

Proactive Release

Date:4 August 2025

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

<i>Title of Paper(s):</i>	<i>Reference</i>
Cabinet Minute of Decision: Report on Overseas Travel: Hon Todd McClay – April 2025	CAB-25-MIN-0202
Report on Overseas Travel: Hon Todd McClay – April 2025	

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.



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 – April 2025

Portfolio **Trade and Investment**

On 23 June 2025, Cabinet **noted** the report from Hon Todd McClay under CAB-25-SUB-0202 on his travel, from 6 to 11 April 2025, to the United Arab Emirates to attend the 14th Annual Investment Meeting.

Rachel Hayward
Secretary of the Cabinet

Proactively Released by the Minister for Trade and Investment

~~Restricted~~

Office of the Minister for Trade and Investment

Chair, Cabinet

Report on Overseas Travel: Hon Todd McClay – April 2025

I recommend that Cabinet note this report on my travel to the United Arab Emirates (UAE) from 6 April to 11 April in my capacity as Minister for Trade and Investment.

Report

- 1 The primary purpose of this travel was to participate in the 14th Annual Investment Meeting 2025 “AIM Congress”. I was invited to attend by my UAE counterpart, Dr. Thani Bin Ahmed Al Zeyoudi, Minister of State for Foreign Trade. I spoke on a Ministerial panel highlighting the importance of international trade agreements in building open and inclusive markets. My participation in the AIM Congress was an important opportunity to demonstrate that New Zealand is an active and attractive investment destination.
- 2 On the margins of the AIM Congress, I met UAE political and private sector leaders in the UAE’s US\$1.7 trillion investment sector and promoted New Zealand as an investment ready market. The programme was aimed at strengthening ties with UAE investors and key stakeholders in the region, including those who were invited to the Infrastructure Investment Summit and following up on key action points arising from the Summit and the Prime Minister-led trip to the UAE in January.
- 3 I also undertook a separate programme in Dubai, meeting with my counterparts Dr Thani bin Ahmed Al Zeyoudi, UAE Minister of State for Foreign Trade and Dr Amna Al Dahak, UAE Minister of Climate Change and Environment. In these meetings I reiterated our desire to ratify our Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) and sign the New Zealand – Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) Free Trade Agreement quickly.
- 4 Overall, this visit presented a key opportunity to begin building New Zealand’s investment profile in the UAE, to continue to demonstrate the value New Zealand places on our bilateral relationship, leverage New Zealand’s trade and economic relations with s6(a) economy, in particular to attract foreign direct investment (FDI).

Proactive release

- 5 I propose to release this paper proactively in part.

Recommendation

6 I recommend that Cabinet note this report.

Authorised for lodgement

Hon Todd McClay

Minister for Trade and Investment

Proactively Released by the Minister for Trade and Investment