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Canada and La Francophonie



External Affairs and
International Trade Canada



Canada

Cover page illustration:

Since the conception of the cover page illustration, two countries — Madagascar and Equatorial Guinea — have joined as member states of the Agency for Cultural and Technical Co-operation.

(Publié également en français)



LE CANADA ET LA FRANCOPHONIE

C'est avec plaisir que je vous fais parvenir une copie d'un cahier d'information intitulé "Le Canada et la Francophonie".

Cet ouvrage décrit les principales instances de la Francophonie et souligne l'effort que le Canada apporte au profit de cette communauté.

Un tel document était devenu nécessaire en raison d'un souhait exprimé par divers milieux, tant francophone qu'anglophone, et qui cherchent à mieux connaître le monde de la Francophonie et l'action du Canada au sein de ses structures.

CANADA AND LA FRANCOPHONIE

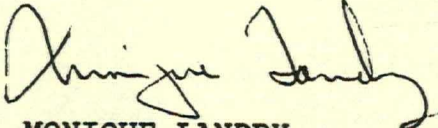
I am pleased to send you a copy of the information booklet entitled "Canada and La Francophonie".

The booklet describes the main structures of La Francophonie and draws attention to the Canadian contribution to this community.

The publication responds to a need often expressed in many quarters, both French- and English-speaking, to become more familiar with the Francophone world community and Canada's activities in it.

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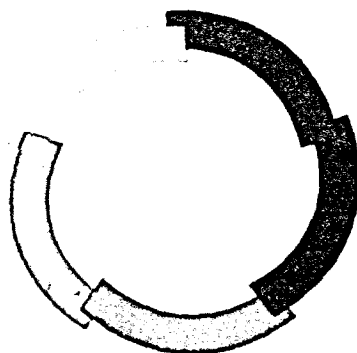




Table of Contents

I. La Francophonie at the Multilateral Level

1.	Historical Background	2
2.	Francophone Institutions	4
	2.1 Standing Ministerial Conferences	4
	2.2 Francophone Non-Governmental Organizations	5
3.	The Agency for Cultural and Technical Co-operation (ACCT)	9
	3.1 Origins	9
	3.2 Canada's Participation	9
	3.3 Goals of the ACCT	11
	3.4 Operation of the ACCT	11
	3.5 Structure and Programs	12
4.	Francophone Summits	16
	4.1 Emergence of the Summits	16
	4.2 The First Three Summits	16
	4.3 ACCT's Changing Mandate	17
	4.4 Current Priorities	20
	4.5 The Foreseeable Future and its Challenges	25
5.	Conclusion	27

II. Management of La Francophonie in Canada

6.	Management Structure	30
	6.1 Office of the Federal Co-ordinator for La Francophonie	30
	6.2 Interdepartmental Co-operation	31
	6.3 Public Consultation	31

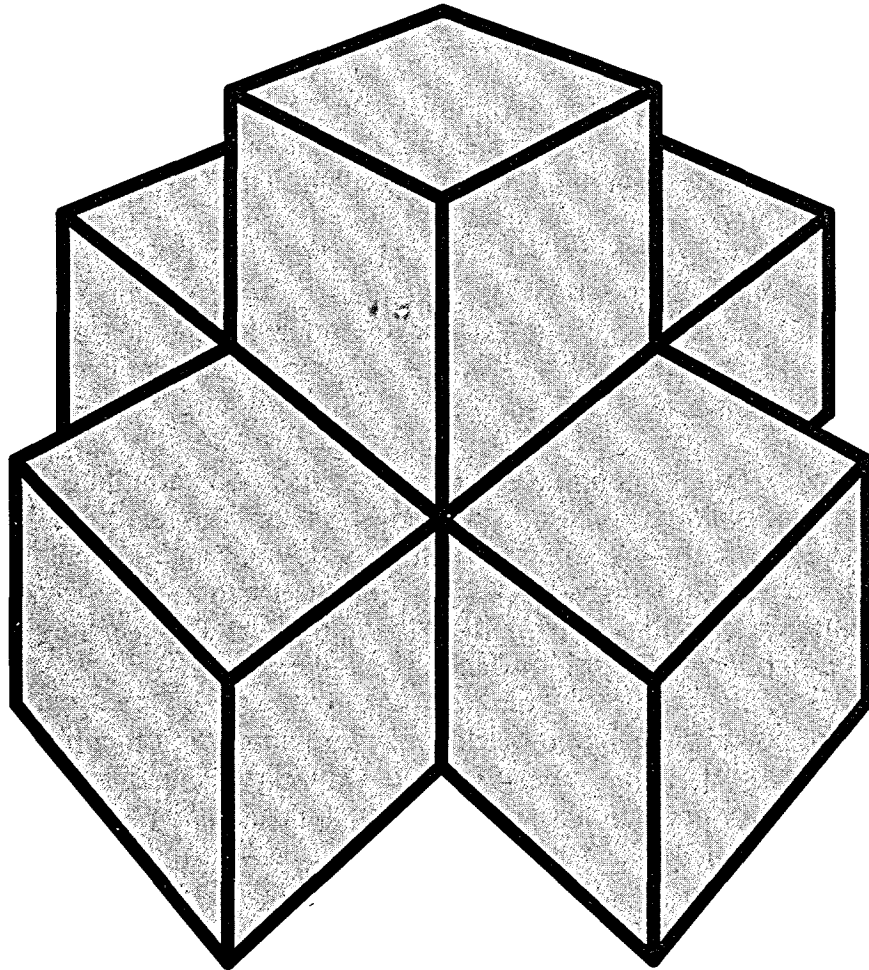
III. La Francophonie at the Bilateral Level

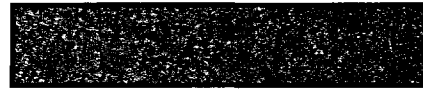
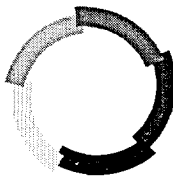
7.	Canada's Official Development Assistance Program	34
	7.1 The Canadian International Development Agency	35
	7.2 Canadian Assistance to Developing Francophone Countries	36
8.	Canada and French-Speaking Europe	41



I

La Francophonie at the Multilateral Level





1. Historical Background


La Francophonie may be defined as the community of peoples who speak French or use it to varying degrees, either in their own countries or internationally. It can also be viewed as an institutional framework of official and private organizations pursuing dialogue and co-operation in areas of activity and interest shared by the community's members. For some years, the term "**Francophonie**" has been used to describe the movement that is striving to provide an organized framework and functional structures of co-operation and exchange for those whose common language is French.

La Francophonie was founded on the French language, which is regarded above all else as a vehicle for communicating and promoting national cultures and languages. Although countries participating in the various French-speaking institutions usually have a common linguistic and cultural heritage, they are nevertheless not homogeneous from a socio-cultural, political or economic viewpoint. Moreover, the diversity of national cultures and languages represented in the Francophone community is a dynamic factor in the development of La Francophonie and its activities.

The Canadian Government has been associated with La Francophonie from the outset, in the creation and development of its various institutions. The flourishing **French culture in Canada** and its broad international significance have provided considerable motivation for Canadian involvement in La Francophonie.

Internationally, La Francophonie has its roots in various private French-speaking associations, some of which have existed for more than 40 years. Among the members and, in some cases, the founders of each of these associations, are Canadians who, in co-operation with their colleagues in other French-speaking countries, have laid the foundation for co-operation among Francophones on the multilateral level.

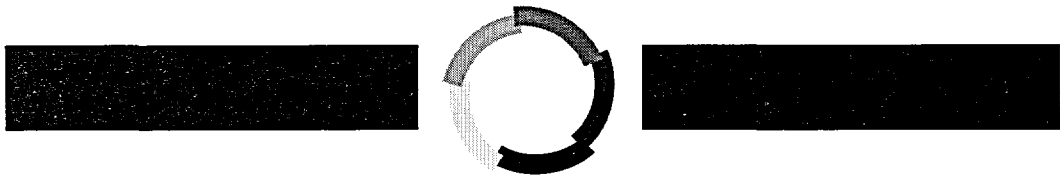
The federal government acted quickly to incorporate La Francophonie into its foreign policy, as a natural extension of Canada's bilingualism on the international scene. Canada participates in all multilateral French-speaking associations and is one of the founding countries of the **Agency for Cultural and Technical Co-operation (ACCT)**, where it has played a very active role since the beginning. Canada is also involved in two annual Francophone intergovernmental conferences — the **Conference of Ministers of Education (CONFEMEN)** and the **Conference of Youth and Sports Ministers of French-Speaking Countries (CONFESJES)**.



Since 1986, the Francophone movement has gained new momentum. Three conferences that included heads of state and heads of government of countries using French as a common language, are now commonly known as the **Francophone Summits**. Canada hosted the second Summit, in Quebec City, that followed the Dakar Summit and preceded the Paris Summit. It has also been actively involved in all phases of Summit preparation.

Canadian participation in La Francophonie at the multilateral level is indicative of Canada's desire to project a clear image on the international scene. Efforts to bring the Francophone community closer together is of interest not only to the federal government, but to all Canadians.

At a very early stage, Quebec displayed an interest in La Francophonie. The federal government also encouraged other provinces with a large French-speaking population to become involved. As a result, representatives of four provinces (Quebec, Ontario, New Brunswick and Manitoba) participated in the 1970 Constitutional Conference of the ACCT.



2. Francophone Institutions

Over the years, the Francophone community has developed various structures and mechanisms for exchange, co-operation and management. In each case, Canadians continue to play an active role.

2.1 Standing Ministerial Conferences

A. The Conference of Ministers of Education (CONFEMEN)

Since 1960, the goal of the **CONFEMEN** has been to encourage a better adaptation of education to the processes of economic and social development of member countries, and to share the results of experiments carried out to this end, particularly through action programs affirming the organization's role as an agent of effective co-operation. The Canadian delegation to CONFEMEN meetings normally include representatives of four provinces: Quebec, New Brunswick, Ontario and Manitoba, in accordance with procedures developed with the federal government.

