

Proactive Release

Published on or before: 11 August 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 Scott Simpson on Behalf of Hon Todd McClay – November 2025</i>	CAB-26-MIN-0022
<i>Report on Overseas Travel: Hon Scott Simpson on Behalf of Hon Todd McClay – November 2025</i>	

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 OIA). Where this is the case, the relevant sections of the OIA 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 OIA redaction codes:

- 6(a): to avoid prejudicing the security or defence of New Zealand or 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 Scott Simpson on behalf of Hon Todd McClay – November 2025

Portfolio

Trade and Investment

On 9 February 2026, Cabinet **noted** the report from Hon Todd McClay under CAB-26-SUB-0022 on the travel undertaken by Hon Scott Simpson on his behalf, from 25 to 29 November 2025, to Honiara, Solomon Islands to attend the Annual Ministerial Meeting on the Pacific Agreement on Closer Economic Relations (PACER) Plus.

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 Scott Simpson on behalf of Hon Todd McClay
– November 2025**

I recommend that Cabinet note this report on travel to Honiara, Solomon Islands, from 25-29 November, undertaken by Hon Scott Simpson on my behalf.

Report

- 1 The purpose of the travel to Solomon Islands was to attend the Annual Ministerial Meeting (PPMM) on the Pacific Agreement on Closer Economic Relations (PACER) Plus on 27 November 2025.
- 2 PACER Plus is a core strategic trade agreement for New Zealand. At the 2025 Ministerial, Hon Scott Simpson reaffirmed New Zealand's high-level support for PACER Plus and reinforced New Zealand's reputation as an integral member of the Pacific regional architecture.
- 3 PACER Plus Ministers signed the Phase II PACER Plus Implementation Arrangement and Hon Simpson announced New Zealand's commitment of NZD 10 million for the five-year extension of the PACER Plus Development and Economic Cooperation Programme.
- 4 Hon Simpson conducted bilateral meetings with Solomon Islands Minister of Foreign Affairs and External Trade Hon Peter Shanel Agovaka, Minister of Finance and Treasury Hon Rexon Ramofafia, and Minister of Commerce Hon Harry Kuma. They discussed key challenges in Solomon Islands, including youth unemployment and labour mobility, investment and trade, s6(a)
- 5 Hon Simpson also undertook business engagement programme and concluded his programme with a visit to the World War II battle site of Bloody Ridge and the nearby New Zealand Camp.

Proactive release

- 6 I propose that this paper should be released proactively. Proactive release is subject to redaction as appropriate under the Official Information Act 1982.

Recommendation

I recommend that Cabinet note this report.

Authorised for lodgement

Hon Todd McClay

Minister for Trade and Investment

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