



*Au service de l'innovation,
de la modernisation et de la
construction d'administrations pour
une Gouvernance Publique
Responsable*

*Serving innovation,
modernisation and establishment
of administrations for
Responsible Public Governance*

Depuis/Since 1962 ...

The renewed CAFRAD at the service of the global, digital, intelligent and sustainable transformation of African public and private administration

Mission Report Outside the Host Country

I have the honour of respectfully submitting for your high consideration the reports of my four official missions outside Morocco for the year 2024-2025.

Table of the Director General's Missions Outside the Host Country

	PURPOSE OF THE MISSION	COUNTRIES	DATE
1	UNESCO Conference on Capacity Building in Artificial Intelligence and Digital Transformation in the Public Sector.	France	4-5 June 2025
2	World Government Summit on the theme: "Shaping the Governments of the future"	United Arab Emirates	11-14 February 2025
3	International conference on the theme: "Digital Learning Environments: Building Effective and Inclusive Educational Ecosystems in Africa".	Gabon	18-24 February 2025
4	Government Seminar on the theme: Managing Overall Public Performance: Roles and Responsibilities of Government Members.	Guinea	10-15 November 2024

I. Report on the Participation of the Director General of CAFRAD in the UNESCO Conference on Capacity in Artificial Intelligence and Digital Transformation in the Public Sector

Basis for the Director General's Participation in the UNESCO Conference:

1. Invitation No. Ref: CI/DPT/DIT/25/17 dated 28 avril 2025 from UNESCO (**annexe No. 1**).
2. Mission Order No. 104 dated 2 May 2025, signed by Professor Amal EL FALLAH SEGHROUCHINI, Minister Delegate to the Head of Government in charge of Digital Transition and Administrative Reform, President of CAFRAD

Introduction

In line with the instructions of the President of the Governing Board of CAFRAD and upon invitation from UNESCO, the Director General of CAFRAD, Dr. Coffi Dieudonné ASSOUVI, participated in the UNESCO Conference on Capacity Building in Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Digital Transformation in the Public Sector, held on 4 and 5 June 2025 at the Institution's headquarters. The event addressed the urgent need to strengthen the capacities of public sector officials in the areas of artificial intelligence, digital technologies, and data governance. The conference highlighted strategies to empower civil servants to lead digital transformation within public administration, while ensuring governance that is sustainable, inclusive, human rights-based, and evidence-driven. It brought together high-level policymakers, industry leaders, academics, and members of civil society.

The digital transformation of the public sector is crucial for modernising the delivery of public services, enhancing transparency, promoting citizen engagement, and ensuring secure, data-informed decision-making. However, public institutions cannot often support such transformation due to insufficient digital skills, outdated infrastructure, and legal or institutional frameworks that are not conducive to innovation. This capacity gap remains a significant barrier for governments aiming to harness the potential of digital technologies and close the digital divide.

1. Objectives and Format of the Conference

In this context, UNESCO is organising the Conference on Capacity Building in Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Digital Transformation in the Public Sector, to be held at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris, France, on 4 and 5 June 2025. This conference will address the critical need to strengthen the capacities of public sector officials in AI, digital technologies, and data governance.

The conference aims to:

- **Strengthen public administrations:** Foster an enabling environment for digital transformation by enhancing digital competencies among civil

servants, notably by promoting a network of public administration schools focused on digital transformation.

- **Encourage knowledge-sharing and partnership:** A platform for the exchange of experiences and best practices, fostering mutual learning and collaborative approaches with a wide range of stakeholders on AI, data governance, and digital transformation in the public sector.
- **Enhance global digital cooperation:** Promote global digital cooperation and advance global frameworks and standards in coordination with the private sector, governments, and UN entities, contributing to the review process of WSIS+20 (SMSI¹+20²).

Coinciding with **World Environment Day on 5 June 2025**, the conference will also emphasise the urgent need for **sustainable AI and digital transformation**, as well as the role of technology in promoting greener digital ecosystems.

