



NEW ZEALAND
FOREIGN AFFAIRS & TRADE
Manatū Aorere

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Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) Accessions

Consultation Outcomes



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SUMMARY - WHAT DID PEOPLE SAY?

- The majority of submitters (more than two-thirds of email submissions received) supported the expansion of the CPTPP. There was clear support and understanding of both the economic and geopolitical benefits that a larger CPTPP membership could bring for New Zealand.
- At the same time, those supporting expansion of CPTPP through accession emphasised the importance of all accession candidates being expected to fully meet the high standards of the existing Agreement. The particular importance of comprehensive, high quality, market access commitments was underlined by many submitters.
- Improved and high standards market access outcomes, mechanisms to address non-tariff barriers (including technical barriers to trade (TBT) and sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) issues), and broader adherence to common standards, including on trade and environment and trade and labour issues, as well as rules of origin, were cited as key benefits from expansion of the CPTPP through accession.
- A number of individual submitters raised concerns about investment access to New Zealand land and businesses, the potential risk of investor-state dispute settlement and labour and environment protections. Some of these submitters also referred to the importance of common values, including with respect to democratic systems and human rights.
- Some submissions raised particular issues of concern to Māori. These related to the extent of the protections afforded by the Treaty of Waitangi exception, the risk of investor-state dispute settlement and the issue of plant variety rights and its connection to the implementation of WAI 262 outcomes.
- Regarding individual potential accession candidates, there was some specific support expressed for the UK's request to join the CPTPP. At the same time, a good number of these submitters advocated that completion of the bilateral free trade agreement and resolution of existing market access issues should be a prerequisite for the UK's accession to the CPTPP.
- There was also specific support expressed for possible accession by other economies, principally in the APEC region, though mention was also made of other Latin American and South Asian economies.
- Individual submitters expressed more concern about the possibility of larger economies, such as the US, the UK and China, joining; with smaller economies, such as the Philippines, Chinese Taipei, Colombia and Thailand seen as a better fit.
- Feedback on social media was wide ranging and covered similar themes to those highlighted above. A number of social media commentators indicated either support

for or concerns regarding a particular economy or economies joining the CPTPP. Again, this was similar to the feedback in submissions noted above.

BACKGROUND

What are we consulting on?

New Zealand is a founder member of the Comprehensive and Progressive Trans Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) Free Trade Agreement (FTA). The CPTPP has been in effect for two years now for Australia, Canada, Japan, Mexico, New Zealand, Singapore and Viet Nam. The remaining four signatories (Brunei, Chile, Malaysia and Peru) are still completing their domestic processes to ratify the Agreement.

Other economies are increasingly indicating an interest in joining the CPTPP. New Zealand supports expansion of the CPTPP to further members as it offers the chance to grow, develop and modernise our trading relationship with other trading partners. An interested economy is able to apply to join the CPTPP and undertake an accession process to demonstrate how it will comply with the existing obligations in the Agreement and how it will meet the high standard of market access commitments commensurate with the CPTPP's objectives.

This consultation process is a chance for New Zealanders to have a say on the opportunities and issues they see with new membership to the CPTPP, in order to determine what areas are of most importance to them in the accession process both in terms of particular accession candidates or aspects of the Agreement.

Why are we consulting now?

On 1 February, the first formal request to join was received from the United Kingdom (UK). A separate bilateral FTA negotiation with the UK is also proceeding in parallel. There is potential interest from other economies in joining this Agreement, including from some other APEC (Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation) economies.

It's important for us to hear from New Zealanders at this stage, so we can take account of views before negotiations start with any prospective candidates.

The consultation process

We sought the views of New Zealanders on the CPTPP accessions process between 31 March and 2 May 2021. New Zealanders were invited to submit either through the [Have Your Say website](#) or directly by email to cptppconsultations@mfat.govt.nz.

We asked New Zealanders to get in touch and let us know their views, including on:

- What issues in New Zealand's trade relationship with prospective new CPTPP members you would want to see prioritised in negotiations on accession to CPTPP.
- Any specific barriers to trade and investment in prospective new CPTPP members you would want to see addressed in accession to the CPTPP. This could include:
 - specific industries or products for which you would want to see better goods trade access into new CPTPP member markets;
 - specific services sectors of importance to you in new CPTPP member markets;
 - impediments to services trade or investment that you would want to see addressed in new CPTPP member markets;
 - areas where the government procurement markets of new CPTPP members are of particular interest to you; and
 - aspects of temporary entry for business persons in new CPTPP members that would be of particular interest to you.
- Any areas where New Zealand and prospective new CPTPP members could cooperate more closely to enhance trade and economic connections.

