2021Annual Report, President and Secretary General of the Joint French-Arab Chamber of Commerce



Chambre de Commerce Franco Arabe الغرفة التجارية العربية الفرنسية



Votre business partner

A member of the World Network of Joint Chambers





Vincent REINA, Président Dr Saleh AL-TAYAR, Secretary General

It was our secret hope.

Even though by the end of 2020 the health conditions related to the Covid-19 pandemic, particularly in France, were far from satisfactory, we hoped that 2021 would allow us to operate under "normal" conditions.

These hopes were quickly dashed. And throughout the year we had to

comply with the rules, which meant that we had to limit our activities once again. The hesitation in decisions linked to the number of contaminations and hospitalizations certainly allowed us to have a few in presence gatherings, but essentially during periods of calm, framed by more important restrictions or imposed teleworking.

Let us remember: curfew from 6 p.m. throughout the country from Saturday 16 January 2021, then from 7 p.m. from 20 March, and which will last until the end of June 2021; lockdown - admittedly lighter than in 2020 - from 3 April to 3 May 2021; from December 2020 to 9 June 2021, the norm is teleworking. And i won't insist on the closures of places open to the public, or bans on meetings.

Like all companies, the CCFA has adapted. Webinars (4 March, 1 April, 23 June, 30 November) to compensate for the impossibility of physical meetings, "Bureau", Board meeting and General Assembly meetings by electronic means, and when feasible, physical events as soon as possible (24 June, 23 September, 17 November, 8 December). All in all, it was a year that did not match to our ambitions, to the "raison d'être" and to the missions of our Chamber, even if on 8 December 2021 - just before we had to stop one again this type of activity - we were able to end on a more positive note, by celebrating at the Maison de l'Amérique Latine, the 60th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between France and Kuwait, with the participation of our two Ambassadors, H.E Mrs. Claire Le Flécher and H.E. Mr. Sami Al Sulaiman, as well as a large number of participants.

The Chamber continued to serve the business community to the best of its ability in this particular context. Face-to-face legalizations never ceased; the website and our presence on digital networks have been regularly enriched; the Newsletter has been regularly published in order to ensure the best information to the CCFA member companies and its partners, also seeking to share our thoughts and ideas. In this context, 2021 was also the occasion to formalize a new information tool: a business intelligence memo, published twice a month, in an electronic format that was embellished during the year, allowing access to less common information on sectors and players in MENA countries. There were also regular exchanges with the CCFA's partners, the French Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs, national agencies and companies. In the difficulties encountered, the loyalty of each and every one of them has not been lacking; I sincerely thank them for that.

The Joint French-Arab Chamber of Commerce (CCFA) has thus played its role as a player in Franco-Arab economic relations by connecting French companies and institutions to Arab networks, through its actions in export formalities, but also through its work in business intelligence, information and business development.

The Chamber has also played its role as an observer of developments in Franco-Arab relations over the past few months.

It is thus particularly striking to note throughout the past year the rebalancing of international relations and the increasingly important role played by both the GCC countries and the Mediterranean countries, each of which with its own role to play and its own spheres of influence.

It seemed to us on several occasions that some of these countries had seized the opportunity of the health crisis to strengthen their industrial fabric, their capacity for autonomy and independence in terms of supply, for example, that these countries had considerably developed their strategies in terms of digitalization, innovation and FDI rules and conditions! The sometimes faster reopening of certain countries, faster than others within the MENA region, has enabled some of them to strengthen their role as platforms, both for the exchange of goods and merchandise, for innovation and even for skills and human resources.

France has taken the same approach, and there is no doubt that it too will continue to strengthen these aspects. And it is a must. Because if we do not know yet he precise 2021 situation of our foreign trade, country by country in the MENA zone, it is to be feared that in 2021, whereas in 2020 we recorded a loss of 6 billion euros in our exports to Arab countries and a drop of 10 billion euros in our imports from Arab countries, that the situation will hardly have improved. Even more so with the spectacular increase in the prices of various commodities since the last quarter of 2021.

We know that the know-how of some of our companies is more than well known in many of the countries of the MENA region. But the competition is tough, and it has even increased. The challenge for the Chamber is therefore not only to continue to help those who call on us, but also and perhaps above all to attract new companies. And this is not an easy task.

