

**UNESCO/ACALAN meeting “Joining forces for preserving Africa’s linguistic diversity”
Bamako, 23 – 25 March 2006**

- Agenda -

(The working languages of the meeting will be English and French. Translation will be provided in both languages.)

Thursday 23 March

Opening

- 9:30 Welcome addresses by:
- UNESCO Office Bamako
 - UNESCO Paris
 - ACALAN (plus Presentation) : President ACALAN
 - Opening speech of the Representative of the Government of Mali

10:45-11:15 Coffee break

Session 1 African Universities Sharing Experiences

Facilitator: Neville ALEXANDER

Rapporteurs: Herman BATIBO (English), Saliou DIALLO (French)

- 11:15 Three examples
Presentation of MAPAL: Pr Neville ALEXANDER and Pr Maurice TADADJEU
Presentation ANACLAC: Pr Maurice TADADJEU
Presentation of Nufu Project (University of Mali): Pr Drissa DIAKITE
- 13:00-15:00 Lunch
- 15:00-16:00 Two more examples
Presentation of research on endangered languages at the University of Addis Ababa – Pr Baye Yimam MEKONNEN
Presentation of WALA: joint research project on West African Languages (University of Abidjan, University of Uyo) – Pr Eno URUA
- 16:00-16:15 Coffee break
- 16:15-18:00 Discussion: needs assessment of universities and other institutions

Friday 24 March

Session 2 ACALAN leading the way towards cooperation
Facilitators: Adama SAMASSEKOU/ Rieks SMEETS/ Neville ALEXANDER
Rapporteurs: Francis EGBOKHARE (English), Eugène-André OSSETE
French)

- 9:30-10:45 Open Debate: Research on (endangered) African languages: needs and solutions
short introduction by Neville ALEXANDER (10min)
- 10:45-11:15 Coffee
- 11:15-12:30 Open Debate: Teaching African languages at universities
short introduction by Kweku OSAM (10min)
- 12:30-14:30 Lunch
- 14:30-15:45 Raising awareness among authorities
short introduction by Rieks SMEETS (10 min)
- 15:45-16:15 Coffee break
- 16:15-17:30 Availability of equipment, publications, etc. and raising funds
short introduction (on the basis of the UNESCO survey) by Sabine KUBE (10 min)
- 17:30-18:00 Summarizing the debates of the day

Saturday 25 March

Session 3 Safeguarding Oral Expressions and Traditions
Facilitators: Rieks SMEETS/ Mamadou Banni DIALLO
Rapporteurs: Naomi SHITEMI (English), Carl EBOBISSE (French)

- 9:30-11:00 Presentation and discussion of the UNESCO 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage (Rieks SMEETS)
- Debate, exchange of experiences
- 11:00-11:15 Coffee
- 11:15-13:00 Final debate, adoption recommendations

General rapporteurs: Emmanuel SAGARA (ACALAN), Sabine KUBE (UNESCO)