

HUMAN RIGHTS IN LA FRANCOPHONIE

When countries decide to undertake democratic reforms, they face many unfamiliar problems. People have to learn how a parliament operates and how journalists do their jobs in a democracy. They need to understand the role of trade unions. Police have to become more aware of the rights of citizens.

La Francophonie is helping people in developing countries deal with issues such as these. In the past few years, it has sponsored seminars for members of non-governmental organizations, members of parliament, police forces, and unions. These projects have involved more than 30 countries.

La Francophonie set up guidelines for election observers. Since the guidelines were adopted in 1992, at least a dozen countries have asked for observers to be present before or during voting day. They include Burkina Faso, Burundi, Congo, Djibouti, Guinea, Madagascar, Mali, Niger, Romania, Senegal,