But in its concern for pragmatism and its desire to be even more operational and concrete, the CCFA continues and will continue to make its contribution, in a spirit of openness and partnership.

It can do so thanks to its support among the Arab Ambassadors present in Paris, among French diplomats, thanks to its members and its corporate partners in particular. But it is also thanks to the savings made during the crisis and to the reorganization of its staff that it has been able to carry out, to its adaptation to this very particular situation.

Even if once again the context continues to be uncertain, I can only express a wish: that 2022, a new year, will also be the occasion for a new momentum!

Vincent REINA President

Economic environment 2021

On average over the year 2021, **French GDP** increases by +7.0% after -8.0% in 2020. The average level of GDP in 2021 is thus 1.6% below its average level in 2019. This first estimate of the annual aggregates by summing up the four quarters will be consolidated when the provisional annual account for 2021 is published at the end of May 2022.

In 2021, the contribution of France **foreign trade** to the evolution of GDP is slightly positive (+0.2 point after -1.1 point in 2020). **In annual average, exports and imports remain in 2021 at a particularly deteriorated level, respectively 8.5% and 5.5% lower than their average level in 2019.**

Over the year 2021 as a whole, the rebound **in household consumption** appears to be more limited than that of production: +4.8% after -7.2% in 2020. In 2021, household consumption, particularly penalized by the health situation in the first half of the year, was thus on average 2.7% lower than its average level in 2019.

Over the whole of 2021, **total production** increases by +7.4% (after -8.5% in 2020) and is thus 1.7% below its average level in 2019. In annual average terms, the production of goods remains significantly below (- 5.6% compared to 2019), particularly in transport equipment (- 27.2% compared to 2019), while the output of services is much closer to its pre-crisis average level (-0.5% compared to 2019).

Insee data and comments, 28 January 2022

2021, through the Editorials of the CCFA Newsletters









March 2021:

"... There is no doubt that the global crisis we have been experiencing for over a year now, this Covid-19 pandemic, will have contributed to the acceleration of an international rebalancing. (...) Dubai has led the way with the resumption of large-scale international events (....).

At the very moment when in France, and in Europe, we are putting in place a reinforced strategy of "curbing the pandemic", and therefore of "re-closing". Are we not thus falling behind these new worlds that are strengthening their attractiveness and their international positioning? (...)

Fortunately for us, there is some good news to brighten this picture and show us that we can remain positive! They are often the result of initiatives by the French private sector, of its victories, of its capacity to innovate and to fight (...). But let there be no mistake. The road ahead may well become increasingly difficult. The world's gravity center has shifted irrevocably to the Asia-Pacific region. The countries of the Middle East are ideally placed to act as bridgeheads, in addition to their own markets to be developed. Competition from China and India can only increase, as can global competition (...). Time is going to press on. It's up to us to get our act together, to build a collective economic strategy. As far as we are concerned, we are always ready to make our contribution.

June 2021:

"... We are therefore not surprised to note that in 2020, French exports to Arab countries collapsed from 28 to 22 billion euros, a loss of 6 billion. We have thus suffered a 21% drop in the total mass of our exports to the Arab countries! As for imports, the situation is even worse. Over the past five years, our imports had risen from 16 to 27 billion. In 2020, they fell to 17 billion, i.e. 10 billion less, a drop of 37%. Imports and exports therefore experienced a real collapse in 2020, obviously linked to the situation of lockdowns we experienced. But not only that... The real risk is that of a lasting loss of market shares while some of our European competitors, or new countries such as Turkey and China in particular, have strengthened their positions. It is therefore important (...) that our Chamber shows itself to be even more concrete, even more operational, both in terms of facilitating imports and exports, and possible new investments...".

September 2021:

"...First alert, on the prospects of our foreign trade. Second alert, on the omnipresence of China, directly or behind the scene, not only in international diplomacy, but also through its international economic strategy, including in our zone (...). To remedy all of this, we will have to tackle many issues. And this also reminds me of the proposals we made at our Third France-Arab Countries Forum in December 2018, including the proposal to create a French-Arab Strategic Economic Council that would bring together the various French and Arab institutions working on bilateral exchanges, and would make it possible to federate specific initiatives, projects, and schedules. We did not claim to solve all the problems, but just to make a contribution. It remained a dead letter. And it will also be necessary, most certainly, to show less naivety".

