survive shocks like the COVID-19 epidemic and other geopolitical crises that followed, which threatened the world economy.

He claimed the main driver of economic growth and development was the private sector, particularly Micro, Small and Medium-Scale Enterprises (MSMEs). According to Minister Peter D. Somah, MOCI was still supporting significant public-private sector initiatives aimed at helping MSMEs build their productive capacity and spurring private sector growth to actively engage in international trade at the sub-regional, continental, and global levels.



Figure 4: Peter D. Somah, Assistant Minister of Commerce & Industry, delivering his opening remarks

Minister Peter D. Somah emphasised how the AfCFTA protocol on women and youth gave African women and youth entrepreneurs extra chances to be inclusive and gain from the AfCFTA agreement. He urged entrepreneurs to be ready to benefit from innovations and trade competition both within and outside the African continent. He said, as the Liberian government attempted to expedite the ratification of the AfCFTA, government and development partner initiatives were crucial. He concluded by commending the EU for its support toward the TaAL project and other development partners for the support toward the development of the agricultural industry in Liberia.

## PRESENTATION OF RESEARCH FINDINGS

Maame Kyerewaa Brobbey, Project Lead for the TaAL project, gave a presentation on the issue of the AfCFTA Continental Free Trade Area in Liberia - Involvement of Agro-MSMEs. She explained the research's context in relation to the WACOMP and the TaAL project, emphasising the need for dissemination and awareness raising on opportunities for the competitiveness and regional (trade) integration of Liberia's agri-/food business value chain and an improved environment for the businesses to thrive in accord with the objective of the WACOMP. She said, conducting the research and organising the event, together with the anticipated stakeholder conversations during the event and integrating the findings with the discussions, were essential tasks associated with the TaAL initiative.



*Figure 5: Maame Kyerewaa Brobbey, Project Lead for the TaAL project, presenting of findings from the research*

In her overview of the research, the project lead indicated that the study's objective was to gather data on Liberia's AfCFTA ratification procedures to understand government goals and initiatives as well as the degree of the agricultural sector's participation. According to Maame Kyerewaa Brobbey, the study's specific goals were to understand the government of Liberia's plans for ratifying and implementing the AfCFTA, ascertain the actions taken by the responsible government actors, determine the knowledge, involvement, and expectations of private agribusiness sector actors of the AfCFTA, and make recommendations on gaps and challenges that had been identified based on these findings.

She stated that the study used both secondary and primary data and its methodology was primarily qualitative and quantitative. According to her, the research team interviewed 24 agribusiness enterprises

in the Greater Monrovia area, 6 apex business entities, 2 relevant government actors, and 2 development partners/partnerships working in the area of international trade in Liberia.

Presenting the key findings of the research, Maame Kyerewaa Brobbey stated that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs led the delegation for the AfCFTA negotiation. She, however, noted that the technical ministry for AfCFTA was the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (MOCI). She said, to oversee the implementation of the AfCFTA in Liberia, the country had established the National AfCFTA Technical Working Group (NATWG), which was co-chaired by MOCI and the Liberia Revenue Authority (LRA). She explained that membership came from businesses, civil society organizations, and government departments and agencies focusing on trade. She continued by describing the two steps that were used to approach the Liberian AfCFTA and its associated plans. She highlighted that Phase 1 resulted in ratification, whereas Phase 2 will deal with the action plan following ratification. She emphasised the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) supported Liberia's intentions for ratification and its post-ratification strategy.

She added that a National AfCFTA Implementation Strategy was being developed by consultants Liberia has hired. The strategy, according to her, will set the tone for what Liberia wants to do with the Agreement. According to Maame Kyerewaa Brobbey, the President of the Republic submitted a bill on the AfCFTA agreement to the Legislature for their approval in accordance with Liberia's constitutional obligations. She stated that the Committee on Trade and Commerce had received the bill. She mentioned that it was expected that MOCI would facilitate the Committee's access to expert inputs and build the Committee's capacity to understand and make a decision, including important updates and reports to the Legislative body.

Subsequently, she stated that it was anticipated that the agreement would be submitted for approval to the House of Representatives. She noted that it was expected the agreement would be adopted by legislation following a fruitful discussion. She said the President would then be notified to sign it into law. However, according to her, the law would only become enforceable once it is printed into handbills by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. She, however, said that MOCI still needed to fully engage the Legislature. She noted that the ministry planned to present to the Senate Committee on Trade and Commerce and organise a study tour for the Committee and technicians to deepen their understanding of the AfCFTA agreement.

