

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 Todd McClay – May 2026</i>	CAB-26-MIN-0205
<i>Report on Overseas Travel: Hon Todd McClay – May 2026</i>	

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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.

Report on Overseas Travel: Hon Todd McClay – May 2026

Portfolio

Trade and Investment

On 29 June 2026, Cabinet **noted** the report from Hon Todd McClay under CAB-26-SUB-0205 on his travel, from 20 to 27 May 2026, to China to attend the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Ministers Responsible for Trade meeting in Suzhou and undertake a bilateral programme in Chengdu and Haikou.

Rachel Hayward
Secretary of the Cabinet

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~~In-Confidence~~

Office of the Minister for Trade and Investment

Chair, Cabinet

Report on Overseas Travel: Hon Todd McClay – May 2026

I recommend that Cabinet note this report on my travel to China from 20-27 May 2026, in my capacity as Minister for Trade and Investment.

Report

- 1 The purpose of my travel was to attend the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Ministers Responsible for Trade (MRT) meeting in Suzhou.
- 2 Against the background of a challenging geopolitically environment, APEC MRT delivered a consensus statement reaffirming ministers' shared commitment to an open, rules-based and inclusive regional trading system, with strong support for the WTO and its reform. The statement emphasized advancing economic integration in the region alongside practical cooperation to reduce barriers, build capacity, and deepen services trade. A central focus, and priority for New Zealand, was the inclusion of strengthening resilient and connected supply chains, keeping trade flows open, and leveraging new drivers of growth, especially digital trade, innovation and emerging technologies, including paperless trade and data flows.
- 3 On the margins of the APEC MRT meeting, I held a number of meetings discussing bilateral and regional trade and global supply chain issues, including with Australia, Brunei, Chile, China, Chinese Taipei, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Philippines and Singapore. I also met with the WTO Director General and the US APEC Business Coalition, and participated in Digital Economy Partnership Agreement (DEPA) Ministerial meetings.
- 4 Following conclusion of the MRT meeting, I undertook a bilateral agriculture and trade programme in China, visiting Chengdu and Haikou from 23-26 May. In each city I engaged with provincial leaders reinforcing the bilateral relationship with China, and undertook trade and economic promotional activities supporting New Zealand exporters.

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

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