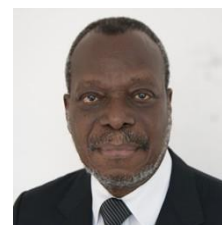


Robert S.M. Dossou

Lawyer at Benin Bar Association
Former President of Benin Bar Association



Date and place of birth : May 13th , 1939 at COVE , BENIN
Marital Status : 3 children and 4 grandchildren.

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

1952-1959 : Lycée Victor BALLOT in PORTO-NOVO (BENIN)

June 1959 : Baccalauréat : Philosophy

Higher Education: Universities of Bordeaux and Paris. (France)

Auditor at the academy of International Law (The Hague 1963)

DIPLOMAS

- Diplôme de l'Institut d'Etudes Politiques de Bordeaux (June 1962).
- Licence en Droit Public (Paris June 1964)
- Certificat d'Aptitude à la Profession d'Avocat (Paris 1965).
- DES de Droit Public (Paris March 1966).
- DES de Droit Privé (Paris March 1968).
- DES de Sciences Criminelles (Paris March 1968).

EXPERIENCE

SCIENTIFIC AND EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

I- FRANCE (PARIS)

December 1st. 1968 - September 30th, 1973: Assistant lecturer at the faculty of law and economics of University de Paris and then at the University de Paris I.

POSITIONS HELD

- Sets of broadcast teachings for International Institutions as well as financial and fiscal law
- Various workshops (international Public Law, International Institutions, major political and legal problems facing the THIRD WORLD countries)
- Teaching staff assistant coordinator
- Research in the International law data processing laboratory:
Card index for data processing ; in charge of the drafting of the texts for sets of book entitled " Recueil Général des Traités de la France " under the supervision of Professor Roger PINTO (

published from 1976 by " la documentation française " in the collection "Travaux et Recherches de l'Université de Paris I". Computer Department for International law).

- 1970-1972 : Elected Member of the Technical Commission of Centre Audio-Visuel des Universités de Paris.

II- BENIN : SINCE 8TH OCTOBER 1973

- Various teaching at the Faculty of Juridical, Economical and Political Sciences (FASJEP) in the " Université Nationale du BENIN"as well as in Ecole Nationale d'Administration (constitutional law ,International Public Law , Fiscal Law; maritime Law; private judiciary Law; measures of execution ; Major current Law practising systems ; international contracts, international arbitration and civil law)
- 1974-1978: teaching staff representative in the University Board
- 1976-1978: Head of the Law Teaching Section in the Faculty
- 1983 : Initiator for Human Rights teaching in the Faculty
- Visiting expert of the International Development Law Institute (IDLO) (Roma, since 1985. Assignments for works contracts, financing and international arbitration, judiciary reform in Africa).
- Course of Banking Litigation, especially the enforcement procedures concerning banking securities (Concepts, procedures and practical training). (Institut Technique de Banque Cycle supérieur- Centre de Cotonou.)

III - OTHER SCIENTIFIC ACTIVITIES

- Member of the scientific committee in charge of the publication of Africa' s encyclopaedia on law (Nouvelles Editions Africaines)
- Correspondent Member of the drafting committee of "Revue Internationale de Droit contemporain" (Brussels).
- OAU legal expert for the drafting of the Convention on Mercenary activities (1977)
- 1979-1980: Expert- consultant to U.N. Economic Commission for Africa (Environmental Law and Nature protection)
- Correspondent Member of the scientific committee for the Centre of the International Democratic Lawyers' association
- 1983-1985 : Member of the Executive Committee of the African Association of Political Sciences
- Founding Member of the African Association for international law (created in Lusaka in April 1986). President of the Association since October 2012 (Re-launching Congress, MAPUTO, Mozambique)
- First Vice-President of the Association of the African Publicists and Political Scientists (Headquarters: Rabat, Morocco)
- 1975-1977: Member of the Executive Board of Africa and Mauritius Centre for Executive Development Programme
- 1986-1991: Member of the Drafting Committee of the African Directory of International Law

- Member of the Board of the International Association of Arbitration (FRANCARBI)
- 3 Nov 2000 : Member of the Preparatory Scientific Committee of the Bamako International Symposium on the Practice of Democracy, Human Rights and Freedoms. Symposium that led to the Bamako Declaration for the French Speaking Countries

PARTICIPATION IN SEVERAL INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIA, CONGRESSES, SEMINARS AND EXPERTISE:

