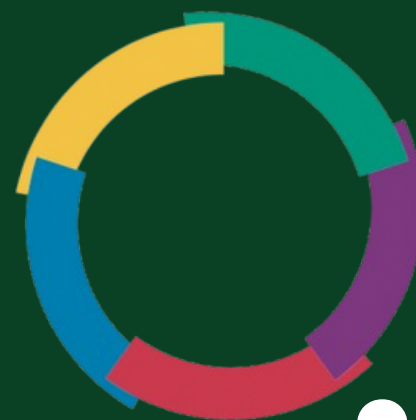




NURU INSIGHTS

Today, Nuru takes a closer look at the

XIXth Francophonie Summit



The Summit

Between October 4th and october 6th, **88 head of States and Government** gathered in **France Villers-Cotterêts**, **19th** host for the **biggest event** of the Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie (OIF).



**“CREATE, INNOVATE
AND UNDERTAKE IN
FRENCH”**

This Summit takes place every **two years** and aims to have all members to reaffirm cooperation over the **pillar values** of the OIF and take decisions on important matters such as the candidacies for new members.



What is the OIF ?

The **Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie (OIF)** is an international institution that promotes **cooperation** among **French-speaking countries** and regions. Established in **1970**, its primary mission is to **foster the French language** and **cultural diversity**, while supporting **peace, democracy, human rights, and sustainable development** across its **now 93 member states and governments**. The OIF also encourages **economic cooperation, education, and technological advancement** within the Francophone world. While the organisation always focused on the **cultural field**, it recently decided to have a **political “mission”** and to **widen its influence**.

FOUNDING FATHERS



Habib Bourguiba



Hamani Diori



Leopold Sedar Senghor



Norodom Sihanouk

An African organisation ?

Over the **93** member states and governments, **28** are from Africa, which makes Africa the most represented continent in the organisation.

More than **50%** of french-speakers are in Africa and estimations establish that **85%** of french-speakers will be in **Africa** in **2050**.



Even though they are historically and on their governance and objectives very different, **the influence over the African continent** of the **OIF** can be compared to the **Commonwealth** (ex-British colonies). The OIF gives an **entrance door** to a huge part of African countries' diplomacy for the rest of the world, more than any other international instance.

New adhesions

A growing appeal of the OIF ?

Several states and governments **submitted requests** for **membership** or **changes** to their status during this Summit.



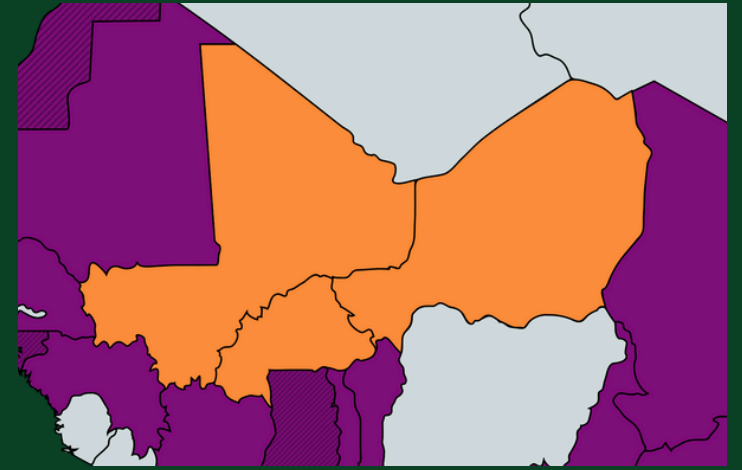
Among the new **observers** is **Angola**, a portuguese speaking country having a **major diplomatic role in central Africa**. It is the last African portuguese speaking country to join the organisation. Additionally, **Ghana** saw its status evolve to become **full member**.



Secretary General, Louise Mushikiwabo, shaking Felix Tschisekedi's hand, President of DRC. Behind, the host of the Summit, President Emmanuel Macron and wife, Brigitte Macron.

The OIF is seeing **growing interest** from **non-Francophone** countries, drawn by the opportunities it offers in international cooperation and cultural diplomacy. Membership in the OIF allows these nations to **strengthen their ties** with a **global network**, benefit from **development aid programs**, and participate in initiatives promoting democracy and education. This expansion reflects a **strategic move** by some states to **broaden their partnerships** while joining an organisation whose influence now extends **beyond just linguistic connections**.

Ruptures of democracy



Democracy is a **core pillar** of the OIF, and all member states **commit to upholding its principles**. Any **breach of democratic order**, such as an **unconstitutional seizure of power**, leads to sanctions from the organization involving **suspending the country from OIF bodies** and cooperation programs.

