

FOCUS ON RESEARCH AND TRAINING INSTITUTES PLEINS FEUX SUR LES INSTITUTS DE RECHERCHE ET DE FORMATION

THE ASSOCIATION OF PARTIALLY OR TOTALLY FRENCH-SPEAKING UNIVERSITIES (AUPELF)

Founded in 1961 the Association of partially or totally french-speaking universities (AUPELF) gathers institutions of higher education in which French is either one of or the language of education. It is made of more than 130 institutions in 26 countries on four continents and of many hundreds of French departments in non French-speaking universities.

Major Objectives

- . The development of international co-operation between all French speaking institutions of higher education and research institutions.
- . The supply of information and documentation facilities to these institutions as well as technical services.
- . Actions designed to promote the development and progress of member institutions thus contributing to the development of their countries of origin.
- . Cultural dialogue.
- . Permanent reflexion on the mission assigned to the University, on its relations with society and on its world orientation.

Eligible Institutions

Are eligible for membership:

- as regular members: partially or totally French-speaking universities, university institutions, other institutions of higher education and multi-disciplinary research centres with their own corporate body; French-speaking national commissions of Chancellors and Vice-Chancellors in countries in which the latter do not chair any university but are still authorities in higher education;
- as associate members «A»: other institutions of higher education which do not meet the criteria above mentioned, as well as colleges which deliver degrees corresponding to university degrees;
- as associate members «B»: French studies departments, centres, institutes or sections in non-French-speaking universities.

Structure

. *The General Assembly*: the highest authority of the Association. It meets every three years; each full member institution is represented in it and has one vote;

. *The Board of Directors*: made of twelve members (including the chairman and three vice-chairmen) elected by the General Assembly; it meets once a year and specifies the orientations determined by the General Assembly.

The Secretariat General: headed by a Secretary General appointed by the Board of directors; it is based in the University of Montreal and has an African regional office in Dakar and a European one in Paris. The Secretariat includes six permanent programmes: co-operation; development; technological culture; french studies and cultural dialogue; scientific information; teaching methods, audio-visual, permanent education; publications.

Resources

AUPELF is financed by

- membership fees;
- work contracts passed with other national and international institutions;
- subsidies from some governments;
- the sale of its publications

International Relations

- Recognized by UNESCO as an N.G.O. of «A» status (consultation and association relations);
- Member of the Advisory Board of the technical and cultural co-operation Agency;
- Associate member in the International Association of Universities;
- Member of the Board of Directors of various international or scientific research associations.

Programmes and Means of Action

AUPELF's objectives expressed in terms of programmes and means of action are as follows:

- information of member-universities on the structures, potentials and activities of partially or totally French-speaking universities;
- permanent reflexion on the multiple dimensions of Higher Education, on its integration in its national and international environment;
- co-operation: through FICU (International Inter-University Co-operation Fund) AUPELF undertakes various activities within the context of co-operation (training courses, research and consultancy missions etc...) and regional co-operation projects associating two or more institutions, with an emphasis on development related sciences and studies;
- circulation of men and ideas, namely through the establishment of specialized scientific networks, designed to become the first developers of a co-operation better adapted to development.

Means

Publications on themes and for information: periodicals such as the magazine *Universités* or *Revue de l'AUPELF* (Journal); special publication like the *Répertoire des Universités membres*, colloquium proceedings etc...;

Regional and international conferences and seminars on general subjects or on specialized themes within the framework of programmes approved by the Board;

A permanent information and documentation centre on the university world;

Specialized working groups and direct or indirect aid to some inter-university associations.