



REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY
MONROVIA



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1000 Monrovia,
10 Liberia
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: January 28, 2019
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PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

RE: Illicit Issuance of Import Permit Declaration (IPDs)

Monrovia, Liberia, Monday, January 28, 2019. The Ministry of Commerce and Industry, following extensive investigation, has discovered an active and illegal practice in existence involving the illicit issuance and/or manipulation of Import Permit Declaration (IPDs) by local Importers, which is seriously reducing GOL Revenues, and undermining the viability of local manufacturing companies.

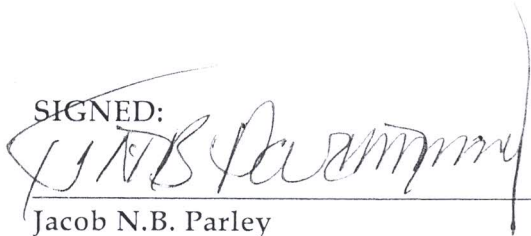
These illegal IPDs have resulted in the flooding of the local market with low quality, illegally Imported Flour, Nails, Eggs, Biscuits and other essential commodities and goods with under-declared value, as well as smuggled flour, all of which are depriving Government of legal Revenues. Many of the imported flour are also being illegally brought in with "Expired" IPDs"

As part of its determination to protect Government Revenues and support "job-creating" local enterprises, in this case, the two local Flour Milling Corporations, as well as other local manufacturers, Nails, Biscuits, Candies, Insecticide and Detergents, the public is hereby notified that:

- All outstanding flour IPDs, both expired and unexpired, should be returned to the Ministry for renewal and re-authentication, where appropriate;
- BIVAC, by this notice, is mandated from issuing any Pre-shipment or Destination inspection numbers or permits;

- All legally issued and still valid IPDs which are not surrendered to the Ministry of Commerce within 10 working days from the date hereof (of this publication), will become automatically “voided” and hence cancelled. **In such case, any such Commodities entering the ports of Monrovia under such IPDs will be denied clearance.**
- Inspectors from the Ministry of Commerce and Industry will begin a thorough and vigilant inspection of all import and other documents relating to Flour importation and other locally manufactured items, specifically, Nails, Biscuits, Candies, Insecticide and Detergents, among others. Importers are required to have in their possession for review, copies of IPDs, BIVAC CRF, evidence of paid Customs Duties and other levies.
- Any business (es) found to be illegally importing goods into Liberia, or in breach of these administrative regulations, will be subject to serious penalties according to the law. These penalties include, but not limited to, revocation of their Business Registration.

SIGNED:



Jacob N.B. Parley
DIRECTOR, PUBLIC AFFAIRS
MINISTRY of COMMERCE & INDUSTRY

DATE:

