



IT'S YOUR VOICE



Internal Newsletter of the Department of International Relations and Cooperation

ubuntu diplomat

**UNGA73 Special Edition
27 September 2018**



Photo: Yandisa Monakali/Dirco News Service

Team SA well represented at UNGA73

Team South Africa and Team DIRCO were well represented in New York for the 73rd United Nations (UN) General Assembly that took place from 24 – 27 September 2018 at the UN Headquarters. The annual debate brings together Heads of State and Government to present their views about pressing world issues and it was President Cyril Ramaphosa's inaugural participation at the event.

The general debate was preceded by the unveiling of a statue of President Nelson Mandela, the historic Nelson Mandela Peace Summit and a reception hosted by President Ramaphosa.

The President also met with CEOs of major global companies as part of the drive to attract foreign direct investment, which forms part of the build-up to the South African International Investment Conference in late October. To read more about the UNGA73, go to <https://www.gov.za/UNGA73>.



South Africa will from 24-27 September participate at the 73rd Session of the United Nations General Assembly taking place at the UN Headquarters in New York. The annual debate brings together Heads of State and Government to present their views about pressing world issues.

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The primary role of the United Nations is to maintain international peace and security, promote economic development as well as advance and protect human rights. South Africa is an active participant in the United Nations.

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President Cyril Ramaphosa took a flight to New York on the national carrier, South African Airways.

The President led the South African delegation on a Working Visit to New York for the 73rd Session of the United Nations General Assembly.

The President was accompanied by Lindiwe Sisulu, Minister of International Relations and Cooperation; Rob Davies, Minister of Trade and Industry; Nosiviwe Mapisa-Nqakula, Minister of Defence and Military Veterans; Nhlanhla Nene, Minister of Finance and Aaron Motsoaledi, Minister of Health.



President Ramaphosa on 23 September 2018 arrived at the John F Kennedy International Airport in New York, United States of America. The President was received by Ambassador Mahlangu.



DIRCO News Service (DNS) interviews the Minister of Health, Dr Aaron Motsoaledi, on the sidelines of UNGA73 in New York. 23/09/2018

Unveiling of the Nelson Mandela Statue



This is a significant year for South Africa's participation at the United Nations General Assembly as it coincides with the centenary anniversary of former President Nelson Mandela.

A series of activities are planned to honour and celebrate this global icon and statesman and his commitment to justice and world peace.

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President Ramaphosa, Dr Tshepo Motsepe and Amb Jerry Matjila arrive for the unveiling ceremony of the Nelson Mandela Statue.

Media waiting for the unveiling.





INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT THE STATUE

1.

At 1.8m tall, this is the only life size statue at the United Nations. This signifies the role that he played in uniting the world under a banner of peace and resolution of conflict.

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INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT THE STATUE

2.

The statue was created by the same sculptors who worked on the Mandela statue that towers over the gardens at the Union Buildings in Tshwane.

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INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT THE STATUE

5.

The statue will be located at the entrance of the UN General Assembly Hall and serve as a reminder to world leaders and all those who enter the UNHQ of the ideals that Mandela dedicated his life fighting for - freedom, human rights, peace and justice for all.

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INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT THE STATUE

3.

The statue is modeled after the day Nelson Mandela delivered his speech to the United Nations Special Committee Against Apartheid on 22 June 1990 where he urged the United Nations to maintain sanctions against South Africa until apartheid was abolished.

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INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT THE STATUE

4.

The statue is fitted with former President Nelson Mandela's prison shoes that he wore during his days as political prisoner 46664 on Robben Island in Cape Town, where he served a jail term of 27 years.

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President Ramaphosa, President of the General Assembly, Maria Espinosa and Secretary-General Antonio Guterres unveiling the Nelson Mandela Statue at the UN Headquarters New York.





NELSON
MANDELA
PEACE SUMMIT

United Nations General Assembly | 24 September 2018







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International peace and security result more from
conflicts within states and the effect that these
have across

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President Ramaphosa with the President of the General Assembly, Maria Espinosa ,during a bilateral meeting.