Next steps

There will be further opportunities for New Zealanders to comment on areas of interest specific to particular accession candidates following the start of negotiations with any candidates. This would occur following any decision by the CPTPP Commission to commence the accession process with a particular accession candidate and establish an accession working group for that purpose.

TREATY PARTNER ENGAGEMENT

This first stage of consultation enabled us to assess the level of interest in CPTPP accessions from Te Ao Māori and Te Tiriti o Waitangi partners. There will be further opportunities for engagement on accessions as we enter into negotiations with specific candidates. The outcomes from our engagement with Treaty partners during this stage of consultation will inform our ongoing engagement plan for CPTPP accessions.

Who did we consult with?

A general pānui to the wider Te Ao Māori community. The pānui invited feedback from Treaty partners and welcomed face-to-face engagement at any point during the consultation period. A further, more detailed, pānui was circulated to Māori organisations and contacts who had previously shown interest in trade agreements, with a similar invitation to provide feedback, noting some potential areas of specific interest for Māori, including for Māori businesses.

Individual letters inviting feedback and offering to meet for in-person discussions were also sent to peak bodies, including the Iwi Chairs Forum and the Federation of Māori Authorities, as well as Te Taumata and Ngā Toki Whakarururanga.

What did we hear back?

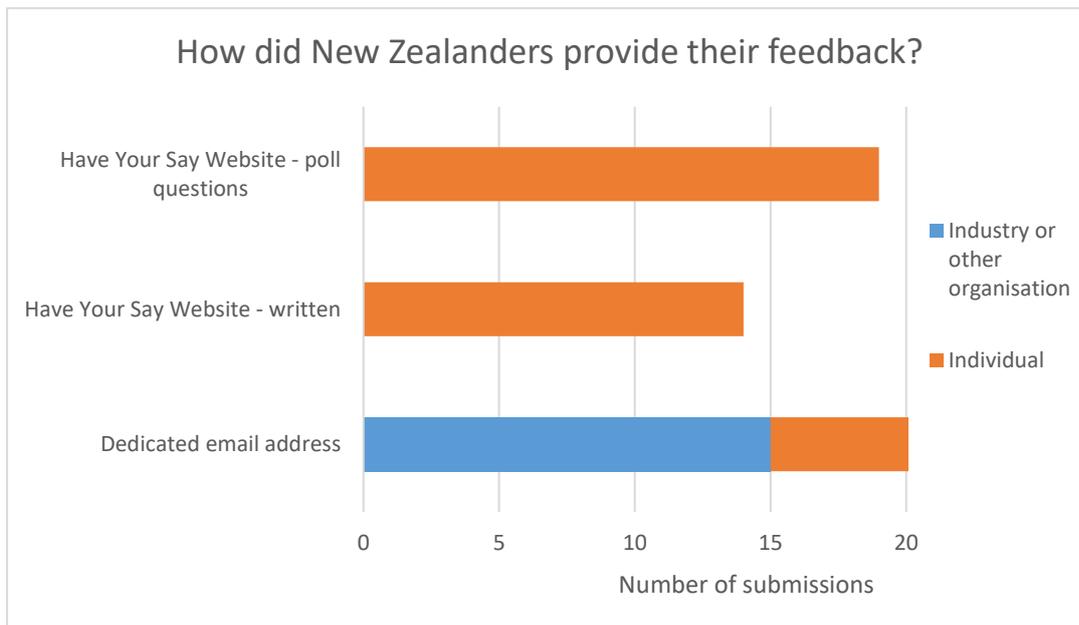
Although several submitters commented on Māori interests, we received only one submission from a Māori organisation, Wakatū Incorporation. Wakatū Incorporation identified some particular concerns about CPTPP accessions and identified a need to protect against certain risks for Māori interests. The Incorporation also pointed to issues where it saw co-design with Treaty partners as supporting positive outcomes for Māori.

The specific issues of interest to Māori highlighted by Wakatū Incorporation, and also reflected in some individual submissions, included the extent of the protections afforded by Te Tiriti o Waitangi exception, the risk of investor-state dispute settlement, and the issue of plant variety rights and its connection to the implementation of WAI 262 outcomes.

WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS

A total of 54 written submissions were received from 51 submitters over the consultation period. 21 submissions were received via the dedicated email address (cptpptconsultations@mfat.govt.nz), while a further 33 written submissions were received via the Have Your Say website. Of the 54 written submissions, 15 were submitted by industry or other organisations, and the remaining 39 were submitted by individuals.

The chart below shows the means by which submitters provided their feedback. Three individuals submitted via multiple platforms so some submissions are double counted below for the purpose of demonstrating the different submission methods:



This section summarises the comments made in written submissions. Responses to poll questions on the website and social media commentary are summarised in later sections.

