UNIVERSITY OF BUEA

REPUBLIC OF CAMEROON

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UNESCO CHAIR IN SPECIAL NEEDS EDUCATION Chair Holder: Professor Therese Mungah Shalo Tchombe

Your Ref: Our Ref: No: 2025/010/UB/UNESCO/AA

MEMO

From: The UNESCO Chair Holder

To: - Dean/FED

> - Dean/Faculty of Science - Dean/Faculty of Arts

Collaboration with the UtahValley University

The UNESCO Chair in Special Needs Education, at the University of Buea is considering a proposal for collaboration from the Utah Valley University in the United States of America with the University of Buea, Cameroon. This partnership is being coordinated by the UNESCO Chair in Special Needs Education at University of Buea and UNESCO Chair on AI and Environmental Stewardship for Sustainable Futures Utah Valley University. The Chair in Utah Valley University has five objectives as follows:

- > Implement AI-driven adaptive learning systems to enhance student engagement, personalize learning, and improve course completion rates.
- > Integrate sustainability education into curricula, support student-led initiatives, and foster K-12 partnerships for ecological impact.
- Foster global partnerships with Global South institutions for intercultural dialogue, collaborative research, and enriching exchange programs.
- > Provide faculty with AI tools and sustainability training to enhance teaching and drive innovation in education.
- Cooperate closely with UNESCO, other UNESCO Chairs and UNITWIN Networks on relevant programs and activities.

The UNESCO Chair in Special Needs Education at the University of Buea, given her engagement and interest in the use of Assistive Technology and other equipment will benefit from the collaboration with Utah Valley University especially with the use of AI to provide Most Enabling Learning Environments, as well as enhance rehabilitation and clinical interventions. The AVICENNA Learning Centre at the Chair in Buea will be a focal point for the promotion of ethical practices in the use of AI teaching, learning and research at the University of Buea. As such, given the dominance of Artificial Intelligence in the world today, the Chair will benefit enormously through research and capacity building for the use of AI in fostering best inclusive practices.

By this Memo, we are therefore soliciting that the Deans should identify possible areas/disciplines in their faculties for collaboration with The Chair in Utah Valley. The Departments should highlight specific interest areas and provide specific orientations to facilitate the drafting of the Memorandum of Understanding for this partnership for the appraisal and signing by the two University Heads.

We remain grateful for your prompt reaction.

Professor Emeritus Therese M. S. Tchombe

UNESCO Chair Holder