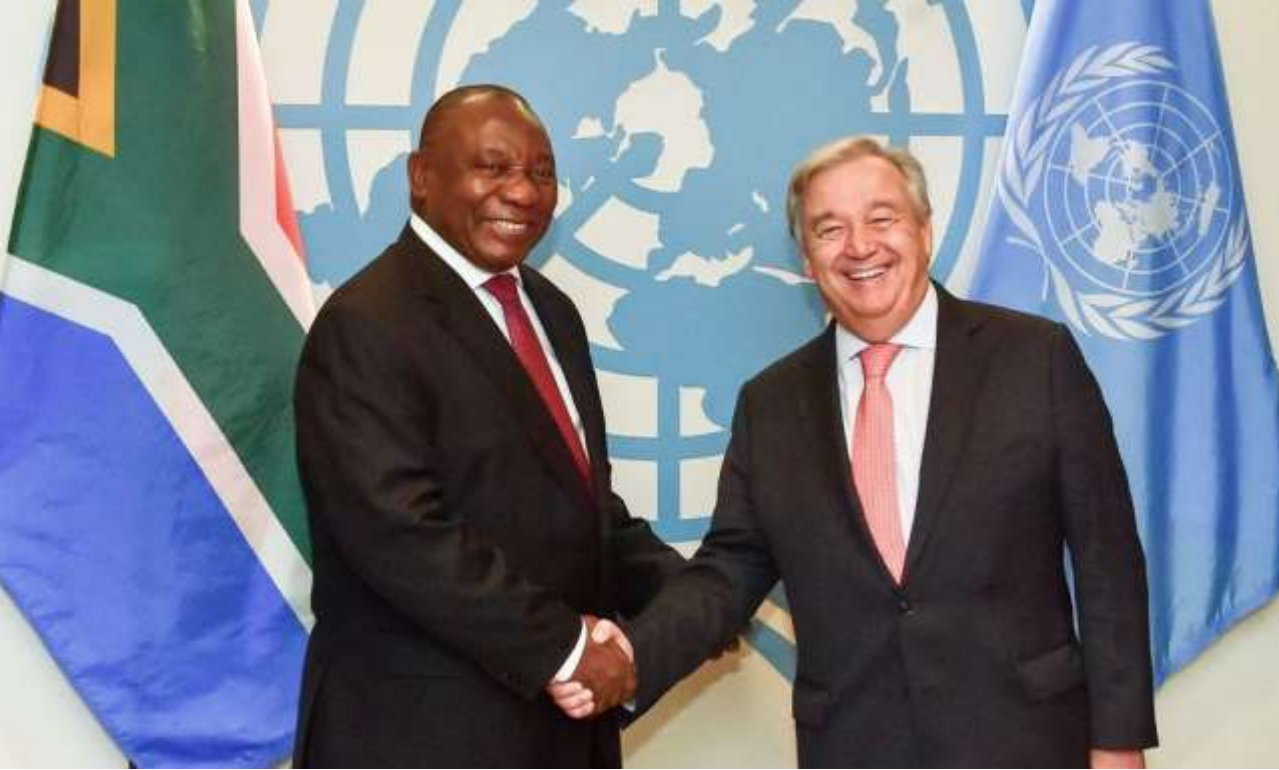


President Ramaphosa and the Executive Director of UN Women, Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka, during a bilateral meeting.



President Ramaphosa and Senator Christopher Coons during a bilateral meeting at the Intercontinental Hotel in New York.

Senator Coons is the Vice-Chair of the Senate Ethics Committee and a member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.



President Ramaphosa and Secretary-General of the UN, Mr Guterres, during a bilateral meeting at the UN Headquarters in New York.



President Ramaphosa signing the visitors book at UN Headquarters in New York.



President Ramaphosa and the President Miguel Daiz-Canal of the Republic of Cuba, during a bilateral meeting at the UN Headquarters in New York.





COUNCIL *on*
FOREIGN
RELATIONS



President Ramaphosa addresses the Council on Foreign Relations (CFR) meeting at the Council Offices in New York.

The CFR is an independent, non-partisan membership organisation, think-tank and publisher dedicated to being a resource for its members, government officials, business executives, journalists, educators and students, civic and religious leaders, and other interested citizens in order to help them better understand the world and the foreign policy choices facing the United States and other countries.