Canada also maintains contact with the African and Malagasi Council on Higher Education (CAMES) in Ouagadougou (Burkina Faso). The **CAMES** is a specialized agency of the CONFEMEN.

B. The Conference of Youth and Sports Ministers (CONFESJES)

The **CONFESJES**, created in 1969 by participants with a common desire to establish a policy to promote and protect youth, now includes 26 countries. For a number of years, the CONFESJES has been focusing increasingly on the training of instructors and group leaders in the two sectors with a major annual action program. Like CONFEMEN, the Canadian delegation includes representatives of Quebec, New Brunswick, Ontario and Manitoba.

In September 1987, the heads of state and government met in Quebec City for the second Summit, at which time they established the Francophone Games. The CONFESJES was given chief organizational responsibilities. The inaugural games were held in Morocco in the summer of 1989.

The Games were quite successful considering the restrictive time frame to organize an event of this scope. In fact, delegations of artists and athletes from 39 countries took part in the first Games. Forty national athletic records and the production of original and noteworthy artistic works provided tangible evidence of a Francophonie that is dynamic, rich and full of promise.




The second Francophone Games will be held in France in 1993. Already, a national steering committee is co-operating with the Executive Secretariat of the International Committee to establish the necessary infrastructures for this event. The Games will be an outstanding showcase for Francophone countries to demonstrate the originality and diversity of their culture.

2.2 Francophone Non-Governmental Organizations

The majority of Francophone associations are professional in origin or were created on the basis of common goals.

The involvement of these organizations in a wide variety of fields and many programs and activities is a particularly important dimension of La Francophonie, and imparts to it an even more dynamic character taking it well beyond the government sector.



Accordingly, the federal government supports a number of these associations that are either Canadian in origin or possess significant Canadian participation. This support consists of annual subsidies, contributions to congresses, symposiums or seminars, or loans to personnel granted by the Office of the Federal Co-ordinator for La Francophonie of External Affairs and International Trade Canada (EAITC).

At a time when co-operation among peoples and cultures is rapidly increasing, international non-governmental organizations (NGOs) are becoming more important. Such contributions are intended to provide tangible encouragement to the various groups of Canadians who are actively involved in international affairs.

A. International Association of French-Speaking Parliamentarians (AIPLF)

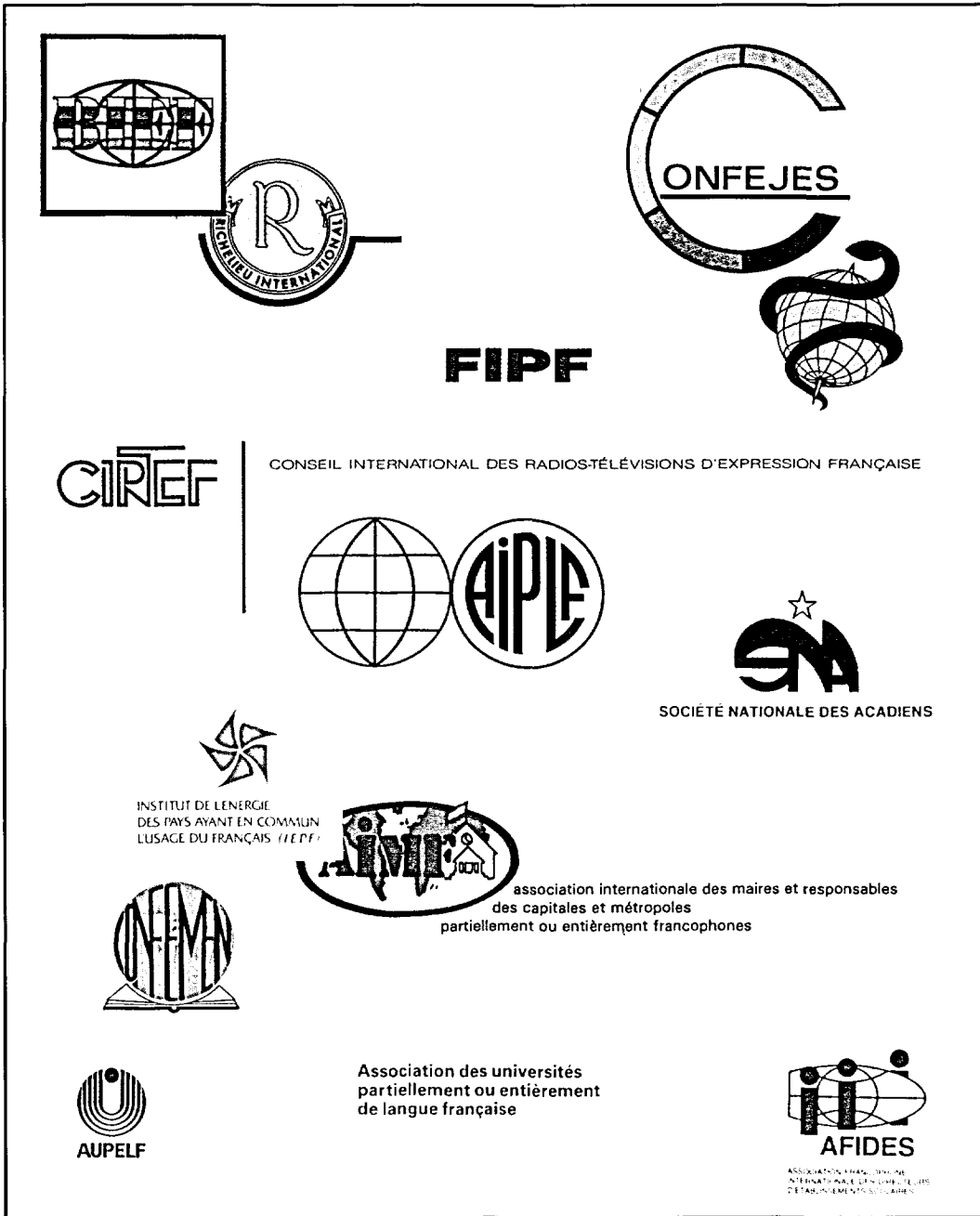
The **AIPLF** was formed in Luxembourg in 1967, in response to the vigorous efforts of countries seeking to expand the influence of La Francophonie. Canada was one of the founding countries. Today, 36 parliaments are represented in the AIPLF. Quebec, New Brunswick and Ontario are autonomous sections with equivalent standing to Canada. Until 1990, the President of the Association was Senator Martial Asselin of Canada.

The goal of the AIPLF is to establish close co-operation among the parliamentarians who are its members by examining cultural, economic and social issues of common interest, thereby strengthening the solidarity created by the common use of French and helping establish a true cultural dialogue.


B. Association of Partly or Wholly French-Speaking Universities (AUPELF)

The **AUPELF**, founded on the initiative of a Quebec journalist, Jean-Marc Léger, has its headquarters in Montreal. The majority of Francophone universities are members of the Association. By promoting exchanges and co-operation, it contributes to the development of university teaching, research and management.

In addition to its fraternal activities, and with the support of governments such as Canada, the AUPELF has established an **International Fund for University Co-operation (FICU)** to create North-South and South-South exchanges.



Logos showing the diversity of organizations involved in La Francophonie.



At the Quebec Summit, the AUPELF was assigned the task of establishing a university of French-language networks (UREF), a French-language open university whose purpose is to consolidate into a network the research and operational capacities of Francophone universities.

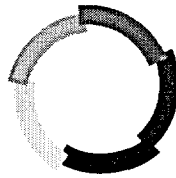
The Canadian government reaffirmed its support for the UREF at the last Summit in Dakar. This program can and must help Francophones develop a response to current scientific challenges.

C. Examples of the Diversity of the Associations Involved

As seen in the examples below, the Francophone associations were based first on the corporate model and then streamlined to coincide with professional interests:

- the Institute of Freedom of Expression in French (**IDEF**);
- the International Union of French-language Journalism (**UIJPLF**);
- the International Association of French-speaking Physicians (**AMMF**);
- Richelieu International;
- the International Council of French Expression in Radio and Television (**CIRTEF**);
- the International Association of French-speaking Mayors (**AIMF**);
- the International Federation of Professors of French (**FIPF**).

These networks (conferences, organizations, associations) are part of La Francophonie worldwide and together form an important vehicle of co-operation within the **Consultative Council** of the Agency for Cultural and Technical Co-operation.



3. The Agency for Cultural and Technical Co-operation (ACCT)

3.1 Origins

In 1968, the initial steps were taken to establish the concept of “La Francophonie” at the government level as the basis for a new form of multilateral co-operation. Government leaders from the African and Malagasi Community (OCAM) met and made plans to inaugurate an annual conference of Francophone heads of state.

They asked, first, that the ministers of education of the countries concerned meet to investigate ways of organizing co-operation among Francophones. As a result, on February 17, 1969, representatives of 28 Francophone countries assembled in Niamey, Niger, to hold the first Intergovernmental Conference, where they adopted the principle that there should be an Agency for Cultural and Technical Co-operation. An acting secretary-general was instructed to prepare a report on the possible activities and constitution of such an organization. The report was submitted at the second conference in early 1970.

Jean-Marc Léger, Secretary-General of the Association of Partly or Wholly French-Language Universities (AUPELF), was appointed Acting Secretary-General and, at the second Niamey Conference in March 1970, Secretary-General of the Agency.

3.2 Canada's Participation

In 1971, the federal government and the government of the province of Quebec reached an agreement on the conditions for Quebec's participation in ACCT institutions, programs and activities. An identical agreement was signed with New Brunswick in 1977.

