



AVOCATS SANS FRONTIERES
France

ANNUAL REPORT 2006

*LA WYERS WITHOUT BORDERS
AVOCATS SANS FRONTIERES
FRANCE*

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THE WORD OF THE PRESIDENT

ASF France introduces you the balance of its activities within the year 2006 with pride and self-effacement.

Made up by nearly 70 volunteers totalizing up about 17 000 hours of work, alongside the 6 employees of the headquarters and those belonging to our foreign missions.

Thank you to everybody and those like Colombian, Nigerian, Cambodian, Libyan and Bulgarian lawyers and jurists who help us carrying out this project dedicated to the right to live, to the integrity of the human person and to freedom.

Concerning international solidarity, we have demonstrated that, all together and by dint of will and labour, we have been able to become efficient actors of cooperation.

Finally, thank you to all who trust us and support us, subscribers, investors and donors.

Thanks to the faith in the values that are lighting up us, we will continue deserving their support and finding new ones.



François CANTIER
President of Avocats Sans Frontières France

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INTRODUCTION OF THE ASSOCIATION

FROM ITS BIRTH TO NOWADAYS

The first association named ASF (Avocats Sans Frontières - Lawyers without Borders) was created in 1992 in Belgium by lawyers coming from different countries who were desirous to enforce the Human Rights. The goal of this association was to secure the defence of every person of whom the fundamental rights are not respected and who cannot benefit from the help of a free and independent lawyer.

The first relevant action was set up after the genocide committed in Rwanda in 1994. Lots of European, American and African lawyers thus took part in the keeping of fair and due trials for both victims and accused.

In 1998, François CANTIER, lawyer in Toulouse, decided on his own initiative to found ASF France. ASF France contributed to enlarge the initial concept by favouring partnership with local actors in order to strengthen the different functions of defence, the right to a due trial and the Rule of Law.

Registered to the *Prefecture of Haute-Garonne* in France, this association is governed by the French law on associations and therefore enjoys a juridical personality.

Today, ASF France brings together some 720 members, as private lawyers as well as a large part of the Orders of French lawyers and French professional organizations. It benefits from the support of the *Conseil National des Barreaux Français* (the National Council of French Bars) and of the *Conférence des Bâtonniers de France* (the Conference of the French Presidents of Bars) and it maintains close relations with international organizations of lawyers.

Its members have also been able to deserve in the field the trust of national and international organizations with which partnership relations have been set up.

From Cambodia to Nigeria, from Colombia to Libya, ASF France develops support programmes in close collaboration with the civil society and the local authorities in order to help the juridical rebuilding of the ailing countries.

By contributing to reinforce the Rule of Law, its members are fighting for the recognition of a right to Justice without borders.

AN ESTABLISHED RECOGNITION

United Nations

In 2004, ASF France has been awarded the title of NGO with Special Advisory Statute for the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations.

International French-speaking Nations Agency

In April 2005, the International French-speaking Nations Agency awarded to ASF France the Advisory Statute for its activities in partnership with local actors from French-speaking Nations.

Presidency of the Commission for Peace, Democracy and Human Rights

In September 2005, ASF France President François CANTIER was elected President of the Commission for Peace, Democracy and Human Rights by the International French-speaking Nations Agency. This election asserted the presence of ASF France in the world stage and more particularly in the French-speaking area that contains 50 states.

THE CHARTER OF THE ASSOCIATION

ASF France reunites, on the basis of common values, lawyers, jurists and other professionals determined to act in favour of the respect of and the development of fundamental rights.

ASF France acts to promote the right of due process and access for all to knowledge of and to the defence of their civil, political, social, economic and cultural rights through the services of a free and independent lawyer, while dedicating particular attention to the rights and defence of groups and individuals most at risk.

ASF France strives to intervene anywhere a person is threatened in exercising his fundamental rights and who is unable to obtain the assistance of a free and independent lawyer.

ASF France bases its action on the presumption of innocence, the right for all to a free and independent lawyer and the lawyer's oath to provide legal defence with neither prejudice nor discrimination.

ASF France struggles for the recognition and respect of the lawyer's role, in accordance with the Basic Principles on the Role of Lawyers, adopted by the United Nations Assembly at the Havana Congress on September 7, 1990, which define their freedom, independence, ethical obligations and the security safeguards and means necessary for carrying out their functions.

ASF France takes part, through its existence and its actions, in the defence of fundamental rights, in the establishment and reinforcement of the Rule of Law and in the fight against impunity.

ASF France does not take the place of local lawyers nor their organizations, with whom ASF France has no intention of competing, but intervenes alongside them and with their consent, when they are facing difficulties as a result of their professional activity. ASF France establishes and maintains relations of professional solidarity with them. As such, ASF France acts solely when its action serves to reinforce local actors' skills and knowledge.

ASF France refrains from taking part in any actions likely to compromise its independence, that of lawyers or its values and principles. As a result, the organization acts free from ties to any pre-existing political, religious or philosophical groups.

All those who act in the name of **ASF France** wholly subscribe to the principles declared above and respect them in both their actions and declarations.

ON THE BASIS OF COMMON VALUES

The presumption of innocence

"Everyone charged with a penal offence has the right to be presumed innocent until proved guilty according to law in a public trial at which he has had all the guarantees necessary for his defence."

Universal Declaration of Human Rights, article 11 (1).

The right of defence

"In the determination of any criminal charge against him, everyone shall be entitled to the following minimum guarantees, in full equality:

To be tried in his presence, and to defend himself in person or through legal assistance of his own choosing; to be informed, if he does not have legal assistance, of this right; and to have legal assistance assigned to him, in any case where the interests of justice so require, and without payment by him in any such case if he does not have sufficient means to pay for it."

International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, article 14 (3 d).

THE FINANCIAL PARTNERS IN 2006

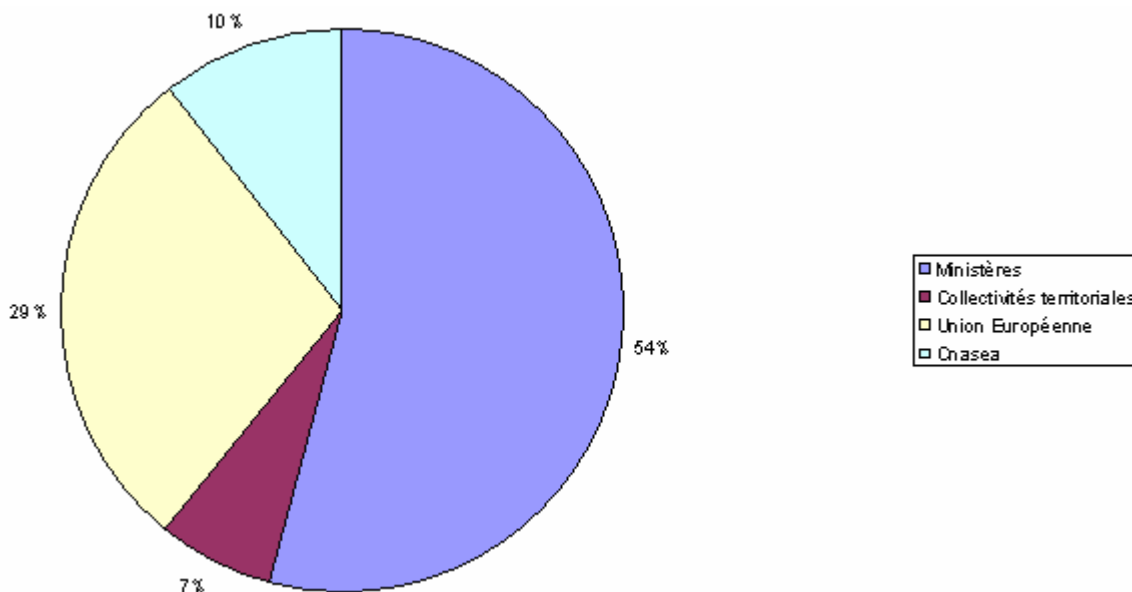
1. PUBLIC FUNDS

= 440 000 euros

= 74 %

= Ministries, Territorial Authorities, European Union, CNASEA.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE RESOURCES FROM PUBLIC SECTORS:



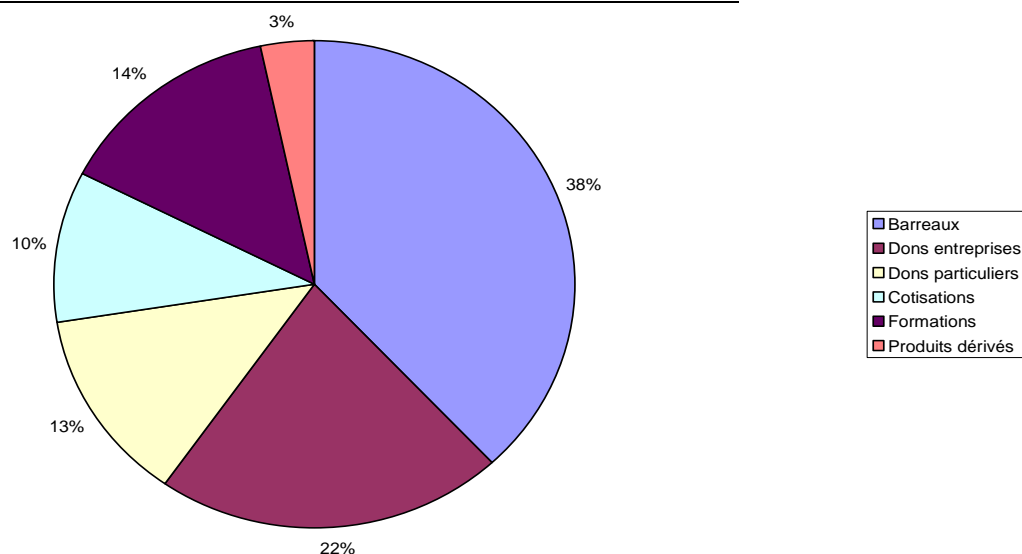
2. PRIVATE FUNDS

= 160 000 euros

= 26 %

= Bars, companies, private, dues, trainings, by-products.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE RESOURCES FROM PRIVATE SECTORS:



THE OFFICE

President :

François CANTIER (Bar of Toulouse)

Treasurer :

Fabienne TRUSSES-NAPROUS (Bar of Tarbes)

Secretary :

Gérard DUPUY (Jurist)

ASF TEAM IN 2006

Coordinators of the Latin America project:

Magalie GRASSAUD et Rebekah IRVING

Coordinators of projects and funding:

Alix ARQUILLIERE et Etienne COSTES

Coordinator of the Cambodia project:

Caroline VAUTRIN

Coordinator in the Headquarters:

Laurence SCIMONE

Financial Managers :

Alexandre CROIZIERS DE LACVIVIER et Nils ROCKLIN

Training Manager :

Sophie COLOMBIES MARTIN

Trainees and volunteers :

