

Deepening U.S. and South Africa Economic Ties

On Tuesday, the Chamber's U.S.-Africa Business Center (USAfBC) hosted South African President H.E. Cyril Ramaphosa for an executive roundtable. The conversation focused on South Africa's economic recovery from COVID-19 and the need to increase U.S. investment into the South African market.

Why it matters: More than 30 companies took part to discuss trade and investment opportunities ahead of South Africa's upcoming [Investment Conference](#). Leading CEOs and business executives engaged President Ramaphosa on strategies to mitigate the impact of COVID-19 and spur economic recovery. President Ramaphosa focused on infrastructure, digital economy, healthcare, automobiles, and retail.

What happened: President Ramaphosa emphasized the importance of strengthening commercial ties and coordination between the U.S. and South Africa.

The president also highlighted the factors that made South Africa a base for trade and investment and discussed how U.S. investments in South Africa have already proven successful.

Key quote: "It is now more important than ever for South Africa and the U.S. to deepen strategic partnership conducted through several political and economic forums," [President Ramaphosa noted](#). "The U.S. is South Africa's third-largest trading partner."

Looking Ahead: The U.S. Chamber's U.S. -South Africa Business Council, made up of senior executives of U.S. companies investing in South Africa and the Southern African region, has plans to bolster the investment theme by coordinating sector-driven discussions between U.S. investors, South African businesses, and critical government ministers in the coming months.

—Scott Eisner, President, U.S.-Africa Business Center and Senior Vice President, U.S. Chamber of Commerce

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