

The workshop called for a forum to be held in Africa on democracy, bringing together the members of la Francophonie at the government and civil society level.

Workshop 2

The participants in this workshop reaffirmed the following:

- In conflict prevention in Africa, la Francophonie can act only in co-ordination with the OAU. La Francophonie must not have its own mechanism. Its role will be to give logistical and financial support to the OAU Mechanism, and to assist in preparing the data bank.
- The exchange of information between the OAU and la Francophonie could take place in a clearly defined legal framework (convention to be established). The ACCT, which has observer status in the OAU, could play a part in this context.
- The AIPLF could play a significant role in election processes (assistance in drafting constitutions, opposition status, etc.)
- The ACCT can play the same role in judiciary systems, training of journalists, etc.
- The UPELF-UREF university network can also make a contribution. Numerous researchers could consider these problems and assist in preparing data banks or in translation work.

If la Francophonie is to act effectively, however, a gap must be filled by establishing a ministerial monitoring committee (CPF or other modest structure). With this institutional facility, operational actions can be undertaken, including:

- creating a fund in the ACCT;
- opening the way for periodic consultations;
- assisting the institutions in Francophone countries in the training of magistrates and police, the opening of files, and the social re-integration of former combatants;
- through the influence of la Francophonie, promoting initiatives that might lead countries in conflict situations to accept advice from prevention institutions;
- acting to prevent pirate radio stations from disseminating hate propaganda;
- establishing a list of personalities able to act as mediators;
- helping define the mandate of participants in OAU operations;
- participating in round tables organized by the UN on African countries; and
- promoting legal provisions and mechanisms for judging those responsible for serious human rights violations.

It was stressed that la Francophonie is not a regional organization, and that some activities cannot be carried out within its framework. As for the creation of an institution, it was noted that there already is a conference of heads of state and the CPF. At the political level, however, the Francophone segment of the OAU must mobilize to obtain a greater commitment from member countries on these matters. It must facilitate