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## Bessent Expresses Optimism on Potential U.S.–China Trade Agreement

August 2, 2025

Categories: *Breaking News*



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U.S. Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent said recent talks with China have laid the foundation for a potential trade agreement. While the deal is not finalized, Bessent

described the progress as encouraging and signaled that both nations are moving in a positive direction.

In a now-deleted post on the social media platform X, Bessent stated that the negotiations held this week in Stockholm had moved discussions forward, expressing confidence that “we have the makings of a deal that will benefit both of our great nations.” According to a spokesperson from the U.S. Department of the Treasury, the post was removed and later reposted due to a technical issue with image uploads. The spokesperson also clarified that the content of the post aligned with Bessent’s public statements throughout the week.

Speaking with CNBC on Thursday, Bessent reiterated that while the trade agreement with China is not yet complete, the two sides have made substantial headway. He explained that American negotiators “pushed back quite a bit” during the two days of discussions with Chinese officials in Stockholm. This indicates that the U.S. is maintaining a firm position on key trade issues while working toward a resolution.

China faces a looming deadline of August 12 to reach a lasting tariff agreement with the administration of former President Donald Trump. The two countries had previously struck preliminary deals in May and June aimed at de-escalating the back-and-forth tariff increases and resolving disputes over the supply of rare earth minerals, materials critical to numerous advanced technologies.

While no final agreement has been announced, Bessent’s remarks suggest that both governments are seeking to avoid further economic tensions. Any deal that results could help stabilize trade relations and offer mutual economic benefits amid broader geopolitical complexities.