

# Proactive Release

Date: 13 February 2020

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

***Report on Overseas Travel: Hon David Parker***

***(CAB-19-MIN-0649 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:

- 9(2)(j): to avoid prejudice to negotiations.



# Cabinet

## Minute of Decision

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*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.*

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### Report on Overseas Travel: Hon David Parker

**Portfolio**                      **Trade and Export Growth**

On 9 December 2019, Cabinet **noted** the report from Hon David Parker under CAB-19-SUB-0649 on his travel, from 5 to 6 November 2019, to Shanghai, China, to attend an informal meeting of WTO Ministers and to lead the New Zealand delegation at the China International Import Expo.

Michael Webster  
Secretary of the Cabinet

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**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**

- 1 I recommend that Cabinet note this report on my travel to China from 5 to 6 November 2019 to participate in a World Trade Organisation (WTO) Mini-Ministerial and to attend the China International Import Expo (CIIE).

#### **Report**

- 2 The purpose of my visit to China was twofold – to participate in a WTO Mini-Ministerial and attend the CIIE.
- 3 There was a strong focus at the Mini-Ministerial on resolving the current impasse on appointments to the WTO Appellate Body and the importance of delivering on fish subsidies at the twelfth WTO Ministerial Conference (MC12) taking place in June 2020. In my intervention, and in preparation for MC12, I also emphasised the importance of work related to disciplines on agricultural domestic support; fossil fuel subsidy reform; and outcomes to further support women's economic empowerment and micro, small and medium sized enterprises.
- 4 The following were also highlighted as prospective MC12 outcomes: accession of new members; extension of the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights and e-commerce moratoria; and progression of plurilateral 'Joint Initiative' processes on Services Domestic Regulation, E-commerce, and Investment Facilitation.
- 5 I held a bilateral with Commissioner Hogan of the European Commission.  
s9(2)(j)

I informed Commissioner Hogan that New Zealand was about to launch public consultations on GI rules and noted that this was another demonstration of our seriousness to progress the negotiation.

- 6 I also held a bilateral with Minister Jiménez of Costa Rica. Minister Jiménez reported on Costa Rica's accession to the OECD, saying that the process was in its final months. All that remains is for one bill to pass Congress, which would then create the conditions for Costa Rica's accession. The remaining bill will reform Costa Rica's financial and insurance sector, and include anti-money laundering provisions, and should be passed by Congress by 19 March 2020.

- 7 The 2nd China International Import Expo (CIIE) took place in Shanghai from 5-10 November. It remains a key platform for China's efforts to demonstrate its commitment to globalisation and free trade. President Xi Jinping spoke at the CIIE Opening Ceremony on 5 November, which was attended by heads of government, Ministers and business leaders from 181 countries.
- 8 New Zealand was well represented at CIIE. Close to 100 New Zealand businesses exhibited at the CIIE pavilions. Commercial participation was via a New Zealand-branded, NZTE-funded space in the Food and Beverage Hall of the Trade Pavilion, in which 38 New Zealand companies participated. Eight companies were showcased in the Medicine and Health Product area. Almost 50 additional New Zealand companies participated via standalone booths organised independently.
- 9 In addition to the WTO Mini-Ministerial and CIIE, I spoke at a business breakfast hosted by the New Zealand Business Roundtable in China and attended a Chinese-hosted lunch on Investment Facilitation.

### **Proactive release**

- 10 This paper will be proactively released as per Cabinet Office Circular CO (18) 4, on the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade's website. The paper will be subject to redaction as appropriate on the grounds set out under the Official Information Act 1982.

### **Recommendation**

I recommend that Cabinet:

- 1 **Note** this report.

Authorised for lodgement

Hon David Parker

**Minister for Trade and Export Growth**