



**G20**  
SOUTH AFRICA 2025



Solidarity

Equality

Sustainability

**Interdepartmental  
Communications  
Committee (IDCC)**

# Key messages

## G20 South Africa Presidency

Set 1, 25 October 2024



## Brief

South Africa will assume the presidency of the Group of Twenty (G20) from 1 December 2024 until 30 November 2025. South Africa has adopted as the theme for its G20 Presidency: *Solidarity, Equality, Sustainability*. South Africa takes over the presidency from Brazil after their summit in Rio de Janeiro from 18–19 November 2024.

The G20 is the premier forum for global economic cooperation and global governance on important issues affecting the world. It is widely regarded as a vehicle for promoting effective multilateral cooperation as it brings together the world's leading economies to ensure global economic stability and sustainable growth for all nations.

In advancing the theme, South Africa will emphasise collective efforts to ensure a fair global order that meets the needs of the present while considering the future of our world and generations to come.

This will be the first time an African country hosts the prestigious gathering, which brings together leaders and policymakers from major economies. President Cyril Ramaphosa has committed to placing Africa's development at the top of the agenda when hosting the G20 in 2025.

South Africa's assumption of the presidency of the G20 provides a platform for our country to highlight the instrumental role of Africa and developing nations in tackling the globe's socio-economic issues. South Africa will use this forum to highlight the interests of Africa and the developing world, as well as achieve lasting solutions to challenges faced by developing countries across the world.

KEY MESSAGES	SUPPORTING STATEMENTS
<p><b><i>The G20 is a premier forum for global economic cooperation.</i></b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The G20 comprises 19 countries (Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Republic of Korea, Mexico, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Türkiye, the United Kingdom, and the United States), the European Union, and since 2023, the African Union.</li> <li>• The G20 represents approximately 85% of global gross domestic product (GDP), 75% of global trade and two-thirds of the world’s population.</li> <li>• The G20 summit for 2024 takes place in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 18–19 November 2024, and thereafter South Africa will assume the presidency of the G20 from 1 December to 30 November 2025.</li> <li>• South Africa will hand over the presidency to the United States in 2025 after the summit, concluding a three-year cycle of the forum headed by countries of the South (India, Brazil, and South Africa).</li> </ul>
<p><b><i>The G20 has a long history of shaping global economic direction.</i></b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Following the Asian financial crisis in 1997/1998, the G20 was founded in 1999 for developing economies to discuss international economic and financial stability and coordinate efforts globally to deal with crises.</li> <li>• It plays an important role in shaping and strengthening global architecture and governance on all major international economic issues.</li> <li>• It initially focussed on broad macroeconomic issues but has expanded its agenda to include trade, climate change, sustainable development, health, agriculture, energy, environment, climate change, and anti-corruption.</li> <li>• The presidency of the G20 rotates every year among member states and the incumbent president holds the responsibility of facilitating the G20 agenda in consultation with other</li> </ul>

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	<p>members and in line with developments in the global economy.</p>
<p><b><i>South Africa will champion the developmental agenda during our Presidency of the G20.</i></b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This is an exciting time for South Africa, as our country will be the first African nation to preside over and host the G20 Summit, set to take place in the City of Johannesburg.</li> <li>• We will use our position to advocate for fairness and justice in this unpredictable period of geopolitical tensions.</li> <li>• The G20 Presidency is supported by a “troika” consisting of present, past, and next host countries, which are Brazil, South Africa, and the US.</li> <li>• We will build on the efforts and successes of previous presidencies to champion the developmental agenda and mobilise support for developing economies of the global South.</li> <li>• South Africa will work towards a people-centred, progressive, and solution-driven presidency to unite nations to find solutions to global challenges and accelerate global co-operation and multilateralism.</li> <li>• We will work to establish a more equitable, representative and purposeful international order that includes promoting the African agenda.</li> <li>• South Africa’s G20 Presidency provides us with an opportunity to advocate for and mobilise support for the developing economies of Africa and the global South.</li> <li>• The G20 has an important role to play in fulfilling the aspirations of the United Nations (UN) Charter—of social progress and of better standards of life in larger freedom.</li> </ul>
<p><b><i>South Africa will advance its national priorities during its G20 Presidency.</i></b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• South Africa will use the G20 to advance our national interests, as outlined in our National Development Plan, along with the aspirations of developing nations.</li> <li>• Our tenure as president will focus on our strategic priorities, inclusive and sustainable</li> </ul>