General comments about the CPTPP

Some submissions commented more generally on the positive impact of the CPTPP on New Zealand’s economy and the significance for exporters. For example, one submitter commented:

“...the signing of CPTPP marks a bright moment in a world where trade was under threat from inward-looking protectionism....CPTPP continues to stand out from other more recently concluded agreements....for its ambition, high quality and comprehensiveness.”

Another pointed to liberalised, rules-based trade as not only:

“beneficial from the perspectives of economic performance, environmental sustainability and consumer welfare, but also provides greater consumer choice, liquidity in markets, greater opportunities for partnerships and the further development of domestic, regional and global value chains.”

Some submitters remarked on the value of the CPTPP’s outcomes on environment and labour, noting these disciplines were subject to dispute settlement for the first time:

“The legal accountability of these disciplines sends an important message about the need to support sound trade and environment policies that promote sustainable development. This will play an important role in supporting global efforts to raise environmental and labour standards.”

Other submissions pointed to the impact of CPTPP on market diversification, noting that CPTPP:

“helped to level the playing field for New Zealand companies by providing tariff reductions and elimination across a number of existing and new markets”, providing “additional opportunities ... for market diversification”.

One industry group expressed disappointment with some of the outcomes in the CPTPP, particularly market access outcomes for dairy products. This submitter saw the accession process as an opportunity to strengthen the existing commitments in the Agreement which did not go far enough, in addition to opening up new commercial opportunities.

Several submitters drew attention to the value of encouraging ratification and entry into force of the CPTPP for the four remaining signatories yet to ratify the Agreement.

One submitter did not support New Zealand’s existing membership of the CPTPP and suggested that rather than working towards expanding the CPTPP, New Zealand should “embark on extricating ourselves from this carbon-intensive treaty as rapidly as possible”.

Several other submitters indicated that the CPTPP had always been viewed as a ‘living agreement’ capable of expansion, particularly expansion further into the APEC region. They supported: “the concept of CPTPP as ‘open’ for those economies that can meet the high-quality rules and obligations of the agreement”.

Accessions

The majority of submitters supported expansion of the CPTPP, provided that those looking to join CPTPP met the high standards obligations of the Agreement, including the provision of comprehensive market access. In the words of one business organisation:

“Any expansion of the membership must enhance the value of the agreement. New members must be able to demonstrate that they can both meet the high standard set by CPTPP rules and market access commitments, but also adhere to these rules.”

Another submission from a substantial export sector emphasised that while:

“In principle the sector is supportive of the expansion of CPTPP through new membership, ... ensuring that the value and quality of the CPTPP remains intact is paramount”. It did “not want to see this quality and value diluted through membership accessions that fall short of the original level of ambition for the agreement.”

Generally, commitment to trade liberalisation and demonstration of high quality outcomes was seen as a more important factor for determining accession candidates than geographic regions.

“Expansion of the CPTPP is important economically, but it is also important strategically in supporting deeper regional integration, strengthening trade architecture and signalling internationally that there is continued support for trade liberalisation.”

Another industry submission noted:

“the strategic importance of CPTPP accession negotiations in the context of rising protectionism and New Zealand’s global leadership in reinforcing the international rules-based trading system’.

Several industry bodies recommended that future accessions meet some key guiding principles to ensure the high quality of the agreement is retained. These principles included:

- Ambitious, high quality and comprehensive new market access outcomes;
- alignment with existing regional trade architecture;
- prioritisation based on whether New Zealand has an existing trade framework;
- trade facilitative outcomes that reduce barriers to trade, including in the areas of technical barriers to trade (TBT), sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) issues, rules of origin and trade facilitation;
- ambitious environment and labour outcomes; and
- commitments to progress negotiations in a timely and constructive way.

One organisation believed:

“Accession to the CPTPP should be granted only after a clear commitment to eliminate tariff and non-tariff barriers in the trade of agricultural goods has been made”.

One professional services body supported the growth of CPTPP, noting this should be:

“in a manner that is sustainable and consistent with New Zealand Key Principles for Trade for All”.

Although supportive of expanding the membership of the CPTPP, one industry submitter recommended that New Zealand should encourage full ratification of existing signatories and resolution of implementation issues alongside, if not prior to, accession negotiations.

Two individual submitters did not support expanding the CPTPP due to the lack of perceived benefit to New Zealand. Several other individuals did not support expansion if it resulted in particular large economies joining the CPTPP. One submitter drew a distinction between the treatment advocated for developed country candidates and developing country candidates seeking to accede to CPTPP.

The Accession Process

Consistent with the overall emphasis in many submissions on the importance of maintaining the high standards of the CPTPP, one submitter indicated that its overall concern in the accession process was: “to ensure that the integrity of current CPTPP rules and obligations is maintained in all areas”. It emphasised it would not want to see acceding parties use negotiations to “opt out of or weaken the existing CPTPP obligations.”

