

Proactive Release

Date: 17 April 2019

The following Cabinet papers and related Cabinet minutes have been proactively released by the Minister for Trade and Export Growth:

Title of paper(s):

***Retrospective Approval for Overseas Travel: Hon David Parker [Tokyo]
(CAB-19-SUB-0007 refers)***

Report on Overseas Travel Hon David Parker [Tokyo]

(CAB-19-SUB-0035 refers)

Title of minute(s):

Overseas Travel: Hon David Parker (CAB-19-MIN-0007 refers)

Report on Overseas Travel: Hon David Parker (CAB-19-MIN-0035 refers)

Some parts of this information release would not be appropriate to release and, if requested, would be withheld under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act). Where this is the case, the relevant sections of the Act that would apply have been identified. Where information has been withheld, no public interest has been identified that would outweigh the reasons for withholding it.

Key to redaction codes:

- 6(a): to avoid prejudicing the international relations of the New Zealand Government and
- 9(2)(ba): to protect the supply of confidential information by a third party.



Cabinet

Minute of Decision

This document contains information for the New Zealand Cabinet. It must be treated in confidence and handled in accordance with any security classification, or other endorsement. The information can only be released, including under the Official Information Act 1982, by persons with the appropriate authority.

Report On Overseas Travel: Hon David Parker

Portfolio **Trade and Export Growth**

On 18 February 2019, Cabinet **noted** the report from Hon David Parker under CAB-19-SUB-0035 on his travel to Tokyo, Japan from 18 to 22 January 2019 to attend the inaugural Joint Commission meeting of the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP).

Michael Webster
Secretary of the Cabinet

Hard-copy distribution:

Prime Minister
Deputy Prime Minister
Hon David Parker

Office of the Minister for Trade and Export Growth

Chair, Cabinet

Report on Overseas Travel: Hon David Parker

I recommend that Cabinet note this report on my travel to Tokyo, Japan from 18 to 22 January 2019 to attend the inaugural Joint Commission meeting of the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP).

Report

- 1 Japan hosted the inaugural CPTPP Joint Commission at ministerial level on 20 January 2019 following the entry into force of the agreement on 30 December 2018.
- 2 At the Joint Commission meeting Prime Minister Abe remarked that the CPTPP entering into force was akin to “the birth of a mega economic region of 500 million people”. At a time when the global trading system was “gravely shaken” by the rise of protectionism, Abe called the CPTPP a banner for promoting high-standard rules for free and fair trade around the world and reaffirmed that Japan would be its standard bearer. This view was echoed in comments by other Ministers including myself.
- 3 Ministers issued a joint statement highlighting the importance of CPTPP amidst the challenges to the rules-based trading system. The statement noted that “amid growing concerns over recent trends toward protectionism”, CPTPP Ministers “shared the view that it is of paramount importance to maintain and further strengthen the principles of an effective, open, inclusive and rules-based trading system”.
- 4 Minister’s also highlighted the importance of full and effective implementation of the agreement in their remarks and made progress on this front with the adoption of rules of procedure and codes of conduct applying in dispute settlement cases under the agreement. New Zealand’s ongoing role as part of the leadership group in CPTPP was confirmed with the Commission decision on future chairing arrangements. New Zealand will host the next set of CPTPP meetings later this year. During the meeting Ministers also emphasised the importance of the remaining four signatories (Peru, Chile, Brunei, Malaysia) ratifying the agreement as soon as possible and agreed on procedures to allow for the accession of new members to the agreement overtime.

5 In the margins of the Joint Commission I met with my counterparts in the Inclusive Trade Action Group (ITAG) from Chile and Canada. It was agreed that New Zealand would follow up with ideas for a proposed work plan for 2019, with a view to Ministers meeting again in the margins of the APEC Ministers Responsible for Trade meeting in Chile in May. I also spoke with other CPTPP participants about ITAG including Peruvian Minister Vasquez, who showed interest in learning more about the initiative.

6 s6(a)

7 While in Tokyo I also met with a group of New Zealand exporters with a local presence in Japan, including s9(2)(ba). Their reactions to the entry into force of CPTPP were universally positive. I also had lunch with the Japan – New Zealand Parliamentary Friendship League which was a valuable opportunity to have a wide ranging conversation touching on cyber security, health care for the aging population, s6(a) and Brexit.

Proactive release

8 This paper, and my earlier paper proposing this travel on 29 January, will be proactively released as per Cabinet Office Circular CO (18) 4, on the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade's website. Proactive release is subject to redaction as appropriate under the Official Information Act 1982.

Recommendation

I recommend that Cabinet note this report.

