



## **African Trade Initiative**

### **Out-Bound Trade Mission to South Africa**

**Proposed Dates:** April 20 - 29, 2007.

**Mission Theme:** "Gateway of the Americas meets the Southern African Gateway"

Expected Number of Delegates: **15**

#### **Mission Objectives**

- To promote Miami-Dade County as the ultimate gateway for business as well as destination for African tourists.
- To explore the possibility of direct air route development between Miami-Dade and Southern Africa.
- To collaborate with Miami Dade Sister Cities Program coordinator in establishing a Sister City relationship with Cape Town, South Africa.
- To visit the Ports of Durban and Cape Town, South Africa.
- Meet with five major Southern African travel and tour operators.
- To provide one-to-one business matchmaking opportunities for five (5) targeted Miami-Dade County businesses with their counterparts in Southern Africa.
- To meet and network with trade organizations, chambers of commerce and government officials in South Africa and Namibia.
- Visit the secretariat of the Southern African Customs Union (SACU) in Namibia.

# REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

## COUNTRY PROFILE



### Population

46.6 million (2004 estimate)

### Ethnic Composition

Black 79%; White 9.6%; Colored 8.9%; Asian (Indian) 2.5%.

### Capitals

**Administrative**, Pretoria;

**Legislative**, Cape Town; **Judicial**, Bloemfontein.

### Other Major Cities

Johannesburg, Port Elizabeth, Durban.

### President

Mr. Thabo Mbeki

### Languages

Afrikaans, English, isiNdebele, isiXhosa, isiZulu, Sepedi, Sesotho, Setswana, siSwati, Tshivenda, and Xitsonga (all official languages).



**GDP [2004]:** \$213 billion

### Natural Resources

Almost all essential commodities, except petroleum products and bauxite are found in South Africa. It is the only country in the world that manufactures fuel from coal. It is also the World's largest producer of platinum, gold, and chromium; also significant coal production.

### Industry

Minerals, mining, motor vehicles and parts, machinery, textiles, chemicals, fertilizer, information technology, electronics, and agro-processing.

**Trade (2004) - Exports-**\$36.3 billion. **Imports-**\$34 billion

## U.S. - SOUTH AFRICA RELATIONS

Having emerged from the international isolation of the apartheid era, South Africa has become a leading international actor. Its principal foreign policy objective is to promote the economic, political, and cultural regeneration of Africa, through the New Partnership for African Development (NEPAD); to promote the peaceful resolution of conflict in Africa.

South Africa is a member of the World Trade Organization (WTO). U.S. products qualify for South Africa's most-favored-nation tariff rates. South Africa also is an eligible country for the benefits under the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA), and most of its products can enter the United States market duty free.

## MIAMI-DADE COUNTY - SOUTH AFRICA TRADE RELATIONS

For YTD 2005, trade between Miami-Dade County and South Africa was approximately **US\$100.4 million**. For the years 2004, and 2003, that figure was US\$162.6 and US\$91.5 respectively. The City of Cape Town in South Africa has applied to become a Sister City to Miami-Dade County, and the authorities there hope that this agreement, once finalized would coincide with a Miami-Dade County Mission to South Africa. Dante B. Fascell Port of Miami-Dade signed the International Sister Seaports Agreement with the Port of Durban [Feb. 1, 2005] and Port of Cape Town [Feb. 4, 2005].