

holding stands at over 5500 books and monographs and 1800 reprints and journals. The library subscribes to over 250 journals and serial publications and has a considerable holding of past issues.

The results of research activities at ISSER are reported in the Technical Publications Series, and other occasional works such as bibliographies are also published. The proceedings of any international conference organized by ISSER are usually published in book form.

CENTRE DE RECHERCHE, D'ETUDE ET DE
DOCUMENTATION SUR LES INSTITUTIONS ET LES
LEGISLATIONS AFRICAINES
(CREDILA, University of Dakar)

1. OBJECTIVES

The Centre was created in 1960 to build up documentation on African legislations and to study African institutions from a political, administrative and economic point of view. Since CREA (Centre de recherches d'Economie appliquée) was created, in 1971, its activities have been limited to legal problems.

In 1973 a section of 'Public Law and Political Science' was created within CREDILA. Mr Bakary Traore is responsible for this section.

2. ACTIVITIES

- (a) Analysis and permanent filing of legislative and statutory texts (political, administrative, judiciary, economic and organization financing, status of people) published in the official papers of the French speaking African states.
- (b) Analysis and filing of texts, documents and legal decisions on specific subjects (nationality, constitutions, trade companies, organization and functioning of public services, political institutions, conflicts of laws and jurisdictions, contracts and obligations, family right, social right).
- (c) Realization of research programmes. The current programme covers legal and economic problems related to patents in Senegal and in the African Office for Industrial Property (OAPI). The programme is financed by the University of Dakar, and its geographic area covers Senegal.

Purposes and methods

- (a) Training of Senegalese students (Ph.D. Level) in techniques of industrial ownership. To this effect, seminars with intensive lectures are organized with the help of the Centre for Company Law of Montpellier University and of the French National Foundation of Company Lawyers.
- (b) Census of African legislations on the matter. Inquiries with firms in Senegal and the African office for Industrial Property in Yaoundé.
- (c) Elaboration of a brochure on patents in Senegal.

3. STAFF AND ADMINISTRATION

CREDILA depends on the Faculty of Law of the University of Dakar. It is administered by a director, who apart from his directorial functions is also responsible especially for the research in private law.

CREDILA has seven professional staff. The Director is Professor Pierre Bourel, Professor in the Faculty of Law. Other members of staff are:

- 1 Assistant
- 2 Short term undergraduates
- 3 Monitors
- 1 Librarian
- 1 Secretary.

Financial resources

Subsidies are received from French and Senegalese Ministries of Higher Education, and also from the Ford Foundation.

Working links

CREDILA has working links with the following institutions:

(a) In Senegal with the Faculty of Law. The Centre puts at the disposal of the students in their third year (in preparation for a degree or Ph.D.) the documentation necessary for the preparation and elaboration of personal works, research reports and theses.

(b) Collaboration with IFAN through Mr. Mamadou Niang, responsible for research in the department of social sciences.

(c) General delegation to scientific and technical research of the Republic of Senegal.

(d) In foreign countries there is close collaboration with the following institutes or research and documentation centres: C.A.F.R.A.D., Tangier; C.E.D.A.F., Brussels; African Law Centre, New York; International African Institute, London; Istituto Italo-Africano, Rome; Association internationale de droit africain; Centre d'Etudes des droits africains, Université de Paris I; Institut de Droit comparé, Lausanne; Office national de la Recherche et du Développement, Zaïre; Institut des Sciences juridiques du développement, Université de Nanterre; Service de Recherches juridiques comparatives du C.N.R.S., Paris; C.E.A.N., Institut d'Etudes politiques, Bordeaux; Centre pour le développement juridique africain, Brussels, Addis Ababa; Institut africain de Droit international privé, Rome; C.I.D.E.S.A., Brussels; Max-Planck Institut, Fribourg; Institut de Recherches interculturelles, Heidelberg; Institut Fur Afrika-Forschung, Hamburg; C.O.D.E.S.R.I.A., Dakar; Centre africain de Recherche, Alexandria.

This collaboration takes place in various ways, i.e. exchange of documents, research programmes, answers to questionnaires, sending of legislative texts, and so on.

4. DOCUMENTATION AND PUBLICATION

CREDILA collects two copies of official papers from French speaking African states (except Zaïre). The Centre also collects law reviews, journals and bulletins published by institutions in French speaking countries as well as some journals from Anglophone countries.

Publications

(a) The Centre publishes a quarterly bulletin of *African Law Documentation* (St. Paul Printing Office,

Dakar) in which are filed under headings of legal subjects the legislative and statutory texts published in the official journals of the black French speaking African states. Every year it devotes a special issue of this bulletin to one of these states. Already published are the alphabetical directories of legal texts of Dahomey (1972), covering the period from 1958–1971; of Senegal (1974), covering the period from 1961–1972; of Upper-Volta (1975), covering the period from 1961–1973; and of Gabon (1976), covering the period from 1961–1974.

(b) The Centre publishes periodical directories of Senegalese statute law. A directory on individual status has already been published. Directories on social law and obligation law are in preparation.

(c) Book collections of CREDILA (Pedone Publishers, Paris, and Nouvelles Editions Africaines, Dakar). In the series 'Thèses et Ouvrages de Reflexion Générale' 13 volumes have been published dealing with African constitutions, monetary and financial problems, political studies and the situation in agriculture. In the series 'Manuels et Traités', three volumes have been published concerning public finances in Senegal, general accounting of Senegalese enterprises and administrative law in Senegal.