

PRESS RELEASE OF 28 OCTOBER 2004

**THE PRIME MINISTER INSTALLS THE STRATEGIC ADVISORY BOARD ON
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES AND REVIEWS THE IMPORTANCE OF ICT FOR
GROWTH, COMPETITIVENESS AND EMPLOYMENT**

On Thursday, 28 October 2004, Prime Minister Jean-Pierre Raffarin, in the presence of the Minister Delegate for Industry Patrick Devedjian, installed the Strategic Advisory Board on Information Technologies (*Conseil Stratégique des Technologies de l'Information* - CSTI) <http://www.csti.pm.gouv.fr>.

The purpose of the CSTI is to provide the Prime Minister with advice regarding the definition, implementation and assessment of government actions to develop the information society. Recently appointed for three years, its members are prominent researchers and business leaders (the heads of major corporations and SMEs in the media, telecommunications, IT and ICT-user sectors).

The personalities who sit on the CSTI will contribute their national and international experience and their expertise in all areas capable of strengthening France's competitiveness in ICT: research and innovation, infrastructures and services, analysis of supply and demand, dissemination and training.

During the meeting, the Prime Minister assigned the CSTI five priority objectives for reflection and work:

- contribution of ICTs to competitiveness;
- access to new uses for private citizens;
- research and innovation in the area of ICT;
- international competitiveness of ICT businesses;
- development of ICT training programmes.

Looking at the vital importance of information and communication technologies for France's economic growth, competitiveness and employment, the Prime Minister stressed the priority he grants to disseminating and developing ICTs and the value he attaches to the CSTI's analyses and recommendations.

The Prime Minister used the occasion to make a mid-term review of the RE/SO 2007 plan he presented in November 2002, which sets out the main lines of government policy to develop an information society. This review* shows that France has caught up and even joined the European leaders in many areas in just two years.

* The mid-term review of the RE/SO 2007 plan can be found online at the Prime Minister's site (<http://www.premier-ministre.gouv.fr>) and at the government portal (<http://www.internet.gouv.fr>). (For a brief excerpt in English, see the footnote below)¹

¹ The RE/SO 2007 plan (for a digital REpublic in an information SOciety) is intended to "breathe new life into the information society by promoting effective development of its infrastructures (facilities, internet access conditions, legislative framework, etc) and uses.

MEMBERS OF THE STRATEGIC ADVISORY BOARD ON INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES

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Abramatic Jean-François	Vice-President R & D, ILOG SA
Bravo Alain	President, <i>Réseau National de Recherche en Télécommunications</i> (RNRT – national research and telecommunications network)
Breton Thierry	Chairman and CEO, France Télécom
Cocquet Patrick	Chairman and CEO, 6 Wind
Corniou Jean-Pierre	Vice President Information Systems, Renault Group
Dahan Michel	Chairman of the Management Board, Banexi-Ventures Partners
Didier Michel	CEO, Rexecode
Guéguen Claude	Science Director, Groupe Des Ecoles de Télécommunications
Guillemot Yves	Chairman and CEO, Ubisoft
Halberstadt Harari Simone	Chairwoman and CEO, Télé Images International
Hourcade Jean-Charles	Vice President Audiovisual and Multimedia Research and Innovation, Senior Vice President, Thomson
Kahn Gilles	Chairman and CEO, Inria
Kaplan Daniel	Consultant, Proposition firm ; General Delegate, Fondation Internet Nouvelle Génération
Lagardère Arnaud	Chairman and CEO, Europe 1 Communication; manager, Lagardère SCA
Le Lay Patrick	Chairman, TF1
Lemoine Philippe	Chairman, eLaser
Lévy Jean-Bernard	COO, Vivendi
Lévy-Lang André	Associate Professor Emeritus, Paris-Dauphine University
Lewiner Colette	Senior vice-President, Cap Gemini - Ernst & Young
Monnier Joël	Vice-Chairman and Vice President in charge of R&D, STMicroelectronics
Mounet Jean	COO, Sopra Group
Olivier Grégoire	Chairman of the Management Board, SAGEM
Parize Isabelle	Chairwoman and CEO, Canalsatellite
Pélisson Gilles	Chairman, Artémis
Ranque Denis	Chairman and CEO, Thalès
Roucairol Gérard	President, <i>Réseau National des Technologies Logiciel</i> (RNTL - national software technologies network), Vice President R&D, Bull
Satinet Claude	Senior Vice President Automobiles, Citroën
Stern Jacques	IT Principal, Ecole Normale Supérieure
Tchuruk Serge	Chairman, Alcatel

Hubert Jean-Michel	Vice-Chairman, Strategic Advisory Board on Information Technologies (CSTI)
Bélorgey François	General Secretary, Strategic Advisory Board on Information Technologies (CSTI)

<http://www.csti.pm.gouv.fr/>

Key figures taken from the mid-term review of the RESO 2007 plan

ICT uses

Indicators	Unit	2002	2004
Households equipped with a microcomputer	<i>As a % of total households</i>	36%	43%
Internet connections	<i>As a % of total households</i>	24%	33%
ISDN subscriptions	<i>Number</i>	500,000	6,000,000
Mobile telephony subscriptions	<i>Number</i>	36,000,000	42,000,000
Mobile telephone traffic	<i>Minutes</i>	110	144
SMS	<i>Millions of units</i>	1,450	2,572
Households equipped with WiFi	<i>As a % of surfers</i>	<1%	5%
WiFi infrastructures	<i>Number of hotspots</i>	ns	2,500
Unbundling	<i>Number of lines</i>	650	1,049,294
Online buyers	<i>Millions</i>	4.5	9.5
E-commerce sales	<i>Billions of euros</i>	2.2	4.7
SME connections	<i>As a percent</i>	82	95

Development of the e-administration

2002	2004
110 public teleservices	More than 200 public teleservices
5,500 public Internet sites	7,000 public Internet sites
74% of administrative forms available on line	90% of administrative forms available on line
150,000 online tax returns	1,252,319 online tax returns
Sesam Vitale used to send 28% of social health insurance reimbursement forms	Sesam Vitale used to send 50% of social health insurance reimbursement forms
<i>carte grise</i> car registrations: service not available at national level	télec@rte <i>grise</i> used for 2 million clear title certificates

**Internet at school
(as a % of equipped institutions)**

	primary schools	high schools	senior high schools
2000	50%	91%	100%
2003	80%	99.8%	100%