

Organisation
Intergouvernementale
Panafricaine



Pan-African
Intergovernmental
Organization

60 ans/years

Au service de la transformation globale, digitale, intelligente et durable des administrations publiques et privées africaines

Serving the global, digital, intelligent and sustainable transformation of African public and private administrations

Original: French

The Pan-African Intergovernmental Organization CAFRAD hosts:

**The CAFRAD Round Table of technical and financial partners
on the theme:**

**« The renovated CAFRAD, Africa's locomotive towards
the global, digital, ecological and intelligent
transformation of Public Administrations »**

Date: 27th February 2025 from 2 p.m., Morocco time

Venue: CAFRAD headquarters (Mohammed Jazouli Street 173, Hassan, RABAT)

Concept Paper 2025

1. CONTEXT AND JUSTIFICATION

The leaders of African countries have always been aware of the importance of Public Administration as a pillar and catalyst of the development process. Indeed, upon reaching political independence, African countries took a set of measures consisting of creating a viable State and establishing a Public Administration with a view to ensuring the development of their respective countries. At that time, among the major concerns of Africa were the integration and unity of the continent, socio-economic development, and the Africanization of executives and public administrations.

A new State and a new Public Administration require well-trained leaders. No country can develop without talent. It is in this spirit that at the initiative of the Late MAJESTY KING HASSAN II, KING OF MOROCCO may God have mercy on Him, supported by the countries of Algeria, Cameroon, Gabon, Ghana, Guinea, Mali, Egypt, Senegal, Sudan and Tunisia, the Resolution authorizing UNESCO to lend its assistance to the establishment of an African Training and Research Centre in Administration for Development (CAFRAD), as an instrument of inter-African cooperation in the development of Public Administration on the continent in 1962, was unanimously adopted by the 12th session of the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).

Thus, CAFRAD was created in May 1964, with the support of UNESCO. Its aim is to Africanize the civil service, harmonize its interventions and efforts and adapt it to new African realities and development imperatives. Born from the desire to provide our African continent with a framework of design and management units that meet the requirements of regained sovereignty and the imperatives of harmonious and secure development, CAFRAD is built to be the point of convergence and the crucible for the exchange of knowledge and information among senior African executives, the center for the development of human resources capable of supporting African unity¹. It aims to create a bank of experts, of a common intellectual level, a bank of possibilities and work, to provide common training to all senior African executives. Thus, *“those who attend this institute, having a common life, receiving common training and linked by the camaraderie of studies, could create this unity without which African unity cannot have its true meaning. »*

CAFRAD is mainly based on the Headquarters Agreement signed between UNESCO and the Government of Morocco on May 13, 1964, the CAFRAD establishment agreement of December 18, 1967 and the Headquarters Agreement between the African Training and Research Centre in Administration for Development (CAFRAD) and the Kingdom of Morocco of July 17, 1970. The establishment agreement clearly

¹ Speech and interview of the late HIS MAJESTY THE KING OF MOROCCO HASSAN II, May God have mercy on him, at the CAFRAD Conference, September 18, 1972, Ministry of Information, 1990

indicates that the missions assigned to CAFRAD are those of training senior African executives, to promote comparative research and to encourage the exchange of experiences and knowledge with a view to the economic and social development of the continent.

In 2024, CAFRAD has sixty (60) years of experience serving the training of managers, leaders and senior executives in Africa as well as in the renewal of public administrations. The achievements are considered positive. However, despite progress in continuously improving macroeconomic management and the business environment of governance, *"many countries have not recorded high economic growth rates over long periods and only in rare cases have high levels of social development been observed."*

In 60 years, CAFRAD has been able to serve as a framework for the production of ideas and knowledge as well as the development of the talents of the four (4) administrative systems (English-speaking, Arabic-speaking, French-speaking and Portuguese-speaking) to obtain convincing results. It has contributed to establishing in Africa and in the Member States a culture of responsible governance and efficient public administration in the service of sustainable and inclusive development and regional integration through training, scientific research, consultation, documentation and publications.

CAFRAD is, therefore, the first pan-African intergovernmental institution in the field of public administration and governance and has acquired, throughout its many years of experience, diversified expertise, thus enjoying considerable visibility and notoriety.

Since the election of the new Director General on July 9, 2024, CAFRAD is committed to supporting member states in major structural and systemic reforms as well as in digital and ecological/energy transitions.

CAFRAD is today faced with major global transformations and global dynamics as well as changes in Africa that require the training of human capital at the forefront of new industrial revolutions, artificial intelligence. From this evidence, the relevance of CAFRAD is justified. It must anticipate the obsolescence of skills and ensure that its training offers are adapted to the development needs of African countries.

CAFRAD must "attract and retain talent" in order to cover all of its areas of intervention and ensure its visibility and global influence. The mission of CAFRAD, highly essential to member countries, to the achievement of the 2063 Vision of the African Union, and the continued achievement of the SDGs requires the mobilization of scientific human resources in quantitative, qualitative and geographical terms.

However, in recent years, CAFRAD has been going through a period of lethargy due to the inadequacies of the fundamental texts of CAFRAD, the lack of professional experts and innovative financing for the carrying out of its activities which, however, are requested by the Member States. The capacity development needs of

senior executives continue to increase in view of the major challenges of public action in a VIICAP environment (volatile, uncertain, indeterminate, complex, ambiguous and paradoxical). Moreover, the speed of socio-economic, technological, legal and institutional changes are making knowledge obsolescent and prompting the evolution of training policies in the professions of the future, in a postmodern world, a world of knowledge economy and information economy.

