

LAWYERS WITHOUT BORDERS NETWORK

► Objectives

- **Overall objective:** to improve and expand, in terms of access to law and justice, the service delivered to the most vulnerable populations
- **Specific objectives:**
 - Provide the network with a common charter
 - Share tools and experiences for a better development of LWB
 - Coordinate and harmonise the actions of the existing LWB to achieve complementarity in their projects and reinforcement of their identity
 - Represent and ensure the development of the network by creating new national associations
 - Promote active solidarity between the existing associations

► Key actions

- A general annual meeting to strengthen the ties within the network
- An annual seminar on the ethics of international solidarity in the legal and judicial fields
- Active participation in annual events
- Exchange between the LWB to share and/or consolidate the tools of project management
- Installation of joint projects for an access to law and justice for vulnerable populations
- Development of new LWB (2 to 3 per year) in places where the needs are the most important
- An emergency funds for lawyers who are threatened



- **Lawyers Without Borders (Belgium)**
www.asf.be
- **Lawyers Without Borders Brasil - Advogados Sem Fronteiras**
www.advogadossemfronteiras.org.
- **Lawyers Without Borders Cameroon**
- **Lawyers Without Borders Canada - Québec**
www.asfcanada.ca
- **Lawyers Without Borders France**
www.avocatssansfrontieres-france.org
- **Lawyers Without Borders Guinea (Conakry)**
- **Lawyers Without Borders Netherlands - Advocaten Zonder Grenzen**
www.advocatenzondergrenzen.nl
- **Lawyers Without Borders Italia**
www.asf-italia.it
- **Lawyers Without Borders Mali**
- **Lawyers Without Borders Mauritania**
- **Lawyers Without Borders Sweden – Advokater Utan Granser**
www.advokaterutangranser.se
- **Lawyers Without Borders Switzerland**

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LAWYERS WITHOUT BORDERS

DEVELOPING AND STRENGTHENING THE LAWYERS WITHOUT BORDERS NETWORK

« ... *servicing the most vulnerable* »

With the support of:

**C L I F F O R D
C H A N C E**

PROJECT OF LAWYERS WITHOUT BORDERS NETWORK

It is on the occasion of the International Conference of Bar association with common legal tradition (CIB) and under the leadership of the President of the Bar Mario Stasi and President of the Bar Titinga Pacéré that *Avocats Sans Frontières* was created after a resolution decided on its creation during a congress held at Yaounde (Cameroon) in December 1991.

It was then decided that *Avocats Sans Frontières* would have its headquarters in Brussels. It was thus the first *Avocats Sans Frontières* organization.

The first major operation conducted by Lawyers Without Borders was "Justice for All in Rwanda"; conceived at the end of 1994 and carried out during late 1996, it consisted of organizing the defense by foreign lawyers of the defendants and victims of genocide before the Rwandan courts; this experience, constructive for the Movement, was also in the history of Justice, a great first and its success was universally welcomed.

It was then in 1998, that Lawyers Without Borders grew with the creation of national associations in France, Italy, Holland, Switzerland, Denmark, Sweden, Mali or even in Mauritania. Later, other national associations have been created in Canada, Cameroon, Brazil and Guinea Conakry.

Currently, the various national components of the network have brilliantly illustrated themselves mostly through the quality and quantity of initiatives conducted in the field of law and justice. Their level of notoriety challenges the vision of the network and its consistency. **They receive more requests for help than they can deal with particularly because of an international representation that gives it coherence and visibility along with the means of its development.**

LAWYERS WITHOUT BORDERS ORGANIZATIONS

LAWYERS WITHOUT BORDERS - BELGIUM

First association created in 1992, Lawyers Without Borders lead different actions in several countries: Rwanda, Burundi, Democratic Republic of Congo, Sudan, Uganda, Nepal, Israël and Palestina.

LAWYERS WITHOUT BORDERS BRAZIL

Created in 2009, this young association has started its development with 2 projects: one of legal aid to the Bissau-Guinean organizations from the civil society and another one of cooperation with the University of Caixas do Sul in Brazil.

LAWYERS WITHOUT BORDERS CAMEROON

Created in 2003, this LWB works on the penal proceeding code and penitentiary system reforms. LWB gets involved in improvement of term of imprisonment. LWB organized free legal aid in Douala.

LAWYERS WITHOUT BORDERS CANADA-QUÉBEC

Created in 2002, this LWB leads different awareness actions and project in Colombia, Nigeria and Haïti.

LAWYERS WITHOUT BORDERS FRANCE

Created in 1998, LWB France leads various activities of international solidarity and of immediate defense in the following countries: Cambodia, Laos, Nigeria, Mali, African French-speaking countries... An International Observatory for lawyers was created with French, Italian and Spanish Bar Associations.

LAWYERS WITHOUT BORDERS GUINEA

Created in 2009, this young association has 8 lawyers as founding members and is trying to develop its activities by implementing a projet of « Legal and judicial caravan in Guinea: access to law and justice for vulnerable people in administrative centres ».

LAWYERS WITHOUT BORDERS ITALIA

Founded in April 1998, LWB Italia other than to give a contribution to the International Penal System and to the judicial cooperation suggests training projects to secure a qualified and fair defence in any criminal trial.

LAWYERS WITHOUT BORDERS MALI

Created in 1997, LWB Mali with the partnership of LWB France, is carrying out a legal-circuit project in the country: access to law and justice for vulnerable people in 3 pilot cities.

LAWYERS WITHOUT BORDERS MAURITANIA

Created in 2006, the activities of this organisation are currently limited due to the lack of resources. But this organisation is supported by the Mauritanian Bar association and wishes to stimulate the association to seek its objectives.

LAWYERS WITHOUT BORDERS NETHERLANDS

Created in 1998, this organisation began operations with project of free legal assistance for minors in Surinam; project still relevant today

LAWYERS WITHOUT BORDERS SWEDEN

Created in 1998, LWB Sweden carried out several monitoring projects and seminars with lawyers and legal practitioners in Turkey and China.

LAWYERS WITHOUT BORDERS SWITZERLAND

LWB Switzerland was created in 1999. With the creation of LWB Network, LWB Sweden has established relations with other LWB associations and is developing projects for 2001/2011, especially with LWB Cameroon.