As a result, the **governments of Quebec and New Brunswick** are recognized as participating governments. They both have a seat and a nameplate at the discussion table (in other words, they have the right to speak), and they are able to contact the Agency directly on questions of program structure. Both governments make separate contributions to the Agency, amounts

that are a fraction of Canada's contribution. It is rare for a federal government to grant the government of a federated or provincial state the status of a participating government in an international or regional organization.

Both participating provinces and the federal government have established mechanisms for providing information and for consultation, so that their actions are consistent and their participation in the Agency vigorous and innovative.

The provinces, in particular Quebec and New Brunswick, make important contributions other than through ACCT activities. They are also involved in the work of other governmental institutions such as the CONFEMEN and the CONFES. The head of the Canadian delegation, who speaks on behalf of Canada, may, in fact, be a provincial minister. Such an eventuality is particularly likely in the case of CONFEMEN, because education is not, strictly speaking, under federal jurisdiction. The provincial governments are co-operating closely in projects of Francophone non-governmental organizations.



ACCT Paris headquarters.

ACCT



3.3 Goals of the ACCT

The goal of the Agency, which now includes 31 member states (including Canada), seven associate states and the two participating governments of Quebec and New Brunswick, is to develop ties of mutual co-operation in education, culture, science and technology to encourage closer relationships among its members with the use of the French language. Thus, while maintaining the existing forms of co-operation, the Agency also seeks a new solidarity among industrialized and developing countries. It supports member countries by helping them develop and expand their respective cultures, by fostering mutual understanding among the peoples involved and by promoting an enlightened outlook of the different Francophone cultures.

3.4 Operation of the ACCT

The ACCT is composed of the **General Conference** that directs its activities and approves the work program, and meets every two years at the ministerial level; the **Board of Directors** that approves and monitors the development of proposals submitted to it by the members, and meets every year; the **Consultative Council** that is responsible for encouraging co-operation between the Agency and the many non-governmental Francophone agencies; and the **Secretariat** that prepares and implements the program and produces budgetary and financial reports.

The Agency also promotes co-ordination and co-operation among Francophone communities by holding sectoral ministerial conferences. For example, the ACCT assembled the Ministers of **Culture** (Cotonou, 1981), the Ministers of **Scientific Research** (Yamoussoukro, 1984), the Ministers of **Communications** (Cairo, 1985) and the Ministers of **Justice** (Paris, 1989). More recently, as the principal instrument for implementing Summit decisions, the ACCT mandated to organize the Conference of Ministers of **Culture** in Liège in November 1990. It is also responsible for the substantive and logistical details of the Ministers of the **Environment** Conference in Tunis in April 1991.

While Canada has participated in each of the conferences, its greatest effort has been directed to achieving tangible results. For Canadians as a whole, TV-5 is the most visible example of this role.



3.5 Structure and Programs

Besides the Secretary-General, the ACCT General Secretariat includes four Directors General, who are responsible, respectively, for culture and communication, education and training, scientific and technical co-operation for development, and finance and administration.

The first three Directors General are directly responsible for the various components of the Agency's program: **Cultural Programs** (including the creation and dissemination of cultural property, support for audio-visual productions); **Education and Training Programs** (including support for the local production of textbooks, training sessions at the International School of Bordeaux); and **Scientific and Technical Programs** (including co-operation with research institutions, renewable energy studies, anti-drought measures).


There is also a fifth Director General who is responsible for the **Special Development Program** (PSD). Canada, which proposed the Program in 1975, provides 80 per cent of the required funding.

The PSD studies and creates modest programs based on the needs expressed by any member of the Agency, particularly in three major sectors: technical assistance, training and upgrading, and technical and feasibility studies.

Co-operation among members is encouraged in the **technical assistance** sector. Projects have included agriculture, national languages, solar energy, the hotel industry, education, radio and television, fisheries, transportation and arts and crafts.

The goal of **training and educational upgrading activity** is to adapt technology to local conditions with study grants. These projects, which emphasize a practical or "hands-on" approach, are concentrated in developing countries to avoid the "brain drain" to the industrialized world and to promote the sharing of local knowledge. Training occurs mainly in public health, agriculture, administration and the preservation of local cultures.

Technical studies have encompassed a wide range of concerns of interest to specific regions. There have been feasibility studies on tourism in the Communauté économique des pays des grands lacs, which includes Burundi, Rwanda and Zaire; a Canadian legal expert helped Mali modernize



its petroleum exploration and development legislation; and, another technical study helped produce and distribute a directory of approximately 500 multidisciplinary training and teaching institutions in Francophone developing countries.

Canada's purpose in creating the PSD was to give new momentum to the Agency and to respond to the needs unanimously expressed by the developing countries, without increasing the burden on the Agency's budget. It also wanted to make the Agency an instrument of constructive co-operation to complement larger-scale forms of bilateral and multilateral assistance.

Over and above the regular branches of the Agency and of the Special Development Program, the **organizational structure** of the ACCT also includes two regional offices, a decentralized unit and a subsidiary organ.

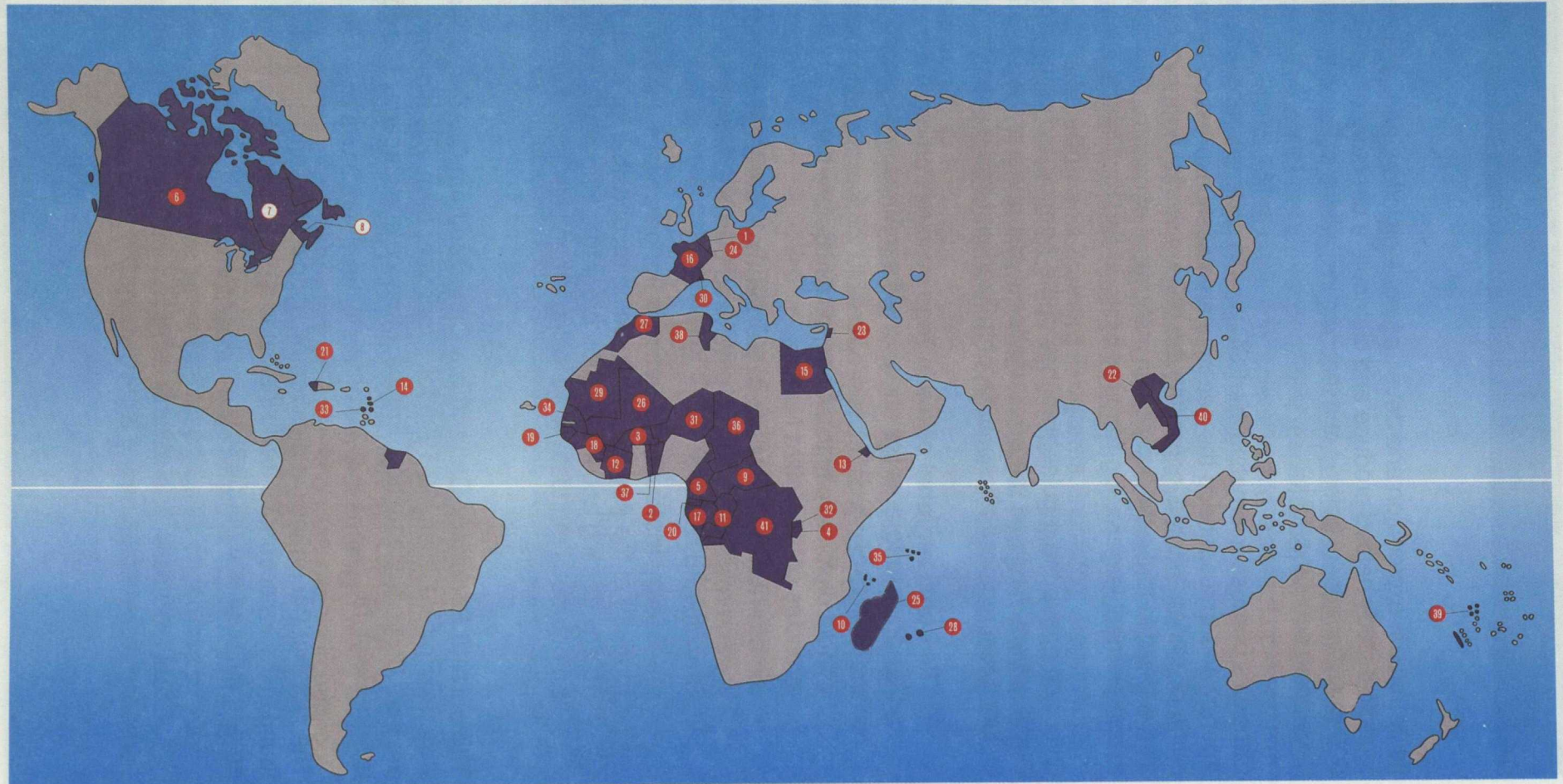
- The **Lome regional office** in Togo oversees co-ordination of the Agency's programs mainly where West Africa is concerned;
- the new **Geneva office** is responsible for representing states without diplomatic missions in this city before the international agencies of the United Nations;
- the **International School of Bordeaux** is the focal point of the training and retraining courses organized by the Education and Training Branch; and finally,
- the **Energy Institute** of Quebec is the only real subsidiary organ (branch) of the Agency which, being responsible for executing the energy training and information programs, can carry out its quasi-autonomous mandate while being organically linked with ACCT headquarters.

The **current Secretary-General** is a Canadian from Quebec, **Jean-Louis Roy**, elected in December 1989 for a four-year term. His directors general are from Burundi, Cameroon, France, Morocco and Canada. The comptroller is from Belgium.

The fact that the Agency is directed by people who represent all viewpoints found in the Francophone world indicates a commitment to ongoing dialogue among cultures and peoples.

