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Greensboro, NC: 9/27/2006: Several veteran Liberian soccer stars have added their names to the list of those supporting the "We Want No More Malaria in Liberia " Campaign by indicating that they will be in Greensboro over the weekend to play a local team, Winston-Salem United, in a special tournament for the converted prize -Pre-Malaria Rally Trophy- organized by LIHEDE as part of the activities of the Rally.

Making up the squad of the veteran team are former players who made their contributions to soccer in Liberia playing for five of Liberian leading first division teams, including Invincible Eleven, Mighty Barrolle, Cedar United, St, Joseph Warriors, and Hafia United. The former players of IE expected to take the soccer pitch are Sarkpha Nyanseor, formerly known as Rock of Gibraltar or Zac Myers, Isaiah Mackintosh and Isaiah Lincoln.

Those coming from the St. Joseph Warriors are Michael Tarplah and Bah Freeman, while the Mighty Barrolle veterans are Roland Brown and Mathor Brown. The Cedar Players are Augustine Allison and Jerry Kandakai. Those from Hafia United are Charles Woefil and Frank Louder.

The names of the players of the Winston-Salem United were not disclosed, but there are indications that the team comprises some local stars who are looking forward to gain respect from the "old-timers" whom they still respect despite age differences.

The Executive Director of LIHEDE, Dr. Syrulwa Somah, said the both sides are already winners in the eyes of the Liberian people, considering that they have decided to be a part of the campaign to eradicate the deadly disease, malaria, from their country without any monetary compensation. "This is the kind of patriotism and love for Liberia we need to bury this disease in the dust bin of history," he initiated.

He explained further that a giant trophy awaits the winner of the special tournament as a reminder that they are part of a global campaign in the fight to combat malaria in developing countries, including Liberia. The tournament will be held on Saturday prior to the Dinner Ball.

The Pre-Malaria Rally is a prelude to the National Health Conference being organized by LIHEDE to be held in Liberia on December 14-19, 2006, in collaboration with the Ministry of Health & Social Welfare through its National Malaria Control program headed by Dr. Joel Jones.

During the event on Saturday, two respectable Liberian Health practitioners, Dr. Wilfred Boayue, and Mr. John Prall, former Register of Births and Deaths, Ministry of Health & Social Welfare, will be honored for their dedicated services to the health care delivery sector of Liberia.

In a related development, all members and officials of LIHEDE, Liberians and friends of Liberia are being encouraged to come to Greensboro this weekend to participate in the Pre-Malaria Conference Rally to be held on Saturday, September 30, 2006 as a show of their support for the eradication of malaria and for the National Health Conference in Liberia under the slogan: "**We Want No More Malaria in Liberia.**"

Signed:

Sam Togba Slewion

Director of Publications-LIHEDE

See below the Announcement for the Rally:

Come as Liberians and friends of Liberia to lend your helping hand to this all important cause so that together we can generate the necessary public awareness and needed funds for the December Conference in Liberia.

Your presence and contributions are not only crucial to the success of the malaria campaign, but will also send the right signal and beacon of hope for a child, who is praying for a miracle from a human angel like you to rid himself or herself of malaria. Through these kinds of fundraising activities we can assist the less fortunate, who are at the mercy of malaria and who need our collective help to break the shackles of this preventable disease.

We have put together an exciting and educational program in order to make your stay enjoyable in the City of Greensboro. We have made arrangements with area hotels, car rental agencies, and airlines to provide available discounts to you. We have also contacted radio stations and local newspapers about the program and informed them that many Liberians and friends of Liberia will be in the area, along with the locals, having fun, sharing experiences about the malaria epidemic in their country and raising funds for the National Health Conference.

The preliminary Schedule of Activities for the rally is as follows:

- Continental breakfast 8:30 AM to 9:30 AM
- High-profile speakers to enlighten the participants 11:00 AM to 11:45 AM (speaker 1)
- Renowned Country Western music star, Corey Lea (www.lilcowntown.com), has agreed to perform his latest recorded song on malaria eradication at the events at 12noon: to 1:00 PM
- Lunch 1:00 PM to 2:00 PM
- BnetTV of Canada has agreed to broadcast the entire program world-wide via the Internet. A similar service was performed by BnetTV during the LIHEDE Health Symposium last July in Greensboro, NC
- A soccer game between the "Old Timers" of Lone Star and retired players from England. The famous "Monkey Brown" is expected to serve as referee. 3:00pm to 4:45 PM
- Black Tie/Formal Attire dinner (RSVP for 250 persons) 6:30 PM to 8:45 PM (Speaker II)
- Ball from 10:00 p.m. to wee-wee hour

Apart from the above, if you have a story to tell on the scourge of malaria, please join us and share your experience. If you are a musician, a writer with a poem on malaria, or a drummer with a beat for malaria eradication, come and share your artistic depictions. If you are a pastor, reverend, deacon, or Imam, come help to give the best gift, which is the rejuvenation of life itself.

This precious gift of life is being lost in Liberia where children know little peace, as malaria continues to be a principal killer of our people: 21,500 (MOH, 2006) Liberian children die each year from the curable disease. Across the African Continent, an estimated 500 million people contract malaria every year - up to 3 million die (half of them children), and tens of thousands are left with irreversible brain damage.

Come let us begin preparation to bury this national calamity in the dustbin of history. With our collective will, vision, nationalism, and patriotism, we can do just that. Email us at lihede2003@yahoo.com so that we can put you on the program.

I hope that you will honor my request, and join us in Greensboro on September 30. However, if you cannot come, donations are welcome. Other ways you can assist is by disseminating information about the rally and conference, and asking those that you know who may be able to help. Visit us at www.lihede.org for more information and updates on the program. We, therefore, look forward to your emails or phone calls with any questions that you may have to make you an active participant in the Pre-Conference Rally on the campus of North Carolina A&T State University in Greensboro on **Saturday, September 30**.

Sincerely yours,

Dr. Syrulwa Somah, PhD
Executive Director-LIHEDE