

Cha-am, Petchaburi, Thailand
27 February 2009

Lim Hng Kiang
Minister for Trade and Industry,
Singapore

Dear Minister

I refer to the New Zealand-Singapore Closer Economic Partnership Agreement (NZSCEP) done at Singapore on 14 November 2000, the Trans-Pacific Strategic Economic Partnership Agreement (Trans-Pacific SEP) that entered into force on 28 May 2006 and to the Agreement Establishing the ASEAN – Australia - New Zealand Free Trade Area (AANZFTA) done at Cha-am on 27 February 2009 ('the Agreements'). 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 the AANZFTA:

Nothing in the AANZFTA will derogate from the rights and obligations of New Zealand or Singapore under the NZSCEP or the Trans-Pacific SEP. To the greatest extent possible the Agreements will be interpreted consistently. Where either the AANZFTA, NZSCEP or the Trans-Pacific SEP 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 more favourable of the treatment accorded to that exporter, service supplier or investor under that Agreement.

I have the 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 AANZFTA, NZSCEP and the Trans-Pacific SEP.

Yours sincerely

Hon Tim Groser
Minister of Trade
New Zealand

Cha-am, Petchaburi, Thailand
27 February 2009

Hon Tim Groser
Minister of Trade
New Zealand

Dear Minister

I refer to the New Zealand-Singapore Closer Economic Partnership Agreement (NZSCEP) done at Singapore on 14 November 2000, the Trans-Pacific Strategic Economic Partnership Agreement (Trans-Pacific SEP) that entered into force on 28 May 2006 and to the Agreement Establishing the ASEAN - Australia - New Zealand Free Trade Area (AANZFTA) done at Cha-am on 27 February 2009 ('the Agreements'), and your letter of 27 February 2009 which reads:

"I refer to the New Zealand-Singapore Closer Economic Partnership Agreement (NZSCEP) done at Singapore on 14 November 2000, the Trans-Pacific Strategic Economic Partnership Agreement (Trans-Pacific SEP) that entered into force on 28 May 2006 and to the Agreement Establishing the ASEAN - Australia -New Zealand Free Trade Area (AANZFTA) done at Cha-am on 27 February 2009 ('the Agreements'). 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 the AANZFTA:

Nothing in the AANZFTA will derogate from the rights and obligations of New Zealand or Singapore under the NZSCEP or the Trans-Pacific SEP. To the greatest extent possible the Agreements will be interpreted consistently. Where either the AANZFTA, NZSCEP or the Trans-Pacific SEP 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 more favourable of the treatment accorded to that exporter, service supplier or investor under that Agreement.

I have the 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 AANZFTA, NZSCEP and the Trans-Pacific SEP".

I have the honour to confirm that your letter and this confirmatory letter in reply constitute the understandings between our two Governments on the interpretation of the AANZFTA, NZSCEP and the Trans-Pacific SEP.

Yours sincerely

Lim Hng Kiang
Minister for Trade and Industry,
Singapore