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	<p>economic growth, and create a more just society by tackling poverty.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We are committed to drive job creation; tackle the high cost of living; and build a capable, ethical and developmental state.</li> <li>• A massive economic boost is expected, especially in areas such as tourism and hospitality, as we prepare to host, network, and partner with some of the wealthiest nations in the world, which will unlock economic opportunities.</li> <li>• South Africa values the opportunity presented to be part of the global solutions and share our own experiences on how to address the problems faced by the international community.</li> <li>• Government will present a growing range of developments within the country that are significant to global investors.</li> <li>• South Africa has several advantages that make it an attractive destination for business services, such as its sophisticated digital infrastructure, including mobile networks and high-speed broadband.</li> </ul>
<p><b><i>South Africa is committed to work together to bring lasting change to the global economic system.</i></b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We will work together with other nations to create a global governance structure that addresses global political and ethical challenges.</li> <li>• A global financing solution that will enable a resilient financial system will be tabled for discussion, which includes reducing debt vulnerability and creating consensus on reform of the international financial architecture (IFA), notably the multilateral development banks (MDSBs).</li> <li>• During our term, we will also prioritise employment, industrialisation, equality and build on the multilateral fora as tabled by the UN.</li> <li>• Various task forces have been established in relation to our priorities, including a task force</li> </ul>

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	<p>on critical minerals and a task force on artificial intelligence (AI), which deals with cross-cutting initiatives on AI.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• South Africa believes in leaving no one behind and we will work together with international organisations such as the World Trade Organisation (WTO) and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and advocate for strategic reforms and the injection of foreign direct investment towards the needs of developing nations.</li> </ul>
<p><b><i>South Africa is ready to assume the Presidency of the G20.</i></b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preparations are underway for our presidency of the G20.</li> <li>• We have no doubt that we will deliver a successful G20 Summit, as achieved with other major global events such as the 2010 FIFA World Cup and BRICS Summit.</li> <li>• The National Joint Operational and Intelligence Structure (NATJOINTS) and the justice system are working to ensure the safety and security of everyone during our presidency of the G20.</li> <li>• Citizens can track the progress of the G20 online via the website <a href="http://www.g20.org.za">www.g20.org.za</a>, which will be active in the months to come.</li> <li>• A G20 visioning workshop, policy workshop and consultative workshop with the AU have been conducted, while the Interministerial Committee provides guidance and recommendations to Cabinet for preparations of the summit.</li> <li>• Some of our knowledge partners include the UN Development Programme, the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development, the WTO, the World Health Organisation, the IMF, and the World Bank, whom we will leverage expertise and policy inputs from.</li> <li>• Our internal stakeholders include social partners, government, business, labour, and the community.</li> </ul>

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<p><b><i>We are committed to promoting the AU's aspirations and the sustainable development of the African continent.</i></b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• South Africa's national developmental agenda is linked to our continental aspirations, and we will leverage our chairing of the G20 to support sustainable development in Africa.</li> <li>• We strive to advance Agenda 2063: The Africa We Want, and sustainable development goals of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda.</li> <li>• Following the AU's admission into the G20 in 2023, we continue to place Africa's priorities at the top of the agenda and work together to address emerging and existing threats.</li> <li>• Sustainable development and poverty eradication are major priorities for the continent and a task force on food security has been established to tackle this area of concern.</li> <li>• Our presidency of the G20 will be instrumental in strengthening the voice of Africa and the global South, echoing the needs of developing nations, such as basic services, including healthcare, youth and women empowerment, and fighting gender-based violence</li> <li>• G20 engagements include boosting trade and investment on the continent and establishing a responsive trade agenda to address global concerns.</li> <li>• We consider the G20 as a crucial vehicle for developing Africa and hope to build on initiatives such as the G20 Africa Partnership, the Compact with Africa, and the G20 Initiative on Industrialisation in Africa and Least Developed Countries.</li> <li>• We seek to action the Pact of the Future, which includes themes relevant to the African continent, including peace and security, sustainable development, climate change, digital cooperation, human rights, gender, youth and future generations, and the transformation of global governance.</li> </ul>
<p><b><i>Together we can find solutions to global challenges</i></b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The G20 consists of two parallel tracks, which are the Sherpa and Finance tracks, and South Africa will steer engagements and workstreams</li> </ul>