Another sectoral submission pointed to the “clear guidance on criteria for potential accession” set out as part of the CPTPP and underlined that that these should be:

“applied robustly to ensure current and future accession processes do not detract from the Agreement.”

In this regard, this submitter went on to emphasise that:

“We believe it is important for New Zealand and other CPTPP parties to uphold the CPTPP accession principles, including that there will be no renegotiation of the rules and obligations, as well as the FTA architecture and exceptions.”

One industry group noted that the process for negotiating accessions was important to ensure efficiency:

“...would also want the CPTPP accession committee to consider how it might manage multiple accessions processes, in the event of growing interest, to streamline or minimise resourcing demands.”

The timing of particular accessions was also a prominent theme in many submissions. For example, when considering the UK as a potential candidate, several industry submitters commented that the UK’s bilateral negotiation with New Zealand should be completed prior to the UK acceding to the CPTPP. Completion of the bilateral FTA negotiation was seen as a logical step to demonstrate the UK’s ability to meet the CPTPP’s high standards.

The timing of possible accession by economies such as the US, China and Chinese Taipei was also a common theme with careful consideration recommended. Further comments by submitters in relation to possible accession by large economies are found below.

Main Issues Raised in Submissions

Market access interests

The importance of comprehensive market access outcomes was highlighted by a large number of submitters. This was outlined in a number of submissions in similar terms, for example:

“comprehensive coverage of all goods and services in market access schedules”; and

“a commitment to moving to tariff elimination on all products of export interest to New Zealand, including agricultural products, within a reasonable timeframe”

In determining comprehensive market access, one industry also pointed to the need to consider potential trade in products not currently taking place due to barriers in the accession candidate’s market.

Four submitters suggested that the accession process should also aim to improve existing goods market access commitments between the members of the CPTPP, particularly for those agricultural and dairy products where outcomes fell short of fully comprehensive tariff elimination.

One industry group also warned that existing market access commitments should not be negated through any accessions, for example that:

“...any TRQ access should not be shared among new members as this would result in a diminution of current rights”.

While New Zealand’s existing FTAs with Korea, Thailand and Chinese Taipei were identified by one submitter as providing “useful starting points for future [CPTPP] accession”, the submitter made clear that it would be important to prioritise “strengthened market access outcomes” in these markets too.

One industry group noted that in the markets where New Zealand already has an FTA or is currently negotiating an FTA, it saw ensuring that improvements were made in relation to non-tariff measures and technical barriers to trade as a priority in any CPTPP accession by these economies.

Māori Interests

There was clear articulation of particular Māori interests in a number of the submissions. One submission indicated the importance it attached to addressing;

“equitable outcomes for Māori in trading with the UK under the CPTPP such as access for goods, services, investment, government procurement and temporary entry for business persons, as well as emphasising the role of indigenous trade.”

There was concern expressed in some submissions to ensure Māori interests would not be negatively impacted by further accessions to the CPTPP. One individual submission commented that “the sovereignty of Māori must not be placed at risk...”

One organisation submitted that the ISDS provisions posed a risk for Māori, and noted that the ISDS carve-out, as agreed with Australia, was an essential requirement for new economies seeking to join the CPTPP. Further, that organisation requested that future side

instruments include modification of the dispute resolution process through mandating the exhaustion of local remedies linked explicitly to the jurisdiction of the Waitangi Tribunal.

That organisation also argued that domestic protections related to the WAI 262 claim and related matters, should be embedded into domestic law prior to negotiations:

“The failure to address these issues will impact severely on the ability of Māori as well as other New Zealanders to protect and ensure our rights and interests, including commercial interests, in taonga that is unique to Aotearoa and ought to be protected under domestic law.”

Regarding the UK’s request to accede to the CPTPP, it requested that New Zealand negotiate a side letter with the UK upholding the obligations under Te Tiriti:

“...it is essential that the Crown and Māori co-negotiate a side instrument that upholds the obligations under Te Tiriti, address the ongoing role of the Te Tiriti in shaping international trade with the UK and notes the special significance of Te Tiriti to the UK/NZ relationship.”

Finally, the organisation noted that the full constitutional reach of the Treaty relationship may not be clearly protected under the CPTPP and that this should be clarified through future accessions.

An individual submitter also advocated that New Zealand “must demand a strong and comprehensive carve out for Te Tiriti o Waitangi (especially in relation to the UK as the original Crown that signed Te Tiriti), co-designed by Māori”. Further, the individual argued for clarity in ensuring that the Te Tiriti exception fully protects mana motuhake and kaitiakitanga in relation to the digital domain.

