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# INAUGURATION OF PARIS CONVENTION CENTRE

## EUROPE'S LARGEST CONFERENCE CENTRE

**For immediate release - Paris, 27 November 2017**

On Wednesday 22 November, [Paris Convention Centre](#) was inaugurated in the presence of Valérie Pécresse, President of the Île-de-France Regional Council, Anne Hidalgo, Mayor of Paris and Michel Cadot, Prefect of Police for Paris and the Greater Paris region.

Didier Kling, Chair of the Paris Île-de-France Regional Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Christophe Cuvillier, CEO & Chair of the Management Board of Unibail-Rodamco, Michel Dessolain CEO of Viparis and Jean Pistre, co-founder of the Valode & Pistre architectural firm highlighted the many advantages of this exceptional venue. The Centre is located within the Paris Expo Porte de Versailles exhibition complex, which is undergoing a ten-year renovation project (2015–2025). It is the result of an extraordinary architectural effort, and was designed to host the very biggest international conferences. With Europe's largest conference centre, Paris will stay at the forefront of the business tourism market and retain its position as the world's top destination for international conferences.

This new venue, which will function in complement to the Palais des Congrès de Paris, means that the city of Paris can host the very largest world conferences and provide customised configurations. With a **5,200-seat plenary hall** connected to **44,000 m<sup>2</sup> of exhibition space**, the Paris Convention Centre is a winner – events that bring together more than **30,000 participants** have already booked the Centre, and large-scale events are planned through 2022.

Paris Convention Centre can accommodate the very largest national and international events. It is fully modular and its many amenities – including exhibition halls, meeting and conference rooms, permanent and mobile food stands, an event space, green roof and vast car park – means that it can be adapted to every imaginable situation. The airy and light-filled interior offers a breathtaking view of Paris. The plenary hall is the largest in Europe, and its glass roof means that conferences can be held in natural light. Every conference room is fully furnished with smart and adaptive speakers that offer high-quality sound and create an ideal acoustic environment for visitors. The Atrium conference rooms feature connected furniture and the latest audiovisual equipment.

*"Paris Convention Centre will be a crown jewel in our efforts to boost the appeal of Paris and the region. The site has been renovated, reimagined and given a new identity to help the Greater Paris region at the top of the meetings and corporate events industry. This sector accounts for €5.5 billion in economic benefits for the region and more than €20 billion in turnover for exhibitors. With no public financing, Paris Expo Porte de Versailles will become the epicentre of Paris's ambitions in the field of conferences and trade shows."*

**Didier Kling, Chair of the Paris Île-de-France Regional Chamber of Commerce and Industry**

*"We are especially proud to inaugurate Viparis's newest venue, Paris Convention Centre. It is, quite simply, Europe's largest conference centre. It is fitted with cutting-edge technology and its modularity means that it can fully customise any event. It also happens to be the only conference centre in the*

*world with a breathtaking view of the Eiffel Tower. Paris, the top destination for conferences, will now be able to host the world's largest gatherings."*

**Christophe Cuvillier, Chair of the Management Board of Unibail-Rodamco**

*"Viparis is focused on introducing innovation and flexibility at our sites and bringing them into the digital age. We constantly strive to provide the best service per square metre. Our goal is to host 75 events at Paris Convention Centre over the next five years, including 55 conferences – 15 of which are already booked. This new venue will help bolster Paris's influence and image on the world stage, and help the city retain its leading edge in the business tourism market."*

**Michel Dessolain, CEO of Viparis**

### **About Chamber of commerce and the industrie of Paris Ile-de-France**

Facilitating growth for SMEs and the expansion of business, revealing the wealth of talent, forging links between the worlds of business, education and research by developing training in our 19 schools, building synergies between public and private players on major development projects such as the Greater Paris project, analysing the present to better prepare for the future, strengthening regional attractiveness, supporting the digital transformation of businesses, helping them win new markets... At Paris Ile-de-France CCI we invest for the future, we cultivate networks which move companies forward – we boost entrepreneurial energy. Our main mission is to make this world-ranking ecosystem thrive for the benefit of the companies, young people and local areas of the capital's region.

- 100,000 project leaders and 200,000 companies assisted, including around 10,000 internationally
- 11 host sites dedicated to entrepreneurship (incubators, business nurseries, "enterprise hotels")
- Around 32,000 young people trained, including 14,000 in apprenticeships and 30,000 adults in lifelong training
- A centre of expertise and strategic planning to serve companies in the region
- 10 conference and trade fair facilities, 11 million visitors

### **About Unibail-Rodamco**

Created in 1968, Unibail-Rodamco SE is Europe's largest listed commercial property company, with a presence in 11 EU countries, and a portfolio of assets valued at €42.5 billion as of June 30, 2017. As an integrated operator, investor and developer, the Group aims to cover the whole of the real estate value creation chain. With the support of its 2,008 professionals, Unibail-Rodamco applies those skills to highly specialised market segments such as large shopping centres in major European cities and large offices and convention & exhibition centres in the Paris region.

The Group distinguishes itself through its focus on the highest architectural, city planning and environmental standards. Its long term approach and sustainable vision focuses on the development or redevelopment of outstanding places to shop, work and relax. Its commitment to environmental, economic and social sustainability has been recognised by inclusion in the FTSE4Good and STOXX Global ESG Leaders indexes.

The Group is a member of the CAC 40, AEX 25 and EuroSTOXX 50 indices. It benefits from an A rating from Standard & Poor's and Fitch Ratings. For more information, please visit our website: [www.unibail-rodamco.com](http://www.unibail-rodamco.com)

### **About Viparis**

Viparis manages the ten main conference centres and exhibition/event venues in the Greater Paris region. Each year, Viparis welcomes an average of 10 million visitors (the general public, professionals and spectators) to a wide range of events at Paris Expo Porte de Versailles, Paris Le Bourget, Paris Nord Villepinte, Espace Champerret, Palais des Congrès de Paris, Palais des Congrès de Versailles, Palais des Congrès d'Issy, Carrousel du Louvre, Espace Grande Arche and the Hôtel Salomon de Rothschild.

In 2017, Viparis will open the Paris Convention Centre at Paris Expo Porte de Versailles, which will be able to accommodate large-scale international events.

Each day, Viparis, Europe's leading events management company, strives to provide excellence to its customers and visitors while fostering innovation in terms of hospitality and services.

*To learn more, please visit [Viparis.com](http://Viparis.com) or follow us on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#).*

**Please find a link to download [pictures](#) of Paris Convention Centre and its official opening launch.**

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