

Ambassador Mohamed TOIHIRI, PhD

Professional Address:
Permanent Mission of the Union of Comoros
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HIGHLIGHTS :

- Ambassador of the Comoros to the United Nations and the United States since 2007
- Coordinator of the French-speaking Ambassadors for Peacekeeping
- Proven administrative and managerial experience in budget-sensitive environments
- Conversant with strategic international issues, such as Climate Change, United Nations reform and inter-religious dialogue
- Extensive academic and professional experience internationally, both as faculty member and administrator
- Prepared complex official documents, reports and presentation
- Recognized specialist of modern Francophone literature
- *Chevalier de la Légion d'Honneur (highest decoration of the French Republic)*

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

RECENTLY (2002-2010):

- Ambassador to the United Nations, to the United States / Canada / Cuba (representing the government of the Union of the Comoros), since 2007 – current. Also served as Coordinator of Francophone Ambassadors for Peacekeeping in New York. In this capacity, I:
 - Developed excellent and constructive relations with key partners and VIPs
 - Attended high level meetings worldwide and international negotiations
 - Manage staff and interns; Approved intergovernmental agreements
 - Engaged in fund-raising and capacity-building projects
 - Oversaw communications, both in print and online
- Professor at the University of Comoros, in charge of the French Literature chair, including Negro-African, Maghreb, Antilles and Indian Ocean Literature, (2004-2007). Visiting Lecturer in French at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor (2002-2004).

PREVIOUSLY:

- Served as Professor of Francophone French Indian Ocean literature in College and Trainer of teaching Advisors: Indian Ocean literature (Madagascar, Comoros, Maurice, Seychelles, Réunion), (2001-2002). Academic Inspector of High School teachers. General Director of college level, technical and professional teaching for the government of the Comoros, (1998-2001). French Teacher and Researcher at the *Institut Supérieur de Formation et de Recherche*, Comoros. Teacher and researcher at the *Institut de Formation des Enseignants et de Recherche en Education*, Comoros, (1994-1998). Teacher and moderator at the Indian Region Francophone center in Antananarivo, Madagascar. (1900s).
- Director of Customer and Public Relations, TDK and Sony, Paris, (1988-1989).
- Director of National Education, Comoros. Course organization and assignments, organization of national exams for all the secondary schools in the Comoros, (1984-1985).

EDUCATION

- Ph.D. in Modern French literature, University of Bordeaux, France.
- **Trained as a Educational Inspector** at *l'Ecole Supérieure du Personnel d'Encadrement du Ministère de l'Education Nationale* (Academy of Paris, 1997-1998)
- *Diplôme d'Études Approfondies* (D.E.A) in Literature, University of Bordeaux.
- Master of Arts in Communication, University of Bordeaux.
- Master of Arts in French Literature, University of Bordeaux.

OTHER ACHIEVEMENTS

- Received several fellowship awards from the *Coopération Française*
- Published several award-winning novels and plays, such as *La République des Imberbes*
- Author and presented of scholarly and academic articles at international conferences
- Served as Editor in chief of *Le Comorien*, the sole newspaper available intended for the overseas Comorians (1990-1992) and as Cultural Director of Radio Comoros
- Consultant for **UNICEF** and **WHO**, Comoros
- Current and former Board Member for several organizations internationally

LANGUAGES

French (native speaker), **Comorian** (native speaker), **English** (fluent), **Swahili** (basic skills), **Arabic** (intermediate writing and reading, with ongoing studies to improve oral skills), **Malagasy** (fluent).