

Visit of the International Union of Judicial Officers to KENYA, UGANDA and MALAWI,

AT THE INVITATION OF THE PROFESSIONAL BODY OF THOSE COUNTRIES

The delegation of the International Union consisted of René DUPERRAY, French Secretary General, Leo NETTEN, assistant Treasurer of the Low Countries, Johan FOURIE, Permanent Delegate of the countries of Southern Africa, South Africa, and Robbie SCHILZ, also of South Africa.

Upon their arrival, the delegates were welcomed and received by the National President of the Kenyan National Association of Auctioneers, Mr S.M. GATAOGO, and by a member of the directorate, Mr KARIUKI.

The program for Tuesday February 23, 1999 started

with a courtesy visit to the Attorney General of Kenya, the Honourable S. Amos WACO, who is in charge of the Kenyan Ministry of Justice. In the course of this meeting in Uganda and Malawi, the objectives and the ideas of the International Union were elucidated by Leo NETTEN, while the commitment of South Africa towards the Union Internationale and of anglo-phone South Africa was summarised by Johan FOURIE, Robbie SCHILZ, President of the Legal Advisory Committee of the South African Institute of Judicial Officers, on his part put the accent on the necessity for applying the dictates of the law, a subject that had equally been touched upon by the other delegates.

There was emphasis placed on the fact that the delegation was visiting Kenya at the invitation of the National

association of Auctioneers, as this organisation was perfectly aware of the necessity for its members to possess a professional status to properly execute their duties and to serve the laws of their country.

It equally became apparent that progress had been made in Kenya with respect to the status of judicial officers charged with the execution of duties under the Civil Law Code, and this following the participation of judicial officers and auctioneers at the conference held in Somerset West, South Africa, during the second half of 1997. This conference was organised by the South African Institute of Judicial Officers, in collaboration with the International Union .

To this, a very positive response was given by the attorney General, who confirmed

the total commitment by his country to respect the law and reminded the National Association of Auctioneers of Kenya that his office was entirely at their disposal in the matter of improving relations between the members of the association and Kenyan citizens.

By virtue of legislation in effect in Kenya, the auctioneers are charged under the terms of the Auctioneers Act of 1996 with the seizure and sale of moveable and immovable goods, authorised by the courts and letters of instruction by third parties,

including the confiscation of tenant quarters and expulsion.

The visit to the Attorney General's office was followed by a courtesy visit to the Supreme Court of Nairobi where the delegation met Mrs Florence SIMBIRI-YAOKO, Chief Clerk at the Supreme Court. The reasons for the International Union's visit to Kenya and the organisation's ideals were explained to her. She approved of the participation of the Kenyan National Association of Auctioneers in the International Union to promote the efficiency and

the effectiveness of services rendered by the members of that organisation. Further, she strongly recommended to the directors of the Kenyan National Association of auctioneers, and through them or its members, a visit South Africa in order to become aware through personal experience of the manner in which the Civil Law Code is applied in that country. She added that she herself had been to South Africa and had had the privilege there of assisting in court sessions in Cape Town, Johannesburg and Pretoria. She said she had been greatly impressed



Mr Amos WACO, Minister of Justice, receives the delegation of IUJO and the representatives and colleagues from KENYA • M. Amos WACO, Ministre de la Justice, reçoit la délégation de l'UIUJ ainsi que les représentants et confrères du KENYA

with the efficiency of the courts to which she had paid visits.

The delegation then had the opportunity to meet with the president and the members of the Auctioneers Licensing Board, which is the body in charge of the appointments and the enforcement responsibilities of auctioneers. This meeting was presided by the Principal Judge, Mrs LESITT, who not only plays an active role in her capacity as "Chief Magistrate" of Nairobi but who also presides over the Licensing Board, assisted by acting lawyer, Mr KAMARA, and by Judge D.K. MBULUI. The discussions with the members of the Licensing Board related to the same themes as those touched upon with the Attorney General and the Chief Clerk of the Supreme Court of Nairobi.

A meeting with the members of the Kenyan press was squeezed in between the visits to the Attorney General and to the Supreme Court. The favourable comments were subsequently published in the two main Kenyan papers, *"The People Daily"* and *"The Daily Nation"*.

Following these courtesy visits, a public meeting took place at the Silver Springs Hotel with the directors and the members of the Kenyan

Mrs Florence
SIMBIRI-YAOKO,
Chief Clerk of the
Supreme Court
of Nairobi

Mme Florence
SIMBIRI-YAOKO,
Greffier en Chef
de la Cour Suprême
de Nairobi



National Association of Auctioneers. During that meeting, the national president of that Association, Mr S.M. GATAOGO, Mr Leo NETTEN, Mr Johan FOURIE and Mr Robbie SCHILZ addressed the gathering. At this meeting also, the same subjects that were discussed during the courtesy visits were introduced again. As with the Attorney General and the Chief Clerk, speakers emphasised once more that judiciary independance must become implanted in the matter of the practical application of civil law, an argument that was warmly applauded by the public. It has become clear that after the visit to South Africa in 1997, tremendous efforts have been made

in Kenya to improve the situation, but also that much still remains to be done. The delegation, however, did not wish to become embroiled in discussions regarding the internal problems bearing upon the exercise of the rights and duties of the members of the Kenyan National Association of Auctioneers.

Nevertheless, the delegation pronounced itself very satisfied with their meetings with the Kenyan government officials and was very happy indeed to notice that its Kenyan visit had reinforced the position of the country's National Association of Auctioneers, facilitating, in fact, their future contacts with the official departments.

On the morning of Wednesday, February 24, the delegation left Nairobi for Uganda where it was welcomed at the airport by the President of the Ugandan Association of Judicial Officers, Mr Solomon LUBEGA, and by members of his board.

The first visit in Uganda was to the office of the Minister of Justice and Constitutional Affairs, the honourable Joash MYJANNJANKANGI. Present at this meeting were Mr LUBEGA, members of his board, collaborators from the Ministry of Justice and, of course, the delegates of the Union.

Once again, the delegation was privileged to inform the Minister of Justice about the activities and the objectives of the International Union, about its relations with Uganda, and about the desire of the Ugandan Association to encourage the application of civil law in the country. In so doing, it compared activities in Uganda with those elsewhere, taking into account elements likely to improve the association's tasks on local levels. The Minister of Justice, the honourable Joash MYJANNJANKANGI, encouraged the commitment of the Ugandan Association, inviting it to consult with him on matters that could profit the Association on the one hand and the Department of Justice and Ugandan citizens on the other. He concluded by saying that, even without rules and regulations, a judicial officer can serve society in a praise-

worthy manner, provided he is honest, diligent and knowledgeable in the area of his expertise. The Minister further added that it was very important in any country for all countries respecting the authority of the law that court judgments be effective, that is to say that those who address themselves to the court for redress of wrongs receive due satisfaction.

After their visit to the Minister of Justice, the delegates met with the Chief Clerk of the Ugandan Supreme Court, Mr David WANGUTUSI, his clerk, Mr Steven MUSOTA, and the assistant Clerk of the Supreme Court of Uganda, Mr Godfrey NAMUNDI. These gentlemen all expressed great interest in the objectives of the International Union, its allegiance to the authority of the law and its propagation of an international order of expanded judiciary systems.



Left, Mr NYAMBI, under-sheriff, in discussion with an private bailiff
A gauche, M. NYAMBI, sous-sheriff, en discussion avec un huissier de justice privé

After their meeting with the Minister of Justice and the Chief Clerk of Supreme Court, the delegates met with members of the Ugandan Association of Judicial Officers. In the course of a general gathering of the members, held at the Speke Hotel in Kampala, where the delegates were welcomed by Mr Solomon LUBEGA, President of the association, they were also given the opportunity to meet with the members of his board:

Mr Robert MULAMUZI, vice-president, Mr Charles OUNDO, Secretary General, Mr Bosco BOMBOKA, publicity secretary, and Mr Kaggva MUGERWA, Treasurer.

Mr LUBEGA gave a general overview of the profession in Uganda and explained that the principal task for the judicial officer in the country consisted of the enforcement of court decisions encompassing mandates of seizure because of debts, arrest mandates, expulsions, confiscation of tenant's quarters and other suchlike court decisions. Ugandan judicial officers are also active in the recovery of debts and in public sales.

A Ugandan judicial officer receives his license by virtue of Chapter 261 of the Auctioneers Act and is required to renew the license of judicial officer every year thereafter. The public authorities are empowered to suspend or withdraw this license if the judicial officer should commits an error in the execution of his duties.

As happened in Kenya, the question of training was equally touched upon by Mr LUBEGA and was made the subject of discussions for the gathering after the address by Messrs Leo NETTEN, Johan FOURIE and Robbie SCHILZ.

The International Union delegation once again put the accent on the need to respect the law through effective application of the Civil Law Code. The principle was warmly received by the members of the Association of Judicial Officers who recognised as well the fact that the visit by the delegates had reinforced their own position in matter of the status of their association with the public authorities.

In the course of the discussions with Mr LUBEGA and the other members of the Association of Judicial Officers, it became nevertheless clear that there is still room for improvement in the relations between the clients and the judicial officers. This problem was notably brought to the fore in the course of a meeting with Mr M.Y.M. SALLAH, administrator of the "Non-Performing – Assets Recovery Trust", which is a joint organisation of the United Nations and the Government of Uganda, charged with the recovery of loans made by the "Ugandan Commercial Bank" to borrowers of doubtful solvency.

During this meeting, it became clear that a conflict exists in the matter of demands made by judicial officers for advance settlement of expenses they are forced to pay out in the cour-



Mr David WANGUTUSI,
Chief Clerk of the Supreme Court
of Uganda

M. David WANGUTUSI,
Greffier en Chef de la Cour
Suprême de l'Ouganda

se of an enforcement action. The judicial officers explained that sometimes they are forced to travel hundreds of kilometers for the repossessing of a vehicle and that such an operation does engender major expenses in travel and accommodation. This problem of distance is not, one may be quite sure, inherent to Uganda. It exists equally in other African countries and even in South Africa where there is no designated judicial officer because of economic reasons.

After a visit of less than 24 hours, the delegation was able to leave Uganda with a feeling of satisfaction for having undoubtedly contributed to the improvement of the profession of Ugandan judicial officers.



The delegation then travelled to Blantyre in MALAWI where it was welcomed by Mr G.A. NYAMBI, the assistant sheriff of Malawi, and by Mr C.C. NYIRENDZA, the principal assistant sheriff of that country.

On Saturday, February 27, the delegation met with Mr W.W. QUOTO, the sheriff of Malawi, Messrs NYAMBI and NYIRENDZA, members of the associations of Sheriff of Malawi, the President of the Law Society of Malawi, Mrs CHISANGA, the future President of the Law Society, Mr Mackson MBENDERWA, and the secretary general of the Law Society, Mr BANDA, and with the members of the Chamber of Commerce.

In the course of this meeting, the delegates took to the podium to repeat in general terms what had been said before to members of the profession and the Kenyan and Ugandan government officials.

In Malawi, the profession is not entirely privatised but, after the visit to the November 1997 conference at Somerset West in South Africa, significant progress was made,

realising that nearly 40 judicial officers have been appointed since.

Within the actual structure in Malawi, the function of sheriff of Malawi encompasses the functions of sheriff, assistant sheriff, principal assistant sheriff and two others, designated by the President, as well as that of Clerk of the Supreme Court. Traditionally, the sheriff of Malawi is charged with passing of the decisions by the courts. He can do so in person or by the intervention of assistant sheriff or adjunct sheriffs, or he can also delegate judicial officers to the task.

Thus, one encounters instances of situations where the government officials can decide to act themselves in



M. Johan FOURIE, permanent delegate of the countries of Southern Africa and South Africa

M. Johan FOURIE,
délégué permanent pour les pays
d'Afrique Australe

the capacity of enforcement officers in executing court orders or decide to pass such orders to judicial officers who are operating independently for their own account. It became evident, however, that the client himself does not have the liberty to appoint a judicial officer. Such instructions must issue from the sheriff of Malawi, his assistant sheriff or one of the other principal sheriffs or functionaries.

It is also apparent that the judicial officers in Malawi do not possess the authority to enforce a judgement, that is to say, to proceed to a seizure by virtue of a mandate of execution that has been sent of them but for which they do not have the procedural right of sale without having the special license drawn up according to the Auctioneers Act of Malawi. This is a question that very much concerns the members of the Association of Sheriffs of Malawi but, again, and by the very reason alone that a meeting such as this took place, Mr QUOTO remarked that in the revision of the Act, there will be provisions made to have the sales organised by the sheriffs, stipulating that this activity shall of course be limited to sales as a result of court decisions.

Here as well, as in Kenya and Uganda, the government officials and the private sec-

tor, including the judicial officers, were unanimous in declaring themselves in favour of maintaining an unbiased and impartial application of the law.

The meeting was adjourned for lunch. In the afternoon a closed session was held with members of the Association of Sheriffs of Malawi, during which became apparent, like in the two other countries visited, that there exist certain problems that are common to all sheriffs or bailiffs of judicial officers, wherever they carry out their professional activities.

In conclusion, one may say that the objectives as stated by the International Union were encouraged, in the sense that the delegation disseminated its ideas for improving the competency and the res-



The profession in the feminine in MALAWI

La profession au féminin au MALAWI

ponsibility of the profession in its executive capacity. The delegation members were also able to study the regulations concerning sheriffs in the three countries visited, even though the program as a whole did not permit them to undertake a thorough study

of the regulations and procedures in the countries concerned.

Robbie SCHILZ

President of "Legal Advisory Committee of the South African Institute of Judicial Officers"



The new chairman of the National Chamber of MALI, Maître DEMBELE

It was without the slightest surprise that Maître Filifing DEMBELE was elected Chairman of the National Chamber of MALI during the 3rd Ordinary Congress of Judicial Officers of Mali held on May 24 and 25, 1999, thus succeeding Maître BERTHE.

The International Union wishes to congratulate the new chairman most sincerely. The new chairman will undoubtedly continue the excellent relations the Union has maintained with its colleagues from MALI for many years.

His first tasks shall be : the training of this colleagues and of the staff of the Judicial Officer's offices, to increase discipline and implement a system of social security insurance. This is indeed an excellent and highly promising programme to which the Union will give considerable attention and for which it extends its warmest wishes of success.



Les guides de l'Huissier de Justice

001

“ Les différentes conventions internationales et la signification des actes à l'étranger ”

Par Me Jean-Paul Spinelli

En France, les ouvrages consacrés au droit judiciaire international et plus précisément à la transmission des actes à l'étranger sont suffisamment rares pour que chaque publication nouvelle soit chaleureusement saluée. Nous saluons donc la venue de ce titre, dans la collection « *Les Guides de l'huissier de justice* » des Editions E.J.T. - France¹.

Il est particulièrement heureux que ce "guide" soit l'œuvre de Jean-Paul SPINELLI, huissier de justice à Moutiers (France), dont le talent et les connaissances scientifiques sont unanimement reconnus, peut-être davantage à l'étranger qu'en France, ce qui ne manque pas de curiosité...

Maître SPINELLI, qui est membre de l'UIHJ, est l'un des plus éminents experts de notre organisation et ses interventions, aussi bien en Europe qu'en Afrique (avec le Traité de l'OHADA), sont toujours particulièrement appréciées. Maître SPINELLI collabore par ailleurs activement à la rédaction de "l'UIHJ MAGAZINE", publication dont il assure plusieurs chroniques. Il est encore connu pour les travaux réalisés dans le

cadre du Congrès de STOCKHOLM en 1997

où il a présenté un important rapport intitulé : « **Huissier de justice : un métier, un droit, un espace** » qui porte la trame des actions menées par l'Union Internationale. Enfin, Maître SPINELLI vient d'être appelé aux plus hautes responsabilités en étant désigné pour présider le prochain Congrès d'Athènes au mois de mai 2000.

L'ouvrage que nous propose l'auteur s'adresse avant tout aux praticiens. Il constitue un ensemble harmonieux regroupant les principales Conventions (La Haye, Bruxelles, Acte du Conseil du 26 mai 1997) ainsi que les Conventions plus particulières (bilatérales et autonomes), applicables en France.

Le lecteur appréciera encore les nombreux tableaux synoptiques qui favorisent la compréhension toujours aride des textes ainsi que les sobres commentaires qui viendront, opportunément, l'éclairer sur la manière de procéder dans des cas parfois complexes tel, par exemple, la multiplicité des conventions applicables pour un même cas d'espèce.

