

Proactive Release

Published on or before: 14 February 2025

The following Cabinet paper has been proactively released by the Minister for Trade and Investment

Title	Reference
<i>Cabinet Minute of Decision: Report on Overseas Travel: Hon Todd McClay – November 2024</i>	CAB-24-MIN-0478
<i>Report on Overseas Travel: Hon Todd McClay – November 2024</i>	



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 Todd McClay – November 2024

Portfolio **Trade**

On 9 December 2024, Cabinet **noted** the report from Hon Todd McClay under CAB-24-SUB-0478 on his travel, from 12 to 17 November 2024, to Lima, Peru to attend the APEC Ministerial Meeting.

Rachel Hayward
Secretary of the Cabinet

Proactively Released by the Minister for Trade and Investment

~~Restricted~~

Office of the Minister for Trade

Chair, Cabinet

Report on Overseas Travel: Hon Todd McClay – November 2024

I recommend that Cabinet note this report on my travel to Peru from 12 November to 17 November in my capacity as Minister for Trade.

Report

- 1 The primary purpose of this travel was to attend the 2024 APEC Ministerial Meeting (AMM). My attendance, in conjunction with the Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs demonstrated New Zealand's ongoing commitment to APEC as the premier regional forum for trade and economic issues.
- 2 On the margins of the AMM, I had bilateral or pull-aside meetings with Australia, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Singapore, UAE, Chinese Taipei and the UN Food and Agriculture Organisation.
- 3 I also progressed a number of New Zealand-led open plurilaterals. I hosted the virtual signing of the Agreement on Climate Change, Trade and Sustainability (ACCTS) with Costa Rica, Iceland and Switzerland; announced the establishment of a working group to commence exploratory work on the Green Economy Partnership Arrangement (GEPA) with Singapore and Chile; participated in a Digital Economy Partnership Agreement (DEPA) ministerial, including with accession candidates China and Peru; and joined ministers from US, Canada and Australia to speak at the Ministerial Dialogue on Indigenous Trade, with the participation of indigenous representatives from these economies as well as Chinese Taipei and Peru. These New Zealand-led initiatives further strengthen New Zealand's reputation as a thought leader in economic diplomacy.
- 4 In addition to bilateral and regional engagements, I met with the US APEC Business Coalition; with a representative of Microsoft; participated in NZTE-organised business roundtables; met with New Zealand youth participants in the APEC-adjacent Voices of the Future summit; and attended the first Leaders' plenary meeting with the Prime Minister.
- 5 Overall this visit presented a key opportunity to demonstrate New Zealand's commitment to APEC as a key part of the regional economic architecture, and the rules-based trade system in the face of increased protectionism and geopolitical tension, and was successful in progressing priority outcomes in plurilateral fora.

Proactive release

6 I propose to release this paper proactively in part.

Recommendation

7 I recommend that Cabinet note this report.

Authorised for lodgement

Hon Todd McClay

Minister for Trade

Proactively Released by the Minister for Trade and Investment