

STRATEGIC PARTNERS

BT
CARLSON WAGONLIT TRAVEL
FREESCALE
GE
MORGAN STANLEY
PSA PEUGEOT CITROËN
SIEMENS
WHIRLPOOL
XEROX

INSTITUTIONAL PARTNERS

AFD
DIACT
EUROPEAN COMMISSION
INVEST IN FRANCE AGENCY
INVEST IN WESTERN FRANCE AGENCY
NANTES METROPOLE
PAYS DE LA LOIRE REGION

SPONSORS

APPLE
CIC BANQUE CIO
OECD
SONY
TDF

MEDIA PARTNERS

BFM RADIO
BUSINESS WIRE
CAPITAL FINANCE
CNBC
EURONEWS
TIME MAGAZINE
L'USINE NOUVELLE

CONTACT

www.europeplus.org

EXECUTIVE OFFICE / PARIS

Michèle MEDVEDOWSKY-MARCHETTI
michele.medvedowsky@diact.gouv.fr
team@labaulewic2008.org

REGISTRATION LA BAULE WIC/EUROMED

Tel. +33 (0)1 46 93 88 86
registration@labaulewic2008.org

PRESS CONTACT

Vilizara LAZAROVA
Tel. +33(0)1 44 43 74 81
vilizara.lazarova@consultants.publicis.fr

Design Setori • May 2008

*Making Europe
More Attractive*

**3rd EUROMED
Investment
Conference**



High Level Conference

**EUROMED
INVESTMENT
CONFERENCE**

June 5, 2008



*Making Europe
More Attractive*

**LA BAULE
JUNE 5
2008**

UNION FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN
*projects creating momentum
to attract investment,
talent and innovation*

*Making Europe
More Attractive*

**LA BAULE
JUNE 5
2008**

UNION FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN

for boosting investment, talent and innovation



NICOLAS SARKOZY

President of the French Republic

France is once again hosting the Euro-Mediterranean Investment Conference in La Baule, now in its third year. This event is of particular importance in 2008, since, at France's initiative, the Member States of the European Union and countries around the Mediterranean have this year decided to move ahead with the Union for the Mediterranean.

This great project, embodying an ideal of civilization, has its origins in some simple observations.

The income gap between the north and south coasts of the Mediterranean is among the widest anywhere in the world. What is more, it has widened steadily over the past 15 years, entailing serious risks for stability in the region and beyond. According to the OECD, 40 million jobs will have to be found in the next 15 years simply to steady unemployment at its present levels in countries to the south of the Mediterranean. At the same time, investment flows within the region remain abnormally low – only 2% of Europe's direct overseas investments go to these countries. Last but not least, the Mediterranean is one of the regions that will be most affected – and in the very short term – by climate change.

Beyond their shared interests, the countries on the northern and southern shores of the Mediterranean have a common destiny. A link between continents, the Mediterranean has always been at the crossroads of religions and civilizations; of conflicts, but also trade, economic life and cultural exchange. This also places it at the heart of the great challenges for the 21st century. Today, there are divides that are potentially, even actually, dangerous, and it is urgent to ensure that we have the means needed for us to take up these common challenges together. That is the ambition of the Union for the Mediterranean.

This assessment is not new. It was at the origin of the Barcelona process launched in 1995, and over recent years many other organizations and structures have been set up. All partners in Europe and around the Mediterranean now agree that more must be done for the Mediterranean, and that it must be done more effectively, considering that only a tiny part of the targets defined in Barcelona have been achieved.

The mission of the Union for the Mediterranean is to bring Europe and Africa together, creating a genuine partnership to build concrete projects, in a spirit of complementarity and cooperation with existing institutions. France is thus proposing a new approach, starting with concrete projects and practical solidarity, to create momentum for closer ties, with partners in Europe and around the Mediterranean working together on an equal footing to ensure that the process is appropriated by all.

