

Proactive Release

Date: 26 August 2019

The following Cabinet paper and related Cabinet minute has been proactively released by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade:

***Proposed Overseas Travel: Minister for Trade and Export Growth
Hon David Parker:***

Madrid and Dublin 15 and 16 July 2019

(CAB-19-MIN-0336 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:

- 6(a): to avoid prejudicing the international relations of the New Zealand Government;
- 9(2)(a): to protect individuals' privacy; and
- 9(2)(f)(iv): the confidentiality of advice tendered by Ministers of the Crown and officials.

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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.

Proposed Overseas Travel: Hon David Parker

Portfolio **Trade and Export Growth**

On 1 July 2019, Cabinet:

- 1 **authorised** the absence of Hon David Parker from New Zealand, from 14 to 18 July 2019, to travel to Madrid, Spain and Dublin, Ireland for bilateral discussions;
- 2 **agreed** that he be accompanied by one member of staff;
- 3 **approved** the estimated expenditure of up to ^{s9(2)(f)(iv)} for the travel expenses of the Ministerial party as a charge to Vote: Internal Affairs (Members of the Executive – Travel);
- 4 **agreed** that in his absence:
 - 4.1 Hon Chris Hipkins act as Attorney-General;
 - 4.2 Hon Damien O'Connor act as Minister of Trade and Export Growth;
 - 4.3 Hon Nanaia Mahuta act as Minister for the Environment;
- 5 **noted** that leave from Parliament has been approved.

Michael Webster
Secretary of the Cabinet

Hard-copy distribution:

Prime Minister
Deputy Prime Minister
Hon David Parker

Office of the Minister for Trade and Export Growth

Chair, Cabinet

Proposed Overseas Travel: Hon David Parker

- 1 I seek Cabinet approval to travel to Madrid and Dublin for two one-day bilateral visits on 15 and 16 July 2019 in my capacity as Minister for Trade and Export Growth s9(2)(a)
- 2 The Prime Minister has approved the travel in-principle, and House leave has been approved by the Party Whip.

Purpose of Travel

- 3 The primary purpose of my visit to both Spain and Ireland is to shore up New Zealand's relationship with two increasingly important EU member state partners and to reconfirm commitment to EU NZ free trade agreement (FTA) negotiations.
- 4 In Spain, which has seen only one Ministerial visit since 2014, I will build relationships with counterparts in the new Spanish Government and demonstrate New Zealand's value as a likeminded partner. s6(a)
- 5 The visit will also support and promote New Zealand-Spain trade and investment links. Spain is one of our most significant trade and investment partners in Europe (several New Zealand companies have their main EU offices there) and there is a high level of interest from large Spanish multinationals in investing in New Zealand, particularly in the infrastructure, renewables and technology sectors.
- 6 In Dublin, Ministerial and stakeholder engagements will assist in constituency-building for our FTA efforts, and help to correct misperceptions around New Zealand agriculture particularly Irish sensitivities on red meat and dairy. My visit will also provide a timely opportunity to register key messages on goods market access offers in the EU-NZ FTA negotiations.
- 7 The visit will be an important vehicle for progressing New Zealand's broader economic relationship with Ireland post-Brexit. Goods and services trade flows are increasing, off a relatively modest base, and are in Ireland's favour. The 2018 opening of embassies in Wellington and Dublin and more frequent high-

level visits present opportunities to tap into the wealth of bilateral goodwill to drive greater economic linkages.

8 There are clear policy symmetries between the current Spanish, Irish and New Zealand Governments across a range of issues, including multilateralism, environment, climate change and countering violent extremism online. I will also use this trip to gain insights into Spain and Ireland's perspectives on these matters.

9 I have personally covered my travel expenses from New Zealand to Madrid.

Ministerial Party

10 I will be accompanied by one staff member. Final costs will be determined once the itinerary is confirmed but the estimated cost of travel for me and my staff member is s9(2)(f)(iv)

Travel Costs

11 The estimated costs of travel for me and my staff member are:

Airfares: s9(2)(f)(iv)

Accommodation:

Per Diem

Airport Facilitation

Ground Transportation

Hospitality

Contingency (10%)

Total: s9(2)(f)(iv)

Acting Ministers

12 In my absence, Acting Ministers in my portfolios will be:

Attorney-General: Hon Chris Hipkins;

Economic Development: Hon Damien O'Connor;

Environment: Hon Nanaia Mahuta;

Trade and Export Growth: Hon Damien O'Connor

Proactive release

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

Recommendations

- 14 I recommend that Cabinet:
- 14.1 authorise my absence from New Zealand from 14 to 18 July 2019 to travel to Madrid and Dublin for two one-day bilateral visits;
 - 14.2 agree that I be accompanied by a member of staff;
 - 14.3 approve the estimated expenditure of s9(2)(f)(iv) for the travel expenses of me and my staff member, as a charge to Vote: Internal Affairs [Members of the Executive – Travel];
 - 14.4 agree that Hon Chris Hipkins (Attorney-General); Hon Damien O'Connor (Economic Development and Trade and Export Growth); and Hon Nanaia Mahuta (Environment) will be Acting Ministers in my absence;
 - 14.5 note that leave from Parliament has been approved by the Party Whip.