She pointed out that before the Legislature ratified the AfCFTA agreement, it was required that there were extensive (series of) consultations with stakeholders to facilitate their understanding of what the Agreement was and what Liberia was signing up for. She stated that MOCI had conducted only one stakeholder engagement where government actors and private sector actors, including banking sector actors, participated. Also, she opined that the Central Bank of Liberia and some members of the

Legislature were reported to have participated in the engagement.

On agribusiness enterprise actors' knowledge of AfCFTA, she pointed out that two-thirds of the respondents were aware of AfCFTA with a good understanding of its objectives. She noted that the theme of free trade among African countries was the enhancement of trade in Africa. On Rules of Origin, she stated that most respondents had no knowledge of the Rules of Origin Protocol of trade under AfCFTA. She further stated that very few of the respondents had a fair understanding of the Protocol through the origin conferring criteria, and the proof of origin component. On Liberia's AfCFTA ratification status, she stated that none of the agribusiness enterprise leaders knew about Liberia's AfCFTA ratification status. Only one respondent knew about the progress made on the process involved.

Maame Kyerewaa Brobbey stated that on the private agribusiness sector involvement and concerns in the AfCFTA processes in Liberia, there had not been any specified engagement with Liberia's private agribusiness sector in the processes and activities related to AfCFTA. She pointed out the majority (20) of the study respondents were unaware of any forum for regular information exchanges on trade issues between MOCI and agribusiness enterprises. She further stated that the Ministry of Agriculture, responsible for the agribusiness sector, was yet to be fully involved in the formal AfCFTA processes, although it was expected that they would play a vital role in its implementation. She indicated the business community had concerns over several industrialised member states taking advantage of Liberia's market to Liberia's disadvantage. She mentioned that there were concerns Liberia had not built enough capacity to implement AfCFTA favourably. She concluded by asking about the way forward for agribusinesses.

### **Questions, Answers & Discussions**

The presentation was followed by questions, comments, and discussions that mostly focused on the advantages agribusinesses would gain from the ratification of the AfCFTA. The data utilised for the study, the length of time it took for agreements to be ratified, and support for agribusinesses were key issues that were raised. In addition, comments on business registration and partnership were made.

*The General Manager* for Green Gold Liberia urged everyone in attendance to interact with the lawmakers in order to play their part in the ratification process. He exhorted everyone to fulfil their part in the process of standardising their products at the standard laboratory in Liberia.

One participant inquired as to the length of time it took for other countries to ratify the AfCFTA.

A representative from the National Civil Society Council of Liberia questioned whether the study considered the ECOWAS Commission Sector Gap Analysis. He claimed that they had examined the potential effects of state parties leveraging the agriculture sector in terms of revenue creation. He questioned how governments would raise the required funds if they levied tariffs on certain agricultural



products. He queried how the study handled problems with the agricultural value chain, such as storage and market access. As people were depending on the ratification to see how to establish the synergies in enterprises, he questioned how agribusinesses would gain from the ratification agreement and the ECOWAS Commission Gap Analysis.

According to the public relations officer (PRO) of the Liberia Marketing Association (LMA), media coverage had a bigger influence on the agreement's ratification by the legislature. He predicted that once the AfCFTA was discussed on all radio stations in terms of how it could be implemented, it would be swiftly ratified by the legislature.

The co-founder of AgroRetti inquired about the next steps after ratification and how Liberia's small companies might gain from finance and capacity-building. He emphasised that since Liberians needed the resources, capacity, equipment, reliable electricity, and renewable electricity to lower their costs, businesses would be crippled when the market was opened. He asked donors (the EU and USAID) for financial assistance. He said there were chances for small firms to advance and increase their capacity with support.

The owner of Maybel Koah Enterprise urged business owners to work together. She said that small firms should constantly be specialised and look for methods to enhance the value of their products. She believed that they needed to come together since the government could not run without them. She indicated the most critical needs includes assistance, money, and equipment.

A representative from FKIM Agro urged everyone in the room to consider how they could synchronise all of the associations or initiatives into a single federation. He argued that the best way to move forward was to create a system where leadership could speak for the entire country's agribusiness industry. According to him, they would be of greater importance and have more opportunities since they would have bilateral and international partner organisations that could want to collaborate with them to figure out how to support them. He suggested that it should be a federation or agribusiness where members collaborated with a bilateral group to locate organisations to invest money for each member to obtain loans based on standards established by that group. He claimed that Liberians would gain from having foreign partners or enterprises when the aforementioned is taken into account when discussing the ratification of the AfCFTA.

