

Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research
Ministry of International Affairs
Ministry in charged of the Economy and Finance

Republic of Cote D'Ivoire
Union-Discipline-Work

**DECREE 2007-477 OF MAY 16, 2007 ABOUT THE
CREATION, ALLOCATIONS, ORGANIZATION
AND OPERATIONS OF THE INTERNATIONAL
UNIVERSITY OF GRAND-BASSAM (UIGB)**

The President of the Republic

On a joint report of the Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research, the Minister of International Affairs and the Minister in charged of the Economy and Finance

Considering The Constitution,

Considering The Agreement Protocol, signed on October 11, 1998, between the Republic of Cote D'Ivoire and Georgia State University regarding the creation of an International University;

Considering The Provision added to the Agreement Protocol, signed on December 5, 1998, between the Republic of Cote D'Ivoire and Georgia State University regarding the creation of an International University;

Considering The Accord de Siege (location agreement), signed on July 23, 2002, between the Republic of Cote D'Ivoire and the Agency of Education and Development (AED);

Considering The Law 95-696 of September 7, 1995 regarding teaching;

Considering The Decree 2007-456 of April 7, 2007 about the Government members' appointment;

Considering The Decree 2007-458 of April 20, 2007 about the Government members' competencies;

Considering The October 6, 1999 letter of the Congress Representatives' Chamber of the United States to Mr. Bradley Anderson, Administrator of the USAID;

Decree

General Provisions

Article 1: An international university is created and named International University of Grand-Bassam (UIGB), institute of a special higher education in agreement of:

- The Agreement protocol of October 11, 1998 between the Republic of Cote D'Ivoire and Georgia State University,
- The Accord de Siege between the Republic of Cote D'Ivoire and the Agency of Education and Development (AED), in charged of the UIGB project, in Line 2, Article 2 of the Agreement of Siege.

Article 2: The International University of Grand-Bassam is headquartered in Grand-Bassam.

Competencies

Article 3: The International University of Grand-Bassam is in charged of:

- The reinforcement of skills and the promotion of excellence throughout the region
- The teaching experience according to the L.M.D (Licence, Masters, Doctorate) system following the American model with English as the main teaching language;
- The opening of the West African region to the developed countries' most well trained technicians;
- The integration and opening Cote D'Ivoire to the rest of the world;
- The diversification of the Ivorian culture.

Article 4: the International University of Grand-Bassam has a higher personality and financial autonomy.

Organization, Operations and Mandate:

Board of Directors:

Article 5: The UIGB is segmented in the following:

- a) The Board of Directors
- b) The Presidency of the International University (UIGB)

The UIGB is directed by an independent Board of Directors whose members are well known personalities for their high morale qualities and competencies, especially in different sectors including public life, business, finance, education or sciences.

The Board of Directors has the most extended power in portraying the Government of Cote D'Ivoire and Georgia State University's vision to create a regional institution of higher education and reference in Cote D'Ivoire.

The Board of Directors is constituted of twenty (20) members appointed as follows:

- Four (4) members representing the Republic of Cote D'Ivoire, from the:
 - Cabinet of the Prime Minister
 - Ministry of higher education
 - Ministry of international Affairs
 - Ministry in charged of the Economy and Finance
- Two (2) members representing AED
- One (1) member representing Georgia State University
- Four (4) members representing the partners Council
- Four (4) members representing the Private Sector including:
 - The foreign Private Sector (2)
 - The local Private Sector (2)
- Four (4) members, designated for their high personality and reference
- The President of the UIGB

The President of the International University is part of the Board of Directors without any special deliberation power.

Operations and Mandate

Article 6: The first Board of Directors meeting of the UIGB is named by a joint decree of the Minister of higher education, the Minister of International affairs and the Minister in charged of the Economy and Finance, after Georgia State University and AED agreements, for a four-year mandate (for the personalities of reference).

The renewal of the administrators' (directors) mandate or the appointment of new members, of a maximum of twenty members of the board, is made by the board of directors, which elects its members (the personalities of reference) for a four-year mandate. The board members can be reelected.

In case of any incapability due to illness, resignation, death of one of the administrators (personalities of reference), the others have the power to appoint an interim for the remainder of the mandate.

The board members representing the Republic of Cote D'Ivoire and the different groups in the Article 5 above would be replaced by their structures if they are called to other positions and become unable to continue their current position in the board of directors.

The board meets at least once a year, in ordinary session, after the President convening and in extraordinary session if necessary.

The convening, including the agenda, are mailed to the administrators or brought to their acknowledgement as a notice in a journal of legal announcements, at least fifteen (15) days before the meeting. In case of emergency, this deadline can be reduced to three (3) days.

The administrator participates to the meeting physically, through electronic means or through a presentation.

Each administrator can be represented by another administrator.

Participation to the meeting through electronic means is done through videoconference, telephone, internet conferences, and through any other electronic means. In this case, the administrator can vote using any available means of communication.

The quorum for the board of directors' meeting represents half of the board body in addition to one other member.

The deliberations of the board are made at the simple majority of the present or represented members' votes.

In case of a tie, president's vote is predominant.

