



**Avocats Sans Frontières NETWORK**  
**IV<sup>th</sup> GENERAL ASSEMBLY**  
**GENEVA - SWITZERLAND**  
**15 and 16 April 2011**

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## **1. Meeting participants and their roles**

Present at the meeting:

- ASF Brazil: Jean Carbonera, President
- ASF Cameroon: Honoré Yana, Vice-president
- ASF Colombia: Julia Mora Trujillo, Director
- ASF France: François Cantier, President, and Ivan Paneff, Vice-president
- ASF Guinea: Emmanuel Bamba, President
- ASF Italy: Antonio Manca Graziadei, President, and Giovanni Pozzi, member
- ASF Mali: Hamadi Karembe, President
- ASF Mauritania: Saidou Ly, President
- ASF Peru: Sonia Hilarion Cruz, President
- ASF Sweden: Claës Forsberg, President, and Marie Alwa, member
- ASF Switzerland: Saskia Ditisheim, President, Camille Berger, Vice-president, Delphine Jobin, member of the board
- ASF Togo: Ohini Kwao Didi Sanvee, President
- ASF USA: Edward Turner, President
- Network coordination team: Anne Lutun

Apologies: ASF Congo and ASF Democratic Republic of the Congo, owing to practical difficulties in organising a trip to Switzerland.

Also involved in opening the assembly: Pierre Gromnicki from Clifford Chance

## **2. Meeting objective or agenda**

### Context:

This fourth meeting of the Avocats Sans Frontières Network followed on from the 1st meeting in Paris in 2009, the meeting held in Douala in November 2010, and the meeting in Rome on 22 May 2010. It took place on 15 and 16 April 2011 in the offices of Schellenberg Wittmer in Geneva, Switzerland.

The objective of the ASF general assembly was:

- To present the Network's new website
- To drive forward the work of the committees
- To give a ruling on 3 ASFs' requests for accession: Congo, Democratic Republic of the Congo, and Togo

The meeting was held the day after the Network's international conference on "Globalisation of criminal justice" on 14 April.

## **3. Meeting proceedings and issues raised**

The Network's internal plenary session was held over a day and a half, on Friday 15 and Saturday 16 April 2011 in Geneva.

After the opening ceremony and a brief exchange with Pierre Gromnicki, presentations from ASF Colombia and ASF Togo were heard. Matters were then dealt with by subject according to the Network's areas of activity: communication, cooperation and solidarity, Network meeting and work, and the Network charter.

### **3.1 Opening ceremony**

Three speakers spoke during the ceremony, namely Saskia Ditisheim, Chairman of Lawyers Without Borders Switzerland, Blaise Stucki, Treasurer of LWB Switzerland, and Pierre Gromnicki, corporate partner at Clifford Chance.

- Saskia Ditisheim:
  - Outlined the composition of the LWB Switzerland office.
  - Explained that, since the 1st LWB Network meeting in Paris in November 2009, the Network had seen considerable developments in its activities and organisation, and the work of the committees had advanced.
  
- Blaise Stucki:
  - Explained the activities of the Schellenberg Wittmer firm which was hosting our meeting, pointing out that two lawyers from LWB Switzerland were employed by this firm.
  - Pointed out that these two lawyers had worked with the Chairman of LWB Switzerland to draw up the articles of association of the Swiss association.
  
- Pierre Gromnicki:
  - Pointed out that Clifford Chance had been involved in nearly every meeting of the Network, mainly through his presence.
  - Reiterated the Foundation's support for this evolving and developing project.
  - Said that Clifford Chance had decided to write an article in its web magazine, which is distributed across 5 continents, on its relations with Lawyers Without Borders. The aim was to keep all of Clifford Chance's local offices informed about the company's involvement in this LWB Network project.

### **3.2 Introducing new participants**

LWB Colombia, represented by its director, and LWB Togo, represented by its Chairman, were attending the LWB Network's plenary meeting for the first time. They had the honour of introducing themselves first.