A representative from Every Green Enterprise asked the presenter to give more detail regarding the evaluation plan, the implementation impact, and the result of the agreement's ratification.

A representative from Nimba Pastry noted that although the Liberian government supported agribusiness, between 25 and 50 percent of agribusinesses lacked official registration. He explained that the government was now required to consider a petition provided the business was registered with the government and

made timely tax payments. He said that he managed an NGO, and that when they communicated with the government, they would advocate for their clients' rights. According to him, the government granted them the exemption from duty on their containers after they paid their taxes and received their clearances. He came to the conclusion that individuals who were not registered ought to do so in order for the government to support them.

An economist at MOFDP's Department of Economic Management stressed that Liberia's ratification of AfCFTA was at a very crucial moment right now. He advised companies to register their companies to take advantage of AfCFTA's ratification. He emphasised standards even more, pointing out how consumer health was impacted by the selling of expired items.

The CEO of Agro Animal Innovation pointed out that one of the biggest issues he saw among entrepreneurs was a lack of collaboration, even when they applied for grants and other forms of assistance. He emphasised that it took a lot of work for Liberian businesses to collaborate.

The Assistant Minister for Economic, Macro & Financial Sector Policy at MOFDP stated that he was pleased to see Liberians currently working in agribusinesses. He said the government was genuinely investing in the agricultural industry, which necessitated cooperation amongst agribusinesses. He noted that most government assistance was given to the private sector. He added that the government was working hard to ensure the AfCFTA got approved.

*In commenting on the submissions and comments, the Project Lead mentioned that capacity and the issue of funding for sensitization and stakeholder meetings affected the ratification duration. She pointed out that in Liberia, the two chambers had to agree to the ratification process, while other countries had only one chamber resulting in differences in the ratification duration. She further explained that domestic support was also crucial in the ratification process. On the issue of the ECOWAS Gap Analysis and other critical issues like storage question, Maame Kyerewaa Brobbey mentioned that because consultants were working on the AfCFTA strategy, she wanted to avoid pre-empting. She emphasised the necessity of setting up a system so Liberia could profit from the ratification of the AfCFTA. Maame Kyerewaa Brobbey emphasised the necessity for cooperation and a unified opening of the AfCFTA dialogue. She also emphasised the need for people to own the benefits that would come from the AfCFTA. She also urged companies to register so that they would be in good and excellent position to get assistance from the AfCFTA secretariat. She claimed that the ECOWAS Commission supported businesses through the regional apex entities.*

*Leroy N. S. Kanmoh, the Country Director for CDO, added that there might not be a precise number of months for the duration of the ratification of agreements. He claimed that MOCI in Liberia had said that, with all the help at their disposal, passing the law might take six months.*

## **CLOSING REMARKS**

The final remarks to draw the curtain on the event were delivered by Janet Alamisi Dabire, the moderator. She suggested that agribusinesses joined existing associations rather than starting their own. She emphasised the necessity for companies to formalise and ensure that their operations were up to date at all times. She continued by thanking participants for taking time out of their hectic schedules to participate in the event. She also expressed gratitude to the EU for their continual support the TaAL project. She then said a short prayer to close the event officially.

## APPENDIX A: PROGRAMME OUTLINE

<b>Time</b>	<b>Main Activity</b>
8:30 am - 9:00 am	Arrival / Registration/Breakfast
9:00 am - 9:05 am	Opening Prayer
9:05 am - 9:10 am	Welcome Address & Purpose of Gathering
9:10 am - 9:15 am	Opening remarks from the European Union Delegation
9:15 am - 9:20 am	Opening remarks from the Minister of Commerce & Industry
9:20 am - 9:25 am	Statement by the Ministry of Agriculture
9:25 am - 9:30 am	Statement by the Ministry of Finance & Development Planning
9:30 am - 9:35 am	Statement by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs
9:35 am - 10:20 am	Presentation of findings from the research on the processes toward the ratification of the AfCFTA agreement in Liberia
10:20 am - 10:40 am	Questions & Comments on research findings
10:40 am - 11:10 am	Coffee/Tea/Cocoa Break & Group Photo
11:10 am - 11:35 am	Discussion on how private agribusiness sector can take up the challenge of being involved to ensure that they are ready to benefit from the AfCFTA agenda and contribute to the content of government negotiations and directions/support to businesses.