The event will align with broader global processes, including the implementation of the **Global Digital Compact**, while contributing to the WSIS+20 review by exploring a renewed and forward-looking vision of WSIS 2.0.

Organised over two days, the conference will gather a wide range of participants, including representatives from national schools of public administration, government officials in charge of ICT policy and implementation, as well as experts from international organisations, development banks, and intergovernmental agencies.

2. Relevance of the Director General's Participation in the UNESCO Conference

The participation of the Director General of CAFRAD in the UNESCO Conference on Capacity Building in Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Digital Transformation in the Public Sector served two main purposes: i) delivering remarks during official sessions, and ii) establishing institutional contacts to form future partnerships.

2.1. Remarks Delivered by the Director General during the Sessions

2.1.1. DG Participation in the Plenary Sessions

The Director General of CAFRAD participated as a speaker in the interactive plenary session entitled: "Developing National Strategies for Digital Capacity Building."

On this occasion, he outlined the key elements of an effective national strategy for digital transformation and emphasised the support that CAFRAD offers to its Member States in preparing these essential documents, which are crucial for Africa's readiness to face the age of artificial intelligence. He particularly

¹ Sommet mondial de la société de l'information, Tunis 2005. Déclaration de principes. Construire la société de l'information : un défi mondial pour le nouveau millénaire.

² L'ordre du jour en annexe n°2.

stressed the importance of contextualising and humanising AI, and of identifying the specific needs of African public administrations through an in-depth diagnostic approach. This session significantly boosted CAFRAD's global visibility, as the event brought together a wide range of countries and institutions, thus expanding the organisation's international reach.

2.1.2. Participation of the DG in the Closed-Door Workshop

The Director General participated in the closed-door workshop with public administration schools. He contributed to discussions on national needs and to developing a common agenda, aiming to launch an alliance to strengthen AI and digital transformation skills within public administrations. Thus, the Director General contributed to the implementation of the global alliance of public administration schools.

Beyond the plenary activities and parallel events of the conference, the Director General of CAFRAD made contact with several representatives of institutions and/or countries to initiate steps toward establishing strategic partnerships.

2.2. Steps Toward Identifying Potential Partners

On the sidelines of the conference, the Director General conducted lobbying activities and identified potential partners for CAFRAD. These include:

2.2.1. Follow-up on the conference with UNESCO

At the conclusion of the conference, the Director General advocated to UNESCO authorities for the Organisation to once again become the main partner and funder of CAFRAD. This advocacy was followed by post-conference sessions.

L'UNESCO sent a letter of thanks³ to the Director General for his active and insightful participation in the conference proceedings.

After the conference, I continued exchanges with UNESCO, but due to scheduling reasons, we have not yet finalised discussions. However, UNESCO has shown great willingness to explore collaboration opportunities with CAFRAD. Two messages illustrate this clear intent from UNESCO.

Dear Doctor Assouvi, a message from UNESCO dated 20 June 2025:

We thank you for your prompt response and are pleased to see your interest in deepening the collaboration between CAFRAD and UNESCO.

Unfortunately, we are not available at the times you proposed (June 24 and 26). Could you consider Tuesday, July 1, at 2 p.m. Morocco time?

³ Letter of Appreciation in Annex n°6.

We fully share your vision regarding the importance of strengthening the historic ties between our two institutions, and we look forward to discussing future collaboration opportunities with you.

Sincerely,

Michelle Nie (She/Her)

Digital Policies and Digital Transformation

7, Place de Fontenoy, 75352 Paris 07 SP

+ 33 (0) 7 45 03 99 38

unesco.org

Dear Mr. Assouvi, message from UNESCO dated June 18, 2025

It was a pleasure meeting you during the conference in Paris, and we sincerely thank you for participating in our closed-door workshop.

Our team would like to organise a bilateral meeting with you to review the workshop and discuss the modalities of our collaboration, as well as the support we could provide to CAFRAD's work.

