



EDUCATIONAL CO-OPERATION AGREEMENT

Between the Academy of Martinique
and
the Ministry of Education and Human Resource Development of the
Commonwealth of Dominica

With the support of the
French Embassy to the O.E.C.S. Member State and
the Alliance Française de la Dominique



Between the undersigned:

The Academy of Martinique, represented by Mr. André Siganos, Rector of the Academy,
Chancellor of Université Antilles-Guyane, Director of Departmental Education Services,

And

The Ministry of Education and Human Resource Development and Labour, represented by
Honourable Petter SAINT-JEAN

With the support of

The French Ambassador to the O.E.C.S. Member States, resident in Saint Lucia, His
Excellency Michel PROM,

And

The Alliance Française de la Dominique represented by Mr. Antoine RAFOUL, its President;

Considering the interest to develop and organise partnership initiatives in the area of
educational co-operation between the establishments, teaching staff and students of the
French Overseas Department of Martinique, on the one hand, and the Commonwealth of
Dominica, on the other, within a favourable framework of geographic, historical, cultural and
linguistic proximity, and desirous of giving substance to this partnership,

It has been agreed:

Article 1: Purpose

The current agreement aims to specify the scope and the objectives of the educational co-
operation initiatives targeted in Article 2, as well as the obligations and the resources to be
made available by each signatory in order to support these initiatives during the period: **1st
January 2013 to 31 December 2013.**

Article 2: Scope

2.1. Physical and virtual mobility of teachers and students

The two parties aim to give a new dynamic to teacher and student exchanges between the
two territories. They have expressed their shared desire to develop “learner mobility”, both
physically and virtually, at all levels of the education system.

In light of this, they are committed to encouraging the establishment of partnerships between schools and teaching teams from the two territories in order to organise immersion language programmes for primary and secondary school students. The primary school tours will be based on the discovery class model and will be accompanied by a team of bilingual teachers. For the secondary level, these will take the form of school tours or training programmes whose organisational arrangements will be subject to the statutory instruments specific to each party's education system.

In order to reinforce the authentic use of the language, the two parties will encourage distance exchanges through Information and Communications Technologies. This virtual mobility will permit teachers and students alike to prepare their physical mobility project, to keep in touch during the trip and to make the exchanges durable.

2.2. Linguistic Perfection for Teachers

The two parties agree to set up a partnership for teacher exchanges. The objectives of this partnership are to:

- Contribute to the development of the teaching of French in the Commonwealth of Dominica, and, reciprocally, to encourage the improvement of the teaching/learning of English in Martinique ;
- Encourage the linguistic perfection of teachers from Martinique in order that they be able to provide, upon return to the Academy, quality enhanced English classes, particularly in the oral component, and, reciprocally, that of Dominican teachers for quality enhanced teaching of French upon return to their respective territories;
- Give students from Martinique the opportunity to receive instruction from English-speaking teachers in the Caribbean, and, reciprocally, the Dominican students, instruction from a native French;
- Strengthen the international exposure offered by schools ;
- Create favourable conditions to teacher and student mobility.

At the primary and the secondary levels, professional exchanges will be offered to teachers for a one-year period in which teachers will substitute each other in the partner territories, and/or for short-term trips for English or French teachers and of a non-linguistic background will also be encouraged and facilitated.

The Academy of Martinique will help finding funds for these exchanges through regional, local and/or European programmes.

2.3. Provision of information relative to training programmes offered

With the assistance of the *Office National d'Information sur les Enseignements et les Professions (ONISEP)*, the Academy of Martinique promises to develop information campaigns intended for its Dominican counterparts on the listings of possible Post A-Level study opportunities offered.

Article 3: Signatory Contributions

The four signatories of this agreement will lend their support to the co-operation initiatives described in Article 2 by mobilising the following structures and personnel:

The Academy of Martinique will:

- 1) mobilise the relevant departments in the areas of primary and secondary education, information and orientation services for students and international relations within the local education authority;
- 2) organise exchange programmes and twinning of schools, classes, students and teachers in collaboration with the other Semi-Autonomous Regions, *where both parties will get the opportunity to visit and participate in classroom activities for at least a one week period*;
- 3) entrust the design and administration of digital platform with areas for the development of shared resources in French and English ; and for training and sharing best practices online, in order to provide support for the twinning programmes and language exchanges to the *Centre Régional de Documentation Pédagogique (CRDP)* of the Academy of Martinique;

The Ministry of Education and Human Resource Development (Commonwealth of Dominica) will:

- 1) mobilise the relevant departments and staff within the Ministry in order to support, manage and evaluate the common initiatives previously cited;
- 2) promote the teaching of French in primary and secondary schools island-wide as well as the initial and in-service training of French teachers;
- 3) *organise exchange programmes and twinning of schools, classes, students and teachers, where both parties will get the opportunity to visit and participate in classroom activities for at least a one week period*;
- 4) implement the necessary mechanisms to facilitate the transmission of information to students and their families about possible higher education programmes offered in Martinique.

The French Embassy to the O.E.C.S. Member States, through its Department of Co-operation and Culture will:

- 1) ensure the monitoring of the current agreement with the assistance of the relevant local education authorities in Martinique and the Commonwealth of Dominica; and will facilitate the implementation of the educational co-operation initiatives undertaken therein;
- 2) ensure the coherence of the initiatives with those undertaken within the framework of the Embassy's Plan of Action and by the other partners (the other Semi-Autonomous Regions) in regional co-operation;
- 3) support, as much as it can, mobility between the two territories (subventions, scholarships, mobilisation of funds for regional co-operation).

The Alliance Française de la Dominique will :

- 1) Enable and facilitate the implementation of co-operation initiatives in the Commonwealth of Dominica and the relations with the relevant education departments in Martinique
- 2) Host students and teachers from Martinique, collaborate with DAREIC (International and Cooperation desk) in order to foster partnerships between schools (select Dominiquan schools for virtual and physical exchanges, organise boarding and lodging, training locations etc...)

Article 4: Responsibility and Monitoring of the Agreement

The Rector of the Academy of Martinique, the Minister for Education in the Commonwealth of Dominica, The French Ambassador to the O.E.C.S. Member States in Saint Lucia and the President of the Alliance Française de la Dominique are responsible for the execution of the current agreement.

A monitoring committee comprising the signatories of the current agreement or their delegates/agents will be put in place and will meet at least biannually in order to carry mid-term and end of term evaluations of the initiatives as well as to outline an action plan for the following year should the agreement be renewed.

Article 5: Modification

The current agreement can be modified by a freely negotiated endorsement between the concerned parties.

In case of nonfulfilment by one of the parties of one or more of the commitments, the current agreement could be cancelled by one of the parties by registered letter with acknowledgement of receipt sent to other parties.

Article 6: Length

The current agreement will take effect from 1st January 2013, for a one year period, and will end on 31st September 2013. It is renewable, annually, by an explicit decision of renewal, subject to a positive assessment of the initiatives and the availability of the resources committed by the signatories.

Signed in Bellefontaine, Friday, January 18th 2013
(in four original copies, one for each signatory)

On behalf of the Academy of Martinique,
Rector of the Academy,
Chancellor of the University,
Director of Departmental Education Services



André SIGANOS

On behalf of the Ministry of Education and
Human Resource Development of the
Commonwealth of Dominica,
Honourable Minister



Petter SAINT-JEAN

On behalf of the French Embassy
to the O.E.C.S. Member States in Saint Lucia,
His Excellency

Michel PROM

On behalf of Alliance Française
de la Dominique,
President

Antoine RAFOUL