- Regional seminar on Human Rights sponsored by the international Commission of Jurists and the Senegalese Association for legal studies and research. (Dakar 1978). Seminar for launching the process leading to the establishment of the African Charter on Human and People's Rights in 1981
- Unesco World Conference on the Teaching of Human Rights (Vienna 1978)
- World Congress on the Independence of the Judiciary (Montreal 1983), which led to the drafting of the Declaration on the Independence of the Judiciary adopted by the United Nations in 1985
- World Congress on International Commercial Arbitration (RIO-1985)
- Conference marking the 60th Anniversary of the International Court of Arbitration (Paris 1982)
- World Congress of the International Political Science Association (Paris 1985)
- Regional seminar on Legal Assistance in rural area organized by the International Commission of Jurists (Lomé-Feb.1987)
- Conference on the French Language in International Organizations (Paris 1987)
- Dakar Symposia on Human Rights in the Francophone environment. (1989)
- International Conference on Democracy and Development (Dakar 1990)
- World Bank Conference PREM WORK. University of Maryland. USA 1998. Inaugural report with Professors Jeffrey SACHS and Kwessi BOTCHWEY from University of HARVARD
- World Bank Expert for a Development Strategy (Berlin 1988)
- Several conferences held at the headquarters of the Mauritius and African Union of Development Banks, notably on the "International Element in Banking Securities"
- UNDP and UNIDO expert in the role of private sector in economic development (COTONOU 1988-1989 - Chairman and Moderator for three seminars held for Private Operators)
- ACCT (Cultural and Technical Cooperation Agency) Expert for Legal and Judiciary Cooperation (1990-1991)
- World Bank expert (Department of Legal Matters) on the Legal and Judiciary Environment of economic activities (1992)

- Correspondent of "Journal of Energy and Natural Resources Law (University of Dundee-United Kingdom)"
- ECOWAS Expert-Consultant for the elaboration of the Protocol and the Additional Protocol relating to the Prevention, the Management and the Regulation of conflicts, the maintenance of Peace and Security (1999) and the Additional Protocol on Democracy and Good Governance (2001)
- World Bank Consultant for the Legal Status of the CORRIDOR Project for the Fight against AIDS (2002)
- Expert for UNESCO Convention about the Content of the Cultural Diversity and Rapporteur of the Drafting Committee (2004-2005)
- Geopolitical Expert to the Commercial Court of London (High Court of Justice, Queen's Bench Division-2005).
- President of the Committee of Eminent African Jurists in charge of finding solutions at the African Union for the Hissene Habre Case (2006)
- President of the Committee of Eminent African Jurists for the African Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance (2007)
- Expert for the Drafting of the African Union Charter on Public Administration (Cairo 2008)
- African Union Consultant for the Definition of the Strategy for the Implementation of the Operational Concept for the Support Mission in Central African Republic (Cotonou and Libreville, September 2013)
- African Union High Level Experts Meeting on Democratic Transitions (Dakar, November 2013)
- World Forum on Democracy – Council of Europe – Strasbourg – November 2013
- Special Representative of the President of African Union Commission for Hissene Habre Case.

IV - THE BAR

- 1967-1969: Probation at the Bar Association of the Council of State and Court of Cassation) (Paris)
- 1969-1973: Lawyer at the bar of Paris.
- 1967-1973: Worked in the Law Office of M. Jean COLAS DE LA NOUE, Barrister at the State Council and Court of Cassation - Paris 28 Rue Mathias - 92100 Boulogne France.
- Since 1973: Lawyer at the National Bar of the Republic of BENIN, several times elected Member to the Council of Barristers.
- President of the Bar (January - August 1989).
- Lectures to Students preparing the Professional Lawyer Certificate (International Arbitration)

CASES DEALT WITH

- Consulting Barrister for several Banks and Financial Institutions:
 Commercial Bank of Benin; Development Bank of Benin; Caisse nationale de Crédit agricole ;
 Caisse autonome d'amortissement ; Bank Paribas, Société de Banque in Côte d'Ivoire ; Société
 Générale of Senegal, Financial Bank , ECOBANK, Bank of Africa ...etc ...
- Consulting Barrister for several forwarding agencies or maritime companies: SOTRACOB,
 SONATRAC, NITRA, AFRIQUE-GROUPAGE, LEMOINE AND COMPANY, WEST-AFRICA
 JAPAN LINE ..etc ...
- Advice and assistance to several business firms (style of the firms, equity and administration
 structure, management, litigations between Associates, difficulties inside corporations etc....).
- Litigation in case of services, supplies or deliveries before several national arbitration courts (e.
 g. Arbitration court for Cocoa-France) various international arbitration courts (e.g. Arbitration
 court, Paris International Chamber of Commerce).
- Several time, international Arbitrator and sometimes President of Arbitration Jurisdiction or
 Member of Arbitration appeal instance (ICSID, CPA, CCJA)
- International Court of Justice (ICJ), The Hague: Benin Lawyer for the Border disputes with
 NIGER (2002 – 2005)
- Negotiation with a view to amicably withdrawing seizures in financial and international disputes
 (e.g. the Benin TWIN-OTTER Aircraft Case).
- Legal consultancy and assistance with regard to mortgage loan on aircraft and vessels, legal
 department expert in sea, air and land transportation.
- Legal advice on leasing between various foreign or international financial institutions and the
 State on the one hand , the local administrative units as well as the public corporations on the
 other hand (e.g. AID-BENIN ; SEE-BENIN; TRANSGLOBAL FINANCIAL SERVICE- BENIN ;
 KFW-BENIN....etc.....).
- Several cases with regard to real estate commercial disputes of all nature, social, industrial,
 artistic disputes, patents and patterns, brands.
- Several criminal trials in Benin and in foreign countries (Procedure in Paris against the
 mercenaries Bob Denard et al.: 1977-1993; the Case of Moussa Traore et al. in Mali: 1992-1993;
 the Case of Alpha Condé et al. in Guinea: 2000, the Case of the Disappeared of Beach,
 Brazzaville : 2005)
- Environmental Law
- African Community Law (ECOWAS – WAEMU – SADC – CEMAC – OHADA)

