CURRICULUM VITAE

DENIS VINCENT SOLOMON

SEX

Male

DATE OF BIRTH

9 October 1934

PLACE OF BIRTH

Glasgow, UK

NATIONALITY

UK/Trinidad & Tobago

PRESENT PLACE OF RESIDENCE

Italy

CIVIL STATUS

Widowed (wife, Ermenegilda Adami, Italian citizen, deceased December 2008)

Three children

EDUCATION

Tranquillity Boys’ Intermediate, Port of Spain

Queen’s Royal College, Port of Spain (island scholarship, languages)

Cambridge University, England (BA Hons. Modern and Mediaeval Languages)

London University School of Slavonic Studies (Certificate of Proficiency in Russian)

Columbia University, New York City (MA, MPhil)

UWI St. Augustine (PhD in Linguistics) Subject of thesis: Syntax and Semantics in Caribbean Creole

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE (Diplomatic)

1960-61 Diplomatic training for West Indies Federal government Diplomatic Service at Australian Ministry of External Affairs and British High Commission, Canberra

1961-62 West Indies Vice Consul, British Embassy, Caracas

1962 First Secretary, Trinidad and Tobago Embassy, Washington, DC and Office of T&T Representative to United Nations, New York (set up both offices). T&T representative on Fourth Committee of UN General Assembly.

1977 Senator, Parliament of Trinidad and Tobago

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE (Academic)

1967-68 Assistant, American Language Program, Columbia University

1969 Lecturer in Spanish, University of the West Indies, Trinidad, 1969

1970-1994 Lecturer/Senior Lecturer in French and Linguistics, UWI St. Augustine

2002 Instructor in Conference Interpreting at School of Interpreting and Translation of the Municipality of Milan, Milan, Italy.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE (Translation / Interpreting)

Passed Unesco English translators’ examination (source languages: Spanish, French, Russian). Declined permanent post as English translator at Unesco headquarters, Paris, for family reasons, but worked on many occasions as temporary translator at Unesco headquarters and at Unesco-sponsored conferences in Guatemala, Brazil, Colombia.

Official translator for UN-ECLAC

On-line translator for OAS, FTAA, CFATF

Many translation jobs in private sector.

Member, International Association of Conference Interpreters (AIIC). (Resigned 2009). Interpreted at many meetings of international organizations, government and private sector in Central American –Caribbean region.

OTHER

1970-1976 Columnist, then Editor, Tapia newspaper, Trinidad and Tobago

1994-2000 Columnist and editorial writer, Trinidad Express newspaper

 PUBLICATIONS

Book: The Speech of Trinidad: a Reference Grammar (UWI School of Continuing Studies)

Several articles in academic journals

AWARDS

Chevalier de l’Ordre des Palmes Académiques (for services to French culture)

LANGUAGES

Fluent spoken and written: English, Spanish, French, Italian

Reading: Portuguese, Russian

REFERENCES

Calvin Wilson, Executive Director, CFATF (calvin.wilson@cfatf.org)

Maxie Cuffie, Minister of Information, Government of Trinidad and Tobago

former Editor, Trinidad Express newspaper (cuffiem@gmail.com)

Head, English Translation Section, Unesco, Paris. (I do not know who the Head is now, but from their employment records they should be able to testify to my competence)