

# Proactive Release

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

<b>Title</b>	<b>Reference</b>
<b><i>Cabinet Minute of Decision – Proposed Overseas Travel: Hon Chris Penk on behalf of Hon Todd McClay – May 2024</i></b>	CAB-24-MIN-0166
<b><i>Proposed Overseas Travel: Hon Chris Penk on behalf of Hon Todd McClay – May 2024</i></b>	



# Cabinet

## Minute of Decision

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### Proposed Overseas Travel: Hon Chris Penk on behalf of Hon Todd McClay - May 2024

Portfolio                      Trade

On 13 May 2024, Cabinet:

- 1        **authorised** the absence of Hon Chris Penk from New Zealand, from 15 to 21 May 2024 to travel to Arequipa, Peru to represent New Zealand at the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Ministers Responsible for Trade (MRT) meeting in place of the Minister for Trade;
- 2        **agreed** that he be accompanied by one member of staff;
- 3        **approved** the estimated expenditure of up to \$43,146 for the travel expenses of the ministerial party as a charge to Vote Internal Affairs (Members of the Executive – Travel);
- 4        **noted** that he will be accompanied by officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, whose travel costs will be met by their department;
- 5        **agreed** that in his absence Hon Andrew Bayly act as Minister for Building and Construction, Minister for Land Information and Minister for Veterans;
- 6        **noted** that leave from Parliament has been approved.

Rachel Hayward  
Secretary of the Cabinet

~~In Confidence~~

Office of Hon Todd McClay

Chair, Cabinet

### **Proposed Overseas Travel: Hon Chris Penk on behalf of Hon Todd McClay – May 2024**

- 1 I write to seek your approval for Hon Chris Penk to travel on my behalf to Arequipa, Peru, from 15 to 21 May 2024.
- 2 The Chief of Staff has approved the travel in-principle and leave to be away from New Zealand has been approved by the Party Whip.

#### **Purpose of Travel**

- 3 The primary purpose of Hon Penk's visit to Peru is to attend the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Ministers Responsible for Trade (MRT) meeting in place of the Minister for Trade. This year there will also be a Joint Meeting of Ministers Responsible for Trade and Ministers for Women.
- 4 The MRT meeting is one of the first ministerial meetings in APEC's annual calendar, and his participation will demonstrate New Zealand's ongoing leadership within APEC on key emerging trade issues, including trade facilitation, sustainability and inclusion. These issues are pertinent to the Government's goal to double the value of New Zealand's exports by 2033. The meeting will also provide a platform to reinforce the value of multilateralism and the rules-based trading system, including the work of the WTO following the 13<sup>th</sup> Ministerial Conference.
- 5 He will take advantage of APEC's convening power to seek meetings with key regional partners to progress trade discussions and push for strengthening and implementing our existing network of free trade agreements on behalf of me.
- 6 Hon Penk will also attend a meeting of the Ministers for the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) aimed at progressing key issues such as accession of new members and a general review of the agreement.
- 7 He will also undertake a bilateral programme in Lima enroute to Arequipa including calling on my Building and Construction counterpart as well as participating in a business networking breakfast with NZTE customers in the Peru market.

#### **Ministerial Party**

- 8 He will be accompanied by:
  - 8.1 one staff member from his office, Senior Private Secretary. Travel expenses of the Ministerial party will be a charge to Vote Internal Affairs: Members of the Executive – Travel.

- 8.2 Officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Their costs will be covered by the Ministry.

### Acting Ministers

- 9 If his travel is approved, I note that the house is primarily not sitting during his absence. I propose that **Hon Andrew Bayly** act in his portfolios – Building and Construction, Land Information and Veterans.

### Travel Costs

- 10 List the estimated costs of the travel:

Airfares:	\$ 35,274
Accommodation (4 nights)	\$ 2,500
Gifts, surface travel, communication and per diems	\$ 1,450
Contingency [10%]:	\$ 3,922
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$43,146</b>

### Recommendations

- 12 I recommend that Cabinet:
- 12.1 authorise Hon Chris Penk's absence from New Zealand, from 15 to 21 May 2024 13 to travel to Peru to represent New Zealand at the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Ministers Responsible for Trade (MRT) meeting in place of the Minister for Trade.
  - 12.2 agree that he be accompanied by one member of staff;
  - 12.3 approve the estimated expenditure of \$43,146 for the travel expenses of the Ministerial party, as a charge to Vote: Internal Affairs: Members of the Executive – Travel;
  - 12.4 note that he will be accompanied by officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, whose travel costs will be met by that Ministry;
  - 12.5 agree that in his absence **Hon Andrew Bayly** act in his portfolios – Building and Construction, Land Information and Veterans.
  - 12.6 note that leave to be away from New Zealand has been approved by the Party Whip.

Authorised for lodgement

Hon Todd McClay

Minister for Trade