○ LA FRANCOPHONIE

Member States of the
Agency for Cultural and
Technical Co-operation

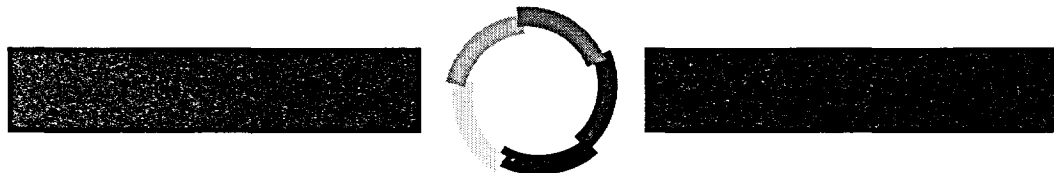


No.	Country	ACCT Membership Status	Population	Capital
11	Belgium	MS	9 930 000	Brussels
22	Benin	MS	4 450 000	Cotonou
31	Burkina Faso	MS	8 530 000	Ouagadougou
41	Burundi	MS	5 150 000	Bujumbura
53	Cameroon	AM	10 670 000	Yaoundé
69	Canada	MS	25 900 000	Ottawa
7	Quebec	PG	6 400 000	Quebec
8	New Brunswick	PG	710 000	Fredericton
39	Central African Republic	MS	2 880 000	Bangui
40	Comoros	MS	490 000	Moroni
41	Congo	MS	1 890 000	Brazzaville
42	Ivory Coast	MS	11 610 000	Abidjan
43	Djibouti	MS	480 000	Djibouti
44	Dominica	MS	95 000	Roseau
45	Egypt	AM	51 900 000	Cairo
46	France	MS	55 800 000	Paris
47	Gabon	MS	1 090 000	Libreville
48	Guinea	MS	6 360 000	Conakry
49	Guinea-Bissau	AM	945 000	Bissau
20	Equatorial Guinea	MS	420 000	Malabo

ACCT: Agency for Cultural and Technical Co-operation
PG: Participating Government

MS: Member State
AM: Associated Member

No.	Country	ACCT Membership Status	Population	Capital
21	Haiti	MS	6 585 000	Port-au-Prince
22	Laos	AM	4 320 000	Vientiane
23	Lebanon	MS	2 830 000	Beirut
24	Luxembourg	MS	367 000	Luxembourg
25	Madagascar	MS	11 430 300	Antananarivo
26	Mali	MS	8 920 000	Bamako
27	Morocco	AM	23 900 000	Rabat
28	Mauritius	MS	1 080 000	Port-Louis
29	Mauritania	AM	2 010 000	Nouakchott
30	Monaco	MS	30 000	Monaco
31	Niger	MS	7 350 000	Niamey
32	Rwanda	MS	6 760 000	Kigali
33	St. Lucia	AM	133 000	Castries
34	Senegal	MS	6 980 000	Dakar
35	Seychelles	MS	76 000	Victoria
36	Chad	MS	5 400 000	N'Djamena
37	Togo	MS	3 250 000	Lomé
38	Tunisia	MS	7 810 000	Tunis
39	Vanuatu	MS	154 000	Port-Vila
40	Viet Nam	MS	64 230 000	Hanoi
41	Zaire	MS	33 460 000	Kinshasa



4. Francophone Summits

4.1 Emergence of the Summits

It should be recognized in official history that the idea of bringing together the Francophone heads of state and government in a summit emerged long before the first formal meeting organized in 1986 under the auspices of France. In fact, the idea had already germinated in the 1970s and was promoted by certain heads of state, namely presidents Bourguiba of Tunisia, Diouri of Niger and Senghor of Senegal.


The particular situation of Canada and the objective difficulties involved in having Quebec participate in an operation which in principle was designed for sovereign states only were, of course, partly responsible for delaying the project's implementation. In the mid-1980s, the Canadian government designed a process to enable Quebec to legitimately participate in these conferences while retaining the principle of federal sovereignty in foreign policy. **Canada's Prime Minister**, The Right Honourable Brian Mulroney, took this matter in hand personally and **was primarily responsible for an original arrangement** satisfactory to both parties.

Schematically this arrangement, which still governs the relations of the two Canadian constituents, provides for full co-operation by **Quebec** in the "**co-operation**" aspect of the Summit, while **Canada** reserves the primacy of roles for the "**political and economic**" aspect, Quebec having the status of "interested observer" in this regard.

From this perspective, the personal political will of the Canadian head of government was primarily responsible for making the first Summit possible.

4.2 The First Three Summits

There have been three Summits since 1986. They have been occasions for a remarkable mobilization of resources and energy that compensate for the lack of an organizational structure, such as the Commonwealth Secretariat, to support this kind of enterprise. As an alternative, the heads of state have chosen the "personal representatives" formula to implement their decisions — the establishment of an "**International Follow-up Committee**" (CIS) for each Summit. This approach ensures that post-Summit activities are flexible and can be implemented without unnecessary delay, and makes it possible to quickly assemble resources that would be impossible otherwise.



In concrete terms, Canada now allocates approximately three times more resources to La Francophonie than it did even three years ago. The management of the projects announced at the Dakar Summit and the related institutional support and grants requires a budget of approximately \$65 million.

In other words, the Summits have **drastically changed, both quantitatively and qualitatively**, the face of La Francophonie. At the qualitative level, La Francophonie has changed from a traditionally cultural undertaking to a forum for co-operation in the nine highly technical fields that are considered priorities:

- agriculture
- energy
- environment
- culture
- communications
- scientific and technological information
- language industries
- legal co-operation
- education and training.

At the first Summit, held in Paris in 1986, the heads of state established the CIS to ensure that the decisions reached at the Summit were implemented. This approach, also intended to compensate for the ACCT's lack of preparedness, has played a major role in La Francophonie's new vitality, referred to earlier. Nevertheless, some aspects of the formula presented drawbacks. An undertaking cannot survive for long with political will only. A structure and other support are also needed. Furthermore, most of the Summit projects were highly technical, requiring the constant involvement of specialists who were not members of the Follow-up Committee. As a result, there was a gradual shift of the powers and prerogatives of the Committee to the ACCT Secretariat. This natural process is now being encouraged politically, as the ACCT continues to undergo the structural reforms and program changes called for by the Summits. Canada was involved in shaping and implementing the reform process conducted through the **Commission on the Future of Institutions**, a body chaired by Jean-Louis Roy of Quebec, who was actively supported by the Government of Canada, chair of the CIS at that time. This reform process aptly illustrates the rapid changes of the ACCT resulting from the Summits.

4.3 ACCT's Changing Mandate

At the time of the first Francophone Summit in Paris in 1986, the ACCT had fallen into a kind of bureaucratic lethargy which rendered it incapable of playing a significant role. Thus, the **first Summit** largely ignored it as far



Opening session of the Quebec Summit.

as operations were concerned, as illustrated by its decision to establish a CIS, while challenging it politically and forcing it to revise its structures, objectives and programs. As a result, the International Follow-up Committee formed the **Internal Committee on Institutional Reform** to establish a Summit role for the Agency that was potentially central. Canada had an influential and decisive voice on the Committee, in calling for thorough reform if the Agency was to fulfil the new responsibilities the Summits had in mind for it.

The Paris Summit challenged the ACCT, but the **Quebec Summit** acted as a catalyst by:

- using it as its chief instrument;
- requesting that it adjust its budget and programs as dictated by the decisions made at the Summit;
- associating it directly with the work of the CIS via a joint advisory committee and a special advisor for follow-up;
- in particular, by submitting it to an in-depth review and assigning it a role tailored to the requirements of the Summits. This task was carried out by the **Roy Commission on the Future of Institutions**, chaired by Quebecker Jean-Louis Roy. The Canadian government was closely involved in this exercise, in co-operation with Quebec.


The **Dakar Summit**, among other things, confirmed this evolution of the Agency and made it the Summit Co-ordinating Secretariat, authorized to submit program and budget proposals, and to provide logistical support for operations.

This entire evolutionary process was formally ratified at the **ACCT General Conference of Ministers**, in Ottawa in December 1989. On that occasion also, the organizational reforms and program adjustments prescribed by the Summits were approved, and **Jean-Louis Roy** was elected **Secretary-General of the ACCT**. Mr. Roy, a Quebecker, received the firm support of the federal government, which viewed the position as particularly important given the enhanced role the Agency was to play in the Summits.

The ACCT's **current challenge** is therefore to demonstrate its ability to carry through with the 82 projects announced at Dakar. This is obviously a test for the ACCT, in that its immediate goal could be to become the real executive secretariat of the Summits, somewhat like the Commonwealth Secretariat. This would amount to another qualitative change in the mandate and prerogatives of the ACCT (if the next Summit should so decide),



The Right Honourable Brian Mulroney, Prime Minister of Canada, shakes hands with Mr. Jean-Louis Roy, the Quebec General Delegate in Paris, who became the Secretary-General of the ACCT at the December 1989 General Conference in Ottawa.



because it would have a genuine role in making decisions with respect to co-operation, as opposed to its current role of co-ordinating and setting out proposals.

4.4 Current Priorities

A. The Emergence of New Priorities

The Dakar Summit saw the emergence of new action themes that have been added to the five priority sectors of the previous Summit. In its capacity of host country, Senegal undertook to promote the **education and training sector**, which it felt should be the trademark of the Dakar meeting.

On its part, through the committed intervention of its Prime Minister, Canada adopted a **resolution on the environment** making this a full-fledged priority sector, and called for the convening of a conference of ministers of the environment, which was planned for April 1991 in Tunis. In addition to the adoption of this theme, which will take the form of four initiatives announced by Canada for this sector alone, the Canadian Prime Minister distinguished himself by the **submission of a resolution on human rights**, a first in the context of multilateral Francophonie. This resolution was largely responsible for the concrete actions now being carried out by the ACCT in its program of legal and judicial co-operation.

In the coming years, Canada should continue to place 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 bring that which is done into line with that which is said.