The report of the board meetings, signed by the president and the board secretary, are kept in a special register at the UIGB headquarter.

The copies and extracts of all the meeting reports are certified by the president.

Article 7: The functions of board members are not remunerated.

However, some expenses encountered by the administrators during their missions for UIGB can be reimbursed in the board of directors' established conditions.

The board of directors elects a bureau composed of:

- A president
- A vice-president
- A treasurer

The board of directors is assisted in its mission by a bureau secretariat and a council of partners.

The members of the Bureau's council are elected by the administrators for a four-year mandate. They are eligible for reelection, and their functions are not remunerated.

En case of a recall of the elected members of the Bureau among the administrators representing the Republic of Cote D'Ivoire and the above structures, some new elections will be organized after the nomination of the replacing administrators.

The President of board of directors convenes and sets the agenda for the board meetings that he presides.

He ensures the execution of the UIGB vision and is responsible for the execution of the board of directors' decisions.

He appreciates the evolution of the UIGB and regularly informs the group of partners of the progress of the International University.

The Vice President of the Board of directors assists the President in his functions and replaces him in case of absence.

He can receive, from the President, the delegation of power for some specific missions.

The Treasurer supervises the financial businesses of the UIGB.

He prepares the financial report to be submitted to the board of director's approval.

The Bureau Secretariat of the board of the UIGB is responsible before the council and the partners for applying the decision of the board.

The bureau secretariat coordinates the administrative activities of the board of directors.

Under request of the President of the Board, the bureau secretariat convenes the administrators to the board meetings.

The Bureau secretariat is comprised of two sections: the Administration and the Development.

- The administrative section is directed by an Administrative Secretary who plays the roles of the secretary of the Board of Directors and the assistant of the President of the Board.

The Administrative secretary ensures the secretarial work of the board of directors meetings and writes all the reports of the meetings that he co-signs with the President of the board. The Administrative secretary ensures the current management of the bureau secretariat.

- The development section is directed by a director of development suggested by Georgia State University. The Director of Development, in liaison with the presidency of the International University and AED, develops strategies for funds research in order to further develop the UIGB. He works in collaboration with the treasurer for financial matters.

Article 8: The Council of Partners is a consultative and technical support division of the board of directors for meeting the objectives of the UIGB.

It is composed of the embassies of friend countries and the international organizations which have shown interest in sustaining the development of the International University.

It meets at least once a year with the Board of Directors of the UIGB for some exchange on questions regarding the development and the governance of the International University.

The Council of Partners examines the multi-annual development plan of the International University and gets all the financial and material resources to meet the UIGB needs.

The Council of Partners is headed by the President of the Board of Directors of the UIGB. It determines its rules of internal operations.

Presidency of the UIGB

Article 9: the Presidency of the International University is an independent division of the Board of Directors. It is headed by the President of the UIGB, recruited by the Board of Directors.

The President of the UIGB, empowered by the Board of Directors, is the Chief of the administration of the International University.

The President of the International University sets the academic calendar and provides all the certificates and diplomas.

He recruits the Provost, the teaching body of the UIGB and the staff with the agreement of the board of directors, under the same technical conditions as the ones at Georgia State University.

The Board has to approve all the activities reports of the President regarding the administrative and financial management of the International University.

The President of the UIGB prepares the annual budget that he submits to the board of directors for approval.

In absence of the President, the interim is assured by provost of the International University.

The different stages of the UIGB administration are clearly defined with details of job requirements and responsibilities, in the internal regulations of the International University.

Financial provisions, budget, account control –audit and privileges:

Resources and expenses

Article 10: The UIGB resources are constitutes by:

- Voluntary contributions
- Legacy and donations of any kind
- Annual subsidies from the Republic of Cote D'Ivoire whose amount is determined by the financial provisions
- Subsidies from countries partners, international financial institutions, local collectivities, public institutes, foundations and private enterprises

- Income from sales of publications and contracts signed by the UIGB and third parties
- Income from the tuition at the UIGB

The UIGB's expenses are constitutes of the operations and investments expenses, incurred in accordance with the budget.

Budget

The Board of Directors votes the budget of the UIGB for every budgetary exercise.

The International University establishes an annual budget proposal submitted to the board of directors for approval.

The budget proposal includes the operations and investments budget. The board of directors allocates the corresponding resources to each budget section.

The UIGB is required to provide a financial statement that meets international norms and annually shows an operating account, a result (bottom line) account and a balance sheet.

Accounts Control - Audit

Article 11: An audit of the UIGB's accounts would be regularly conducted by an accounting firm selected by the board of directors.

Privileges

Article 12: The UIGB is pedagogically joined to Georgia State University (USA) and benefits from tax privileges and other immunities provided by the Accord de Siege between the Government of the Republic of Cote D'Ivoire and AED.

Final provisions

Article 13: Each of the Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research, the Minister of International Affairs and the Minister in charged of the Economy and Finance is required to execute the present decree which will be published in the Official Journal of the Republic of Cote D'Ivoire.

Done in Abidjan, on May 16, 2007

Certified Copy in accordance with the original
The Secretary General of the Government

Laurent Ghagbo