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	<p>in relation to these tracks to address our most pressing global challenges.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Sherpa track consists of working groups that are focussed on socio-economic issues such as agriculture, anti-corruption, climate, digital economy, education, employment, energy, environment, health, tourism, trade, and investment.</li> <li>• The Finance track, headed by finance ministers and Central Bank governors, relates to fiscal and monetary policy issues such as the global economy, infrastructure, financial regulation, inclusion, IFA, and taxation.</li> <li>• We will strive to level the playing field on critical issues such as fair trade to support sustainable development and digital inclusion.</li> <li>• Financial resources are also required in implementing the Global Biodiversity Framework as well as the Climate Change Convention and its Paris Agreement, including the just transition.</li> <li>• Together we will work towards achieving our sustainable development goal of zero hunger and enable food security through interventions that include empowering women in agrifood systems and inclusive market participation.</li> <li>• South Africa advocates for what is just and fair on all global matters and advocates for an end to the war and genocide in Ukraine, Russia, Israel, and Palestine.</li> <li>• We will seek common standards among G20 members to combat corruption, improve equality and universal health care, remove barriers to education and development and advance risk reduction efforts.</li> </ul>
<p><b><i>Addressing climate change is essential for a sustainable future for all nations</i></b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Energy is a critical component for a sustainable global economy, which forms part of the summit’s discussions and include energy transition, sources, technology, efficiency, security, accessibility, and affordability.</li> </ul>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• South Africa continues work to fully operationalise the Paris Agreement and meet commitments relating to climate change.</li> <li>• We advocate for a global energy transition that considers the socio-economic impact on developing countries and maintains industrial production in energy and related sectors.</li> <li>• The revised Nationally Determined Contribution establishes our contribution to reducing global greenhouse gas emissions and mitigating climate change through the National Climate Change Adaptation Strategy and its mitigation targets for 2025 and 2030.</li> <li>• We seek to accelerate financial investment to reduce carbon emissions and respond to the challenges associated with global warming.</li> <li>• Our Just Energy Transition Investment Plan (JET IP) for the five-year period 2023–2027 sets out the scale of need and the investments required to achieve our decarbonisation commitments and a climate-resilient society.</li> <li>• The interventions for the JET IP include green hydrogen, clean electric and new energy vehicles, solar and wind resources, among others, that will ensure cleaner, cheaper and sustainable energy.</li> <li>• Our just transition to a low-carbon economy will address threats of load shedding and climate change, and our ambitious green energy plan will boost economic growth, attracting approximately R1 trillion of new investment.</li> </ul>

## Infographics

- South Africa will assume the presidency of the G20 for 2025 from 1 December 2024 until 30 November 2025.
- The launch of the G20 South Africa Presidency will take place in November 2024, prior to our official assumption of the presidency on 1 December.
- South Africa's theme for the G20 in 2025 is *Solidarity, Equality, Sustainability*
- It is the first time an African country hosts the prestigious G20 gathering, which brings together leaders and policymakers from major economies.
- We have no doubt that we will deliver a successful G20 presidency and summit, as achieved with other major global events such as the 2010 FIFA World Cup and the BRICS Summits in 2013, 2018, and 2023.
- A massive economic boost is expected, especially in areas such as tourism and hospitality, as we prepare to host, network, and partner with some of the wealthiest nations in the world, which will unlock economic opportunities.
- President Cyril Ramaphosa has committed to placing Africa's development at the top of the agenda as we preside over the G20 in 2025.
- South Africa values the opportunity presented to be part of the global solutions and share our own experiences on how to address the problems faced by the international community.