Adeline VEZINET

Temenuga STEFANOVA

Manon WENDLING

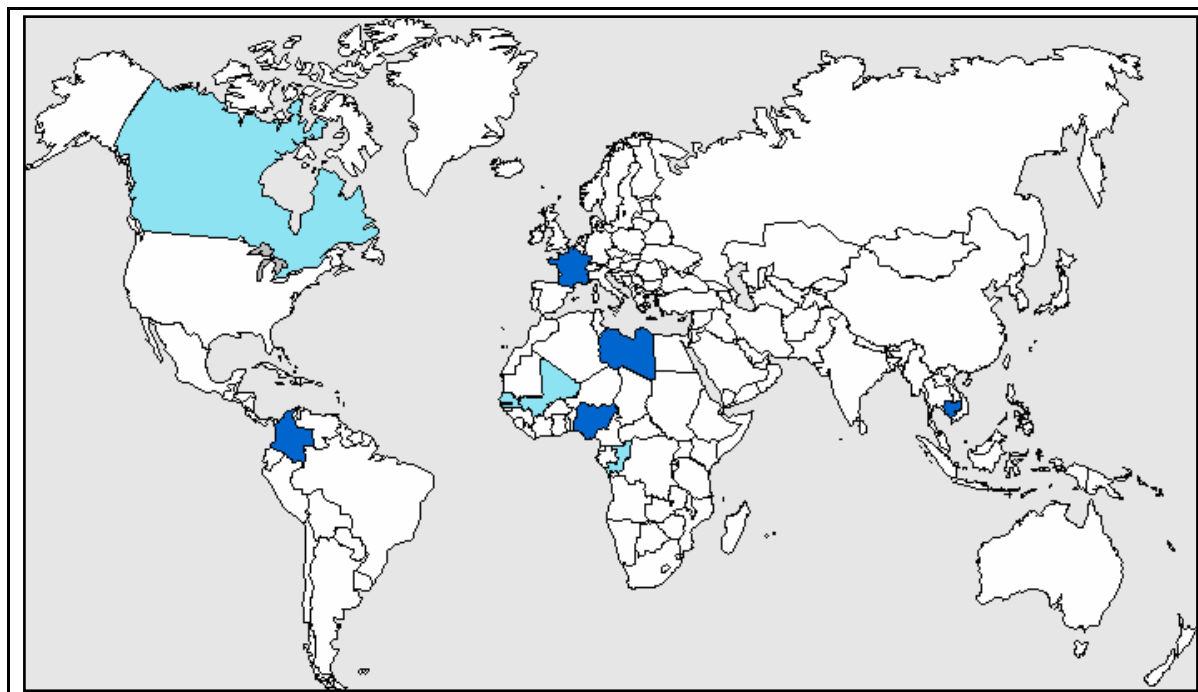
Juan Manuel MORA

Pierre NOEL

Sabrina COLOMER

Mathieu REBOLLE

ASF FRANCE IN THE WORLD



Projects in process



Partnerships with others ASF

In Nigeria: ASF France supports Nigeria lawyers to ensure the defence of people risking atrocious, inhuman and degrading punishment as scourging, throwing stones or amputation ; and in parallel to count and announce to the authorities arbitrary cases of detentions.

In francophone Africa: Training concerning the International Legal Instruments protecting the Human Rights and the International Justice.

In Libya: Defence of 5 Bulgaria nurses and a Palestinian doctor accused of having contaminated children with the HIV virus.

In Cambodia: Since 2004, training on the professional practice of lawyers and on the use of International Legal Instruments. ASF France contributes to the justice democratization by the installation of a free system of legal aid everywhere in Cambodia in favour of poorest.

In Colombia: Reinforcement of the lawyer Home (emergency network, web site, publication...); following the cases of threatened lawyers, the “disappeared” or those assassinated because of their role; reinforcement of the profession of lawyers and study of the situation of the rights of the defence at a regional level.

I – THE PROJECTS OF ASF FRANCE

I.1 PROJECT IN NIGERIA:

Support and backing for the lawyers of accused people incurring death penalty or every atrocious, inhuman or degrading treatment.



I.1.1 Why we committed ourselves in Nigeria.

In 2003, the death sentence by stoning of Amina Lawal for having committed adultery launched the beginning of the commitment of ASF France in Nigeria. Indeed, this case, which got a great deal of media attention, shows the gaps of justice in Nigeria:

- The fundamental rules of **fair trial** and the **respect of the rights to defence** set up in the Nigerian Constitution are not enforced.
- The all three penal systems which are coexisting plan **death penalty** not only for criminal acts but also, in some states, for acts concerning private life, like adultery.
- The sentences pronounced by the courts charia : **scourging, amputation, stoning** represent atrocious, inhuman and degrading punishments in reference with the International Legal Instruments protecting the Human Rights ratified by Nigeria. It is worth noting that the populations always affected by these convictions are the most powerless, including women.

The prison overpopulation is due to the slowness of the judiciary process. Moreover, a lot of remand prisoners rot in prison without case nor having a lawyer. The conditions of detention in these overpopulated jails are lamentable : atrocious lack of hygiene, incarceration of minors with adults...

The Nigerian Government seems to have given attention to this problem as the Minister for Justice launched in January 2006 an emergency plan for the decongestion of prisons. It aims to free 25,000 prisoners, priority given to minors, women, seniors and ill people. The action of ASF France which allows the freeing of persons arbitrarily put in jail takes part in these dynamics. Unfortunately, the results of this governmental emergency plan are always expected.

In this context, through the *Legal Aid Council*, the *Nigerian Bar Association* and local associations, the Nigerian lawyers told their needs concerning practical support, training and the sharing of professional experiences and sued for the presence of ASF lawyers at their sides.

1.1.2 The objectives of ASF France in Nigeria

Based on the principles of sharing experience and fraternity, and in association with the Nigerian partners, the action of ASF France in Nigeria aims to three principal objectives:

- 1. To favour the promotion of the Rule of law**, notably through the defence of the right to a fair trial, leaning on the fundamental texts protecting the Human Rights ratified by Nigeria and the Nigerian Constitution.
- 2. To favour a local jurisprudence** moving away atrocious, inhuman and degrading punishments like scourging, amputation and stoning and respecting the fundamental rights of the accused, notably the women and the children particularly affected by these treatments.
- 3. To take part in the abolition of death penalty** bringing its support and expertness to the local lawyers and jurists, by taking into consideration all the local cultural, social and juridical specificities.

FOR A HUMAN RIGHTS-ABIDING JUSTICE :

About every two months, 4 lawyers from ASF France and ASF Quebec go in the field in mission to bring a direct support for their Nigerian colleagues.

First, it is a matter of identifying cases of persons convicted to death or to amputation, scourging or stoning condemnations, and then helping and supporting the lawyers responsible for their defence in order to obtain the acquittal or the implementation of alternative sorrows which will not involve corporal punishments.

This work in the field is made in close cooperation with the lawyers from the Legal Aid Council in order to reinforce this system which allows the poorest to benefit from the law and to fight against the discriminations affecting the persons subject to trial according to their religion, their race, their ethnoses, their genus or their sex.

Moreover, working by our Nigerian colleague's side allow us to offer them a best knowledge of the international texts protecting the Human Rights ratified by Nigeria, and to organize workgroups with the lawyers to favour the emergence of a jurisprudence which would put an end to atrocious, inhuman and degrading punishments. In this framework, the lawyers of ASF play a role of facilitators to encourage the dialogue between the different concerned actors (justice, police, jail administration).

Finally, the support given to the Nigerian lawyers who get involved in « charia cases » is all the more relevant that these lawyers are generally stigmatised and tagged as « anti-charia » and thus potentially threatened.

In this context, Avocats Sans Frontières (Lawyers Without Borders) is the only association which provides support and backing for the lawyers responsible for the defence of the accused incurring death penalty or atrocious punishments, even though some NGO for the defence of the Human Rights like Amnesty International or Human Rights Watch have been mobilizing themselves.

1.1.3 Achievements of 2006: Acquittals, releases and jurisprudence reversal

Since it gave a direct hand to the lawyers responsible for the defence of Amina Lawal, acquitted in 2003, and contributed to the successful outcomes of some others ten proceedings, the action of ASF France has been continuing to reinforce itself.

In this framework, **ASF France is following about thirty cases in different states and registered significant changes of the jurisprudence.** For instance, thanks to the action led in cooperation with the lawyers and the local institutions, the State of Bauchi replaced amputations by prison terms.

Moreover, the dialogue favoured by the lawyers of ASF between the different actors of the judicial life allows to contemplate **concrete solutions for all the principal problems encountered** : prison overpopulation, violations of proceeding, the non-respect of fundamental rights. For instance, in Bauchi, the idea of positioning permanencies of lawyers in the police stations was launched. This would allow to restrict abusive police custodies (extortion of confessions, abusive detention pending trial,...) and would ensure to the arrested persons their access to law.

Finally, in Abuja, a resources centre has been established in order to welcome the Nigerian, Canadian and French colleagues and which allows them to have a data bank and a library.

1.1.4 Prospects of 2007 : to train, to raise awareness and to favour dialogue

Two missions took place during the first quarter of 2007 (from the 21st to the 28th of January and from the 19th to the 28th of February), before a three months break because of the elections and the insecurity that involves. Then the missions will begin on June.

On one hand, these missions aimed to continue visiting the jails and to follow the cases, and, on the other hand, they aimed to reinforce and to concretise the partnerships with the local actors of the judicial life.

Beyond the support given to the Nigerian colleagues defending persons under death penalty or every single atrocious punishment, or in abusive detention, the year 2007 will be based on dialogue and sensitisation.

On one hand, it will mean raising awareness and training the Nigerian lawyers to the respect of fundamental rights. On the other hand, promoting the dialogue between the different actors of the judicial life and raising their awareness on the respect of the Human rights, the rights to defence and to a fair trial represent a fundamental counterpart in order that the lawyers could work with successful conditions.

Thereby, a seminar took place in February in the northern state of Bauchi where the Charia is implemented. This seminar proposed the training of the local lawyers and a round-table assembling both actors of the common law jurisdiction and the Charia tribunals: lawyers, magistrates, khadis, representatives of the police and of the penitentiary administration. There was talk of the custody time, the use of the international legal instruments protecting the Human Rights, the components of the Charia law as opposed to the nigerian Constitution, the common law and the international instruments. A relevant attention was paid to the women who are practicing in law, police and penitentiary administration areas.

Likewise, upon the request of the Legal Aid Council, five training classes will be organized for the lawyers of the Jurisdictional Aid department from June in different Nigerian northern and southern states. Round-tables with magistrates will join these trainings.

Finally, in Lafia, the activities of the think tank that brings together the actors of the judicial life will continue to deal with the following themes:

- insufficient investigation in the field;
- getting confessions under duress;
- police and judiciary arbitrary detentions.

1.1.5 Partners of the Nigeria project

Project led thanks to the support of the following backers:



MINISTÈRE DES AFFAIRES
ÉTRANGÈRES



Agence canadienne de
développement international

- French Foreign Ministry
- Canadian International Development Agency

Project set up in partnership with:

- ASF Quebec
- Clifford Chance Office

Project led in cooperation with local partners:

- Nigerian Bar Association
- Legal Aid Council
- Local associations (JAHEC, DPP)

1.1.6 Members of the Nigeria team

Catherine MABILLE, project manager
Ivan PANEFF, operations manager
Emilie DE VAUCRESSON, operations manager
Cécile OSTIER, operations manager
Ziyad CLOT, operations manager
Jean-Sébastien MARIEZ, operations manager
Alix ARQUILLIERE, project assistant

Sabah BOUMESLA
Eleonore DEVONEC
Constance DEWAVRIN
Clémence HERAULT-DELANOE
Aurélie LUBOT
Gaëlle MAUGIN
Dako MOZAGBA
Mathieu ODET
Haiba OUAISSI
Avelina VIEIRA

I.2 PROJECT IN FRANCOPHONE AFRICA

To diffuse and to promote the Human Rights in Francophone Africa through the training of trainers



Countries concerned by the project :

- **Central Africa :** Congo Brazzaville, Cameroon, Democratic Republic of Congo, Central African Republic.
- **Western Africa :** Mali, Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, Senegal, Guinea, Mauritania.