Other Areas of Interest

There were a range of other areas of interest raised by submitters, including specific barriers to trade that could be addressed or specific priorities when considering accessions.

In respect of **non-tariff measures**, particular mention was made of the importance attached to the CPTPP TBT provisions, including its annexes. Specifically one submitter wanted to make sure the Wine and Spirits Annex was ‘carried across intact’ by accession candidates.

The same organisation expressed an interest in seeing the CPTPP used as a platform to address other non-tariff measures over time.

The existing **ISDS provisions** were raised by several submitters. One organisation thought the existing ISDS provisions in CPTPP could “have a very chilling effect on Crown or local government policies or subsidies that favour local companies over foreign

competitors.” This view was echoed by a number of other individuals who noted that ISDS should be excluded from any accession and not replaced by any substitute mechanism.

One individual also outlined further carve-outs they thought should be sought in the context of accessions, including:

- a carve-out for the regulation of digital technologies, services, investments and activities consistent with the recommendations in the Trade for All Advisory Board’s report;
- explicit recognition that “technological neutrality” does not apply to commitments made and that annexes of non-conforming measures apply to technologies that existed at the time the annexes were adopted;
- comprehensive carve-outs for responses to crises;
- a revised tax exception and exclusion for all measures to tax the digital economy; and
- no TRIPS-plus obligations and a rejection of commitments on UPOV 1991.

Labour standards were raised by a number of submitters, both as an opportunity to achieve improvements through adherence by other economies to the high standards set in CPTPP; as well as a priority area for negotiation.

One organisation saw an opportunity to eliminate divergence between CPTPP national minimum labour standards and international minimum labour standards. It noted the particular importance of universal labour standards for “vulnerable international-facing employees”. A number of individuals submitted that an economy’s labour standards should be a priority consideration for determining New Zealand’s support for accession to the CPTPP.

One professional services organisation attached particular priority to the Labour Chapter (Chapter 19) in the CPTPP and saw this as a reason to support the CPTPP, noting the:

“consultative, professional development and dispute resolution procedures” were “a step in the right direction”.

At the same time, it raised a specific point regarding the Labour Standards Act in Korea and some more general concerns regarding the application of labour laws in China. It argued for accession by countries “that share a commitment to labour rights”.

A number of individuals also submitted that New Zealand should prioritise **environmental and climate change protections** in negotiations with accession candidates. One individual wanted to see New Zealand prioritise the protection of fisheries, while others wanted to see commitments to emissions reductions addressed through accessions. Another individual submitter was concerned to ensure New Zealand had protections in place to make sure we could feed our own population and provide essential services.

Several individual submitters advised caution in relation to **investment rules**, particularly regarding investment in land. These submitters generally considered that domestic housing shortages in New Zealand should mean restrictions, or at least no further grant of access to foreign investment in land, through trade agreements.

One submitter noted that the **CPTPP Review** due three years after entry into force of the CPTPP would be coming up shortly and asked that the Government explain its priorities for the review and the process it planned to use to seek input into the review.

One professional services body encouraged the growth of **air services relationships** with ASEAN and Pacific Forum nations.

Potential Accession Candidates

Most submitters commented on the opportunities and risks presented by particular accession candidates. A number of submitters gave particular priority to APEC economies. Some of these, however, saw the UK as a unique case, due to its recent departure from the European Union.

One industry body advocated prioritising candidates according to the potential for new commercial opportunities for New Zealand exporters and significant economic benefit to New Zealand. Although, the body also noted that CPTPP accessions were only one option for delivering these benefits and that New Zealand should continue to pursue other bilateral and plurilateral agreements. Other industry bodies also supported this.

One professional services body supported the accession of “countries within New Zealand’s near geographical neighbourhood and with whom New Zealand has existing air connectivity”.

Another industry submitter recognised that there were unlikely to be significant new commercial gains with economies that already have FTAs with New Zealand that provide high-quality market access, such as China and some ASEAN countries. However, the submitter indicated there could be broader outcomes of commercial value to be derived through accession, such as the ability to use CPTPP Rules of Origin and the further elimination of non-tariff barriers.

Two industry bodies expressed strong support for accession by economies that either have an existing agreement with New Zealand that lacks comprehensive access in their sector, such as South Korea, or economies with no existing agreement with New Zealand, such as the US.

Five individuals submitted that the question of human rights should be a priority consideration for New Zealand. Other important values mentioned by submitters included the candidates’ approach to labour rights and implementation of UN protocols.

United Kingdom

Of those submissions that included comments on the UK, most were supportive of it joining the CPTPP, so long as the UK was able to meet the high standards of the Agreement.