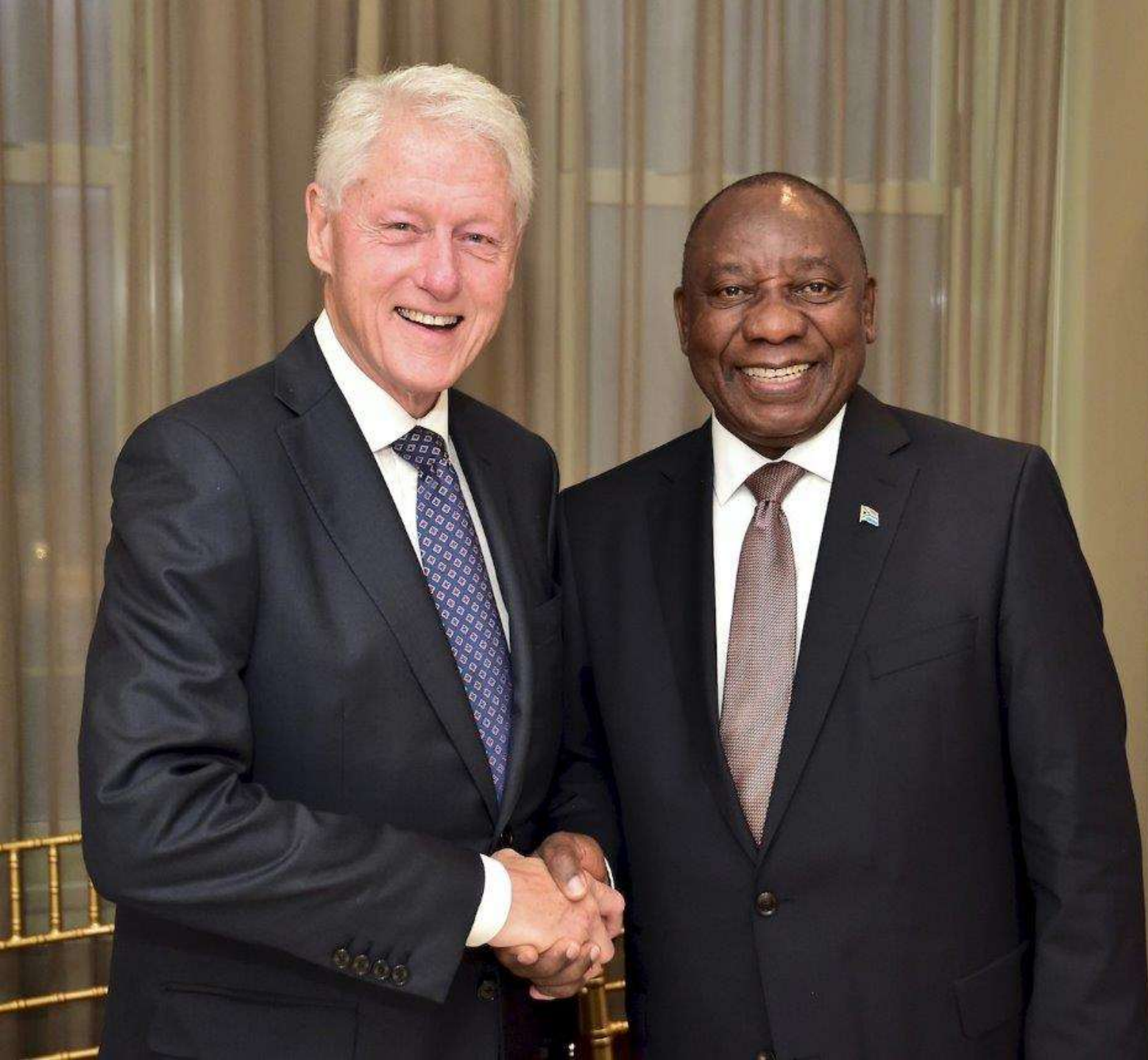
Founded in 1921, the CFR takes no institutional positions on matters of policy. Its goal is to start conversation about the need for Americans to better understand the world.





Former President Bill Clinton of the United States of America, President Ramaphosa, President Iván Duque Márquez of Republic of Colombia and Prime Minister Erna Solberg of the Kingdom of Norway during the Bloomberg Global Business Forum Panel Discussion at the Plaza Hotel in New York.

The Bloomberg Global Business Forum is an annual event organised by Bloomberg Philanthropies, the charity founded by former New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg. The event is held during the annual meeting of the UNGA each September in New York City. The conference represents a “handoff” of the annual meeting of the Clinton Global Initiative, the last of which was held during the 2016 presidential campaign.



Bloomberg
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President Ramaphosa addressing a High-Level Meeting on the fight against tuberculosis, convened by Maria Fernananda Spinosa, the President of the 73rd Session of the UNGA, UN Headquarters, New York. 26/09/2018.



President Ramaphosa addressing the CEO Roundtable Discussion during the Trade and Investment Promotion segment at the Intercontinental Hotel in New York.





international relations & cooperation

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International Relations and Cooperation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