V - OTHER PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

- 1962 : Training at the Comptoir National d'Escompte de Paris (nowadays replaced by BNP),
 within the framework of training courses sponsored by the Association of the students of the
 Bordeaux Institute of Political Studies (Institut d'Études Politiques de Bordeaux).
- 1966-1967 : Legal Drafter at the Legal Department of the Paris Social Security Office of Paris
 Region (Caisse Centrale de Sécurité Sociale de la Région Parisienne).

- 1974-1991: Member of several National Commissions in charge of legislative reforms and member of the National Borders Committee.
- 1980-1990: Legal Advisor to the Standing Committee of the National Revolutionary Parliament.

VI - SOCIAL AND POLITICAL ACTIVITIES

- 1957-1959 : President of " Lycée Victor Ballot" Scout Association.
- 1962-1965: President of many Students ' Associations (Dahomey Student' Association in France , Union of Dahomey Students , Federation of Black Africa Students in France, Vice-President of Overseas Students of Bordeaux and of anti-colonialist Committee Bordeaux Students).
- 1969-1971: President of Dahomey Workers' Union in France.
Member of International Commission of enquiry on mercenary activities (Luanda- 1976) and of OAU Convention project (Addis-Ababa 1977).
- 1979 : Member to the International Commission of enquiry on Human Rights in Iran (March - April).
- Member of the Mac-BRIDE Consultation Group at the meetings held in Tehran with the Iranian authorities on the release of the US hostages (Dec.1979).
- COTONOU ROTARY Club Member (since 1978- Chairman in 1989-1990).
- General Treasurer of the inter African Union of Lawyers.
- Member of the Executive Bureau of the Association for the development of Village Initiatives (training for the use of animal drawn carriage and training of parajurists in rural areas).
- People Commissioner (MP) of the Revolutionary National Assembly 2nd and 3rd legislatures from 1984 to 1990; Vice-President of the Commission in charge of Constitutional Matters and Laws.
- July 28th 1989 : As an MP and in the company of professor and honourable MP Rene AHOUANSOU , statement for general amnesty as well as for negotiation with the strikers and for an integral multiparty system in BENIN.
- Minister-Delegate to the President of the Republic, in charge of planning and statistics (August 1989-March 1990). In that capacity, member to the UMOA Council of Ministers, Governor to World Bank and various development Banks.
- Chairman of the National preparatory Committee of the National Conference (December 1989-February 1990).
- 1991-1993 Member of Parliament and Chairman of the Commission on Laws, Administration and Human Rights.
- Presidential Elections Candidate in March 1991.
- President of Benin Pan African commission. (PANAFRICA-BENIN) 1991-2001.
- President of the: «Alliance pour la Social Democracy" Party (ASD
- Vice-President of the International Council of the Parliamentarians for Global Action (1991-1993).

- Special Envoy of the Secretary General of Francophonie to several Heads of State for the reform and consolidation of the Organization for the Harmonization of Business Law in Africa (OHADA – 2007)

