

SOKOINE UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURE

MOROGORO

**STUDENT ACCOMMODATION POLICY
GUIDELINES**

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1.0. INTRODUCTION

Sokoine University of Agriculture Corporate Strategic Plan to the year 2005 and beyond has been formulated with the purpose of guiding the development process of the University as it enters the 21st Century. The following are some of the growth and survival issues addressed in the plan:

- The University becomes more competitive by providing more conducive and enabling environment for staff and students.
- The University offers relevant and demand driven programmes in a more cost effective manner.
- Increasingly, the University services to generate funds by strengthening existing income generating ventures as well as opening up new avenues for income generation while at the same time Instituting measures for cost reduction.
- The University increases its efforts to attract external and internal donor support and also enter into joint venture partnership with willing public and private institutions for faster development of the University's planned programmes and activities.

2.0. THE UNIVERSITY EXPANSION OBJECTIVES

2.1 It is worthwhile noting that one of the University expansion objective under the Corporate strategic Plan to the year 2005 and beyond is to embark on a systematic expansion of the student's enrolment strategies. The aim is to increase the current student population from 1,679 in 1999/2000 to 2,206 by September 2000 and eventually up to 4,000 students by the year 2005. On the basis of the preliminary capacity analysis and the established national needs for expansion of enrolment in science based fields, the expansion of student enrolment will also target at correcting gender imbalance such that the current female students population of 23% will increased to 40% by year 2005. This implies strategic measures to be used including introducing pre entry science programme for female students at Sokoine University of Agriculture.

2.2 However, with the envisaged expansion of student enrolment will by and large depend, among other factors, on the availability of adequate students welfare facilities such as student hostels accommodation facilities on campus and outside SUA.

3.0. CURRENT STUDENT ACCOMMODATION SITUATION AT SUA

- 3.1. Presently, the University's maximum hostel accommodation for both undergraduate and postgraduate students is 1,586. This means that even with the expected number of undergraduate students population by September 2000 of 1,871 already the University will have a deficit of 370 hostel spaces.
- 3.2. The projected student enrolment of 4,000 by the year 2005 will require additional hostel accommodation to the tune of 2,414 bed spaces. Even with the expected NSSF hostel project of 1,500 rooms with capacity of 3,000 bed spaces due to start by July 2000, the University shall have a surplus of only 586 bed spaces assuming of course that each room will accommodate 2 students. But the surplus space will be less than 586 taking into consideration that some rooms will be occupied by postgraduate students who normally do not share rooms.

4.0. NEED FOR STUDENT ACCOMMODATION POLICY

- 4.1. As already noted above, since the apparent deficit in student accommodation may adversely affect the planned expansion of the University, particularly with regard to increased student enrolments, there is an urgent need to put in place well defined policy to guide the University Management on matters pertaining to student accommodation.

5.0. THE POLICY GUIDELINES AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- 5.1. Successful implementation of the expansion of the student enrolment objective of the SUA'S Corporate Strategic Plan will depend to a large extent on the availability of increased hostel accommodation for students. It is thus recommended:
 - (i) The University will strive to encourage private investors as well as government institutions in construction of hostel facilities suitable for student's accommodation.
 - (ii) From September 2000/2001, admission to the University programmes shall not be pegged on availability of campus student accommodation and therefore the students who miss accommodation space on campus should look for their own accommodation off campus.
 - (iii) Students shall be required to apply for campus accommodation to the student room allocation committee and they shall be required to sign a contract before given the room key.

- (iv) Preference for student accommodation on campus shall follow the following ranking:
 - (1) Disabled students
 - (2) Foreign students
 - (3) 1st year students
 - (4) Female students
 - (5) Continuing students

- (v) The University hostel charges shall regularly be reviewed according to the prevailing situations.