

Proactive Release

Date: 17 December 2019

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

Proposed Overseas Travel: Hon David Parker

(CAB-19-MIN-0604 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 protect the passing of information from another government on a confidential basis; 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 18 November 2019, Cabinet:

- 1 **authorised** the absence of Hon David Parker from New Zealand, from 23 to 27 November 2019, to travel to Seoul, South Korea with a business delegation on Air New Zealand's inaugural flight from Auckland to Seoul, for a series of trade and economic calls;
- 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 **noted** that Air New Zealand will meet the costs of one-way business class airfares and two nights' accommodation in Seoul for the Ministerial party, and that the Minister will disclose this to the Registrar of Pecuniary and Other Specified Interests of Members of Parliament;
- 5 **noted** that he will also be accompanied by an official from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, whose travel costs will be met by the Ministry;
- 6 **agreed** that in his absence:
 - 6.1 Hon Damien O'Connor act as Minister of Trade and Export Growth;
 - 6.2 Hon Chris Hipkins act as Attorney-General;
 - 6.3 Hon Nanaia Mahuta act as Minister for the Environment;
- 7 **noted** that the House is not sitting during his absence.

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 Seoul with a business delegation for a series of trade and economic calls between 23-27 November.
- 2 The Prime Minister has approved the travel in-principle.

Purpose of Travel

- 3 New Zealand's bilateral relationship with the Republic of Korea is mature and warm. We share a strong friendship underpinned by historic defence ties. s6(a)
This will be the first Trade Ministerial visit between New Zealand and Korea since the signing of the Korea New Zealand Free Trade Agreement in 2015 (KNZFTA).
- 4 The visit will s6(a)
provide a valuable opportunity to develop and sustain momentum in the relationship and fulfil a number of bilateral objectives, and it will support engagement between New Zealand and Korea businesses. It will also complement the bilateral visit to the Republic of Korea by the Minister of Foreign Affairs, the Rt Hon Winston Peters, in October.
- 5 s6(a) in the current turbulent international climate, it is particularly important to engage with like-minded partners in the region to cooperate on protecting and promoting the rules-based order and international trade rules. In this regard, the Republic of Korea is a natural partner for New Zealand – our values and interests frequently align. s6(a)
include our two Governments' similar domestic economic agendas, with a common focus on the future of work, people-centred growth and the development of well-being policies.
- 6 The visit will provide a forum to signal to a business audience some of New Zealand's key regional and bilateral economic interests, including: encouraging the Republic of Korea's accession to the Comprehensive and Progressive Trans-Pacific Partnership; and underlining our shared interest in supporting the World Trade Organisation and its reform. It will also provide an opportunity to advance shared objectives in New Zealand-Republic of Korea hydrogen cooperation, at both the private sector and government level, s6(a), s6(b)(i)
- 7 I will be travelling with a senior business delegation. The visit will serve to assist New Zealand companies to establish new, or advance existing, business opportunities with the Republic of Korea. The composition of the delegation

aligns with active opportunities the Korean market offers to New Zealand exporters; food and beverage (with an emphasis on dairy and horticulture); technology and specialised manufacturing.

- 8 The timing of my visit has been scheduled to allow me to travel with the business delegation on Air New Zealand's inaugural flight from Auckland to Seoul. As well as supporting the objectives of the business delegation, I will attend official events in Seoul to mark the occasion of the inaugural flight which will support growing people to people links and on-going efforts to raise the profile of New Zealand as a tourism destination in the Korean market. Air New Zealand has developed its own guest list for the flight, and I will be meeting with these business and media representatives during my visit. Air New Zealand has gifted a one-way business class airfare each, for me and my staff member, and two nights' accommodation for the travel (I will be returning on another airline).

- 9 s6(a)

Ministerial Party

- 10 I will be accompanied by one staff member as part of the Ministerial Delegation. A senior official from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade will also accompany me; their travel costs will be covered by the departmental budget.

Travel Costs

- 11 The estimated costs of my and my staff member's travel to Seoul are:

Flights (*one way*) s9(2)(f)(iv)

Accommodation
(*two nights*)

Per Diem Subtotal

Representation

Interpretation

Gifts

Subtotal

Contingency 10%

TOTAL

Acting Ministers

12 Acting Ministers in my portfolios will be:

- Trade and Export - Growth Hon Damien O'Connor
- Attorney-General – Hon Chris Hipkins
- Environment – Hon Nanaia Mahuta

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, subject to leave from Parliament being secured, between 23-27 November to travel to Seoul;
- 14.2 agree that I be accompanied by one staff member;
- 14.3 approve the estimated expenditure of s9(2)(f)(iv) for the travel expenses of the Ministerial party, as a charge to Vote: Internal Affairs Members of the Executive – Travel;
- 14.4 note that I will be accompanied by an official from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade whose travel costs will be met by the department;
- 14.5 note that Acting Ministers have been arranged in my portfolios;
- 14.6 note that the House is not sitting during this period and the Party Whip has been informed of the travel.

Authorised for lodgement

Hon David Parker

Minister for Trade and Export Growth

ANNEX

Indicative Programme: Seoul

23-27 November 2019

Saturday, 23 November

- Depart for Seoul
- Arrive in Seoul (late evening)
- Informal meeting with the business delegation

Sunday, 24 November

- Briefing with officials
- Formal introductions with the business delegation
- Briefing on the Korean economy
- Visit to Hyundai to observe hydrogen technology
- Site visit to support food and beverage sector
- Air New Zealand inaugural flight reception

Monday, 25 November

- Briefing on the business environment in Korea
- Support tech sector and food and beverage site visits
- Meet with hydrogen industry representatives
- Explore well-being and sustainable growth policies with the Bank of Korea
- s6(a), s6(b)(i)
- Deliver address to the Korea-New Zealand annual stakeholders hui

Tuesday, 26 November

- Deep dive on Korea consumer behaviour with the business delegation
- Participate in a moderated panel discussion on inclusive trade policy, chaired by the Korea Women's Journalist Association (*Chatham House rule*)
- Wrap up session with the business delegation
- Depart for Auckland (Tuesday afternoon)

Wednesday, 27 November

- Arrive in Auckland (0800)