Zambia is a member of both the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) and the Southern African Development Community (SADC).

COMESA has 21 member states of which 16 are part of the COMESA FTA - eSwatini has preferential access under a derogation but is exempt from reciprocating preferences due to its membership of SACU. The DRC, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Somalia, and Tunisia are in the process of joining the FTA.

SADC is a Regional Economic Community with 16 member states, including all SACU countries, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Madagascar, Mozambique, Malawi, Seychelles and Comoros. 13 SADC members are in a Free Trade Agreement (FTA); Comoros, DRC and Angola are yet to join the FTA.

37% of total trade is intra-Africa

Intra-Africa exports: 20% of world exports
- DRC (47.6%)
- South Africa (24.2%)
- Zimbabwe (7.6%)
- Tanzania (4.7%)

Intra-Africa imports: 53% of world imports
- South Africa (54.7%)
- DRC (28%)
- Mauritius (4.1%)
- Tanzania (3.6%)

Main intra-Africa Export Products
- Copper wire
- Electrical energy
- Gold
- Cane or beet sugar
- Sulphuric acid; oleum

Main intra-Africa Import Products
- Fertilizers containing 2-3 fertilizing elements
- Nitrogenous fertilizers
- Cobalt ores
- Petroleum oils (non-crude)
- Copper ores

<1% of intra-Africa exports are to countries outside SADC and COMESA

Main destination markets
- Congo (61%)
- Guinea-Bissau (15%)
- Cameroon (7%)
- Nigeria (5%)
- CAR (4%)
- Other (8%)

Main export products
- Animal or vegetable fertilisers (25%)
- Aeroplanes (15%)
- Dumpers for off highway use (8%)
- Special purpose motor vehicles (7%)
- Commodities n.e.s. (7%)
- Other (38%)
Most of the goods imported into Zambia from other SADC and COMESA member states enter duty-free. Exceptions are passenger vehicles (15% tariff) and wadding/gauze and bandages (5% tariff) from South Africa. From all SADC members: offal, citrus and melon and polymer sheets and strips are levied 25%, spectacle frames 15% and safety fuses 5%. While Eritrea and Ethiopia are still in the process of accession to the COMESA free trade area, imports from Ethiopia are levied at a preferential rate of 90% of the MFN tariff, and imports from Eritrea 20% of the MFN rate.

The majority of goods imported from outside SADC and COMESA are duty-free. Duty-free imports include various fertilisers and fertiliser inputs under the HS 31 heading, concrete mixer lorries and cell phones. Some machinery parts face a 15% duty and beauty or makeup preparations and ignition wiring sets face a 25% tariff.

**Highest MFN applied duties**
- Wood (40%)
- Electric ovens, cookers and water heaters (40%)
- Passenger vehicles (30% or K6000/vehicle)
- Flat-rolled iron and steel (30%)
- Worn clothing (25% or K2.5/KG)
- Beer from malt (25% or K0.8/L)
- Beauty products (25%)
- Meat and fish (25%)
- Dairy products, fruit and vegetables (25% or per KG/L amount)

**Lowest MFN applied duties**
- Fertilisers (duty-free)
- Mobile phones (duty-free)
- Concrete mixer lorries (duty-free)
- Copper and cobalt ores and concentrates (duty-free)
- Medicaments (duty-free)
- Road tractors for semi-trailers (duty-free)
- Semi-conductors (duty-free)

Sources: ITC TradeMap (2019); ITC MacMap (2019); WTO Tariff Database (2019) and tralac calculations