Michelle Nie (She/Her)

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2.2.2. Capacity Development and CAFRAD/Université Laval Collaboration

Mr. Monsieur Sehl Mellouli, Vice-Rector Assistant of Université Laval for Teaching Services and Lifelong Learning was convinced of the relevance of CAFRAD's mission for the comprehensive transformation of Africa and, with great enthusiasm, committed to collaborating with the Pan-African intergovernmental organisation. The discussions initiated in Paris led to several email exchanges confirming Université Laval's interest in establishing a strategic partnership with CAFRAD. The in-depth session to further exchange and define collaboration areas, initially scheduled online for June 20, 2025, was postponed to a later date.

2.2.3. Ms Sabrina Bandera, Presidency of the Council of Ministers, National School of Administration, Italian National School of Government, Head of Research, Strategy, and Innovation Division.

The Director General of CAFRAD exchanged with Ms. **Sabrina Bandera about CAFRAD's transformational dynamism and its commitment to** equipping senior African executives and leaders with the necessary skills to carry out their responsibilities within the framework of digital transformation and artificial intelligence.

Upon her return, Ms. Sabrina Bandera expressed, through an email dated June 11, 2025, her interest in fostering collaboration between CAFRAD and her institution through a partnership approach focused on developing digital talents in Africa:

Dear Minister,

Following our meeting today during the UNESCO conference, please find attached my contact details (introduced to us by Gianluca Misuraca).
With my best regards,

Sabrina Bandera”

The Director General reaffirmed his commitment to swiftly initiate discussions that could lead to a credible and mutually beneficial partnership.

2.2.4. Mr Ibrahima DIAKITE, Consultant/Manager and Researcher

Following discussions between the Director General and Mr. Ibrahima DIAKITE, a consultant/manager and researcher, Guinean member of the diaspora in France, the latter expressed his interest in collaborating with CAFRAD:

Mr. Director General,
Mr Dr. ASSOUVI,

As agreed, I would first like to express my deep gratitude for the opportunity you gave me to discuss with you the ambitions and challenges of the African Training and Research Centre in Administration for Development (CAFRAD). Your vision to instil a new dynamic within the institution, in response to the demands of public transformation in Africa, is as inspiring as it is necessary. Your commitment to diversifying funding to support ambitious and innovative projects reflects a genuine desire to position CAFRAD as a key player in administrative and institutional development on the continent. It is with great enthusiasm that I offer you my support in this exciting mission.

With my experience and skills in project management, fundraising, administrative reform, and international cooperation, I am at your disposal to assist you in your tasks and actively contribute to achieving the objectives you have set. My support could focus on:

The identification and mobilisation of strategic partnerships;

The diversification of funding sources, including the possibility of public-private partnerships (PPPs)

The design and implementation of innovative programs;

The establishment of an administrative Think Tank to create new value and share best practices among the Centre’s state organisations.

...

Any other missions you deem relevant to strengthen CAFRAD’s impact.

I remain convinced that through close collaboration, we can together drive a transformative momentum within CAFRAD, aligned with the current challenges of African public administrations.

Looking forward to continuing our discussions tomorrow to further develop this proposal, I reiterate, Mr. Director General, the expression of my highest consideration and full commitment to the success of your leadership.

Please accept, Dr. ASSOVI, the assurance of my highest consideration.

Sincerely,

Ibrahima DIAKITE
Consultant Manager/Researcher

2.2.5. Madame Caroline Williams, *Executive Director*, Oxford Saïd Online
Madame Caroline Williams was also deeply impressed by the leadership of the Director General of CAFRAD in advancing transformational change in Africa. To this end, she sent him a message expressing her desire to stay in touch and continue discussions with a view to future collaboration.

Dear Coffi,

It was a real pleasure connecting with you at the UNESCO conference last week. Thank you for the great discussions in the SPARK Alliance. I came away energised by our time together and shared commitment to equipping civil servants with the skills and confidence to navigate AI and digital transformation with purpose and integrity.

