



REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA

THE PRESIDENT

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 166

BAN ON THE EXPORTATION OF NATURAL UNPROCESSED RUBBER

PREAMBLE

Whereas, the continued export of unprocessed natural rubber deprives Liberia of downstream manufacturing opportunities, industrial job creation, expanded tax revenues, and foreign exchange stability;

WHEREAS, the Government has realized that previous efforts to control the export of unprocessed natural rubber has not achieved the intended goals as the system has been abused;

Whereas, in the exercise of executive power vested in the President by the Constitution of Liberia, the President may issue Executive Orders in the public interest to safeguard national resources and catalyse industrial transformation;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Government of Liberia hereby issues this Executive Order:

SECTION 1. PURPOSE

The export of unprocessed natural rubber in any form is hereby prohibited and banned for an indefinite period effective July 1, 2026. The purpose of the ban is to promote domestic value addition, and protect Liberian jobs as well as the rubber sector in Liberia. Specifically, it seeks to achieve the following:

1. Promote domestic employment and value addition in the rubber sector to expand the tax revenue;
2. Discourage the continuous export of unprocessed rubber for the purpose of increasing economic growth through measures that would enhance Liberia's GDP;
3. Transform the rubber sector from an extractive raw-material export economy into a value-added, job creating industry that supports inclusive growth;



4. Protect public interest and promote industrialization in Liberia.

SECTION 2: DEFINITIONS

1. **Unprocessed Rubber** means raw natural rubber tapped from rubber trees, not having gone through any processing to change its physical or chemical composition including natural latex, coagulum, cup lump, tree lace, bark scrap, ground scrap, mixtures, or any other form of rubber not subjected to industrial processing.
2. **Processed Rubber** means latex concentrate, technically specified rubber (TSR), ribbed smoked sheets, crepe rubber, or other internationally recognized grades of processed rubber.

SECTION 3: ENFORCEMENT AND PENALTIES

1. Any person or entity found attempting to export unprocessed rubber shall be subject to:
 - (a) Immediate seizure and forfeiture of the goods.
 - (b) An administrative fine of USD 100,000 for the first offense for Corporations and USD 50,000 for smallholders' farmers.
 - (c) Permanent revocation of export privileges for repeat offenders.
 - (d) Criminal prosecution under applicable Liberian law. Any persons found to be in violation of this Executive Order shall be prosecuted by the Ministry of Justice.
 - (e) Violation of this Executive Order shall include shipment through Liberian ports of unprocessed rubber originating from another country.
2. Transporters, shipping companies, and agents complicit in the export of unprocessed rubber shall be equally liable under this Executive Order.



SECTION 4: OVERSIGHT AND IMPLEMENTATION

1. The Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Ministry of Finance and Development Planning, Liberia Revenue Authority, and the Rubber Development Fund shall jointly enforce this ban.
2. The Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Ministry of Finance and development Planning, or any other government agency shall not issue or authorize the issuance of any export permit for unprocessed natural rubber from Liberia.
3. Custom officers, ports and law enforcement authorities at points of entry and exit to and from the Republic of Liberia whether by land, sea, or air are directed to inspect, detain, stop, prohibit and confiscate any shipment, or exportation of all consignments of unprocessed rubber from the Republic of Liberia.
4. Within 30 days of the issuance of this Order, the Ministry of Commerce and Industry in conjunction with the Ministry of Agriculture and other relevant stakeholders shall make special effort to promulgate regulations for access to domestic markets for Liberian rubber farmers in remote areas who rely primarily on cross-border trade in unprocessed natural rubber.
5. The Ministry of Commerce and Industry and the Ministry of Agriculture shall publish quarterly reports on compliance, enforcement actions, and progress in domestic rubber processing capacity.
6. The Liberia National Rubber Pricing Committee shall continue to publish official monthly prices to guide domestic transactions, but such prices shall not apply to exports of unprocessed rubber, as they are prohibited.

SECTION 5: INDUSTRIAL SUPPORT MEASURES OF PROCESSING FACILITIES

1. The Government shall prioritize incentives for domestic rubber processing industries, including tax relief, concessional financing, and infrastructure support.
2. Farmers and suppliers are encouraged to channel production into local processing facilities to maximize value addition and employment creation.



3. All domestic rubber processing facilities must be licensed and certified by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry to ensure compliance with environmental, labor, and quality standards.
4. In order to move beyond raw processing into manufacturing, thereby maximizing value addition, the Government shall encourage diversification into rubber-based products (tires, gloves, footwear, adhesives) through targeted industrial policies.
5. All rubber processing industries shall adopt environmentally sustainable practices, including waste management and reforestation programs which aligns with global sustainability standards and Liberia's environmental commitments.

SECTION 6: EFFECTIVE DATE

1. This Executive Order shall take effect immediately upon issuance and shall remain in force until repealed, amended, or superseded by an Act of the Legislature.
2. This Executive Order shall be reviewed every year to assess its impact on farmers, processors, and the national economy.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF THE REPUBLIC
OF LIBERIA, THIS 24th DAY OF JUNE, A.D 2026

Joseph Nyuma Boakai, Sr.
PRESIDENT
REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA