

ASSOCIATION FRANÇAISE DES ENTREPRISES PRIVÉES

The purpose of AFEP is to present the views of large French companies to the European Institutions and the French authorities, mainly with regard to the drafting of non-sectoral legislation (on the economy, finance, taxation, company law, financial information and markets, competition, intellectual property rights, consumer affairs, social regulations, employment legislation, environment, etc.).

Given the importance of European legislation (Directives and Regulations) in national law, it is essential for companies to be present on the spot when it is being drawn up. AFEP, whose head office is in Paris, has a branch in Brussels since 1987.

AFEP represents more than 95 of the top private sector companies operating in France. The French listed companies which belong to AFEP have more than 5,8 million employees and a combined turnover of over 1500 billion euros¹. Their market capitalisation in 2011 amounted to 800 billion euros.

The Presidents of AFEP's member companies are actively and directly involved in the definition of the main lines of economic and social policy to be submitted to the European and national authorities, and also in deciding which actions should be carried out in the interests of growth and employment in a market economy.

As a genuine force for generating new proposals, AFEP is also a prime forum for contacts between member firms and public authorities, which do not hesitate to consult the Association when considering plans for reforms or regulations. Senior officials in the European Union and French administrations regularly take part in meetings organised at the head office of the Association, enabling direct and constructive dialogue to take place.

The President Pierre PRINGUET of **AFEP** is (CEO of Pernod Ricard). François SOULMAGNON the Director General of the Association and Stéphanie ROBERT is Director.

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 $^{^{1}}$ Global data for French companies, and France - only data for French subsidiaries of foreign companies.