**DECLARATION**

**20th Summit of La Francophonie**

Phnom Penh, Kingdom of Cambodia, 15–16 November 2026

"Reinvesting in Peace for Shared Prosperity and Lasting Stability"

## PREAMBLE

**We**, the Heads of State and Government of countries that share the French language, gathered on 15 and 16 November 2026 in Phnom Penh, capital of the Kingdom of Cambodia, homeland of the late His Majesty King-Father Norodom SIHANOUK, one of the founding fathers of institutional La Francophonie, on the occasion of the 20th Summit of La Francophonie;

**Welcoming** the symbolic significance of the return of La Francophonie's highest-level institutions to Asian soil, nearly thirty years after the 7th Summit, held in Hanoi, Viet Nam, in 1997, which adopted the Charter of La Francophonie, under which Boutros BOUTROS-GHALI was elected the first Secretary-General of La Francophonie;

**Reaffirming** our commitment to the founding values of La Francophonie, as set out in the Charter of La Francophonie and its subsequent instruments, particularly the Bamako Declaration (2000) and the Saint-Boniface Declaration (2006), concerning peace, democracy, human rights and the rule of law, as well as cultural and linguistic diversity and sustainable development, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and international law;

**Reaffirming** our commitment to the French language as a language of dialogue and negotiation in international forums, a language of law, education and training, and a powerful vehicle for creativity, innovation, solidarity, prosperity, and cultural, scientific and economic exchanges, in the spirit of the 2022 Declaration on the French Language in the Linguistic Diversity of La Francophonie;

**Considering** the multiple challenges facing our populations in an international order that is more fragmented and uncertain than ever; **recalling**, in this regard, our unwavering commitment to multilateralism and respect for international law; and **recognising** the need to strengthen the action of La Francophonie as a source of practical solutions to these challenges;

**Being convinced** that peace, prosperity and stability are inseparable at all times and in all places, and that dialogue is essential to achieving these objectives;

**Reaffirming**, in this regard, that La Francophonie, drawing strength from its values and distinctive characteristics, is called upon to contribute to these objectives through the commitment and complementary efforts of all stakeholders under its Charter;

**Convinced** that the creative vitality of young people and the driving and transformative force of women strengthen the consolidation of a peaceful and prosperous Francophone community for the benefit of present and future generations;

**Recognising** the essential role of young people and women in building, maintaining and consolidating peace through their active, inclusive and meaningful participation, which is indispensable to the resilience of our societies; and **reaffirming**, in this regard, the commitments made under the Kigali Call, adopted at the 46th Session of the Ministerial Conference of La Francophonie (CMF) in Kigali, Rwanda;

**Affirming** the urgent need for determined collective action and our commitment to cooperation among our States and Governments based on trust, solidarity and responsibility;

**Solemnly reaffirming** that peace and stability must never be taken for granted;

**We decide** to dedicate the 20th Summit to the theme: **"Reinvesting in Peace for Shared Prosperity and Lasting Stability"**, and accordingly:

**1. Reaffirm** our commitment to mobilising institutional La Francophonie around initiatives that contribute to peace and stability;

**2. Support**, in this regard, the actions of the International Organisation of La Francophonie (OIF) in promoting the rule of law and democratic governance, thereby helping to strengthen credible, inclusive and sustainable institutional and electoral frameworks;

**3. Encourage** the further strengthening of its action in crisis prevention and management, support for peace processes, particularly through mediation initiatives, and assistance in democratic transitions;

**4. Call** for stronger dialogue mechanisms between regional and international organisations, and **commend** the initiatives undertaken by the International Organisation of La Francophonie (OIF) to facilitate such consultations;

**5. Support** the strengthening of cooperation between the OIF and international and regional organisations, particularly the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and the Pacific Community (SPC);

**6. Reaffirm** that initiatives in support of young people are strategic priorities for La Francophonie; **encourage** their civic engagement as a driving force for social cohesion and transformation in the interests of peace, human rights and sustainable development; and **commit** to promoting concrete initiatives through La Francophonie's youth networks to respond to their expectations and legitimate aspirations for a shared future;

**7. Urge** stakeholders within La Francophonie to develop peace education initiatives that contribute to preventing and resolving conflicts and reducing violence, in keeping with the spirit of United Nations General Assembly Resolution A/RES/80/266;

**8. Remain concerned** about the growing loss of confidence in institutions and its consequences for democratic participation; **emphasise** the importance of strengthening civic education; and **encourage** La Francophonie to continue its efforts to promote the rule of law, democratic governance, the fight against corruption, inclusive dialogue, equitable access to opportunities and social cohesion throughout the Francophone community;

**9. Are convinced** that exchanges among peoples are an essential factor in strengthening cohesion and peace; **welcome**, in this regard, the positive impact of programmes promoting the mobility of young Francophones, particularly those introduced since the 2024 Summit of Villers-Cotterêts; and **call** for continued support for such initiatives to remain a priority;

**10. Recall** our commitment to preserving a reliable, high-quality information environment and safeguarding information integrity, in the spirit of the Villers-Cotterêts Call for an Open, Trusted and Integrity-Based Digital Space within the Francophone Community; and **welcome**, in this regard, the active contribution of the Francophone Network of Media Regulators (REFRAM) to dialogue between regulatory authorities and digital platforms;

**11. Call** for stronger mobilisation across the entire Francophone community to combat information manipulation and foreign interference that could destabilise democratic institutions, and to promote media and information literacy programmes;

**12. Reaffirm** the need to ensure effective respect for freedom of the press and to promote media pluralism through professional and responsible media outlets that guarantee reliable, high-quality information free from hate speech;

**13. Reaffirm**, in this regard, our commitment to TV5, the multilateral public-service broadcaster that enhances the international reach of Francophone culture and the Francophone economy and serves as an established means of improving the discoverability of Francophone audiovisual content and promoting the learning of French; and **reiterate** our commitment to taking all appropriate measures to ensure that the general-interest channel TV5MONDE, the youth channel TiVi5MONDE and the digital platform TV5MONDE+ receive treatment no less favourable than that afforded to our national channels, and to supporting their promotion;

**14. Recognise** the transformative potential of artificial intelligence (AI), a major technological innovation, as a driver of productivity, competitiveness and modernisation in support of shared prosperity;

**15. Demand** that human beings remain at the centre of this transformation to ensure the responsible, ethical and inclusive development and use of AI, given the risks posed by algorithmic bias and information manipulation, which can harm the most vulnerable populations and undermine the balance of our societies;

**16. Recognise** that AI has a significant influence on the creation, dissemination and accessibility of cultural content; **emphasise** the importance of responsible development that protects and promotes the diversity of cultural expressions while ensuring fair remuneration for creators, in accordance with copyright and related rights;

**17. Emphasise** the strategic importance of producing, managing and continuously improving the quality of data originating from the Francophone community in order to foster the development of AI that respects and reflects this diversity;

**18. Call** on La Francophonie to strengthen its contribution to global digital governance and to the development of ethical and responsible AI, based on shared principles of inclusiveness and equity, in accordance with the Global Digital Compact adopted in 2024 and other relevant international instruments, with a view to ensuring effective interoperability;

**19. Encourage**, in this regard, La Francophonie to continue and strengthen its engagement in forums for negotiating and making decisions on digital policies, particularly within the framework of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) process and in preparation for the 2027 Artificial Intelligence Summit in Geneva;

**20. Encourage** La Francophonie to strengthen digital technology and AI capacities and skills, particularly among young people and women, in order to promote informed and effective adoption of these technologies and facilitate their integration into economic life;

**21. Reaffirm** the potential of the Francophone economic community and its contribution to making our societies stable and prosperous; and **encourage** the implementation of major transformative projects, the diversification of partnerships, the harmonisation of regulatory frameworks, the simplification of administrative procedures, and greater transparency and the adoption of good practices to promote investment and sustainable growth;

