

South Africa in talks with the US to secure fair trade deal

South Africa is currently in **active negotiations with the United States to secure a trade deal**. Through a press release, [the office of the South African President](#) announced that members of the Ramaphosa Administration are now in Washington, meeting a wide range of stakeholders, including White House officials, legislators, and industry leaders.



The goal is to **reverse or decrease the 30 percent tariff** on the African country's exports into the US.

During a National Assembly in South Africa, President Cyril Ramaphosa emphasised that the country's objective is to **safeguard continued access to the US market**.

"We are on the ground, and we are working the ground in the United States as we speak," he said. "Our people, who are in the United States, are now fully fired up with this type of approach, and the Minister of Trade and Industry and International Relations will be joining them, and they will be advancing those discussions."

A long-lasting trade relationship



The President noted that the United States is **South Africa's second largest trading partner** and that the government has submitted a package to Washington as the basis for discussions, which builds on a previous one submitted in May.

What the South African government is preliminarily offering the United States has **not been disclosed** by the Ramaphosa Administration.



At the same time, the press release reported that the South African government is supporting businesses affected by the 30 percent tariff imposed on local products, and **helping them boost competitiveness and diversify export markets**.

These initiatives include working capital, plant, and equipment facilities to address short to medium-term needs across all industries.

A new South African ambassador to Washington

During the National Assembly, the President also confirmed his government will **soon announce a new ambassador to Washington**, assuring that the nominee will be suitably qualified.

“[It] will be a person who is capable, sufficiently well-experienced, and sufficiently well-versed in world views and world politics, and who knows the American market extremely well,” said Ramaphosa.

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