“Growing the CPTPP members with an additional G20 economy would bring significant opportunities to existing members..... It would further demonstrate the global reach and desirability of the CPTPP as a trade agreement and may encourage other countries to consider joining that are not part of the Pacific region.”

Eight industry submitters considered that satisfactory resolution of post-Brexit market access issues and the bilateral FTA market access discussions should be a prerequisite for the UK’s accession to the CPTPP. As one industry body commented:

“A question mark remains about the extent to which the UK is willing to open its market to New Zealand goods”, with “a significant improvement in market access” necessary before it “could support whole-heartedly UK accession to CPTPP”.

Until those issues were resolved, these submitters did not consider that the UK could demonstrate a commitment to trade liberalisation to the level required by the CPTPP. One industry submitter emphasised it was:

“critical that the UK first show its trade liberalisation credentials in the NZ-UK bilateral negotiations”.

Another industry submission detailed areas where there remained “a mismatch between rhetoric and action” in the UK’s approach to trade liberalisation and commented that until those issues were satisfactorily resolved:

“It is difficult to reconcile the United Kingdom’s articulated approach to trade with its ambition in practice. We would like to see this commitment to trade liberalisation demonstrated before their accession to the CPTPP is supported by the New Zealand government.”

One individual submitter agreed with this approach and argued that this should be a prerequisite for all accessions by developed economies. One industry organisation went on to remark that in the absence of a demonstrated commitment to ambitious and progressive trade liberalisation “we would be concerned that the additional membership of the UK would dilute the effectiveness and ambition of the CPTPP”.

While one organisation commented specifically that “geography should not be a limiting factor in determining membership to the CPTPP” in the case of the UK, “an unwillingness to liberalise the production and trade of agricultural goods should be a factor”.

In negotiating the UK’s entry to the CPTPP, one industry body was keen to see particular non-tariff barriers in the UK addressed. These included unnecessary export certification

and testing requirements, differences in permitted winemaking practices; and differences in certain labelling requirements.

Several individual submissions either indicated that they did not support the UK's accession to the CPTPP or raised concerns about the UK's reliability and commitment as a trade partner. One individual submitter described the UK as "an unreliable partner who threatens to break international law when it doesn't get its own way".

Other Possible Accession Candidates

Eleven other economies were mentioned in submissions. Though the potential candidates mentioned most frequently were **APEC economies**, including South Korea, Thailand, China, the Philippines, the US, Chinese Taipei and Indonesia; several submissions also referred to other Latin American and South Asian economies, including Colombia, India, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka.

One business association commented that APEC members such as the Republic of Korea, Thailand, the Philippines and Chinese Taipei "stand out as potential members of CPTPP in the short term".

In this regard, one submitter expressed the view that New Zealand support for smaller economies, such as the Philippines and Chinese Taipei, would align more with New Zealand's trade values than support for bigger economies. This was reiterated by several other submitters, for example:

"It is also advantageous for New Zealand that the CPTPP includes many members closer in size to ourselves".

A similar perspective was also evident in the concerns that several individual submitters raised about the influence that bigger economic powers, such as the US, UK or China would try to exert within CPTPP.

One individual submitter supported accession by any **Latin American** economies but also noted that the agreement should be open to those that have demonstrable interest in the region. Other individual submitters pointed to **South Asia and India** as potential trade partners of interest.

Support for **the US** joining the CPTPP was split. While some individuals raised concerns, including in one case about US copyright laws, software patent protection and potential for access to medicines to be restricted; other individual and industry submitters indicated support for the US joining based on shared values and ideology, as well as market access opportunities.

One industry submission identified the US as:

“A key priority for potential future CPTPP accession”, noting it was “the only market among the top ten markets” for their sector “without either an FTA in place or negotiations on an FTA under way”.

Another submitter recalled the role the US had played in negotiations of the TPP agreement and argued that “the attraction of the US back into CPTPP must be a very high priority”. Despite the importance of the US market, submitters noted that New Zealand continued to face high tariffs, as well as a range of non-tariff barriers limiting or preventing trade for certain products into the US.

Among individual submitters, there were a number of comments regarding possible accession by **China**. Six individuals did not support accession by China, with submitters raising concerns about human rights and democratic values. Some other submitters considered that market diversification which entailed less reliance on the China market should be a priority.

Other submitters supported accession by China. Some also noted, though, that existing bilateral arrangements already provided high levels of market access into China for New Zealand exports. One organisation noted that this existing high quality market access meant that China would be well placed to accede to the CPTPP. The same organisation questioned, though, whether broader CPTPP commitments, for example competitive neutrality for state owned enterprises, would pose a barrier to China’s accession.

Chinese Taipei was also raised as a possible accession candidate in the future. Eight submitters expressed explicit support for Chinese Taipei as an accession candidate. Several submitters observed that the existing agreements that Chinese Taipei has with Singapore and New Zealand draw on some CPTPP language and concepts, which could pave the way for accession to the CPTPP.

