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President Johnson Sirleaf Speaks To Private Philanthropists At Liberian Education Trust Meeting In NYC

Liberian Education Trust (Washington, DC)

PRESS RELEASE

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New York

President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf addressed a gathering of prominent individual private philanthropists and donors to the Liberian Education Trust (LET) on Friday morning at the St. Regis Hotel in New York City. The response to her remarks was universally enthusiastic with many pledging support for LET.

Twenty-five participants listened to the President discuss the challenges the country still faces and the specific needs in restoring the building blocks of the education system: more schools, teacher training, scholarships, and adult literacy for market women.

The meeting is part of an ongoing effort by The Liberian Education Trust (LET) to raise funds for its goals of building 50 schools; training 500 teachers and providing 5000 scholarships to girls in school and market women in literacy courses.

At the meeting several individuals indicated they would pay for the building of one or more schools; others expressed interest in the scholarship program. Others pledged contributions to LET from \$10,000 to \$25,000. There was across-the-board support during the discussion to be of assistance to the president in various other ways as well.

On May 15, LET will be holding another fundraising event with the President and Senator Hillary Clinton to further its efforts to raise more funds. Dr. Deborah Harding, president of LET, said that because President Sirleaf is so well regarded here "for her leadership, vision and integrity", prominent individuals, such as those attending the NYC meeting, are willing to support LET."

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