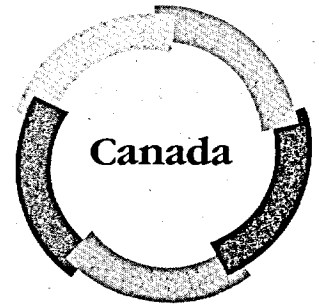


The Francophone Summits



In 1986 François Mitterrand, President of the French Republic, invited to Paris the heads of state and government of countries using French as a common language. This conference, which would henceforth become a biennial event, was called a Summit Conference because in it the participating countries were represented at the highest level.

Paris Summit

February 17 - 19, 1986

The first Francophone Summit saw a total of 41 countries and governments represented. This long-awaited meeting of leaders began at the Palace of Versailles, and was designed to lay a foundation based on solidarity among all the countries in which French is used.

The Quebec City Summit

September 2 - 4, 1987

Forty countries and governments responded to the invitation extended jointly by Canada, Quebec and New Brunswick. This second conference led to a better level of understanding and a more effective pooling of experiences in all areas of activity among the people composing the great Francophone family.

The Dakar Summit

May 24 - 26, 1989

Held in the capital of Senegal on the invitation of President Abdou Diouf, the Dakar Summit brought together the representatives of 41 countries and governments. The participants stressed the essential role of education and training within the French-speaking community.

The Chaillot Summit

November 19 - 21, 1991

This fourth meeting of heads of state and government of countries using French as a common language was one of "maturity and expansion," in the words of its host, President Mitterrand. Nearly 50 countries and governments acquired new institutions and confirmed the ACCT in its operative role of translating decisions into action.

The Mauritius Summit

October 16 - 18, 1993

For the fifth time, the senior officials of countries using French plan to meet, this time in Mauritius, an island in the Indian Ocean that has been a model of integration. Mauritius is a melting-pot of Chinese, Indian, African and European peoples. Its friendly inhabitants are the most valuable resource of this, the "rainbow country." 