

The Minister for International Co-operation and Minister responsible for La Francophonie, the Honourable Don Boudria, has just confirmed the funds required for development of the project in Senegal and Ivory Coast. Confirmation of the available funds for Morocco and Tunisia is expected shortly. For their part, officials in charge of distance training and of CIFFAD in the ACCT are committed to defraying the costs of missions and of training the trainers.

International Data Bank on Francophone States



Supported by Canada at the first Summit of La Francophonie (Paris, 1986), the International Data Bank on Francophone States (BIEF) has been a decentralized program of the ACCT since December 1991. Its administration and management have been entrusted to Canadian Heritage. Developed as a bibliographical database to inventory records on all member states of La Francophonie, the BIEF rapidly expanded to become a network for the pooling of human, documentary and technological resources focusing on communication, liaison, and information and documentation transfer. The BIEF is involved in developing, modernizing and consolidating national information and documentation policies and systems in southern and eastern countries. It also contributes to the development of professional and technical staff in advanced technology and helps to organize and preserve documentary heritage and national corporate memories.

Co-publishing, Co-production and North-South Partnerships Program

Under the auspices of the *Association nationale des éditeurs de livres*, this program has made it possible to do the exploratory work required for co-publishing, co-production and partnership ventures between publishers in southern and northern countries.

V) ENVIRONMENT

Francophone River and Lake Ecosystem Managers Network

This project, carried out by Environment Canada's St. Lawrence Centre, is intended to facilitate exchanges of information and experience between agencies and managers responsible for the management of river and lake systems of member countries of the ACCT. It has put in place training programs that meet the needs of managers from regional, national and international organizations.

Environment Chair at the Senghor University in Alexandria

A proposal to create a University of La Francophonie in Alexandria was made at the Dakar Summit. Two disciplines were initially planned: health and nutrition, and management and administration.

Canada was responsible for starting up and funding a third discipline, an environment chair, and bore the cost of sending consultants and professors from the University of Quebec at Montreal (UQAM).

Canada continues to support this institution financially by making a substantial contribution to the ACCT's Multilateral Fund.