

Proactive Release

Date: 24 October 2019

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

Proposed Overseas Travel: Hon David Parker

CAB-19-MIN-0478 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)(f)(iv): the confidentiality of advice tendered by Ministers of the Crown and officials.

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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 David Parker

Portfolio **Trade and Export Growth**

On 16 September 2019, Cabinet:

- 1 **authorised** the absence of Hon David Parker from New Zealand, from 1 to 3 October 2019, to travel to Fiji for bilateral discussions;
- 2 **agreed** that he be accompanied by one member of staff;
- 3 **approved** the estimated expenditure of up to s9(2)(f)(iv) 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 New Zealand Trade and Enterprise, whose travel costs will be met by their agency;
- 5 **agreed** that in his absence:
 - 5.1 Hon Andrew Little act as Attorney-General;
 - 5.2 Hon Damien O'Connor act as Minister of Trade and Export Growth;
 - 5.3 Hon Nanaia Mahuta act as Minister for the Environment;
- 6 **noted** that the House is 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

Proposed Overseas Travel: Hon David Parker

1 I seek your approval to travel to Fiji between 1-3 October 2019.

2 The Prime Minister has approved the travel in-principle.

Purpose of Travel

3 The primary purpose of my travel to Fiji is to meet bilaterally with Fijian leaders, including s6(a) Trade Minister Premila Kumar, as well as to support New Zealand companies as the visit would coincide with the Fijian-New Zealand Business Council (FNZBC) annual visit to Fiji. I also propose to invite a maximum of 10 additional New Zealand businesses with interests in Fiji to join me at my business engagements should they wish.

4 This visit would also allow me to widen and deepen engagement with ministerial counterparts in the Government of Fiji, particularly the Ministry of Economy and Ministry of Industry, Trade and Tourism. s6(a)

s6(a)

My visit will build on New Zealand Ministerial engagement to Fiji, including the two visits by Deputy Prime Minister Peters this year.

5 During my visit I will reiterate New Zealand's desire to support economic governance reform in Fiji, and explore new channels for doing so, while showing support for businesses operating between New Zealand and Fiji. A key objective of this is improving the business operating environment in Fiji in order to support private sector development.

6 Another key objective of my visit will be to encourage Fijian accession to PACER Plus. A course of action that allows for progress to be made on this issue. s6(a)

7 s6(a)

Ministerial Party

- 8 I will be accompanied by one staff member as part of the Ministerial Delegation. Senior officials from New Zealand Trade and Enterprise will also accompany me; their travel costs will be covered by the departmental budget.

Travel Costs

- 9 The estimated costs of my travel to Fiji are:

Airfares s9(2)(f)(iv)

Accommodation

Per Diem (Food)

**Incidentals &
Communications**

Subtotal

Contingency

10%

TOTAL

Acting Ministers

- 10 In my absence, Acting Ministers in my portfolios will be:

Attorney-General: Hon Andrew Little;

Trade and Export Growth: Hon Damien O'Connor;

Environment: Hon Nanaia Mahuta.

Proactive release

- 11 This paper 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.

Recommendations

- 12 I recommend that Cabinet:

12.1 authorise my absence from New Zealand from 1-3 October to travel to Fiji;

12.2 agree that I be accompanied by one staff member;

- 12.3 approve the estimated expenditure of s9(2)(f)(iv) for the travel expenses of the Ministerial party, as a charge to Vote: Internal Affairs Members of the Executive – Travel;
- 12.4 note that I will be accompanied by officials from New Zealand Trade and Enterprise whose travel costs will be met by the agency;
- 12.5 agree that Hon. Andrew Little (Attorney-General); Hon Damien O'Connor (Trade and Export Growth) and Hon Nanaia Mahuta will be Acting Ministers in my absence;
- 12.6 note that the House is not sitting during my absence;
- 12.7 note that leave from Parliament will be sought from the Party Whip.

Authorised for lodgement

Hon David Parker

Minister for Trade and Export Growth

Proactively released by the Minister for Trade and Export Growth

Annex One: Indicative Programme (1-3 October)

Tuesday 1 October

- Depart NZ (am)
- Arrive Suva (pm)
- Courtesy call on Trade Minister Premila Kumar
- s6(a)
- Informal meet and greet with NZ business participants

Wednesday 2 October

- Private sector breakfast event, key note addresses by myself and Minister Kumar
- Meeting with Minister for Agriculture Mahendra Reddy
- Meeting with Attorney General Sayed-Khaiyum
- Lunch with Fijian private sector leaders
- Visit to South Pacific Stock Exchange
- Economic Governance Roundtable discussion with heads of government agencies, Governor of Reserve Bank, CEO of Fiji Commerce and Employment Federation etc.
- Reception at NZ Official Residence

Thursday 3 October

- Visit to innovative Fijian business (specific business TBC)
- Depart Suva for Nadi
- Meeting with Fiji Airways CEO Andre Viljoen
- Visit to NZ-owned business
- Cocktail event with broad group of Nadi-based NZ business owners, where I will deliver some remarks.