Dear Colleagues:

We hope that this letter finds all of you well! As always, the APCG and its members have been active, so we have a bit a report. The International Studies Association committee has chosen and submitted two panels for the February 2010 ISA convention in New Orleans. Please see page 4 for details. Many thanks to the ISA committee for their hard work on this.

The APCG Discussion Forum, operating through Google Groups, is up and running. Currently, we have about 70 members signed on to the forum. I encourage all APCG members to sign up and make use of this to communicate with others in our group. I was actually able to use the forum recently to get information on lodging in Lusaka (which worked out brilliantly). If you would like to sign up, you may do so at: http://groups.google.com/group/discussionAPCG.

The second APSA Africa Workshop is taking place from June 21 to July 10 in Accra, Ghana on the theme, “Elections and Democracy.” Co-leaders include Kevin Fridy of the University of Tampa, Dan Smith of the University of Florida, Dr. Beatrix Allah-Mensah of the University of Ghana, Legon, and Dr. Ukoha Ukiwo of the University of Port Harcourt, Nigeria. Material on this workshop may be found at: http://www.apsanet.org/~africaworkshops/content_64553.cfm?navID=834

The 2010 Africa Workshop is expected to take place in East Africa in the summer of 2010. The APSA has issued a call for applications for workshop proposals, which may be found at the following website: http://www.apsanet.org/~africaworkshops/content_64659.cfm. The deadline for applications is October 1, 2009.
The program for the 2009 APSA meeting in Toronto is now available online at: http://www.apsanet.org/mtgs/program_2009/. We will have three APCG panels at the meeting this year. Details are provided in the current newsletter. Our business meeting has not yet been scheduled. We will send reminders and updates shortly before the meeting in September.

Our award committees are busy working on our Best Book and Best Article Awards. These will be presented at the African Studies Association meeting in New Orleans in November.

The terms of our current Vice Chair, John Clark, and Secretary, Sandra Joireman, are coming to an end in November. If you would like to nominate someone to serve as the next Vice Chair or Secretary, please contact the convener of our Nominations Committee, Lahra Smith at: ls356@georgetown.edu.

There is still time to pay your $10 annual membership dues for 2009. Please find the 2009 Membership Renewal Form attached in this newsletter.

Finally, we are still looking for a new webmaster! If you have a bit of tech savvy and would be interested in this, please contact me as soon as possible.

Kind regards,

Peter VonDoepp
APCG Chair

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From the Editor

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

I hope you are doing well. It is encouraging to see that many of you, whether you are enjoying the summer or doing field research somewhere in Africa, have taken the time to send your personal news or general information to our members. Please keep up the great work.

Thanks to your efforts, I am able to release this APCG 19th newsletter. I would like to thank those who contributed to it and reiterate my invitation to all of us to take advantage of the newsletter. We are several hundreds members and the newsletter is a formidable advertisement tool for your publications, for sharing job and grant opportunities and for improved networking.

In the current newsletter, you will find the latest news about the coming APCG conferences, calls for contribution, members’ recent publications and several other events.

As usual, I would like you all to continue to e-mail me with information about publications, news, conferences, and anything else that may be of interest. The next issue will be published in September so I’ll remind you again as we approach that time to send in any material that you want to communicate to the group.

Remember, however, that one of our newsletter’s “traditions” is to announce only already-published material. Remember also that your material should be presented according to newsletter format.

Best wishes,

Mamoudou Gazibo
Newsletter Editor
Panel 1:
Title: African Leadership Roles and the Role of the Civic in a Context of Political Change
Sponsor(s): African Politics Conference Group
Chair: Bruce Magnusson, Whitman College
Disc. Carl LeVan, American University
Papers:
Richard Marcus, California State University, Long Beach
“The Ravalomanana Reforms and the Efficacy of Civic Oversight in Madagascar”
Peter A. VonDoepp, University of Vermont
“The Leadership Variable in Africa: Situating Structure and Agency in Governance Trajectories”
Mabel Brodrick-Okereke, University of Cambridge
“The Role of Women’s Civic Associations in the Conflict over oil in the Niger Delta”
Parakh Hoon, Virginia Tech
“Personalism without Neopatrimonialism: A ‘crucial case study’ of leadership and civil society in an African democracy”

Panel 2
Title: Ethnicity, Religion and Traditional Authority in African Politics (Panel Co-sponsored by Comparative Politics of Developing Countries)
Sponsor(s): African Politics Conference Group
Chair: R Keith A. Darden, Yale University
Disc. Thad Dunning, Yale University and Daniel N. Posner, University of California, Los Angeles
Papers:
Jeffrey Karl Conroy-Krutz, Columbia University
Dominika Koter, Yale University
“Social Structure and Political Mobilization”
John F. McCauley, University of California, Los Angeles
“The Political Implications of Religion and Ethnicity in Africa: a Field Experiment along the Muslim-Christian Divide”
Katharine A. Baldwin, Columbia University
“Big Men and Ballots: Results from a Survey Experiment in Zambia”

Panel 3:
Title: Democratization, State Strength and Economic Development in Sub-Saharan Africa: New Empirical and Conceptual Horizons
Sponsor: Peace Studies
Chair: Richard Joseph, Northwestern University
Disc. Richard Joseph, Northwestern University
Papers:
Carl LeVan, American University
“The Consequences of Political Inclusion: A Report from Contemporary Africa”
Scott D. Taylor, Georgetown University
“Strong States are Good for Business: Democracy, Market and State Capacity in Africa”
Mark Y. Rosenberg, UC Berkeley
“A Bayesian Model of Single-Party Dominance”
John W. Harbeson, CUNY, City College
“Toward Further Democratic Stateness in Sub-Saharan Africa: Conceptual and Empirical Challenges”
Submitted panels

Panel 1:
Title: Aspects of the State in Africa: Instability, Aid Flows, Drug Smuggling, and Xenophobia
Chair - Stephen Burgess, US Air War College
Discussant - Stephen Burgess, US Air War College
Sponsor(s): African Politics Conference Group
Abstract: The panel will examine aspects of the state in Africa, particularly in relation to aid flows, drug smuggling and xenophobia. The first paper focuses on the differences and clashes between state institutions and traditional rural institutions and the resulting conflict. The second paper deals with aid to developing African states and the importance of the orientation of those states in determining which ones receive aid. The third considers weak and failing states and vulnerabilities to transnational criminal networks. The fourth deals with problems of the state and citizenship, which have helped give rise to xenophobia in a number of African countries.

Papers:
Kidane Mengisteab, Penn State
"Clashes between formal and Informal Institutions and Instability in Africa"

Tyson Roberts, UCLA
"Liberalization, Alliances, and Official Aid Flows in Sub-Saharan Africa"

Helen Purkitt, U.S. Naval Academy
"Transnational Drug Smuggling, Weak and Weakening States in West Africa"

Beth Elise Whitaker, University of North Carolina at Charlotte
"Targeting Foreigners: Xenophobia and Politics in Africa"

Panel 2:
Title: Africa’s Wars and IR Theory
Chair - James Hentz, Virginia Military Institute
Discussant - James Hentz, Virginia Military Institute
Discussant - John Clark, Florida International University
Sponsor(s): African Politics Conference Group
Abstract: Africa is possibly the most conflict prone continent in post-Cold War era. Most, if not all, of the literature concerning its wars is grounded in comparative politics and conflict studies. This panel seeks to use international relations to build a broader theoretical foundation for explaining war in Africa.

Papers:
James Hentz, Virginia Military Institute
"War across States: A Structural Explanation for the Cause of War in Africa"

John Clark, Florida International University
"Understanding the Congo War: A Constructivist Approach"

Dan Fahey, University of California
"Rethinking the Resource Curse: The Case of Armed Conflict in the Ituri District, Democratic Republic of the Congo"

Stephen Burgess, US Air War College
"Genocide and the African Standby Force"

Robert Patman, Otago University, New Zealand
"Asymmetric Warfare and Strategic Shortfall: The Somalia Syndrome and the March to 9/11"

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND CALLS FOR PAPERS/APPLICATIONS

Call for Papers: Democratization in Africa: Retrospective and Future Prospects, University of Leeds, 04 December 2009 - 05 December 2009 | 9am - 5pm | Conference

Almost two decades have passed since the ‘third wave’ of democratization began to roll across Sub-Saharan Africa in the early 1990s, and while the holding of regular elections has become relatively well-established in many countries,
perhaps most successfully in Ghana, electoral processes have also been deeply flawed in recent instances such as Kenya, Nigeria and Zimbabwe. It is also unclear how many African states are moving closer to ‘democratic consolidation’, or instead inhabit the ‘grey zone’ between democracy and autocracy as ‘defective democracies’ or ‘electoral authoritarianism’. It is thus timely to reflect back on the relative successes and shortcomings experienced and to look forward to future prospects for democratization on the subcontinent. How does multi-party politics actually work on the subcontinent and how democratic are African ‘democracies’? Does a democratic façade merely conceal authoritarian leadership? Do results merely reflect an ethnic or religious census? Are ‘winner-takes-all’ elections and centralised governments the best frameworks for Africa, or do broad coalitions and/or federalism provide a better way forward? It is also appropriate to ask broader questions about the nature of democracy in Africa. Is democracy only seen in liberal and procedural terms and is this simply the ‘democracy of alienation’, as suggested by Claude Ake? Or are there prospects for more substantive forms of democracy that place participation and socio-economic inequalities at the centre of analysis? To what extent is democratic sovereignty a sham, with economic policy still dictated by international financial institutions and Western governments? These questions will provide the basis of a two-day conference to be held at the University of Leeds in December 2009, organised by Dr Gabrielle Lynch and Prof Gordon Crawford of the School of Politics and International Studies and the Leeds University Centre for African Studies (LUCAS). Papers are invited that address any of the above questions, including country case-studies. Accepted papers will be organised into panels, with the following themes likely to be included: Voting, Parties and Identity: Africa’s Curse? ; Multi-Party Elections and Violence: Solution or Cause? ; Decentralisation and Federalism: Effective or Failed Strategies? ; Democracy in Post-Conflict Societies: A Sensible Choice? ; Democracy & Traditional Authority: Compatible or Mutually Exclusive? ; External Agents: Facilitators or Obstructionists? ; Democracy as Second Liberation: Procedural or Substantive?

Abstracts (200-300 words) should be submitted to Dr Karen Cereso, LUCAS administrator, email: African-Studies@leeds.ac.uk. Deadline for submission of abstracts: 15 June 2009. Information on the acceptance of paper proposals will be communicated by late June 2009. Submission of full papers (7000-9000 words) by 16 November 2009. The conference organisers, Prof. Gordon Crawford and Dr. Gabrielle Lynch, intend that selected papers will be published in a journal special issue on the topic of Democratization in Africa.

Vacancy announcement: African public opinion, foreign affairs research analyst at the U.S. Department of State – office of opinion research (job announcement #inr-2009-011)

The Foreign Affairs Research Analyst (African Public Opinion) designs and implements surveys to examine current public opinion in selected African countries. Studies gauge foreign attitudes on a wide range of key issues, including democratic governance, international security, economic conditions and U.S. image. The incumbent analyzes survey and qualitative data and presents findings to policymakers throughout the Executive Branch of the U.S. Government through written reports, briefings and presentations in Washington and overseas.

Day-to-day tasks include:
- Analyzing data and writing government reports; briefing policymakers on survey and focus group findings.
- Conducting data analysis using SPSS.
- Managing all phases of public opinion research projects – designing research questions and appropriate research methodologies, contractor selection, translation of survey materials, pretesting and fieldwork.
- Attending conferences, congressional hearings, and meetings on topics related to ongoing analysis.
- Traveling to the region periodically to meet with U.S. diplomats, meet with and evaluate public opinion research facilities.
- Monitoring African public opinion through publically available research.

Jessica Piombo recruits: I recruit faculty for regional education short courses that are delivered to US Navy personnel on ships. Since the Navy has been increasing its engagement with Africa, we have gotten a lot more interest in the various regions. I’m looking for people who might be interested in participating on a team at some point in the next year, and will send more info to anyone who’s interested. Please email me at jriombo@nps.edu.