#### Lawyers Without Borders Colombia: Julia Mora Trujillo, Director

She said she was very happy and honoured to be at this meeting, and reaffirmed LWB Colombia's commitment to the LWB Network's activities.

She said that LWB Colombia had been in existence since 2004 and that it had a simple structure with a chairman, a director and a board of directors.

She explained that LWB Colombia was working with other associations of lawyers in Colombia, and that their activities focused on 3 areas, i.e. training, physical security of Colombian lawyers and strengthening the organisation of existing Colombian associations of lawyers with the aim of getting legal recognition for these associations.

#### Lawyers Without Borders Togo: Ohini Kwao Didi Sanvee, Chairman

He expressed his delight at LWB Togo attending the Network meeting for the first time.

He explained that LWB Togo, a fledgling LWB, had been founded on 22 November 2010 by 11 Togolese lawyers. Since its inception, LWB Togo had grown by another twenty members.

He informed the Network that LWB Togo would have its official inauguration ceremony on 28 April 2011 — a ceremony to which Mr François Cantier had been invited on behalf of the LWB Network.

More generally, he said that LWB Togo wanted to extend its activities to promoting and protecting the effectiveness of the legal system, protecting prisoners in Togo, and to criminal law and prison protection.

### **3.3 Accession of new LWB associations**

LWB Congo, LWB Democratic Republic of Congo and LWB Togo expressed their desire to join the LWB Network. These applications for accession were made in accordance with the conditions stipulated in the Charter signed in Yaoundé in November 2010.

Antonio Manca (LWB Italy) and Saskia Ditisheim (LWB Switzerland) had undertaken to examine these 3 applications.

They explained that these 3 applications were complete and shared their comments: the administrative authorisations for Togo and Congo were missing, and they asked LWB Togo to give more details about its action plan for 2011.

Consequently, the Chairman of LWB Togo explained that, in Togo, the establishment of an association must be declared to the Ministry of Territorial Administration, which issues a file number. This number is sufficient to enable the association to work in Togo legally.

With regard to the action plan, Ohini Kwao Didi Sanvee explained that, after the inauguration ceremony, they were intending to hold *out-of-town hearings* to allow for free consultations in 3 of the country's regions and to arrange TV broadcasts on the problem of lawyer referrals in Togo. Finally, they were also intending to deal with the issue of prisoners' rights to health care and medical protection by launching a large-scale project.

For Congo, the Chairman of LWB France explained that some members of this LWB were former members of LWB France who had decided to create their own national association.

For the DRC, François Cantier said that with the defence mission in the Floribert Chebeya case, he had been able to meet several times with Me Richard Bondo, Chairman of LWB DRC, and explained that this LWB had existed for many years and

had very little resources to work.

After a vote by the Network, the accession of the 3 LWBs obtained the majority of the votes, with a request to LWB Congo to provide a copy of its administrative authorisation to practise in Congo, or documents relating thereto.

A comment was made regarding the accession of a LWB: some countries block associations' applications to practise in their country. Therefore, the Network should rethink the accession terms for a LWB whose State might block its establishment for political reasons.

### **3.4 Speech by LWB Italy**

Antonio Manca, Chairman of LWB Italy, said he wanted to take the floor at that point owing to the fact that he had to leave the same day for the LWB Network's emergency mission in Libya (cf. section on the mission in Libya).

He explained that LWB Italy was in the process of restructuring its members and board of directors. LWB Italy's next annual meeting was scheduled for 26 April 2011.

He wanted to inform the Network about LWB Italy's upcoming activities. LWB Italy had received an application to collaborate on a project in Tunisia, concerning the organisation and running of presidential elections in that country.

Antonio Manca therefore asked the Network to collaborate on this initiative to help civil society to prepare for and organise these elections.

