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**PLAN OF ACTION OF THE MANDENKAN VEHICULAR CROSS-BORDER
LANGUAGE COMMISSION**

(Working Document)

African Academy of Languages (ACALAN)

PRIORITY ACTIVITIES OF THE MANDENKAN VEHICULAR CROSS-BORDER LANGUAGE COMMISSION

The Planning workshop of the priority activities of the Mandenkan Vehicular Cross-Border Language Commission was held on the 6th and 7th of April 2010. Participants exchanged views on the following issues:

- What should be the relationships with the national language structures?
- How should the Mandenkan commission work?
- What collaboration with Universities?
- What collaboration with the focal points of ACALAN?

Regarding the first question, participants recommended that ACALAN:

- Formalize the appointment of the members of the Commission;
- Officially inform the countries of the appointment of members of the Commission, for them to be the transmission belts between national structures and the commission.

Regarding the second question, namely how the committee should operate?

Participants argued and advocated to:

- Organize regular meetings, if possible. These meetings will be held whenever it is necessary.
- Exchange through mails between members of the commission;
- Disseminate information;
- Work online;
- Have the heads of the Committee visit other members of the Committee;
- Provide the commission with an office equipped with computer tools;
- Develop the rules of procedure of the commission (Reference to the texts of ACALAN; each ACALAN's structure may develop its texts to be adopted by the parent structure)
- Seek to integrate the various regional structures of the region;
- To develop projects and seek to sell them;
- Avoid bureaucracy and search functionality;
- Have ACALAN seek the support of various governments.
- Consider a meeting of the various commissions for a pooling the approach strategies of the economic communities.

The role of the economic communities and regional centers. For the African Union, these communities should support ACALAN.

- ECOWAS and the Regional Centres (eg, CELHTO) should support financially or technically the commission. In CELHTO, it would seem that there is a possibility of collaboration with the commissions, especially in the use of (AJAMI) the Arabic alphabet for writing African languages.
- It belongs to the Commission to see the relevance of the nko alphabet!

On the third issue, namely collaboration with universities, the participants suggested and encouraged to write to inform universities of the creation of the ACALAN language commissions and the appointment the members of the Commissions;

Regarding collaboration with the focal points of ACALAN. Participants suggested to:

- Inform constantly the focal point;
- Involve the focal point in the work of the Commission;
- Have the focal point attend all meetings.

At the end of the discussion, participants were informed that Professor Amadou Toure approached to be the Chairman of the Mandenkan Commission has accepted the proposal.

Table of the activities identified and considered by the participants

N^o	ACTIVITIES	OBJECTIVES	STRATEGIES	OUTCOMES	ACTORS	COST S	DURATION	START
1.	State of knowledge of Mandenkan.	-Assess the level of description and instrumentation of the language. - Identify requirements for describing the language	Implement ways and means for collecting all the work on the Mandenkan language	Better understanding of what has been done on the Mandenkan.	- 2 linguists to be identified per country under the responsibility of the Commission. - Researchers and institutions outside	F.M.	2 months	June-July 2010
2.	Constitution of databases: electronic and “paper” version	Have all work on / in Mandenkan.	Implement ways and means to acquire and collect all the work done on / in Mandenkan.	Reliable database available at the headquarters of ACALAN.	- 3 persons per country to identify the responsibility of the Commission. - Researchers and institutions outside	F.M.	2 months	July-August 2010
3.	Creating a magazine/journal (print and / or electronic).	Publish, disseminate and popularize the results of research on Mandenkan.	- Set a schedule; - Establish a reading committee; - Launch the idea on the ACALAN website; - Launch calls	The magazine/journal is available.	Researchers, linguists and institutions.	F.M.	To be determined	2 nd semester 2011

			for papers					
4.	Editing books in / on Mandenkan.	Publish, disseminate and promote research on Mandenkan.	Identify stakeholders of the book chain for collaboration	Books published and disseminated.	Authors and actors in the book chain.	F.M.	To be determined	Early 2012
5.	Develop a directory of specialists of the Mandenkan language	Identify, locate and consider collaboration with experts and resource persons	Develop and distribute identification sheets	Directory available in print and electronic versions.	-ACALAN - Mandenkan Commission.	F.M.	Permanent	June 2010
6.	Development of specialized terminology in Mandenkan.	Create reliable tools for translation.	Make an inventory through surveys and workshops; A corpus.	Translation tools available.	Linguists and experts in the identified areas	F.M.	Permanent	End 2011
7.	Development of bilingual and monolingual dictionaries in Mandenkan.	Create a tool words referencing (forms, meaning, equivalent ...) of Mandenkan	-Make an inventory; -Form teams; -Form a corpus.	Bilingual and monolingual dictionaries in Mandenkan available in print and electronic versions	Linguists and experts.	F.M.	3 years	End 2012
8.	Development of grammars in Mandenkan.	Developing teaching tools in Mandenkan.	-Make an inventory; -Form teams; -Form a corpus.	Grammar books in Mandenkan.	Linguists.	F.M.	1 year	End 2011
9.	Development of a lexicology book of	Mastering the lexical system of Mandenkan	-Make an inventory;	lexicology book of Mandenkan	Linguists	F.M.	1 year	Mid 2012

