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REPUBLIC OF CAMEROON *Peace – Work – Fatherland*

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ANNOUNCEMENT

Following the fourth session of the Postgraduate School Scientific Council of the University of Dschang

The fourth session of the Postgraduate School (PS) Scientific Council (SC) of the University of Dschang (UDs) was held on October 8, 2019. The session was devoted to the selection process of candidates for the Master II and Doctorate/PhD programs as well as some issues related to the functioning of the PS. In his introductory speech the President of the SC, Prof. Roger Tsafack Nanfosso, congratulated the university community for its decisive involvement in the successful launch of the 2019/2020 academic year. He said the PS admitted 2489 new students last year and revealed that 2257 Masters and 197 Doctorate/PhD thesis have been defended. Prof. Tsafack Nanfosso recommended for the ongoing academic year, among others things, the finalization of the research file in the various *Dschang Schools*, the consolidation of the computer database and the coordination of the activities of the PS structures.

The session was held in the spirit of continuous improvement of the training offered in the Master's and Doctorate / PhD programs. Intense debates involving 31 board members and invitees at the SC were confronted with the issue of the strict application of admission criteria as a pledge of fairness to applicants. Board members particularly emphasized the institutional supervision capacity and academic performance of students. The proposals of the 06 *Dschang Schools* were scrutinized under the landmarks of the quality approach in the selection process. In total, 2891 applications were examined, including 1552 for the Research Master II, 659 for the Professional Master II and 680 for the Doctorate / PhD. The laying out of the files examined was being done urgently in the *Dschang Schools* and the list of candidates authorized to register in the post graduate school will be published as soon as possible.

Other issues examined included the inability of some students to continue their studies. The Dschang Schools proposed the annulment of the registration of 229 candidates who no longer meet the postgraduate study requirements. The question of the ultimate impediment of certain thesis supervisors was also discussed. It was recommended in this case the systematic administrative regularization of the change of the thesis supervisors or, as the case may be, the allocation of a co-supervisor for the continuation of the procedure in case the work was completed. The members of the SC also refreshed their memory on the generalization of the application, from the year 2019/2020, of the publication conditions of at least a scientific article before the defense. Finally, a framework for drafting the theses expertise was drawn up.

The Council concluded with the resolution to effectively launch pedagogic activities in Levels V and VI on 15 October 2019, in accordance with the provisions of the 2019/2020 Academic Calendar of the University of Dschang