B. Launching of Projects Announced at Dakar

The projects announced at Dakar are now in their launch phase. After a somewhat slow start because of the election of a new Secretary-General of the ACCT in the fall of 1989, and the installation of four new directors general at the beginning of the year, progress is now being made. Canada is monitoring developments carefully through its active participation in the CIS and its regular intervention with the Agency Secretariat to maintain the **pace of implementation** of the projects and to ensure their full and satisfactory completion. The table below describes approximately 23 active projects of the 82 projects approved at Dakar, originated by Canada.

**Canadian Commitments to Follow-up of Dakar Summit
for 1990 and 1991**

	New financing (C\$ 000s)	Financing continued or from various sources* (C\$ 000s)
Agriculture and Environment Network		
Agriculture and Conservation Sector		
• Establishment of a regional centre for specialized instruction in agriculture	1 000	
• Adaptation/translation/dissemination of specialized agricultural documentation	1 000	
• Support for co-operative research networks (particularly in fisheries and aquaculture)	700	
• Fund to support specialized training	300	
• Technology transfer	400	
– embryo transfers		
– forestry resources		
• Integrated SMB development in agri-food	1 000	
• SYFIA (Francophone integrated system for agricultural information)		200
• Reinforcement of Ivorian Centre for Economic and Social Research (CIREs)		4 100
Environment Sector		
• Support for national tropical forest plans	500	
• Environmental Chair at the University of Alexandria	500	
• Feasibility study of management of large rivers and establishment of a data bank	50	100
• Agri-forestry development in the countries of the Sahel		4 000 (5 500 over 4 years)

* Commitments made at previous summits and continued beyond the Dakar Summit or financing included in a bilateral framework.



	New financing (C\$ 000s)	Financing continued or from various sources* (C\$ 000s)
– support for national services		
– research in and dissemination of technologies in the conservation and assimilation of the environment		
– training and dissemination of specialized information		
Network subtotal	<u>5 450</u>	<u>8 400</u>
Language Industries		
• Distribution of a software package for French teaching		300
• Support for seminars on the national languages		280
Scientific Information and Technological Development		
• International Bank on the Francophone States (BIEF)	1 000	1 050
• Structuring of documentary systems on countries of the South		
• Regional service centres		
• Distribution of scientific journals		
• University of French-speaking networks (program support)	<u>550</u>	
Network subtotal	<u>1 550</u>	<u>1 050</u>
Energy		
• Seminars on energy saving		
• Remote sensing of Sahel water resources (continued)	1 000	
• Dissemination of expertise (to support Energy Institute)		
• Training program for hydrocarbon management (continued)		<u>4 000</u>
Network subtotal	<u>1 000</u>	<u>4 000</u>



	New financing (C\$ 000s)	Financing continued or from various sources* (C\$ 000s)
Communications and Culture		
• TV-5 Canada-Quebec and Caribbean		7 000
• Support for cultural sector		
• TV-5 Africa	600	
• Development of rural radio	750	
• Agence des télécommunications de la Francophonie (ATF)	250	
• Centre international francophone de formation à distance (CIIFFAD) (programming support)	800	
• Support program for productions of the South	100	
• Support for audio-visual production assistance program in the South – exchange of personnel – joint production and directing – promotion and distribution		
	<u>2 500</u>	<u>7 000</u>
Non-network		
Fund to support scientific translation	500	2 000
Extra fund	1 000	
Scholarships for apartheid victims		175
Francophonie scholarships		1 700
Immunization program		1 700
Francophone Games		1 600
Operational contributions		1 000
Subtotal	<u>1 500</u>	<u>23 475</u>
Total	<u>12 000</u>	<u>44 505</u>
Grand total (over 2 years)	<u>56 505</u>	




The Ministers of Culture of La Francophonie meeting in Liège in November 1990.

C. Some of the Projects Undertaken

Some of the projects now being promoted and carried out by Canada, as agreed, in the nine priority activity sectors of the Summits are:

- (1) **Agriculture:** establishment of a regional centre for specialized agricultural education (CIRES), and a technology transfer project in the field of embryo transfer, carried out by the Institute of Veterinary Medicine in Saint-Hyacinthe;
- (2) **Energy:** organization of seminars on energy conservation by Lavalin (training), and establishment of a program on the remote sensing of water resources in the Sahel countries by the Centre for Research and Application in Remote Sensing at the University of Sherbrooke;
- (3) **Environment:** institution of an "environment chair" at the Francophone University of Alexandria, administered by the University of Quebec in Montreal, and a bilingual scientific journal on this subject, *ECODECISION*, produced by the Royal Society of Canada;

- 
- (4) **Culture:** \$3 million promised by Canada for the action plan resulting from the recent Conference of Ministers of Culture in Liège, Belgium, November 6 to 8, 1990;
 - (5) **Communications:** continuation of radio projects in rural areas and exchanges of journalists, including the continuation of TV-5;
 - (6) **Language industries:** efforts by Canada to promote the distribution of software for education in French and support for user training;
 - (7) **Scientific and technological information:** the main project is the Banque d'information sur les États francophones (BIEF), designed, developed and managed by Canada;
 - (8) **Education and training:** the main focus is to establish a program of bursaries for technical training, to which Canada has committed \$0.5 million, and consolidation of the distance education project (CIEFFAD), which had originally been assigned to the Télé-Université of Quebec in Montreal;
 - (9) **Legal co-operation:** Canada is promoting a human rights unit within the ACCT Secretariat, whose main role will be the documentation and dissemination of information.

4.5 The Foreseeable Future and its Challenges

Canada is pursuing three definite objectives that are general in nature but at the same time focused on the next Summit. These objectives are concerned with **co-operation**, but they are also **political** and **institutional** in nature.

A. Objectives Related to Co-operation

- (1) To consolidate projects currently under way and ensure that their effects will be lasting and significant;
- (2) to strive for critical mass, thereby eliminating the possibility of too many, widely dispersed microprojects;
- (3) to promote the practice of "collective dialogue" fostered by this type of multilateral co-operation.

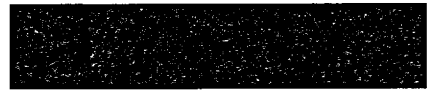
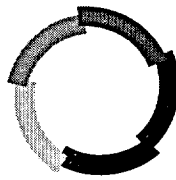
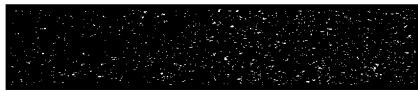


B. Political Objectives

- (1) To raise the political profile of the Summits;
- (2) to make the follow-up structure more sensitive and responsive to sudden changes and topical developments between Summits;
- (3) to place greater emphasis on human rights issues, on strengthening the state of the law and on promoting democracy.

C. Institutional Objectives

- (1) To ensure the continued existence of La Francophonie by providing it with durable institutional foundations;
- (2) to promote the multilateral approach in decision-making, thereby enhancing the ACCT's role, while avoiding a process that is unnecessarily bureaucratic and one that may result in a demobilization on the part of the member states;
- (3) to simplify the institutional mechanics of the Summits, while strengthening the political follow-up with the creation of a high-level body that would meet between the Summits.



5. Conclusion

Canada's objectives in participating in La Francophonie, while clearly defined, are not based on the hope of an immediate return or, even less, on the prospect of financial gain. The advantages that Canada expects to receive from its participation may be less focused, but they are no less real. They are related to **equilibrium**, to Canada's potential **influence** on a community that includes more than one quarter of the world's nations and to the cultural, scientific and other **benefits** it can derive from its association with them.


As in the case of any valid foreign policy, Canada's "Francophone policy" must be based on its domestic realities and concerns, and in the international sphere on the comparative advantages that maximize its influence abroad.

Therefore, **at the domestic level**, La FRANCOPHONIE is regarded as:

- the extension of Canadian linguistic duality abroad;
- a vehicle for reaffirming and developing the French fact in Canada.

At the international level, La FRANCOPHONIE is regarded as:

- a natural sphere of influence for Canada, comparable to its role in the Americas (Organization of American States [OAS]) the English-speaking world (the Commonwealth), the West (NATO) and so forth;
- another multilateral forum in which a middle power such as Canada is in the best position to exert its influence and to operate at its full potential;
- an enclave in which members can co-operate and discuss the issues that concern them and the values they would like to share.