The U.S. Department of State’s Office of Opinion Research is the official pollster for the U.S. government abroad. The office supports the State Department’s mission by gauging foreign public opinion over time, increasing policymaker understanding of public and elite reaction to U.S. policy initiatives and helping public diplomacy practitioners target audiences and prioritize outreach activities. The Office is composed of survey research and area specialists who have either a Masters degree or Ph.D.
For additional information, contact Dennis Gombert, Division Chief for East Asia, Africa and the American Republics (gombertdn@state.gov). The job posting can be found on USAJobs at: http://jobview.usajobs.gov/getjob.aspx?JobID=80705395&AVSDM=2009-04-28%2022:34&Logo=0&jb=574=ST&FedEmp=N&tm=1d&sort=d&view=d&ss=0&brd=3876&FedPub=Y&caller=/agency_search.asp&SUBMIT1.x=98&SUBMIT1.y=18&rc=2&TabNum=v2
To apply, you must submit an application through the USA Jobs website.

Request for information
From David Backer Assistant Professor, Department of Government, College of William & Mary:
I have partnered with three other non-Africanist academics (Ken Kollman and Allen Hicken, University of Michigan, and Daniele Caramani, University of St. Gallens) to develop an archive of full district-level results (i.e., the votes received by each candidate or party, as well as the size of the electorate if possible, in each electoral constituency) for lower-house legislative elections conducted around the world. To date, we have managed to track down the desired information for 1500+ of 2600+ elections, across more than 170 political territories, from 1789 up to the present; my primary area of responsibility has been Africa (plus the Caribbean). Already, the historical coverage, geographic breadth and volume of data is unparalleled, but we continue to try to fill in the gaps (some are likely a lost cause or arguably moot for various reasons, though we opt to include everything regardless of the conditions of the elections).

In particular, while I have managed to assemble the largest collection of detailed results on African parliamentary elections, encompassing 160+ cases across 40 countries, we lack such data for 170+ cases across 44 countries (see the list below).

If you are in possession of, know about relevant sources or contacts for (in most instances, I have already pursued the electoral commissions, with spotty luck), or could otherwise help us to obtain any of these data— in whatever format and language—we would be most grateful for the support. I have some modest grant funds at my disposal to cover the costs of retrieval (i.e., purchase of materials, manpower, expenses), where appropriate, for a limited number of cases.

By way of further background, our basic mission is to create a public good that preserves and consolidates all of this rich information, partly as a natural history of elections (good and bad), and makes it readily available to scholars and others. The results are being posted in a freely accessible on-line reference source, the initial version of which launched last August: http://www.electiondataarchive.org

Another release is pending and subsequent releases are planned, plus we hope to update the archive on a periodic basis to add results of the latest elections. The inputs from contributors (who number several dozen to date) will be acknowledged on the website.

I look forward to hearing from anyone with data to share, leads to follow or prospects for acquisition.

Data is needed for the following cases


Announcing the AFROBAROMETER ROUND 4 GLOBAL RELEASE

In conjunction with Africa Day on May 25, the Afrobarometer is pleased to announce the release of results from our fourth round of surveys,
conducted in 19 countries during 2008. The release also marks the 10th anniversary of the launching of the Afrobarometer. Our first respondent was interviewed in Ghana in July 1999, and we have now completed over 105,000 interviews in 20 countries.

This wealth of data allows us to explore critical trends on the continent with respect to democracy and regime consolidation, poverty reduction, cosmopolitanism, and the emergence of democratic citizens. The Briefing Papers listed below highlight each of these themes in turn. The Compendium of Round 4 Results presents additional data on many of the core items included in the Round 4 survey on topics such as local and central government performance, leadership evaluations, perceptions and experience of corruption, institutional trust, and a host of other topics. *All of these documents can be downloaded from the project website at* http://www.afrobarometer.org/newsupdates.html.

"A synopsis of our key findings includes:

/ON DEMOCRACY...\n/"The 20 African countries included in the Afrobarometer include many of the most politically liberal countries on the continent, including 7 countries ranked by Freedom House in 2008 as "Free." However, when we assess the quality of these regimes based on popular attitudes and perceptions, we do not find any consolidated democracies among them (although Botswana comes close). In fact, we find some consolidating as autocracies, but most countries are best understood as unconsolidated, hybrid regimes. They exhibit some key elements of democracy, such as regular elections and protection of core individual freedoms. But either the popular demand for democracy, or the perceived supply of democracy, or, in most cases, both, fall short of the standards of full democracy. But the trajectories of individual countries are extremely diverse, with some exhibiting sharp declines away from democratic consolidation, while others are steadily advancing.