### **3.5 Work of the working committees**

#### **3.5.1 Communication and visibility of the ASF Network**

*Reminder of committee members: Jean Carbonera, Saidou Ly, Barnabé Nekuie and Ivan Paneff*

The main aim of this committee is to present the Network as an international group of national organisations which collaborate and cooperate. Discussions were, therefore, focused on the presentation of the website and the Network's new logo and on drawing up presentation documents on the Network.

- The Network's website

After several months' worth of discussion the committee chose a Toulouse-based agency, WS Interactive, to work on creating the Network's website.

Alex McCardell, director of the WS Interactive agency, was present to tell the Network about the functionalities of the site and to present the first mock-ups of the webpages.

After presenting a tree-diagram of the site, Alex McCardell presented the home page which consists of several elements: a baseline with visual elements relating to 3 main themes (international presence, justice for all, and urgent defence missions); a map of the world showing each ASF; a 'focus point' on the key initiatives currently underway; generic content for a clear and concise presentation of the ASF Network; a section on 'news'; and a space for visual elements (photos, films, etc.).

The Network asked for the home page to be simpler and for the visual elements, including the main themes and the name of the ASF Network, to be reworked.

It was decided that the WS Interactive agency would complete this for the end of



April and that Saskia, Jean, Saidou and Ivan would validate the agency's proposals within 2 days to drive forward the construction of the website.

- The logo

Following discussions among all the members, the Network finally chose the new logo:



ASF Italy proposed a variant to this logo, but the logo that was initially accepted received the majority of the Network's votes.

Concerning the use of the logo and the logos used by national ASFs, it was agreed that these 2 logos should be distinct.

- Network presentation documents

For the events in Geneva and in line with the decisions taken by the communication committee, the Network has put together two documents: one detailed document giving a brief presentation of the activities of each ASF, and a shorter document in 'leaflet' format stating the actions undertaken by the Network.

After a vote by the Network, the choice to keep the two documents received 8 out of 12 votes.

The Network will therefore retain the two presentation documents.



Some remarks should be noted:

- Each ASF must inform the coordination team and communication committee of any modifications it requires to the content of the detailed document.
  - The larger document will be updated annually.
  - Each ASF will print, at its own cost, the documents it requires in its own country.
  - The Network will bear the cost of printing these two documents each time the Network is present at an international event and for each annual meeting.
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- Point on mediation

Ivan Paneff reminded the meeting that certain members of the Network had been mandated to speak with the ASFs in Belgium, Canada and USA.

ASF USA being present for the first time, its president Edward Turner spoke on this matter.

The question of the logo and the name was a point of contention between ASF USA and ASF Canada. Dialogue had been opened with ASF France on how the Network could help to resolve this dispute.

He explained that after 10 years of silence, he and Félicie Ricque had gone to Belgium. The Belgians had been hostile on their arrival and declared that they had no desire or interest in working with the Network. They explained to ASF USA that they controlled the name ASF.

For ASF USA: the name "Lawyers Without Borders" is only used in English and is protected in USA and Canada, and was even before the creation of ASF Canada.

The Americans said that in the UK there was an association called "Lawyers Without



Borders" which had proceeded to register the name in several countries — Israel, New Zealand, Australia — without an association having been set up there.

On the situation with ASF Canada: it was clarified that France had good relations with this association; ASF France was notably the origin for ASF Canada, which was previously called ASF Québec.

Ivan Paneff briefly summarised the state of mediation with ASF Canada, saying that, two years ago, ASF Canada had expected the difficulties with ASF Belgium and the Network would be resolved in order to join the Network, and that last year they had informed ASF France of the dispute with ASF USA over the trademark.

ASF USA and ASF Canada expressed their interest in settling this dispute within the Network.

After a telephone discussion between Ivan Paneff and ASF Canada on Monday, 11 April, it transpired that ASF Canada was still interested in joining the Network and settling the problem with ASF USA amicably, even though ASF Canada was unable to attend the meeting in Geneva.