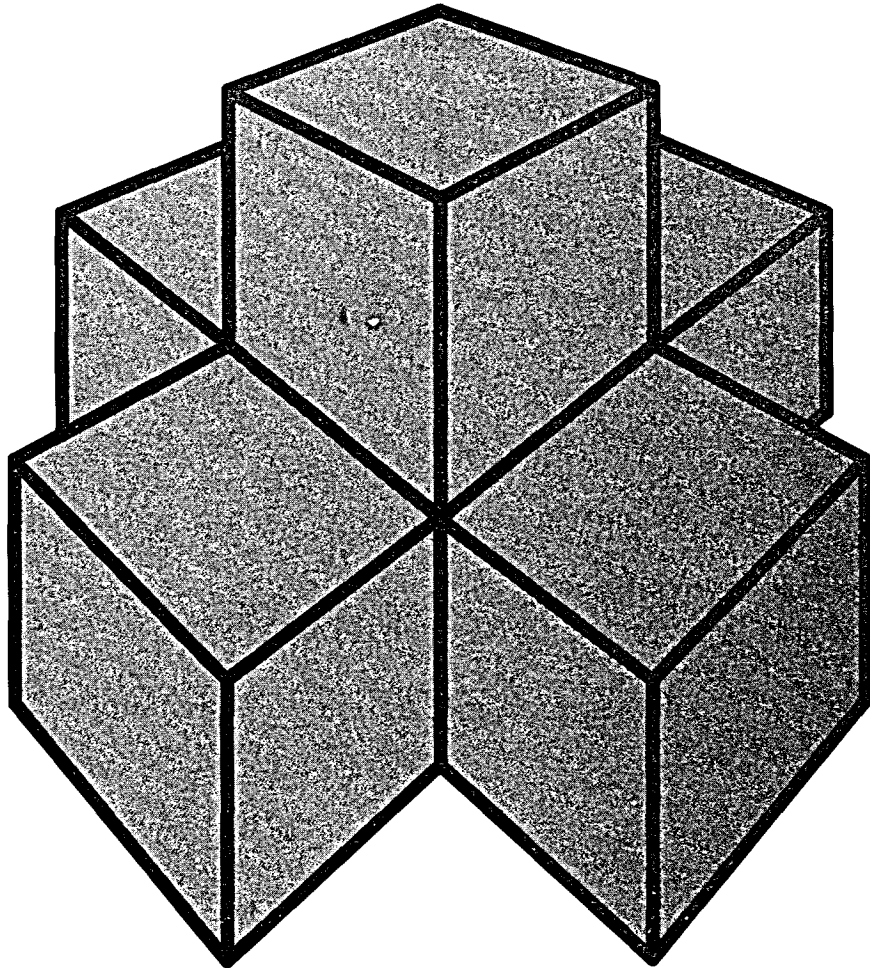


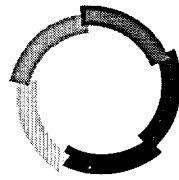
The ultimate objective is to **create a real community**, which will strengthen the ties of interdependence, thereby establishing true solidarity. This objective is particularly difficult to attain because La Francophonie consists of many diverse entities that are asymmetrical in their stages of development, politically heterogeneous and geographically dispersed.

In other words, it is a "community in the making" whose emergence has been assisted to a great extent by existing institutions and associations. The political will emanating from the Summits and the methods that have been agreed upon should do the rest, ultimately creating a configuration that is unified and effective.

II

Management of La Francophonie in Canada





6. Management Structure

6.1 Office of the Federal Co-ordinator for La Francophonie

As a key element in Canada's foreign policy, La Francophonie is managed by the Office of the Secretary of State for External Affairs and International Trade (EAITC). Specifically, the **Office of the Federal Co-ordinator for La Francophonie**, within the international and multilateral policy sector of the Department, is directly responsible.


As its name indicates, the Federal Co-ordinator's Office has a mandate to co-ordinate all departmental and interdepartmental activities related to La Francophonie. The Office also manages, as part of its own budget, most of the funds earmarked for **Francophone associations, institutions, the ACCT and projects arising from the Summits**. Other funds managed by the **Multilateral Branch of the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA)** are used to finance the co-operation programs of several Francophone institutions, such as the AUPELF-FICU, ACCT-PSD, CONFEJES and CONFEMEN.

Similarly, the Professional Services Branch of CIDA manages an important Francophone bursaries program, under which approximately 350 students per year from Francophone Third World countries attend university.

As to Summit preparation and follow-up, the Office of the Federal Co-ordinator works in close co-operation with the Personal Representative appointed by the Prime Minister, who represents Canada officially on the CIS. These "sherpa" duties on the Committee are carried out from the Canadian Embassy in Paris, since most of the Committee's monthly meetings are held in the French capital, for practical reasons.

The Personal Representative is assisted by an ACCT **national liaison representative** who is the intermediary between ACCT and EAITC.

With respect to **ministerial responsibility**, the Office of the Co-ordinator is answerable to the Right Honourable Joe Clark, **Secretary of State for External Affairs**, for general policy issues and budgetary commitments. However, specific responsibilities have been assigned to two other ministers: the Prime Minister has given the Honourable Marcel Masse, **Minister of Communications**, responsibility for the ACCT and the Summits, and has given the Honourable Monique Landry, **Minister for External**



Relations and International Development, responsibility for the association and institution aspects of La Francophonie. Other government ministers may also be called upon to lead delegations to specific ministerial conferences. This frequently happens in the case of the annual Conference of Youth and Sports Ministers.

6.2 Interdepartmental Co-operation

La Francophonie is becoming increasingly specialized and multidisciplined in the projects it generates. The Office of the Federal Co-ordinator must therefore rely upon a network of accredited **sectoral correspondents** in various federal departments, representing **the nine priority sectors** of Summit activities.


The following departments serve as referees for the sectors indicated:

A. Agriculture network	CIDA and the Department of Agriculture
B. Energy	CIDA
C. Environment	Department of the Environment
D. Culture	Department of Communications
E. Communications	Department of Communications
F. Language industries	Department of the Secretary of State
G. Legal co-operation	Department of Justice
H. Scientific information	Department of the Secretary of State
I. Education and training	CIDA

The role of the sectoral correspondents is to translate the general directions announced by the heads of state at the Summits into specific projects, within the mandates and budgets allocated to them by the Office of the Federal Co-ordinator. To this end, they are members of the International **Committee of Experts** established by the ACCT for each Summit sector.

6.3 Public Consultation

The Government of Canada, in its desire to ensure that the positions it adopts are appropriate and will have a significant impact, consults representatives of associations and independent sectoral experts on a regular basis, while continuing to co-operate systematically with the provincial governments, but, primarily with Quebec.

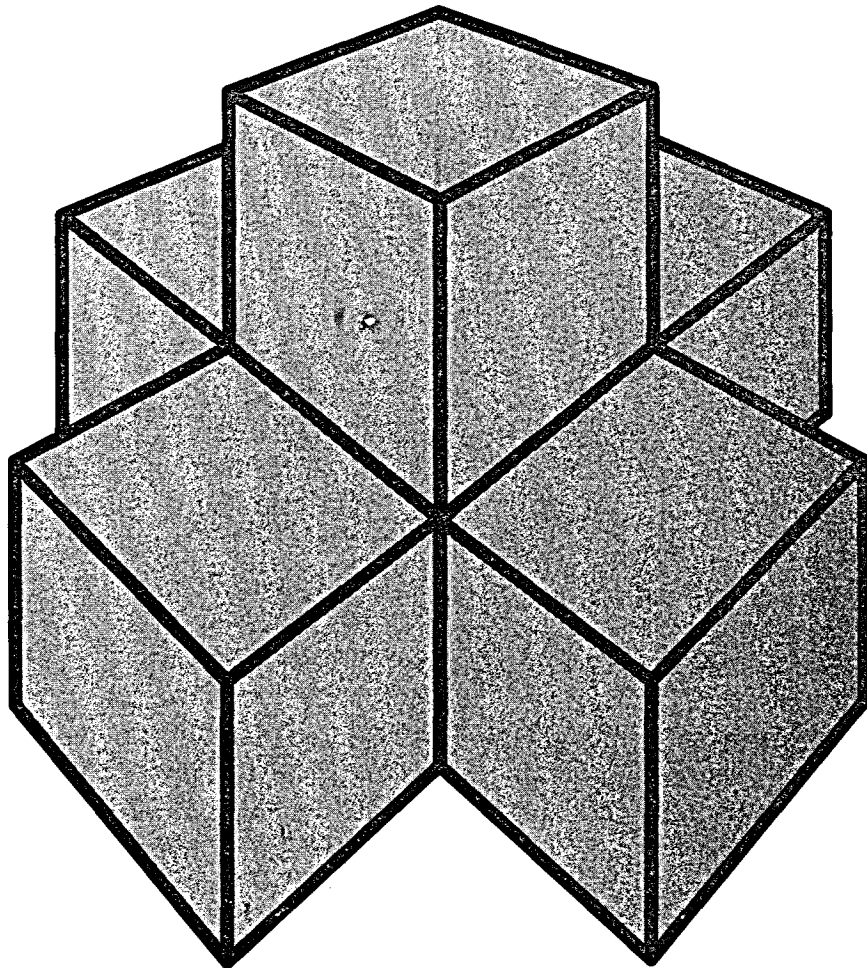


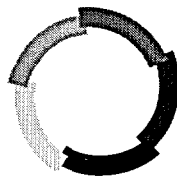
To organize this consultation more effectively and to make it more public, Mr. Masse established a **Canadian Advisory Council on La Francophonie** in October 1990, whose mandate is to advise the Minister of the appropriateness and merit of decisions. The Council, composed of 12 individuals who have achieved recognition in their fields, has the advantage of providing an **outside view** of La Francophonie, from a Canadian perspective.

The Office of the Federal Co-ordinator for La Francophonie serves as a resource body for the Council.

III

La Francophonie at the Bilateral Level





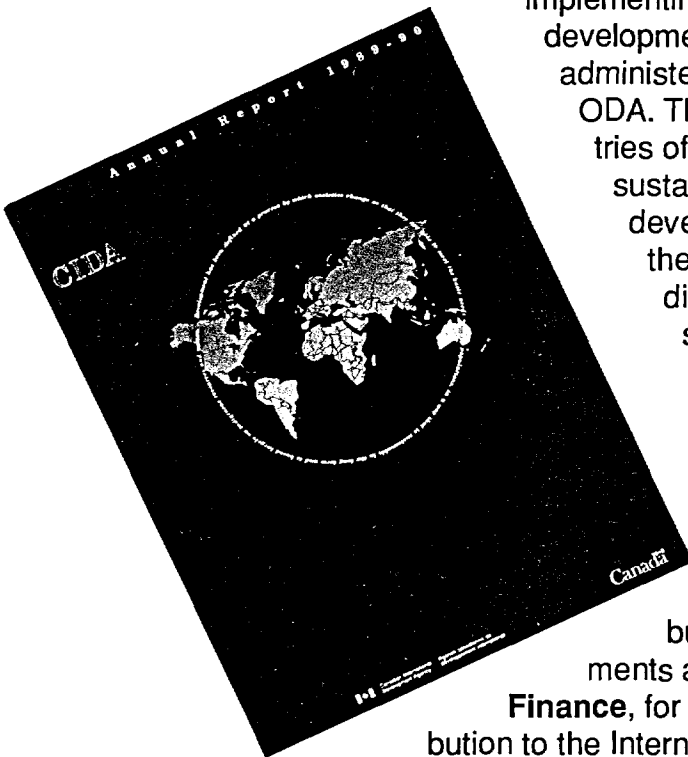
7. Canada's Official Development Assistance Program


As approved by Parliament, the Official Development Assistance Program (ODA) is one of the main instruments at Canada's disposal for promoting social justice at the international level. This co-operative Program is designed mainly to support the efforts of developing countries to meet the basic, long-term needs of their peoples by relying largely on their own resources and values.

