



MALAYSIA-US TARIFF NEGOTIATIONS ON RIGHT TRACK, MAKING GOOD PROGRESS

The Minister of Investment, Trade and Industry, YB Senator Tengku Datuk Seri Utama Zafrul Aziz, led a working visit to Washington D.C. on 18 - 20 June 2025. The working visit was primarily on continuing US-tariff-related engagement and negotiations with the US Trade Representative, H.E. Ambassador Jamieson Greer and the US Secretary of Commerce, H.E. Howard Lutnick. The Minister was accompanied by the Chief Negotiator from the Ministry of Investment, Trade and Industry (MITI), as well as the Deputy Chief of Mission from the Embassy of Malaysia and MITI officials based in Washington D.C.

The two separate meetings with the US Trade Representative and the US Secretary of Commerce progressed well. Both Malaysia and the US representatives expressed their intent to finalize the negotiations before the expiry of the 90-day pause on tariff implementation and agreed to intensify efforts to reach an agreement that would be mutually acceptable by key stakeholders from both countries.

Tengku Zafrul said, "In May 2025, exports to the US posted the eighth consecutive month of double-digit expansion. The US has been one of Malaysia's top three export markets for the last 10 years. Much of Malaysia's US-bound exports complement US-based domestic industries in sector such as E&E, semiconductors, medical devices as well as machinery, equipment and parts. Malaysia has also been an important source of intermediate goods to US-based manufacturing industries. MITI has also remained steadfast in doing its utmost to uphold Malaysia's interests in all trade and investment relations with all trading partners, particularly in maintaining the integrity of Malaysia's domestic commitments and its sovereign rights."

The Malaysian delegation led by the Minister of MITI ensured that the meetings with the US Trade Representative and the US Secretary of Commerce was also optimised as a platform to enhance bilateral investment and trade ties between Malaysia and the US, while also. These will also form part of the expected outcome of the negotiations, which MITI hopes will be finalised before the end of the 90-day pause on tariff implementation.

“We envisage these negotiations to help secure Malaysia’s supply chain, as well as a provide a positive spillover to Malaysia’s businesses, particularly Small and Medium Enterprises, and more high-paying jobs for Malaysians. All these will further strengthen Malaysia’s position as a choice investment destination in the region, while driving the MADANI economic transformation agenda towards a high-tech and higher-income nation,” continued Tengku Zafrul.

MINISTRY OF INVESTMENT, TRADE AND INDUSTRY

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About MITI: MITI is the primary driver in positioning Malaysia as a preferred destination for quality investment and enhancing the nation’s global trade competitiveness. Its objectives and roles are geared towards ensuring robust economic development and helping Malaysia achieve its goal of becoming a high-income and developed nation.

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