Authorised for lodgement

Hon David Parker

Minister for Trade and Export Growth

Proactive Release

Date: 30 September 2019

The following Cabinet paper and related Cabinet minute has been proactively released by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade:

***Report on Overseas Travel: Minister for Trade and Export Growth
Hon David Parker:***

Madrid and Dublin 15 and 16 July 2019

(CAB-19-MIN-0413 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:

- 6(a): to avoid prejudicing the international relations of the New Zealand Government;
- 6(b): to avoid prejudicing the entrusting of information to the Government of New Zealand on a basis of confidence;
- 9(2)(a): to protect individuals' privacy; and
- 9(2)(j): to enable a Minister of the Crown to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations.



Cabinet

Minute of Decision

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Report on Overseas Travel: Hon David Parker

Portfolio **Trade and Export Growth**

On 19 August 2019, Cabinet **noted** the report from Hon David Parker under CAB-19-SUB-0413 on his travel, from 15 to 16 July 2019, to Madrid, Spain and Dublin, Ireland, for bilateral discussions.

Michael Webster
Secretary of the Cabinet

Hard-copy distribution:
Prime Minister
Deputy Prime Minister
Hon David Parker

Proactively released by the
Minister for Trade and Export Growth

Office of the Minister for Trade and Export Growth

Chair, Cabinet

Report on Overseas Travel: Hon David Parker

I recommend that Cabinet note this report on my travel to Madrid and Dublin for two one-day bilateral visits on 15 and 16 July 2019 in my capacity as Minister for Trade and Export Growth s9(2)(a)

Report

- 1 The primary purpose of my visit to both Spain and Ireland was to shore up New Zealand's relationship with two increasingly important EU member state partners and to reconfirm commitment to New Zealand EU free trade agreement (FTA) negotiations.
- 2 In Spain I had an opportunity to engage with two key ministers, business leaders and influencers with the purpose of enhancing New Zealand's standing as a likeminded partner, and to encourage stronger support for the New Zealand EU FTA.
- 3 In my meeting with the Spanish Minister for Industry, Trade and Tourism, Reyes Maroto, s6(a), s6(b)

also s6(a), s6(b)

noting the potential that NZ-Spain business connections presented in the areas of infrastructure, transport, and other key sectors for transitioning to a zero carbon economy, e.g. renewable water and wind energy. Minister Maroto reiterated this in a subsequent business forum attended by New Zealand and Spanish companies and hosted by the Spanish Chamber of Commerce and the Spanish Confederation of Employers' Organizations. Minister Maroto also publically reiterated Spain's political will to strengthen commercial links with NZ and to work together to support the conclusion of a high-quality EU/NZ FTA "soon".

- 4 I also met with Spanish Minister for Ecological Transition Teresa Ribera. She emphasized at the beginning of the meeting that her Government had placed the fight against climate change and environmental sustainability at the top of its agenda. Ensuring that the ecological transition was a socially just process was paramount, yet very difficult. s6(b), s9(2)(j)

s6(b), s9(2)(j)

- 5 While in Madrid, I announced New Zealand's decision to become a full member of the Support Group of the International Commission against the Death Penalty, headquartered in Madrid. I also participated in a breakfast event hosted by the Royal Elcano Institute on "The future of Global Trade: A view from New Zealand" sharing New Zealand perspectives on current trade issues with key influencers from Spain's leading think tank.
- 6 My visit to Ireland the following day focused on building support for New Zealand EU FTA negotiations, promoting growth in trade and investment following Brexit and the establishment of the New Zealand Embassy in Dublin, addressing misperceptions of New Zealand agriculture, and showcasing the potential for further cooperation between Ireland and New Zealand on environment and climate change policy.
- 7 My first meeting was a breakfast with the Irish Farmers Association attended by Ireland's Minister of State for Food, Forestry and Horticulture, Andrew Doyle. Despite the obvious trade sensitivities in the room, discussions were engaging and constructive, focusing on future opportunities for potential collaboration, including on promoting the benefits of New Zealand and Ireland's pasture-based production. There was particular interest in New Zealand's Zero Carbon Bill and its separate treatment of agriculture and biological methane gas, a point also received with interest in my engagements with Ministers later in the day.
- 8 I also met with the Irish Business and Employers' Confederation (IBEC) where we discussed the challenge of Brexit, and I raised New Zealand's frustrations with the WTO challenges posed by Brexit, particularly regarding tariff rate quotas. IBEC made a compelling pitch for New Zealand companies looking to Ireland s6(a)
- 9 After a lunch with a range of political and policy leaders organised by the Institute of International and European Affairs I gave a speech focused on the global trading environment, the New Zealand EU FTA and New Zealand's ambitions for the agreement, as well as the global issues facing both Ireland and New Zealand.
- 10 My meeting with Richard Bruton, Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment focussed on our respective climate policies, including Ireland's recently announced All of Government Climate Action Plan to Tackle Climate Breakdown. Minister Bruton began by laying out the scale of the challenge for Ireland s6(b)
- 11 My final meeting was with Minister Breen, Minister of State with special responsibility for Trade, Employment, Business, EU Digital Single Market and Data Protection. Minister Breen stated Ireland's general support for free trade and open global markets observing that sensitivities "are always part of every

FTA” and that there had to be some give and take and there needed to be “something in it for everybody”. Minister Breen also raised the recently agreed FTA between the EU and Mercosur, stating there were issues that had to be worked through s6(b)

Finally I raised opportunities for Ireland and New Zealand in doing more together to extract value out of green production systems, which were received positively by Minister Breen.

Proactive release

- 12 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 note this report.

Authorised for lodgement

Hon David Parker

Minister for Trade and Export Growth

Proactively released by the
Minister for Trade and Export Growth