

PROJET MUINDA POUR LA PAIX

REPORT

The Election Observation Training Seminar

And

The Launch of the Quaker Peace Network Central Africa and Establishment of its Constitution



The meeting took place in French. This report was submitted in French and only its highlights have been translated.

1. The Seminar

The seminar took place 21 August, 2010 in the conference room of the Centre Bondeko de Limete. Project Muinda collaborated with the Commission Electorale Indépendante (CEI), which is the national department responsible for organizing the elections and accrediting election observers. There were 5 categories of participants :

- The Coordinating members of Project Muinda.
- Members of different peace cells, these are community-based peace workers.
- People invited from 3 provinces near to Kinshasa where Project Muinda hopes to help establish new peace cells, Kasai-Occidental, Bas-Congo, and Bandundu
- Members of the Kinshasa Monthly Meeting of Quakers.
- Members of the Quaker organizations in the Republic of Congo – Brazzaville.

In this picture we see Thérèse Mutopa and Désiré Moleka. Therese is the General Secretary of Project Muinda, and Désiré is the invited speaker from the Independent Electoral Commission.

Thérèse spoke of the motivations for Project Muinda to become involved in election monitoring. Responding to God's commandment to live in peace, each person must learn to be at peace with him or herself, with other people, and with the environment. The moment of the national elections is one moment when we have a critical opportunity to build peace with our neighbours.



Mme Thérèse Mutopa (Muinda) et M. Désiré Molekela

The training agenda had two major parts, that is,

- General Guidelines, and
- The Revision of the Voter's List.

The General Guidelines included:

- The definition of « election observation » ;
- The different categories of observers ;
- The different types of elections;
- The facts to observe;
- The most common irregularities that can be observed;
- The rights and responsibilities of observers;
- How the observer should report on election day ;
- How to make the general report of the observations ;



Une vue de la salle

There were many opportunities for participants to ask questions.

We close this section of the report with four more pictures.



M. David Bakamana (Muinda) et Emery Cituka (Muinda)



Quelques participants



Vue de la salle

2. Launch of Quaker Peace Network Central Africa

The participants gathered for opening remarks on the Friday evening after participating in the seminar with the Independent Electoral Commission trainer. Culminating the evening, they lit a candle to symbolize their role and their hope.

“QPN-CA must be able to shine throughout Central Africa and its light must benefit everyone at each level of society in the sub-region.”



The major work of the next day was to debate, modify, and then approve the bylaws of the new organization, which were required for official recognition and eventual certification of the election observers. The drafted bylaws were much debated, especially on the following points, but debate was friendly and constructive, and the modified bylaws were signed the next day.

- Article 5 concerning the objectives : the following objectives were retained :
 - Affirming the connections of brotherhood and friendship among Friends (Quakers) of Africa and of the world.
 - Peaceful resolution of conflicts.
 - Promotion of the culture of peace, democracy and non-violence.
 - Promotion and protection of the environment.
 - Promotion of self-reliance and development.
 - Addressing the challenge of HIV-AIDS.
- Article 6 about the categories of members. The 3 categories accepted are :
 - Effective members ;

- Sympathetic members ;
 - Honourable members.
- (not sure about the translation here : maybe « active » and « supporting » is more correct, will have to clarify)*
- Article 16 about the decision-making structures. These were agreed:
 - General Assembly; Accountability Committee; Sub-regional Coordinating Office; and National Committees.
 - Article 25 about the composition of the office of coordination. It will have: 1 coordinator, 2 program assistants, 1 finance officer, 1 secretary-bookkeeper, 2 consellers.
 - Finally, article 34 covers the process of dissolution of the organization, should that become necessary.





On the next day, the participants analyzed the conditions that relate to the agreed upon objectives, prioritized their ideas and formed a list of related strategies and actions. (see following page, not translated.)



The coordinating officers were elected and given the following immediate tasks :

- To procure the legal documents to permit the correct organization and functioning of QPN-Central Africa.
- To complete the report of the current gathering.
- To compose funding proposals.
- To organize capacity building activities for the animators of QPN-Central Africa

A strategic plan of action was agreed upon, and recorded in the chart that appears at the end of this report. The chart has not been translated.

