

# Switzerland says it's 'determined' to honor trade pledges, asks U.S. to do the same

By [Margaret Spiegelman](#) / June 30, 2026 at 5:30 PM

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The Swiss government has outlined plans to ease regulatory hurdles for U.S. exports as agreed under a joint statement with Washington last fall, pressing U.S. Trade Representative Jamieson Greer to ensure the U.S. holds up its end of the bargain as his agency moves to replace the tariffs that underpinned their agreement.

Switzerland intends to take steps to recognize U.S. conformity assessment bodies, ease its rules for accepting U.S. passenger cars and medical devices that meet U.S. standards and make adjustments to its government procurement process as agreed under the [joint statement](#) issued last November by the U.S., Switzerland and Liechtenstein on a framework trade agreement, according to [a June 29 declaration](#) by the Swiss Federal Council.

Swiss President Guy Parmelin, who also serves as the country's economy minister, said he presented the document to Greer during a meeting in Washington. "The negotiations continue," Parmelin said in [a social media post](#) following the meeting, according to an informal translation.

In [a June 29 statement](#), the Federal Council said it was "determined" to honor its trade commitments to Washington and described the declaration as a demonstration of that intent. "In return," the statement said, the council "expects the United States to fulfil its corresponding commitments."

"A comprehensive trade agreement remains the Federal Council's overarching aim," the council added.

In the November statement, the U.S. agreed to cap tariffs on Switzerland at 15 percent in exchange for reduced tariffs and non-tariff measures and a pledge by Bern to facilitate future investments in the U.S. Both countries made tariff adjustments in accordance with the statement, but the Supreme Court's February ruling against the administration's International Emergency Economic Powers Act tariffs introduced uncertainty about the arrangement and similar U.S. pacts with other partners.

Greer has asserted that the administration intends to honor its trade deals as USTR undertakes investigations under Section 301 of the Trade Act of 1974 to impose replacement tariffs, probes his agency is aiming to conclude before separate, temporary Section 122 duties lapse next month.

USTR earlier this [month proposed](#) new tariffs on 60 economies, including a 12.5 percent rate for goods from Switzerland, as part of one of those Section 301 investigations, focused on whether trading partners are sufficiently blocking imports made with forced labor. USTR's conclusions in another [investigation](#), into structural excess capacity, remain pending.

“So far, the U.S. has stuck to the deal,” Rahul Sahgal, CEO of the Swiss-American Chamber of Commerce, told *Inside U.S. Trade* in an interview on Tuesday, while noting that that could change depending on the outcome of the excess capacity probe and what happens when the temporary tariffs expire.

“And, obviously, I hope that there's no ... substantial hiccup like there was last summer, because that would not be sustainable in the long term, neither for us nor, I think, for the U.S.,” he added, referring to President Trump's move last July to [hike tariffs](#) on goods from Switzerland to 39 percent, one of the highest rates under the now-overturned IEEPA tariff regime.

Sahgal suggested, too, that it would not be in the U.S.' interest to make any new, steep demands that could risk its deal with Switzerland. The Swiss Parliament, he noted, gave the Federal Council a mandate covering the commitments under the November statement, a step that has made implementation of the deal more straightforward than some other pacts inked by the Trump administration.

But if the U.S. were to press for commitments beyond that mandate, it could open “a whole new Pandora's box,” he said. -- *Margaret Spiegelman* ([mspiegelman@iwpnews.com](mailto:m Spiegelman@iwpnews.com))