

Proactive Release

Published on or before: 23 February 2026

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

Title	Reference
<i>Cabinet Minute of Decision – Report on Overseas Travel: Hon Chris Penk on behalf of Hon Todd McClay – October 2025</i>	CAB-25-MIN-0473
<i>Report on Overseas Travel: Hon Chris Penk on behalf of Hon Todd McClay – October 2025</i>	

Proactively Released by the Minister for Trade and Investment



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 Chris Penk on behalf of Hon Todd McClay – October 2025

Portfolio Trade and Investment

On 15 December 2025, Cabinet **noted** the report from Hon Todd McClay under CAB-25-SUB-0473 on Hon Chris Penk's travel, from 8 to 12 October 2025, to Gqeberha, South Africa to attend the G20 Trade and Investment Ministerial Meeting, on his behalf.

Diana Hawker
for Secretary of the Cabinet

Proactively Released by the Minister for Trade and Investment

~~In Confidence~~

Office of the Minister for Trade and Investment

Chair, Cabinet

Report on Overseas Travel: Hon Chris Penk on behalf of Hon Todd McClay – G20 Trade and Investment Ministers Meeting October 2025

I recommend that Cabinet note this report on travel to Gqeberha (South Africa) from 9-12 October, undertaken by Hon Chris Penk on my behalf.

Report

- 1 The primary purpose of the travel to South Africa was to participate in the G20 Trade and Investment Ministerial Meeting (TImm) and undertake a surrounding bilateral programme.
- 2 New Zealand attended as a guest, invited by South Africa, this year's G20 President. Attendance at this event was an opportunity to advocate for New Zealand's trade priorities amongst the world's largest economies and participate in a World Trade Organisation Mini-Ministerial Meeting.
- 3 Hon Chris Penk took advantage of the convening power of the G20 to engage with the heads of several other delegations in bilateral meetings. These included Acting Governor of Saudi Arabia's General Authority of Foreign Trade Mohammed Al-Abduljabbar, Ireland's Minister of State for European Affairs and Defence Thomas Byrne, Australia's Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade Matt Thistlethwaite, South Africa's Deputy Minister for Trade, Industry and Competition Zuko Godlimpi, and WTO Director General Dr Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala.
- 4 En route to Gqeberha, Hon Penk met with his South African counterpart, Minister for Small Business Development Stella Ndabeni-Abrahams, and shared experiences with policy development supporting small businesses.
- 5 New Zealand's participation at this meeting gave us a platform to speak alongside the world's twenty largest economies. Hon Penk spoke at all three plenary sessions and the WTO Mini-Ministerial, advocating for New Zealand's trade policies and interests. The visit also progressed trade and bilateral cooperation with G20 counterparts and reinforced the warmth of the New Zealand-South Africa relationship.

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 and Investment

Proactively Released by the Minister for Trade and Investment