

ASA TREASURER

In keeping with its decision of May 7, 1988, the Board of Directors of the African Studies Association will elect a Treasurer of the Association at its October 31, 1988 meeting. Candidates are sought for the position.

The Treasurer of the African Studies Association will be elected to a five-year term beginning November 1, 1988. S/he will oversee the financial operations of the secretariat and exercise effective financial control, including an annual on-site review and consultation with the Executive Secretary, staff, institutional host, and accountants. The Treasurer will review the annual budget and make recommendations to the Board on initiatives and policies concerning revenues and expenditures of the Association. S/he will attend meetings of the Board and of its Finance Committee as an *ex officio* member. The Treasurer will receive no compensation for her/his services, but will be reimbursed travel and per diem while carrying out official responsibilities.

Qualifications for the position of Treasurer include a background in African studies and appropriate business experience. Persons who wish to be considered are asked to submit a letter of application to: The Finance Committee, African Studies Association, Credit Union Building, Emory University, Atlanta, GA 30322, no later than September 15, 1988.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

World Food Day Teleconference on "Global Food Security: Focus on Africa." Planning is underway for the fifth annual World Food Day Teleconference on October 17, 1988. Provided free of charge by the National Committee for World Food Day, this "North American Town Meeting" on farm/food/hunger/health issues features presentations by international experts, programs at hundreds of sites across the country (often integrated with curriculum) and a live call-in. The teleconference is primarily a campus-based event, but has wide participation by hospitals and community groups involved in agriculture, emergency food programs, nutrition information, and hunger alleviation. Continuing education credits for teleconference participation are offered in several disciplines.

The program will be broadcast live from the studios of George Washington University in Washington, DC, October 17, from noon to 3:00 pm, Eastern Time. There are no restrictions on videotaping.

The theme of the teleconference will be "Global Food Security: Focus on Africa." Panelists from Africa and the US will discuss this theme from their regional and personal perspectives, including policy implications for national governments, foreign aid donors and the international community. Such areas as trade, aid and debt, food security,

interdependence, hunger alleviation and social justice will be covered. These issues will also be included in the 1988 World Food Day Study/Action Packet of curriculum materials for college level or adult use. Single, reproducible copies of the Packet, which can be used independently or as background for the teleconference will be available free of charge from the National Committee office. For additional information on the World Food Day Teleconference or other World Food Day resources, please contact Patricia Young, National Coordinator, National Committee for World Food Day, 1001 22nd Street, NW, Washington, DC 20437, telephone (202) 653-2404.

CODE, the Canadian Organization for Development through Education, founded in 1959, is a volunteer-based non-profit organization which supports literacy and education in the Third World. We collect books and other educational supplies to ship, free of cost, to our recipients overseas. Material related to all aspects of African Studies—books, journals, monographs—and to both undergraduate and graduate programs is most welcome.

CODE Program Countries in Africa include: Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros Islands, Congo, Ethiopia, Equatorial Guinea, The Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mozambique, Niger, Rwanda, Sao Tome et Principe, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sudan, Swaziland, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda, Zambia, Zaire, Zimbabwe.

For more information, please contact: Gloria Reinbergs, Book Program Coordinator, CODE, 2535 Gerrard St. East, Scarborough, Ontario, Canada, M1N 1W9, telephone (416) 690-2863.

African Books Collective is a new initiative to promote African publications in Europe and North America. It has 16 founding members and a number of smaller publishers will use the services of the Collective on an occasional user basis. Its objectives are to address a long perceived need by African publishers to improve the free flow of communication through published material to, in particular, Europe and North America. ABC will ensure that African publications become more easily available to libraries and other book buyers. It will enhance the economic base of African publishers by substantially increasing their export sales, encouraging greater activity and independence and thus encourage major African writers and scholars to publish with African, rather than overseas publishers, since international dissemination and availability of their work will be assured. These objectives will promote African publishers and their authors on a basis of equality with their colleagues overseas.

The unique nature of the Collective is that it will be *non-profit making* on its own behalf. It will seek to be profit making on behalf of its constituent members only; and the organization as such will only aim to cover its costs. In this way publishers' foreign sales earnings will be substantially higher than obtains with conventional commercial distributors. A small permanent office and warehouse will be established in the UK. It will produce a wide range of joint lists and catalogues and provide centralized order fulfillment, billing and shipping.