One business association saw accession to CPTPP by Chinese Taipei as offering “more opportunities for Kiwi exporters to grow their business” in that market, with another submission pointing out that Chinese Taipei had overtaken the UK in the second quarter of 2020 to become New Zealand’s 6th largest export market over that period. Some submitters also noted that accession by Chinese Taipei could increase the interest of the US in joining the CPTPP.

ONLINE POLL QUESTIONS

New Zealanders were also invited to answer two poll questions on the Have Your Say website. These questions were designed to prompt discussion and provide an opportunity for free form comment. The key themes raised in response to these questions are summarised in the sections below and have also been incorporated into the above sections summarising the written submissions. All answers to these questions were submitted by individuals.

What are the most important areas for New Zealanders when considering accession of other economies to CPTPP?

What are the specific barriers to trade and investment with prospective new CPTPP members that you would want to see addressed in any accession to the CPTPP?

The most common areas of importance raised by individual submitters related to the extent of shared values with the accession candidate, its size and likely influence on outcomes within the CPTPP and the impacts in areas such as foreign investment, the environment and labour rights.

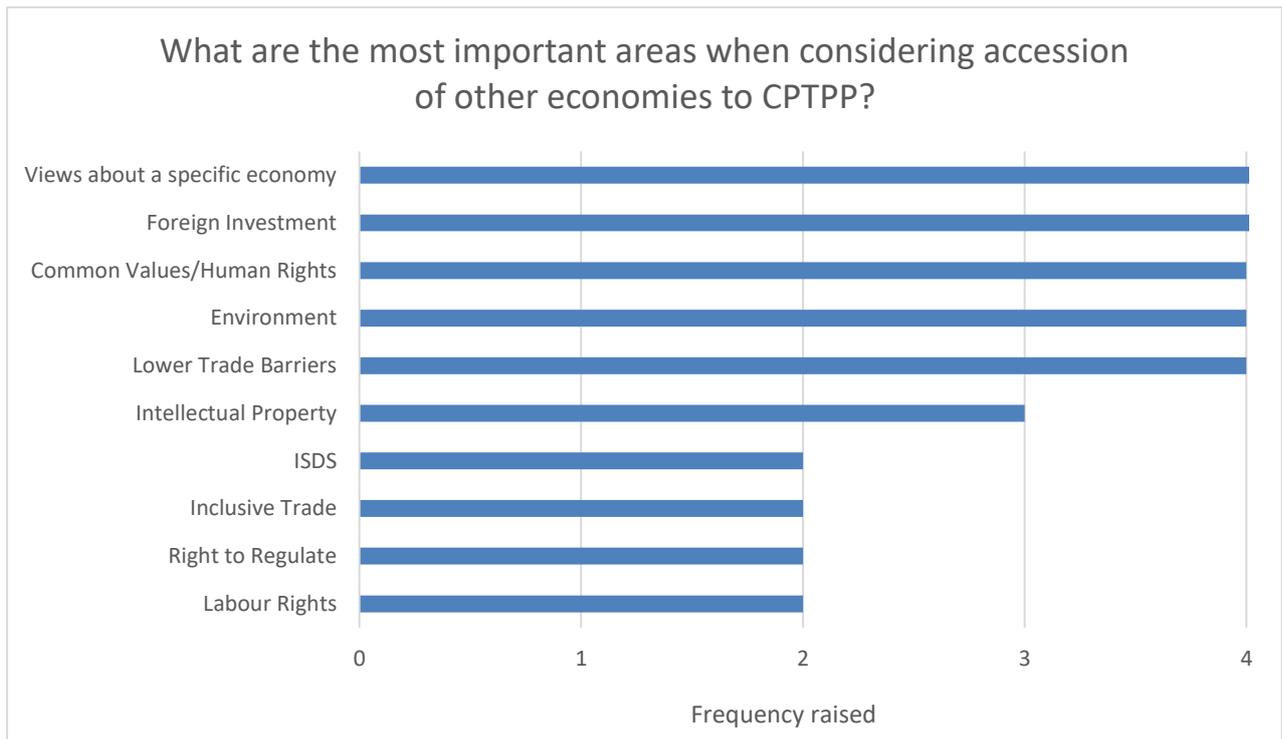
As illustrated in the chart below, a number of individual submitters saw shared values, including in regard to democratic systems and human rights, as very important. At the same time, several submitters also advocated a cautious approach towards accession by large economies that could try to dominate the CPTPP agenda.

A good number of individual submitters raised concerns about access by foreign investors to New Zealand land and businesses as a priority issue. A concern to restrict foreign investment in New Zealand was a common theme in individuals responses to both poll questions; as were concerns about the possibility of exposure to investor-state dispute settlement.

