



**Report of the Canadian Parliamentary Delegation
respecting its participation at the Meeting of the
Parliamentary Affairs Committee of the *Assemblée
parlementaire de la Francophonie* (APF)
Canadian Branch of the *Assemblée parlementaire de la
Francophonie* (APF)
Clermont-Ferrand, France
April 5 to 6, 2011**

Report

The Canadian Parliamentary Delegation to the Meeting of the Parliamentary Affairs Committee of the *Assemblée parlementaire de la Francophonie* (APF) held in Clermont-Ferrand, France, from April 5 to 6, 2011, has the honour to present its report.

Composed of the Hon. Pierre De Bané, Senator and Chair of the Parliamentary Affairs Committee, the delegation was accompanied by François Michaud, Executive Secretary of the Canadian Branch.

The following branches were represented: Belgium / French Community / Wallonia-Brussels, Benin, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Congo, Democratic Republic of Congo, France, Gabon, Jura, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Quebec, Romania, Senegal, Switzerland and Val d'Aosta.

The Hon. Senator **Pierre De Bané**, Chair of the Parliamentary Affairs Committee of the APF, opened the meeting by warmly thanking the French Branch, Senator **Michèle André** and the entire French team who worked hard to ensure the meeting's success. **Jean-Yves Gouttebel**, President of the General Council (Puy de Dome), and Senator **André** extended a warm welcome to all delegates in Puy de Dôme, Auvergne and Clermont-Ferrand.

Matters of protocol having been dealt with over, the Committee unanimously adopted the agenda and the minutes of the last Committee meeting in Dakar in July 2010.

Senator **De Bané** then presented the Chair's report and gave members a vivid and comprehensive overview of the Francophonie, which members listened to attentively.

Senator **André** was then invited to make a short presentation on her region.

Political nomadism

Sylvie Roy, Member (Quebec) and Blaise Kyelem Lambert, Member (Burkina Faso), presented their draft report, "Political Nomadism," a new theme for the Committee. The report paints a picture of the situation in thirteen countries/states: Burkina Faso, Burundi, Canada (federal), the French Community of Belgium, France, Luxembourg, Macedonia, Quebec, Romania, Rwanda, Switzerland, Val d'Aosta and the Canton of Vaud.

Parliamentary cooperation

Martine Bondo, Senator (Gabon), presented her report, "Parliamentary Cooperation." The report highlights the importance of inter-parliamentary cooperation as a specific approach to contribute to strengthening the rule of law and the proper functioning of democratic institutions through the improvement of parliamentary business.

Parliament, press, media and democratization

Fatiha Layadi, Member (Morocco) presented her report, "Parliament, Press, Media and Democratization."

Life of assemblies in the Francophone world: parliamentary procedure and practice

Michèle André, Senator (France), presented a progress report on parliamentary procedure and practice.

Follow-up on election observation missions

Jean-Claude Maene (Belgium / French Community / Wallonia-Brussels) presented a report on election fact-finding missions and contacts. The report examined the missions in which the *Assemblée parlementaire de la Francophonie* (APF) has participated since the Assembly of July 2010.

Parliamentary seminars and training courses

Senator **De Bané**, on behalf of Mr. **Louis Vlavonou** (Benin), gave a follow-up report.

Noria program

Mireille Eza, director of Noria (General Secretariat of the APF), gave a report on the program's activities.

The francophone youth parliament (PFJ) and national youth parliaments (NPC)

Senator **Martine Bondo** (Gabon) reported on the national youth parliaments. **Alain Berset**, Member of the Council of States (Switzerland), presented a project on the francophone youth parliament. **Bachir Dieye**, advisor for the francophone youth parliament (Secretariat General of the APF), discussed PFJ programs and the national youth parliaments.

Questions to the Secretary General of the OIF

The Committee members looked at proposed issues to be addressed by the OIF Secretary General at the next annual meeting of the APF, in Kinshasa in July 2011.

Other meetings

Patrick Stéphanini, Prefect of Puy de Dome, and **Jean Pierron**, President of the Auvergne Radio DX Club, met and spoke with members of the Committee.

The next meeting of the Committee will be held in July 2011 as part of the XXXVII Session of the APF in Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo.

Respectfully submitted,

Hon. Pierre De Bané, P.C., Senator
Member of the Canadian Branch of the Assemblée parlementaire de la
Francophonie (APF)

Travel Cost

ASSOCIATION	Canadian Branch of the <i>Assemblée parlementaire de la Francophonie</i> (APF)
ACTIVITY	Meeting of the Parliamentary Affairs Committee of the <i>Assemblée parlementaire de la Francophonie</i> (APF)
DESTINATION	Clermont-Ferrand, France
DATES	April 5 to 6, 2011
DELEGATION	
SENATE	Hon. Pierre De Bané
HOUSE OF COMMONS	
STAFF	François Michaud
TRANSPORTATION	\$ 3,255.68
ACCOMMODATION	\$ 1,586.92
PER DIEMS	\$ 806.10
OFFICIAL GIFTS	\$ 129.00
TOTAL	\$ 5,777.70