

8 March 2018

Hon Lim Hng Kiang
Minister for Trade and Industry (Trade)
Republic of Singapore

Dear Minister Lim,

I refer to the following agreements between New Zealand and Singapore ("Agreements"):

1. *New Zealand - Singapore Closer Economic Partnership Agreement* done at Singapore on 14 November 2000 (NZSCEP);
2. *Trans-Pacific Strategic Economic Partnership Agreement* that entered into force on 28 May 2006 (TPSEP);
3. *Agreement Establishing the ASEAN - Australia – New Zealand Free Trade Area* done at Cha-am on 27 February 2009 (AANZFTA); and
4. *Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership* done at Santiago on 8 March 2018 (CPTPP).


I have the honour to confirm the following interpretative understandings relating to the Agreements reached by New Zealand and Singapore during the course of the negotiations on CPTPP. Nothing in CPTPP will derogate from the rights and obligations of New Zealand or Singapore under the NZSCEP, TPSEP or AANZFTA. To the greatest extent possible, the Agreements will be interpreted consistently. Where the NZSCEP, TPSEP, AANZFTA or CPTPP provides different treatment for an exporter, service supplier or investor of New Zealand or Singapore, that exporter, service



supplier or investor is entitled to claim the most favourable of the treatment accorded to that exporter, service supplier or investor under any of the Agreements.

I have the further honour to propose that this letter and your letter of confirmation in reply will constitute the understandings between our two Governments on the interpretation of the Agreements.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'David Parker', written in a cursive style.

Hon David Parker
Minister for Trade and Export Growth
New Zealand



MINISTER FOR TRADE AND INDUSTRY
(TRADE)
SINGAPORE

8 March 2018

Hon David Parker
Minister for Trade and Export Growth
New Zealand

Dear Excellency,

I have the honour of acknowledging receipt of your letter of today's date, which states as follows:

"I refer to the following agreements between New Zealand and Singapore ("Agreements"):

1. *New Zealand - Singapore Closer Economic Partnership Agreement* done at Singapore on 14 November 2000 (NZSCEP);
2. *Trans-Pacific Strategic Economic Partnership Agreement* that entered into force on 28 May 2006 (TPSEP);
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I have the honour to confirm the following interpretative understandings relating to the Agreements reached by New Zealand and Singapore during the course of the negotiations on CPTPP. Nothing in CPTPP will derogate from the rights and obligations of New Zealand or Singapore under the NZSCEP, TPSEP or AANZFTA. To the greatest extent possible, the Agreements will be interpreted consistently. Where the NZSCEP, TPSEP, AANZFTA or CPTPP provides different treatment for an exporter, service supplier or investor of New

Zealand or Singapore, that exporter, service supplier or investor is entitled to claim the most favourable of the treatment accorded to that exporter, service supplier or investor under any of the Agreements.

I have the further honour to propose that this letter and your letter of confirmation in reply will constitute the understandings between our two Governments on the interpretation of the Agreements.”

I have the honour to confirm that your letter and this letter in reply will constitute the understandings between our two Governments on the interpretation of the Agreements.

Yours *Sincerely,*

Lim Hng Kiang

LIM HNG KIANG