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| Headline | France endorses gay marriage bill | | |
| MediaTitle | Borneo Post (Kuching) | | |
| Date | 09 Nov 2012 | Color | Black/white |
| Section | World | Circulation | 88,150 |
| Page No | A6 | Readership | 166,173 |
| Language | English | ArticleSize | 56 cm ² |
| Journalist | N/A | AdValue | RM 322 |
| Frequency | Daily | PR Value | RM 967 |



France endorses gay-marriage bill

PARIS: The French socialist government on Wednesday agreed to legalise same-sex marriage and to allow adoption for same-sex couples amid strong opposition from the Roman Catholic church and rightists. The government gave the green light for same-sex couples to marry and adopt children after a weekly cabinet meeting, Xinhua news agency reported.

During his election campaign,

President Francois Hollande promised the legislation would be endorsed by mid-2013.

The draft law "based on research of the effectiveness of equality principle, allows same-sex couples to marry. It's also open to same-sex couples the way of adoption, whether the joint adoption of a child by the couple or adoption of the spouse's child," according to a government statement. —

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