As we discussed, I will look forward to keeping in touch and continuing our conversation on learning pathways, public sector innovation, or any other subject which would be helpful.

I hope this is helpful and you have a nice week ahead.

Warmest wishes, Caroline

Caroline Williams
Executive Director, Oxford Saïd Online
Saïd Business School
University of Oxford

It was a real pleasure meeting you at the UNESCO conference last week. Thank you for the enriching discussions within the SPARK Alliance. I left feeling energised by the time we spent together and by our shared commitment to equipping civil servants with the skills and confidence needed to approach AI and digital transformation with purpose and integrity.

As we discussed, I look forward to staying in touch and continuing our exchanges on learning pathways, public sector innovation, or any other topic that might be useful to us.

I hope this information will be helpful to you and wish you a pleasant week.
Kind regards,
Caroline

3. Recommendations

The participation of the Director General of CAFRAD was highly beneficial for the organisation in terms of visibility, expansion of its audience, and prospects for collaboration with UNESCO, institutions, and/or countries that took part in the conference. To maximise the impact of this participation, it is recommended to:

- Convince UNESCO to become once again the main partner and funder of CAFRAD's activities.
- Continue discussions with the institutions and/or countries that have expressed interest in collaborating with CAFRAD.
- Encourage CAFRAD's participation in major African and global events to strengthen its visibility and reputation, attract partners and beneficiaries, and mobilise financial resources for the implementation of high-value activities in the interest of Member States.

Conclusion

The dynamism of the Director General of CAFRAD made the organisation's participation in the UNESCO Conference on Capacity Building in Artificial Intelligence and Digital Transformation in the Public Sector (June 4–5, 2025) truly impactful. CAFRAD should be present at major global and African gatherings.

Mission Report to the United Arab Emirates and Gabon

Introduction

With your authorisation, I carried out two (2) official missions outside Morocco in February 2025 in the interest of CAFRAD. These included my participation in the World Government Summit in Dubai and the international conference on the theme: *"Digital Learning Environments: Building High-Performing and Inclusive Educational Ecosystems in Africa"*, held at the NOMAD Hotel in Libreville, Gabon.

In this regard, I would like to express my deepest gratitude to you for having permitted me to take part in these international activities.

II. World Government Summit (WGS)

Since his official investiture as the continental authority on July 25, 2024 at the CAFRAD headquarters in Rabat, Dr. Coffi Dieudonné ASSOUVI has consistently launched initiatives in line with one of his core commitments: *“to transform CAFRAD into a leading Centre of Excellence, a practical training ground for producing innovative ideas, actionable knowledge, competencies, and talent in support of the African Union’s Agenda 2063, the United Nations’ 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and national development programs.”*

In his determination to contribute to the implementation of the African Union's (AU) vision outlined in Agenda 2063 — *“an integrated, prosperous and peaceful Africa, driven by its citizens and representing a dynamic force in the global arena⁴.”* — the Director General of CAFRAD undertook and secured from the United Arab Emirates, notably His Excellency Mr. Omar Sultan AL OLAMA, UAE Minister of State for Artificial Intelligence, Digital Economy and Remote Work Applications, the participation of a strong African ministerial delegation in the World Government Summit (WGS) held from February 11 to 14, 2025, in Dubai. The invited delegation was composed of:

1. Dr Coffi Dieudonné ASSOUVI, Director General of CAFRAD;
2. Mrs RAZAKABOANA Hanitra Fitiavana, Minister of Labour, Employment and Public Service of Madagascar;
3. Mr BOUCAL Olivier, Minister of Public Service and Public Sector of Senegal;
4. Mr. Baboucarr Bouy, *Minister of Public Service Administrative Reforms, Policy Coordination & Delivery, Gambia*;
5. Mr. Salmaan D Jacobs, *Chairperson of the Public Service Commission of the Republic of Namibia*
6. Ms. Edna Manuela Miranda DE OLIVEIRA, *Minister of Modernisation of the State and Public Service of Cape Verde* ;
7. Dr. Fassoun Coulibaly, *Ministre du Travail, de la Fonction publique et du Dialogue social du Mali* ;
8. Ms. Yvonne Aki-Sawyerr, *Mayor of Freetown, Sierra Leone*;
9. Madame Anne Désirée OULOTO, *Minister of Public Service and Administrative Modernisation, Côte d’Ivoire* ;
10. Mme Adidjatou MATHYS, *Minister of Labour and Public Service of Benin*;
11. Mrs Ghita MEZZOUR, *Minister Delegate to the Head of Government, in charge of Digital Transition and Administrative Reform of Morocco.* Les trois (3) The last three Ministers were unable to attend the Summit.

The CAFRAD delegation participated in two (2) roundtables on the theme: *“Effective Governance and Resilience in the Face of Crises.”*

⁴ African Union vision, Agenda 2063 : Africa we want.

While the Ministers presented national perspectives on the topic, the Director General of CAFRAD provided a regional African approach. The objective for the African delegation was to explore ways to build a resilient Africa in the face of the multifaceted crises affecting both the world and the continent, crises that are global, complex, and interconnected.

III. Mission Report to Gabon

At the invitation of the President of the *Tamkine Foundation* of Morocco and the *HOSEA* NGO of Gabon, the Director General of CAFRAD undertook an official mission to Libreville, the capital of Gabon, from **February 18 to 24, 2025**. The mission was marked by three main highlights:

i) working sessions at the Presidency of the Republic and in several ministries, **ii)** exchanges with universities, and **iii)** participation in an international conference.

i) Working sessions

The first working session took place at the Presidency of the Republic of Gabon, under the responsibility of Mr. Paul Ulrich KESSANY ZATEGWA, Special Advisor to the Head of State, President of the Transition of the Republic of Gabon, His Excellency Brigadier General Brice Clotaire Oligui Nguema.

This was followed by discussions at the Ministry of Communication and Media and the Ministry of Social Affairs, attended by the respective Ministers.

At each stage, the mission provided an opportunity to introduce CAFRAD to the various audiences, many of whom were surprised to learn of the existence of this Pan-African organisation for over 63 years.

ii) Exchange with universities

The delegation visited the following institutions: Sophie NTOUTOUME EMANE University Institute of Sciences and Management (IUSO), National Institute of Posts, Information and Communication Technologies (INPTIC), Collège Supérieur de Paris (Libreville Campus)

iii) The International Conference

The conference focused on the theme: "Digital Learning Environments: Building Effective and Inclusive Educational Ecosystems in Africa."

It took place on Saturday, February 22, 2025, and was attended by officials, including the Minister of State in charge of National Education and Civic Instruction, the Special Advisor to the Head of State, as well as Gabonese and foreign academics.

The Director General of CAFRAD had the honour of delivering the opening speech, in which CAFRAD was given a prominent role.

The international conference was preceded by the launch ceremony of the strategic partnership between the Tamkine Foundation and the NGO HOSEA,

and followed by training for youth on generative artificial intelligence: opportunities, challenges, and ethics.

iv) Analysis

The first official mission in Dubai aimed to promote CAFRAD's global visibility and to raise awareness about its mission and relevance for 21st-century Africa.

The second mission in Gabon revealed that CAFRAD is not well known in Gabon, a founding country of the Organisation, despite two working sessions that the Director General held with His Excellency the Ambassador of Gabon to the Kingdom of Morocco in Rabat. This lack of awareness about CAFRAD is similar in almost all African countries, to varying degrees.

v. Recommendations

Following these two (2) official missions, the Director General formulates the following recommendations:

