THE OBJECTIVES OF *LA FRANCOPHONIE*

While continuing to focus on cultural exchange between French-speaking countries as an overall priority, *la Francophonie* has identified 5 priority areas for the organization that represent areas of common interest to members:

1) *Freedom and democracy* – for example, human rights, conflict prevention peacekeeping, anti-personnel mines

2) *Knowledge and progress* – for example, textbooks for students and complement teacher training, wider access to education, help youth integration into the economy

3) *Culture and communication* – for example, cultural and audiovisual content and the culture and communications industries, the francophone information highway and the new technologies

4) *Economy and development* – for example, trade between member countries, business and sustainable development

5) *La Francophonie in the world* – for example, promote and encourage the use of French both within and beyond *la Francophonie*

THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF *LA FRANCOPHONIE* AND CANADA'S ROLE

The following lists some of the achievements of *la Francophonie* in the 5 priority areas and Canada's role and participation in each of these areas:

Freedom and democracy

La Francophonie

– Conducts election monitoring missions

– Involved in human rights advocacy (for example, child labour, women's rights, etc.)

Canada's Role

– Has participated in election monitoring missions

– Has supported the Network of Legal Aid and Consultation Centres for Women in *la Francophonie* whose purpose is to help women in developing countries obtain legal and social equality

– Proposed the creation of a human rights unit and emphasized the need to link international aid to respect for democratic principles and fundamental human rights

Knowledge and Progress

La Francophonie

– Pro-active role in education and vocational and technical training

– Focus on youth through the *Games of la Francophonie* held every 4 years

Canada's Role

– A major player in all activities of the organization