



AfCFTA Regional Trade Forum – West and Central Africa

Theme: *“AfCFTA in motion: Taking Africa’s integration to the next level for a prosperous continent”.*

*Dates:* 24-25 June 2019

Venue: King Fahd Palace Hotel, Dakar, Senegal

**INFORMATION NOTE**



Dear Participants,

On behalf of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), we look forward to welcoming you to Dakar, Senegal, and take this opportunity to thank you for accepting the invitation to participate in AfCFTA Regional Trade Forum – West and Central Africa. Below is some useful information:

## **1. General information about Senegal**

Situated at the western edge of the Sahel, Senegal covers an area of 196,722 km<sup>2</sup> and shares borders with Mauritania to the north, Mali to the east, and the Gambia, Guinea and Guinea-Bissau to the south. Three rivers run through the country: The Senegal River (1700 km long), the Gambia River (750 km long) and the Casamance River (300 km long). Senegal is divided into 14 administrative regions and 45 departments. The name “Senegal” comes from the Wolof word “Sunugaal”, which means “our canoe”. The official language of Senegal is French.

Dakar, the capital, has a tropical climate, with the heat and humidity being moderated by cooler breezes coming from the ocean. The rainy season, between June and November, brings heavy downpours along with strong southeasterly winds. The dry season, between December and April, is dominated by a hot, dry trade wind known as the “harmattan”.

The electric current in Senegal is 220 volts, 50Hz. Two-pin attachment plugs are in use.

The official currency is the CFA franc, which serves as legal tender in eight West African States. Currently, the value of the CFA franc is fixed to the euro at a rate of €1 = CFAF 655.957, equivalent to approximately US\$ 1.00 = CFAF 589.89. Delegates and participants are advised to check exchange rates at the time of their arrival in Senegal. Credit cards are only accepted by major establishments that cater to tourists and a commission is charged for their use.

## **2. Forum venue**

The AfCFTA Regional Trade Forum will be held from 24-25 June 2019 at the King Fahd Palace Hotel, located in the upscale Almadies neighborhood.

## **3. Forum Concept note and timetable**

The concept note of the Forum is available on the website of the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) at <https://www.uneca.org/regional-trade-forum-west-central-africa-2019>. The programme of meetings will be available on the same website in due course. Printed copies of all the documents will also be made available at the venue of the Forum, but participants are encouraged to use electronic copies.

## **4. Interpretation and documentation**

French and English are the working languages of the forum. Simultaneous interpretation in English and French will be available for both the plenary and breakout sessions.

## **5. Registration and badges**

To expedite the registration process, participants are required to register online at the following website: <http://events.uneca.org/registration/register?eventId=aa084c26-cc56-e911-8734-00505695004f>

The deadline for online registration is **20 June 2019**.



## 6. Visa and immigration requirements

### Nationalities subject to visa and eligible for e-Visa online:

Citizens of all nationalities can obtain visa online (e-Visa) or at embassies of Senegal around the world. However, please note that visa on arrival will be granted to all participants where needed.

### UNLP holders:

UN personnel holders of valid UNLP do not require an entry visa to enter Senegal.

## 7. Health requirements

### Health advisory and recommendations:

Malaria risk due predominantly to *P. falciparum* exists throughout the year in the entire country. There is less risk from January to June in the Central Western regions.

(Please visit the WHO vaccines by country website: <https://www.who.int/ith/ith-countrylist.pdf?ua=1>)

### Vaccination requirements

A yellow fever vaccination certification is required for travelers aged 9 months or over arriving from countries with yellow fever transmission and for travelers having transited through an airport of a country with risk of yellow fever transmission.

(Please visit the WHO vaccines by country website: <https://www.who.int/ith/ith-countrylist.pdf?ua=1>)

## 8. Airport reception and transportation

Your planned date and time of arrival in Dakar, with full flight details, should be provided to the secretariat of the Forum by sending an email to Ms. Eden Lakew ([lakewe@un.org](mailto:lakewe@un.org)) and Ms. Mamayenesh Teshome ([teshomem@un.org](mailto:teshomem@un.org)) or upon registration to the event at the following link:

<http://events.uneca.org/registration/register?eventId=aa084c26-cc56-e911-8734-00505695004f> . *Please ensure that you inform the secretariat of any subsequent changes to your date and time of arrival.*

ECA will provide shuttle buses to delegates from the Blaise Diagne International Airport to King Fahd Palace, the forum venue.

In the event that delegates and participants wish to arrange transportation to locations outside the time of the Forum, or to go to the airport at the end of the Forum, information and contact details of recommended taxi and car hire companies in Dakar will be made available by the secretariat of the Forum.

## 9. Hotel accommodation

All sponsored participants will be paid per diem in line with UN rules. Delegates and participants should make their own hotel reservations, either online or by contacting the hotel directly. A list of recommended hotels in Dakar, within range of the Venue, room types and room rates can be found in the annex. Delegates and participants will be responsible for paying for their own hotel accommodation. Payment can be made in CFA francs or in any convertible currency, including United States dollars. Although payment in cash is preferred, some hotels also accept credit cards.

All delegates and participants are kindly requested to note that the secretariat of the Forum will not be in a position to arrange hotel accommodation for those who fail to make their own arrangements directly. In addition to accommodation costs, delegates and participants will be responsible for all other associated costs (e.g., meals, telephone, Internet and fax use, room service, mini-bar use and laundry service), and must pay for these directly when checking out of the hotel.



