

**Third International Professional Meeting of Leaders
of the Actuarial Profession in Africa**

**ACTUAIRES : CALCULER L'AVENIR
Sunday 30 March to Wednesday 2 April 2003
Hotel Royal Mansour Meridien, Casablanca, Morocco**

The Third International Meeting of Leaders of the Actuarial Profession in Africa took place from the evening of Sunday 30 March to midday on Wednesday 2 April 2003 in Casablanca, Morocco, at the invitation of the Association Marocaine des Actuaires. The second such meeting had taken place in Lagos, Nigeria on 20-22 February 2003 at the invitation of the Nigerian Actuarial Society.

The meeting was attended by representatives from 5 francophone countries in the region (Algeria, Ivory Coast, Lebanon, Morocco and Tunisia) as well as by 7 people from France, Italy and the United Kingdom and a representative of the ISSA. Excellent administrative support for the meeting was provided beforehand and on site by Eliane Rouland from the secretariat of l'Institut des Actuaires. The final agenda for the meeting is attached. All proceedings were in French.

The IAA International Promotion and Education Fund (IPEF) gave bursaries to bring 5 of the participants from 4 countries outside Morocco (one of these bursaries was only to cover accommodation costs in Casablanca). The costs of the meeting, including the cocktail reception on the Sunday evening and the Gala Dinner on the Tuesday evening, were met by the Association Marocaine des Actuaires, with financial support from 8 sponsoring companies. The business sessions and all social functions were held at the Hotel Royal Mansour Meridien. Bursary recipients were accommodated at the Hotel Toubkal, just across the street.

5 participants from outside Morocco received bursaries from the IPEF to cover travel expenses and/or accommodation costs. The cost of these bursaries was USD 3,235 for travel expenses and USD 1,554 for accommodation costs at Hotel Toubkal. The cost of the room hire, lunches, coffee breaks, etc was met by the Association Marocaine des Actuaires, subject to registration fees of USD 1,440 from 12 participants being handed over to AMA in partial settlement. The IPEF also paid AMA USD 360 in respect of the registration fees for three bursary recipients. The total cost to the IPEF is therefore expected to be around USD 5,200. Participation by country in the region was as follows:

Country	No of participants	No of bursary recipients
Algeria	1	1
Burundi		1
Ivory Coast	2	1
France	4	
Italy	1	
Lebanon	1	
Morocco (approx.)	40	
Switzerland (ISSA)	1	
Tunisia	3	2
United Kingdom	2	
TOTAL	55	5

DRAFT

Bursaries were also awarded to an actuary from Burundi and one from Congo. However, the latter did not turn up, so no payment was required. The delegate from Burundi did travel, reached Casablanca airport without a visa and was sent back. He is expected to claim his airfare for this abortive trip. Fortunately he had submitted his report on Burundi in writing and this was read out at the meeting.

Powerpoint presentations from the meeting will be posted on the IAA website under Meetings. Reports were received of developments in the profession and the role of actuaries and the actuarial association in the different countries. It is hoped that these will also be made available on the website in due course.

Grateful thanks are due to the Association Marocaine des Actuaire (AMA) for hosting the meeting and for the support they provided.

In order to focus future activity in the different countries, Chris Daykin suggested that delegates should consider not what the profession could do for them but what they could do for the profession. He challenged the delegates (along similar lines to Peter Clark's remarks at the close of the Lagos meeting) to enunciate their follow-up to the Casablanca meeting in terms of:

- What is your Vision for the actuarial profession in your country by 2010?
- What steps will you take to achieve that Vision?
- What help do you need to achieve that?

There is clearly much to be done to develop the profession in francophone Africa. Some countries in the region have very few actuaries indeed and many have no qualified actuaries at all. Lebanon and Morocco have recently established actuarial associations, with the former already having been admitted as a Full Member of the IAA and the latter expected to be admitted as an Associate Member in May 2003 at the Sydney meeting of the IAA Council. AMA is already setting in motion the processes to develop their statutes to convert the association into a professional organisation. Tunisia and Ivory Coast have a number of actuaries and the latter at least has made substantial progress towards establishing an actuarial association. It is expected that this process will be completed later this year. However, in each country there are many issues still to be sorted out, including:

- the most appropriate level to set for fully qualified actuaries in each country
- the role of the universities in actuarial education
- achieving a higher level of influence for the profession

Both Ivory Coast and Tunisia expressed interest in implementing a diploma programme for actuarial education for those already working in the insurance and banking industries.

In closing, Jean Berthon suggested that there could be a need for a second meeting for francophone Africa in about two years' time.

Chris Daykin
Trustee of the IPEF
4 April 2003