

Ref: MUC/LUP/Vol. 1/237 of 1990  
**FEDERAL MINISTRY OF EDUCATION  
AND YOUTH DEVELOPMENT**

EVALUATION AND ACCREDITATION BRANCH

FEDERAL SECRETARIAT, PHASE II, IKOYI, LAGOS

When replying, please quote earlier reference



Ref. No. FHE/S/212/Vol. IX/305

Date 1st June, 1994

P. M. B. No. 12573

Telegrams SECEUCATE

Telephone 616170

The Executive Secretary  
National Universities Commission  
Plot 430 Aguiyi Ironsi Street  
Maitama District  
Abuja

**NON-RECOGNITION OF DEGREES OF FOREIGN INSTITUTIONS  
AFTER COURSES RUN IN NIGERIA**

The Federal Ministry of Education and Youth Development has noted with concern the activities of commercial enterprises and non-governmental institutions and organisations which claim to be affiliated to foreign institutions of higher learning and which purportedly run degree programmes of the foreign institutions. Examples are theological and Islamic institutions located around the country and, lately, commercial enterprises which are registered with the Corporate Affairs Commission to conduct general business.

2. You would recall that as long ago as 1979 the National Universities Commission ruled that such activities were illegal and sent a circular in this vein to all concerned. This ministry supported this stand.

3. The implication of this policy is that the Federal Government does not recognise degrees and other certificates awarded by foreign universities after courses run by Non-Governmental Nigerian institutions or commercial enterprises. This is irrespective of whether or not the foreign institutions to which they are affiliated are accredited. It is the case, however, that where the affiliation is with Nigerian universities, the degrees awarded by the Nigerian universities to students of Non-Governmental Institution are recognised.

4. It is our view that the Education (National Minimum Standards And Establishment of Institutions) Amendment Decree 1993 does not change this position; because by the decree, private institutions have to go through laid down procedures before they can be approved to operate as universities.

5. I am directed to request you to take necessary measures to stop the proliferation of non-governmental institutions which run degree programmes leading to the award of degrees of foreign universities. We would like to be informed of action taken by you in due course.