

Monrovia, Liberia, January 7 (Infosplusgabon) - ¶ The European External Action Service (EEAS) has commended the Liberian people for the high and peaceful participation in the recent presidential and legislative elections.

It said these elections, held on 10 October and 26 December 2017, opened “a new era” after twelve years of successful leadership by President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, according to a statement by the EEAS spokesman issued here Thursday.

The spokesman said the EU sends its congratulations to George Weah for his victory in the presidential elections as announced by the National Elections Commission.

The EU also commended all political leaders who, it said, “showed responsibility in accepting swiftly the outcome of the elections.”

The EU body noted the professionalism of the Liberian institutions, in particular the National Elections Commission and the Liberian National Police which, it said, were “key” to a successful conclusion.

The EU Election Observation Mission, headed by Chief Observer Maria Arena, observed the elections in close cooperation with national and international actors.

It began its work in Liberia since September 2017, observed the full process of the elections and will soon issue its final report.

The report will include recommendations for strengthening Liberia's future electoral processes.

The spokesman stressed the important role of ECOWAS and UN Mission in Liberia during the elections is a positive expression of the role of regional and international organisations.

The EU, the spokesman assured, will remain an important and reliable partner of Liberia and is ready to continue working with the new Government on national issues, as well as on regional and international challenges.

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