December 2021:

This is a bit of a feature of the end of 2021, in many ways. Take for example the scenario of the last Formula 1 Grand Prix in Abu Dhabi! An astonishing final! But we will remember above all the predominant place taken by the Gulf countries in the great occasions, the great international sports shows (...).

This was also the case for the tour of the President of the Republic, Mr. Emmanuel Macron, in three Gulf countries between 3 and 5 December. In just a few days, the number of contracts signed or Memoranda of Understanding announced is enough to make one dizzy. This tour, more than beneficial for certain French companies, is indeed an opportunity to remind us that the know-how of our companies is awaited in many of these countries (...).

This end of the year was also surprising from a health point of view. And we thought we were gradually emerging from the Covid-19 crisis... Here we are once again plunged into a level of concern and uncertainty making it very difficult to say what it will generate as an environment, particularly for the beginning of next year (...)".

Read the editorials of the Newsletters in French or Arabic: https://ccfranco-arabe.fr/nos-newsletters or website in Arabic

Events 2021

- March 4: webinar on and with the Ras Al Khaimah Free Zone
- April 1: Participation and intervention at the MENA-OECD Government-Business Summit
- June 23: Webinar "France and the Gulf countries", with the participation of MISA, Kadipa, Oman Invest...
- June 24: First meeting of sponsor companies, member companies and Arab embassies
- Sept 23: Saudi Arabia Seminar MISA Medef
- Nov 3: Lunch with Arab Ambassadors
- Nov 17: Second meeting of sponsor companies, member companies and Arab embassies
- Nov 18: Video and breakfast Abu Dhabi, in support of ADIO
- Nov 24: Reception of a delegation of parliamentarians from Bahrain
- Nov 30: Webinar "The agri-food sector in Egypt: combining French excellence with Egypt's strong growth" in partnership with the Egyptian Embassy in France, the Franco-Egyptian Chamber of Commerce, Medef, the French Embassy in Egypt
- Dec 8: Meeting **''France-Kuwait, 60 years of partnerships, what perspectives?''** in partnership with the Embassy of Kuwait in France and the French Embassy in Kuwait

During the 2021 lockdown, the CCFA maintained its electronic publications - Newsletters, social networks - and face-to-face or remote meetings, with:

- the Ambassador of Egypt, H.E Mr. Alaa Youssef
- the Ambassador of Saudi Arabia, H.E Mr. Fahad Al-Ruwaily
- the Ambassador of France to Kuwait, H.E Mrs. Anne-Claire Legendre
- the new Ambassador of France to Kuwait, H.E Mrs. Claire le Flécher
- the Ambassador of Palestine to France, H.E. Mrs. Hala Abou Hassira
- the Ambassador of the United Arab Emirates, H.E. Mrs. Hend Al Otaiba
- the Ambassador Head of Mission of the League of Arab States, H.E. Mr. Naji Abi Assi
- Ambassador of Kuwait, H.E. Mr. Sami Al Sulaiman
- the Ambassador of Bahrain, H.E. Mr. Khalifa Al Khalifa
- the Ambassador of Yemen, H.E. Mr. Abdullah
- the Ambassador of France for the Mediterranean, H.E. Mr. Karim Amellal
- the Secretary General of the Union of Arab Banks, Mr. Wissam H. Fattouh
- the MENA Director of the French Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs, Mrs. Anne Gueguen
- the Executive President of Global Diwan, Mr. Eric Schell
- Mr. Olivier Cadic, Senator, President of the Parliamentary Friendship Group France-Gulf countries
- Mr. Karim Wissa, Director General of the France-Egypt Chamber of Commerce
- Meetings with the 2021 partners and French companies
- Presence at the Arab Ambassadors' receptions

The French-Arab Chamber of Commerce (CCFA), created in 1970, is organized on an institutional basis ("Bureau" ie Executive Committee - and Board of Directors) which is strictly equal in French and Arab members. This gives the Chamber its uniqueness and strength.

Its "raison d'être" is the will of those who want to build an area of cooperation and economic partnership between France, Maghreb, Mashreq and the Gulf countries linked by a common history. Its area of expertise thus extends to a market of more than 380 million people.