VII – ACTIONS IN THE AREA OF THE DEMOCRATIC TRANSITION

- Several conferences and consultations on the democratic transitions, the national conferences and the process of democratization in Africa, especially:
 - Head of politico-legal expertise mission in Madagascar (European Union mission/ International Commission of Jurists, March 1992)
 - Conferences and seminars at University of Dakar (1990), University of Paris I (1988, 1990 et 1992), University of Illinois – USA (1992) et Université Catholique of Lyon (1992)
 - Panafrican Conference on Democracy and mastering of democratic transition in Africa (Dakar May 1992)
- As an expert and then member and President of the Ministerial Conference of Francophonie, contributed to the drafting of different instruments to guide the assistance for the elections and the observation of elections as well as for the solutions to crises
- Head of the Mission of the Francophonie (comprising Ministers and Parliamentarians) in Burundi (1005)
- Coordinator of several missions of the Francophonie in Madagascar for the preparation and the observation of the elections in Madagascar (1996)
- Head of several missions of the Francophonie in Mali Intermediation between the opposition and the Government (1997)
- Head of several missions of the Francophonie in Mauritania (2005-2006)
- Head of the United Union Consultation Mission in Mauritania (2009)
- Consultation with the Constitutional Court of Mali for the end of the transition and the elections (June 2013)
- Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation (1993-1995)
- Assistance to different NGOs and Cooperatives for the drafting of different projects to be submitted for financing
- Participation in three films on Democracy in Africa and in Mali (Agence Internationale de la Francophonie 1997-1998 and Blackside - USA 1999)
- Honorary President of French Speaking Constitutional Courts Associations (2011-2013)

VIII - PUBLICATIONS (just a few)

- Marxism, Law and Justice (mimeographed in 1976)
- About the elimination of mercenary activities in Africa (Revue Internationale de Droit Contemporain -Brussels -1978 n° 2).
- Does judicial science exclude philosophy?

(International Seminar on philosophy - COTONOU 1978).

- Democracy and Human Rights - (Symposium, 10th anniversary of the "Université Nationale du BENIN », 1980).
- The Administration responsibility (commentary on seizure "Revue Béninoise de Science juridique et administrative " 1980 n° 1).
- The State, the Power and the Army (Conference AAPS- Dakar 1983).
- The African Perception of the notion of security (UNESCO-1983).
- The State - Nation dialectic in the light of Frantz Fanon thought (Brazzaville 1984).
- The representative Democracy in the USA and Africa (February 1987).
- Pluralistic Democracy and National Unity (1991).
- Democracy and Development (1991).
- Promotion of the child (1991).
- The Democratic transition (1992).
- The African manager facing the pluralistic democracy. (Dakar 1992).
- BENIN: From one- party system to pluralistic democracy, a testimony in Africa in transition towards pluralism – a collective document under the direction of Gerard CONAC Ed. ECONOMICA Paris 1993.
- BENIN: economy and the pluralistic democracy. Africa Recovery-New York. Vol.6 n° 3 November 1992 (in English).
- The OHADA Arbitration. (OUAGADOUGOU International Conference of Lawyers - Dec. 1996).
- The instruction and the powers of the Judge (Congrès IDEF, The Cairo Dec. 1997).
- The elections in Africa – in “Aspect du contentieux electoral en Afrique”. Act of seminar of Cotonou – November 1998. OIF PARIS January 2000 p. 19.
- The effect of the Arbitration Clause: the African Perspective (in English) ICCA. Congress series N° 9. Improvement of the efficiency of Arbitration Agreements and Awards. Kluwer Law International. The Hague 1999 p. 268.
- The Practice of Arbitration in Africa – in “L’OHADA et les perspectives de l’Arbitrage en Afrique-Centre René-Jean Dupuy. Université Internationale de Langue Française d’Alexandrie. Ed. BRUYLANT BRUXELLES 2000 page 125.
- The experience of National Conference in Benin – Cotonou February 2000 – in « Bilan des Conférences Nationales et autres processus de transition démocratique Ed. Pedone et BRUYLANT. Acts of Cotonou conference February 2000 p. 205.
- The Administrative Judge and economic and social laws in Benin – in “Le Juge de l’administration et les droits fondamentaux dans l’espace francophone”. Directed by Etienne PICARD. Ed. BRUYLANT, IDEF. AIF and Institut Roumain pour les Droits de l’Homme. p. 492.

- Different ways of democratic changes in Africa in the prevention of crises and the promotion of peace. Vol II under the direction of Jean Pierre VETTOVAGLIA et al. Editions Bruylant – Bruxelles 2010 Page 140
- Regulatory function of constitutional jurisdictions : the cas of Benin in la Constitution Béninoise du 11 décembre 1990 : Un modèle pour l'Afrique ? Mélanges en l'honneur du Professeur Maurice AHANHANZO GLELE, coordinated by Professeur Joël AIVO. Editions l'Harmattan - 2014 p.729

VIII.- LANGUAGES

- French
- English

IX- HONOURS

- Commander of BENIN National order
- Commander of the Insigna of Decoration (France) (Palme académique)
- Paul Harris Fellow-4 Rubis Benefactor distinction (Rotary International Foundation).
- Goodwill Ambassador of ARKANSAS State, USA (Distinction conferred by ARKANSAS'S Governor Bill CLINTON. February 3rd 1992).
- Leading lawyer (London 2001).
- Several others distinctions conferred by different institutions, especially Democracy and Human Rights Grand Prize attributed in December 2012 by the International Council of African Managers.

X - HOBBY

Swimming, music, draughts, reading.