On July 13, I will be receiving all the Heads of State and Government of European and Mediterranean countries to inaugurate the Union for the Mediterranean and its first concrete initiatives. It is the conjunction of our projects that will form the core of our project for Union.

ATLANTIA
CONGRESS
CENTER

Program

June 5, 2008

PROJECTS CREATING MOMENTUM to attract investment, talent and innovation

ROUNDTABLES SPEAKERS:

ARIS KEKEDJIAN, President and CEO of GE Capital Middle East-Africa
LAURENCE PARISOT, President of MEDEF
JACQUES-JEAN SARRAF, President of the Union of Mediterranean Confederations of Enterprises
SIR NAGUIB SAWIRIS, Founder of ORASCOM (Egypt)
RADHI MEDDEB, General Manager of IPEMED
JACQUES PFISTER, President of Marseille Provence Chamber of Commerce and Industry
RAINER GEIGER, Deputy Director, Financial and Enterprise Affairs, OECD
DR. MAEN NSOUR, CEO of Jordan Investment Board
MOURCHED EL HAGE CHAHINE, Board Member of Investment Development Authority of Lebanon
FRANÇOISE VILAIN, General Manager of Vienne Chamber of Commerce and Industry
JOHN VASSALLO, Public Affairs Manager of GE
MIDDLE EAST SOVEREIGN FUND

2:45 > 3:00 PM

Welcome address by:

PIERRE GUÉNANT, President of La BAULE WIC, Co-chairman of Europe+ Foundation, Chairman of PGA GROUP
PATRICK GOUNELLE, CEO of Ernst & Young for France and Southern Europe Co-chairman of Europe+ Foundation

3:00 > 3:10 PM

The Euromed Attractiveness report:

MARC LHERMITTE, Partner Ernst & Young

3:10 > 4:30 PM

ROUNDTABLE

What will future bring to the mediterranean?

Introduction by ALAIN LE ROY, Ambassador in charge of the Union for the Mediterranean Initiative and JEAN-MICHEL SEVERINO, Managing Director of French Agency for Development

Moderated by SERGE DEGALLAIX, French Ambassador in Tunisia and PHILIPPE CHALMIN, Professor at Paris-Dauphine University

4:30 > 5:30 PM

ROUNDTABLE

Investors needs and proposals for joining the Union for the Mediterranean

Moderated by PHILIPPE CHALMIN, Professor at Paris-Dauphine University (France) and FRANÇOIS GERIN, Deputy Managing Director of Siemens France

5:45 > 6:00 PM

Official closing session by:

MOHAMED NOURI JOUINI, Minister of Development & International Cooperation of the Republic of Tunisia
NIZAR BARAKA, Minister, Delegate to the Prime Minister in Charge of Economic and General Affairs, Kingdom of Morocco
ABDELAZIZ BELKHADEM*, Prime Minister of the Republic of Algeria
A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT

Moderated by SERGE DEGALLAIX, French Ambassador in Tunisia and FRANÇOIS GERIN, Deputy General Manager of Siemens France

* To be confirmed

Moderators

PHILIPPE CHALMIN

*Associate professor of International Affairs,
Paris Dauphine University*

A graduate from HEC Business school, he holds a doctorate in Economic History from the Sorbonne University in Paris. Philippe Chalmin is specialized in international commodity markets and is the General Editor of the United Nations Commodity Yearbook published by UNCTAD ("Rapport Cyclope" in French). He is a columnist in some major French newspapers and appears regularly on radios and TV. He has done major research on the dynamics of clusters in France and world wide.

Today, he is Member of the Council of Economic Advisers (Office of the French Prime Minister). Chair Professor of Economic History at Paris-Dauphine University and Head of the Master of International Affairs since 1999 at the same University.



SERGE DEGALLAIX

Ambassador of France in Tunisia

Serge Degallaix holds an MBA of Economic Sciences (Paris), alumnus of the Institute of political studies in Paris (1970) and of the National School of Administration. He started his career as First Secretary at the French Embassy in Yaounde and in Teheran (1974 – 1979), member of the French delegation to the UNO, Head of Department of Energy matters and raw materials (1979-1982), Head of the Mission of Co-operation in Lome (1982-1985), at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Under-Secretary at the Ministry of Co-operation (1985-1989), Ambassador of France in Dacca (1989-1992), Deputy Permanent Under Secretary of cultural, scientific and technical co-operation at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (1992-1996), Ambassador of France in Hanoi (1996-2001), Diplomatic Advisor to the Prime Minister (2002-2005), Ambassador of France in Tunis (from July 2005). He is Chevalier de la Légion d'Honneur – Officier de l'Ordre National du Mérite. He also is Professor at Blaise Pascal University in Clermont-Ferrand and François Rabelais University in Tours.

FRANÇOIS GERIN

Deputy General Manager of Siemens France

After five years at the Service des mines and the Ile-de-France Region (1974-79), François Gerin became an assistant to the Director of Vehicules Regulation at the Ministry for Transports (1979-82). He was then appointed Head of the Videocommunications Delegation to the General Directorate for Telecommunication for 5 years, before he shifted to Manager of the television-broadcasted activities of the French group Lyonnaise des Eaux (1987-90). In 1990 François Gerin joined Siemens, as telecommunication activities Manager (1990-2000), before he became Siemens France's Deputy General Manager (since 1995) and President of Siemens telecommunication and computer networks (from 1998 to 2004).



Speakers

NIZAR BARAKA

Deputy to the Prime Minister of Morocco, Minister for Economic and General Affairs

Nizar Baraka holds a doctorate in Business Administration from the University of Aix-Marseille, and taught in the Faculty of Law, Economics and Social Sciences at the University Mohammed V in Agdal before becoming head of the Economic Watch service in the Financial Research and Forecasts unit of the Ministry of Finance in 1996. In 1998 he was named Division Head for Economic Policy and Division head for Macro-Economic Analysis, and in 2006 became Deputy Director of the Financial Research and Forecasts unit at the Ministry of Finance and Privatizations.

In 2007, HRH Mohammed VI named Mr. Baraka Deputy to the Prime Minister and Minister charged with Economic and General Affairs. He serves on several committees and boards of directors, and is active in a number of national and international associations and organizations. In 2005, King Mohammed VI appointed Mr. Baraka to the Averroes Committee, a group charged with strengthening cooperation between Morocco and Spain. Mr. Baraka contributed to a report on “50 years of human development in Morocco and prospects for 2025”.



MOURCHED F. HAGE CHAHINE

Board Member of the Investment Development Authority of Lebanon – IDAL

Mourched F. Hage Chahine was born on September 28, 1966 in Zahle. He graduated from Saint Joseph University in Agronomist Engineering. Mr. Hage Chahine deals with numerous activities in the fields of agriculture, import and export of goods to Europe and the Middle East, in addition to being a sole dealer of several brands. He also is the owner and manager of a petroleum company. Prior to working on his own, Mr. Hage Chahine had many training experiences in major companies like Tanail, Inra Liban, Bayer, and Dulcee.

RAINER GEIGER

Deputy Secretary General, OECD

Rainer Geiger is a graduate of the University of Heidelberg in Germany and Columbia Law School in New York, United States with a PhD and an advanced law degree. His professional career started as Counsellor in the Ministries of Economics and Economic Cooperation in Germany; Secretary of the Finance Commission of the Conference on International Economic Cooperation in Paris. In 1977, he joined the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) in Paris, France where he has held various posts and is currently the Deputy Director for Financial and Enterprise Affairs and Head of the Middle East and North Africa Investment Programme. He is Co-Chair of the Investment Compact Pact for South East Europe. He is an Associate Professor for international economic law at the University Paris I, Pantheon-Sorbonne and has published numerous articles on international economic law issues. He is fluent in German, English, French and Spanish. He is a member of the German American Lawyers Association and the French Society of International Law.



