

FREE TRADE AGREEMENT
BETWEEN NEW ZEALAND
AND THE EUROPEAN UNION

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PREAMBLE

New Zealand,

and

The European Union, hereinafter referred to as "the Union",

hereinafter individually referred to as a "Party" and jointly referred to as the "Parties",

RECOGNISING their longstanding and strong partnership based on the common principles and values reflected in the Partnership Agreement on Relations and Cooperation between the European Union and its Member States, of the one part, and New Zealand, of the other part, done at Brussels on 5 October 2016, and their important economic, trade and investment relationship;

RESOLVED to strengthen their economic relations, and expand bilateral trade and investment;

RECOGNISING the importance of global cooperation to address issues of shared interest;

RECOGNISING the importance of transparency in international trade and investment to the benefit of all stakeholders;

SEEKING to establish a stable and predictable environment with clear and mutually advantageous rules governing trade and investment between the Parties, and to reduce or eliminate barriers thereto;

ACKNOWLEDGING that te Tiriti o Waitangi / the Treaty of Waitangi is a foundational document of constitutional importance to New Zealand;

DESIRING to raise living standards, promote inclusive economic growth and stability, create new employment opportunities and improve the general welfare and, to this end, reaffirming their commitment to promote trade and investment liberalisation;

CONVINCED that this Agreement will create an expanded and secure market for goods and services, thus enhancing the competitiveness of their firms in global markets;

DETERMINED to strengthen their economic, trade, and investment relations in accordance with the objective of sustainable development, in its economic, social and environmental dimensions, and to promote trade and investment that are consistent with the aims for high levels of environmental and labour protection and with relevant internationally recognised standards and agreements to which they are a party;

DETERMINED to enhance consumer welfare through policies that ensure a high level of consumer protection, consumer choice and economic wellbeing;

AFFIRMING the Parties' right to regulate within their territories to achieve legitimate policy objectives, such as the protection of human, animal or plant life or health; social services; public education; safety; the environment, including climate change; public morals; social or consumer protection; animal welfare; privacy and data protection; the promotion and protection of cultural diversity; and, in the case of New Zealand, the promotion or protection of the rights, interests, duties and responsibilities of Māori;

COMMITTED to communicate with all relevant stakeholders from civil society, including the private sector, trade unions and other non-governmental organisations;

RECOGNISING the importance of promoting inclusive participation in international trade, and of addressing barriers and other challenges that exist for domestic stakeholders in accessing international trade and economic opportunities, including in digital trade;

DETERMINED to address the particular challenges faced by small and medium-sized enterprises in contributing to the development of trade and foreign direct investment;

RECOGNISING the importance of international trade in enabling and advancing Māori wellbeing, and the challenges that exist for Māori, including wāhine Māori, in accessing trade and investment opportunities derived from international trade, including the opportunities and benefits created by this Agreement;

SEEKING to advance gender equality and the economic empowerment of women by promoting the importance of gender inclusive policies and practices in economic activities, including international trade, in an effort to eliminate all forms of gender-based discrimination;

REAFFIRMING their commitment to the Charter of the United Nations signed in San Francisco on 26 June 1945 and having regard to the principles articulated in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations on 10 December 1948;

BUILDING upon their respective rights and obligations under the Agreement Establishing the World Trade Organization, done at Marrakesh on 15 April 1994, and other multilateral and bilateral instruments of cooperation to which both Parties are a party;

HAVE AGREED AS FOLLOWS: