

AFRICAN UNION

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ACALAN

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ACALAN increases its presence in the member states of the African Union

According to chapter III, article 22 of the Statutes of the African Academy of Languages (ACALAN), each member state of the African Union should designate a National Language Structures to serve as Focal Point of the Academy. As part of the working structures of ACALAN, the National Language Structures are supposed to work hand in hand with the Secretariat and the sub-regional Vehicular Cross-Border Language Commissions.

The Secretariat of ACALAN has consequently addressed official requests to the Ministries of Culture and or Ministries responsible for National Languages of the member states of the African Union to designate National Language Structures to serve as Focal Points of ACALAN in their respective countries. It is to be recalled that the Conference of Ministers of Culture is the supreme organ of ACALAN, according to the Statutes of ACALAN. Out of the 54 member states of the African Union, the following 14 member states have honoured ACALAN's request:

The Republic of Mali, the Democratic Republic of Congo, the Central African Republic, the Republic of Benin, the Republic of Cameroon, the Islamic Republic of Mauritania, the Federal Republic of Nigeria, the Arab Republic of Egypt, the Republic of Angola, the Republic of Tanzania, Republic of Botswana, the Republic of Burkina Faso, the Republic of Sudan and the Republic of Guinea (Conakry).

These designations constitute about one quarter of the total. The Executive Secretariat continues its campaign to urge member states of the African Union to kindly respond to ACALAN's request for the designation of National Language Structures as Focal Points of the academy. This would assist ACALAN to effectively carry out its mandate of developing and promoting African Languages so that they could be used in all the domains of society. The Secretariat of ACALAN has also used the Focal Points to urge the member states of the African Union to rectify the Charter for the African Cultural Renaissance.



African languages are the anchor of our shared valued