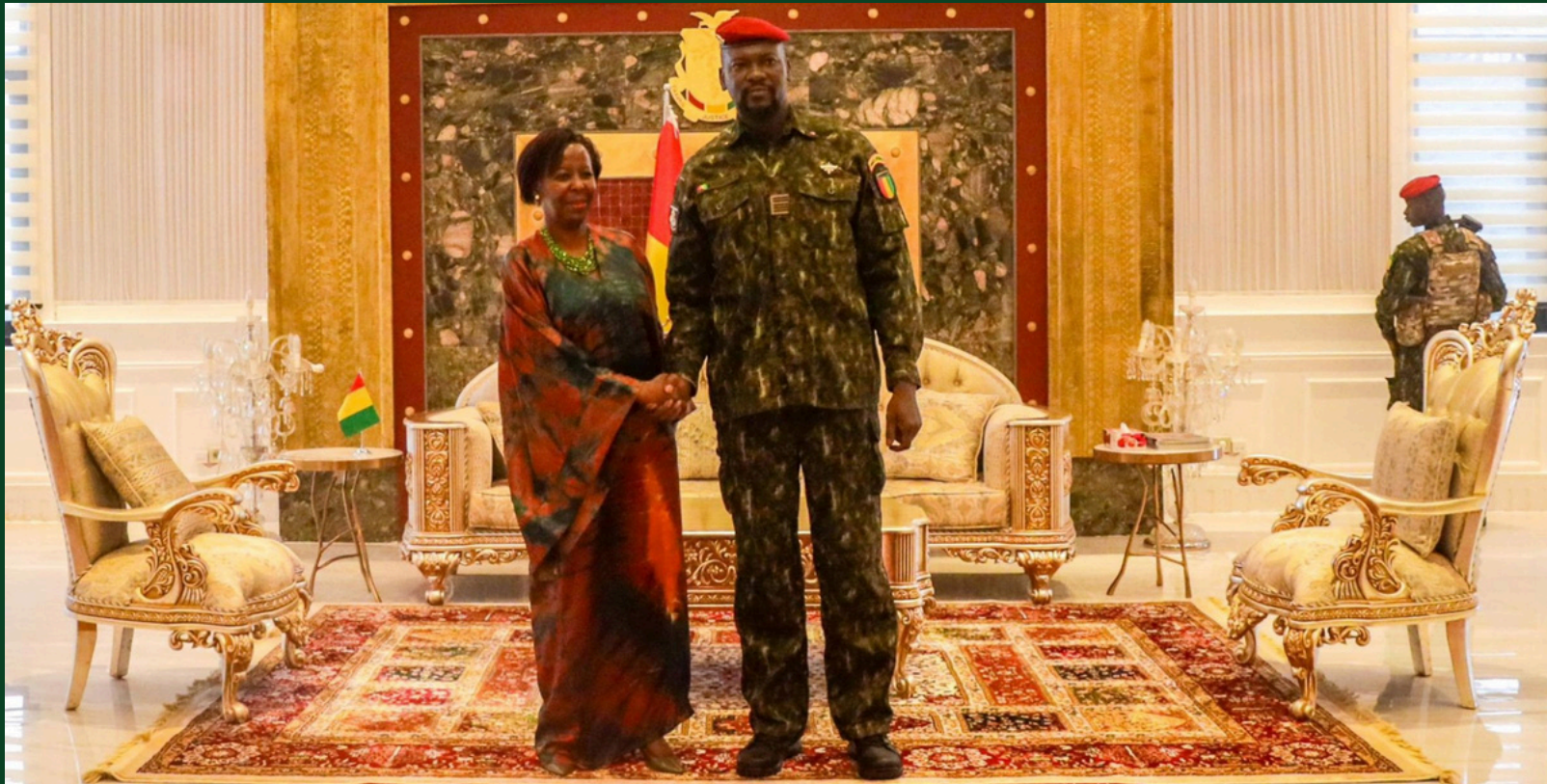
“UNDER THE MEASURES OUTLINED IN PARAGRAPH 3 OF CHAPTER 5 OF THE BAMAKO DECLARATION.”

Constitutive text of the OIF.



This is how **Mali, Niger, and Burkina Faso**, which have recently experienced coups, are suspended. However, questions of **double standards** arise when we see that a country like **Gabon** was not suspended despite the military coup in August 2023.

Guinea's reintegration



Secretary General, Louise Mushikiwabo met Transition President Mamady Doumbouya in January 2024

Guinea, which experienced a coup in **September 2021**, was also suspended, but the evolution of this sanction was one of the topics discussed at the 19th Summit. A new **monitoring and evaluation mechanism** was introduced, “aimed at gradually restoring the participation of suspended states.” OIF member states met with officials from the transitional government to acknowledge the efforts made towards **restoring constitutional order**. This mechanism could be used on the other countries in the future.