"See Briefing Paper No.67 "Neither Consolidating Nor Fully Democratic: The Evolution of African Political Regimes, 1999-2008"

/ONPOVERTY...\n/"Even with the significant growth that sub-Saharan Africa has experienced over the past decade, as of 2008 lived poverty (or the extent to which people regularly go without basic necessities) is still extensive. It has declined in nine of the Afrobarometer countries for which we have over-time data during this period, but it has increased in another six. Cross-national differences in economic growth help explain differing country trajectories in lived poverty. But a more complete picture must also take political freedom into consideration. Lived poverty is strongly related to country-level measures of political freedom, and changes in poverty are related to changes in freedom. This finding supports Sen's (1999) argument about the crucial importance of freedom for development. Using our alternative measures of both development and democracy, we corroborate the findings of others that there is a "democracy advantage" for well being and prosperity.

"See Briefing Paper No.68 "Poverty Reduction, Economic Growth and Democratization in Sub-Saharan Africa"

/ON COSMOPOLITANISM.../ *Indicators of levels of access to media and telecommunications (mobiles, computers and internet use), as well as receipt of remittances from abroad, are used to create an "index of cosmopolitanism." We find that while in some respects – particularly through their radios – Africans are very connected to the outside world, overall the majority of Africans continue to be local rather than world citizens. There is, however, a great deal of cross-country difference. Not surprisingly, South Africans display the highest levels of cosmopolitanism, followed closely by Cape Verdians. Burkinabe, Liberians and Malawians, on the other hand, trail far behind. Preliminary tests indicate the cosmopolitanism have positive effects on political engagement, and possibly on democratic attitudes as well.

"See Briefing Paper No. 69 "Citizens of the World? Africans, Media and Telecommunications"

/ON DEMOCRATIC CITIZENSHIP.../ *It has been nearly two decades since many African countries embarked on democratic reforms, the focus of which has understandably been on the introduction and/or reintroduction of formal democratic institutions and processes. But the argument is often made that it is not possible to have democracy without "democrats" who perceive of themselves as having rights and responsibilities vis-a-vis their governments that go beyond mere voting. Our indicators reveal something of a mixed picture. There are some encouraging indicators, but overall the development of democratic citizenship among Africans is still relatively weak. The good news, however, is that the trends on many indicators appear to be in the right direction, with citizenship attributes increasing in many cases since 1999. The positive trends indicate that democratic citizens are beginning to emerge in Africa to complement the democratic structures and
processes that are being established in the countries surveyed.

*See Briefing Paper No.70 "Are Democratic Citizens Emerging in Africa"

**/AS WELL AS MANY OTHER FINDINGS.../
See Working Paper No.108 "The Quality of Democracy and Governance in Africa: New Results from Afrobarometer Round 4"

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**APCG NOMINATIONS FOR BEST ARTICLE AND BOOK**

Nominations for Best Article on African Politics 2009
The time has come once again to select and reward the best article on African Politics, but we need APCG members help.
Please send in your nominations for the best articles on politics in Africa to the APCG Best Article Committee. Articles are eligible if they were published in the 2008 calendar year and should be mainly focused on Africa and centred within the political science discipline. Please feel free to nominate more than one article!
**Nominations are due July 1, 2009**
Contact: nicholas.cheeseman@politics.ox.ac.uk

APCG Best Book Award 2009
The committee has received no less than 28 nominations from a wide range of first class press’ for this year’s Best Book Award. The volume and the quality of the nominations testify to the current vibrancy and dynamism of the study of African politics. It is not going to be easy to chose among the many very strong contributions, but given what this says about our community and area of study, it is a pleasant challenge. The committee wishes to thank everyone who have contributed to the process. Staffan I. Lindberg Chair, APCG Best Book Award Committee 2009

**MEMBERS’ RECENT PUBLICATIONS ON AFRICAN POLITICS**


Ojo, Bamidele A. 2009. “Marketing E-Learning and The Challenges Facing Distance Education In Africa” in, Challenges Facing Marketing in Distance and Online Environment: An Integrated Approach, edited by Ugur DEMIRAY & N. Serdar SEVER, Anadolu University, Eskisehir-Turkey.