On relations with ASF Belgium, Ivan Paneff said that this ASF was continuing to stand alone and refused to take part in discussions and to maintain regular contact with the Network. Their attitude towards USA was also an indication of this. With regard to the development of their activities, they were forced "to be with us" on the territory of trademarks.

- The protection and registration of trademarks
  - Between ASF Belgium and the others: since its inception Belgium had not registered the name internationally but only in certain countries. Consequently it does not have any right to claim the trademark in countries where it is not represented.



- Between ASF Belgium and ASF France: following the community application made by these two associations, a 21-month negotiation phase has opened, after agreement from both parties, to find out how both trademarks were being used. In the event of negotiations falling through, a court will settle the dispute.

For ASF France, negotiation will only be possible if both parties are open-minded and agree on how to work in the world.

- For the ASF Network

Ivan Paneff reminded the meeting of the importance of registering the Network logo as a trademark for it to be protected so that only Network members may use it.

As the activities of the Network and the activities of each national ASF are distinct, it is important that the logos also be distinct.

The Network coordination team being in France, the Network agreed that ASF France register the logo on behalf of the Network. The Network agreed that each association may register any logo it wishes.

ASF USA said that ASF Belgium had informed them that they would be registering the trademark "ASF World".

Ivan Paneff said that in trademark law, a trademark which is not used for a certain period of time becomes null and void.

The Network proposed going round the table to give a status report on trademarks registered by each national association. It must be added that registering a trade description does not protect the right to a trademark. The procedure calls for registration followed by a request for protection.



*ASF Peru:* the trademark is protected.

*ASF Colombia:* the name and the logo were registered in French and in Spanish up until 2012.

*ASF Mauritania:* the acronym "ASF Mauritanie" has been registered and protected in French and Arabic since 6 January 2011. The Network asked ASF Mauritania to protect "Avocats Sans Frontières Mauritanie".

*ASF Sweden:* the logo and trademark have been registered since the association was created and are renewed each time.

*ASF Brazil:* the statutes are in Portuguese but the trademark and logo have not yet been registered for financial reasons.

*ASF Switzerland:* the logo and trademark have been registered since November 2010.

*ASF Senegal:* "Avocats Sans Frontières Sénégal" is protected but the trademark has to be protected by the African Intellectual Property Organisation (OAPI) in Yaoundé.

*ASF Mali:* the logo and the trademark are registered administratively but not protected because of the cost.

*ASF France:* everything is protected.

For Africa, the Network must make a joint approach to OAPI in Yaoundé. Each African ASF should obtain national registration and protection, then regional protection.

Honoré Yana was mandated by the Network to find out about protection obtainable from OAPI and to keep the Network informed before the end of April of measures to be taken and how much protection costs.

To conclude on this point, all ASFs which have registered their trademark must check that protection applies to the four classes covering our areas of activity: legal and judicial aid, printing products, training and, finally, everything relating to publishing texts in the public domain (classes 42,

16, 41 and 45).

It is important for the Network not to confuse the Network's trademarks, the national trademarks and the regional trademarks.

There are thus two distinctions to be drawn: one distinction in relation to the "external" and one distinction between Network members. Hence, as France and Mali have done, it is possible to create a third trademark: the baseline, "Là où la défense n'a plus la parole" [We're where the defence no longer has the stand], for example.

### **3.5.2 Urgent defence missions**

The Network proceeded to summarise some of the Network's missions.

- Democratic Republic of the Congo: Floribert Chebeya

François Cantier represented the ASF Network and the International Organisation of the Francophonie (OIF) at the Congolese lawyers' collective responsible for this case. Originally, the Francophonie network had alerted ASF France to this assassination, as Floribert Chebeya was vice-president of the Inter-African Human Rights Union (UIDH), an associate member of OIF. In its capacity as president of OIF's B mission, ASF France was referred to in this case.

