

Proactive Release

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

Title	Reference
Cabinet Minute of Decision - Proposed Overseas Travel: Hon Todd McClay and Hon Simon Watts - June 2024	CAB-24-MIN-0187
Proposed Overseas Travel: Hon Todd McClay and Hon Simon Watts - June 2024	

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Key to OIA redaction codes:

- 6(a): to avoid prejudicing the security or defence of New Zealand or the international relations of the New Zealand Government;



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.

Proposed Overseas Travel: Hon Todd McClay and Hon Simon Watts - June 2024

Portfolios Trade / Climate Change

On 27 May 2024, Cabinet:

- 1 **authorised** the absence of Hon Todd McClay from New Zealand, together with Hon Simon Watts, from 4 to 7 June 2024, to travel to Singapore to attend the Indo Pacific Economic Framework Ministerial meeting and attend bilateral meetings;
- 2 **agreed** that they each be accompanied by one member of staff from their offices;
- 3 **approved** the estimated expenditure of up to \$51,342 for the travel expenses of the ministerial party as a charge to Vote Internal Affairs (Members of the Executive – Travel);
- 4 **agreed** that in the absence of Hon Todd McClay:
 - 4.1 Hon Mark Patterson act as Minister of Agriculture;
 - 4.2 Hon Penny Simmonds act as Minister of Forestry;
 - 4.3 Hon Tama Potaka act as Minister for Hunting and Fishing;
 - 4.4 Hon Judith Collins KC act as Minister for Trade;
- 5 **agreed** that in the absence of Hon Simon Watts:
 - 5.1 Hon Penny Simmonds act as Minister of Climate Change;
 - 5.2 Hon Andrew Bayly act as Minister of Revenue;
- 6 **noted** that leave from Parliament has been approved.

Diana Hawker
for Secretary of the Cabinet

~~In Confidence~~

Office of the Minister for Trade

Chair, Cabinet

Proposed Overseas Travel: Hon Todd McClay and Hon Simon Watts - June 2024

- 1 I write to seek your approval to travel to Singapore from 4 to 7 June in my capacity as Minister for Trade. I propose that the Minister of Climate Change, Hon Simon Watts, accompany me.
- 2 The Chief of Staff has approved the travel in-principle and leave from Parliament has been approved by the Party Whip.

Purpose of Travel

- 3 The primary purpose of my travel is to participate in the Indo Pacific Economic Framework (IPEF) Ministerial meeting being convened by US Secretary of Commerce Gina Raimondo.
- 4 IPEF matters to New Zealand. It ^{s6(a)} takes half of our exports. It is also the first big initiative where we are seeing the new focus on economic security, supply chain resilience and clean economy transition playing out in a regional architecture negotiation. The IPEF ministerial meeting on 6 June will include signature ceremonies for the new IPEF agreements (the Minister of Climate Change will sign the Clean Economy Agreement and I will sign the Fair Economy Agreement and Agreement on IPEF).
- 5 There is also a dedicated IPEF Clean Economy Investor Forum involving a group of New Zealand climate tech startups along with several green investors and sustainable infrastructure projects. The companies participating in Clean Economy Investor Forum will have the opportunity to pitch for investment during a matchmaking session and undertake a wider business and investment programme in Singapore. I therefore propose to lead this as a climate tech investment mission, supported by Minister Watts. The mission will be an opportunity to profile New Zealand as a country with an advanced tech sector and as an attractive destination for blue-chip investors. It will also contribute to the government's objective of leading a record number of trade missions this term.
- 6 I will undertake a programme of bilateral meetings with IPEF Trade Ministers including with the US Secretary of Commerce, the Indian Commerce Secretary (representing the Minister who is unavailable due to the election), the Australian Trade Minister, Japan's Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry, and with my Indonesia counterpart ^{s6(a)}

s6(a)

- 7 I will also pursue Singapore bilateral goals, building on outcomes from the Prime Minister's April visit. Areas of focus will be moving ahead with the negotiation of the new essential supply's agreement and the multi-country green economy initiative. I will meet with Singaporean Minister for Trade and Industry Gan Kim Yong (newly promoted to Deputy Prime Minister).
- 8 The Minister of Climate Change will seek meetings with Singaporean counterparts engaged in the climate and sustainability agenda.

Ministerial Party

- 9 Minister Watts and I will each be accompanied by:
 - 9.1 one member of staff from our offices.
 - 9.2 officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade and NZTE will accompany the delegation. Their costs will be covered within their respective baseline budgets.

Travel Costs

- 10 Total estimated costs are **\$51,342** comprised of:

- 10.1 My travel:

Airfares:	\$20,400.00
Accommodation:	\$ 2,568.00
Gifts and miscellaneous:	\$ 369.00
Contingency [10%]:	\$ 2,334.00
Total:	\$25,671.00

- 10.2 The Hon Watts travel:

Airfares:	\$20,400.00
Accommodation:	\$ 2,568.00
Gifts and miscellaneous:	\$ 369.00
Contingency [10%]:	\$ 2,334.00
Total:	\$25,671.00

Acting Ministers

11 If this travel is approved, I note that the house is not sitting during our absence. I propose that the following colleagues act in my portfolios. This is subject to final confirmation.

- Hon Patterson – Agriculture
- Hon Simmonds – Forestry
- Hon Potaka - Hunting and Fishing
- Hon Collins KC – Trade

12 Minister Watts proposes the following colleagues act in his portfolios.

- Hon Penny Simmonds – Climate Change
- Hon Bayly - Revenue

Recommendations

1 I recommend that Cabinet:

1.1 authorise my absence from New Zealand, Tuesday, 4 June 2024 to Friday 7 June 2024, to travel to Singapore in my capacity as Minister for Trade;

1.2 authorise the absence of the Hon Watts from New Zealand, Tuesday, 4 June 2024 to Friday 7 June 2024, to travel to Singapore in his capacity as Minister of Climate Change;

1.3 agree that we each be accompanied by one staff member from our offices;

1.4 approve the estimated expenditure of \$51,342 for the travel expenses of the Ministerial party, as a charge to Vote: Internal Affairs: Members of the Executive – Travel;

1.5 agree that in my absence:

1.5.1 Hon Mark Patterson will be Acting Minister of Agriculture

1.5.2 Hon Penny Simmonds will be Acting Minister of Forestry

1.5.3 Hon Tama Potaka will be Acting Minister for Hunting and Fishing

1.5.4 Hon Judith Collins KC will be Acting Minister for Trade

1.6 Agree that in the absence of the Hon Watts:

1.6.1 Hon Penny Simmonds will be Acting Minister for Climate Change

1.6.2 Hon Bayly will be Acting Minister of Revenue

1.7 note that leave from Parliament has been given by the Party Whip.

Authorised for lodgement

Hon Todd McClay

Minister for Trade

Proactively Released by the Minister for Trade