We close this report with more photos and the list of participants.



Sita Dubois (Brazzaville) et David Bakamana (Projet Muinda)



Pasteur Levi Munyemana (Goma) et David Bakamana (Muinda)



Signing the Bylaws

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS :

A. Ville de Brazzaville, République du Congo

1. Sita Dubois (AMIS SANS FRONTIERES)
2. Guy-Eddy Cacharel Packa (AMIS SANS FRONTIERES)
3. NSOSSO Dominique (AMIS SANS FRONTIERES)

B. République Démocratique du Congo

Ville de Kinshasa

4. David Bakamana (Projet Muinda pour la Paix)
5. Mme Thérèse Mutopa (Projet Muinda pour la Paix)
6. Emery Cituka (Projet Muinda pour la Paix)
7. Floribert Atshiokota (Projet Muinda pour la Paix)

Ville de Goma

8. Pasteur Levi Munyemana (CPGRBC, of the Friends Church in North Kivu)

Ville de Kikwit

9. Gabriel Felo (L'Action pour la Justice, Paix et Réconciliation AJPR)

Ville de Kananga

10. Joseph Ndambi (Le groupe KING OF PEACE)

Ville de Matadi

11. Joseph Kabuyaya (Familles chrétiennes de Matadi)

N°	Problèmes prioritaires	Causes	Activités à mener
1	Conflits inter ethniques	- Identité et intérêts - Manipulation politique - Injustices sociales - Inégalités dans le partage des ressources - Les faits historiques - La discrimination des populations autochtones	- La sensibilisation de la population, l'éducation à la paix - La formation - La création du cadre de dialogue et d'échange - La promotion des modes de résolution pacifiques des conflits - La douce diplomatie - Le lobbying
2	Le manque de culture électorale et démocratique	- Ignorance de la population - La manipulation - La déception des électeurs par les élus - Le non respect des principes démocratiques	- Le renforcement des capacités des animateurs de QPN – CA - La sensibilisation au processus électoral - L'observation du processus électoral
3	La gouvernance de QPN – CA	- Nouvelle structure - Leadership - Nouveaux animateurs	- Renforcement des capacités et des structures organisationnelles
4	La mauvaise gouvernance	- Intérêts égoïstes - Ignorance - Impunité	- Sensibilisation - Formation - plaidoyer
5	L'économie de guerre	- Les guerres - La cupidité - L'enrichissement illicite	- Le plaidoyer et le lobbying
6	Les violences sexuelles	- Les guerres - L'impunité - Les croyances	- La sensibilisation, la formation et la prise en charge psycho – sociale et juridique - Le plaidoyer et le lobbying
7	L'ignorance de la population	- Manque d'information - L'analphabétisme - Le manque d'éducation civique et citoyenne - La désinformation	- La sensibilisation - La formation - La création d'un cadre d'échange et de dialogue - Les émissions radios et T.V - Les publications bulletins et

			affiches
8	L'exploitation des enfants	- L'enrôlement des enfants dans l'armée - Les guerres - L'ignorance des droits des enfants - La pauvreté	- La sensibilisation - La prise en charge - La formation - La réinsertion - L'encadrement des enfants
9	L'environnement	- La pollution - Le manque d'hygiène - L'insalubrité - Le déboisement anarchique (déforestation)	- Le plaidoyer - La sensibilisation - La formation - Le reboisement - La formation des volontaires pour l'assainissement
10	Les injustices sociales	- La mauvaise gouvernance - La répartition inégale des ressources - Le manque de conscience et d'amour du prochain	- Le plaidoyer et le lobbying - La sensibilisation
11	L'insécurité et la circulation des armes légères	- Les guerres - L'exploitation des richesses minières - La peur - L'ingérence des pays voisins (vente des armes)	- Le lobbying - Les visites d'échanges - La douce diplomatie