PIERRE GUÉNANT

Chairman of PGA Group

He has founded and managed the PGA Group from a French car dealership to a € 4 billions European Group, leader of the car distribution markets in France, Holland, Poland and Greece. As the CEO of PGA HOLDING, he is also involved in Construction, Equipments, Distribution and in Investment Funds and serves on several Boards as a Non Executive Director. He began his career with the Jacobs/Jacques Vabre Group and later with the Heuliez Group where he held sales, sales management and executive director positions. He is also Chairman of the Invest in Western France Agency, President of the Poitou-Charentes Economic and Social Council and chairs the steering committee of LA BAULE – World Investment Conference. Pierre Guénant is a graduate of the Ecole Supérieure de Commerce de Paris (ESCP).



PATRICK GOUNELLE

*CEO of Ernst & Young for France and South of Europe
and Co-Chairman of Europe+*

Graduated in law from the École Supérieure de Commerce de Paris, Patrick Gounelle is a chartered accountant and statutory auditor in France. In 1973, he joined Arthur Young French Office; in 1975, was sent to Algeria to take part in the restructuring of the textile industry; and in 1976, was posted to the Arthur Young New York Office for a year. He subsequently served at Ernst & Young's national Director of Audit, the national Director of the Banking Industry, and Vice-Chairman. In 1998, he was appointed as Chairman of Ernst & Young French Office and then, of the Continental Western Area. He became a member of the Global Executive Committee. He is the ESCP-EAP Alumni Association's Chairman, he is member of the Prométhée Think Tank, PlaNet Finance administrator and co-chairman of the Europe+ Foundation. He is frequently invited to speak at specialised conferences. He has been promoted to the rank of Knight of the Legion of Honour and has been awarded the National Order of Merit for Agriculture.



MOHAMED NOURI JOUINI

Minister of Development and International Cooperation of Tunisia

1985, BA in Commercial Studies, Institut des Hautes Etudes Commerciales, Tunisia; 1987, Master's degree in Management Science, Institut Supérieure de Gestion de Tunis; 1992, PhD in Decision Sciences, University. 1993-94, Assistant Professor and Member, Université de Tunis faculty; since 1995, Professor of Decision Sciences and Member, University of Tunis faculty; 1995-96, Director, Institut Supérieur de Gestion de Sousse, Tunisia; 1996-2001, Member of the Board of the Central Bank of Tunisia; 1996-2001, Economic Adviser to the President of the Republic; 2001-02, Secretary of State for Privatization; since 2002, Minister of Development and International Cooperation of Tunisia.



ALAIN LE ROY

Ambassador in charge of the Union for the Mediterranean Initiative

Alain Le Roy is an engineer from Les Mines de Paris. He also holds a diploma in Economics and a Program for senior managers in Government - Harvard University. From 1980 to 1990, he was Petroleum engineer. From 1990 to 1992, he was appointed Deputy Governor in Burgundy. From 1992 to 1993 he was Chief of Staff of the Minister for Agriculture. In 1995, he worked for the UN as Deputy Special Coordinator for Sarajevo and from 1999 to 2000 as Regional Administrator in Kosovo. From 2000 to 2001, he was nominated National Coordinator for the Stability Pact for South East Europe for the French Ministry for Foreign Affairs. From 2001 to 2002, he was Special Representative of the European Union in Skopje. From 2002 to 2005, he was the Director for Economic Affairs to the French Ministry for Foreign Affairs. From 2005 to 2007, he was French Ambassador in Madagascar and since 1st October 2007, he is Ambassador in charge of the Union for the Mediterranean Initiative. Since 1993 he is Senior Counsellor at the Cour des Comptes.



