



## **Édouard Philippe's speech, as chairman of AIVP, during the One Ocean Summit, Brest, February, 11<sup>th</sup> 2022**

From Venice to London, from New York to Shanghai, port cities have always been the best symbol of trade globalisation.

Nowadays, the number of people living in port cities increases rapidly because populations move towards coastlines; over 80 percent of global trade are handled by ports. Port cities are often large industrial areas where goods are manufactured. Port cities symbolize the world and its flaws, those that cause climate change.

Because they are located along the sea, Port cities are also the first to undergo the impacts of climate change, the first to be exposed to natural disasters – evoked during this summit – and the first to have to protect themselves – in New York with seawall, in France with coastal hazards regulations.

In short, port cities are at the very heart of the issues related to the causes and consequences of climate change.

For thirty years, the worldwide network of port cities (AIVP) has been aiming at promoting cooperation between ports and cities and not only between States – that exists necessarily. We have guided our work for thirty years to ensure that the urban development should not be sprawling; that, the port-city interface can be reinvented; that we can develop various uses in a harmonious way between urban spaces and port activities.

For many years, we, the two hundred members of AIVP from more than fifty countries, have been strongly committed to develop many initiatives: electrification of the docks, transformation of port facilities in order to decarbonize the port activity.

And we think and commit to developing integrated maritime planning and corridors, because we really want to prepare the future of port cities – which is a future of growth and expansion of the goods trade.

Port cities do not advocate the so-called “degrowth”. We have to imagine places to preserve natural spaces and think about the development of port activities in a way that respects the inhabitants and sensitive spaces.

Cooperation is not only between States or international organisations, it also results from a shared intention between cities, ports and their stakeholders. Our determination is very clear and we want to play our part, which we shall do in the coming years.

Thank you.