

# OPEN LETTER IN SUPPORT OF THE TPP negotiations

3 December 2012

Rt Hon John Key  
Prime Minister  
Parliament Buildings  
WELLINGTON

Dear Prime Minister

We, the leaders of major New Zealand companies and leading business organisations, write to underline the importance of international trade and investment for New Zealand and to express our support for the Trans Pacific Partnership (TPP) negotiations now underway amongst eleven APEC economies.

**Trade is New Zealand's life blood. Trade rules uphold fairness in the global economy and enhance the ability of New Zealand companies to do business internationally. For this reason we welcome negotiators from the TPP economies who are meeting in Auckland this week and we commend them for their efforts to conclude a future agreement which should bring benefits for all member economies.**

We are conscious that TPP is a work in progress and that judgement about the final outcome needs to be withheld until negotiators have finished their work. Our aim in writing is to endorse the effort now underway and to outline our conviction that this effort should continue in the interests of building a more prosperous and sustainable Asia Pacific region and of ensuring that business can play its full part in the region's continuing recovery and future economic growth.

We are aware that the negotiation poses challenges for New Zealand policy settings in a number of areas. The same is true for other participating economies. We know the negotiation is complex. We have confidence that Trade Minister Groser and his officials will seek solutions which meet New Zealand's national interests. We note that the treaty ratification process requires there to be consultation on the negotiated outcome before its adoption by Parliament.

We see great advantages for New Zealand arising from a future agreement that is high quality, comprehensive and ambitious, one that eliminates trade barriers, lowers the cost of doing business and makes improvements to the way regional supply chains can link producers and consumers in the region. In particular we see value from an effort to create an agreement which meets business and wider needs and reflects the way business is being done today and will be done in the future. This will assist economic growth and job creation in New Zealand.

We stand ready to assist negotiators in this effort and to participate with other members of civil society in a dialogue about how TPP can contribute to what is best for our country, its people and the people of the wider region to which we belong.



Rt Hon James Bolger, ONZ  
Chairman, NZ US Council



Graeme Harrison, KNZM  
Chairman, NZ International Business Forum

[www.tradeworks.org.nz](http://www.tradeworks.org.nz)



## FOR AND ON BEHALF OF:

**Mark Adamson**  
Chief Executive  
Fletcher Building Limited

**Malcolm Bailey**  
Chairman, Dairy Companies  
Association of New Zealand

**Michael Barnett**  
Chief Executive  
Auckland Regional Chamber  
of Commerce and Industry

**Eric Barratt**  
Chair, Seafood New Zealand  
Managing Director,  
Sandford Limited

**Catherine Beard**  
Executive Director  
Manufacturing New Zealand  
and Export New Zealand

**Frances Benge**  
Head of Primary Care & Country  
Lead/Managing Director  
Pfizer New Zealand Ltd

**Wayne Boyd**  
Member  
ABAC New Zealand

**Kim Campbell**  
Chief Executive  
Employers and Manufacturers  
Northern

**Scott Champion**  
Chief Executive  
Beef + Lamb New Zealand

**Barbara Chapman**  
Chief Executive  
ASB Bank Limited

**Peter Clark**  
Chief Executive  
PF Olsen Limited

**Mark Clarkson**  
Managing Director  
ANZCO Foods

**Keith Cooper**  
Chief Executive  
Silver Fern Farms

**Erica Crawford**  
President, Canada New Zealand  
Business Association  
Managing Director,  
Loveblock Vintners

**Grant Cuff**  
Chief Executive  
Alliance Group Ltd

**Peter Davie**  
President  
Canterbury Employers'  
Chamber of Commerce

**Michael Daniell**  
Chief Executive Officer  
Fisher & Paykel Healthcare  
Corporation Limited

**Doug Ducker**  
Chairman  
Wood Council of New Zealand

**Tony Egan**  
Managing Director  
Greenlea Premier Meats

**W J Falconer**  
Chairman  
Meat Industry Association  
of New Zealand

**Sir William Gallagher**  
Chairman/Chief Executive  
Gallagher Group

**Philip Gregan**  
Chief Executive  
NZ Winegrowers

**Geoff Hipkins**  
Chief Executive Officer  
Turners & Growers Ltd

**Murray Jack**  
Chairman  
Deloitte

**Stephen Jacobi**  
Executive Director  
NZ US Council and  
NZ International  
Business Forum

**Lain Jager**  
Chief Executive  
Zespri International Limited

**Te Horipo Karaitiana**  
Chief Executive  
Federation of Maori Authorities

**Brian Lynch**  
Chairman  
NZ Horticulture Export Authority

**Ian McCrae**  
Chief Executive  
Orion Health

**Sir Peter Maire**  
Chairman  
Fusion Transactive

**Tony Nowell**  
Chairman  
Wellington Drive Technologies  
ABAC Regional Economic  
Integration Working Group

**Matt O'Regan**  
Chairman  
Westland Milk Products

**Phil O'Reilly**  
Chief Executive  
BusinessNZ

**Frank Owen**  
Chief Executive Officer  
Tait Communications

**Mike Petersen**  
Chairman  
Beef + Lamb New Zealand

**Rod Quin**  
Chief Executive  
Westland Milk Products

**Maxine Simmons**  
Member  
ABAC New Zealand

**Paul Smith**  
Director  
New Zealand  
Merck Sharp & Dohme  
(New Zealand) Limited

**Theo Spierings**  
Chief Executive  
Fonterra Co-operative Group

**Brian Stanley**  
Chairman  
Wood Processors Association  
of New Zealand

**Joe Stanton**  
CEO/President  
Constellation Brands  
New Zealand Limited

**Sir Ken Stevens**  
Chairman  
Export New Zealand  
and Glidepath Group

**Graham Stuart**  
Chief Executive  
Sealord Products Ltd

**Stephen Titter**  
President  
American Chamber  
of Commerce in  
New Zealand Inc

**Peter Townsend**  
Chief Executive  
Canterbury Employers'  
Chamber of Commerce

**Sir Henry van der Heyden**  
Chairman  
Fonterra Co-operative Group

**Sir James Wallace**  
Chairman  
Wallace Corporation

**Harvey Weake**  
Chief Executive  
Methanex NZ Ltd