- Organise a tour to remobilise member states across all African countries; this should be done progressively and in phases, with financial participation from member states and the active involvement of Ambassadors in Rabat as well as focal points in the member states.
- Involve and engage the Chairperson of the Governing Board in activities and certain missions in key and catalyst countries such as Kenya, Nigeria, Egypt, Angola, DRC, Cameroon, Uganda, Libya, etc.;
- Decentralise some of CAFRAD's activities to member states;
- The creation of a CAFRAD office for the focal points in the member states.
- The establishment of CAFRAD sub-regional offices in the African sub-regions (East Africa, West Africa, Central Africa, Southern Africa, and North Africa);
- The engagement and involvement of other members of the Governing Board in the tours to remobilise member states.
- The mobilisation of all government members of the member states by the Ministers who are members of the CAFRAD Governing Board;
- The establishment of a memorandum of understanding with member states defining the foundations of an intelligent and mutually beneficial collaboration, to recommend that each member state submit a national program of activities to CAFRAD and organise joint activities;
- The establishment of a memorandum of understanding with African regional organisations defining a legal framework for the development of African talents, to urge each Regional Economic Community (REC) and the African Union (AU) to submit a regional program of activities to CAFRAD and organise joint activities;
- The creation at CAFRAD level of an African Fund for the development of skills, talents, and support to priority sectors: agriculture, crafts, industry, commerce, (engineering of regional and global value chains), etc..

- The provision by CAFRAD of internship scholarships for post-Master's and post-Doctorate trainees in administration and fields related to CAFRAD's mission; these internships will be within CAFRAD, lasting 6 to 12 months, to prepare today's and tomorrow's African leaders.
- **The establishment of a regular monthly (or quarterly) meeting for exchanges between the President of the Governing Board and the Director General**, to review key dossiers; not everything can be said over the phone, and not everything can be written down. Both tacit and explicit information reside within people and must be shared during an in-person meeting of the relevant stakeholders.

Conclusion: A determined Director General, but in need of the active and strong support of Member States

The determination and genuine leadership of the new Director General to place CAFRAD at the service of the African cause, the major policies of sustainable and inclusive development of Member States, and the repositioning of Africa in global governance, in short, serving a new Africa where peoples and citizens have access to the desired well-being within a peaceful, democratic, efficient, humane, and resilient public governance system, are more manifest, unwavering, and proven than ever.

Indeed, following the guidance of Madam President of the Governing Board during the meeting on December 24, 2024, the Director General strives to create a renewed CAFRAD with a new dynamic, a CAFRAD more useful to Member States and adequately responding to their legitimate needs and expectations. Thus, he shared with all Member States a letter of appeal for renewed interest in CAFRAD in January 2025. To date, no State has responded to this letter.

The active and contributive involvement of CAFRAD focal points in the Member States is ensured through a decision defining their mandate and obligations towards the Organisation.

By the end of April 2025, an assessment will be made of the Member States that have responded to these various initiatives and those that have fulfilled their financial commitments to determine which States are effectively members of CAFRAD. However, the situation is more complex and requires a sustained and gradual remobilisation of Member States over time. It is extremely important to recall that the vitality and momentum of CAFRAD essentially depend on its being actively engaged by Member States willing to entrust it with specific missions to carry out and high-value activities in their interest.

Today, more than ever, CAFRAD is ready to assume its responsibilities towards Member States and all stakeholders.

A priori, the commitment of CAFRAD's Member States, technical and financial partners, as well as other stakeholders, was demonstrated by the election of the new Director General and the massive participation in the roundtable held

on February 27, 2025. The turnout exceeded our expectations, thus reflecting a renewed interest in CAFRAD.

However, it is essential to convene the extraordinary session announced on July 9, 2024, by the 59th ordinary session of the Governing Board. This session will allow Member States not only to have a clear understanding of the worrying current situation in order to remobilise and integrate CAFRAD into their national development agendas, but also, and above all, to approve the strategy, vision, and program of activities of the Organisation.

Given the Organisation's critical financial situation, Member States must provide their financial and technical support. This will encourage the new Director General to implement his vision for a renewed CAFRAD in the interest of the Member States. The challenges facing CAFRAD are immense and require a determined and collective action.