I.2.1 The conditions of our commitment in Francophone Africa

These countries have several common characteristics (french as a common language, a political evolution, a similar constitutional and judicial system). This allows to reunite lawyers or defenders of the Human Rights coming from different countries within the same training programme avoiding that all their own national specificities harm the relevance of the training.

Moreover, all these countries suffer from the same problems which involve terrible humanitarian crisis like: civil mass murders, population moves and refugees inrushes, sacks, sexual violence, to « shanghai » kids in the army... All these situations are often sharpened by the surrounding impunity climate.

The training programme in the International Penal Court and the International Legal Instruments is thus motivated by:

- A strong demand to face the massive violations of the Human Rights.
- The necessary reinforcement of the knowledge and the practices of the African legal actors concerning the International Legal Instruments and the functioning of the International Penal Court to admit a fitted reaction to these violations.
- An insufficient number of trainings as opposed to a strong demand.
- The need to favour the contact and the network of the INGO of the French-speaking area present in these two regions.

1.2.2 The reasons of our commitment : actions in response to a formulated demand

ASF France followed very actively the process of the creation of the International Penal Court (IPC) and took part in the creation of the International Penal Bar of which it is member. Numerous members of ASF France have experience in defence before the International Penal Courts, or, to a great degree, in the judicial processing of international crimes and the most serious violations of the Human Rights. Thereby, since 2003, in order to share its knowledge and its know-how, ASF France has been setting up trainings in order that the actors protecting the Human Rights could adapt themselves to the particular proceeding of the IPC which allows to accuse persons for genocide crimes, crimes against the Humanity and War crimes. This institution represents a conclusive instrument to fight impunity.

Even though the first trainings took place in France, they aroused the interest of numerous African lawyers and jurists. On their request, trainings on the IPC and the International Legal Instruments Protecting the Human Rights were set up in 2005 in Congo Brazzaville, Mali and Senegal. The success encountered in these three countries confirmed the scope of the demand and the needs.

That's why ASF France with the support of the International French-speaking Nations Agency and in cooperation with the bars, the local lawyers associations and the INGO from the francophone area will create an extend training programme for trainers in Western Africa and Central Africa. The objective is to train about 160 lawyers coming from around ten countries in Central and Western Africa. Then, around twenty trainers in every region will be able to send back the impact of this training.

1.2.3 Interregional training for trainers on the international penal courts and the international legal instruments protecting the Human Rights.

In order to favour the establishment of this training project, ASF France benefits from strong partnerships with parts of ASF in Congo, Cameroon, Mali, and Senegal, and with most of the Bars (Brazzaville, Pointe Noire, Douala, Bamako, Abidjan and Dakar) and the INGO accredited by the International French-speaking Nations Agency.

These partnerships represent also a warrant for the durability of the project because our partners will relieve to their colleagues the knowledge they would have learnt during the training.

To choose the places where the training will be set, id est Congo Brazzaville and Cameroon in Central Africa, and Mali and Benin in Western Africa, we took into consideration:

- the easy access from the others countries in the region;
- the presence of persons, resources, experts and structures on the premises to facilitate the logistics, the training and the following of the plan after the end of the training;
- The relevant demand and the implication of the judicial actors and the Bars.

Those benefiting from the project are numerous:

- **those who benefit directly from this project are the practitioners of law:** lawyers, magistrates, jurists and all the defenders of the Human Rights.

- Those benefiting indirectly from the project are all the penal actors, the victims of serious violations of the Human Rights, the persons subject to trial and all the citizens of the region in general.

In 2006, the goals of the project are :

- To make for wider scattering of the principles and the values which contribute to reinforce the respect of the Human Rights and the rule of Law.
- To reinforce significantly the abilities of the law practitioners in order to guarantee a best defence of the citizens through a more systematic use of all the instruments and international proceedings protecting the Human Rights.
- To insufflate dynamics of use of the International Legal Instruments protecting the Human Rights in the regions of Central Africa and Western Africa.
- To train trainers to the use of the International Legal Instruments and to the proceeding and the litigation of the International Penal Court.

Then the results will enable the trained practitioners to :

- Reinforce their skills and to enable them to take part actively in the respect of the Human Rights, the establishment of a fair justice, the enforcement of the International Legal Instruments Protecting the Human Rights and the reinforcement of the rule of law.
- Be able to devise and to lead practical trainings to their colleagues, which will be fitted to the needs and the specific contexts of the African countries.
- Set up a connected regional net of trainers and practitioners defenders of the Human Rights.

1.2.4 The implementation of the project

The year 2006 will have been dedicated particularly to the development of a project and to the seeking of partners. Thus, the project will be effective from the second quarter of 2007.

The training schedule includes two regional curriculum organized in 3 phases during a 36 months period:

Year 1: Training of trainers « Method and pedagogy »

Phase 1	training of trainers on educational technics
Phase 2	training of trainers on judiciary technic
Phase 3	support and evaluation: 3 attended trainings sessions

1.2.5 The partners of the project Francophone Africa



The International French-speaking Nations Agency

1.2.6 The members of the team « Francophone Africa »

Marie-José CANTIER, project manager

Françoise MATHE, assistant project manager

Etienne COSTES, Coordinator at the headquarters

I.3 PROJECT IN LIBYA

The case of the bulgarian nurses and the palestinian doctor sentenced to death.



1.3.1 Birth of the issue

In 1998, in Benghazi, Libyan children appear being infected by the HIV virus.

On February the 9th of 1999, five bulgarian nurses and a doctor, a palestinian doctor and eight libyan are arrested and accused of « aforethought murder » because they provoked « an epidemic by injection of products contaminated by the AIDS » in the children hospital al-Fateh in Benghazi.

The eight libyan are acquitted, the bulgarian doctor Zdravko Georgiev is sentenced to 4 years' imprisonment ad the 5 bulgarian nurses and the palestinian doctor are sentenced to death by the Court of Benghazi in **2004, the 6th of May**.

1.3.2 History of the case

1999, 9th of February : The police arrests numerous health practitioners working in Libya without warrant. Most of the prisoners will be free later, except five bulgarian nurses ad a Palestinian doctor. The authorities accused them of having deliberately infected 426 children with the HIV virus in the hospital where they used to work as aid workers.

2004, February: The foreign accused declare to the delegates of Amnesty International that their confessions were extorted under torture and that they had retracted then their statement invoking violence.

2004, 6th of May: The Court of Benghazi acquits the nine libyan doctors, sentences to 4 years' imprisonment a bulgarian doctor and sentences to death five bulgarian nurses and a palestinian doctor for deliberated dissemination of the virus.

An appeal against this sentence was made before the Supreme Court of Libya.

Renowned scientists as the professor Luc Montagnier, who discovered the AIDS virus and who testified before the libyan court, rejected the possibility of a deliberated contamination; indeed, some children were infected before the accused begin to work in the hospital.

Many others had never been cured within the services where the accused used to work.

These experts blame the lack of hygiene in the hospital and of some necessary products, as a result of the failures of the libyan medical system.

ASF France decides to suggest its cooperation to the lawyers already responsible for the defence of the medical staff.

Thus ASF France brings its skills and its international net in order that the accused could benefit from a fair trial.

2005, 25th of December: The Supreme Court of Libya quashes the decision of May the 6th of 2004 and sends back the trial to the Court of Benghazi which will be in session in Tripoli.

1.3.3 Achievements of 2006 : the overhangs of the trial

2006, 12th of May: the new trial has begun in Tripoli. It will set successive hearings on May the 11th, June the 13th and 20th, July the 4th and 25th, August the 8th and 29th and September the 12th and 21st of 2006.

During these hearings, only the witnesses and the experts from the charging part and the victim's families and their lawyers have been heard. As the libyan public opinion does, they are deeply convinced of the guilty of the accused.

2006, 29th of August : the Prosecutor sentences them to death.

The defence remembered that the confessions had been obtained under torture and, thereby, that this could not been taken under consideration. It also sued for the appointment of internationally renown experts in order to check the reasons and the precise circumstances of the contaminations; this petition has not been agreed yet and only the libyan doctors summoned by the charging part have been heard and they support the thesis of a deliberated contamination.

ASF France actively took part in these works with bulgarian and libyan lawyers already there. The association insists on the violation of the international texts ratified by Libya as well on the torture issue as on the fair trial ones.

ASF France also made contact with Professor Montagnier and two of his Russian and Romanian colleagues who had to face similar situations of those in the hospital of Benghazi; they declared that they agreed to be part of an international experts group.

Moreover, beyond the justice, the scientist circle was stirred and was very interested in this case as all the articles published in the review « Nature » show it.

Indeed, **in 2006, November the 6th**, outraged by this proceeding, 114 Nobel Prizes made a plea to the President Kadhafi soliciting the consideration of the international report of experts by the libyan justice and the need to respect the rights to defence.

2006, 6th of December: the works of a group of scientific experts were published by the review Nature and ASF France immediately brought this new element to the attention of the Court.

This report calls into question the guilt of the accused as it claims that « the probability that this epidemic began after that the medical staff had arrived is near to zero »; This is the « molecular proof » of their innocence.

2006, 19th of December: despite these relevant elements of proof, the Court of Benghazi pronounced a new sentence to death.

Faced with such a decision, the lawyers of the accused lodged an appeal and ASF France keeps on fighting on their side in the name of the respect of the rights to defence and a fair trial.

ASF France stresses the need to call up the international public opinion in order to support the victims of this tragedy and to succeed in freeing them by putting an end to this terrible injustice.

In 2006, a huge work on communication was set up to call up both international community and the public opinion :

- Distribution of letters to the highest authorities :
European Council, French and Foreign political Authorities
- Consciousness-raising of the scientific and medical circles:
presence on the Nurse Show in Paris in October, articles in the review Nature, plea of the 114 Nobel Prizes in November, reports of an experts group in December, articles in the « Quotidien du Médecin », « Destination Santé »...
- Consciousness-raising of the legal circle:
Bar, National Bars Council, Conference of the Presidents of Bars...
- Consciousness-raising of the medias :
broadcasting of information in conferences, colloquiums, and parties in partnership with the co-operative SIBEL, ECPM, the association Provence Bulgarie.

1.3.4 Prospects of 2007: the fight will carry on

On last 18th of February, the accused filed an appeal against this new conviction in order that the libyan justice took into consideration the arguments developed hitherto.

Eight years after their arrest, six innocents are calling the international community for help. More than ever, the international public opinion has to protest in order to ask their release.

Several demonstrations will be organized to support the prisoners.

Despite all the elements, as well factual as legal and scientific, the five bulgarian nurses and the palestinian doctor were sentenced to death on 2006, December the 19th.

ASF France did not give up facing this tragic sentence and keeps on supporting the defence of the accused by:

- Keeping in touch with them and by visiting them as often as possible.
- Working together with the libyan and bulgarian lawyers on the proceeding before the Supreme Court.
- Exploring all the possibilities offered by the international criminal law.
- Keeping on raising awareness of the international public opinion.
- Continuing to ask for the support of the conscious scientific community after ASF France met the Professor Montagnier who connected us and the review « Nature », ending up to the signature of 114 Nobel Prizes.

The prospects of 2007:

- Travel to Libya to show how we are keeping at it to the accused, the lawyers and the libyan justice.
- A real work on the appeal lodged against the sentence of 2006, December the 19th.
- Organization of supportive parties to raise more than ever the consciousness of the public opinion about the tragedy that the accused are experimenting.
- To obtain more partnerships.

