



Embassy of the Central African Republic



Embassy of the Union of the Comoros

May 27, 2013

The Ambassador Plenipotentiary and Extraordinary of the Central African Republic to the United States

And

The Ambassador Plenipotentiary and Extraordinary of the Union of the Comoros to the United States

To

The Attorney General of Oregon, Ms. Ellen Rosenblum

The Oregon Higher Education Coordinating Commission, Ms. Betty Duvall

The Oregon Student Access Commission (OSAC), Mr. Bob Brew

With Copy to the US Department of State

Re: EUCLID (Pole Universitaire Euclide - Euclid University), notification of legal processes regarding Oregon ODA

Regarding the matter in reference, over the past 4 years, a least three foreign governments have communicated with the Oregon agency "Office of Degree Authorization" which appears to be an operation reduced to a single employee - [REDACTED] and which is now part of the Oregon Higher Education Coordinating Commission.

These formal communications by the authorized representatives of foreign governments have established that EUCLID (Euclid University) is (1) an international intergovernmental and treaty-based organization with degree-granting authority and academic accreditation, as well as a specific mandate and degree-granting charter in higher education (2) headquartered according to the rules of international law in Bangui (3) enjoying academic accreditation and a full member of the Association of African Universities.

In spite of the above, since 2008, ODA has maintained the entry "Euclid University" on its black list of "unaccredited" (now "unauthorized-invalid") degrees and institutions with the mention "ODA is currently evaluating the present legal status of this entity"¹ in open defiance of these statements and complaints filed by several governments (Document 01). This ongoing listing has legal consequences and affects the credibility of both this institution and our governments.

¹ <http://www.oregonstudentaid.gov/oda-degree-authorization-academic-unauthorized-Invalid.aspx>



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In 2011, this matter was the object of a communication to US Ambassador Susan Rice within the multilateral context of the United Nations (Document 02). In this context, no less than nine governments have to date formally certified EUCLID as an “international organization” and its *charta* as “governed by international law” to the United Nations to secure the registration of the university’s constitutive instruments in the United Nations Treaty Series, which is a process of international diplomacy endorsed by the United States under Article 102 of the UN Charter (Document 03).

In the process of investigating the actions of the ODA agency / administrator and to understand the reasons for this non-cooperation and non-compliance, EUCLID and now the Embassies of CAR and Comoros have retained the legal counsel of Mr. John Tollefsen.

According to the documents on file, we are dismayed that the ODA agency [REDACTED] having communicated by email to Mr. Tollefsen, has in writing characterized our educational systems as invalid, and our governments and officials as “misinformed, misguided, or corrupt” which is the entire grounds for such non-cooperation.² This offensive statement targets no less than one prime minister, several minister of foreign affairs, and three ministers of education.

In the light of the above, we have noted that ODA was previously rebuked in US federal court as having “violated the civil rights” of a plaintiff and for its “bias” (Document 04).

We are especially concerned that the ODA agency, with such a background, has on behalf of Oregon rejected and nullified the value or authority of official communications from accredited ambassadors to the United States (provided on the basis of reciprocity) and stated in the same communication that “we do not recognize ... “Official” letters of support from ambassadors... [or] treaties.”

In view of the above, our legal counsel has documented in his prepared filing that such actions can be only considered as a grave violation of US Federal law (notably under *Zschernig v. Miller*, 389 U.S. 429 (1968)) which prohibits such “an intrusion by the State into the field of foreign affairs” and such questioning the factual veracity and “credibility of foreign diplomatic statements.” Our legal counsel has also documented that the ODA [REDACTED] has failed to comply with Public Records statutes and that ODA is not in fact “currently evaluating the present legal status of this entity” as it has claimed since 2008 (Document 05).

² Email [REDACTED] dated October 21, 2011



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In addition, ODA [REDACTED] being misinformed or untrained, has wrongly concluded that non-inclusion of EUCLID in WHED implied non-recognition and failed to understand the basic fact that WHED is in IAU's list minus the international institutions (Document 06).

In December 2012, the United Nations issued letter clarifying the matter and formally stating that "both IAU/UNESCO and the UN Secretariat recognize Euclide- Pole Universitaire Euclide and the other four UN institutions you mentioned as being accredited" (Document 06).

Our inquiry has concluded that it is ODA's disruptive actions in the realm of foreign relations that is affecting the development of this institution and by secondary effect its ability to fully serve our governments and government-sponsored students as well, which by mandate include accredited diplomats serving in the United States, as reported to the Department of State. It is also because of ODA's international activism, which an internal investigation of the public records would fully document, that our governments have had at times to issue specific diplomatic statements to set the record straight (Document 07).

As documented, EUCLID does not, on its own accord, offer its programs to Oregon residents. The State of California has also certified *contra* ODA's claims that EUCLID's employment of staff or faculty in various states including California is fully compliant with applicable regulations. Likewise, the States of Maine and Michigan have been cooperative and updated their listings with courtesy after due process (Document 08).

After demonstrating such patient efforts towards Oregon ODA, and before filing our already prepared legal brief in Federal Court to seek due redress and full compensation, we are now making a last appeal to resolve this matter before June 27, which would entail giving immediate instructions to ODA [REDACTED] to cease and desist. We also request that OSAC, in view of the above and since ODA is no longer part of OSAC, cease to host the offending ODA list. We note that the ".gov" registry which is a Federal agency which has the authority to investigate and suspend the OSAC domain until this matter is settled under US Federal law.

In our current global context of tension and intolerance, EUCLID is an important institution that fosters inter-religious dialogue and that discharges its mission through the sovereign prerogative of its Participating States.



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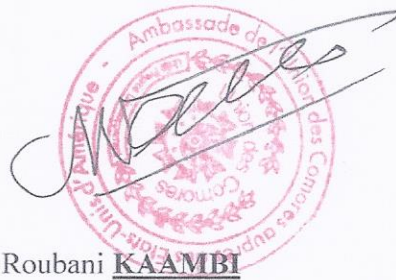
We therefore count on your diligence to promptly and permanent resolve this matter without having to resort to the scheduled legal filing, and we express the assurance of our sincere consideration.

Sincerely,



Stanislas MOUSSA-KEMBE
*Ambassador Extraordinary and
Plenipotentiary of the Central African
Republic*

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Copies: Ambassadors Niyonzima and (Burundi); Legal Counsel John Tollefsen; [REDACTED]