

## Souleymane Diarrasouba

Minister for Trade, Industry and SME Promotion, Ivory Coast



Before joining the Government, Souleymane DIARRASSOUBA had already proven himself in the banking sector, where he had an impressive professional career: General Manager of the Atlantic Business International (ABI) group, a subsidiary of the Banque Centrale Populaire du Maroc group, the third largest banking group in the UEMOA; President of the Professional Association of Banks and Financial Institutions of Côte d'Ivoire (APBEF-CI). He has also been vice president of General confederation enterprises (companies) of Côte d'Ivoire (CGECL in French). It's through banking sector that he built a great reputation and became a key figure in the Ivorian private sector and West Africa. On 11 January 2017, this banker's excellent career earned him his appointment to the Government as Minister of Trade, Crafts and SME Promotion.

After 14 months at the head of this ministry, Prime Minister Amadou GON COULIBALY appointed him Minister of Mines and Industry in addition to his position as Minister of Trade, Crafts and SME Promotion. On July 10, 2018, he was promoted to Minister of Trade, Industry and SME Promotion. An important ministry that holds strategic axes and levers for the transformation of the Ivorian economy into an emerging economy at the beginning of 2020.

Souleymane DIARRASSOUBA's skills have earned her several distinctions highlighting his worth and the gratitude of the Ivorian nation towards its citizen. Thus, he is an Officer of the National Order of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire, an Officer of the Order of Solidarity and Social Cohesion and an Officer of the Order of Agricultural Merit.

Souleymane DIARRASSOUBA holds a Diplôme d'Etude Supérieure de Banque from the Conservatoire National des Arts & Métiers de Paris in France and a Diplôme d'Etudes Supérieures Spécialisées (DESS) in Audit and Management Control from the Université Nationale de Côte d'Ivoire in partnership with the Université Paris XII Val De Marne. He is also part of the first promotion of the Advanced Management Program (AMP) set up by MDE Business School (formerly IHE Africa) in partnership with IESE Business School in Barcelona, Spain.

Born on June 27, 1971, he is married and has 4 children.