1.3.5 The partners

The project in Libya is led in cooperation with:



**Alliance des Femmes
pour la Démocratie**

- Together against death penalty
- Co-operative SIBEL
- Women league for Democracy

1.3.6 The members of the team

François CANTIER, lawyer and member of the team

Emmanuel ALTIT, lawyer and member of the team

Antoine ALEXIEF, lawyer and member of the team

Ivan PANEFF, lawyer and member of the team

Alla ABDELHAFID, lawyer and translator French/Arabic

Rana MANSUR, translator and interpreter French/Arabic

Adeline VEZINET, François CANTIER 's assistant, communication executive

Temenuga STEFANOVA, François CANTIER's assistant.



**Valya Cherveniyashka
Snezhana Dimitrova
Nasya Nenova
Valentina Siropulo
Kristiana Valcheva
Ashraf Ahmad Jum'a**

I.4 PROJECT IN CAMBODIA

Since 2005, ASF France has been taking part in the revival of the Rule of Law through the reinforcement of the lawyer profession and through the setting of 25 lawyers for judicial assistance in the provinces.

I.4.1 The reasons of our commitment in Cambodia

Three reasons explain the action of ASF France:

1. First, a **two decades civil war** which began with the crimes committed by the Red Khmers and which deprived Cambodia of its intellectuals and most of its jurists.
2. Then, the **Professional Training Centre for Cambodian Lawyers** has to face a rising number of young jurists wishing to become lawyers. Since the access to become a lawyer reopened in 2000, the number of lawyers registered in the Bar of Cambodia has duplicated and reaches now about 400.
3. Finally, because of the creation of the **Extraordinary Courts**, it is now necessary to familiarize the cambodian lawyers with the International Legal Instruments Protecting the Human Rights.



■ Capital of Cambodia ● Cities where ASF is present through its lawyers

1.4.2 The objectives of ASF France in Cambodia

Our wish consists of reinforcing the local abilities and making the actors of the judicial system autonomous.

ASF France leads two schedules thanks to a close partnership with the Bar of Cambodia and the Professional Training Centre for Cambodian Lawyers (PTCCL):

- **Schedule 1 :**
Training for young lawyers of the PTCCL.
- **Schedule 2 :**
Judicial Assistance in all the jurisdictions of the provinces.

1.4.3 Training schedule for young lawyers of the Professional Training Centre for Cambodian Lawyers

The French Foreign Ministry, the International French-Speaking Nations Agency, the Regional Council of the Pays de la Loire and the French Bars finance this programme for a three years period. 2006 was the second year of implementation.

Our activities were centred around two objectives:

- **The creation of a resources persons group** thanks to a training for co-trainers. Cambodian jurists and lawyers were trained to the educational practice of ASF France in order to assist the french lawyers-trainers.
- **The training of young lawyers of the Bar of Cambodia** on « *Role of the lawyer* » and « *The use through the internal law of the International Conventions ratified by Cambodia* ».

The « Cambodia Group » is made up of about thirty voluntary lawyers. In 2006, 8 of them lavished training courses to their Cambodian colleagues.

All the french trainers were trained to the educational tools of ASF France in the framework of a *Training for Trainers* cycle. They have thus the pedagogical knowledge to devise training components, to define the needs of competences, to rule a group of persons and to value the efficiency of the action.

The Cambodia group works all over the year on the updating and the adaptation of the educational tools. In 2006, two meetings admitted the trainings capitalization in Cambodia and to share the experience between the trainers of the project.

Our trainings complement the trainings of the Professional Training Centre for Cambodian Lawyers. Moreover, the training of cambodian *co-trainers* enables to set up a group of resources-persons who will be able to ensure independent trainings at the end of the programme, in the framework of the PTCCL.

TRAINING 1 : « THE ROLE OF THE LAWYER »

Period and place of the training: from July the 3rd to July the 7th of 2006 in Phnom Penh.

This training was the first session of the training mission for young cambodian lawyers « Revival of the Rule of Law ». The training aimed to identify the role of the lawyer and his perception by the population; to deepen the ethics rules and to study the relations with the magistrates. The training was ensured by a team made up of:

4 french voluntary lawyers-trainers
4 cambodian co-trainers
for 47 trainees

TRAINING 2: « THE USE THROUGH THE INTERNAL LAW OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS RATIFIED BY CAMBODIA »

Period and place of the training : from October the 23rd to October the 27th of 2006 in Phnom Penh.

This training was the second session of the training mission for young Cambodian lawyers « Revival of the Rule of Law ». The training was ensured by a team made up of:

4 french lawyers-trainers

8 cambodian co-trainers

for 43 trainees

The trainings of ASF France reject every single lecture and are carried out as workgroups leading to a direct participation of the trainees: brainstorming, alternation of the works through big and small groups, expositions, simulation exercises, practical cases, role plays.

Since we began these trainings in 2005, we have been noticing a change of minds. The trainees well-understand the content of the trainings and feel satisfy about that.

They always ask for more information, particularly on the professional practices and the codification.

We also notice that the trainees have a good theoretical knowledge and an important interest in corporate law.

1.4.4 Prospects for 2007 of the training schedule for young lawyers of the Professional Training Centre for Cambodian Lawyers.

The assessment forms of the 2005 and 2006 trainings enabled us to refocus the content of the trainings and to adapt the practical cases, functions of the problems raised during the debates with the trainees.

Some evolutions are conceivable. It is possible to meet the requirements of the beneficiaries more efficiently by suggesting notably in the 2007 programme a training on the New Code of Criminal Procedure.

Trainings schedule for the year 2007:

- Training on « the role of the Lawyer »;
will be set up in Phnom Penh during a week -from July the 2nd to July the 6th of 2007.
- Training on « the Use through the internal law of the International Conventions ratified by Cambodia »;
will be set up in Phnom Penh during a week – from October the 22nd to October the 26th of 2007.

Finally, this programme of « Participation in the training of the cambodian lawyers on the Human Rights and the Rights of the Defence » represented a springboard for ASF France.

It enabled the opening of a second project for Judicial Assistance financed by the European Union.

Today, these two projects are perfectly complementary.

The programme for Judicial Assistance allows us to make an efficient assessment of the problems of the lawyers in the courts in the provinces.

We are able thus to adapt the trainings of young lawyers to the difficulties they will meet in the field.

1.4.5 Programme for Judicial Assistance

Our knowledge of the local context enabled to notice huge needs in the field of the access to Justice. That is why we set up a second programme entitled « Support to democratization, to a well-ruled governance and to the Rule of Law » from January 2006; this programme received the financial support of the European Union and the French Embassy in Cambodia.

ASF France recruited 25 lawyers responsible for ensuring a free defence for the poorest people in all the jurisdictions of the provinces of the country.

In order that the programme for Judicial Assistance is more efficient, we insisted on the in-house training of our lawyers.

Our activities were carried out following two objectives:

- The training of the lawyers belonging to the programme on the fundamental principles of their profession and the Human Rights.
- The setting of a Judicial Assistance system.

THE TRAINING OF THE LAWYERS

The year 2006 will have been a turning period for Bar of Cambodia Kingdom.

It had to face a particular political and legal situation due to the beginning of the works for the Extraordinary Courts, while the reform on the criminal procedure has not been ratified yet, to the struggles of influence between the supporters of the germanic roman system and those for the Anglo-Saxon one, and to the internal conflicts within the Bar where the elections for the President of the Bar have been delayed for two years.

The first session was organized in the framework of a training conference from November the 1st to November the 5th of 2006 in Siem Reap on « the Use through the internal law of the International Conventions ratified by Cambodia »; this session was hosted by five voluntary french trainers and ten Cambodian co-trainers.

Originally, this training was supposed to be aimed at 25 lawyers exclusively belonging to the Judicial Assistance programme.

We extended our target group to all the actors of the legal system : Presidents and magistrates of the courts, the prosecutors and the clerks of the courts.

Justice Minister, President of the Royal School of Magistracy, President of the Bar of Cambodia graced with their presence the beginning and the end of the works.

This conference, which reunited about 80 persons, gave finally a very positive result because, for the first time, a dialogue was established between all the actors of the Cambodian Justice. The participants, including the actors of the judicial police, actively solicited the recurrence of such an event.

The last day of this first training session, the participants were asked to fill a assessment form. Their answers show that the trainees are very satisfied, as well concerning the method as with the content.

This conference also highlighted that the needs of the lawyers are centred on practice and the way they practise their profession.

Because of the exactions committed by the Red Khmers and the following events, the senior lawyers could not transfer their competences to the younger; these ones are thus very interested in exchanging their knowledge with french colleagues.

They all have a good knowledge of the International Conventions but they do not use them much. The legal tools with which they work are essentially: the PRONUC law, the law on aggravating circumstances and ministerial bills.

Everybody is looking forward to the new Code of criminal procedure, widely inspired by the French law and which is in the process of promulgation.

The training provided during the conference will encourage them to refer to the International Conventions. Likewise, the magistrates were asked to use these tools with courage, in spite of the pressure the hierarchy put on them.

The second training session of lawyers took place from January the 22nd to January the 26th of 2007 in Phnom Penh on « the Role of the lawyer » for the lawyers belonging to the Judicial Assistance programme.

Various debates with the lawyers had shown a need for information as for as it concerns the practice of their profession.

This session had a very positive impact thanks to the transfer of competences of the French lawyers on very technical questions and to a deepening on the relations lawyers-magistrates.

Following this training, a French lawyer and a French magistrate went to 9 provinces to visit 11 lawyers in order to give them technical advice, to control the material installation of the lawyers and their effective presence in the framework of the Judicial Assistance.

This action will go on as it includes meetings with magistrates too.

THE JUDICIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMME

This new programme began with the installation of a local office of ASF France in Phnom Penh and with the creation of a local team overseen by a French exile.

The signature of a new convention with Cambodian Bar and the recruitment of 25 lawyers enable to introduce the Judicial Assistance programme.

The activities of the lawyer began in July, 2006, in the Courts of the provinces. Nine months after the programme had begun, our lawyers work now in the provinces in premises worthy of the lawyer profession and of the welcomed people.

We believe that the interventions of the lawyers made during the second semester of 2006 are encouraging: 1006 consultation actions, conciliations, pleadings, visits to prisons...

The needs for the defence of the poorest were thus taken into consideration. We also believe that the relevant number of criminal cases rushed through shows the success of our undertaking as the excessive detentions were numerous in these cases.

We tried hard to favour the contacts between the magistrates and our lawyers in several courts, respecting the independence of each person, in order that more cases affecting « poor » people were entrusted to the lawyers belonging to ASF France. Moreover, the magistrates expressed the same wish when we met them.

The consciousness-raising to Law and Justice.

This activity was born of a need expressed by the actors of the judicial system who asked for a bigger visibility of their profession.

ASF France extended its target group by providing a consciousness-raising to Law and Justice to 180 children belonging to 3 public cambodian orphanages.

Indeed, the lawyer profession is often unrecognised or badly received by the population.

Children represent in Cambodia a numerous and vulnerable population.

A consciousness-raising on the judicial system and the Human Rights is necessary in order to reinforce the perception of the youth on their rights.

Moreover, in order that the population sees us, ASF France took part in two national events in Cambodia where we wore the colours of ASF France and our financial partners:

- The Celebration of the Waters,
- and the Angkor Marathon.

1.4.6 The Judicial Assistance programme's prospects for 2007

In view of the balance of the year 2006, we consider continuing the bi-annual trainings for the lawyers in the carrying out of 2007. One of these trainings will deal with the new Code of Criminal Procedure.

Now we have to:

- Continue our actions.
- Deepen controls in the field.
- Continue the coordination work between the lawyers and the magistrates.

