

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**  
**BETWEEN**  
**MINISTRY OF BASIC AND SECONDARY EDUCATION (MoBSE)**  
**AND**  
**ISLAMIC ONLINE UNIVERSITY (IOU)**

PREAMBLE

- Whereas the Ministry of Basic and Secondary Education has responsibility for the articulation and implementation of education policies and programmes;
- Realising that the present education policy requires strategies that are more global in concepts and application, and more imaginative in the mobilization of resources;
- Recognising that there are various educational programmes being promoted or implemented by various agencies in support of Government's efforts;
- Being aware that other organizations do contribute significantly to the development of education in The Gambia;
- Concerned about the existence of duplications, and contradictions in the strategies and focus of the various education programmes, being implemented by NGOs and some private operators;
- Recognising the need for the effective co-ordination of the overall educational efforts in this country;
- Being aware of the specific need to promote partnership based on an active dialogue and interaction between the Ministry of Basic and Secondary Education and Partner Organizations, in the promotion and development of education;
- Therefore, this memorandum seeks to establish a co-operative relationship between the Ministry of Basic and Secondary Education of the Government of The Gambia and the **Islamic Online University (IOU)** working in The Gambia.

## PART II

Based on the common desire to develop education through increased access, promotion of educational relevance and equity - the Ministry of Basic and Secondary Education and the **Islamic Online University (IOU)** have agreed to establish a co-operative arrangement for the mutual benefit of both parties.

In this connection the obligations of the parties under the cooperative arrangement provided by the Memorandum shall be as follows:

### ON THE ONE PART

1. The Ministry of Basic and Secondary Education shall create the necessary policy environment, which will be characterised by transparency and accountability for the effective participation of **Islamic Online University (IOU)** in the development of education in The Gambia.
2. The Ministry of Basic and Secondary Education through its subsidiary structures (Regional Education Directorates, school system etc) shall identify critical needs for consideration and funding by **Islamic Online University (IOU)**.
3. The Ministry of Basic and Secondary Education through its subsidiary structures shall ensure the proper utilization of resources provided by **Islamic Online University (IOU)** and **Islamic Online University (IOU)** shall maintain proper records of how such resources are used for inspection.
4. The Ministry of Basic and Secondary Education shall through Parent-Teacher Associations ensure that the desired community participation is maintained.
5. The Ministry of Basic and Secondary Education through its Subsidiary structure and the school system shall make technical assistance available to **Islamic Online University (IOU)** whenever necessary;
6. The Ministry of Basic and Secondary Education shall, through its subsidiary structures, facilitate the acquisition of such things like duty waivers and land for educational purpose, where **appropriate and possible**.



## **B. ON THE OTHER PART**

1. The **Islamic Online University (IOU)** shall cooperate with the Ministry of Basic and Secondary Education through consultation with its respective directorates, Regional Directorates and Officers;
2. The **Islamic Online University (IOU)** shall negotiate a programme of activities, which clearly indicates scope of its interventions in education ***per region*** and the ***duration of such interventions***;
3. The **Islamic Online University (IOU)** shall in collaboration with the Ministry of Basic and Secondary Education Regional Directorates establish a transparent record system for all financial transactions relating to its inputs into the school system which shall be made available to the authorized agents of the two collaborating partners at all times;
4. The **Islamic Online University (IOU)** shall furnish the Ministry of Basic and Secondary Education with a detailed report of its activities including **budget and outcome not later than end of September each year** and also upon request by the Minister of Education;
5. The **Islamic Online University (IOU)** shall inform the Ministry of Basic and Secondary Education at least six months in advance of the premature termination of assistance to schools that have been mutually agreed and in so doing indicating reason for termination.

In particular, **Islamic Online University (IOU)** will:

- a. The **Islamic Online University (IOU)** will run the **Intensive English Course (IEC)**, **Intensive Mathematics Course (IMC)**, **Intensive Science Course (ISC)** and **Intensive Social Studies Course (ISSC)** specially designed for **Madrasah students** under the supervision and sponsorship of the Ministry of Basic and Secondary Education.
- b. The **Islamic Online University (IOU)** will provide **TESL teacher training** and **practicum supervision** for the **IEC Teaching Assistants (TA's)** to be certified by the Ministry of Basic and Secondary Education upon their review and assessment.

c. The Islamic Online University (IOU) will offer its 4-year Professional Degree in Education (PDE) to provide qualifications for junior and senior secondary school teachers in education, school management and WAEC syllabuses for both conventional schools and Madrasahs. This will be done through the supervision and sponsorship of the Ministry of Basic and Secondary Education.

d. The Islamic Online University (IOU) will offer its 1-year Diploma in Education Administration and Supervision for Madrasah administrators with the supervision and sponsorship of the Ministry of Basic and Secondary Education.

e. The Islamic Online University (IOU) will offer any additional IOU courses in The Gambia (not stated here) after meeting and reaching an agreement with the Ministry of Basic and Secondary Education (a separate agreement document will need to be signed) This and all or any other courses ran by the Islamic Online University (IOU) in The Gambia (after an agreement with the Ministry of Basic and Secondary Education) will be done under the supervision and sponsorship of the Ministry of Basic and Secondary Education.

### PART III - GUIDING CLAUSES

In accordance with the spirit and obligations mutually agreed upon the following shall serve as operational guidelines to the agreed partnership.

**Clause:** 1. All applications to the Islamic Online University (IOU) for assistance to the school system shall be submitted through the relevant subsidiary Office for appraisal.

**Clause:** 2. Islamic Online University (IOU) school based activities shall be managed by the Islamic Online University (IOU) with assistance from Head Teachers through Parent Teacher Associations and shall be subject to the supervision of the Regional Education Directorates.

**Clause:** 3. The Relevant subsidiary Offices of the Ministry of Basic and Secondary Education in collaboration with the Islamic Online University (IOU) shall provide technical back stopping to the Parent / Teacher Associations implementing Islamic Online University (IOU) sponsored projects to ensure that they take rational decisions.



**Clause:** 4. Joint consultation meetings between the Relevant Education Officers and the **Islamic Online University (IOU)** shall be held twice a year between November and April.

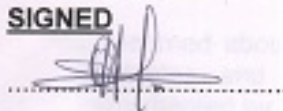
**Clause:** 5. Joint reviews / evaluation meetings between the relevant subsidiary Offices and the **Islamic Online University (IOU)** shall be held not later than one month after the submission of the report.

**Clause:** 6. This Agreement shall be in force for a period of three years and is subject to review and renewal.

**Clause:** 7. Either party may terminate this Agreement upon giving at least **180 days notice in writing to the other party.**

**Clause:** 8. Effective Date of Operation:  
This agreement shall be effective after having been duly signed by representatives of both parties.

**SIGNED**



**OUSAINOU ALLEN**  
COUNTRY REPRESENTATIVE  
ISLAMIC ONLINE UNIVERSITY

DATE

30/4/2015



**SIGNED**



**PERMANENT SECRETARY**  
MINISTRY OF BASIC AND SECONDARY  
EDUCATION

DATE

16/06/15