At its head, an executive composed of a French President, Mr. Vincent Reina, elected in 2016 and re-elected at the June 2019 General Assembly, and an Arab Secretary General, a "Bureau" (ExCo) and a Board of Directors composed of member French companies and national Chambers of Commerce of the 22 member countries of the League of Arab States in equal numbers.

The Chamber is subject to French law and governed by the 1901 Law on associations.

The CCFA's governing bodies were able to meet throughout 2021 - either without physical presence, with electronic voting, or in person when health conditions allowed - and were thus not paralyzed by the pandemic situation. Thanks to the extraordinary measures taken by the French government and Parliament, <u>the provisions of Order No. 2020-321 of 25 March 2020</u>, renewed in 2021, made it possible to hold "Bureau" and Board meetings: a Board meeting on 7 April, and a "Bureau" meeting and the Ordinary General Assembly on 2 June, in electronic mode. A "Bureau" meeting was held in person on 15 September and a "Bureau" and Board meeting on 8 December, also in person.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE "BUREAU"- as of 31 December 2021

VICE-PRESIDENTS



Mr. Raja AL KABARITI President JORDAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



Mr. Jean-Luc CHAPOTON Directeur Commercial International Groupe RATP DEV



Mr. Ibraheem Mahmoud FOUDAH, Representing SAUDI EXPORT DEVELOPMENT CENTER



Mr. Thierry GIRARD Directeur Commercial International NGE



Sheikh Khalifa Bin Jassim Bin Mohamed AL THANI President, QATAR CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY



Mr. Jean-Yves MARSALEIX Treasurer

MEMBERS OF THE « BUREAU »



Dr. Khaled HANAFY Secretary general UNION OF ARAB CHAMBERS



Mr. Patrick SEGUIN President, CCI Bordeaux Gironde Representing CCI FRANCE



Mr.Ibraheem AL-ARABI representing FEDERATION OF EGYPTIAN CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE



Mr. Henri POMERANC Gérant ATRAD



Mr. Jean-Lou BLACHIER Secrétaire confédéral CONFEDERATION DES PME



Mr. Bertrand de FONVIELLE President KERVILLEN CONSULTING



Mr. Mohamed ZERROUKI Vice-President ALGERIAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY



Mr. Serge MELLOUL Directeur Général ARISTOT



Mr. Samir MAJOUL President UTICA

ARAB MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Members by right

- The Secretary General of the Union of Arab Chambers
- The Secretary General of the Joint French-Arab Chamber of Commerce
- The Assistant Secretary General of the Arab League in charge of Economic Affairs

ALGERIAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY BAHRAIN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY COUNCIL OF SAUDI CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY **COTTON MARKETING ORGANIZATION (Syria)** DJIBOUTI CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY FEDERATION OF CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE OF MOROCCO FEDERATION OF CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY OF THE UNITED ARAB EMIRATES FEDERATION OF EGYPTIAN CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE FEDERATION OF IRAOI CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE FEDERATION OF LEBANESE CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND AGRICULTURE FEDERATION OF PALESTINIAN CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE, INDUSTRY AND AGRICULTURE FEDERATION OF YEMEN CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY GENERAL UNION OF LIBYAN CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE, INDUSTRY AND AGRICULTURE JORDAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MAURITANIA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, INDUSTRY AND AGRICULTURE **OMAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY OATAR CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY** SAUDI EXPORT DEVELOPMENT CENTER SUDANESE BUSINESS MEN AND EMPLOYERS FEDERATION **TUNISIAN UNION OF TRADE, INDUSTRY & CRAFTS** UNION OF SYRIAN CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE

FRENCH MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

AAQIUS **ADEGYS ANTEA** ARISTOT **ATRAD** AURIOS **CABINET FRANC CABINET MERLIN CCI FRANCE CIAC INTERNATIONAL TECHNOLOGIES CONFEDERATION DES PETITES ET MOYENNES ENTREPRISES CREDIT AGRICOLE CORPORATE & INVESTMENT BANK EIFFAGE GENIE CIVIL GIDE LOYRETTE NOUEL GROUPE SOUFFLET KERVILLEN CONSULTING** NGE RATP **SAUR SNCF** SOCOTEC SUEZ **TRANSDEV VEOLIA AFRICA**

LEGALIZATION:

By approval from the Economic Council of the Arab League, CCFA is empowered to legalize all documents relating to an export to Arab countries (certificate of origin, commercial invoice, aso).