Trainings schedule for 2007 :

- In-house training in Sianoukville ; provided through 4 workgroups in July the 12th and July the 13th of 2007.
- Training in Phnom Penh on the New Code of Criminal Procedure in November the 27th and November the 30th of 2007.

1.4.7 The partners of the project in Cambodia

Project led thanks to the support of our backers :



MINISTÈRE DES AFFAIRES
ÉTRANGÈRES



- The European Union
- The Foreign Ministry
- The International French-speaking Nations Agency
- The Regional Council of Pays de la Loire
- The Bar of Nantes (France)
- The Bar of Brive (France)
- The Bar of Foix (France)

NB : La présente publication a été élaborée avec l'aide de l'Union européenne. Le contenu de la publication relève de la seule responsabilité d'ASF- France et ne peut en aucun cas être considéré comme reflétant l'opinion de l'Union européenne.

Project set up in cooperation with :

- The Bar of the Cambodia Kingdom
- Training Centre for Cambodian Lawyers

1.4.8 Members of the Cambodia team

Martine JACQUIN, Programmes Manager
François ROGER, Programmes Manager Assistant
Marie-José CANTIER, Training Manager
Caroline VAUTRIN, Project Coordinator
Jean Baptiste De SEZE, Local Manager in Phnom Penh
Bunthoeun CHEA, Local Manager Assistant in Phnom Penh
Sinek NAY, Coordinator of the Judicial Assistance Programme
Vuthy NY, Coordinator of the Judicial Assistance Programme.

**26 voluntary lawyers work on this project too
8 of them were project managers in 2006:**

Lilianne CARRION-SZUBER
Isabelle DURAND
Philippe MORICEAU
Ghislaine SEZE
Nicole DUMAS
Françoise GAUTRY
Christine MARTINEAU
Laure NOUGIER



The 2006 class of young lawyers
with their trainers,
the President of the ANG ENG THONG
and the ASF France team of Cambodia

I.5 PROJECT IN COLOMBIA

1848-1957: Civil war (more than 200 000 victims).

1985: The Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia create a political party called the Patriotic Union in preparation for the elections.

2002, February: Ingrid Betancourt and Clara Rojas are kidnapped by the guerrilla.

2002, May: Alvaro Uribe wins the presidential elections. After the increase of violence following his nomination, he decides to declare the State of Emergency.

2004, December : demobilization of 1 500 paramilitaries.

2005, June: The Congress passes the law « Justice and Peace ». The relative impunity given to the paramilitaries heads accused of civil massacres during the last twenty years is blamed by the organizations protecting the Human Rights.

2006, May: Alvaro Uribe is elected for the second time thanks to his strong repression against the guerrillas which ensured him a high popularity. The Supreme Court ratifies the law Justice and Peace.

2006, November: The Supreme Court orders the arrest of 3 members of Parliament, members of the governmental majority, accused of having organized the death squads since the end of the 90s. Promulgation of the application decree of the law Justice and Peace.

2006, December: Beginning of the trial of Salvatore Mancuso, the former leader of the Self-Defence Forces of Colombia who has to answer for hundred murderers.

2007, January: Numerous murderers aimed at the paramilitaries of whom the right-hand man of Salvatore Mancuso, Jaire Andres Angaria, who had threatened several times to make the existing links between political men and militiamen from the far right known.

1.5.1 The reasons of our commitment in Colombia

What is characteristic of Colombia is its context, based on an armed conflict and serious violations of the Human Rights and the international humanitarian law. In the face of this situation, the Colombian lawyers -who are the principal bondsmen of the rights to defence and to a fair trial- have a key function to access all the population and particularly the vulnerable groups, as well thanks to their knowledge and the defence of their rights as to the judicial system.

One of the main difficulty that these lawyers have to face is their assimilation to the cases of their clients. Because of this assimilation, numerous lawyers who are defending people accused of belonging to armed groups and victims of violations of the Human Rights or some trade-unions are threatened, obliged to disappear or murdered.

Another difficulty is linked with the change of criminal procedure. Since January the 1st of 2005, a new criminal procedure system of an accusatory nature has been gradually substituting the system in effect. Its setting is spread over several years and region per region. In opposition to the lawyers of the *Defensoria Publica*, the independent lawyers do not receive any training nor appropriate documentation.

Faced with these difficulties, the lack of wide and strong professional organizations, either in the form of associations or bar associations, lets the lawyers practising without protection, particularly in the provinces. Moreover, this loneliness, makes tough the update of their professional training which prevents them from fulfilling their role in some areas of their activity.

The project « defence of the defence » is born to allow the volunteers of ASF France to work with the Colombian lawyers and to help them to face these barriers.

All the actions of this project aim to improve the security, the independence and the training of the lawyers, to establish the legitimacy of their function facing the authorities and the civil society and the need to ensure them a particular protection because of their role in the development of the Rule of Law.

1.5.2 The objectives of ASF France in Colombia

At the Colombian lawyers in danger request, ASF France has been in Colombia since 2001. A period of diagnostic took place from 2001 to 2003 which enabled to create the programme « Defence of the Defence » led from 2003 to 2006 with the support of the Foreign Ministry.

By defending the lawyers, the project tends to favour the access to Justice, to the knowledge and to the defence of the rights of all the population through the service of free and independent lawyers who enjoy the necessary means and security to practise their professional activity.

It has been possible to complete the three main lines of this project successfully:

- **International missions of census and support for lawyers in danger (31 missions since 2001).**
- **Institutional reinforcement of the profession through the creation of a net made up of associations and regional relays and the creation of the Lawyer Home.**
- **Action of training on professional organization, the use of the International Instruments and especially those concerning the accusatory criminal procedure (42 workgroups and seminars).**

The gains of this period are relevant and we will sum up them in 5 points:

1. **Creation of a data base** on threatened, murdered or disappeared lawyers.
2. **An international emergency net** (professional organizations) is created and gets involved when necessary.
3. **A regional relays net**, associations or independent lawyers is set in most part of the colombian territory including the most conflicting areas except the amazonian zone. It enables to collect information and to organize activities in a participative way.
4. **The Lawyer Home** is working: it administers the nets and the data bases. Work tools have been set up : a material (more than three hundred books not including the subscriptions to legal publications) and virtual documentation centre, educational tools on the key themes for the profession and the legislative following of the fundamental themes for the profession has been begun.

A 60 seats assembly room enables the lawyers associations to organize events with the logistics support of the Home. Finally, in case of emergency, this room can be an accommodation structure for lawyers in danger in their region.
Conventions were passed with 10 professional associations for the animation of the Lawyer Home.
These organizations have begun a common actions:
 - organization of a conference in December, 2006,
 - creation of a national coordination of which ASF France is responsible for the technical secretariat,
 - Setting of common goals and a work agenda.
5. **The training of an important group of lawyers** (476 trainees) has been ensured in all the regions where the new criminal system was set up.
The convention passed with the public defence is a pedagogical and political success. The passing-on to the independent lawyers of the knowledge obtained by the public defenders in the framework of others cooperation programmes has an evident functional usefulness but it makes also possible to surpass the antagonism between public defenders and independent lawyers which is harming the creation of common professional organizations and a common culture.

I.5.3 Achievements of 2006: Missions, consolidations, trainings, structurings and publications.

International Missions / Colombia

Attained activities: 7 missions in Colombia.

The objectives of these missions :

- to list and to support the Colombian lawyers facing safety problems,
- to raise the local and national authorities awareness of the legitimacy of the lawyer profession and their duty to protect them,
- to ensure training activities on the spot.

The information collected during these missions and concerning cases of lawyers in danger are the basis of a *2005-2006 annual report on the situation of the lawyers in Colombia*.

Finally, in the framework of these missions, Latin-American lawyers have come and joined the project managers of ASF France in order to be able to irrigate the national net. They are Claudio PANDOLFI (Argentina), Pedro MAHECHA (Colombia) and Adriana GONZALEZ (Colombia).



● Missions and trainings led in 2006

Consolidation of the Lawyer Home in Bogota

The objective of the Lawyer Home, heart of the action of this project, is to favour the organization of the lawyers, to make them available the whole basic services to improve their ability of collective effect, as for as it particularly concerns legislation, security and social visibility.

The Lawyer Home is the operational centre of the activities of ASF France in Colombia; its services include:

- **A centre of documentation**, legislative legal intelligence and gathering of information on themes affecting the lawyer profession.
- **An emergency net** which becomes an information mechanism with a national and international circulation about the dangerous situation that the lawyers are facing in Colombia.
- **A web site** (www.casadelabogado-asf.org).
- A more than 60 seats assembly room for meetings planned to be fortnightly, available for the attached organizations for their internal meetings or some legal events.
- **Several fit out courts** enabling to welcome the permanent security staff required to **guarantee the safety**, the project managers when they are present in the field, foreign lawyers carrying out activities in Colombia and the Colombian lawyers in danger who are waiting for the definition of a project giving them the possibility to go out or a better assessment of their safety situation in their region.
- **Two offices** for the lawyers who want to work within the Lawyer Home.

Training activities

In 2006, seven workgroups lasting a week each on the reform of the Code of Criminal Procedure were set up.

Since January 2005, the reform of the Code of Criminal Procedure has been gradually set out (by 2008).

This reform led gradually all over the country involves a real training on the technics that have to be carried out (investigation technics, examinations, technics of defence before the hearing).

As any national programme plans to train independent lawyers, ASF France, through a partnership with the *Defensoria Publica*, is the only organization which provides practical trainings on this theme in Colombia.

More than 300 hundred have been trained during this exercise.

This year, the new Code of Criminal Procedure came into force in the judicial districts of Bucaramanga, Buga, Cali, Medellin, San Gil, Santa Rosa de Vilerbo and Tunja.

The structuring of the emergency and solidarity net

The aim of the solidarity fund is to support extreme cases affecting lawyers threatened because of their professional activity and the families of lawyers who were murdered.

During the period 2005-2006, the solidarity fund was partly used in order to help Adriana GONZALEZ, a Colombian lawyer who works in the area of Pereira. Adriana found refuge during some weeks within the Lawyer Home; she took part in a mission in the field. We gave her a grant because she could not work and get her region.

We followed the whole hearings of the presumed guilty for the murder of the lawyer Alma Rosa JARAMILLO in Cartagena. We helped the ALMA's family who was in a financial straits situation.

Publications

Annual report « the situation of the lawyers in Colombia » : since 2003, the missions achieved has enabled the elaboration of an annual report on the situation of the lawyers in Colombia. The first edition, published in October 2003 in Spanish and French was introduced before the Interamerican Commission of the Human Rights and the second one was published in 2004 in Spanish, French and English.

The gathered data were permanently updated; this enabled to draw up the report of 2005-2006, in process of being published (February-March, 2007).

Both the lawyers that we met in the visited areas and the lawyers who have been located living in the cities we visited previously and with whom we keep a permanent relation and during the interviews that we give regularly with the judicial, regional and national authorities in Colombia, and particularly the Human Rights Unit of the Fiscalía (the Prosecutor General's Office).

Document on the Professional Lawyers Association: the conference of the lawyers and the seminary of the end of the year gave rise to the elaboration of a work material on the professional lawyers associations and the rights to defence, at the moment in process of being published.

Code of the Criminal Procedure commented on: the code has been delivered free. Every trainee in criminal procedure has received a copy. It also has been given to the public defenders, some cooperation agencies and some universities where the events took place. About 600 codes have been delivered. It has to be reminded that, nowadays, this updated work tool, essential for every criminal lawyer is not available for all the law professionals.