	Mandenkan		-Form teams; -Form a corpus.					
10.	Translation and / or adaptation in Mandenkan of the famous major works	Strengthening the literate environment.	- Make the inventory; - Identify the major famous works to be translated;	Major famous works translated and available.	Linguists, translators.	F.M.	Permanent	End 2011
11.	Organization of scientific workshops.	- Promote and deepen the knowledge of Mandenkan. - Increase the visibility of the Mandenkan Commission and ACALAN.	Organise annually in each country on a rotational basis; Determine the theme; Determine the country.	Effective holding of scientific conferences; Publication of proceedings.	- ACALAN ; Members of the Commission; Linguists, Specialists.	F.M.		2011 et 2012
12.	Instauration et organisation de la journée du mandenkan. Establishment and organization of the Mandenkan Day	- Promote and deepen the knowledge of Mandenkan. - Increase the visibility of the Mandenkan Commission and ACALAN - Educate partners.	Three alternatives: each country chooses its day or any day for all countries or rotating day.	- The Knowledge of Mandenkan is promoted and deepened; - The visibility of the Committee is strengthened;- - The partners are sensitized.	- ACALAN Members of the Commission; - Linguists - Specialists.	F.M.	Permanent	2011-2012
13.	Training of users, trainers, translators, interpreters in	-Provide and strengthen the	- Organize training	- Trainers available in each	- Linguists ; - Specialists ;	F.M.	Permanent	2011-2012

	Mandenkan.	Mandenkan users' competence. - Equip Mandenkan users.	seminars for trainers in each country; - Organize training seminars for users; - Negotiate training programmes with televisions.	country; - User-trained and equipped.	- Users.			
14.	Harmonization of orthographic rules (writing), including the following issues and develop a guide for orthographic transcription: - Alphabet - The notation or non notation of tones - The notation of the defined nouns - Writing of monosyllabic defined nouns - Writing lexical variants (phonetic, morphological, expressive dialect). - Distinction and writing phrases and compounds. - Points of spelling.	- Standardiser l'écriture du mandenkan. - Outiller les utilisateurs du mandenkan. - Standardize the writing of Mandenkan. - Equip Mandenkan users.	- Workshop for reviewing and supplementing existing rules; - Workshop for standardization.	Harmonized and comprehensive rules available and disseminated.	15 days x 2	F.M.	2010	

15.	Development of specialized documents in Mandenkan: - Manual of agriculture; - Manual of Health; - Livestock Manual; - Accounting Manual; - Highway rules.	- Equipping the Mandenkan users; - Equipping the Mandenkan language.	- Design new textbooks; - Adapting existing textbooks.	Documentation available in quality and quantity.	Linguists and specialists of the various domains and users.	F.M.	Permanent	2011
16.	Creating a website for the Mandenkan group.	- Strengthen the dissemination and exchange between users, specialists of Mandenkan. - Provide Mandenkan with a high visibility.	Seeking input from the SIL's IT Specialists or elsewhere.	Website available and accessible.	- IT specialists. - Linguists.	F.M.	Permanent	2011
17.	National and international advocacy for the Mandenkan language	Have people adhere to the cause of Mandenkan.	Approaching national and international structures.	- Acquisition of financial and material resources; - Notoriety gain.	- ACALAN ; Cross-Border Language Commissions	F.M.	Permanent	2010-2012
18.	Constitution of committees including: - Committee of terminology; - Scientific Committee; - Finance Committee.	- To achieve an efficient organization of the commission. - To decide on issues related to the planning policies and neologisms of Mandenkan (examine, validate, certify neologisms).	Identify appropriate contacts.	Terminology, scientific and finance committees are established and operational.	Specialists of the various domains.	F.M.	Very short term.	2010-2011

		- To mobilize and manage funds.						
19.	Development of an advocacy document on HIV / AIDS and S.T. I. in Mandenkan.	Contributing to the fight against HIV / AIDS and S.T. I.	Translation or adaptation of documents in French.	Education materials are available.	Translators and specialists in AIDS and STIs	F.M.	2 months	2011
20.	Rewriting documents in Mandenkan and respecting harmonized rules.	- Enable the dissemination of documents in Mandenkan in accordance with the established standard; - Enable the acquisition and use of spelling rules.	Collection of documents to rewrite.	Rewritten Documents are available.	People familiar with the standard rules.	F.M.	Permanent	2011
21.	Acquisition and extension of adapted software for the processing of Mandenkan.	Facilitate and encourage the computerization of Mandenkan.	Solicit the support of IT experts.	Software acquired, available and publicized.	- IT experts; - Linguists	F.M.	Permanent	2011
22.	Organisation of literary competitions in Mandenkan.	- Contribute to the application of rules; - Strengthening the literate environment	- Launch competition; - Propose prestigious awards.	Mandenkan literature is created and available.	All Mandenkan users	F.M.	Permanent	2011