

## ACOR 1 Report

The 5,6 and 7 of January 2003 took place the first African Conference on Operational Research in Ougadougou hosted by the University of Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso and the RAMAD (Reseau Africain Mathématiques du Développement, <http://www.chez.com/ramad>) sponsored by EURO and IFORS and with the active support of ICTP and the Faculté Polytechnique de Mons (Belgique). Chairman of the Organising Committee was Blaise Som, University of Ouagadougou, while the Programme Committee was chaired by Jacques Teghem (Faculté Polytechnique de Mons).

The conference has been a great success. There were .... papers presented and an overall attendance of .... people coming from .... countries (Algeria, Burkina Faso, Belgium, Benin, Cameroun, Congo, France, Italy, Mali, Morocco, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Tchad, Tanzania, Tunisia, UK, USA).

After a number of meetings, who took place during the conference the following deliberations have been adopted:

1. Create an African OR web page which will be hosted by EURO and coordinated by Eric Soubeiga ([exs@cs.nott.ac.uk](mailto:exs@cs.nott.ac.uk)). This web page should report on all OR activities concerning OR in Africa and should also coordinate a mailing list of people involved with OR in Africa.
2. Try to apply within the FP6 of the European Commission (Marie Curie Actions) in order to fund a network of European and African Universities offering research training in OR in development. This effort will be coordinated by Alexis Tsoukiàs ([tsoukias@lamsade.dauphine.fr](mailto:tsoukias@lamsade.dauphine.fr)) with the assistance of Serigne Gueye ([serigne.gueye@lia.univ-avignon.fr](mailto:serigne.gueye@lia.univ-avignon.fr)).
3. Promote the creation of a West African OR Society (ROCARO). This effort will be coordinated by Blaise Somé ([some@univ-ouaga.bf](mailto:some@univ-ouaga.bf)) and Laure Pauline Fotso ([pfotso@uycdc.uninet.cm](mailto:pfotso@uycdc.uninet.cm)). All interested people should contact them and help them in this effort. Two meetings are foreseen in the near future:
  - N'Djaména, Tchad, 1-10/7/2003;
  - Niamey, Niger, .....

All the participants are looking forward to the success of these initiatives as well to the parallel effort of the colleagues in East Africa organising the first international conference in the eastern africa region on operations research and development for africa (ORDA-1) to be held at the Kenya College Of Communications Technology, Nairobi Kenya from 17th to 19th September, 2003. Further information can be obtained by Joe Kakeneno ([joekakeneno@tanzaniaports.com](mailto:joekakeneno@tanzaniaports.com) or [joekakeneno@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:joekakeneno@yahoo.co.uk)).

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