ASF France had sought to involve Mr Claude-Joel Paka, president of the Bar at Pointe-Noire, and Mr Brahim Koné from Mali in the case. For practical reasons, however, only François Cantier had been able to attend several hearings in Kinshasa.

François Cantier reminded the meeting that in the framework of these urgent defence missions, it was very important to acquaint oneself with the file alongside local lawyers.

François Cantier worked on preparing conclusions and drafted a statement of case

which summarises and analyses the trial. François Cantier calls into question the competence of a military justice system which was unable to pass judgement on this case.

François Cantier said that enquiries had been made into the poor conditions and that he had observed serious gaps in this matter.

- Iran: Sakineh Mohammadi Ashtiani

In September 2010 the ASF Network wrote an argued appeal on the fact that being sentenced to death by stoning was indefensible according to Sharia law. The Iranian authorities have never responded to this appeal but have not proceeded to execution.

- Mauritania: IRA anti-slavery militants

Anti-slavery militants of the organisation Initiative for the Resurgence of the Abolitionist Movement in Mauritania (IRA) denounced the exploitation of two young girls under the age of 18 by a manager of the Mauritanian central bank. Following demonstrations by the militants, some were kept under surveillance then tortured. The IRA organisation referred the matter to the ASF Network and two lawyers from ASF Mauritania have taken on the case.

The Mauritanian authorities had separated the two issues: the brawls and the exploitation of minors. The manager of the central bank was released provisionally and the militants were imprisoned.

On 15 February 2011 the militants received a presidential pardon, without any request for one having been made.

- Cameroon: Mr Abessolo and Mr Eyoum

Justin Tolno, member of ASF Guinea, is still following this case and is continuing to work with Mr Abessolo's Cameroon lawyers.

Honoré Yana said that Mr Eyoum, as a French citizen, was receiving discreet but efficient attention from French cooperation organisations.



Mr Abessolo's request for release, filed a year ago with the Supreme Court, was due to be looked at on 17 March, but his case has still not been called.

The Network managed to call Mr Abessolo during the meeting. It emerged that Mr Abessolo is calling for the ASF Network's help in contacting the President of the Court in order to obtain a decision on his request for a release. He said that the Minister of Justice was a poor interlocutor and that the Network should contact the President of the Court by passing this information on to the European cooperation organisations present in Cameroon.

The Network drew up a letter to the President of the Court in this regard.

- Libya: defence of Libyan victims before the ICC

The meeting was reminded that ADF France had good knowledge of the Libyan situation which was why it could intercede in the case of the Bulgarian nurses condemned for having given the AIDS virus to children in Benghazi. ASF France had supported the two defence teams: the Bulgarian lawyers and the Libyan lawyers.

After the United Nations Security Council asked for an enquiry to be opened, Libyan colleagues asked for ASF France's help in putting together the victims' files.

The aim of the mission is to obtain relevant information for putting the files together; this work will be carried out in line with investigators from the ICC.

Referred to by ASF France, the ASF Network, represented by Philippe Moriceau, Vice-President of ASF France, and Antonio Manca, President of ASF Italy, carried out its first mission to Benghazi from 15 to 24 April 2011.

Should the enquiries result in the impeachment of Colonel Kaddafi before the International Criminal Court, the ASF Network will defend the Libyan victims.

### **3.5.3 Cooperation and solidarity between ASFs**

*Reminder of committee members: Emmanuel Bamba, Camille Berger, Claës Forsberg, Hamadi Karembe.*

With regard to the action plan proposed last year by the working committee, the Network has increased its work on training and familiarisation courses offered by the Network for 2011.

To boost the Network, each national association should also have a certain credibility, to be shown by stepping up its methods and working tools.

The development of specific methods and the know-how of some ASF organisations must, therefore, be shared within the Network for greater efficiency. Hence the Network's intention to organise training sessions and courses.