MEMBERS’ ANNOUNCEMENTS

John F. Clark, Associate Professor, Florida International University, has been recommended for promotion to professor as of next Fall. He is grateful to all of those who wrote for him, including many members of the APCG.

Dennis Galvan has been awarded a Fulbright Fellowship for research and teaching in Senegal, at Université Cheikh Anta Diop de Dakar, in 2009-2010.

John Harbeson would like to share with the APCG community that Ambassador Howard Wolpe has asked him to be a member of the Advisory Council for the African Program he leads at the Woodrow Wilson Center.

Nadia R. Horning is still in Tanzania, enjoying the weather. A couple of her opinions came out, in particular “Antananarivo n’est pas Madagascar”, Jeune Afrique No. 2518 (April 12-18 2009, pp. 95-96) and “Rajoelina is not my president”, New African No. 484 (May 2009). She also gave a TV interview in April on Vox Africa/Focus Program on “Madagascar: le nouveau régime est-il légitime?”, April 29, 2009.

Bamidele A Ojo, Professor of political Science @ Fairleigh Dickinson University in NJ and a former chairman of the Governing Council of Nigerian National Institute for Labor Studies, was recently appointed by President Yar Adua of Nigeria as member of the Governing Council of the Federal Institute for Trypanosomiasis Research (Federal Ministry of Science & Technology).

Jessica Piombo’s book listed in the publication section will be released in July, but you can get your preorder on Amazon now. The cheapest rate is on Barnes and Noble, $59.

Aili Mari Tripp (University of Wisconsin-Madison) is serving as Program Chair for the ASA’s 2009 meeting in New Orleans. Tripp addressed the Second Meeting of Ministers of Women’s Affairs in Mombasa, Kenya, in June 2009.

Peter VonDoepp has been promoted to Associate Professor and received tenure at the University of Vermont. Many thanks to the numerous members of the APCG who helped along the way.
AFRICAN POLITICS
CONFERENCE GROUP

A Coordinate Group of
American Political Science Association
African Studies Association
International Studies Association

Membership Dues
2009

Name: __________________________
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Amount Enclosed: $10.00

Please enclose this form with a check for $10, payable to:

Richard Marcus, APCG Treasurer
International Studies Program
California State University, Long Beach
1250 Bellflower Blvd.- MS 4605
Long Beach, CA 90840-4605

Steering Committee

Peter VonDoepp
University of Vermont

John F. Clark, Vice Chair
Florida International University

Sandra Joireman, Secretary
Wheaton College

Richard Marcus, Treasurer
California State University

Dennis Galvan, Web Manager
University of Oregon

Mamoudou Gazibo, Newsletter Editor
Université de Montréal
The APCG is served 2009 by the following members:

### Steering Committee
- Peter VonDoepp, Chair, University of Vermont
- John F. Clark, Vice Chair, Florida International University
- Sandra Joireman, Secretary, Wheaton College
- Richard Marcus, Treasurer, California State University
- Mamoudou Gazibo, Newsletter Editor, Université de Montréal
- Dennis Galvan, Website Manager, University of Oregon

### APSA Program
- Mi Yung Yoon, Hanover College
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- Alice Kang, University of Wisconsin-Madison

### ISA Program
- Steve Burgess, US Air War College
- Jessica Piombo, Naval Postgraduate School
- Omar McDorn, Harvard University

### ASA Program
- Lisa Aubrey, Arizona State University
- Rachel Ellet, Beloit College
- Aaron Tesfaye, William Paterson University

### Best Book Award
- Staffan Lindberg, University of Florida
- John Harbeson, Johns Hopkins/SAIS
- Warigia Bowman, Harvard University

### Best Article Award
- Parakh Hoon, Virginia Tech. University
- Rachel Riedl, Princeton University
- Nic Cheeseman, Oxford University

### Nominations
- Lahra Smith, Georgetown University
- Elliott Green, London School of Economics
- Kalu Kalu, Auburn University Montgomery

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**LIST REMOVAL** If you wish to be removed from this emailing list, please send an email to me ([mamoudou.gazibo@umontreal.ca](mailto:mamoudou.gazibo@umontreal.ca)).