



**MINISTÈRE
DE L'ÉCONOMIE
DES FINANCES
ET DE LA RELANCE**

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PRESS RELEASE

**following the call between Bruno Le Maire and Chinese Deputy
Prime Minister Hu Chunhua**

Bruno Le Maire, French Minister for the Economy, Finance and the Recovery, and Hu Chunhua, Chinese Deputy Prime Minister, had a telephone conversation earlier today, following on the bilateral call French President Emmanuel Macron and Chinese President Xi Jinping had in December 2020.

Both Minister agreed to step up cooperation, in particular in the field of agriculture, where a zoning agreement should be reached in the coming weeks. They also discussed financial cooperation between France and China and the prospect of new licenses for the French banking sector.

The Ministers discussed civil nuclear cooperation between China and France and expressed their willingness to accelerate current projects, where important progress have been recorded over the last weeks.

Bruno Le Maire and Hu Chunhua also agreed on the need to pursue a close cooperation in the implementation of the Debt Service Suspension Initiative for borrower countries experiencing payment difficulties.

Finally, Bruno Le Maire underlined the need to facilitate air links between France and China, while ensuring health safety rules are strictly observed.

The Minister will visit China as soon as the sanitary conditions will allow it.

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