

WOMEN'S UNIVERSITY IN AFRICA



Addressing gender disparity and fostering equity in University Education

FACULTY OF MANAGEMENT AND ENTREPRENEURIAL SCIENCES

**BSc HONOURS DEGREE IN MANAGEMENT AND ENTREPRENEURIAL
DEVELOPMENT STUDIES SPECIALISING IN MANAGEMENT & MARKETING**

MAIN PAPER

BM 221 : SUPPLY CHAIN AND PURCHASING MANAGEMENT

INTAKE 25 : SECOND YEAR SECOND SEMESTER

TIME : 2 HOURS MORNING

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Answer Question **1** and any other **two**

Question 1

Green Purchasing

Today, our Earth's resources are being consumed at a rate which does not allow our planet to replace them quickly enough. The output of human activities (waste or emissions) has reached a level our natural environment can no longer compensate. The footprint of human activities on Earth not only endangers the survival of natural ecosystems or human health but is also responsible for the following global problems:

- The greenhouse effect causes the serious danger of the oceans and air temperatures rising.
- The hole in the ozone layer increases the amount of dangerous solar radiation penetrating through the atmosphere.
- Acidification impacts forests, lakes, watercourses and groundwater, causing the extinction of many animal species, affecting human health and endangering the existence of vast forest areas.
- Eutrophication depletes the oxygen from water, endangering sea life as well as freshwater organisms.
- Toxic substances put the health of all living organisms at risk, including human beings, by impacting the quality of the air we breathe, the water we drink and the food we eat.
- Noise and air pollution decrease the quality of urban life. The production, use and disposal of the goods we consume largely contribute to all these "environmental problems" mentioned above.

Being responsible for spending some 15% of the European Gross National Product, public purchasers can contribute considerably to decreasing the environmental impact of the goods and services they procure and foster an orientation towards a more sustainable relationship between human beings and their natural environment.

Source: Plas, G., and Erdmenger, C., (2000) How local authorities spend their budgets responsibly: Green Purchasing Good Practice Guide, ICLEI European Secretariat GmbH, Freiburg.

Required:

- (a) Outline five initiatives through which purchasing professionals can promote green purchasing. [20]
- (b) Discuss five benefits that may accrue to an organisation that embraces green purchasing. 20]

Question 2

Discuss the role of technology as a supply chain enabler. [20]

Question 3

Explore five sources of supply chain risks and suggest ways in which to manage the risks. [20]

Question 4

With the aid of examples, explain the following supply chain management processes:

- (a) Supplier relationship management (SRM) [4]
- (b) Returns Management [4]
- (c) Manufacturing flow management [4]
- (d) Customer service management (CSM) [4]
- (e) Demand management [4]

Question 5

‘Supply chain management always involves a trade-off between responsiveness and efficiency.’ Discuss. [20]

Question 6

Examine any five reasons for the increasing importance of procurement in supply chain management. [20]

END