- From 28 February to 3 March 2011, 18 members of the ASF Network took part in a Training for Network Trainers session in Paris. With the participation of Clifford Chance, this training was able to be carried out in English and in French.

- Familiarisation course on working tools and methods

The idea is that one ASF can send one of its members on a 5-day course at another ASF which has the know-how and experience in working methods.

Julia Mora Trujillo, Director of ASF Colombia, made the most of her trip to Europe to ask the Network to carry out a course at ASF France.

She will work for 5 days alongside ASF France's four project coordinators in order to learn about and understand how it works and to acquire the association's working methods.

Julia Mora Trujillo, the first trainee, will give a report on her experience to the Network.

- Training on the association's management tools and its projects

Honoré Yana emphasised the importance of this training and reminded the meeting that, on the ground, lawyers must be familiar with these tools and understand how an ASF association was able to control its development.

The aim of this training is to reinforce an ASF's capacities so that it can quickly self-manage its activities.

This training is called for before the end of 2011. The Network coordination team will put forward a date for this training.

### **3.5.4 Network meeting and work**

*Reminder of members: François Cantier, Saskia Ditisheim, Claës Forsberg, Honoré Yana, Sonia Hilario Cruz, Mohamed Lamine Sow*

- World Social Forum in Dakar, February 2011

Yare Fall and Jean Carbonera represented the Network at the World Social Forum in Dakar in February 2011.

The World Social Forum, which takes place every 4 years, was held in Senegal for the first time.

Yare Fall and Jean Carbonera organised a workshop on the topic "Globalisation and the ASF Network" and a trial simulation geared towards universal jurisdiction.

A film was made and photos taken. The Network coordination team is in charge of transforming the film into an internet links so that everyone can see it.

These two members of the Network found the experience highly enriching; they had a large audience and their work was relayed by the media.



This representation of the Network at the World Social Forum also enabled both the ASF Network and ASF Senegal to gain greater visibility in civil society.

- Report from the conference on the globalisation of justice of 14/04/2011

The Network went round the table for this topic.

Honoré Yana emphasised the originality of speaker Alain Werner's approach which gave a different view of financial crimes by multinational companies and revealed the difficulties he faced in the actions he led.

Ivan Paneff, for his part, regretted that this conference was short and said he would have liked a bigger time slot. His sentiment was shared by Saidou Ly.

For Delphine Jobin, this conference was a success, notably because the main theme of the conference was a subject matter which is often touched on and because the audience present had expressed interest in talking with the speakers.

Emmanuel Bamba suggested that ASF intercede for financial crimes, at a national level.

However, the following difficulty was raised: could a national justice system, particularly in countries such as DRC or Guinea which are at war or facing ethnic tensions, investigate financial crimes? Is fair justice conceivable under these conditions, when even in developed countries such procedures are difficult?

Saidou Ly, for his part, explained that this conference confirmed his worries over the efficiency of the international criminal justice system. In view of the financial means deployed, there are too few results; the majority of those responsible escape an international penalty. The reach of international criminal justice is too limited. It is unthinkable that international criminal justice settles financial crimes when it does not manage to settle crimes against humanity.



Ivan Paneff: he said that there were not enough ASF associations to manage every case and added that criminal liability for legal persons already existed in some countries.

An interest in mobilisation is essential for the ASFs as they have a "guiding" role.

To conclude on financial crimes, it was said that the ASF Network could dedicate itself to a symbolic case in one of the countries which has an ASF association. It must be noted that such a case would demand large-scale mobilisation and long-term commitment, excluding the cost.

- Agenda for 2011

The working committee must prepare, for the end of May, an agenda of international demonstrations at which the Network could be represented and actively participate in. François Cantier emphasised the importance of Network members having a stand at international events for greater visibility.

- The launch of ASF Togo on 28 April in Lomé in the presence of François Cantier, who will present the Network and its activities.
- The 26th Congress of the International Conference of Bar Associations (CIB) is planned for December 2011 in Nouakchott, Mauritania.
- The congress of the German lawyers' union in June 2011 in Strasbourg, France.

