

# Liberia

## Global Pioneers in the Offshore Corporate Services Industry



Mount Nimba, Liberia

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The Republic of Liberia is Africa's oldest republic with statutory law based on Anglo-American common law. In 2006, Ms. Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf, a Harvard University graduate and former World Bank economist, was elected President of Liberia and became the first elected female to lead an African nation. Liberia's pioneering tradition continues today through its Corporate and Ship Registries.

As one of the oldest corporate jurisdictions, the Republic of Liberia, located on the west coast of Africa, has provided corporate registry services internationally for more than 60 years. Its history of legal stability, innovation and client-oriented outlook has earned the Corporate Registry worldwide recognition by key industry professionals.

The Liberian Associations Law, generally modelled on U.S. Corporate Law, allows for the formation of Corporations, Limited Liability Companies (LLC), Private Foundations and Limited Partnerships. Liberian entities are simple to form and administer, cost efficient and highly confidential. Despite the rapidly changing regulatory environment of the offshore corporate sector, Liberia is committed to providing flexibility, confidentiality and security.

The Liberian Corporate Registry maintains full-service offices in Hamburg, Hong Kong, London, New York, Piraeus, Tokyo, Virginia and Zurich. In addition, the Registry is supported by a worldwide network of Liberian representatives and Special Agents who are available to legalise and accept documents for filing. The Registry's global infrastructure allows for same-day formation of business entities, prompt issuance of

certificates and filing of documents - 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

In 2002, Liberia adopted a new Electronic Transaction law and Anti-Money Laundering law, paving the way for the Registry's use of an electronic Register, a secure, web-accessible data network, to facilitate the prompt and efficient formation of entities and the filing and issuance of documents on a worldwide basis.

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Significant investment in advanced information technologies makes the Liberian Corporate Registry a valued partner to its corporate clients. This is further illustrated by the Registry's recent development of eCorp®, a web-based client interface which provides clients 24/7 access to their accounts to form new corporations, generate certificates, reserve names, manage existing corporations, pay invoices and file documents.

### **History**

The Liberian Registry was established in 1948 with the support of former U.S. Secretary of State Edward Stettinius. LISCR, LLC, the Liberian International Ship and Corporate Registry, administers the Liberian Corporate Registry, pursuant to an act of law of the Liberian legislature. Since its inception, the Liberian Registry has been operated from the United States. The strong U.S. – Liberia alliance enables the Registry to participate in the international arena with key industry institutions.

### **Today**

Liberia is a respected and professional provider of corporate and ship registration services. With 11% of the world's fleet, Liberia's Ship Registry has evolved into the world's largest quality registry. Since major international financial institutions routinely loan billions of dollars to Liberian corporations under ship finance arrangements, Liberian corporations are recognised internationally by banking facilities and investors. For more than half a century, high net worth individuals and companies have been using Liberian entities to facilitate their business endeavours.



Liberian President Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf

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