

C. Reforming or restructuring the State, particularly its role in redistributing wealth.

The following topics were proposed: 1) the experience with privatization in Africa, and at a more general level relations between the public sector and the private sector in economic recovery strategies; 2) the role of the State in recovery and international positioning strategies; 3) the role of the State and necessary conditions for industrialization strategies. Comparison of experience with privatization in Africa and elsewhere (e.g. Asia) could be fruitful.

D. Participation in the round tables by Asian officials and/or experts familiar with that experience.

This would make it possible to draw lessons on the role of the State and more proactive developmental policies in the Asian experience with industrialization.

E. Social and economic rights and the role of civil society (women's associations, unions and national NGOs), basic elements of a long-term prevention strategy.

A number of Montréal-area NGOs have acquired extensive expertise in this field.

F. Legal recognition of ethnic, linguistic and religious minorities, which seems to be one of the most important factors for controlling inter-State conflicts.

G. Structural reform and African ownership of the debates.

Complex structural reform involving decentralization and reform of the State must be carried out simultaneously and must be debated in Africa by the people directly involved.

H. Demilitarization and arms control

The urgency of these processes was noted. The Université du Québec à Montréal has expertise on these matters, on the reduction of military spending, and on conversion of the defence economy and of military bases. The OAU has a leading role to play in co-ordinating and supervising these activities.