The visa service is available Monday to Friday from 8.30 a.m. to 12.30 a.m., and telephone information is available on 00 33 1 45 53 20 12 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

CONSULTING:

Trade missions for French companies in Arab countries. Information and country seminars. Breakfasts with economic and institutional speakers. Participation in trade fairs and economic conferences. Organization of fact finding missions for Arab Embassies in major French cities. Reception of Ministers and Arab delegations coming to France. Organization of B2B meetings for the benefit of Arab companies coming to France. Organization of "France-Arab countries Forum" and conferences.

INFORMATION:

To share and widely disseminate information, through Newsletters and a website.

The Newsletter: the Chamber's newsletter is a concentrate of constant monitoring of economic and financial news from companies, opportunities to be seized in France and in the Arab countries and a tool for disseminating the Chamber's activities. The French version is widely sent to economic and institutional circles and the Arabic version is widely distributed in the 22 Arab countries.

The Chamber also publishes every two weeks a business intelligence letter: CCFA Veille.

The website is dynamic, informative and responsive. It provides macroeconomic and statistical data on Arab countries and news on the CCFA program of activities.

DISPUTE RESOLUTION:

The Mediation and Arbitration Center near the French-Arab Chamber of Commerce (CCFA) brings together eminent arbitrators and mediators of international renown.

It has state-of-the-art regulations corresponding to the standard of regulations of the most prestigious arbitration institutions in the world.

The Mediation and Arbitration Center offers to corporate or individual persons a specific method of resolving disputes based on dual Franco-Arab cultures and respect for parity.

ADVANTAGES TO OUR MEMBERS:

To allow economic operators to quickly access the best sources of information and establish high-level direct contacts, the French-Arab Chamber of Commerce (CCFA) offers its members the following advantages:

- > Networking.
- Discussions and conferences.
- Support from our Chamber for business visas.
- Priority for certification of commercial documents.
- > Assistance for exports or FDI in all the countries of the Arab World.
- > Connection with Arab companies wishing to set up or export to France.
- Facilitation of selection of products and services according to markets and countries.
- > Quick contact with potential importers.
- Regular information on business opportunities.
- Assistance and protection of your interests through the Mediation and Arbitration Center of our Chamber.
- Insertion of the logo of the Chamber on all your documents in order to facilitate your referencing with your Arab or French contacts.
- Connection with all public (Chambers of Commerce aso...) or private institutions likely to bring assistance for all your import-export operations

In 2021...

2021 webinars

4 March 2021



To showcase the many opportunities offered by **Ras Al-Khaimah**, especially its free trade zone Ras Al-Khaimah Economic Zone (Rakez), the authority of this free trade zone, in collaboration with the French-Arab Chamber of Commerce, organized a webinar on **Thursday, March 4**, **2021**, to present the vast opportunities for growth in the United Arab Emirates, especially in Ras Al-Khaimah, and the incentives offered by Rakez to help foreign companies set up business in this zone. On this occasion, Mr. Ramy Jallad, CEO of Rakez Group and Ms. Joyce Choukri, Sales Manager for Europe, presented the assets and dynamism of this emirate and explained the advantages offered to the various economic actors who choose to settle in its free zone.

Read the report in French or Arabic on : <u>https://ccfranco-arabe.fr/wp-</u> content/uploads/2021/04/145_Newsletter-mars_2021.pdf or the Arabic website

23 June 2021



The French-Arab Chamber of Commerce organized, in partnership with the CCI Paris Île-de-France, the **4th France - Gulf Countries Forum** by videoconference on **Wednesday 23 June**. This Forum, moderated by the President of the CCFA, Mr. Vincent Reina, met a great success by gathering a panel of economic actors and business leaders. Among the speakers at this Forum, closed by Her Excellency Mrs. Anne-Claire Legendre, Ambassador of France to Kuwait, were Mr. Jérôme Bédier, elected representative in charge of international affairs at the CCI Paris Île-de-France, Dr Saoud Al-Mashari, Secretary General of the Federation of Gulf Chambers of Commerce, Mr. Nicolas Séjour, Head of Office, in charge of the Middle East at the French Ministry of Economy and Finance and Mr. Frédéric Szabo, Head of the Middle East Division of Business France agency.

