

CNGP in CAR inaugurates internet connection

The mission which we carry out in the various countries of the CEMAC sub-region is aimed at equipping the expert members of the CPAC/CAR with computer equipment, internet connection and initiating interconnections to the CPAC network.

The overall objective is to enable the CPAC community to work not only in close cooperation, but in real-time to find rapid solutions aimed at stabilizing agricultural production and protecting the environment.

It should be noted that on account of the importance of this mission for the authorities of host countries, we spend at least a day going through administrative procedures with a view to putting in place the reception process by the highest authorities.

1. Mission of Bangui, CAR from 2 to 6 March 2009

We were received at the Bangui Me pokou airport on 2 March 2009 by Mrs. Brahim Marie-Honorine the focal point who led us directly to a hotel of the place where we spent our entire stay.

Shortly after our arrival, i.e. on 03/02/2009 we went to the Ministry for Agriculture where we handed the computer equipment for work to begin while indicating our presence to the authorities in place. There was a problem related to the reception of the equipment by the authorities. In absence of the Minister that day, we held a meeting with the acting DIRCAB, Mr. BISSEFI Michel in the presence of his close collaborators namely the person in charge of special duties as regards agriculture (CMA) Mr. GOTHAR-BASSEBE Ernest, the Director General of the Administrative, Agricultural and Human Resources support scheme (DGAAARH) Mr. LIGANZI Constant, Director General of Studies and Follow-up Planning, Mr. NGOUBOU Mathieu. Other persons present include expert members of CPAC Mr. BRAHIM, Messrs MBORHOUL and OUMAR OUSMAN for purposes of making clarifications.

After brief greetings and introduction of the members of the teams in place, we proceeded to a reminder of the objective of our mission to Bangui. Following this, we made an appointment the next day for an official handing-over ceremony of the equipment in the presence of the Minister.

Arrival of the Minister and handing-over of the equipment

Bangui, 05/03/2009, the time is 10 a.m. in the conference room of the Ministry, in addition to the authorities mentioned above, we noticed the presence of journalists of the national radio and television, press bodies. At 10:30 a.m., it is time for the solemn arrival of the Minister of Rural Development and Agriculture, H.E. NGAOUANEDJIKA Fidèle and the Minister Delegate to the Minister for Rural Development and Agriculture in charge of Livestock breeding and Animal Health H.E. YOUSOUFA Yérïma Mandjo.

The Minister took the floor simply to open the meeting and to hand it to whom it may concern. The focal point of CPAC for CAR Mrs. BRAHIM thus took the floor to briefly present CPAC, its missions and objectives, the CNGP. Following this presentation, Mr. Serge LIALE, official in charge of ICT at CPAC then took the floor to thank all the authorities who have spared no efforts in pursuing their objectives in the various CPAC missions in Bangui. He also thanked the Ministers for their effective presence in the handing-over of the equipment and finally he presented the objective of the mission, described and presented the equipment to be deployed in the offices of experts.

The honourable Minister took the floor last to thank all the delegations, congratulate and encourage CPAC, came back on the letter initiated by CPAC/experts related to the equipping of their offices with a telephone line. To this end, he promised that the issue will be resolved within 72 hours.

As soon as we were through with that, we proceeded to the handing-over of the equipment in the hands of the Minister followed by the taking of photographs, radio and television interviews. It should be noted that this rather simple and very important ceremony was broadcast on the 8 p.m. television news (telecentrafic) in French and in Sango (local language) and broadcast the whole day on national radio.

Installation of the equipment

After this handing-over of the equipment, they were conveyed to the experts' room where we proceeded to its complete installation.

With regard to the internet connection, we had wanted to put in place a temporary solution while waiting that the letter sent the Ministry, through letters sent to the various actors (SOCATEL, Ministry of Finance, etc.) would follow the procedure and lead to a final solution, but we came up against, when we were seeking a temporary solution, problems of shortage of internet connection devices. We went respectively to:

- **SOCATEL** for the internet connection by ADSL, not only did we have to pay the installation expenses of a phone line before they send a technician to do an assessment of the current situation before taking installations measures (several days), but the installation procedure for internet connection could only be done after the phone line must have been installed and even then they were out of MODEM stock;
- **ORANGE** for access by USB key, the solution was still under experimentation;
- **MOOV** for access by USB key, the keys had not been available for two months.

After all is said and done, our missions to Bangui-CAR enabled us to install all the physical equipment, train a few persons on the use of the multifunction printer, etc. for internet connection, we took financial measures so that after installation of a telephone line in their office, they can buy a (tele) phone, pay the internet connection expenses and a month of consumption with SOCALTEL

LIALE

Serge

Officer in charge of ICT