MARC LHERMITTE

Partner Ernst & Young

As ESSEC graduate Marc Lhermitte, has spent 7 years at Ernst & Young's International Location Advisory Services, based in the USA for the Invest in France Network. Today, Marc Lhermitte is a member of Ernst & Young Advisory's management committee. He advises international corporations with their relocation and business mobility strategy. His experience covers a variety of sectors and functions. He has also led several engagements in the real estate community, for international investors, developers and occupiers. He also advises public entities, investment promotion agencies, and public-private partnerships on strategic and marketing issues. He leads Ernst & Young's projects related to the attractiveness and competitiveness of Europe and several countries.



RADHI MEDDEB

General Manager of IPEMed

Mr Meddeb is an engineer. He graduated from l'Ecole Polytechnique, Paris in 1975 and l'Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Mines, Paris in 1977. Mr Meddeb is the CEO of COMETE Engineering Tunisia which he established in 1986. He is also the General Director of IPEMed. Mr Meddeb directed many missions in Tunisia as well as in many others countries (North-African countries, African countries etc..) mainly in the fields of conventional and Islamic finance, industrial development, support to the private sector, and development financing. His first experience was in the Compagnie des Phosphates of Gafsa (1977-1982), the Tunisian-Saudi Investment and Development Company (1982-1986). He was also the general Director of the Arab Leasing International Finance (Saudi Law Company) from April 1987 to April 2006 and the Algerian Saudi Leasing Holding from 1990 to April 2006.



MAEN NSOUR

CEO Of Jordan Investment Board

Dr. Nsour holds a Ph.D. from George Mason University in political economy. He was researcher on the Israeli economy at the United States Institute of Peace in Washington, D.C. from 1995 to 1998. He was Director of Policy Planning, Department at the Ministry of Planning in Amman, Jordan and taught political economy and international trade and investment at George Mason University in Fairfax, VA. In 2001, Dr. Nsour joined the United Nations Development Programme as Senior Adviser at the Regional Bureau for Arab States (NY) and Coordinator of the Arab Human Development Report 2003. In May 2005, he was appointed CEO of the Jordan Investment Board. Dr. Nsour also teaches graduate courses in international economics and microeconomics at the University of Jordan.



LAURENCE PARISOT

*President of Mouvement des Entreprises de France
(MEDEF-French Business Confederation)*

Laurence Parisot graduated in Public Law at Nancy II University. She then studied at the Institute of Political Science (Institut d'Études Politiques de Paris). From 1983 to 1985, she was the assistant to Alain Lancelot, President of the Research Centre of French Political Life. In 1985, she worked for Louis Harris in France where she became director general from 1986 to 1990. In 1990, she led the polling institute IFOP where she became a major shareholder. In 1998, after the Cap Gemini and Bossard deal, she took over the control of the group as CEO. In 2008, she became member of the Board of Directors of the Ifop Group. She is also President of IFOP Shanghai (since 1996) and IFOP-CMR (since 1999). She is a member of the Michelin Supervisory Board and of BNP Paribas and Coface Boards. Within the French Economic and Social Committee (2004-2005) and within MEDEF since 2002, she has been very involved in public debates. These commitments lead to her election as President of MEDEF in 2005. She is "Chevalier" of the "Ordre national de la Légion d'Honneur" and of the « Ordre national du Mérite ». She is also « Commandeur » of the Moroccan « Ordre du Ouissam Al Alaoui ». Since 2008, she is member of the "Comité des Sages" of Samu Social.



JACQUES PFISTER

*President of the Marseille Provence Chamber
of Commerce and Industry*

« We have an ambition for the Marseille Provence metropolitan area : that it should pass on to Europe and the World the knowledge and ways of life which have always influenced our Mediterranean destiny »

An engineer by training and a senior executive in private industry for thirty years (Chairman of Orangina Schweppes - 1994-2006 - a subsidiary of the Cadbury Schweppes Group and market leader in France in fruit-based drinks and number 2 in soft drinks), Jacques Pfister is today President of the Marseille Provence Chamber of Commerce and Industry. 59 years old, he relishes a challenge and has a firm belief in the future of Marseille Provence, his adopted territory. He is Chairman Marseille Provence European Capital of Culture 2013 bid committee, his strategy being to raise Marseille Provence up to a higher economic level through the development of such major collective projects.