An economy's commitments to reducing emissions was seen as an important factor, as well as whether New Zealand would be able to seek high ambition environmental protections through accession negotiations. Protection of New Zealand's biosecurity and environmental outcomes favourable to fisheries protection were also specifically mentioned.

Two submitters raised intellectual property issues, but differed in their views. One submitter sought protection for New Zealand's intellectual property and patents, while the other submitter raised concerns about increased protection of software patents through trade agreements.

A further two submitters argued that improved market access was a priority, particularly for agricultural products.



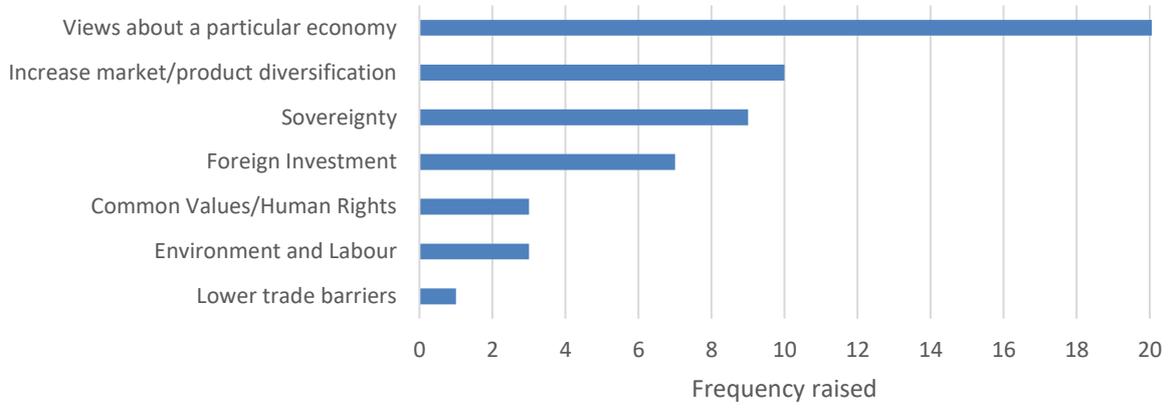
SOCIAL MEDIA COMMENTARY

In addition to written submissions and responses to poll questions on the website, many New Zealanders also provided feedback on the consultations via social media platforms. There were approximately 173 related comments in response to posts about the consultation process on Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn. The majority of these comments were on Facebook. Some comments were out of scope of the consultation process, but those within scope are summarised below. All comments on social media were made by individuals.

The most common theme discussed on social media was concern about particular economies joining the CPTPP. A number of commentators expressed concern about the possibility of China joining the CPTPP, and a smaller number expressed concern about the UK or the US joining. The importance of market diversification was a common reason some of the commentators pointed to with regard to China. Four individuals raised general concern with expansion of the CPTPP and some noted that keeping the agreement limited to a small number of likeminded economies was in New Zealand’s best interests.

The other most common theme raised on social media was foreign investment. Commentators were concerned that trade agreements, like the CPTPP, could be used to increase foreign investment in New Zealand land and businesses. These commentators advocated for restrictions on foreign investment to retain New Zealand ownership of land and businesses based here. The chart below shows the frequency of key themes raised in social media commentary.

Frequency of issues raised in social media commentary



LIST OF SUBMITTERS

Industry / Representative Body

Beef and Lamb New Zealand & Meat Industry Association
Climate Justice Taranaki
Dairy Companies Association of New Zealand (DCANZ)
Export New Zealand
Federated Farmers
Fonterra
New Zealand-Taiwan Business Council
New Zealand International Business Forum (NZIBF)
New Zealand Winegrowers
Onions New Zealand
Taiwanese Business Association (South Island) of New Zealand
Taiwanese Business Association of New Zealand
Wellington Chamber of Commerce & Business Central
Whakatū Incorporation

Individuals

Adair Davis
Anaru Kira
Arthur Gatland
Brian Whetton
Brijesh Patel
Catherine Churchman (VUW)
Charles Finny
Craig Dempster
David Lourie
Donald Munro
Dorothy Schoen
Edgar Henson
Eleanor Greenhough
Hewitt Snowball
Ian Brooks
Jane Kelsey, Professor
Jean Johnson
Jed Robertson
Jevon Wright
John Trezise
Judith Holt
Justin Smith
Kay Murray
Kevin Cotton
Mahendra Sankhla
Maria Bautista
Marina Steinke
Matthew O'Meagher
Oscar Sims
Paul Castelow
Peter Roberts
Philip Bacon
Russell Mann
Sharon Brechelt
Simon Demler
Sirma MacDonald