1.5.4 Prospects of 2007 : Defence of the rights to defence and more autonomy for the Lawyer Home.

The consolidation of the activities of the Lawyer Home was really successful. Several cooperation conventions between the different organizations of lawyers and the Home were signed.

A new cycle of signatures is in process and will continue in 2007 in order to give more autonomy to its functioning.

Considering thus the interest that it generates among the institutions and the Colombian lawyers, ASF France eventually contemplates passing this entity on to the partner institutions.

The trainings on the new Code of Criminal Procedure enabled to train more than 300 independent lawyers this year, each one owing the tools ensuring him the ability to train others lawyers.

In 2007, 6 new trainings sessions are planned in the regions where the new Code of Criminal Procedure were set up and 2 in Bogota. A raising-awareness on the use of the International Instruments, on the defence of the victims and on the mechanisms of the law « Justice and Peace » will be integrated into the trainings planned in 2007 in the framework of the criminal procedure.

The first National Congress of the Colombian Lawyers took place on December the 14th of 2006 through the impetus of ASF France and various professional organizations. A common declaration followed, wishing for instance the legislative setting of a professional association and creating a national coordination which agenda for 2007 has been established; the technical secretariat will be ensured by ASF France.

6 missions will take place in 2007 :	January, 2007	Claudio PANDOLFI
	February, 2007	Flor TERCERO
	August, 2007	Pascale TAELEMAN
	October, 2007	Claudio PANDOLFI
	November, 2007	Pascale TAELEMAN
	December, 2007	François CANTIER

1.5.5 The partners of the project in Colombia



- French Foreign Ministry
- French Prime Minister
- Mayor of Paris
- National Bars Council
- Bar of Lyon
- Bar of Marseille
- Bar of Val de Marne
- Bar of Angers
- Bar of Nantes
- Bar of Bobigny
- Bar of Rouen
- Bar of Essonne

1.5.6 The members of the Colombia team

Françoise MATHE, Project Manager
Benoit ROUSSEAU, Mission Manager
Pascale TAELEMAN, Mission Manager
Benoît HOCQ, Mission Manager
Flor TERCERO, Mission Manager
Jacques MARCHAND, Mission Manager
Adriana GONZALEZ, Colombian Mission Manager
Claudio PANDOLFI, Argentine Mission Manager
Magalie GRASSAUD, Project Coordinator

7 members of the project are salaried in Colombia :

Julia MORA, Coordinator in the field
Pedro MAHECHA, Jurist
Natalia ERAZO, Legal Assistant
Hasbleidy MUNOZ, Secretary
Diego ERAZO, Watchman
Elisabeth DIAZ, Watchwoman
Olga SAENZ, Maintenance.

II – THE PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

The professional trainings organized by Lawyers Without Borders France constitute a privileged instrument to develop the quality and the efficiency of its interventions.



Marie-José CANTIER and Caroline LAMBERT

II.1 A TOOL DEDICATED TO OUR ACTIONS

As an International Solidarity Organization and a training organization, ASF France sees training as a privileged tool of its actions.

The practitioners lawyers who intervene either in emergency actions or in long-terms projects and the members of Avocats Sans Frontières France have to develop their abilities to use the International Legal Instruments Protecting the Human Rights and/or transmit their knowledge to the trainees in this area.

Indeed, their missions lead them out of their frontiers either to intervene in emergency actions or in long-term actions. That's why ASF France sets up trainings every year bound to its members in priority and to those who would like to involve themselves in our projects but also to all the practitioners of Law to prepare them to intervene professionally and effectively in their missions.

Our trainings are devised and led by skilled lawyers previously trained on pedagogy, or by professional trainers and interveners with professional competences which are unanimously acknowledged by the lawyer profession.

Most of the time planned in the form of training-action, the trainings use specific pedagogical methods, dynamic and interactive which enable the trainees to optimise the learning of the useful knowledge and know-how during their missions.

Moreover, even if all our trainings find themselves in the framework of the professional training for lawyers, the trainings « **International Legal Instruments Protecting the Human Rights** », « **International Penal Court** » and « **Technics of the interrogatory and the cross-examination** » have been ratified by the National Bars Council.

It has to be noted that numerous projects incorporate training.

As long as it intervenes in long-term projects, ASF France attends to prepare the local actors it supports in becoming more autonomous. Moreover, it attends to the abide updating and the reinforcement of the competences both legal and pedagogical of its members and partners.

That's why we provide a complete professionalization career path « **Training of Trainers on International Legal Instruments** » which is addressed to all of those who are taking part in the projects incorporating the training in their system.

We also provide trainings of trainers to the local partners in the framework of our projects. These trainings of trainers contribute to the cohesion of our teams and to the efficiency of our actions. They are compulsory to take part in the missions « training ».

These trainings of trainers are devised and led by Marie-José CANTIER with Caroline LAMBERT.

II.2 ACHIEVEMENTS OF 2006

Training title	Training dates	Number of days	Number of trainees
Training of Trainers – Fundamental basis	March, 8, 9, 10, 11	4	12
	October, 11, 12, 13, 14	4	10
Training of Trainers – Reinforcement	February, 3, 4	2	10
	November, 9, 10, 11	3	11
Cambodia Training Training of Trainers	June, 28, 29	2	4
	October, 18, 19	2	4
Cambodia Training Pedagogical Material	June, 16	1	18
Cambodia Training To lead a team	November, 24	1	20
Training- International Penal Court	February, 16, 17, 18	6	9
	and March, 2, 3, 4 May, 18, 19, 20 and June, 8, 9, 10	6	7
Training - International Legal Instruments	April, 7, 8	2	13
	September, 29, 30	2	7
TOTAL		35 days	125 trainees

Training of trainers 1st Level : « the fundamental basis » - in Toulouse

- 1st session : March, 8 to 11 of 2006
- 2nd session : October, 11 to 14 of 2006

Training of trainers 2nd Level : « reinforcement » - in Toulouse

- 1st session : February, 3 and 4 of 2006
- 2nd session : November, 9 to 11 of 2006

Cambodia Training : « Training of Trainers » - in Cambodia

- 1st session : June, 28 and 29 of 2006
- 2nd session : October, 18 and 19 of 2006

Cambodia Training « Conception of pedagogical aid » - in Toulouse

- June, 16th of 2006

Cambodia Training « To lead a team » - in Paris

- November, 24th of 2006

Training « International Penal Court» - in Toulouse

- 1st session : February, 16th to 18th and March, 2nd to 4th of 2006
- 2nd session : May, 18th to 20th and June, 8th to 10th of 2006

Training « International Legal Instruments » - in Toulouse

- 1st session : April, 7th and 8th of 2006
- 2nd session : September, 29th and 30th of 2006

II.2. Training of trainers, support for the programmes conception, monitoring in the field

At the moment, a lot of projects of ASF France develop trainings actions in the field involving the need to train trainers.

As the number of actions is rising, the association chose to reinforce its potential trainers team who are liable to intervene.

3 levels of trainings of trainers on the International Legal Instruments Protecting The Human Rights are provided :

- « **The fundamental basis** »
- « **The reinforcement** »
- « **The consolidation of the skills** »

Led by Marie-José CANTIER who is specialized in training of trainers and educational engineering, the trainings of trainers enable the lawyers to gain the necessary skills to be able to intervene later as trainers in the framework of our projects.

At the end of these trainings, the trainees can devise interactive training modules fitted to the specific needs of those to whom they train in very different political, legal and cultural contexts.

II.2.2 Trainings on the International Penal Court

The International Penal Court came into force in July, the 1st of 2002; it is the first permanent international jurisdiction dedicated to adjudicate the persons accused of genocide, crime against the Humanity, war crime and aggression crime.

Before this jurisdiction, there is a specific proceeding. It is different from the proceedings set up before the ad hoc international courts (IPCY and IPCR) of which it uses however some fundamental lines as it adopts as well to the continental tradition called « civil law » as to the Anglo-Saxon tradition called « common law ».

That's why ASF France provides trainings on the theme « International Penal Court » to the lawyers interested in this new jurisdiction.

These 6 days trainings deal with the role of the lawyer before the International Penal Court (IPC), from the submission of a case to the court to the proceedings of Appeal and review.

At the end of every training, the trainees have become able to intervene efficiently before the International Penal Court :

- first by fitting themselves to the specificities of this new international jurisdiction,
- and then by using the legal tools that it offers to the lawyer of the accused or the victims to ensure his/her function of defence.

Moreover, the trainees will have got to grips with the texts ruling their interventions, they will have noticed what makes the specificity of their intervention and the one of the main protagonists of the IPC in every step of the proceeding in order to tackle more easily the specificities of this hybrid system in particular the interrogatory and the cross-examination. Moreover, they will be able to use the current rules for the defence of the victims rights.

II.2.3 Trainings on the International Legal Instruments

To act out of its borders in different cultural and legal contexts and with difficult conditions every time imposes the setting of behaviours, knowledge and fitted know-hows (flexibility, open-minded and confirmed professional experience) on the lawyers.

This training aims to train trainees to the use of the International Legal Instruments Protecting the Human Rights for a direct intervention in a trial in which the human rights are into play and/or for the management of the relations with the local authorities where the interventions take place.

CONTENT:

- Identification, definition and investigation on the International Legal Instruments.
- History and competence of the international jurisdiction.
- The different international legal instruments through their use in the cases processed by ASF France in the field.
- Their applicability in internal law.
- Their applicability in external law.

II.2.4 Balance of the Training action in 2006

From the trainers point of view:

- Most of the trainees attending to the trainers were very motivated which represents a positive point for our association in terms of human resources as well for the missions as for the all the real job made to develop a project.
- These trainings offer the opportunity to get in touch and to exchange rich competences as well for the project managers as for the subscribers not yet involved but who would like to develop their actions.

From the trainees point of view :

On a scale going from 1 (not satisfy at all) to 6 (very satisfy), the trainees gave an average mark of 5 for the whole trainings in which they took part.

About 65% of the trainees consider themselves able to use the training skills in the field, against 18% who consider that they need more practice.

II.3 PROSPECTS OF 2007

TRAINING	LEVEL	DATES
Training of Trainers on the International Legal Instruments	Fundamental Basis	May, 23, 24, 25 and 26
	Reinforcement	September, 13, 14 and 15
	Consolidation	October 25, 26 and 27
Training International Legal Instruments	1 st session	March, 30 and 31
	2 nd session	October, 5 and 6
Training International Penal Court	1 st session	April, 26, 27 and 28
	2 nd session	November, 22, 23 and 24

Above the **trainings schedule** planned for the year 2007.

These trainings are open to all the professionals of law who wish it (lawyers, jurists, professionals, students...)

At the same time with these 7 trainings sessions, ASF France will lead others trainings meeting the requirements of the future beneficiaries of these trainings.

In 2007, ASF France suggests to the **Bars of France** to provide trainings « custom-built » according the needs previously expressed by the interested professionals.

Moreover, ASF France establishes partnerships with some important **international law firms** which are supporting the association.

ASF France organizes trainings within its law offices to enable the lawyers wishing it to involve themselves in missions and to commit themselves with us for the defence of the Human Rights.

Thus, the law firms Clifford Chance and Allen & Overy will benefit from our training services.

The final aim is to suggest to the lawyers of both firms to take part in the futures missions of ASF France.

Partnership conventions are in process.

Coming missions: the world is expecting us!

ASF France has several projects of mission :

- To follow the actions in the countries were ASF France has already been involving itself.
- To begin others actions in others countries where the fundamental rights are in danger:
 - In Mali-project of training for the population on law.
 - In China-project of training for the young colleagues.

II.4 REINFORCEMENT OF THE ABILITIES

The training represents the main line of the development of ASF France.