JACQUES-JEAN SARRAF

President of the Union of Mediterranean Confederations of Enterprises

Jacques-Jean Sarraf is the Chairman of Malia Holding s.a.l. Malia is a large group managed by Malia Trust s.a.l. as a central management & services company. Malia is involved in the production & distribution of pharmaceuticals by Pharmaline s.a.l. and the production of cosmetics by Cosmaline s.a.l., covering the Middle East and African markets. Ch. Sarraf & Co. s.a.l. is responsible of the distribution of consumer products in Lebanon, Malitab s.a.l. is the trade marketing of British American Tobacco and Euroline s.a.l. the retail garment of Paul & Shark. The Group advertising strategy & marketing support are managed by Lead

Advertising s.a.l. Maliatec s.a.l. is Intermec certified agent for hardware & software sales, and Malia Development s.a.l. invests in tourism and real estate. Malia operates in Iraq through Leadline s.a.l. & Mared for Commercial Distribution s.a.l. involved in the distribution of food and consumer products and through Malia International s.a.l. for construction & project management.

He is Honorary Consul of the Russian Federation, President of the Union of Mediterranean Confederation of Enterprises (BUSINESSMED), Chairman of the Lebanese-Russian Business Council and Member of the Lebanese Economical & Social council. He holds a B.A in Business Studies from the Higher Belgium Institute of Business Studies.

NAGUIB SAWIRIS

Founder of ORASCOM (Egypt)

Orascom Telecom Holding S.A.E. is one of Egypt's largest and most diversified conglomerates and Egypt's largest private sector employer with the largest market capitalization on the Cairo & Alexandria Stock Exchange. As Chairman and CEO of Orascom Telecom Holding (OTH) since its establishment in late 1997, Naguib Sawiris has led the growth of the company, to be the leading regional Telecom player and among the best regarded Emerging Markets players in the world. Today, OTH operates GSM networks in seven different countries in the Middle East, Africa, and South Asia (Egypt, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Algeria, Tunisia, Zimbabwe, and North Korea) with 70 million subscribers as at December 2007. OTH also operates the leading Internet Service Providers (ISPs), as well as satellite service providers. In January 2003, and in recognition of the group's position as one of the largest ten operators based on subscriber numbers and the regional role it plays in the telecommunication industry, Orascom Telecom represented by him, was appointed as Board Member of the GSM Association. After founding Weather Investments in early 2005, he led the landmark leveraged buyout of a majority stake of Wind Telecommunications in Italy and took over management as its Chairman in late summer 2005. Almost a year after this important step, he led Weather Investment's acquisition of Tim Hellas in Greece and re-branded it under the name "Wind Hellas. These latest acquisitions mark a new milestone in Mr. Sawiris' long and successful career journey in leading the international growth of both Orascom Telecom and Weather Investments.

Mr. Sawiris also Chairs the Board of Weather Investments and the Egyptian Company for Mobile Services (ECMS), commonly known as MobiNil. He is also the recipient of numerous honorary degrees, industry awards and civic honors, including the "Legion d'honneur" (the highest award given by the French Republic for outstanding services rendered to France) and the recipient of prestigious "Sitara-e-Quaid-e-Azam" award (conferred upon Mr. Sawiris in 2006 by General Pervez Musharref for services rendered to the people of Pakistan in the field of telecommunication, investments and social sector work). He holds a diploma of Mechanical Engineering with a Masters in Technical Administration from the Swiss Institute of Technology, ETH Switzerland and a Diploma from the German Evangelical School, Cairo, Egypt. Mr. Sawiris is married, with four children and lives in Cairo, Egypt. He speaks Arabic, English, German and fair French.



