

## Biography of Jean Ping

Born in Omboué, Gabon, on 24 November 1942, the son of a Chinese father who worked in a factory in France before moving to Gabon, and a Gabonese mother, Jean Ping has cultural diversity in his blood. He is Africa's leading politician of African-Asian heritage.

He studied economics at the Sorbonne in Paris (France) and was awarded a doctorate in the subject. He was an active member of the AGEG (General Association of Gabonese Students) and the FEANF (Federation of Black African Students in France) alongside African patriots like Alpha Condé.



### Gabon

<b>1984</b>	Return to Gabon, Head of Cabinet of President Omar Bongo
<b>1990</b>	Minister of Information, Postal Services and Telecommunications, Tourism and Recreation, and Reform of the Parastatal Sector; in charge of relations with Parliament, as well as government spokesman
<b>1990-1991, 1992-1994</b>	Minister of Mines, Energy, and Hydraulic Resources
<b>1994</b>	Minister of Foreign Affairs, Cooperation, and La Francophonie
<b>1994</b>	Minister Delegate to the Minister of Finance, the Economy, the Budget, and Privatisation
<b>1997</b>	Minister of Planning, the Environment and Tourism
<b>1999</b>	Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation

### International

<b>1972</b>	International civil servant at UNESCO working on the issues of education, cooperation for development and external relations
<b>1978-1984</b>	Gabon's Permanent Delegate to UNESCO
<b>1993</b>	President of OPEC
<b>2004-2005</b>	President of the United Nations General Assembly
<b>2008-2012</b>	Chairperson of the Commission of the African Union

Building on his extensive national and international experience, Jean Ping has decided to dedicate more time to the service of his country. He does not intend to take on this task alone and invites the people of Gabon to join him in restoring the State and forging a New Republic, based on a clearly defined vision, values, principles and goals, and together build a Gabon free from fear and want.