The ambition of the renovated CAFRAD is a project common to all African and globalized administrations. This Project is noble, timely and realistic, it requires the combination of our respective, diversified and particularly financial efforts in order to strengthen the human, structural and institutional capacities of States with a view to achieving the major objectives underway on the continent and in the world. This round table is a solemn invitation to get to know CAFRAD better, in order to actively support its growth towards excellence.

2. STRATEGIC GOALS

The organization of the round table of partners and financiers of the renovated CAFRAD aims to:

- ❖ Strengthen the visibility of the Organization and its audience in Africa and around the world;
- ❖ Restore the confidence of member states and partners in the Pan-African Intergovernmental Organization;
- ❖ Mobilize innovative financial resources for carrying out CAFRAD activities with high added value for Member States;
- ❖ Remobilize partners, service providers, donors and beneficiaries of CAFRAD service providers;
- ❖ Encourage support from partners and the public for the roadmap and vision of the new Director General of CAFRAD elected on July 9, 2024 by the Governing Board;
- ❖ Rehabilitate the renovated CAFRAD in its long and rich experience in training, research, production of innovative ideas and contributions to the renewal of African public administrations;
- ❖ Collect intellectual contributions from Member States, partners, funders and the public on the vision of the new Director General of the renovated CAFRAD;

3. EXPECTED RESULTS

- ❖ The visibility of the Organization and its audience are strengthened in Africa and around the world;
- ❖ The confidence of Member States and partners is restored in the Pan-African Intergovernmental Organization;

- ❖ Innovative financial resources are mobilized to carry out value-added CAFRAD activities;
- ❖ Partners, service providers, donors and beneficiaries of services from the renovated CAFRAD are re-mobilized to the cause of the Pan-African Organization;
- ❖ The support of partners and the public for the roadmap and the vision of the new Director General of the renovated CAFRAD is ensured;
- ❖ The renovated CAFRAD is rehabilitated in its notoriety, its influence as well as its long and rich experience in terms of training, research, production of innovative ideas and contributions to the renewal of African public administrations;
- ❖ Intellectual contributions from Member States, partners, funders and the public on the vision of the new Director General of the renovated CAFRAD are collected.

Ultimately, the renovated CAFRAD will resume its place as a training institution, a technical school, and a research institute serving the modernization of public administration in Africa.

The renovated CAFRAD is an essential complementary training school for administrative training schools and institutes in African states.

The renovated CAFRAD is a school for the development, professionalization and specialization of African decision-makers and public managers.

The renovated CAFRAD is a center of excellence dedicated to supporting the transformations of public action in Africa.

The renovated CAFRAD is a crucible for the realization of the African Union's vision for 2063.

The renovated CAFRAD is an instrument for repositioning Africa in global governance, regional integration and promoting south-south scientific cooperation.

The renovated CAFRAD guarantees the harmonious pursuit of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), considered the major framework for reforms and public policies for the transformation of administrations and Governance on a global scale.

CAFRAD is an essential partner, an indispensable link to other African and international organizations in terms of strengthening African development capacities.

But CAFRAD faces significant challenges in financing its value-added activities.

The new Director General has developed a bold and ambitious but realistic and financially sustainable action plan with value-added activities. He wishes to submit it for funding from CAFRAD partners, whether institutional or natural persons, state or non-state, public or private, African or non-African.

4. SUB-THEMES

- A. A difficult situation requiring strong/bold measures for the global transformation of CAFRAD;
- B. A new world, new challenges for CAFRAD and public administrations in Africa;
- C. Challenges facing African public administrations requiring the institutional transformation of CAFRAD;
- D. Mission, vision and values of CAFRAD;
- E. CAFRAD's strategic axes and development programs.

5. TARGET AUDIENCE

- ❖ Ministers of member states
- ❖ CAFRAD focal points in member states
- ❖ Embassies of member states and non-member states
- ❖ African banks
- ❖ Representatives of international and regional institutions based in Rabat,
- ❖ Foreign (non-African) embassies in Rabat
- ❖ State companies of the Kingdom of Morocco
- ❖ Private companies in the Kingdom of Morocco
- ❖ Universities and research and training centers

6. METHODOLOGY

The round table is prepared by the General Directorate of CAFRAD in partnership with the Government of the Kingdom of Morocco and the member states in a participatory and inclusive approach. The initiative coming from the Director General will be carried by the President of the Governing Board and the other members of the Governing Board.

During the round table, the Director General will present the broad outlines of his roadmap and the amount of funding required. Partners will be called upon to demonstrate their commitment or announce their funding promise.

The proceedings will take place in plenary over half a day. The presentations will be on Power Point.

- 1. DATE:** Thursday 27th February 2025, from 2 p.m., Morocco time
- 2. VENUE:** CAFRAD headquarters, Mohammed Jazouli Street 173, Hassan, Rabat (MOROCCO),
- 3. LANGUAGES:** French and English

4. REGISTRATION : <https://cafrad.io/inscription-table-ronde/>

For more information about the conference or about CAFRAD, please visit our website: www.cafrad.org or contact us at the following address:

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