

Performing Arts (MASA), organised by the ACCT in 1993 and 1995. MASA, held in Côte d'Ivoire, attracted many Canadian buyers, who were able to assess the export potential of the African cultural market.

Human Rights and Democratic Development

At the Chaillot Summit, Canada proposed establishing a program promoting human rights and democratic development. The aim was to follow up on the Chaillot Declaration on Democracy and Development by taking action in three essential and connected areas: documentation and information, support for the electoral process, and development sessions for major players in democratic development.

Documentation and Information

The International Data Bank on Francophone States (BIEF) undertook research for a bibliography on human rights. Using UN databases and catalogues of publications placed in Canadian libraries under legal deposit rules, researchers found 10,000 French titles. Their bibliography will soon be published by the UN and will also be available on CD-ROM. In addition, a bibliography on human rights in francophone countries will be included in a catalogue currently being transferred to CD-ROM by BIEF.

Support for the Electoral Process

Francophone countries, acting in accordance with the guidelines they adopted in October 1992, have responded to many requests from countries for missions to plan and observe elections. Since the Mauritius Summit in October 1993, these missions have been sent to seven francophone countries: Comoros, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon (two missions), Togo, Benin, Niger and Guinea.

Development Sessions

Development sessions have been organized for various players in the democratic process: parliamentarians, journalists, non-governmental organizations, police forces and unions.

This involved continuing the actions launched following the Chaillot Summit in November 1991 in the form of development sessions lasting for three to five weeks. The organizations responsible for the sessions were: the Canadian section of the International Association of French-Speaking Parliamentarians (AIPLF), for parliamentarians; the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, for journalists; the Canadian Human Rights Foundation, for NGOs; the International Centre for Crime Prevention, for police forces; and the Quebec Labour Federation (FTTQ), for unions.