IV. Mission Report of the Director General in the Republic of Guinea

Introduction

From November 10 to 15, 2024, the new Director General of CAFRAD, Dr. Coffi Dieudonné ASSOUVI, made his first official trip to the Republic of Guinea following his election on July 9, 2024, during the 59th ordinary session of the Governing Board.

At the invitation of His Excellency, the Prime Minister and Head of Government, the new Director General of CAFRAD conducted his first official mission in the Republic of Guinea from November 10 to 15, 2024, to participate in the Governmental Seminar.

1. A Stay Rich in Activities

During his visit, the Director General of CAFRAD participated in the Governmental Seminar, where he delivered a presentation on the theme: *"Managing Overall Public Performance: Roles and Responsibilities of Government Members."*

His intervention was highly appreciated, and the entire Government, including its Head, expressed a strong desire for CAFRAD to become their key partner in capacity building for Government members and senior Guinean officials.

On the sidelines of the seminar, the Director General held discussions with several ministers, notably the Minister of Budget, regarding Guinea's financial contributions to CAFRAD's budget; and the Minister of Security and Civil Protection, on ways to adapt performance management to the institutional/governmental instability, the shortage of human and financial

resources, and the broader socio-cultural constraints faced by Africa in general and Guinea in particular.

Dr. Coffi Dieudonné ASSOUVI's stay was also marked by a public lecture at the Guinean Institute for Training and Development, where he presented CAFRAD's service offerings and the organization's new strategic direction aimed at better serving its Member States. He also had an audience with the Minister of Labour and Public Service, Mr. Faya François BOUROUNO, on Thursday, October 14, 2024. During this significant meeting, the two parties discussed key issues related to governance, the transformation of public administration in Africa in general, and Guinea in particular, along with other topics of mutual interest.

This important encounter between the Director General of CAFRAD and His Excellency the Minister of Labour and Public Service represents a first step toward strengthening fruitful cooperation between CAFRAD and Guinea, one of the founding countries of this Pan-African intergovernmental organization created in 1962.

It is worth recalling that the vision of the new Director General of CAFRAD is rooted in active listening to Member States and in strengthening and enhancing the relationships between this historic institution and its members. To implement this vision, the Director General is not relying solely on letters and phone calls but insists on direct contact through visits to the Embassies of Member States and to the countries themselves.

It should be noted that the Republic of Guinea is among the 10 founding countries of CAFRAD in 1964, with the support of UNESCO. The visit of the Director General to Guinean soil—a land rich in resources and innovation—marks Guinea's triumphant return to the community of Member States. CAFRAD is counting not only on its founding members but on all Member States to consolidate its territorial presence, extend its influence across Africa, and lead transformative projects capable of ensuring a bright future for the continent and each of its nations.

2. Recommendations Made

At the end of the official mission to the Republic of Guinea, the Director General of CAFRAD made the following recommendations:

1. **Continue the tour of all Member States** to ensure CAFRAD's territorial anchoring and visibility, as well as to raise awareness and re-engage key stakeholders;
2. **Extend the duration of stays in Member States** to allow for the implementation of multiple activities and working sessions with relevant stakeholders.

Conclusion

The stay of the Director General of CAFRAD in the Republic of Guinea was both a diplomatic and technical success, as his thematic presentation was very well received, with the Government expressing its satisfaction and appreciation. It serves as proof of Guinea's triumphant return to the circle of Member States and the Government's commitment to paying the country's contributions to CAFRAD's budget.

The Director General seized this valuable opportunity to raise awareness of CAFRAD in Guinea, sensitise and re-engage members of the Government on the importance of relying on CAFRAD for capacity-building of development stakeholders, and to support the Government in its many ongoing state transformation and development initiatives, including the Simandou 2040 project. As a result, excellent cooperation relations between Guinea and CAFRAD have been reactivated.

While thanking you in advance for the attention you will give to reading my reports, please accept, Madam Chairperson, the assurances of my highest consideration.



Dr. C. Dieudonné ASSOVI
Director General of CAFRAD