

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

**REPUBLIC OF MALI
ONE PEOPLE-ONE GOAL- ONE FAITH**

DIRECTION OF POLITICAL AFFAIRS

**Conclusion of the debates in the thematic group V: Regional Organization,
Promoting Democracy and Responding to National and Transnational Threats to
Democracy. Santiago, Chile, April 29, 2005.**

Ladies and Gentlemen,

We have concluded this roundtable dedicated to the issue of the role of the regional organizations in the frame of the promotion and consolidation of democracy and enforcement of capabilities of their organizations with the purpose of allowing them to face the threats of democracy.

The interactive discussions within our panel were extremely fruitful. They have allowed us to exchange very rich points of view that will not cease to nourish the thought in the regional organizations' mission.

How can the organizations and the regional mechanisms promote, contribute and consolidate democracy and improve the democratic practices?

In this matter, the participants have shared the experiences of the different regions, in particular, the experience of the African Union, the CEDEAO, the European Union, the Arab World, Latin America, the ASEAN and the rest of Asia.

The participants recognized the crucial role that the regional organizations play in framing the consolidation of democratic institutions, good governance and the promotion of the principles that sustain them.

Our roundtable focused over all on the threats and attacks on democracy, highlighting the unconstitutional changes of government, the non-respect of the rule of State and the democratic principles.

The participants underlined the importance maintaining free and democratic elections and the creation of the necessary conditions for the broad participation of the population in political and economic life.

The struggle against poverty is an important dimension of the consolidating process of democracy. To this regard, the initiative of creating a fund to fight poverty and help the democratic process maintained the attention of the roundtable.

The attention was placed likewise, on the need of establish close cooperation among the different organizations.

A sustained care was agreed upon the role of civil society and NGOs which will, is synergy with the governments, contribute to the promotion of democracy reinforcing the respect and the protection of human rights and the fundamental liberties.

It was encouraging to see that all the participants of this roundtable are unanimous in recognizing that its necessary to act in order to promote democracy and consolidate the processes and work towards the consolidation of peace, stability and security all over the world.

Ladies and Gentlemen

After this brief synthesis of the discussion that we held in our panel, I'd like to thank all the participants of this round table and at the same time, address our profound gratitude to the Chilean authorities for their hospitality and the excellent dispositions in place, in order to insure the success of our encounter.

In this matter, I declared closed the works of Panel V, dedicated to the regional panels: Promoting Democracy and Responding to Threats to Democracy.

I thank you for kind attention