Canada allocated more than \$2.9 billion to international co-operation for fiscal year 1988-89. This contribution places Canada in the principal donor category on the Development Assistance Committee of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).

The Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), which is responsible for implementing the major part of the Canadian development co-operation program, administers approximately 80 per cent of the ODA. The Agency's goal is to help the countries of the Third World achieve self-sustaining social and economic development. Focusing on the needs of the poorest countries and most disadvantaged groups, CIDA pays special attention to three priority sectors where the needs are immense: agriculture and food production, energy, and human resource development.

The remaining 20 per cent of the ODA comes from the contributions of other government departments and agencies. The **Department of Finance**, for example, provides Canada's contribution to the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development and the International Development Association, also identified as the World Bank. In fiscal year 1988-89, Canada contributed \$256 million to these organizations.





The **International Development Research Centre (IDRC)** supports efforts by Third World countries to acquire research capabilities in the fields of agriculture, forestry, fisheries, energy, health and education. The IDRC also administers part of Canada's ODA in these areas.

External Affairs and International Trade Canada (EAITC) contributes to the regular budgets and voluntary funds of several multilateral organizations such as the World Health Organization (WHO) and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), while Canada Post, and Health and Welfare Canada provide financial support for the development activities of other international agencies. These contributions amounted to \$103 million in 1988-89.

Other Canadian institutions and organizations are also active in La Francophonie. The Canadian Broadcasting Corporation and the National Film Board, for example, have co-operative programs for production, technical assistance and training.


The **Petro-Canada International Assistance Corporation**, which was created in 1981 to assist developing countries in reducing their dependence on imported oil by using Canadian technology and expertise in oil and gas exploration, allocated \$61 million in 1988-89 to development projects.

The provincial governments are also involved in Third World development through their support for non-governmental organization (NGO) programs. They contributed \$12.9 million to these programs in 1988-89.

7.1 The Canadian International Development Agency

CIDA provides assistance through four program categories:

- **Bilateral programs** (government-to-government) support more than 1 000 projects in approximately 105 Third World countries. This category of assistance is applied to infrastructure projects, rural and agricultural development, and lines of credit. Assistance in the form of food aid has been granted to countries stricken by drought, famine and food shortages.
- **Multilateral programs** support a minimum of 85 international organizations, including the United Nations agencies, regional development banks and humanitarian institutions, which are in the best position to resolve problems related to world development.

- 
- **Special programs** promote and support the initiatives of more than 400 Canadian voluntary institutions and organizations wishing to be more active in international development.
 - The **Business Co-operation Program** supports the initiatives of approximately 700 Canadian companies interested in participating in development efforts.

7.2 Canadian Assistance to Developing Francophone Countries

Canada provides development assistance in one form or another to 35 countries that are members of La Francophonie. Of these, 28 are in Africa, three are in the Caribbean and four are in the Middle East, Asia and Oceania.

A. Africa

For administrative purposes, CIDA has divided Canadian aid efforts to Africa into a program for Francophone Africa and a program for Anglophone Africa. Four African member countries of La Francophonie are attached administratively to the Anglophone Africa program: Djibouti, Egypt, Mauritius and the Seychelles.

Canada's development assistance program for Francophone Africa was established in the early 1970s. **The priority sectors for development** have been agriculture, energy and human resource development, although substantial aid has also been provided in the areas of transportation, communications, water supply, human settlement, the environment, health and population. In recent years, a greater emphasis has been put on the integration of women into the development process.

In 10 of the Francophone countries of Africa, known as the core countries, CIDA is implementing a multi-year co-operation program, to include major special projects such as the project for the Sahel region and another on the problem of AIDS.

The 10 core countries are Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Ivory Coast, Egypt, Guinea, Mali, Niger, Rwanda, Senegal and Zaire.

**Government-to-Government Assistance Disbursements
(CIDA funds)**
(\$ million)

	1987-88	1988-89	1989-90
Francophone Africa			
Algeria Contributions	4.15	3.77	3.26
Loans	0.59		
Loan repayments	-0.87	-1.66	-1.67
EDC* Section 31			0.22
Total	3.88	2.11	1.82
Benin			
Contributions	0.20	1.40	0.45
Total	0.20	1.40	0.45
Burkina Faso			
Contributions	12.25	14.58	10.46
Total	12.25	14.58	10.46
Burundi			
Contributions	0.73	0.36	0.35
Total	0.73	0.36	0.35
Cameroon			
Contributions	12.12	24.52	176.26
Loan repayments	-0.03	-0.35	-143.28
Total	12.08	24.17	32.98
Cape Verde			
Contributions	0.37	0.41	0.19
Total	0.37	0.41	0.19
Central African Republic			
Contributions	0.25	0.36	0.22
Total	0.25	0.36	0.22
Chad			
Contributions	0.35	0.39	0.22
Total	0.35	0.39	0.22
Comoros			
Contributions	0.07	0.06	0.03
Total	0.07	0.06	0.03
Congo			
Contributions	0.25	0.35	22.69
Loan repayments			-22.60
Total	0.25	0.35	0.09
Ivory Coast			
Contributions	10.64	15.71	88.48
Loan repayments			-79.96
Total	10.64	15.71	8.52
Equatorial Guinea			
Contributions	0.16	0.16	0.09
Total	0.16	0.16	0.09
Gabon			
Contributions	3.11	3.71	16.49
Loan repayments			-7.61
Total	3.11	3.71	8.88

*Export Development Corporation

	1987-88	1988-89	1989-90
Gambia			
Contributions	0.31	0.32	0.16
Total	0.31	0.32	0.16
Guinea			
Contributions	7.46	9.35	3.71
Total	7.46	9.35	3.71
Guinea-Bissau			
Contributions	0.36	0.37	0.18
Total	0.36	0.37	0.18
Madagascar			
Contributions	0.55	0.48	23.87
Loan repayments			-22.96
Total	0.55	0.48	0.91
Mali			
Contributions	15.99	21.63	22.23
Total	15.99	21.63	22.23
Mauritania			
Contributions	5.64	4.57	0.53
Loan repayments	-0.05	-4.10	
Total	5.59	0.48	0.53
Morocco			
Contributions	9.28	13.20	10.23
Loans	0.01		
Loan repayments	-0.30		-0.01
Loan reschedulings	0.30		
EDC Section 31 *		11.38	18.16
Total	9.29	24.58	28.38
Niger			
Contributions	23.91	21.50	16.13
Total	23.91	21.50	16.13
Rwanda			
Contributions	8.02	12.34	15.09
Total	8.02	12.34	15.09
Sao Tome and Principe			
Contributions	0.07	0.08	0.06
Total	0.07	0.08	0.06
Senegal			
Contributions	28.91	24.52	42.60
Loan repayments			-15.09
Total	28.91	24.52	27.51
Togo			
Contributions	1.56	18.24	0.49
Loan repayments		-16.57	
Total	1.56	1.67	0.49
Tunisia			
Contributions	8.11	17.30	8.76
Loans	0.16		
Loan repayments	-1.53	-1.55	-1.55
Total	6.73	15.75	7.21

*Export Development Corporation

	1987-88	1988-89	1989-90
Zaire			
Contributions	23.41	22.21	51.79
Loans	0.07		
Loan repayments			-31.30
Total	23.48	22.21	20.50
Regional Programs			
Sahel			
Contributions	19.34	13.00	13.17
of which: Burkina Faso		0.09	0.28
Total	19.34	13.00	13.17
Francophone Africa Programs			
Contributions	4.79	4.95	4.44
Loan repayments			-1.68
Total	4.79	4.95	2.76
Total Francophone Africa			
Contributions	202.31	249.78	532.64
EDC Section 31*		11.38	18.38
Loans	0.84		
Loan repayments	-2.78	-24.23	-327.70
Loan reschedulings	0.30		
Total	200.67	237.00	223.32

Other Programs

St. Lucia			
Contributions	2.38	1.34	1.66
Loan repayments	-0.01	-0.02	-x
Total	2.37	1.32	1.66
Dominica			
Contributions	1.51	5.65	4.76
Loan repayments	-0.05	-0.04	-0.04
Total	1.46	5.61	4.72
Haiti			
Contributions	8.88	8.83	10.16
Total	8.88	8.83	10.16
Lebanon			
Contributions	0.10	0.20	0.10
Total	0.10	0.20	0.10
Vanuatu			
Contributions	0.32		
Total	0.32		

*Export Development Corporation
Source: CIDA Annual Report 1989-90



B. Caribbean

Canadian bilateral aid to the Caribbean region is directed mainly to infrastructure improvement, industrial and natural resource development and increased support for local institutions and NGOs involved in training activities. The main objective of Canadian assistance to this region is to create productive employment. Unemployment is one of the most serious problems of Caribbean countries, accompanied by inadequate means of transportation and communication, small domestic markets and limited resources.

Two countries in this region are members of both the Commonwealth and La Francophonie — St. Lucia and Dominica. They are core countries in the Canadian Co-operative Program for the Leeward and Windward Islands. In 1988-89, Canadian aid to Dominica and St. Lucia totalled \$8.47 million and \$4.84 million respectively.