## 10. Media registration and facilities

All media representatives covering the proceedings of the Forum must receive prior accreditation. To obtain that accreditation, media representatives will be required to present a letter of assignment, one form of valid identification (e.g., a press card, work identification, a driver's license or a passport) and proof of media affiliation. Those items should be presented when registering for the Forum at the media registration desk. A media center will be set up at the King Fahd Palace Hotel to facilitate media coverage of the Forum. More information in that regard will be communicated directly to the registered media representatives.

## 11. Facilities and services

Delegates and participants are encouraged to bring their laptops.

The King Fahd Palace Hotel has a travel desk that will be able to assist with ticketing.

In addition, there will be banking and medical facilities that delegates and participants will have access to.

### For more information, please contact:

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### ANNEX - List of shortlisted hotels located near King Fahd Palace Hotel

| No. | Hotel                    | Rate (FCFA)         | Rate (US) | Breakfast included          | Tax (FCFA)       | No. of rooms available | Contact information  |
|-----|--------------------------|---------------------|-----------|-----------------------------|------------------|------------------------|--|
| 1   | KING FAHD                | 100000              | 169       | Yes                         | 1000             | 100                    | Tel: +221 33 869 69 69<br>Email: <a href="mailto:reservation.dakar@kingfahdpalacehotels.com">reservation.dakar@kingfahdpalacehotels.com</a>  |
| 2   | LA RESIDENCE DAKAR       | 68 000              | 115       | No<br>(breakfast cost 6500) | 1000             | 15                     | <b>600 meters from King Fahd</b><br>Tel: +221 33 820 88 38<br>Email: <a href="mailto:laredidencedakar@gmail.com">laredidencedakar@gmail.com</a>  |
| 3   | YAAS HOTEL ALMADIES      | 66 000              | 112       | Yes                         | Included in rate | 50                     | <b>600 meters from King Fahd</b><br>Tel: +221 33 859 07 00<br>Email: <a href="mailto:reservations.almadies@yaashotels.com">reservations.almadies@yaashotels.com</a>  |
| 4   | AMBRE D'HOTE             | 45000<br>(UN -10%)  | 85        | No<br>(breakfast cost 4000) | 1000             | 6                      | <b>800 meters from King Fahd</b><br>Tel: +221 33 820 63 38<br>Web: <a href="http://www.ambredhotels.com/">http://www.ambredhotels.com/</a>   |
| 5   | LE LITTORAL DES ALMADIES | 50000<br>(UN -10%)  | 90        | Yes                         | 1000             | 8                      | <b>1km from King Fahd</b><br>Tel: +221 33 820 18 20<br>Email: <a href="mailto:litoralalma@gmail.com">litoralalma@gmail.com</a>   |
| 6   | LE LODGE DES ALMADIES    | 38 000              | 64        | No<br>(breakfast cost 4500) | Included in rate | 25                     | <b>1.2 km from King Fahd</b><br>Tel: +221 77 650 50 30 / + 221 33 869 03 45<br>Email: <a href="mailto:hotel@lodgedesalmadies.com">hotel@lodgedesalmadies.com</a>   |
| 7   | FLEUR DE LYS ALMADIES    | 55 000<br>(UN rate) | 103       | Yes                         | Included in rate | 14                     | <b>1.3 km from King Fahd</b><br>Tel: +221 33 869 86 87<br>Email : <a href="mailto:ndeye.gueye@hotelfleurdelysdakar.com">ndeye.gueye@hotelfleurdelysdakar.com</a> ;<br><a href="mailto:jules.sene@hotelfleurdelysdakar.com">jules.sene@hotelfleurdelysdakar.com</a> |
| 8   | HOTEL LE MIRAGE          | 45 000              | 85        | Yes                         | 1000             | 11                     | <b>2 km from King Fahd</b><br>Tel: +221 33 869 80 87<br>Email: <a href="mailto:hotelmirage@orange.sn">hotelmirage@orange.sn</a>  |



|    |                    |                             |     |                                |                  |    |   |
|----|--------------------|-----------------------------|-----|--------------------------------|------------------|----|---|
| 9  | CASINO DU CAP VERT | 60000                       | 120 | No<br>(breakfast<br>cost 5000) | Included in rate |    | <b>4.3km from King Fahd</b><br>Tel: +221 33 869 78 78<br>Email: <a href="mailto:reception@casinoducapvert.com">reception@casinoducapvert.com</a>                    |
| 10 | ARCHOTEL           | 50 000<br>(UN -10%)         | 90  | No<br>(breakfast<br>cost 4000) | Included in rate | 15 | <b>4.6 km from King Fahd</b><br>Tel: +221 33 820 41 63<br>Email: <a href="mailto:archotel@orange.sn">archotel@orange.sn</a>   |
| 11 | NGOR DIARAMA       | 62 000                      | 105 | Yes                            | Included in rate | 30 | <b>4.9 km from King Fahd</b><br>Tel: +221 33 820 27 24 / +221 33 820 10 05 / +221 33 820 01 45<br>Email: <a href="mailto:diarama2@orange.sn">diarama2@orange.sn</a> |
| 12 | HOTEL LE CABOURG   | 38000<br>(36500 UN<br>Rate) | 66  | Yes                            | 1000             | 13 | <b>5.4 km from King Fahd</b><br>Tel: +221 33 869 37 36<br>Email: <a href="mailto:hotelcabourg@orange.sn">hotelcabourg@orange.sn</a>                                 |