



LIHEDE • 2285 Rothwood Acres Drive Greensboro, NC 37406 • phone: (336) 456-8075 • fax: (336) 334-7433 • web: WWW.LIHEDE.ORG

## **LIHEDE 2009 Jubilee Conference Plans on Course**

**(April 1, 2009) Greensboro:** The 5th Jubilee Conference of the Liberian History, Education, & Development, Inc. (LIHIDE) is now set to be held on August 21-22, 2009 rather than August 14-15, 2009 as originally scheduled. This change is necessitated by the hosting of the Greensboro International Business Conference. The Executive Director of LIHEDE, Dr. Syrulwa Somah, said the Organization resolved during a meeting recently not to convene the 5<sup>th</sup> Jubilee Confab on the same weekend of the Greensboro International Business Conference realizing the challenges of accommodation and movement around the conference that our guests could encounter during the Jubilee Conference.

He said LIHEDE sincerely apologizes for any inconvenience this change in time may cause potential participants of the jubilee confab, but it is certainly not the desire of LIHEDE to inconvenient our guests and well wishers who have consented to grace the Conference with their presence, as together we can introspect and retrospect our history with the ultimate goal to guide our future as a nation and people. "We are excitingly looking forward to your continue support and cooperation," he intimated.

In the meantime, as plans continue to unfold for the successful hosting of the Conference, a national planning committee and several sub-committees have been created after several weeks of consultation and planning meetings.

Dr. Joseph Gbaba has been named to chair of the National 5th Jubilee Planning Committee with Dr. Teta Banks as his Co-Chair. Members of the Committee include Dr. Vera Tolbert, Mr. Morris Kofa, Mrs. Henrietta White Holder and Dr. Syrulwa Somah as Advisor. Ms. Sylvestine Payne has been appointed as Operations Manager of the Conference and Ms. Nee Allison, as assistant operations manager.

The Jubilee Program and Magazine Committee is chaired by Mr. Nat Galarea Gbessagee, who will also serve as Editor. Others named to serve on the Committee are Mr. Kili Moses Nagbe, Co-chair and Associate Editor, Mr. Omari Jackson, member and Copy Editor, Mr. Abraham Walker, Member and Design Editor, Mr. Siahnyonkon Nyanseor and Dr. Syrulwa Somah as Advisors.

The Publicity and Promotion Committee is chaired by Mr. Sam Togba Slewion, who is also the Director of Publications and Media Relations of LIHEDE. Others serving on the Committee are Moses Bility, Co-Chair, Omari Jackson, Member, Ms. Labeth Varh-Lee, Member, and Abraham Walker, Member.

A Souvenir and Memorabilia Committee is also put in place and chaired by Alex Uzwekou. Those named to serve on the Committee are Dr. Mariah Y. Seton, Co-Chair. Mr. Thomas Johnson and Dr. Lawrence Zumo as members, and Mr. Yancy Peter Flah as Advisor. The Finance and Budgeting Committee is headed by Mr. Siahnyonkron Nyanseor, who is also the National Treasurer of LIHEDE. His team includes Mr. Joseph Brown, Co-Chair and Lemueus Horace and Byme Taylor as Members.

In order to ensure that there is an effective arrangement for lodging and accommodation, the Committee named to undertake this task is chaired by Zumo Kollie and Dr. Syrulwa Somah as Advisor. Other members will be added to the committee in due course. A Hospitality Committee responsible for coordinating food and beverage, including snacks and all other food related items during the jubilee event, is chaired by Mr. Thomas Johnson and Co-Chaired by Mr. Robert Gargua. Members are Mrs. Mary Somah and Mrs. Sadie Deshield. A Transportation and Logistics Committee responsible for the arrangement of shuttling service during the conference and airline and ground travel is headed by Mr. Francois Knabalie and Co-Chaired by Ms. Carol Sowu. Ms. Ginette Sowu is a member.

A highlight event of the Conference is an Exhibition of books by Liberian Authors. The Committee appointed to execute this task is chaired by Dr. J. Mamadee Woah-Tee, and the Co-Chaired is Mr. Kili Moses Nagbe with Dr. Syrulwa Somah serving as Advisor. Another highlight of the Conference is a commitment of a group of Liberian lawyers to present a document on the traditional legal system of Liberia as it relates to promoting communal peace and stability. A Committee set up to perform to this task is headed by a young and enterprising Liberian Lawyer, Cllr. Alvin Teage Jalloh.

An Event Website Update/Master responsible for design and update of the LIHEDE website, especially during the planning process and the jubilee conference has been also appointed. He is Mr. Lincoln Ward, assisted by Ms. Roberta Williams. A sporting event has also been included in the Conference to ensure that the participants find time to relax and have fun after a long day of informative and educational discourse. The Committee responsible to organize and manage the soccer competition is chaired by Mr. Bobby Sarteh and Dr. Syrulwa Somah is the Advisor, who is expected to appear on the pitch during the game as usual to show off his soccer skills.

Making sure that youths and students are included as active participants in the Conference, a LIHEDE Youth/Students Committee is also named to recruit community youths and students to participate in jubilee activities. The Committee is chaired by Ms. Koo Zegbo and Mr. Lincoln Ward as Co-chair. The members are Ms. Ginette Sowu, Ms. Nequie Beedo and Ms. Carol Suwo.

The Public will continue to be informed as the planning of the Conference continues until it is held on August 21-22, 2009 in Greensboro, North Carolina. We, however, encourage you to clear your calendars and save the dates to join fellow Liberians and friends of Liberia celebrate our history.

**Signed:**

**Sam Togba Slewion**

**Chair, Jubilee Publicity & Promotion Committee**

**Director of Publication and Media Relations-LIHEDE**