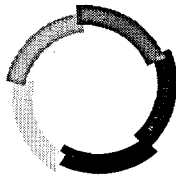
Haiti is also a core country for Canadian assistance. In recent years, CIDA projects have concentrated on human resource development, agricultural development and energy production. In 1988-89, Canada provided \$20.27 million in aid. Approximately \$4.79 million of this amount was provided through NGOs, mainly in the areas of health, education and the welfare of those most disadvantaged.

C. Middle East, Asia and Oceania

Laos and Vietnam receive multilateral Canadian aid through international financial institutions or United Nations agencies. Laos received \$2.72 million and Vietnam \$7.46 million in 1989-90.

Canadian assistance to Lebanon in 1988-89 totalled \$4.91 million, mainly in the form of food aid and humanitarian aid to victims of conflict.

Of all the member countries of La Francophonie in Asia and Oceania, only Vanuatu has received direct Canadian aid.



8. Canada and French-Speaking Europe

Canada has special relationships with Belgium, Switzerland, Luxembourg and France and co-operates economically and culturally with the French-speaking countries of Europe at the bilateral and multilateral levels in organizations such as the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).

France and Belgium have played an important part in returning French Canadian culture to its roots. The last 20 years, especially, have seen an unprecedented number of exchanges in all fields (individuals, information and cultural property). Canada's association with the industrialized Francophone countries **facilitates the co-ordination of the efforts** to assist developing countries and to co-operate with them in economic and cultural matters. These efforts will be more effective in terms of human capital and more open to technological and scientific change because of the French language, and they will be imbued with a unique vitality because of these special relationships.

The Government of Canada has established two cultural centres — one in Paris, the other in Brussels — to promote cultural exchanges with France and Belgium, where the Canadian missions direct significant resources to cultural activities in their areas of accreditation.

Although there is not as yet an organized framework for exchanges between developed Francophone countries other than at the bilateral level, certain highly technical Summit projects are promoting sustained multilateral co-operation between countries such as France, Canada, Belgium and Switzerland. The **TV-5 project**, with the TV-5 Europe and TV-5 Quebec/Canada components, is the best example of this phenomenon. It represents the beginning of a **co-operative effort** that transcends this type of development.



Declaration of Solidarity of Countries Using French as a Common Language

"We, the Heads of State and Government, meeting in Quebec City, Canada on September 2, 3 and 4, 1987,

Taking as our foundation

the spirit of solidarity, co-operativeness and mutual understanding that have established themselves over the years between our countries and their institutions;

Taking inspiration from

a fundamental respect for the diversity of our traditions, the cultural and political heritage of our peoples, and their aspirations to progress and development;

Recognizing

the importance of our free association, in which, as equal partners, we are linked by a common desire to contribute toward a renewed balance among ourselves, and inspired by the use, in varying degrees, of the French language as an instrument of knowledge, dialogue, development and innovation;

We agree

– that our periodic meetings are opportunities for frank, open dialogue, and for co-operation on issues and subjects of common interest of a political, economic and co-operative nature;

– that these meetings at the highest level reaffirm a solidarity free of constraints, cemented by a similar responsibility toward future generations and by a desire to together take up the great challenges of development and modernization that lie before us;

– that the desire governing our common undertaking must be expressed by concrete undertakings and achievements for our mutual benefit.

To these ends, the Heads of State and Government,

Reaffirm

our desire to give to our community a new vitality, to strengthen its institutions and to broaden the horizon of its aspirations, responsibilities and commitments in order to make of it a unified community;

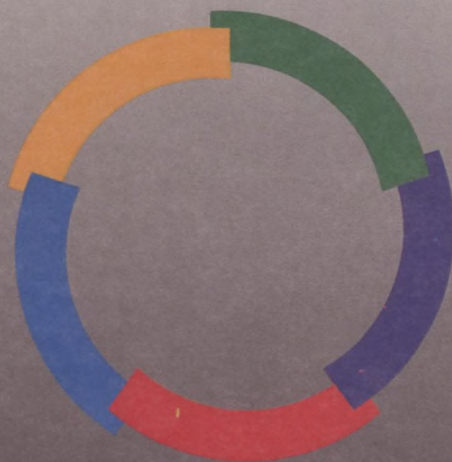
Encourage

The Agency for Cultural and Technical Co-operation and the Francophone associations and organizations to place their projects and activities in perspectives that will lend themselves to discussion in our meetings and to generate within themselves activities that will help to establish a community where the use of a common language will encourage the free circulation of cultural assets, the interchange of scientific knowledge, and the transfer and adaptation of new technologies;

Undertake

to promote within other international bodies the spirit and the principles that inspire us, based on a solidarity open to the diversity of languages and cultures exhibited by our peoples."

Déclaration de solidarité des pays ayant en commun l'usage du français



« Nous, chefs d'État et de Gouvernement, réunis au Canada, à Québec, les 2, 3 et 4 septembre 1987,

NOUS FONDANT sur la solidarité, la coopération et la compréhension mutuelles qui se sont établies, au fil des ans, entre nos pays et leurs institutions;

NOUS INSPIRANT du respect fondamental de la diversité des traditions, de l'héritage culturel et politique de nos populations, et de leurs aspirations au mieux-être et au développement;

RECONNAISSANT l'importance de notre libre association où, partenaires égaux, nous sommes liés par une même volonté de contribuer à un équilibre renouvelé de nos rapports et inspirés par l'usage, à des degrés divers, de la langue française comme outil de connaissance, de dialogue, de développement et d'innovation;

CONVENONS — que nos rencontres périodiques constituent des occasions de dialogue franc et ouvert, de concertation sur des enjeux et des sujets d'intérêt commun de nature politique, économique et de coopération;

— que ces rencontres au plus haut niveau raffermissent une solidarité libre de contraintes, cimentée par une même responsabilité envers les générations montantes et par une volonté de relever ensemble les grands défis de développement et de modernisation qui se posent à nous;

— que la volonté qui préside à notre entreprise commune doit se traduire en engagements et en réalisations concrètes pour notre bénéfice mutuel.

À ces fins, nous, les chefs d'État et de Gouvernement,

RÉAFFIRMONS notre volonté de donner à notre communauté une nouvelle vitalité, pour renforcer ses institutions et pour élargir l'horizon de ses aspirations, de ses responsabilités et de ses engagements afin d'en faire une communauté solidaire;

INCITONS l'Agence de coopération culturelle et technique et les associations et organisations francophones à inscrire leurs projets et activités dans les perspectives ouvertes à

l'occasion de nos rencontres et à apporter leurs propres impulsions à la consolidation d'un espace où l'usage d'une langue commune favorisera la libre circulation des biens culturels, l'échange des connaissances scientifiques, le transfert et l'adaptation des nouvelles technologies;

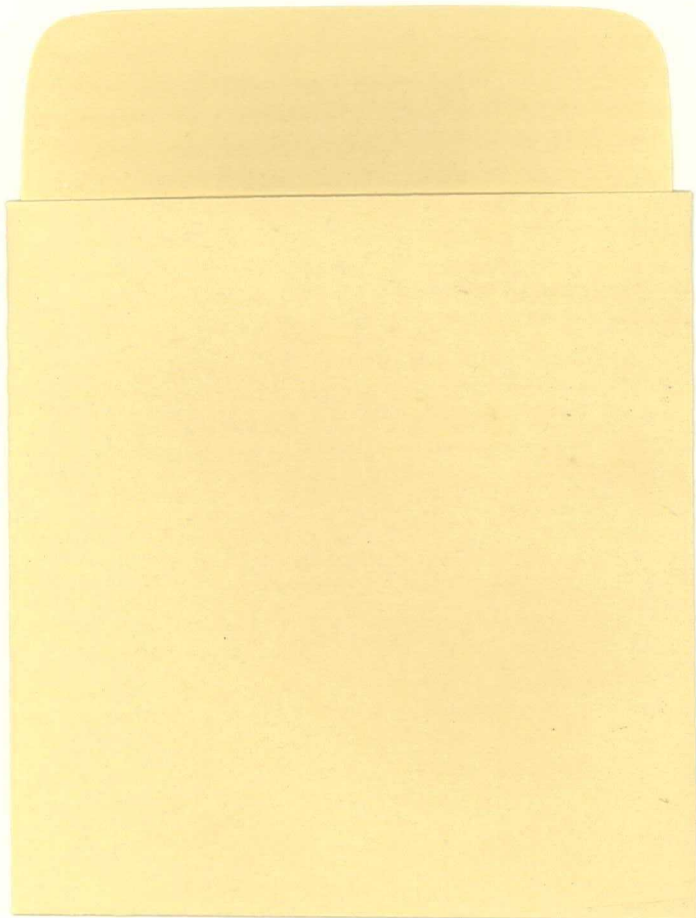
NOUS ENGAGEONS à promouvoir auprès d'autres instances internationales l'esprit et les principes qui nous animent, fondés sur une solidarité ouverte à la diversité des langues et des cultures de nos peuples. »

Sommet de Québec
Septembre 1987

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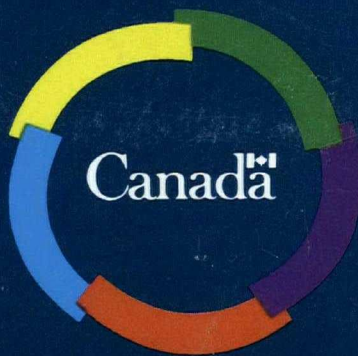
External Affairs and
International Trade Canada

Affaires extérieures et
Commerce extérieur Canada



*A beautiful African proverb says that "No path leads to a barren tree."
A wide path is opening up for us; the path of La Francophonie, which has
brought us from Paris and Quebec City to Dakar. There is, too, a tree –
one whose roots are firmly planted in a thousand-year-old culture which
sustains our aspirations and gives us the means to attain them. As for the
fruits they will be the products of our strength, steadfastness and solidarity.**

*Brian Mulroney
Prime Minister of Canada*



* Excerpt from the Opening Speech of the Third Summit of La Francophonie (Dakar).