## APPENDIX B: LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

No.	NAME	ORGANIZATION
1	Aaron F. Binda Jr.	FKIM Agro
2	Augustine Bill Kollie	OKFM
3	Augustine Otas	carseybury Vegetable
4	Brennan Shearer	United States Agency for International Development
5	Carolos Antoune	MDC RUBBER
6	Charles N. Kortimai	FKIM Agro
7	Christian Asterlind	Embassy of Sweden
8	Derick S. Peters	Ministry of Finance and Development Planning
9	Dismas Cupson	SUNCSAL
10	Elode Ritzenthaler	European Union
11	Emmet T. Gbowrah	Bravo Sister Enterprise
12	Francis C. Freeman	Nimba Pastry
13	Gargar Johnson	YONER Liberia
14	Geertrui Louwagie	European Union
15	Gladys T. Gborie	CERATH Development Organization
16	Grace M. Lloyd	CERATH Development Organization
17	Jacob A. Sambolah	Mercy Crops
18	Jamel Russell	International Trade Centre
19	Jarius Andrews Greaves	YONER Liberia
20	James D.Na Kulah Sao Sr.	Ministry of Finance and Development Planning
21	James S. Korah	Korha International
22	Janet Alamisi Dabrie	CERATH Development Organization
23	Jefferson Teage	LINUA
24	Jehu P. Banneygo	National Agro Inputs Dealers
25	Jeroem Witkamp	European Union
26	Joseph N. Kodah	POFAL
27	Joshua Toteh	Agro Tech Liberia
28	Joyce David	Bravo Sister Enterprise

<b>No.</b>	<b>NAME</b>	<b>ORGANIZATION</b>
29	Judoemue M. Kollie	Daily Observer
30	Kalokwwergtim Mathew	Mercy Corps Liberia
31	Katherina M. Hopkins	BASA Development Initiatives
32	Leelah J. Clarke	LEO Nutrition
33	Leroy N. S. Kanmoh	CERATH Development Organization
34	Lincoln Hardy	Every Green Enterprise
35	Maame Kyerewaa Brobbey	CERATH Development Organization
36	Mariam Maipay	Mako's Fruits
37	Matthew S. Kanley	National Council Society Council of Liberia
38	Matune J.C. Dolo	Food and Agriculture Organization
39	Maybel Koah	Maybel Koah Enterprise
40	Melvin Y.C. Duo	Agro Animal Innovation
41	Momoka Tamura	Food and Agriculture Organization
42	Morris Desmond Brown	Liberia Marketing Association
43	Morris Dougba	Green Gold Liberia
44	Nehemiah J. Johnson	Sandra Fram Inc.
45	Obediah Johnson	Front Page Africa
46	Oliver Rouhana Jr.	AgroRetti Liberia
47	Patience G. Clark	Ma Bendu Farm
48	Peter D. Somah	Ministry of Commerce and Industry
49	Ralph N. Sonkarlay	Every Green Enterprise
50	Ramon V. Mugalla	European Union
51	Sampson Benin	Catholic Agency for Overseas Development
52	Saye Daleh	Saye Palm Oil Enterprise
53	Spencer V. Coleman	Agrolife Limited
54	Stephen B. Norman	National Cassava Sector
55	Stephen Y. Mambu	National Standards Lab
56	Tee U.W.R. George	SUNSCAL
57	Tim Dzebu	Richchabod
58	Wille Sirleaf	Smallholder Agriculture Transformation and Agribusiness Revitalization Project

## APPENDIX C: MEDIA

Links to media:

1. [http://www.liberianobserver.com/liberia-toward-liberias-ratification-afcfat?fbclid=IwAR3LKdl2hIFO6dNrW3r30xxMc7qcdyBBFTb-lkBTnI-ADsGZVIOCLJIB0\\_Q](http://www.liberianobserver.com/liberia-toward-liberias-ratification-afcfat?fbclid=IwAR3LKdl2hIFO6dNrW3r30xxMc7qcdyBBFTb-lkBTnI-ADsGZVIOCLJIB0_Q)
2. [facebook.com/watch/live/?mibextid=qCIGe&ref=watch\\_permalink&v=611890624170067](https://www.facebook.com/watch/live/?mibextid=qCIGe&ref=watch_permalink&v=611890624170067)

**APPENDIX D: GALLERY**



*Figure 7: Participants at the event engaged in discussion on AfCFTA*



*Figure 6: Cross section of participants who attend the event*



## **WACOMP**

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The West Africa Competitiveness Programme aims to support a number of selected value chains at national and regional level to promote structural transformation and better access to regional and international markets, while taking into account social and environmental concerns. The WACOMP consists of one regional component and sixteen national components (15 ECOWAS Member States and Mauritania)

### **Disclaimer**

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