Read the report in French or Arabic: <u>https://ccfranco-arabe.fr/wp-</u> content/uploads/2022/01/146_Newsletter-juin_fr_2021.pdf or the Arabic website

30 November 2021



In order to highlight the French know-how and to illustrate a strategic sector for Egypt, the French-Arab Chamber of Commerce, the French CCI in Egypt and the Global Diwan organized a virtual meeting on "**The agri-food sector in Egypt: combining French excellence with Egypt's strong growth**" on **November 30th** which was a great success.

Mrs. J. Dorra Fiani, President of the CCIFE's Agribusiness Committee, moderated this meeting which was attended by many speakers including His Excellency Mr. Marc Barety, Ambassador of France to the Arab Republic of Egypt, Mr. Francois Burgaud, President of the Agribusiness Cluster of Medef International, Mr. Fouad Sayed, Minister Plenipotentiary, Head of the Commercial Office of the Embassy of the Arab Republic of Egypt in France, Mr. Eric Schell, Executive President of Global Diwan, Mrs. Vivyan Attalah, Carrefour Group, Mrs. Véronique Le Bail, of the French Fruit and Vegetable Importers' Union, Mrs. Atika Ben Maid, from the French Development Agency in Cairo, Mr. Erwan Gambert, Semmaris, Mr. Laurent Guesdon, of the Dairy Industry section of Medef International.

Read the report in French and Arabic: <u>https://ccfranco-arabe.fr/wp-</u> <u>content/uploads/2021/12/Newsletter-decembre_2021_FR.pdf</u> or the Arabic website

2021 in person meetings

"Sponsors and Companies Meetings" 24 June 2021

After weeks of constraints, the French-Arab Chamber of Commerce, which has never closed down in order to provide companies with document certification and facilitate exports, resumed its face-to-face activities.

This meeting allowed the Strategic and Gold sponsors of the CCFA (Veolia, Transdev, and Antea) accompanied by two other member companies (Saur, Socotec) to present to other members of the Chamber their activities and their development strategies in the countries of the region.

By also inviting the Arab ambassadors present in France, the Chamber is also playing its role in terms of better understanding and acceleration the projects of French companies.

The Ambassadors participating in this meeting (Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Tunisia, Yemen, Libya, Lebanon) also had the opportunity to present the situation in their respective countries.

Read the report in French and Arabic: <u>https://ccfranco-arabe.fr/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/146_Newsletter-juin_fr_2021.pdf</u> or the Arabic website









The President of the CCFA, Mr. Vincent Reina, receives the Arab Ambassadors present in Paris, 3 November 2021

The President of the CCFA, Mr. Vincent Reina, received the Arab Ambassadors present in Paris, or their representatives, on **November 3rd**, during a lunch offered in the salons of the Maison de l'Amérique latine.



During this meeting, the first in this format since the beginning of the health crisis, the President was able to give an overview of the situation of the joint French-Arab Chamber of Commerce in mid-2021, present the various support measures taken by the Chamber to maintain its activities, and announce the main lines of its future actions: "companies and partners" meeting, webinar on agri-food in Egypt, "Kuwait" meeting, future action program, company partnerships, institutional calendar...

The Ambassadors praised the action of the President and the Chamber in a difficult context, assured him of their support and recalled that the action of the Chamber towards them, with in particular the trips to the metropolitan cities, should be continued.





Second CCFA « Sponsors and Companies meetings », 17 November 2021

After a particularly successful first meeting on 24 June, the French-Arab Chamber of Commerce organized the second day of "Sponsors and Companies" meetings on **Wednesday 17 November**. In front of 70 participants - companies, embassy representatives, and institutional partners - three member companies were able to present their know-how in order to strengthen their contacts and projects.

Aqualter - a company involved in the production and distribution of drinking water, the collection and treatment of wastewater, and the construction of drinking water and wastewater treatment plants - opened the morning session. It was followed by the **MERLIN** firm, a consulting and engineering group in the environmental field. Finally, the General Manager of the **Union de Banques Arabes et Françaises (Ubaf)** concluded the morning's work by presenting the different know-how of Ubaf.

