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## PRESS RELEASE

### **Bruno Le Maire and Jean-Noël Barrot reaffirm the national cloud strategy and announce new measures to support the sector**

For Europe, and for France in particular, the cloud represents undeniable economic potential. sales will exceed €560 billion in Europe by 2030<sup>1</sup>.

Beyond this economic imperative, the cloud is a major pillar of France's political and digital sovereignty and strategic autonomy. , data protection is an important concern for our citizens, synonymous with freedom and a vector of our independence from the rest of the world.

Today, **Bruno Le Maire** and **Jean-Noël Barrot** are renewing their digital ambitions and their support for the cloud ecosystem, a key factor in the digital transformation of our businesses and public services.

In order to meet the challenges of economic and technological sovereignty and data protection, on May 17, 2021, the Government launched a national cloud strategy, the ambition of which is based on **three pillars**:

- the SecNumCloud visa, which guarantees **a high level of protection for particularly sensitive data**;
- the "cloud at the center" doctrine as a **priority lever for the digital transformation of government agencies**;
- the cloud acceleration strategy, as part of France 2030, with a budget of **€1.8 billion, including €667 million in public funding, €680 million in private co-financing and €444 million in European funding**

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<sup>1</sup> According to a KPMG study published in 2021.

## **This national strategy is producing its first concrete results.**

The initial results are positive: **the SecNumCloud visa reinforcement program is already proving a success** among suppliers, with **7 qualified offers** supported by Cloud Temple, OVHCloud, Oodrive, Outscale and Worldline. As a result, government agencies have doubled their volume of contracts with SecNumCloud offerings.

In addition, as part of the cloud acceleration strategy set out in France 2030, **a Twenty or so innovative, high value-added projects have already been financed to the tune of €380 million. But we need to go even further.**

Bruno Le Maire and Jean-Noël Barrot presented the following five measures during their visit to Strasbourg for the inauguration of the OVHCloud data center:

### **1. SecNumCloud visa support for our SMEs**

For some cloud players, **obtaining the SecNumCloud visa is** a long, complex and costly process, and is therefore **an obstacle that the government intends to remove.**

The ANSSI (Agence nationale de la sécurité des systèmes d'information - French national agency for information systems security) is to set up a €2.5 **qualification support scheme**, aimed at **startups** and **SMEs** offering PaaS / SaaS (*platform as a service*) services. *software as a service*) that can contribute to the modernization and resilience of businesses and administrations.

### **2. Strengthening and clarifying the doctrine to better support the digital transformation of our administrations**

Digitizing our administrations and services within a framework of trust is a political priority. To reinforce the protection of economic players, **the government will clarify the concept of "data".**

**particularly sensitive.** Public and private-sector buyers will be better guided towards whether or not to SecNumCloud-certified offerings. Businesses, especially the most strategic ones, are urged to make the most of this essential tool for securing their data. In addition, to support government agencies in their migration to the Cloud and accelerate this imperative transformation, **support mission will be launched and piloted by the Interministerial Digital Department.**

### **3. An ambitious regulatory framework European Union level is essential if we to build a digital sovereignty commensurate with the technological changes we are undergoing.**

- **Through a harmonized and ambitious European cyber security scheme for the cloud:**

The French government hopes that European negotiations establish a harmonized European cyber security certification scheme for cloud services will be successful. Taking into account the imperative need for **protection and transparency vis-à-vis non-European legislation with extraterritorial scope** (i.e. the transfer of our data abroad) at the highest level is today a key factor for the success of this scheme.

- **A Data Act to rebalance the cloud market:**

The **draft data regulation**, spearheaded by European Commissioner Thierry Breton, whose initiative the French government welcomes, should lead to the implementation of ambitious provisions that will **rebalance the cloud market, which is currently largely dominated by a trio of non-European players**.

**4. The need for the European Commission to validate as soon as possible the Important Project of Common European Interest (PIIEC)<sup>2</sup> Cloud, a major €5 billion European project to ensure that tomorrow's Cloud is invented in Europe.**

Nearly 60 projects involving 180 European companies (including Amadeus, Atos, Orange and OVHCloud in France) from twelve EU member states<sup>3</sup> have joined forces to **invent the next generation of cloud and edge services**.

**Computing.** They have been working this major project for almost two years.  
**5 billion** (public/private co-financing).

The PIIEC Cloud represents an **ambitious policy of industrial support for innovation in the cloud**, and contributes **to** achieving **technological sovereignty and realizing Europe's digital and ecological transition**.

**The government reaffirms its commitment to seeing this project adopted in the next few months.**

**5. The prefiguration of a "trusted digital" sector strategy committee entrusted to Michel Paulin to improve dialogue between the State and the ecosystem**

In response to requests from players in the trusted digital sector, **the ministers have announced the creation of a new "trusted digital Strategic Sector Committee (CSF)**. This joint forum for discussion with the government will encourage cooperation and will contribute to emergence a competitive French offering in the coming years. Michel Paulin, CEO of OVHCloud, has been asked to submit a proposal to the ministers, within 6 months, on the composition, governance and objectives of this new CSF, while ensuring that it is properly coordinated with existing CSFs (notably Security Industries and Industry of the Future).

**Bruno Le Maire**, Minister of the Economy, Finance and Industrial and Digital Sovereignty:

*"Jean-Noël Barrot and I have a strong ambition to build French and European digital sovereignty. We are building a sovereign cloud industry to make France and the European Union the spearhead of digital innovation in the decades to come. During the French Presidency of the Council of the European Union*

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<sup>2</sup> Important Project of Common European Interest

<sup>3</sup> Belgium, Czech Republic, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Poland, Slovenia, Spain

*In the European Union, a number of digital issues have been brought to a successful conclusion. I'm thinking in particular of the DSA and DMA regulations. France remains fully committed to the adoption of new texts such as the Data Act and EUCS. We are defending ambitious positions to build a regulatory framework that is open, fair and conducive to competition and innovation.*

**Jean-Noël Barrot**, Minister for Digital Transition and Telecommunications:

*"The cloud is an essential driver of innovation and growth, supporting the digital transformation of our businesses and administrations. Today, the government is renewing its digital ambitions and its support for a bold cloud ecosystem. We are convinced that it will make a major contribution to guaranteeing our sovereignty and strategic autonomy. With Bruno Le Maire, we welcome the opening of the new data center of OVHCloud, a leading French player".*

**Press contacts :**

**Office of Bruno Le Maire** 01 53 18 41 13 [presse.mineco@cabinets.finances.gouv.fr](mailto:presse.mineco@cabinets.finances.gouv.fr)

**Cabinet of Jean-Noël Barrot** 01 53 18 44 17 [presse@numerique.gouv.fr](mailto:presse@numerique.gouv.fr)