

## PRESS RELEASE for immediate release

### The French Chamber of Great Britain appoints its new Managing Director

**London, 9 July 2020** - The French Chamber of Great Britain, whose membership in the UK includes more than 500 leading entrepreneurs and blue-chip French and British companies, is delighted to announce the appointment of Marilise Saghbini as its new Managing Director. She succeeds Florence Gomez.



Fabienne Viala, President of the French Chamber, also Chair of Bouygues UK and UK Country Director of Bouygues Construction, said: "As 'full' Brexit approaches, and we adapt to the new normal of a world disrupted by Covid-19, we need to further strengthen French and British business ties and ensure bilateral support is maintained. We must build confidence as we go forward – this will help economic and social recovery. There are huge challenges ahead, but Marilise will ensure that the Anglo-French business community is connected, supported and heard in these times."

Marilise joins from business group London First after 4 years in various communications, corporate affairs and brand director roles, where she built a new team to raise the voice of business across issues from skills, immigration and Brexit to transport, infrastructure and housing.

Educated at the French Lycée school in London, Marilise has held senior positions in a number of membership organisations, worked in international trade with the UK Government and the British Chambers of Commerce network both in the UK and overseas, and spent 3 years in Brussels.

Commenting on her new role which she will take up in October, Marilise said: "It is a privilege to be taking on this position at the French Chamber, one of the most successful, active and influential Chambers in the UK and further afield. With its strong mix of businesses here in the UK, it provides an invaluable contribution to jobs, growth and an enriched society. In the aftermath of Covid-19 and Brexit, we must focus on nurturing this community by promoting confidence, clarity and stability, as well as providing operational support, connections and advice to our members. Businesses face unprecedented challenges to adapt fast and hard, but we have seen time and again that in the face of adversity, opportunity and innovation emerge – and that is genuinely exciting to have on the horizon."

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#### About the French Chamber of Great Britain

The French Chamber of Great Britain is the largest foreign Chamber in the UK in terms of both turnover and range of services offered. Our main aims are to provide a platform of exchange and networking at the service of the Franco-British firms in the UK, to promote our 500 member companies' interests to key decision makers and to help develop economic and commercial relations between France and the UK. Our Business Consultancy and Business set-up departments provide both British and French companies with a large range of bespoke professional services.

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