

Minister of Foreign Affairs Ivan Mrkic led the delegation of the Republic of Serbia at a recently concluded Francophone Summit in Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of the Congo. In addition to participating in the conference, the delegation also had a series of talks with the leading Congolese politicians and ministers from other participating states.

In its meetings with the Congolese Prime Minister Augustin Matata Ponyo, President of the Senate Kengo Wa Dondo, Minister of Foreign Affairs Raymond Tshibanda, as well as Secretary General of the ruling party of President Kabila, E. Boshab, the delegation had an extensive exchange of views on the bilateral relations between the two friendly countries and agreed on the course of their further development. The experience so far has shown that there exist great opportunities for cooperation in agriculture and infrastructure in Congo, as well as the export of Serbia's machine products. An invitation has been extended to Serbian President Tomislav Nikolic to visit this highly populated and rich country.

In Kinshasa, at the Serbian embassy, MFA Mrkic also met with a Serbian Army representative to the Serbian contingent within the UN peacekeeping force in the Congo as well as with Congolese businessmen dealing with Serbia. The Minister had several separate meetings with his colleagues from other participating states – Tunisia, Egypt, South Sudan, Equatorial Guinea, Togo and Mali.

On that occasion, he presented the letters of President Tomislav Nikolic addressed to their respective heads of state.

At the margins of the conference MFA Mrkic also exchanged views with heads of the delegations of Algeria, Laos, the Czech Republic, as well as Macedonia and Croatia. The host country devoted attention to the visit of Minister Mrkic, reflected in his three statements given to the Congolese national television.