JEAN-MICHEL SEVERINO

Managing Director of French Agency for Development

Graduated in 1978 of the École Supérieure de Commerce of Paris, he also has a Master in Law (Paris University, 1978), a diploma in advanced economics (Paris University, 1979). Then he did the Institut d'Études Politiques (Paris, 1980) and ended with the Ecole Nationale d'Administration (ENA, 1984 – class “Louise Michel”).

Jean-Michel Severino started his career as an Inspector of Finance in the Ministry of the Economy and Finance (Paris). In May 1998, he became an adviser on economic and financial affairs in the office of the Minister of Cooperation and Development (Paris) and, in January 1990, he was promoted Chief of the Geographical Coordination and Financial Affairs Section in the Ministry of Cooperation and Development (Paris). Director of Development, Ministry of Cooperation and Development (1994), he was successively Director for Central Europe at the World Bank in Washington (1996) and Vice-President for Asia at the World Bank (1997).

Jean-Michel Severino came back in France in 2000 to be an Inspector-General of Finance in the Ministry of the Economy, Finance and Industry (Paris) and associate professor at the Centre for studies and research on international development (CERDI), University of Auvergne) – (Clermont-Ferrand). He is, since April 2001, he has been the Chief Executive Officer of the Agence Française de Développement.

PAUL THOLLY

*General Manager SIGEFI Ventures Gestion (SIPAREX),
Managing Partner SIGEFI Private Equity*

Paul Tholly, serves as SIPAREX Managing Partner, in charge of International business Development, and the Emerging Markets activities. He has 24-years experiences in Private Equity, including full time 12 years in later-stage investments and 12 years in early-stage, particularly in Information Technology. Since joining the Siparex Group in 1984, he has been engaged continuously in investment activities including venture capital, later-stage and LBOs.

In 1996, he joined the EuroLink team in San Francisco, headed by Fred Adler. Acting as a Managing Director of SIGEFI (Siparex Group), he was involved in several boards and investment committees of French investment firms and foreign late-stage activities with IFC, or EBRD contracts, in Morocco, Tunisia and Russia. Before joining Siparex, he has spent two years in the State Department (French Embassy in Peking and Tehran), and 5 years in Investment banking (Banque de l'Union Européenne). He has an MBA's degree from ESSEC (Ecole Supérieure des Sciences Economiques et Commerciales- Paris) and holds a Certificate in Business Administration from UC Berkeley (USA).



JOHN VASSALLO

*National Executive of the Benelux & Malta and Senior Counsel
& Director of the European Affairs Office, GE*

Since February 2007, John Vassallo has been Chair of AmCham EU. He is graduated with a B.A. degree and Doctor of Laws. He did his postgraduate studies at Amsterdam University and at Stockholm University. He joined the Euroc Corporation of Malmö, Sweden, in 1975. In 1984 he became Manager of the French Siporex and moved to Vice President and Director Finance and Administration of Dynapac, in 1986. In 1987 he became President of Dynapac Concrete. From 1991 to 1993, he worked as a lobbyist and Director of Cembureau, the European Cement Association in Brussels. He then became the Ambassador of Malta to the European Union, NATO and Belgium. He joined GE in his present position in 1997.

FRANÇOISE VILAIN

*General Manager of Vienne Chamber of Commerce
and Industry*

Françoise Vilain started her career at Crédit Agricole Bank where she was employed as the first female Chief Executive. In 1989, she was appointed as Managing Director of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of La Vienne. Under this title, she managed the Business School. She also created the Futurallia Association which reunites once or twice a year a thousand chairmen, coming from all over the world, to meet in order to finalize partnerships for the development of SME's. Very involved in international development, she is President of the Regional Poitou-Charentes Committee of French Foreign Trade Advisors (CEE's). She has created many clubs for women both in business and civil environment. As a member of Economic and Social Council (Conseil Economique et Social) the French Republic's number three Assembly, there she is President for the delegation of women rights and professional equality between men and women in the workplace.