African Books Collective has been carefully planned for over two years, and sufficient funding is now in prospect to start on a small scale, increasing as further funds permit. Members, through their work and remittance of membership fees, have demonstrated the self-help nature of the initiative, and have decided that business should begin, building up to the full scale of operations envisaged. Meanwhile, two major library groups have formally endorsed and welcomed ABC: the UK-based Standing Conference on Library Materials on Africa (SCOLMA), and the Archives and Libraries Committee of the African Studies Association.

COPAHISO (Committee for the Publication of African Historical Sources) is pleased to announce the funding of its first seven text and translation projects through a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities. They include: 1) a volume of 67 land charters and other public documents in Arabic from eighteenth-century Sinnar (Jay Spaulding); 2) the second volume of the autobiography of Haile Sellassie, in Amharic, covering the war years from 1936 to 1942 (Gröver Hudson and Harold Marcus); 3) A compendium of political dialogue in Swahili verse concerning the war of 1807-1812 between Lamu and Pate/Mombasa (Ann Biersteker); 4) a volume of Yoruba *oriki* poetry (Kristin Mann); 5) a guide for the use of the Arabic records of the Emir of Kano's judicial council 1910-1966, with selected translations of court records (Allan Christelow); 6) a collection of Jula oral narratives from Bobo-Dioulasso documenting the cultural interactions between the Mande and Voltaic-speaking worlds in an urban setting (Eren Giray); and 7) a comprehensive index and an edition and translation of significant portions of the monumental unpublished *Kitab al-Akhbar* of the Mauretanian scholar Haroun ould Sidia (Charles Stewart).

Archives-Libraries Committee of the ASA will hold its fall meeting at the McCormick Center Hotel, Chicago, Illinois, October 28-31, 1988. The meeting agenda and room and time designations will appear in the *Africana Libraries Newsletter*. For further information contact Mary Alice Kraehe (Chairperson), Collection Development Department, Alderman Library, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA 22903. Phone: (804) 924-4989.

The ASA became a member of CAFLIS in May 1988. **CAFLIS, the Coalition for the Advancement of Foreign Languages and International Studies**, was founded to serve as a forum for debate and dialogue and to develop consensus on how we in the United States can enhance our international capabilities.

During the next two years CAFLIS will use two principal mechanisms to provide a forum for debate. First, through the annual and regular meetings of member associations, it will facilitate discussions of constituent-specific issues and concerns. By co-sponsoring regional workshops and seminars it will be able to bring into the process the views of different groups around the country.

CAFLIS requests members' comments on basic questions identified as an initial framework for debate:

- why is our nation so disinclined to study foreign languages and learn about other nations' cultures and histories?

- what are the obstacles to our becoming more fluent in foreign languages, more knowledgeable of international affairs?

- what are the programmatic needs and gaps at the elementary, secondary, and tertiary levels?

- how effective has the federal government been in promoting these fields?

- what arrangements at the federal level will best meet the short and long term national needs for language competence, for widespread understanding of international issues, and for professional expertise in international and area studies?

Some CAFLIS members advocate the creation of a new entity, a National Foundation for International Studies, which would address certain needs:

- for better coordination and integration of efforts at the federal level, in order to avoid redundancies and gaps,

- for a more permanent commitment on the part of the federal government to support and promote foreign languages and international studies,

- and for stable and adequate funding in order to protect programs from political changes.

CAFLIS asks member organizations to discuss these issues internally and will welcome the responses of its constituencies. Please address your comments to the ASA secretariat which will forward them to CAFLIS.



NEW PUBLICATIONS

The African Section of the Library of Congress has published **Japanese-African Relations: A Selected List of References** compiled by Beverly Ann Gray and Angel Batiste. The bibliography includes: (1) selected government documents, books, pamphlets, and periodical articles, and (2) works on Africa issued by or for the Japan International Cooperation Agency, the official body responsible for implementing technical cooperation programs with developing nations. The reference list is available free of charge from: The African Section, African and Middle Eastern Division, Library of Congress, Washington, DC 20540.

Davidson on Thirty Years of Liberation Struggle. *Africa Today* has published the text of the keynote address from the 1987 Annual Meeting of the African Studies Association, delivered by Basil Davidson on the topic, "Thirty Years of Liberation Struggle." Also printed is George Houser's ASA paper assessing Africa's liberation