



**INTERNATIONAL CHRISTIAN  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

Good News Letter January 2021

Good morning to all,

For this first month of the year we hope you are doing well?

We believe it is important to stay connected regularly and to give you news.

At the beginning of this year, we are seeing a resurgence of corona in the country and a vaccine is being offered. We think it is the responsibility of each of you to know whether or not to go and get vaccinated, the most reliable method being that you receive in prayer what to do. As an ICCC association, we do not give an opinion on what you should or should not do.

We are fully aware that there are many rumours circulating, some more contradictory than others. Our only recommendation is to remain confident in the future and especially in Christ.

In any case, it is not new for those who travel to African countries that for a very long time now it has been necessary to have a vaccination booklet to travel and

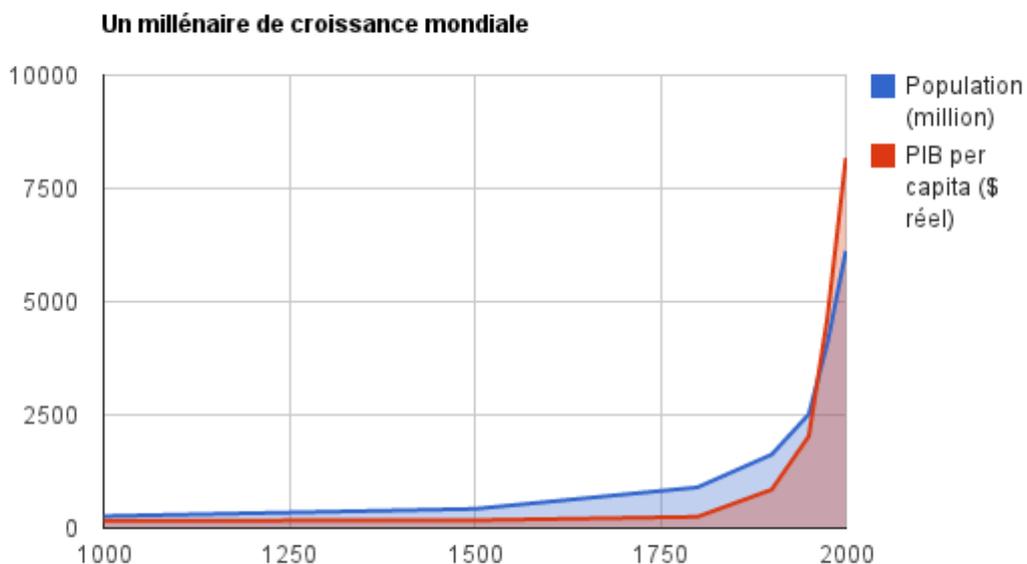
this has not prevented people from travelling to these tropical countries.

I believe that despite the turbulence around us, about what has just happened or will happen again in the USA or about the corona, this will not prevent us from being and remaining in the eye of the hurricane.

It is imperative to remember a certain number of figures:

As per the statistics on the world's GDP gross domestic product is according to the statistics:

In 2019, the world GDP grew by 2.5% according to data provided by the World Bank. China and India remain the main drivers of world growth.



In Switzerland :

It should also be noted that the unemployment rate increased from 2.9% in March 2020 to 3.3% in the month under review. Unemployment rose by 46,115 people (+43.0%) compared to the same month last year. Unemployment among young people (aged 15 to 24) increased by 2,635 (+18.1%) to 17,191.

It is clear that these figures could be much better, but in the meantime it is not such a bad performance, as far as our French friends are concerned, we must nevertheless point out, that unemployment has decreased over the last few years even if it is not brilliant as a result.

In the third quarter of 2020, the number of unemployed people in France (excluding Mayotte), as defined by the ILO, reached 2.7 million, an increase of 628,000 people. Over the quarter, the ILO unemployment rate jumped by 1.9 percentage points to 9.0% of the labour force, following a 0.7 percentage point decrease in the previous quarter.

With regard to our national bank BNS :

The Swiss National Bank's profits in 2020

The Swiss National Bank (SNB) reports a profit of CHF 15.1 billion for the first three quarters of 2020. The profit realised on foreign currency positions amounted to CHF 5.3 billion.

