



THE FRANCO-BRITISH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND THE DEPARTMENT FOR INTERNATIONAL TRADE, FRANCE SIGN A HISTORIC AGREEMENT ON THEIR JOINT ACTION PLAN

24 September 2020 - Paris, France - The Franco-British Chamber of Commerce & Industry - Europe's oldest international chamber of commerce - and the Department for International Trade, France of the British Embassy in France signed a historic agreement on a Joint Action Plan in the presence of the UK Ambassador to France, Lord Edward Llewellyn and the President of the Chamber, Thierry Drilhon at the "Rentrée Reception".

The UK and France are major commercial partners, with bilateral trade worth over £91 billion in 2019 coupled with significant levels of investment on both sides of the Channel creating prosperity, economic growth and jobs.

DIT France and the Franco-British Chamber will build on their existing collaboration to work as strategic partners to meet the challenge of economic recovery; to capitalise on the significant potential of innovation, new technologies and clean growth; to maximise market access while identifying and working on business challenges; to intensify bilateral trade and investment relations while proactively supporting businesses.

This partnership is more strategic than ever as the UK prepares to establish a new trading relationship with the European Union from 1 January 2021 and as the UK and France take steps to recover from the economic shock caused by the Covid-19 pandemic. Thierry Drilhon said: **"This partnership agreement is historic because it supports and accelerates Cross-Channel economic relations, which represent nearly 100 billion euros each year. Based on a 10-year vision and a precise action plan, it will light the way for companies in the fiscal, legal, logistical, technological, human resources and administrative fields. At a time when geopolitical relations between states remain complex with an unprecedented health crisis, companies are joining forces to create collective intelligence.**

Lord Edward Llewellyn, UK Ambassador to France said: **"It is essential that DIT France and the Franco-British Chamber continue their close collaboration and work as strategic partners to accompany and support French and British companies in meeting new challenges and recovering from the impact of the pandemic on our economies. This also means working together around major bilateral and international trade fairs and events such as London Tech Week; VivaTechnologie and COP26 which the UK will host in November 2021 to maximise the growth of Franco-British businesses. »**



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Franco-British Chamber of Commerce & Industry

The Franco-British Chamber of Commerce & Industry, created in 1873, is the oldest international chamber of commerce in Europe. It offers its members - companies of all sizes, all sectors of activity, and of French and British origin - a wide range of tailor-made services to help them develop their Cross-Channel activities. Established in Paris for more than 145 years, the Franco-British Chamber is a powerful business network that accompanies and brings companies together. The Business Connect offer, from member to member, allows a privileged and efficient connection.

For more information on the Franco-British Chamber's services:
www.francobritishchamber.com

Department for International Trade

The Department for International Trade (DIT) is the UK government organisation that helps UK-based companies to export and expand into international markets. DIT also helps foreign companies to set up in the UK, we offer support and advice through our network of specialists across the Channel and in all our embassies and consular offices around the world.

For more information on the services of the Department for International Trade:
<https://www.great.gov.uk/international/>

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