François Cantier has been invited to this and has asked members of the ASF Network to put him in contact with German lawyers they know.

- The next Network meeting



ASF Brazil and ASF Mauritania offered to host the next Network meeting.

Ivan Paneff suggested that the meeting be held in Belgium in partnership with another association, such as the European Association of Lawyers (EAL), but the Network was not in favour of this.

ASF Mauritania proposed that the Network meeting be organised in the same period as the CIB congress (December 2011).

ASF Brazil reaffirmed its proposal, which had been made in Cameroon. In addition, Clifford Chance has local offices in Brazil, which would enable the Network to organise events together with Clifford Chance Brazil. Jean Carbonera said that ASF Brazil's agenda meant that the meeting could be organised for early October or late November.

Sanvee Ohini Kwao Didi said it was important to change continents, particularly while we had the support of the Clifford Chance Foundation.

The choice of Brazil received the most votes by a showing of hands.

It was decided that the vote would be confirmed by the committee analysing the financial possibilities of the Network organising its next meeting in Brazil. In the event of costs being too high, ASF Mauritania would host the next Network meeting.

- Documents relating to the Charter

As laid down by the Network Charter, each ASF must submit an annual activity report. The next annual reports must be sent to the Network coordination team by 31 October 2011 at the latest, so that they can be read and presented at the next Network meeting.



### **3.5.5 Recomposition of the working committees**

Taking into account the arrival of new ASFs in the Network, it was decided that the composition of the working committees would be changed so that other members could participate in Network activities.

Julia Mora Trujillo joined the *Communication and visibility* committee alongside Jean Carbonera, Ivan Paneff and Saidou Ly.

Camille Berger, Emmanuel Bamba, Claës Forsberg and Hamadi Karembe welcomed Sanvee Ohini Kwao Didi to the *Cooperation and solidarity* committee.

Giovanni Pozzi said that he would express his interest in joining a committee at a later stage.

A new committee was set up: *Search for funding for the Network project*

The network project is about to start its 3rd and final year, so it was decided that a committee would be in charge of seeking funds for the Network.

The members of this new committee are: Camille Berger, Honoré Yana, Emmanuel Bamba and Sanvee Ohini Kwao Didi.

In order to develop the Network's visibility, the Network decided to heighten its activities on media affairs. It was decided that each ASF would take an interest in events on its continent and that each ASF would nominate a person to present to the Network coordination team a symbolic media case or cases likely to come under the ASF Network's mandate.

Each ASF has until the end of April 2011 to give the Network coordination team the name of the person in charge of this research for its association.

#### 4. Conclusions and recommendations

At the close of this meeting, the Network members reaffirmed the need to carry out new initiatives in matters of urgent defence for year 3 and the importance of cooperating between national associations, particularly in favour of partnership projects between ASFs.

Taking up the issue of project funding, the ASF associations set up a new committee in charge of seeking funds for developing the network project after year 3 (2012).

Several decisions on different deadlines were taken:

- Honoré Yana is committed to providing, before the end of April 2011, all information relevant to registering a trademark with OAPI for the African countries
- The Network coordination team will propose, before the end of May, the date for the training session on "Association management tools and projects".
- The *Network meeting and work* committee is to provide, for the end of May 2011, an agenda of events at which the Network could take part in 2011.
- By 31 October 2011 each ASF is committed to providing its annual activity report.
- For the end of April 2011 each ASF must provide the Network coordination team with the name of the person responsible for citing a symbolic case that will mobilise the Network.

The suggestion of organising the next Network meeting in Brazil was validated but the *Network representation and work* committee must analyse the financial possibilities for doing so. In the event of this not being possible, ASF Mauritania will host the next meeting on the occasion of the 26th congress of the CIB in Nouakchott in December 2011.