



Press Release

A New President for the African Industrial Association: Pierre Magne

Abidjan, Brussels, 26 February 2007. The members of the African Industrial Association have elected a new President, Pierre Magne, at a Board meeting held in Paris on 19th February 2007.

Pierre Magne, is a 59 year old industrialist from Ivory Coast. He has held numerous posts within employers' organizations in Ivory Coast, in particular as the President of the national federation of industries and services of Ivory Coast from 1990 to 2000. He is an active member of the Union des Grandes Entreprises de Côte d'Ivoire and the Confédération générale des entreprises de Côte d'Ivoire.

P.Magne thanked Boureïma Wankoye (Niger), the outgoing President of the AIA for his contribution to the association: « *under his drive and within a very short period of time, the AIA has managed to become a credible stakeholder towards African and European decision-makers on issues relating to the future of the African industry* ».

« *I intend to continue this work with conviction as I believe strongly in our association. I want AIA to become a reference in Africa for all African industrialists. Our industry needs a relay like the AIA to defend its interests at a moment when we are facing serious challenges, in particular in the context of ongoing negotiations within the WTO and with the European Partnership Agreements* », stated P.Magne.

« *With the support of AIA's members and of its Vice-Presidents, I do hope that, under my Presidency, the AIA will be able to obtain a true recognition of the competitiveness problems that the African industry is facing. We will lobby continuously to allow the African industry to benefit from a framework that will allow it to create added value and to contribute to the development of our countries* » concluded, P.Magne.

The African Industrial Association has also elected its Vice-Presidents:

- Célestin Tawamba (Cameroun) – Vice-President for Central Africa
- Jean-Michel Sagna (Senegal) – Vice-President for West Africa
- Naina Andriantsitohaina (Madagascar) – Vice-President for Southern Africa

The African Industrial Association (AIA) is an organization that gathers major industrials operating in Africa. Our organization advocates for of the strengthening of the African industry and of its capacity to contribute to the development of the African continent.

Contacts

For more information, please contact P.Magne at Tel: +225.21.21.88.88 – Fax: +225.21.21.88.05.

E-mail: president@africanindustrial.org or D.Thual, adviser to the President of AIA at: Tel: +322 733 50 60 - Fax: +322 733 50 51 - E-mail: info@africanindustrial.org

Website: www.africanindustrial.org