## Start-up companies in Switzerland in 2020

Some 46,842 companies were registered in the Swiss Commercial Register in 2020. This is a record, according to the online business start-up platform [startups.ch](https://startups.ch), which compiled the figures from the Swiss Commercial Register. This is 5.3% more than in 2019, which was already a record year.

We are in a country with a great capacity for creativity and therefore a capacity to bounce back and innovate, and the Global Innovation Index highlights the fact that innovation is directly linked to development and competitiveness, and Switzerland ranks as the world's leading country in terms of innovation.

As far as the banking sectors are concerned, Switzerland is resilient in the face of the current global crisis.

The financial sector is holding up well in the current turbulence.

What we want to emphasise is that we will not be able to react to adversity with catastrophic scenarios, we recognise that it is never pleasant when someone has to question their core business or has to change their job, their functions, activities or skills, their company, but again, we are all glued to each other and we have to communicate our concerns to each other. You can make your requests directly to S.O.S. Entreprise on the

website and we will do our utmost to help you in all discretion.

For your information, we have already intervened and are currently intervening in several cases and sometimes difficult cases, but we do not give up.

We believe that the ICCC's mandate is to support the people that the Lord sends us, to take care of them and all the skills are necessary to achieve this goal.

We all know that pressure reveals leaks, and in these turbulent times we are all under pressure in one way or another, and if we are able to face adversity by looking beyond what we are experiencing today, and if we remain united corporatively, we will not be shaken in our foundations.

If we manage to hold out during this period, which is indeed difficult, we believe that there will be new business opportunities, new networks and channels that will be created, hence the importance of sharing ideas, innovations and opportunities together.

Remain attentive, because we believe that it is the Lord himself who will promote opportunities, which of course will have to be tested to ensure that it is not a trap.

We have a promise for this New Year in Psalm 91 where God promises to keep us.

He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.

I will say of the LORD, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust.

Surely he shall deliver thee from the snare of the fowler, and from the noisome pestilence. He shall cover thee with his feathers, and under his wings shalt thou trust: his truth shall be thy shield and buckler. Thou shalt not be afraid for the terror by night; nor for the arrow that flieth by day; Nor for the pestilence that walketh in darkness; nor for the destruction that wasteth at noonday. A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand; but it shall not come nigh thee. Only with thine eyes shalt thou behold and see the reward of the wicked.

Because thou hast made the LORD, which is my refuge, even the most High, thy habitation;

There shall no evil befall thee, neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling. For he shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways. They shall bear thee up in their hands, lest thou dash thy foot against a stone. Thou shalt tread upon the lion and adder: the young lion and the dragon shalt thou trample under feet.

Because he hath set his love upon me, therefore will I deliver him: I will set him on high, because he hath known my name. **15** He shall call upon me, and I will answer him: I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him, and honour him. With long life will I satisfy him, and shew him my salvation

•

God is going to make a 90° turn with humanity, that is to say that what existed before will disappear and new

paradigms will appear. God is at the helm and he has everything perfectly under control over what is coming to the world.

We are going to organise a zoom with all ICCC Switzerland members at the beginning of February, please check your emails for the invitation which will be shortly, it would be great if on both sides of the borders we could connect and share amongst each other what we are experiencing.

To conclude this news, we would like to leave you the passage from Colossians 2 verses 2 and 3 I am fighting so that, united in love, they may be encouraged in their hearts and may be enriched with a full understanding to know the mystery of God, both of the Father and of Christ. In him are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.

We have and can find the answers to all our questions in him, so we encourage you to continue to seek his face by practising interiority, in order to receive the answers we need.

Treasure means: the place in which precious goods and things are gathered and preserved.

Wisdom means: broad and full of intelligence,

Knowledge means: revealed wisdom, broad and full of intelligence; used for the knowledge of a wide range of subjects

Finding treasure, wisdom, and knowledge is all that we need in these troubled times so that we can incarnate Christ in us the hope of glory to give hope to all those who have none and bring them back to the light.

For the committee :

Michel Jean Philippe Koegler Chairman ICCC Suisse.

Chambre de Commerce Chrétienne Internationale 27  
chemin des Crêts-de-Pregny,

CH 1218 Grand-Saconnex / Genève

Tél. +41 22 920 05 14 E-mail : [info@iccc.ch](mailto:info@iccc.ch) -

[www.iccc.ch](http://www.iccc.ch)