



## Proactive Release

The following document has been proactively released by the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, on behalf of Rt Hon Christopher Luxon, Prime Minister:

### **Report on Overseas Travel: Prime Minister - November 2024**

The following documents have been included in this release:

**Report on Overseas Travel: Prime Minister - November 2024** (CAB-25-SUB-0009 refers)

**Minute of Decision** (CAB-25-MIN-0009 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 section of the Act that would apply has 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:**

- Section 6(a), to protect the security or defence of New Zealand or the international relations of the Government of New Zealand
- Section 6(b)(i), to protect the entrusting of information to the Government of New Zealand on a basis of confidence by the Government of any other country or any agency of such a Government.

Office of the Prime Minister

Chair, Cabinet

## Report on Overseas Travel: Rt Hon Christopher Luxon – November 2024

I recommend Cabinet note this report on my travel to Peru for the APEC Economic Leaders' Meeting (AELM) between Thursday 14 and Saturday 16 November 2024.

### Report

- 1 Peru hosted the APEC Summit 2024 in Lima. Over the course of less than two days on the ground, I was able to achieve our objectives, namely:
  - 1.1 *To deepen relationships with New Zealand's key regional and global partners, including by engaging in leader-level bilateral meetings.* I was able to meet formally with nine other leaders, including for the first time with President Xi of China, President Prabowo of Indonesia, and Prime Minister Ishiba of Japan. I also talked informally with most other APEC Leaders, including President Biden of the United States.
  - 1.2 *Demonstrate New Zealand's commitment to APEC as a key part of regional architecture and the rules-based trade system.* As an active participant in the two sessions with APEC Leaders and that with the APEC Business Advisory Council, I was able to advocate for open markets and the rules-based system.
  - 1.3 *Showcase New Zealand's open and innovative business environment.* By appearing at the APEC CEO Summit, I was able to put forward the Government's economic agenda before a business audience.
- 2 My bilateral meetings were an opportunity to advance New Zealand's interests with major regional economies, whether that was pushing for improved market access for New Zealand exporters or building the case to elevate our relationship with Southeast Asian partners.
- 3 As well as laying out New Zealand's stall, the plenary meetings were an important opportunity to hear firsthand how APEC economies are navigating today's economic and geo-political realities. A couple of themes were evident.
  - 3.1 Many economies are grappling with similar challenges, whether the cost-of-living crisis, improving educational outcomes, climate change or adapting to technological change. It was good to compare notes and discuss where we can work together. Among those challenges was the continued rise in protectionism, with New Zealand joining a range of others advocating for open markets and adherence to the rules.

3.2 Geo-political fractures lines were in evidence, whether over Russia's invasion of Ukraine or the Israel-Hamas conflict. [REDACTED]

6(a), 6(b)(i)

4 Overall, this was a good opportunity to advance New Zealand's interests with a set of economies accounting for more than 75 per cent of our exports and 60 per cent of global economic weight, as well as to support regional norms around openness and respect for the rules.

#### **Proactive release**

5 This paper will be proactively released as per Cabinet Office Circular CO (23) 04 on the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet'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

Rt Hon Christopher Luxon

Prime Minister



# Cabinet

## Minute of Decision

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*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.*

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### Report on Overseas Travel: Prime Minister - November 2024

**Portfolio**                      **Prime Minister**

On 28 January 2025, Cabinet **noted** the report from the Prime Minister under CAB-25-SUB-0009 on his travel, from 14 to 16 November 2024, to Lima, Peru to attend the APEC Economic Leaders' Meeting.

Rachel Hayward  
Secretary of the Cabinet