(1) Editions Juridiques et Techniques (E.J.T.) - 73, Bd de Clichy 75009 PARIS - 257 pages - Prix 70 FF (10,67 euros)

“The differents international conventions and the serving of notification of writ in foreign countries”

by Maître Jean-Paul SPINELLI



In France, publications treating the subject of international judiciary law and more precisely the transmission of process across borders, are sufficiently rare to ensure a warm welcome to each and every one of them that bears upon the theme. We therefore applaud this title as a contribution to the existing body of works, namely « *Les Guides de l'huissier de justice* » (The Guide to Judicial Officers), published by Editions E.J.T. - France¹.

It is particularly happy circumstance that this "guide" should be the work of Jean-Paul SPINELLI, judicial officer at Moutiers (France), whose talents and knowledge in the scientific field are unreservedly recognised, perhaps more so abroad than in France, which is a factor that we register not without some curiosity.

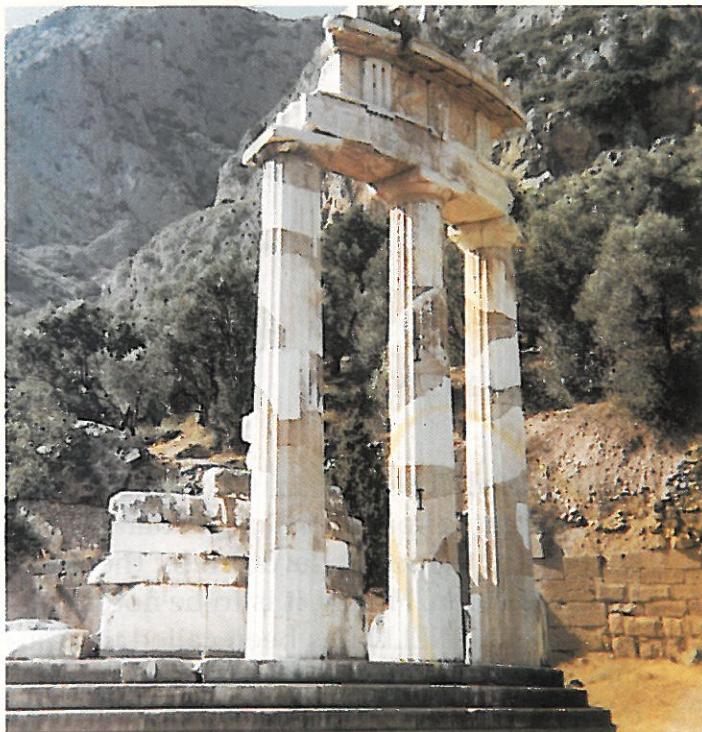
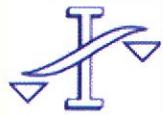
Mr SPINELLI, member of the UIHJ, is one of the most accomplished experts within our organisation and his contributions in Europe as well as in Africa (as with the Treaty of OHADA), are particularly appreciated. Mr SPINELLI is, in fact, an active collaborator in the editorial processes of "UIHJ MAGAZINE", to which he makes extensive contributions. He is also recognised for his contributions realised within the framework of the STOCKHOLM Conference of 1997, where he presented an important

report titled "The Judicial Officer : a profession, a right, a space", which pertains to the scope of activities undertaken by the International Union. Finally, it is to be noted that Jean-Paul SPINELLI has been called to assume one of the highest of offices, being the designated chair at the coming Athens Conference in the month of May 2000.

The work which the author offers us addresses itself first and foremost to the practitioners. It gives a harmonious account of the principal conventions (The Hague, Brussels, the Act of the Council of May 26, 1997), as well as of the more particular conventions (bi-lateral and autonomous), relating to France.

The reader will also appreciate the numerous summary tables that promote the comprehension of quite dry texts and also the sober commentaries that manage to provide a welcome explanation on matters of procedure in a context sometimes quite complex such as, for example, the multiple agreements that pertain to a same identical case.

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GRÈCE, *la terre des dieux*

« Même si rien d'autre n'en restait de la Grèce, seul Parthénon serait susceptible de prouver de la façon la plus éloquente qu'un GRAND PEUPLE habitait cette terre ».

SCHILLER

A l'aube du XXI^e siècle, la Grèce inaugurera le commencement du sixième millénaire de son histoire.

La Grèce qui fut célébrée par tous les historiens et hommes de lettres, classiques et contemporains.

La Grèce des Dieux, des Poètes, des Idées.

La Grèce de la Pensée et de la Culture.

La Grèce qui fut souvent ensevelie mais qui ne cessa jamais de vivre.

La Grèce fut souvent asservie (par les Perses, les Romains, les Vénitiens, les Turcs) mais elle renaissait toujours de ses ruines, vivante et immortelle. Or, la nature grecque, elle-même, veillait à cacher dans les ruines et protéger dans sa terre sainte sa richesse et ses créations. Ainsi, les mains profanes des envahisseurs barbares n'ont pas pu détruire et faire disparaître le patrimoine culturel des Grecs, un patrimoine qu'ont découvert et continuent à découvrir, après si longtemps, les saintes mains des archéologues, grecs et européens. La pioche archéologique "lit" l'histoire grecque et "réimprime" la civilisation grecque ; une civilisation qui fut le fruit de la coopération harmonieuse du corps et de l'esprit, aussi bien que de leur liberté ; une civilisation qui recherchait, analysait et servait le Beau, le Grand et le Vrai.





Au moment où d'autres peuples divinisaient les puissances naturelles (le soleil, les fleuves et les rivières, les mers ... etc), en Grèce, on divinisait les Idées et les Valeurs : Jupiter, le père des dieux, protecteur de l'hospitalité, Mars, le dieu de la guerre, Vénus, la déesse de la beauté, Athéna, la déesse de la pensée, Mercure, le dieu de la communication, Vesta, la déesse de la famille, Vulcain, le dieu du travail, Apollon, le dieu de la musique et de l'éducation, Démètre, la déesse de la production agricole, Diane, la déesse de la chasse et de l'élevage, Neptune, le souverain de la mer, ainsi que Pluton, le dieu de la mort, étaient les protecteurs et, en même temps, les juges d'un Peuple qui créait une civilisation et qui jetait les fondements du développement futur, intellectuel et scientifique, de l'humanité.

Parthénon, Mycènes, Olympie, Delphes, Dodone, Sounio, Vergine, Pella, Thermopyles, Cnossos, Phaestos, Délos, la Longue Muraille, Lindos, Epidaure, Aphée, Corinthe antique, Dion et Marathon, voilà quelques uns des témoins innombrables de cette civilisation, dont l'origine remonte à la plus haute antiquité. Et, parmi les anneaux de cette chaîne sans fin, c'est la ville d'Athènes, "le brillant serti dans la bague de la Terre", qui prédomine. Athènes de Périclès, de Socrate, de Platon, de Solon. Athènes de la philosophie, de la démocratie, de la liberté. Athènes de la Culture et des Arts.

Et, de nos jours, Athènes de l'hospitalité. La ville qui souhaite chaleureusement la bienvenue à tout visiteur. La ville qui est prête à réaliser tous les désirs de ses visiteurs. La ville des musées, des temples et des théâtres antiques.

La ville que baignent Saronicos et la Mer Egée, dans leurs eaux toutes claires. Athènes du jour. La ville qui vit et respire pendant vingt-quatre heures par jour. La ville avec ses tavernes innombrables, les boîtes de nuit, les "bouzoukia", le "syrtaki", Athènes de la nuit.

A Athènes, on peut se promener sur l'Acropole, à Théséon, au Musée Archéologique, à l'"Agora" de l'antiquité, sur Lycabette, à Pnyka et au stade en marbre où ont eu lieu les premiers Jeux Olympiques de l'ère contemporaine, en 1896.

En outre, en parcourant les stations du métro, on peut admirer les objets anciens



M. GRAMMATOPOULOS,
Président de la Chambre Nationale des
Huissiers de Justice de Grèce



découverts lors des travaux de construction de ce dernier et exposés dans des locaux fonctionnant, à titre permanent, dans la plupart des stations, à titre de musée.

Et, pendant ces longues promenades, on rencontre toujours des cafés ou des restaurants à des prix accessibles (un café, à Athènes, coûte 200 DRS, soit 4 FF, et un bon repas, de 1000 à 2000 DRS, soit de 20 à 40 FF). Un repas sur le mont Lycabette, où vous pouvez monter par le téléphérique souterrain, vous donne l'occasion d'admirer du haut toute la ville d'Athènes et le Pirée. Le soir, à Plaka, un quartier aux pieds de l'Acropole, on peut goûter toutes les spécialités grecques et voir divers spectacles folkloriques, le tout offert au même prix qu'un simple repas au restaurant. Et pour ceux qui souhaitent dépenser plus, Athènes offre également des solutions plus coûteuses car, à Athènes, on trouve tout.

C'est justement autour de cette ville que s'étend la Grèce entière, avec ses fleuves, ses montagnes, ses lacs et ses îles innombrables. D'Athènes, on peut visiter, dans le cadre d'excursions d'un jour, en voiture, Delphes ou Mycènes ou Corinthe



Terrasse de l'hôtel où se déroulera le Congrès



CONGRES DE L'AN 2000

antique ou Sounion ou Marathon ou Epidaure : un grand réseau de lignes maritimes unit quotidiennement le Pirée et toutes les îles grecques, et les îles entre elles ; le transport est assuré par des bateaux, des ferry-boats, des Flying Dolphins. On peut visiter Egine, Hydra, Spetses, Myconos, Kea, Andros ou Skiathos, et rentrer à Athènes le jour même. Le coût du transport par les Flying Dolphins varie de 3000 à 10000 DRS, soit de 75 à 200 FF. Il existe également un grand réseau de lignes aériennes qui relient Athènes et toutes les îles de la Mer Egée et de la Mer Ionienne, ainsi que les grandes villes. A titre indicatif, un billet aller-retour à destination de Crète ou de Thessalonie coûte 40000-45000 DRS environ, soit 800-900 FF.

En 2000, à Athènes, un billet de métro coûtera 350 DRS environ, soit 7 FF. Un billet de bus coûte 150 DRS, soit 3 FF.

En m'adressant aux collègues, j'aimerais leur rappeler ce que j'avais dit à Paris, en novembre dernier :

« En mai, la Grèce est le pays de la joie, du soleil et de la mer. Les Grecs jouissent du soleil, mais ... ils aiment également la lune. Ils vivent jour et nuit.

Les huissiers grecs vous attendent. Pour vous accueillir. Pour vous guider. Pour résoudre immédiatement tous vos éventuels problèmes. »

Enfin, permettez-moi de citer ce que Lord Byron écrivait dans une de ses lettres : « Si je devins poète, c'est à l'air de la Grèce que je le dois. »

Emmanuel GRAMMATOPOULOS,
Président de la Fédération
des Huissiers de Grèce





GREECE, *land of the gods*

« Even if nothing else remained of Greece, the Parthenon alone would be enough to prove in the most eloquent way possible that a GREAT PEOPLE once lived in this Land ».

SCHILLER



At the dawning of the 21st century, Greece will inaugurate the start of the sixth millenium of its history.

Greece, land celebrated by all historians and men of letters, classical and contemporary.

Greece, land of the Gods, of Poets, of Ideas.

Greece, land of Philosophers and of Culture.

Greece, land oft buried yet never not alive.

Greece has often been subjugated (by the Persians, the Romans, the Venetians, the Turks) but has always raised itself from its ruins, alive and immortal. The nature of Greece itself, forever vigilant, kept in hiding within the ruins and protected inside its sacred soil her riches and creations. Thus, the profane hands of barbarian invaders have been unable to destroy and to eliminate the cultural heritage of the Greeks, a heritage laid bare in the past and in the present by the benighted hands of archaeologists Greek and European. The pickaxe of archaeology continues to "read" the history of Greece and to "reprint" the pages of its civilisation, a civilisation that was the fruit of a harmonious co-operation between body and mind, as well as of the liberty of its people, a civilisation that searched for, analysed, and served Beauty, Greatness and the Truth.

At a time when other peoples worshipped the forces of nature (the sun, the streams and rivers, the seas and suchlike), the Greeks worshipped Ideas and Values. Jupiter, Father of the Gods, protector of hospitality, Mars, god of war, Venus, goddess of beauty, Athena, goddess of wisdom, Mercury, god of messengers, Vesta, goddess of the heart and family, Vulcan, god of labour, Apollo, god of music and of education, Demeter, goddess of the produce of the fields, Diana, goddess of the hunt of breeding, Neptune, sovereign of the sea, Pluto, god of the underworld, all of these figured as the protectors and, at the same time, the judges of a People that created a civilisation and laid down the cornerstones of the future intellectual and scientific evolution of mankind..

The Parthenon, Mycenæ, Olympia, Delphi, Dodona, Sounio, Vergine, Pella, Thermopylæ, Knossos, Phæstos, Delos, the Long Walls of Athens, Lindos, Epidauros, Aphæ, ancient Corinth, Dion and Marathon, these are but some few names of countless witnesses to this civilisation whose origin hearkens back into the far reaches of antiquity. And, in the centre of these rings in the chain without end, there is the city of Athens, "the brilliant diamond in the ring of the World", predominant amongst all others. Athens of Péricles, of Plato, of Solon. Athens of philosophy, democracy and freedoms. Athens, cradle of Culture and the Arts.



President GRAMMATOPOULOS hands an invitation flag to the Polish delegation
Le Président GRAMMATOPOULOS remet un fanion d'invitation à la délégation polonaise



And, today, city of hospitality, a city that with open arms welcomes all visitors. A city ready to accede to all the desires of its visitors. City of museums, temples and ancient theatres.

City washed by the clear waters of the Gulf of Saronikos and the Aegean Sea. Athens of daylight. City that is alive and breathes uninterruptedly for twenty-four hours on end. City with its unnumerable taverns, night clubs, "bouzoukia" and "syrtaki", Athens of the night..

In Athens, one can wander around on the Acropolis, at Theseon, in the Archaeological Museum, on the ancient "Agora", on Lycabettos, at Pnyka and in the stadium built of marble stones, site of the first modern-day Olympic Games of 1896.

Furthermore, down in the subway, one is able to admire ancient artifacts unearthed by excavation work during subway construction and now on permanent exhibit, like museum pieces, at most of the subway stations.

During these long meandering walks, one invariably comes across cafés or restaurants where prices remain accessible (a coffee, in Athens, costs 200 drachmas, being the equivalent of 4 FF, and a decent meal from 1000 à 2000 drachmas, 20 to 40 FF). A meal at Mount Lycabettos, accessible by cable car cut into the rock, offers you the opportunity to admire from on high the whole city of Athens and the Piraeus. In the evening, at Plaka, an area lying at the foot of the Acropolis, one can savour all sorts of Greek specialities while watching performances of local folkloric dances, all of it offered at the same price as a simple meal at a restaurant. And for those who feel in the spending mood, Athens offers equally some more expensive possibilities. Because, in Athens, everything is available.

It is exactly around this city that the whole of Greece spreads itself with its rivers, its mountains, its lakes and numerous islands. From Athens as a jumping-off point, one can participate in one of many one-day trips and visit by car various sites, Delphi or Mycenae or ancient Corinth, or Sounio or Marathon or Epidavros. There exists a large maritime transportation network daily connecting the Piraeus with all the Greek islands and the islands in between. You travel by boat, ferry-boat, the so-called "Flying Dolphins". One can take excursions to Aegina, Hydra, Spetses, Mykonos, Kea, Andros ou Skiathos, and return to Athens the same day. Cost of transportation by the Flying Dolphins varies from 3000 à 10000 drachmas, 75 to 200 FF. Equally, a large network of airlines daily connects Athens and all the island in the Aegean Sea and the Ionian Sea, as well as the large cities. As a point of information, a return ticket to Crete or Thessalonika costs 40000-45000 drachmas approximately, 800 to 900 FF.





CONFERENCE OF THE YEAR 2000



The National Chamber of Judicial Officers of Greece • La Chambre Nationale des Huissiers de Justice de Grèce

In the year 2000, a subway ticket in Athens will cost 350 dragmas approximately, 7 FF. A bus ticket costs 150 dragmas, 3 FF.

In my address to my colleagues, I would like to remind them of what I said in Paris, last November :

« In may, Greece is the land of joy, of the sun and of the sea. The Greeks love the sun, but... they equally love the moon. They live for the day and for the night.

The Greek judicial officers await your coming. To welcome you. To show you around. To resolve instantly all your possible problems »

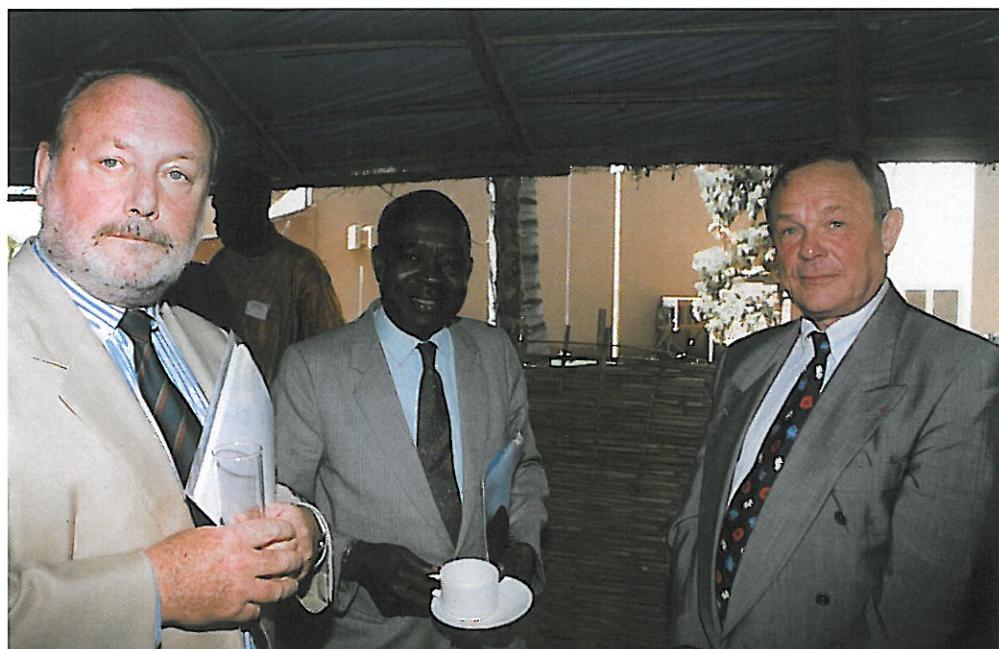
In closing, allow me to quote a line from Lord Byron in one of his letters : "If I have become a poet, I owe it to the air of Greece. »

Emmanuel GRAMMATOPOULOS,
Président of the Greek Federation of Judicial Officers



11 et 12 mars 1999

L'huissier de justice face aux défis de l'intégration sous-régionale africaine



Me Jacques BERTAUX, Président de la Chambre Nationale des Huissiers de Justice de France, M. Magatte DIOP, Directeur des Affaires Civiles et du Sceau, et Me Jacques ISNARD, Président de l'U.I.H.J.

Me Jacques BERTAUX, President of French National Chamber of Judicial Officers,
Mr Magatte DIOP, Director of Civil Affairs and Seal,
and Me Jacques ISNARD, President of IUJO

Poursuivant leur volonté d'appréhender les dispositions de l'Acte Uniforme portant organisation des procédures simplifiées de recouvrement et des voies d'exécution, l'Ordre des Huissiers de Justice du Sénégal a organisé, à Dakar, les 11 et 12 mars 1999, un séminaire dont le titre était : "L'huissier de justice face aux défis de l'intégration sous-régionale Africaine".

Ce Colloque, auquel ont participé plusieurs délégations d'huissiers de justice du continent africain ainsi qu'une représentation de l'Union Internationale emmenée par son Président, Jacques ISNARD, a eu pour mérite de faire un tour complet des thèmes qui ont été retenus et concernent la procédure de saisie-conservatoire de créance et la saisie-attribution, la saisie des droits d'associés et des valeurs mobilières.

Egalement des thèmes concernant la loi sur les instruments de paiement dans l'U.M.O.A., l'exécution des obligations de faire ont été traités de manière particulièrement complète et didactique par des confrères Africains ou les membres de l'Union Internationale.

Le Président BERTAUX, représentant la Chambre Nationale Française, a fait un exposé particulièrement apprécié sur la déontologie et MM. DIAKHATE et SAMB, Juges du Tribunal Régional

de Dakar, ont, quant à eux, développé les nullités des actes de procédure en matière de saisie-immobilière.

Un débat particulièrement enrichissant s'est instauré entre les intervenants et les avocats présents sur ces questions d'un profond intérêt pratique.

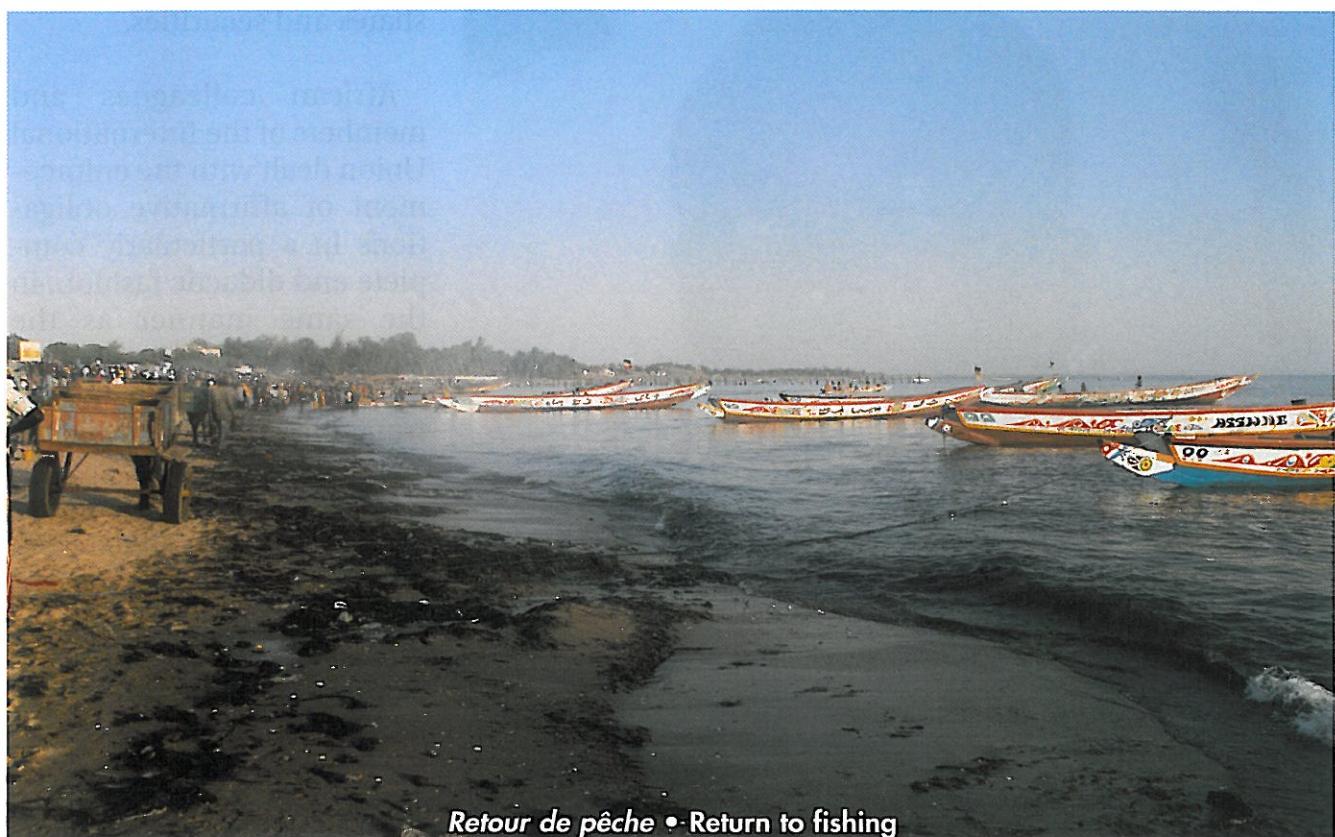
Préalablement aux travaux, Me Yacine SENE, Présidente de l'Ordre des Huissiers de Justice du Sénégal et Secrétaire Permanent de l'Union Internationale pour le continent d'Afrique Noire, a souhaité la bienvenue aux différentes délégations et invités au premier rang desquels se

trouvait M. SECK, Directeur du Cabinet du Ministre de la Justice du Sénégal.

Me Jacques ISNARD, Président de l'Union Internationale des Huissiers de Justice et Officiers Judiciaires, devait rappeler, une fois de plus, l'immense plaisir qu'il a de se retrouver en Afrique à la tête d'une délégation de l'Union Internationale pour apporter aux Confrères de ce continent les connaissances pratiques déjà décennales sur les voies d'exécution appliquées en France notamment. Il devait rappeler qu'il serait bon de pérenniser ce genre de colloque dont l'intérêt n'est plus à démontrer.

M. Mouhamed SECK, quant à lui, devait mettre en exergue dans son propos le rôle déterminant occupé par les huissiers de justice dans la résolution de conflits en mettant l'accent sur l'efficacité de leur action comme auxiliaires de justice.

Après avoir déclaré ouvert le Colloque de Dakar, M. le Directeur de Cabinet présentait tous ses vœux de réussite à cette rencontre de travail dont un compte rendu exhaustif fera l'objet d'une communication dans le cadre du Conseil Permanent de novembre prochain à Paris.





March 11-12, 1999

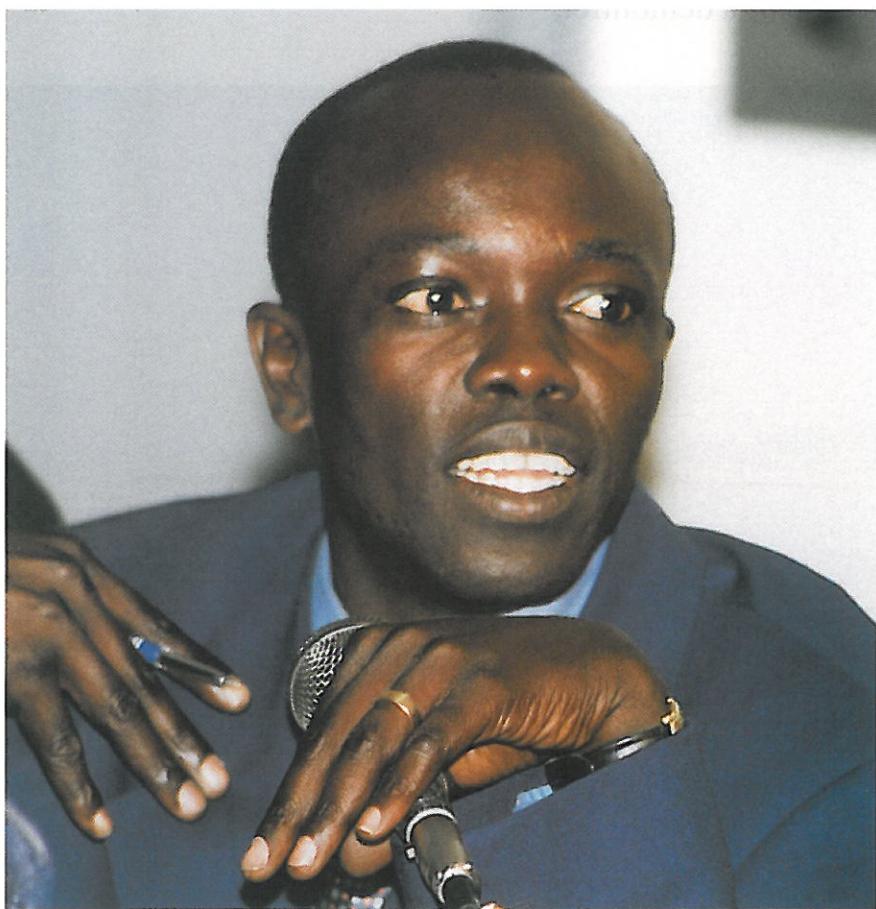
Bailiffs and the Challenges of Sub-Regional Integration in Africa

In accordance with their will to familiarize themselves with the dispositions of the Uniform Act that organizes simplified collection procedures and proceedings for enforcement, the Senegalese Order of Bailiffs held a seminar in Dakar on 11 and 12 March 1999 entitled "Bailiffs and the Challenges of Sub-Regional Integration in Africa".

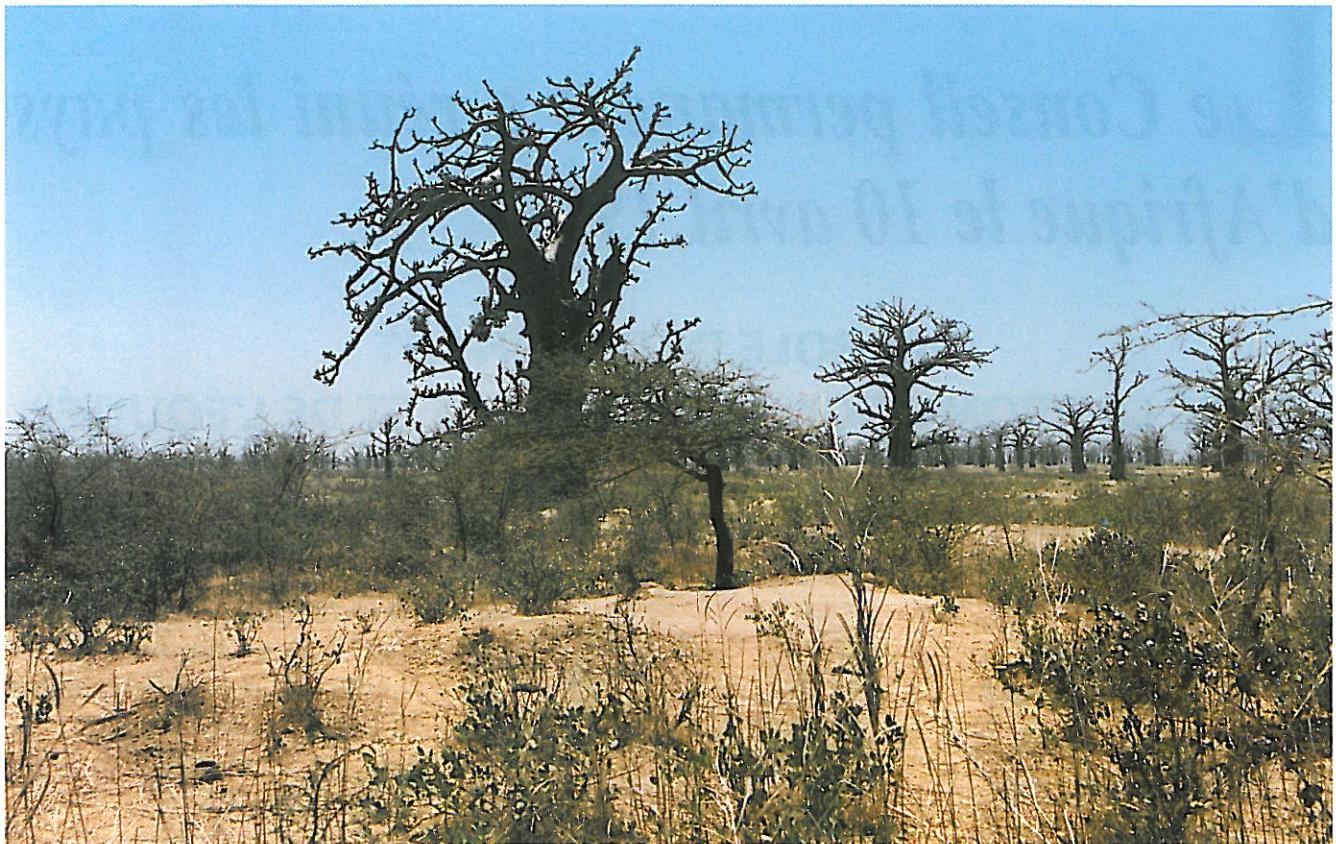
Several delegations of bailiffs from Africa, as well as a representative of the International Union and that organization's President, Mr Jacques ISNARD, attended the colloquium. The conference had the merit of dealing with the gamut of the topics chosen, including sequestering and seizure of assets procedures and the seizure of corporate shares and securities.

African colleagues and members of the International Union dealt with the enforcement of affirmative obligations in a particularly complete and didactic fashion, in the same manner as the above-cited themes concerning the law on payment instruments within the U.M.O.A.

President BERTAUX, representative of the French National Court, gave a presentation on ethics that was especially well-received, and Mr DIAKHATE and Mr SAMB,



Aloyse NDONG, Judicial Officer to Dakar • Huissier de Justice à Dakar



The baobab forest • Forêt de baobabs

Judges of the Dakar Regional Court, developed the themes of nullity of pleadings in real estate foreclosures.

These extremely practical matters were the subjects of an especially enriching debate among the lawyers and speakers present at the colloquium.

Before the discussion of topics, Mrs Yacine SENE, Chairman of the Order of Senegalese Bailiffs and permanent Secretary of the International Union for Black Africa, welcomed the various delegations and guests, the

most distinguished of which was Mr SECK, Cabinet Director of the Senegalese Ministry of Justice.

Mr Jacques ISNARD, Chairman of the International Union of Bailiffs and Judiciary Officials, once again expressed his great pleasure at coming to Africa at the head of a delegation of the International Union to share the experience of proceedings enforcement practices in effect in France for ten years now. He stated that it would be a good thing to perpetuate this type of manifestly beneficial colloquium.

In his address, Mr Mohammed SECK highlighted the determinant role of bailiffs in conflict resolution, stressing the efficiency of their action as auxiliaries to the judicial process.

After having officially declared the Dakar colloquium open, the Cabinet Director expressed his hope for the success of the working session. He stated also that an exhaustive report of the session would be presented at the Permanent Council next November in Paris.

Le Conseil permanent a réuni les pays d'Afrique le 10 avril 1999

"UN ROLE DÉTERMINANT DANS LA PROMOTION DE LA JUSTICE ET DE L'ÉQUITÉ"

C'est au travers de ce titre que le quotidien tunisien "La Presse" informait ses lecteurs de la tenue à Tunis, le 10 avril dernier, du Conseil Permanent de l'Union Internationale des Huissiers de Justice et Officiers Judiciaires.

Présidé par M. Abdallah KALLAL, Ministre de la Justice de Tunisie, ce Conseil Permanent a réuni la plupart des pays africains, membres de l'Union Internationale, au cours duquel le représentant de la Chancellerie tunisienne a rappelé l'importance du rôle des Huissiers de Justice en Tunisie à un moment où cet Etat d'Afrique du Nord réfléchit à l'amélioration et à la restructuration de l'Administration Judiciaire pour la rendre plus proche des citoyens.



*M. Abdallah KALLAL,
Ministre de la Justice de Tunisie
Minister of Justice of Tunisia*

M. le Ministre se faisant le porte-parole du Président BEN ALI, devait affirmer la place essentielle qu'occupent dans toute société équilibrée les huissiers de justice par les fonctions qu'ils occupent, à la fois modératrices et déterminées dans la volonté de poursuivre l'œuvre du Juge.

Avant cela, le Président CHETOUI, devait souhaiter la bienvenue à l'ensemble

des délégations et dire combien l'Association des Huissiers de Justice de Tunisie était fière et heureuse d'accueillir le Conseil Permanent en raison du rayonnement de plus en plus important de cette organisation.

Le Président ISNARD à son tour devait, au nom du Comité Exécutif et de l'ensemble des délégations, remercier nos collègues Tunisiens pour la qualité de l'accueil et leur sens de l'hospitalité.

Une fois que M. le Ministre eut déclaré ouvert les travaux, la parole fut donnée aux différents secrétaires et délégués permanents pour leur rapport d'activité.

Ainsi, Me SENE devait en substance faire le compte-rendu des différentes manifestations qui se sont tenues tant au BURKINA-FASO qu'au SENEGAL, dont le thème récurrent est le Traité de l'OHADA et l'adaptation des

confrères africains à l'acte uniforme. Me SENE devait remercier les délégations de l'Union Internationale et de la Chambre Nationale Française qui se sont investies pour faire bénéficier les confrères africains de leurs connaissances en matière de voies d'exécution. D'ailleurs, un projet est actuellement à l'étude tendant à créer, sous une forme à définir et à l'instar de ce qui existe en France, une Ecole Nationale de Procédure.

Profitant de ce thème qui lui tient particulièrement à cœur, le Président ISNARD devait réaffirmer que l'élévation de la profession passe inévitablement par une formation de qualité et que le Traité de l'OHADA est une occasion extraordinaire, d'une part, de participer à cette évolution et, d'autre part, pour les huissiers de justice de se positionner de manière durable sur l'échiquier judiciaire d'un pays particulière-



President CHETOUI awards the medal of the Tunisian Judicial Officers to Mr Jacques ISNARD with, at left, Mr BEN AYED, General Inspector, and, at right, Mr LEDJMI, Assistant public prosecutor

Le Président CHETOUI remet la médaille des Huissiers de Justice Tunisiens à Maître Jacques ISNARD, avec, à gauche, M. BEN AYED, Inspecteur général, et, à droite, M. LEDJMI, Avocat général

ment en matière de voies d'exécution.

Me FOURIE devait, quant à lui, faire état de ses déplacements au MALAWI, en OUGANDA et au KENYA et dire combien il fut sensible à l'accueil qui lui a été réservé par les autorités locales.

Les discussions préparatoires ont été menées afin de présenter notre organisation et tenter de sensibiliser les interlocuteurs sur l'intérêt qui est le leur d'intégrer l'Union Internationale.

Là, également, une proposition a été faite au travers d'un organisme dénommé SADEC pour faire bénéficier les pays d'AFrique Australe d'une formation sur le modèle de ce qui est entrepris pour l'OHADA.

Puis l'ensemble des chefs de délégation devait présenter le rapport d'activité. Tout d'abord, Me DEMBELE pour le MALI, après avoir remercié le Président CHETOUI pour son accueil, devait préciser



Me ISNARD s'entretient avec M. BOURAS, Premier Président de la Cour de Cassation • Me ISNARD is conversing with Mr BOURAS, First Presiding Judge of Supreme Court of Appeal



De gauche à droite : Me DEMBELE du Mali, Me HECTOR, Secrétaire de l'UIHJ, et Me N'ZENGUE, Président de la Chambre Nationale du Gabon

Left to right : Me DEMBELE, Mali, Me HECTOR, Secretary of IUJO, and Me N'ZENGUE, President of National Chamber of Gabon

que, dans son pays, la formation se poursuit sur les textes de l'OHADA suite au séminaire tenu à BAMAKO qui fut un véritable succès.

Dans le prolongement de cette manifestation, le Ministère Malien de la Justice a invité les professionnels à lui faire part des observations qu'appelle ce texte, notamment s'agissant des difficultés d'application. Le Président Malien s'est dit confiant et déterminé dans la poursuite de la tâche entreprise.

Le Président N'ZENGUE pour le GABON, après avoir également remercié la délégation tunisienne, a informé les participants de l'organisation en janvier et février derniers d'un séminaire sur l'OHADA

avec la participation des autorités judiciaire et financière de son pays. D'autre part, une visite est prévue en GUINÉE EQUATORIALE afin de rencontrer les huissiers de justice de ce pays. Enfin, le Président N'ZENGUE a confirmé la tenue d'un séminaire fin Août-début Septembre à LIBREVILLE dont le thème est encore l'OHADA.

Le Président FOURIE pour l'AFRIQUE DU SUD devait ensuite faire part à l'assistance de ce que la loi sur les huissiers de justice dans son pays a changé. Une négociation est conduite avec le Gouvernement pour bénéficier d'un statut autonome et indépendant. Actuellement, soixante shérifs bénéficient de ce statut particulier.

Pour le MAROC, le Président FOUGANNI devait faire état des difficultés rencontrées par son pays, notamment dans le cadre de la reconnaissance d'une profession libérale et indépendante par l'autorité de tutelle. Une réforme de la profession s'impose compte-tenu de son obsolescence. Pour l'instant, les autorités ne se sont pas montrées réceptrices à ces revendications, ce qui conduit les confrères marocains à se débattre avec des problèmes matériels notamment.

Le Président Algérien SAÏDI devait faire une sorte de genèse de la profession depuis l'indépendance de l'Algérie en 1962 à une époque où la profession était libérale, et ce jusqu'en 1989 où une loi a promulgué la profession indépendante des Huissiers de Justice algériens. Il a également fait un exposé complet et particulièrement intéressant de l'évolution de la profession laquelle, malgré les événements douloureux qui ravagent le pays, est une profession reconnue pour son efficacité et son intégrité.

Le Président CHETOUI pour la Tunisie devait déclarer que les huissiers de justice tunisiens sont heureux d'accueillir dans leurs rangs de jeunes diplômés qui contribuent à catalyser l'image de la profession et à la rendre plus dynamique. Cette pro-

fession intéresse de nombreux étudiants mais le concours d'entrée est particulièrement sélectif puisque, sur 1800 candidats, 36 seulement ont été reçus.

Le Président CHETOUI devait également donner des explications sur l'écharpe qu'il arborait et qui constitue le signe de reconnaissance des huissiers de justice au même titre que la robe pour l'avocat et le juge. Il a indiqué également avoir établi différents contacts tant avec la LYBIE qu'avec la MAURITANIE dont il ne manquera pas de communiquer les résultats à l'occasion de prochaines rencontres.

Enfin, le Président CHETOUI a informé l'assistance de la tenue du congrès de sa profession le 16 avril.

Ensuite, Me CLAES devait expliquer les raisons qui motivent l'Union Internationale à figurer au nombre des ONG à l'ONU.

Le Président ISNARD devait faire le point des actions menées au plan international, notamment avec les pays d'AFRIQUE DU SUD.

En clôture de cette journée fournie, l'Union Internationale devait enregistrer la candidature de l'EGYPTE comme membre observateur. Le Président égyptien, à cette occasion, devait faire un discours qui fut particulièrement apprécié et répondre aux nombreuses questions que l'assistance se posait sur les aspects particuliers de la profession en Egypte.

Suivirent les discours de clôture des Présidents CHETOUI et ISNARD. Rendez-vous fut donné à l'ensemble des délégations à PARIS, en Novembre prochain, pour le Conseil Permanent Plénier.

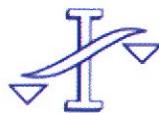
The permanent council of Tunisia brings together the African Countries on April 10, 1999

"A LEADING ROLE IN THE PROMOTION OF JUSTICE AND OF EQUITY"



Left to right : Mr KALLAL, Minister of Justice and Mr ISNARD, President of IUJO

De gauche à droite : M. KALLAL, Ministre de la Justice de Tunisie, et Me ISNARD, Président de l'UIHJ



It is under this heading that the Tunisian newspaper "La Presse" informed its readers of the meeting of the Permanent Council of the International Union of Judicial and Judiciary Officers, held in TUNIS on April 10, 1999.

Chaired by Mr Abdallah KALLAL, Tunisian Minister of Justice, this Permanent Council did gather under its umbrella most of the African maritime nation members of the International Union in a meeting during which the representative of the Chancery of Tunisia re-iterated the importance of the role played by Judicial Officers in Tunisia at a moment when this NORTH AFRICAN State is considering the improve-

ment and the restructuring of the Judicial Administration in order to bring it closer to its citizens.

The Minister, in his capacity of spokesman for President BEN ALI, affirmed the essential place occupied in every balanced society by the Judicial Officers, by virtue of their assigned functions at the same time mediatory and made committed to the carrying out of the decrees of justice.

Prior to that, President CHETOUI welcomed the assembly of delegates by acknowledging the pride and privilege of the Association of Judicial Officers of Tunisia to be able to receive the Permanent Council because of this organisation expanding influence.

In his turn, President ISNARD chose to thank our

Tunisian colleagues in the name of the Executive Committee and the assembled delegates for the warm welcome and for their hospitality.

Once the Minister had declared the meeting in session, the different secretaries and permanent delegates took to the podium to report on their activities.

Thus, Mrs SENE in substance gave his account of the kinds of different meetings that were held in Burkina Faso as well as in Senegal, and whose common recurring theme was the treaty of Ohada and the resolution by African colleagues to adapt themselves to the uniformity of the act. Mrs SENE thanked the delegates of the International Union and of the French National Chamber who made an extra effort to give their African colleagues the benefit of their experience and knowledge in matters of enforcement. In fact, a project is currently underway considering the establishment of a National School of Juridical Procedure, under a form still to be defined and following the example of what is already in existence in France.

Carrying forward this theme particularly close to his heart, President ISNARD reaffirmed that raising the level of the profession passes inevita-



Left to right : Mr ISNARD, Mr BOURAS, Mr Mohamed LEDJMI, Assistant public prosecutor, and Mr MANSSI , President of Egyptians Judicials Officers

De gauche à droite : Me ISNARD, M. BOURAS, M. LEDJMI, Avocat Général, et M. MANSSI, Président des Huissiers de justice Egyptiens



bly through the experience of quality training and that the treatise of Ohada presents an extra-ordinary opportunity, on the one hand to be part of this evolution and, on the other, for the Judicial Officers to secure for themselves a lasting position on a nation's judiciary chessboard, particularly in the matter of avenues of enforcement.

Mr FOURIE, for his part, gave an account of his travels in Malawi, Uganda and in Kenya where he greatly enjoyed the welcome that was accorded to him by the local authorities.

Preliminary discussions were then held in order to present our organisation and try to make interlocutors sensitive to the importance of their joining the International Union.

In the course of these discussions, a proposal was put forward through an organ called SADEC to have the countries of Southern Africa benefit from a training program based on the model undertaken for Ohada.

Following, the heads of the delegations presented the reports on their activities.

First, Me DEMBELE spoke for Mali. After thanking President CHETOUI for his welcome, he explained how, in his



Left to right : Mr MANSSI, President of Egyptian Judicial Officers, Mr CHARAF, High Judicial Officer of Egypt, and Mr HMILA, President of Regional Chamber of Monastir

De gauche à droite : M. MANSSI, President des Huissiers de Justice Egyptiens, M. CHARAF, Grand Huissier d'Egypte, et M. HMILA, Président de la Chambre Régionale de Monastir

country, training proceeds on the basis of the Ohada texts, following the truly successful seminar that was held in Bamako.

Carrying this discussion forward, the Mali Minister of Justice invited the professionals to enlighten him on the texts in question, notably where they treat problems of practical application. The Malian President declared himself confident and determined to pursue the task undertaken.

President N'ZENGUE of Gabon, after in his turn thanking the Tunisian delegation, informed the participants of last January and February's seminar about Ohada, which was honoured by the presence of judiciary and financial officers of his country. Further, a visit to Equatorial Gui-

nea is being planned in order to meet with Judicial Officers of that country. Finally, President N'ZENGUE confirmed the organisation of a seminar at the end of August in Libreville, still on the Ohada theme.

President FOURIE of South Africa informed the assembly on changes in laws bearing on the Judicial Officers of his country. Negotiations are being conducted with the government in order to be granted autonomous and independant statuts. At present, sixty sheriffs benefit from this particular status.

President FOUGANNI spoke for Morocco about the difficulties encountered in his country, notable in context of the recognition of a liberal and independant profession by the supervisory authori-



ties. There is urgent need of reform for a profession that is now quite obsolescent. At this time, the authorities have not exactly shown themselves very receptive to these demands, which has led our Moroccan colleagues to having to struggle with, notably, material problems.

The Algerian President SAÏDI embarked on a kind of genesis of the profession as of the date of Algerian independence in 1962, at a time when the profession was liberal, and up to 1989 when a law was promulgated to declare the independent profession of Algerian Judicial Officers. President SAÏDI made a complete and particularly interesting report about the evolution of the profession which, in spite of the painful events that ravage the country, is

one recognised for this efficiency and integrity.

The Tunisian President, Mr CHETOUI, stated that the Tunisian Judicial Officers were happy to welcome to their ranks young graduates who contribute to catalyse the image of the profession and to lend it a more dynamic image. This profession is interest to many student but the admission tests are particularly selective. This is demonstrated by the fact out of 1800 candidates, only 36 were accepted.

President CHETOUI also explained about the scarf he was wearing and which represented a symbol of recognition for the Judicial Officers, in the same way barristers of judges wear their robes. He continued by advi-

sing the assembly that he had established various contacts with Libya as well as with Mauritania and would not fail to report on the results during one of the future meetings.

In closing, President CHETOUI informed the assembly of the conference of the profession to be held on April 16, the coming year.

Next came Mr CLAES explained the International Union's motivations to be one of the ONG at ONU (Organisation of the United Nations).

President ISNARD then gave an account of the various activities on the international plane, especially with the countries of Southern Africa.

At the closure of this full day, the International Union registered the candidacy of EGYPT as auditing member. The Egyptian President then took the floor with an account that was particularly appreciated and answered the many questions which the assembly had regarding particular aspects of the profession in Egypt.

The closing address was delivered by Presidents CHETOUI and ISNARD and the assembly of delegates were given rendez-vous in Paris for this coming November at the meeting of the Pleinary Permanent Council. ■



Left to right : Mr MANSSI, President of Egyptian Judicial Officers, and Mr CHARAF, High Judicial Officer of Egypt (Gysee)

De gauche à droite : Mr MANSSI, Président des Huissiers de Justice Egyptiens, et M. CHARAF, Grand Huissier d'Egypte (Gysée)