

James Webb  
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8 August 2024

Dear James,

### **OIA 24-25-04: NZ DELEGATION CHOSEN TO JAPAN**

Thank you for your request of 11 July to New Zealand Trade and Enterprise (NZTE), making a request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act). You requested the following information:

*How were the NZ delegation to Japan in June 2024 chosen? Please provide any criteria that was used and/or considered.*

Answers to your questions are as follows:

Trade delegations for missions are selected based on several factors, including economic priorities, industry sectors, and market opportunities.

New Zealand Trade and Enterprise (NZTE), in conjunction with NZ Inc agencies provided input on the development of the delegation list to the Prime Minister's Office.

The selection process for business delegates that accompany the Prime Minister or Ministers on trade missions takes into account the political objectives and areas of focus of the trade mission, in addition to the opportunities and growth within the market. For Japan these objectives included deepening the relationship, reinvigorating key sector engagement (agrifood, tourism and education) and leveraging emerging opportunities in innovation, tech and services, sport, investment and renewable energy.

Selection criteria for the business delegation to Japan took into account a mix of the following:

- New Zealand export company, investment company or entity with specific market focus
- Alignment to the overarching objectives of the Mission
- Alignment to the sectoral focus areas for the Mission
- Strong deliverable or announceable in the market

The final delegation list is approved by the Prime Minister's Office. You have the right under section 28(3) of the Act to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman. Information about how to make a complaint is available at: [www.ombudsman.parliament.govt.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.govt.nz) or freephone: 0800 802 602.

Yours sincerely



Melissa Trochon  
**Director – Board & Ministerial**