

**Press Statement by the Chairperson of the NEC, Madam Davidetta Browne
Lansanah, on the Status of the Lofa County Senatorial By-election.**

Date: 6 May 2022

Venue: James M. Fromayan Conference Hall/ NEC HQ

**Madam Co-chair and fellow Commissioners;
Fellow Liberians;
Local and International Observers;
Members of the Press;
Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen.**

1. We have called you here today, members of the press, to inform the Liberian people, through you, about the conduct of the 2022 Lofa County Senatorial By-election presently scheduled for 10 May 2022 as earlier planned.
2. As you will record, the Commission on February 16, 2022 received from the Honorable Senate a communication, notifying the Commission of a vacancy in the Liberian Senate for a seat for Lofa County. In keeping with Article 37 of the Constitution of the Republic of Liberia, the NEC has 90 days from the date of receipt of the said notification to cause the by-election to be held; accordingly, the NEC scheduled the 2022 Lofa County Senatorial By-election for May 10, 2022, thereby leaving the Commission with a week before the expiration of the 90-day period.
3. Due to the ongoing legal dispute between the Collaborating Political Parties (CPP) Versus the All Liberian Party (ALP) and the Unity Party (UP) relative to the participation of an aspirant under the Unity Party in the said by-election, the Commission has determined that it will not be feasible to conduct the Lofa County Senatorial By-election on 10 May 2022 as earlier planned.
4. The Commission has already communicated this position to the Honorable Liberian Legislature, given that any extension of the By-election date beyond the ninety-day constitutional provision will require further legal mandate.
5. Once received, the Commission will communicate a new date for the By-election to the people of Lofa and the Liberian People in general following the final

disposition by the Honorable Supreme Court of Liberia of the appeal related to the said 2022 Lofa County Senatorial By-election.

6. Meanwhile, the NEC calls on all citizens of Lofa County and interested stakeholders in the Lofa Senatorial By-election to remain calm and peaceful as the legal process unfolds.
7. On a sad note, unrelated to the Lofa County By-election, the NEC has learned with disbelief the unfortunate incident of the mysterious disappearance of its Logistics Officer in Grand Gedeh County, Mr. Alfred T. Dunner. This incident has been reported to the Liberian National Police, and the Commission will continue to make follow-ups on the process of the investigation. In the meantime, we call on all Liberians to keep Mr. Dunner and his family in our prayers for his safe return.

THANK YOU