Authorised for lodgement

Hon David Parker

Minister for Trade and Export Growth



Cabinet

Minute of Decision

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Overseas Travel: Hon David Parker

Portfolio **Trade and Export Growth**

On 29 January 2019, Cabinet:

- 1 **authorised**, retrospectively, the absence of Hon David Parker from New Zealand, from 18 to 22 January 2019 to travel to Tokyo, Japan to attend the first Joint Commission meeting of the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP);
- 2 **noted** that he was accompanied by one member of staff;
- 3 **approved** the estimated expenditure of up to \$23,518 for the travel expenses of the Ministerial party, as a charge to Vote Internal Affairs (Members of the Executive – Travel);
- 4 **noted** that he was accompanied by officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, whose travel costs were met by the Ministry;
- 5 **noted** that in his absence:
 - 5.1 Hon Winston Peters acted as the Attorney-General;
 - 5.2 Hon Shane Jones acted as Minister for Economic Development;
 - 5.3 Hon Nanaia Mahuta acted as Minister for the Environment;
 - 5.4 Hon Damien O'Connor acted as Minister for Trade and Export Growth;
- 6 **noted** that the House was not sitting during his absence.

Michael Webster
Secretary of the Cabinet

Hard-copy distribution:

Prime Minister
Deputy Prime Minister
Hon David Parker

Office of the Minister for Trade and Export Growth

Chair, Cabinet

RETROSPECTIVE APPROVAL FOR OVERSEAS TRAVEL: HON DAVID PARKER

1. I seek retrospective Cabinet approval for my travel to Tokyo from 18-22 January 2019. The primary purpose of my travel was to attend the first Joint Commission meeting of the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) on 20 January.
2. The Prime Minister approved the travel in principle.

Purpose of Travel

3. Japan hosted the inaugural CPTPP Joint Commission at ministerial level on 20 January 2019 following the entry into force of the agreement on 30 December 2018. As one of the seven countries (alongside Australia, Canada, Japan, Mexico, Singapore and Vietnam) to have ratified the CPTPP it was important that New Zealand attended at ministerial level to show support for the implementation of this important agreement.
4. The Joint Commission meeting also presented an opportunity to hold bilateral meetings with key CPTPP ministerial counterparts and to chair a second meeting of the Inclusive Trade Action Group (ITAG) with Canada and Chile, building on the inaugural meeting of the ITAG on the margins of the APEC Ministerial Meeting last month in Port Moresby. The second ITAG meeting was an opportunity to build momentum for the group, discuss the work programme going forward and discuss additional future membership.
5. My trip to Tokyo also presented an opportunity to meet with New Zealand business representatives active in the Japanese market and engage with the New Zealand Parliamentary Friendship League, an organisation that is key to New Zealand's trade and economic interests in Japan. My programme is included as an annex to this paper.

Ministerial Party

6. I was accompanied by one staff member as part of the Ministerial Delegation. Officials from the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade will also attend; their travel costs were covered by the departmental budget.

Travel Costs

7. The estimated costs of my travel to Tokyo including one staff member accompanying me are:

Flights	17,670
Accommodation	2,400
Per Diem (Food etc.)	960
Hospitality	350
Gifts	0
Subtotal	21,380
Contingency 10%	2,138
TOTAL	23,518

Acting Ministers

8. In my absence, Acting Ministers in my portfolios were:

Attorney-General:	Hon Winston Peters;
Economic Development:	Hon Shane Jones;
Environment:	Hon Nanaia Mahuta;
Trade and Export Growth:	Hon Damien O'Connor.

Recommendation

9. I recommend that Cabinet:

- 9.1 **authorise** my absence from New Zealand from 18-22 January 2019 to travel to Tokyo;
- 9.2 **agree** to my accompaniment by one staff member;
- 9.3 **approve** the estimated expenditure of **\$23,518** for the travel expenses of me and my staff member, as a charge to Vote: Internal Affairs Members of the Executive – Travel;
- 9.4 **note** that I was accompanied by officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, whose travel costs will be met by the Ministry;
- 9.5 **agree** that Hon Winston Peters (Attorney-General); Hon Shane Jones (Economic Development); Hon Nanaia Mahuta (Environment); Hon Damien O'Connor (Trade and Export Growth) were Acting Ministers in my absence;
- 9.6 **note** that leave from Parliament was approved by the Whip.

Authorised for lodgement

Hon David Parker
Minister for Trade and Export Growth

Proactively released by the Minister for Trade and Export Growth

Annex: Programme – Tokyo (18-22 January 2019)

Friday 18 January

- Depart New Zealand for Tokyo
- Arrive Tokyo (Japan time)

Saturday 19 January

- Singapore bilateral: Chan Chun Sing, Minister of Trade and Industry, Singapore
- Japan bilateral: Toshimitsu Motegi, Minister in Charge of Economic Revitalisation, Japan
- Peru bilateral: Edgar Vasquez, Minister of Trade and Tourism, Peru
- CPTPP Joint Commission Meeting
- Canada bilateral: Jim Carr, Minister of International Trade and Diversification, Canada
- Joint Press Conference with CPTPP Ministers
- Inclusive Trade Action Group meeting
- Ceremony to Celebrate CPTPP entry into force with Prime Minister Abe
- Dinner hosted by Minister Motegi

Sunday 20 January

- NZ Business

Monday 21 January

- Breakfast meeting with New Zealand exporters in Japan
- Media interview with Kathleen Hays (Bloomberg TV's global economics and policy editor)
- Media interview with Urara Ito (NHK International News Division)
- Lunch with Japan – New Zealand Parliamentary Friendship League
- Depart Tokyo for New Zealand

Tuesday 22 January

- Arrive in New Zealand