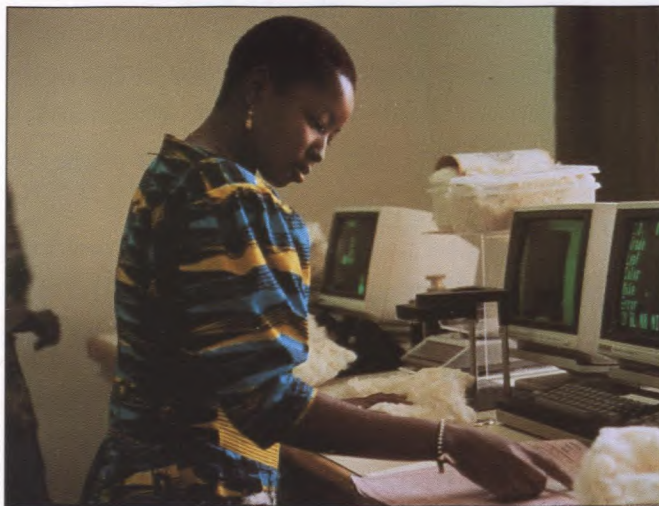


FRANCOPHONE SUMMITS

While the Summits are at the centre of the Francophone architecture, the Agency for Cultural and Technical Co-operation truly became the linchpin of Francophone co-operation at the Chaillot Summit. It acquired a dual mandate: first, that of chief instrument of the Summits, in charge of organizing seven of the eight co-operation sectors, and second, that of secretariat for all decision-making bodies. The ACCT has thus become the co-ordinator and institutional memory of La Francophonie. The University of French-language Networks (UREF) was assigned the eighth sector of co-operation, that of university research, and TV-5 and the University of Alexandria were recognized as "privileged instruments".

The ACCT is supported by program committees which normally bring together twice a year, at the Agency, government experts from each major co-operation sector, who are called upon to give advice on sector policies and to make recommendations on the programs and projects.



CIDA Photo: Roger Lemoyne

NEW PRIORITIES

A) The Emergence of New Priorities

The Dakar Summit saw the emergence of new action themes that were added to the five priority sectors of the previous Summit. In its capacity as host country, Senegal undertook to promote the education and training sector.

For its part, Canada had a resolution on the environment adopted, making this a full-fledged priority sector, and called for the convening of a conference of ministers of the environment, which was held in Tunis in April 1991. In addition to adopting this theme, which resulted in the launching of four initiatives in this sector, Canada initiated a resolution on human rights, a first in the context of multilateral Francophonie. This resolution was responsible for the concrete actions now being carried out by the ACCT under its program of legal and judicial co-operation.

In the years that followed and to the present, Canada placed high priority on these two sectors, both within the policy sphere, where decisions in principle are made, and within the co-operation sphere, where concrete action must translate intentions into realities.

At the Chaillot Summit, Canada pursued the objectives introduced at Dakar. It contributed to the adoption of the text of the "Chaillot Declaration" on democracy and development, provided support for various political resolutions and, more important still, proposed a human rights and democratic development promotion program. The purpose of this program was to put the Chaillot Declaration into practice through a series of measures implemented in three areas which are essential and inseparable for establishing a democratic culture: documentation and