



The CPLP, **Community of Portuguese Language Countries**, in Portuguese: **Comunidade dos Países de Língua Portuguesa**, is an organization grouping Portugal with its former colonies, and as such lusophone (Portuguese-speaking) nations. The CPLP was formed in 1996 with seven countries Portugal, Brazil, Angola, Cape Verde, Guinea-Bissau, Mozambique, and later, São Tomé and Príncipe, East Timor.

The organization, with headquarters in Lisbon, has an **Executive Secretariat** responsible for designing and implementing the CPLP's projects and initiatives. The Executive Secretary, at present, the capverdian, Luís de Matos Monteiro da Fonseca, has a two-year mandate, and can be re-elected only once.



The Portuguese-speaking countries are home to more than 223 million people located across the globe. The CPLP nations have a combined area of about 10,772,000 square kilometres which is larger than Canada.

In July 2006, during the Bissau summit, Equatorial Guinea and Mauritius were admitted as Associate Observers along with 17 International associations and organizations considered as Consultative Observers.

Now, Senegal, having a lusophone community originating from bordering Guinea-Bissau and from Cap-Verde, will be admitted during next CPLP Summit, in Lisbon and become the third Associate Member.