The association wanted its members to be trained as well on the legal area as on the educational area because they will lead particularly delicate missions. The trainings ensure the good functioning and the success of a project. That's why they represent the step before every commitment in our actions.

The trainings provided to small groups aim thus to prepare the lawyers for their intervention before foreign or international jurisdictions and to take part in the training of lawyers and practitioners of countries in which ASF France develops its missions.

Trainings concentrated on the functioning of the association are also available.

Not only are all the employees of ASF France encouraged to take part in the trainings provided by the association but to follow the professional trainings fitted to the needs of everyone as well.

In 2006 :

- Caroline Vautrin, Coordinator of the Cambodia project, followed a training «**English Continuing Education**»
60 hours spread over May and June of 2006 via the « Institut de la Promotion Supérieur du Travail » (the French Superior Institute for Labour Promotion).
- Laurence SCIMONE, Headquarters Coordinator followed the training « **Backers** » from the programme Receiver of International Solidarity.
48 hours from April the 26th to May the 5th of 2006 via the organization « Bioforce ».
- Etienne COSTES, Coordinator of the projects and financing follows at the moment a Master « **EISA Expertise Socio-économique et Conduite du Changement Organisationnel** » in the framework of a professional continuing education.
411 hours from October the 1st of 2006 to June the 30th of 2007 in Grenoble University.
- Alix ARQUILLIERE, Coordinator of projects and financing and Magalie GRASSAUD, Coordinator of the project in Latin America followed two trainings:
« **Sponsorship and private financing** » - 7 hours on November, the 18th via the CRP consulting.
« **Assessment of project** » - 14 hours on November the 23rd and 24th via the CLAP Midi-Pyrénées .

In 2007:

In order to continue these efforts of professionalization of each member of the team ASF France, the employees will attend to trainings all over the year.

At the same time, the team may benefit from a partnership with Microsoft France.

Indeed, Microsoft France suggested to the association a sponsorship of competences which will be made in the form of trainings (internet, multimedia...) dedicated to the professionalization of the communication department of the association.

II.5 THE TRAINING TEAM

Administration at the headquarters:

Sophie COLOMBIES MARTIN, training manager

Members of the Training Commission :

Jean-Marie BIJU DUVAL, lawyer, Bar of Paris
Marie-José CANTIER, trainer, educational monitoring
Annie DELAHAIE, lawyer, Bar of Toulouse
Françoise GAUTRY, lawyer, Bar of Brive
Martine JACQUIN, lawyer , Bar of Paris
Marianne LAGRUE, lawyer, Bar of Paris
Caroline LAMBERT DE CESSEAU, trainer
Françoise MATHE, lawyer , Bar of Toulouse
Philippe MORICEAU, lawyer, Bar of Biarritz
Nathalie MULLER-SARRALIER, lawyer, Bar of Nanterre
Laure NOUGIER, lawyer, Bar of Avignon
Marie-Pierre POULAIN, lawyer, Bar of Paris
Fabienne TRUSSES-NAPROUS, lawyer , Bar of Tarbes

III – EVENTS ASF FRANCE



III.1 THE EVENTS OF 2006

Avocats Sans Frontières France leads lots of actions for the defence of the Human Rights as much in the field in France and abroad as upstream via the training sessions provided by the association.

These two intervention parts represent the heart of the association.

The actions thus led by ASF France are legitimated by the influence they have on the local stage (in the intervention countries) and on the international stage via the manifestations in which the association has taken part throughout the year.

Indeed, ASF France improves its efforts by setting up several works done in collaboration with other organisms for the Defence of the Human Rights.

III.1.1 Works with the International Penal Court



Since ASF France signed the Treaty of Rome in 1998, **the association has got involved in the drawing-up of International Penal Court texts (IPC)** with particular interest in the role that the advisory bodies play before the IPC and the respect of the rules of a fair trial.

Through its President **François CANTIER**, ASF France **acutely supported the creation of an International Penal Bar (IPB)**.

In June 2002, ASF France joined the International Penal Bar which had been established in order to ensure that the voice of the Lawyers would be better heard by the IPC than the one of the lawyers pleading before the International Criminal Tribunal for former Yugoslavia (ICTY) and the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR). Aïcha Condé, member of ASF France has been part of the IPB office since the elections held in Berlin on March the 22nd of 2003.

Since 2004, Jean-Marie Biju Duval, member of ASF France, has been following closely the works of the French Coalescence for the International Penal Court (FCIPC) on the adjustment law which would enable the integrating of the Rome Statute in the French penal law, always from the right for both accused and victims to an independent representation point of view within the framework of a fair trial.

In February 2005, Marie-Pierre Poulain, member of the Board and representative of ASF France during the meetings with the IPC Office was appointed as the coordinator of the party “legal representation” of the international coalescence for the IPC.

In 2006, the FCIPC mainly dedicated its works to the relevant issue on the adjustment of the French law to the new international penal law established by the Treaty of Rome creating thus the IPC.

It is principally a matter of making sure that, by integrating in its legislation genocide crimes, crimes against humanity and war crimes as they are specified by the Treaty of Rome, the French law make possible the effective implementation of these texts in the framework of the principle of complementarity.

In this way, ASF France, and the 5 or 6 associations most active within the FCIPC, took part in analysing and criticizing the bill carrying out the adjustment of the French penal law to the IPC institution.

Around ten decisions spread in the year 2006 enabled to draw a common position on this bill. Contacts with the concerned ministries, the parliamentary circles and various personalities were set.

The all positions retained by the FCIPC principally aim to fit the French definition on crimes with their international definition, integrating the principle of imprescriptibility for the whole grievous violations of the international humanitarian law, and to make effective the legal proceedings of the authors of international crimes as part of an enlarged territorial jurisdiction.

III.1.2 Works with the Economic Interest Grouping



The Economic Interest Grouping (EIG) brings together the Bar of Paris, the Conference of the French Presidents of Bars and the National Council of Bars.

The year 2006 will have seen the implementation of a proposal done by François CANTIER, President of ASF France, aiming to create emergency funds.

These funds will be used for emergency missions or those requiring an immediate defence.

Project about the functioning of emergency funds:

Aware that the French Bar has to intervene urgently when the Rights of Defence are threatened, the Bar of Paris, the Conference of the Presidents of Bars and the National Council of the Bars decided to create emergency funds that could provide available funds anytime when this kind of intervention is required.

Avocats Sans Frontières France which suggested the creation of these funds commits itself to ensuring the technical secretariat.

The members of the EIG commit themselves to depositing a financing in these funds; moreover, as well an EIG member as ASF France will be able to suggest interventions.

Thereby, ASF France undertakes to investigate the petition for an intervention and to suggest if need arises the conditions for the organization of the mission or missions required.

The mission suggested will be sent to the EIG members who pledge to communicate their opinion at short notice because of the nature of the intervention.

In that event, they will appoint a person responsible for the monitoring of the proposals and who will dispose of the ability to commit the EIG.

It will be possible to justify these interventions in the two following circumstances:

- When death penalty or a degrading punishment are incurred; the defence cannot be ensured or it is ensured but in weakness conditions which require an external support;
- When one or several lawyers or a counsel for the defence of the Human Rights are persecuted, pursued, threatened, murdered or tortured because of their professional activities or their action in support of the human rights.

As soon as the mission is approved by the EIG, the funds will be sent to ASF France which will ensure the organization of the mission. It is worth noting that the mission will be led on behalf of the French Bar.

ASF France commits itself to accounting for the implementation of every mission and for the evolution of the processes in every relevant step.

III.1.3 Works with the International French-speaking Nations Agency



ASF France's Advisory Statute in the International French-speaking Nations Agency:

To develop the means of the justice and of the regional integration and specialized institutions:

The rule of law, fair guaranteed trials are first established with and around skilled staffs and professionals, sure of their abilities and disposing of aids and equipments well-adapted.

Based on this observation, the International French-speaking Nations Agency encourages, develops or carries out training or equipment actions, as a support to national policies or on its own initiative.

Reinforcement of the material abilities:

On one hand, this means to contribute to the reinforcement and the modernization of material and documentary means for the professionals of law, the tribunals and the judicial administrations, the bars and the juridical associations or the regional integration organizations and the specialized organizations.

Reinforcement of human abilities (training):

On the other hand, it is necessary to respond to the needs of initial and continuing education of the judicial staffs and of the practitioners of law, through 4 intervention ways:

- support for national training programs,
- organization or participation to regional or specialized training sessions in collaboration with others national (States, professional organisms), regional or international (regional or international organizations, bilateral cooperation) actors,
- use of the Information and Communication Technologies in order to reach the greatest majority (video conferences cycles of training for the target public : magistrates, lawyers, clerks, teachers),
- development of the professional cooperation, information and teaching aid exchanges thanks to the reinforcement and the structuring of a net bringing together the French-speaking judicial training persons in charge and the International Training Centre in Africa for French-speaking lawyers.

In all these situations, the International French-speaking Nations Agency acts as well in concert with as in addition to the actions begun by the others national and international actors of the judiciary and juridical cooperation.

ASF France and the International French-speaking Nations Agency: a major partnership.

In 2006, ASF France was elected to rule the presidency of the mission « Peace, Democracy and Human Rights » of the International French-speaking Nations Agency.

Within this framework, ASF France has been succeeding in putting in touch the all International Non-Governmental Organizations (INGO) of the French-speaking area, since January 2006, notably through an innovative computer system of communications.

Moreover, through a monitoring committee, ASF France actively took part in the preparation and the organization of the INGO Conference in September the 14th, 15th and 16th in Paris on “Education and new technologies” as a prelude to the Heads of States Conference which took place in Bucharest in October 2006.

These works were performed by the President François CANTIER helped by Corinne PERDRIX who played an eminent role in the achievement of this Conference.

III.1.4 Events in which ASF France took part

HAUWA IBRAHIM, HONOUR CITIZEN OF THE CITY OF PARIS

Wednesday the 8th of March, The Bar Association of Paris, the Training Conference and Avocats Sans Frontières France organized a session in honour of the Nigerian lawyer **Hauwa IBRAHIM**.

The Mayor of Paris awarded the diploma of **Honour Citizen of the City of Paris** to the lawyer for her fight in favour of women, democracy and freedom.



During the ceremony, Catherine MABILLE, the Vice-President of ASF France reminded the path of Hauwa IBRAHIM.

Hauwa IBRAHIM became a lawyer at the end of an exceptional path. She had to fight and to face the resistance of the Society and the institutions to be able to chose her destiny, study and become a lawyer and then progress within the public administration of her country.

In 1999, when the Charia came into force in the criminal law of several states in the Federal Republic of Nigeria involving death penalty, Hauwa IBRAHIM committed herself in spite of all the death threats that she received. She is fighting against stoning and in this context, she took the defence of Safiya HUSSEINI and Amina LAWAL and others women condemned for adultery.

Since 2002, ASF France has been actively supporting the action of Hauwa IBRAHIM in the field.

In Nigeria, Hauwa IBRAHIM does not have the right yet to plead because she is « only a woman »; a male colleague is used for being her spokesman. As a Muslim, she is accused of having betrayed her religion and receives numerous threats.

At 37 years-old, she has become a symbol of the fight for the rights of the women. Now, the cause of Hauwa IBRAHIM has been gone out of the borders of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

In 2005, the European Parliament awarded her the Sakharov Prize.

On the occasion of the international day for the Woman on March the 8th of 2006, the President of the Bar of Paris awarded her the title of honour lawyer of the Bar of Paris and confirmed his support in her fight as a lawyer for the rights of the human person.

