

The Chief Justice of the Honorable Supreme of Liberia, His Honor Yamie Quiqui Geisay, Sr. remark during the opening of the NOCAL 5-day capacity building workshop for the Judiciary on Monday, April 27, 2026.

“It is my honor to welcome you on behalf of the Judiciary to this very important workshop in oil and gas law and other areas of our concern for the Judiciary of Liberia.

Liberia stands at the threshold of a new era in its natural resources governance. As exploration activities advance and our petroleum sector grows, so too must the capacity of the institutions that protect the right of the state, investors, and our people. The courts cannot in mute the law but we must understand it fully if we are to interpret and apply the law justly.

This is why the collaboration between the Judiciary and the National Oil Company of Liberia (NOCAL) is both timely and strategic. NOCAL’s willingness to sponsor this training demonstrates a commendable recognition that a strong, knowledgeable and independent Judiciary is essential to build investors confidence and ensure that the benefits of our oil resources accrued to Liberia, present and future generations.

Distinguished ladies and gentlemen, over the next few days, you, Honorable Judges will engage in complex issues: petroleum contracts, production sharing agreements, environmental obligations, revenue management, dispute resolution, and the interplay between natural law and international best practices. The law in this area is technical and fast evolving, our duty as a Judiciary is to ensure that when these matters come before our courts, we are equipped to handle them with competence, impartiality and fidelity to the constitution. Let me be clear, this training does not compromise Judicial independence. Rather, it strengthens it, because a judge who understand subject matter cannot be misled by technical arguments and cannot be accuse of deciding in ignorance. Knowledge is the bed rock for impartiality.

To our partners at NOCAL, we thank you for the investment in the justice. To our resource person, we look forward to your expertise, to my learned colleague on the bench, I urge you to participate fully, question freely and take what you learn back to our courts for the good of the republic.

As Chief Justice, I am committed to continue Judicial education. The Law must not stand still while the world moves forward. Today, we take another step to ensure that the Judiciary of Liberia is ready for the opportunity and challenges of the petroleum era.

On that note, it is now my pleasure to declare this important Judicial Workshop on oil and gas law and other relevant areas of our concern officially open.

May God bless our deliberations and may God bless the Republic of Liberia.

Thank you!”