**22. Decide**, in this regard, to strengthen the institutional organisation of Francophone economic cooperation by calling for collective reflection on the roles of its stakeholders, the coherence of their actions and the means of scaling up their initiatives, with a view to achieving greater effectiveness and measurable impact through regular monitoring;

**23. Encourage** initiatives that promote employability, entrepreneurship, skills development and access to economic opportunities for women and young people, particularly in promising sectors such as the digital transition, the green economy, cultural and creative industries, and innovation;

**24. Recognise** that the mobility of economic stakeholders is an important driver of mutually beneficial cooperation among our States and Governments; and **encourage** initiatives in this regard, in full respect of national sovereignty and domestic legal frameworks;

**25. Recognise** that the impact of the triple planetary crisis—climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution—on peace and security constitutes a major challenge for humanity; and **call**, in this regard, for stronger Francophone contributions to implementing the principal international environmental commitments, particularly the Paris Agreement (2015), the Kunming–Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (2022), and the Agreement under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Marine Biological Diversity of Areas beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ Agreement, 2023).

We **[welcome / take note of]** the **[conclusions of]** the 17th Conference of the Parties (COP17) to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), held in Yerevan, Armenia, in October 2026.

We **invite** La Francophonie to contribute effectively to the work of the 31st Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, taking place from 9 November 2026 in Antalya, Türkiye, as well as to the first Conference of the Parties to the BBNJ Agreement in 2027;

**26. Reaffirm** that respect for and protection of cultural and linguistic diversity are essential to dialogue among peoples in the pursuit of peace; **reiterate** our support for Francophone advocacy to improve the discoverability of content in the digital environment, in accordance with the commitments made in the Declaration of the Fifth Conference of Francophone Ministers of Culture, held in Quebec in May 2025; and **support**, in this regard, the work undertaken at UNESCO to adapt the 2005 Convention to the digital environment;

**27. Reaffirm** that sport, like culture, contributes to personal fulfilment and empowerment, and that international sporting events help bring peoples closer together, particularly young people; **reiterate** the importance of developing sports policies specifically for young people; **welcome** the holding of the fourth edition of the Youth Olympic Games in Dakar, Senegal, the first time the event will be held in Africa; **encourage** broad participation in the 10th Francophone Games and **wish** them every success in Yerevan, Armenia, in 2027;

**28. Recognise** that cultural and natural heritage represents not only our collective memory but also a strategic asset for sustainable development, social and economic inclusion, and the transmission of knowledge and values across generations; and **decide** to strengthen Francophone expertise in heritage enhancement, restoration and protection, including in situations of conflict and post-conflict;

**29. Commend**, in particular, the initiatives of the Francophone Digital Network (RFN) in support of Francophone documentary heritage; and **encourage** the continuation of its activities, including capacity-building initiatives aimed at reducing the digital divide;

**30. Recall** that the strength of La Francophonie lies in the diversity of its stakeholders and the convergence of their efforts; **express** our full support for the direct and recognised operators of the Summit, as well as the standing ministerial conferences; and **call** for stronger synergies among them, particularly through the Cooperation Council;

**31. Commend** the work of the Parliamentary Assembly of La Francophonie (APF) in promoting peace, conflict prevention, the rule of law and democratic dialogue within the Francophone community; and **take note** of its aspiration to become an observer member of the United Nations;

**32. Finally, recognise** the distinctive and decisive contribution of the direct and recognised operators of the Summit to promoting peace for shared prosperity and lasting stability through

their daily work in close contact with local populations. These include the International Association of Francophone Mayors (AIMF), through its programmes supporting cross-border cooperation and regional dialogue; Senghor University; the multilateral public-service broadcaster TV5; and the Francophone University Agency (AUF).

We **recall** the urgent need to ensure their collective sustainability and to continue diversifying their sources of funding.