OPENING OF THE SCHOOL OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS

On December the 14th of 2006, the School of the Human Rights was launched by François CANTIER, President of the school, in the media library José Cabanis of Toulouse.

This inauguration was created with the support of the City Hall of Toulouse, the General Council, the Regional Council, the International French-speaking Nations Agency, the European Council and the United Nations Organization.

The School of the Human Rights (EDDH) is the only one place of its kind in France.
Its mission is to develop the culture on the Human Rights since the youngest age and all over life.

The action of the EDDH originates in the great international texts like the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Pact on Civil and Political Rights and the International Declaration of the Children's Rights. eddh31@yahoo.fr



The aims of the School of the Human Rights:

- To let the people share in the experiences in the field:

The mission of the NGO is to act everywhere in the world, for cultural and/or political reasons when human beings suffered from seeing their rights being flouted.

These NGO make it their duty to return to the Society their experiences in the field. The determination of those who want to promote and defend the Human Rights is based on these living testimonies.

- To take part in the Human Rights education:

We notice that, even if the families subscribe to these values, they feel destitute when they have to pass these values to the youth generations. That's why was born the idea of a School of the Human Rights which dedicates itself to promote the knowledge and the respect of the Human Rights basing it on the concrete experience of the associative and humanitarian world.

This school is open to the scholastic audiences from the infant school to the university, to the actors of the humanitarian action and to the general public.

The EDDH thus takes part in the awakening to citizenship while we are noticing an obvious impoverishment of the civic sense and a loss of the individual and collective marks in our Society.

- Various consciousness-raising actions:

The educational actions that the EDDH creates and sets up offers to everyone since the youngest age:

- a consciousness-raising on the problems provoked by the violation of the Human Rights.

- a fitted thinking frame in order that the human rights would not be an abstraction anymore in the mind of the children and the adults,
- a fun and creative space where the pedagogical activities will enable everyone to incorporate oneself at his/her pace in a process which will let him/her move from the consciousness-raising to action.

- In cooperation with the educative structures:

This project aims to cooperate closely with all the existing educative structures, without any political or denominational split. It suggests to provide to the teachers:

- a permanently updated documentation,
- the setting of a net with different actors (NGO members willing to talk about their daily experience, various leaders) and the associative world which is often directly or indirectly affected by the Human Rights.

THE CAEN MEMORIAL OF 2006

ASF France was present at the Caen memorial in 2006.

During the organized ceremony, the present members of ASF France could give their accounts and establish relations with the others guests.

A stand was available for the association. We spread thus the information concerning the actions led by the volunteers of the association through the information letters and the annual reports of activities.

Caen Mémorial

Known as the century in which were developed all the excesses, all the progress but also all the horrors, the 20th century deeply transformed the world and mankind. Today, in hindsight of more than half a century from the last major conflict, it is time now for the historians to conceive a more objective memory on the two world wars and the Spanish civil war, which all have left their marks on Europe, each one in their particular way, during the last century.

Local or national, ceremonies are organized every year to commemorate episodes of these conflicts. However, numerous suffering places are still little or badly known, or forgotten, for obvious causes sometimes but often for more obscure reasons. Moreover, the presence of belligerents in a same place of conflict left its marks on the national memories.

So, based on these observations, some present historians chose to include at the side of the emblematic places well-known by everyone, some other places which have been the scene of some significant events of these conflicts and were pushed into the borders of the contemporary memory.

The differences were not minimized as they were introduced with juxtaposed leaflets, attending furthermore to respect the particularities found in the national memories. Far from wanting to perpetuate the antagonism, these differing perspectives only wish to approach the position, the weigh and the role that played -and maybe keeps on playing- the event called up in the collective memory of the concerned countries.

First step within a long-term project, the first memory places that were retained are characterized by the fact that they are all situated within the current borders of the country of the six partners institutions. During the next two years, the new created teams will have to increase the number of leaflets to evoke others memory places – including those which are out of the national territory of the six partners – and multiply the differing perspectives.

CONGRESS SET UP BY THE INTERNATIONAL UNION OF LAWYERS



The **International Union of Lawyers** (IUL) was created in 1927 by a group of European French-speaking lawyers convinced of the need for the lawyers to establish international contacts.

Today, it is an association opened to all the lawyers of the world, generalist or specialist, which brings together more than 200 bars, federations and associations (that represents about 2 million lawyers) and several thousands of individual members in more than 110 countries.

In 2006, the **50th Congress of the International Union of Lawyers** took place from October, the 31st to November the 4th in Salvador De Bahia in Brazil.



November, Friday the 3th

Fundamental principles of the Human Rights and professional practice : what every lawyer has to know

The lawyers have to involve themselves in a more important way in the human rights. This principal theme will study the human rights set up all around the world, will identify the different processes liable to be used to make the human rights a reality and practical and simple actions that can be led by a lawyer to promote the human rights in his/her country and abroad. This practical session of half a day will rest on a introduction of various international treaties and will give you the necessary tools to know how taking part in written campaigns or taking charge of a case in this area and how advising the societies concerning the principles that have to be followed in order to avoid a serious responsibility for violation of the human rights.

Maître Ferdinand DJAMMEN, member of ASF France took part in the Commission Human Rights set up by the International Union of Lawyers in Rio.

As the representative of the association, he was asked for introducing the actions led by ASF France by centring his intervention on the case of Amina LAWAL, sentenced to death in Nigeria and defended by Maître Hauwa IBRAHIM.

Under-topics	Speakers
1. Introduction	
2. The principal instruments of defence of the human rights – Setting all around the world.	Julie GOFFIN
3. The international conventions protecting the human rights in force in Brazil and their implementation in internal law.	Francisco REZEK
4. The practical actions and the work of the IUL / The human rights in everyday life.	Pascal MAURER, Michael POSNER
5. Examples of general mobilizations : the case of Amina Lawal	Ferdinand DJAMMEN
6. International Instruments and International crimes before the	Philippe MORICEAU

national jurisdictions.	
7. World trade and the Human Rights : the great principles, judicial demonstrations – Examples of litigation cases.	Anne SWARTZ, Michael POSNER, Edson O'DWYER and Andras SZECSKAY

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF THE PRESIDENTS OF BARS IN CAMEROON



The International Conference of Bars (ICB) aims to create a cooperation structure between the bars of the countries which have a legal common tradition, essentially French-speaking Bars.

It brings together the Bars asserting an independence ideal and which have management representatives democratically appointed by the lawyers themselves.

In the respect of the autonomy of the Bars, it aims to help them in their action with the intention of developing a Rule of Law in every country; it tends to set up too the notion of the universal character of the human rights and particularly the rights to defence.

The International Conference of Bars (ICB) took place from December the 9th of 2006 to December the 12th and led up the members of ASF France to an observation.

The needs of ASF Cameroon concern principally the support concerning training. Indeed, the new Code of Peal Procedure had just been ratified. Training actions would be needed and wished.

During the congress itself, the principal theme dealt with « Money as an injustice factor ».

The corruption problems have been mentioned. And the creation of CARPA would enable to find a solution concerning the actions led by the lawyers.

The others addressed themes put into question the fact of «how to help the young Cameroonian lawyers to set up » and « how to make up for the different difficulties linked with their settig up. »

During this conference, ASF France mentioned the « Cambodia Part » of the missions of the associations; this part will set up an help and support system to the young Cameroonian lawyers.

ASF WORLD **International Federation of Lawyers Without Borders**

Based on a common Charter, sections of Avocats Sans Frontières were created in Belgium, France, Italy, the Netherlands, Denmark, Sweden, Algeria, Mali, Mauritania, Switzerland and Cameroon. Since 1998, these independent associations have been

brought together in an international federation: ASF World.
ASF World ensures the coordination and the solidarity between the national sections and attends to the philosophical unity of the movement.

III.2 EVENTS PLANNED FOR 2007

**The year 2007 will certainly be an action-packed year!
The action goes on...**

III.2.1 The works progress

All the current works will be continued in 2007:

- The works led in cooperation with the **International Penal Court (IPC)** will keep on growing in 2007.
- The actions led with the **Economic Interest Grouping (EIG)** will leave a significant mark, particularly with the creation of the emergency fund.
- The cooperation of ASF France with the **International French-speaking Nations Agency** will continue and would lead to the setting of new missions.

III.2.2 The events in which ASF France will take place

In 2007, ASF France will organize numerous events and will be present at most of the demonstrations dealing with the Human Rights.

• **ASF France will continue its fight for the Bulgarian nurses and the Palestinian doctor held in Libya.** The association will carry on its efforts to maintain the mobilization of the international public opinion and thus reinforce the support for the prisoners.

According to this, ASF France will take part in the **3rd World Congress Against Death Penalty**, from February the 1st to February the 3rd of 2007 at the International Student Hall of Residence of Paris.

The debates will focus on the role of the international and regional organizations and the role of the lawyers in this fight.

The debate will be centred on « THE CASE OF THE BULGARIAN NURSES AND THE PALESTINIAN DOCTOR HELD IN LIBYA ». With Emmanuel ALTIT, lawyer of the Bulgarian Nurses, member of Avocats Sans Frontières France.

A round table will take place on the theme : « THE LAWYERS FACED WITH DEATH PENALTY ». With Catherine MABILLE, lawyer and member of Avocats Sans Fontières France.

• **ASF France will follow the progress of the School of the Human Rights.** The School has already a busy schedule for the year 2007:

- Participation in the International Week Against Racism (March).
- Organization of a cycle of conferences in the media library of Toulouse.
Thursday, April the 12th: Conference of Hauwa IBRAHIM « to fight the ignorance ».
In May : Conference on the « Afghan women and education ».

- Creation of the *Goûters des Droits de l'Homme* (afternoon snack for the Human Rights) organized by the Youth Municipal Council and the CityHall of Toulouse.
- Organization of a *Conference during the « Festiv »* on « Equal opportunity in education » on May the 31st in the Zénith of Toulouse.
- Intervention in the high schools and secondary schools of the region Midi-Pyrénées.
- Setting of the *UNO Simulations*.
- *Inauguration of the premises* of the School, in Septembre in the media library.
- Creation of the Website of the School.

● As it was solicited by the Caen Memorial, ASF France will be part of the official panel for the Competition of high schoolers pleadings on February the 2nd and the 3rd.

● On April the 11th, **Hauwa IBRAHIM** will be awarded the golden medal of the city of Toulouse by Mayor Jean-Luc MOUDENC.

● ASF France will take part in the different conferences, congresses and international meetings that will take place during the year 2007 :

- Caen Memorial.
- The Third World Congress against death Penalty.
- Conferences organized by the School of the Human Rights.
- Commissions of the Human Rights of the UNO, Geneva, Spring 2007.
- World Day against Death Penalty, October the 10th of 2007.
- World Day of the Human Rights, December the 10th of 2007.

III.2.3 The team of ASF France will grow in 2007

In 2007, the team of the headquarters of ASF France will grow.

Indeed, from January, Elodie HERISSON will take up her duties as communication manager. This job creation will be feasible thanks to the support of a subsidy from the Regional Council of Midi-Pyrénées.

In April, we will celebrate the arrival of the new manager : Hugo JOMBWE-MOUDIKI.

THE TEAM OF THE HEADQUARTERS IN 2007

Manager :

Hugo MOUDI KI- JOMBWE

Coordinator of the project Latin America and Training manager:

Magalie GRASSAUD

Coordinator of projects and financing:

Alix ARQUILLIERE

Coordinator of the Cambodia project :

Caroline VAUTRIN

Financial manager:

Alexandre CROIZIERS DE LACVIVIER

Communication manager:

Elodie HERISSON