

Four Canadian provinces, Quebec, New Brunswick, Ontario and Manitoba, are usually represented on the Canadian delegation to these meetings in accordance with procedures agreed upon with the federal government. In addition, Canada maintains liaison with the agencies attached to this conference, the Permanent Technical Secretariats (STP) centred in Dakar, Senegal, and the African and Malagasi Council on Higher Education (CAMES) in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso.

The Conference of Ministers of Youth and Sports (CONFEJES) met initially in Paris in December, 1969. At that time, it was composed of a majority of the French-speaking countries of Africa and Madagascar, along with Belgium and Canada. It originated in the common desire of the participants to work together for a policy which would provide social advancement and protection for younger people in their respective countries. In recent years, principally by means of a major annual action program, the conference has been concentrating more on producing instructors and group leaders for the two sectors concerned. As with the Conference of Education Ministers, the Canadian delegation includes representatives from Quebec, New Brunswick, Ontario and Manitoba.

Non-governmental Francophone Associations

La Francophonie grew internationally out of the many non-governmental Francophone associations, some of which date back 40 years. Most of them had a professional base, such as the International Association of French-speaking Parliamentarians (AIPLF), the Institute of Freedom of Expression in French (IDEF), the International Union of French-language Journalism (UIJPLF) and the World Association of French-speaking Physicians (AMMF). Others were formed for the sake of achieving common goals: these include the Association of Partly or Wholly French-language Universities (AUPELF), the International Council of the French Language (CILF), the Council on French Life in America, Richelieu International and, more recently, the International Council of French-language Radio and Television (CIRTEF), created through Canadian initiative in Montreal in 1978.