



Newsletter

A Message From Our Chairman

July 2020

Dear Members

We are living through a difficult time for society and our economies. The crisis around the COVID-19 pandemic has left no one untouched. The virus is not only claiming human lives - it is subjecting

individual countries and the global political order to extraordinary stress rarely seen in peacetime. But these challenges only reinforce our resolve to continue working towards the Chamber's vision - Making The Business More Resilient.

We would like to thank you for what you have done already to weather this crisis and to get our chamber prepared to cope with this situation. Your commitment makes all the difference

I would also like to reassure you that as a Chamber we are resilient!



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60 Years of Independency and uncertainty

Sixty years after independence, DRC still seems a long way from being the constitutional state that the Congolese people dreamed of in 1960

Upon achieving independence on 30 June

1960, the Congolese people dreamed of living in a true constitutional state, with political and democratic stability, where they could

build a better future. But this hope was short-lived: a few months later, the political immaturity of the country's leaders plunged the young state into turmoil, the consequences of which constitute the root causes of the uncertainty that continues to mark, 60 years later, the DRC. The bright spot of independence thus passed, giving way to a heap of misery for the Congolese people!

Uncertainty Surround a True Constitutional State

Democratically elected by both House of Parliament, Joseph Kasa-Vubu, the first President of the Republic of Congo, was violently ousted from power by a coup d'etat led by Joseph-Desire Mobutu

This undoing of democracy, which was preceded by Patrice Emery Lumumba's assassination, laid the foundation of a true constitutional state. Even though the country's various constitutional texts set forth this model as ideal.

From the single-party state of Marshal Mobutu to the armed revolution of Laurent Desire Kabila, Congo-Kinshasa only confirmed the primacy of individuals over the law. Any idea of a constitutional state only made sense in theory. The sovereignty of the people guaranteed in constitutional texts was at times taken away, and at other times denied.

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