Read the report in French or Arabic: https://ccfranco-arabe.fr/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/Newsletter-decembre_2021_FR.pdf





"France-Kuwait", 8 December

Following up an initiative of Mr. Vincent Reina, President of the French-Arab Chamber of Commerce, the CCFA, on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between France and Kuwait, organized on the afternoon of **8 December** a meeting on the theme **''France-Kuwait, after 60 years of diplomatic relations, what perspectives?''**. The presentation of the French Ambassador to Kuwait, H.E. Mrs. Claire Le Flécher, as well as that of the Ambassador of the State of Kuwait in Paris, H.E. Sami Al Sulaiman, highlighted the intensity of the relations between the two countries and the perspectives for the future.

The French co-chair of the Franco-Kuwaiti Strategic Dialogue, Mr. Denis Le Fers, from the French Treasury Department, reinforced the prospects for the future of Kuwait's "Vision 2035".

The testimonies of companies: Air Liquide, Ardian, Al-Yacout & Al-Fouzan Legal Group illustrated the untapped potential of economic projects open to French companies, in the presence of the Secretary General of the Union of Arab Chambers, Dr Khaled Hanafy.

Read the report in French and Arabic: https://ccfranco-arabe.fr/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/Newsletter-decembre 2021 FR.pdf







2021 Annual Report – Joint French-Arab Chamber of Commerce

Some of the President's meetings

- The Ambassador of Egypt, HE Mr. Alaa Youssef
- The Ambassador of Saudi Arabia, HE Mr. Fahad Al-Ruwaily
- The Ambassador of France to Kuwait, H.E. Mrs. Anne-Claire Legendre
- The new Ambassador of France to Kuwait, H.E. Mrs. Claire le Flécher
- The Ambassador of Palestine to France, H.E. Mrs. Hala Abou Hassira
- The Ambassador of the United Arab Emirates, H.E. Mrs Hend Al Otaiba
- The Ambassador Head of Mission of the League of Arab States, H.E. Mr. Naji Abi Assi
- The Ambassador of Kuwait, H.E. Mr. Sami Al Sulaiman
- The Ambassador of Bahrain, H.E. Mr. Khalifa Al Khalifa
- The Ambassador of Yemen, HE Mr. Abdullah
- The French Ambassador for the Mediterranean, H.E. Mr. Karim Amellal
- The Secretary General of the Union of Arab Banks, Mr. Wissam H. Fattouh
- The ANMO Director of the Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs, Mrs. Anne Gueguen
- The Executive President of Global Diwan, Mr. Eric Schell
- Mr. Olivier Cadic, Senator, President of the Parliamentary Friendship Group France-Gulf countries
- Mr. Karim Wissa, Director General of the France-Egypt Chamber of Commerce



Rencontres du Président de la CCFA. Le Président a accueilli ou rendu visite à :

accueil d'une délégation de parlementaires de Bahreïn (24.11).
visite à la nouvelle Ambassadrice de Palestine, de S.E. Mme Hala ABOU HASSIRA (6.12).
visite au nouvel Ambassadeur de Bahreïn, S.E Sh. Khalifa AL KHALIFA (26.10).
visite à la nouvelle Ambassadrice des Emirats arabes unis, S.E. Mme Hend AL OTAIBA (23.11).
visite à l'Ambassadeur du Koweït, S.E Mr. Sami AL SULAIMAN (16.11).
accueil de Mr. Wissam H. FATTOUH, Secrétaire général de l'Union of Arab Banks.
rencontre avec le nouvel Ambassadeur de la Ligue des Etats Arabes, S.E. Mr. Naji ABI ASSI (24.11).
visite à l'Ambassadeur du Yemen, S.E.Mr Reyad Yassin ABDULLAH.



Web sites : <u>https://ccfranco-arabe.fr</u> ; <u>http://uac-org.org/en/ArabChamber/arab-foreign-joint-chambers/chambre-de-commerce-franco-arabe</u>



@Chambre de Commerce Franco Arabe, CCFA Paris



Our videos on: CCFA Chambre de Commerce Franco - Arabe

CCFA Business Intelligence – CCFA Veille



In 2021, CCFA formalised a regular memo, sent twice a month to its members and archived on its website. A new information tool, with sources both public institutions and private sectors, in French and English.

To be consulted on: https://ccfranco-arabe.fr/ccfa-veille

In AFRICAPRESSE.PARIS, May 2021





Votre business partner

Strategic Sponsors





Gold Sponsor

Silver Sponsors







Company Partner



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