

**THE EUROPEAN UNION
AND
NEW ZEALAND**

**2007 JOINT DECLARATION
ON
RELATIONS AND COOPERATION**

Achievements in the first two years



European Union



THE EUROPEAN UNION



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INTRODUCTION TO EUROPEAN UNION-NEW ZEALAND RELATIONS

New Zealand has strong historical and traditional links with Europe. Over 60% of New Zealanders identified themselves with European ethnicity in the 2006 Census.

The Joint Declaration on Relations and Cooperation between the European Union and New Zealand, which was adopted on 21 September 2007, is the basis of the bilateral relationship. The agreement highlights both parties' commitment to strengthen further their relationship across a broad range of fields.



European Commissioner for External Relations Benita Ferrero-Waldner during her visit to New Zealand, June 2007.

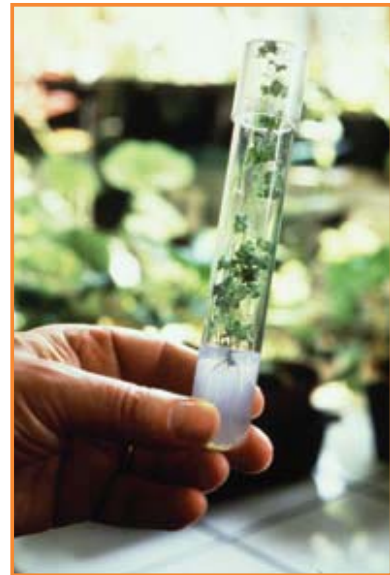
The European Union (EU) and New Zealand have a number of common goals. Both support democracy, the rule of law and human rights as well as multilateral organisations such as the United Nations (UN) and the World Trade Organisation (WTO).

They also have shared interests in tackling key global challenges such as climate change, sustainable development and preserving the environment.

They have both committed themselves to working closely together with the aim of promoting peace, stability and prosperity in the Asia-Pacific region. In particular, they have a shared interest in maintaining strong relationships with the countries of the Pacific.

Both countries support moves towards regional integration in South East Asia and actively participate in the annual ASEAN Regional Forum to promote constructive dialogue on matters of concern in Asia-Pacific region.

The EU and New Zealand have a strong relationship in research, science and technology guided by their new Scientific and Technological Cooperation Agreement, which entered into force in January 2009.



The EU and New Zealand have negotiated a number of agreements, which are designed to facilitate access to each other's markets and reduce exporters' costs. Notable examples include agreements on veterinary standards, horizontal air transport and mutual recognition of standards and certification.

The EU is an important economic partner for New Zealand. It accounts for around 17% of New Zealand's total two way trade in goods, making it New Zealand's second largest trading partner after Australia. The EU takes some 15% of New Zealand's total exports valued at NZ\$5.8 billion (July 2009).



Tourism is New Zealand's single largest export industry, exceeding the dairy industry in earnings. EU citizens are an important source of New Zealand's income from tourism. The number of visitor arrivals from Europe in the year ending July 2009 totalled almost half a million, a fifth of all visitor arrivals to New Zealand.

BACKGROUND TO THE 2007 EUROPEAN UNION-NEW ZEALAND JOINT DECLARATION

The 2007 Joint Declaration on Relations and Cooperation is the overarching political agreement between the EU and New Zealand. It governs and directs activity between the two partners. It begins by saying what the EU and New Zealand have in common and – because of this commonality – the two agree to work together on specific areas.

The 2007 Joint Declaration is the most recent in a string of agreements between Europe and New Zealand, dating back to 1961 when a New Zealand Ambassador was first accredited to the European Communities. Since then, with each agreement, relations between the EU and New Zealand have strengthened and deepened. Early agreements were in specific products, like sheep meat (1980). Agreements since have broadened to areas, like research, science and technology (first in 1991) and trade in live animals (1997).

The European Commission (EC) Head of Delegation in Canberra has been accredited to New Zealand since 1984. In 1999, the first Joint Declaration between the EU and New Zealand was signed. This paved the way for closer cooperation on a broad range of issues.

In 2004, this was refreshed through an Action Plan, which specified areas of joint cooperation. The same year, the EC opened a Delegation in Wellington under the stewardship of a Chargé d’Affaires a.i., an important step forward in the relationship.

The present Joint Declaration, signed in 2007, is the most broad and deep agreement between the EU and New Zealand yet. In breadth, it stretches across 11 themes. Within them, it lists actions to implement over an estimated five years.

This brochure gives the text of the agreement and shows the good progress that has been made in the implementation of the Joint Declaration so far.

TEXT OF THE JOINT DECLARATION ON RELATIONS AND COOPERATION BETWEEN THE EUROPEAN UNION AND NEW ZEALAND, AND PROGRESS MADE SO FAR

The European Union and New Zealand (“the Participants”),

- guided by their close historical, political, economic and cultural connections,
- encouraged by their shared commitment to human rights, fundamental freedoms, civil liberties and democracy,
- recognising the strong links that already exist,
- committed to addressing international conflicts in view of preserving or restoring peace and security,
- wishing to enhance consultations on bilateral and international issues of mutual interest, and to increase practical cooperation in areas of mutual interest,
- having regard to their common commitment to free and open market principles and the strengthening of the multilateral trading system in accordance with the aims and principles of the WTO, and the development of a healthy and prosperous world economy,
- taking account of the ‘Joint Declaration on Relations between New Zealand and the European Union’ of 1999 and the ‘New Zealand and the European Union: priorities for future cooperation’ document of 2004,
- having regard to the Participants’ support for the protection and promotion of diversity of cultural expressions,
- recalling existing Agreements between the Participants

have decided to consolidate as well as to broaden and deepen the overall framework of their relationship with a view to extending the already established cooperation further into the future.

Common goals

The Participants reaffirm their intention to further strengthen their partnership, in particular by working together to:

- support democracy, the rule of law and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, within their own societies and internationally;
- support the maintenance of international peace and security, including through peace support operations;
- support the role of the United Nations and promote its effectiveness;
- support international efforts in non-proliferation, disarmament and arms control, and counter-terrorism;
- cooperate on development and governance issues, in particular in relation to countries in the South Pacific;
- promote free market principles for trade in goods and services and for investment, reject protectionism and work to expand and further strengthen the multilateral trading system within the WTO framework;
- promote sustainable development and the protection of the global environment including in particular the need to address the issue of climate change;
- encourage innovation, increased productivity and competitiveness;
- foster mutual knowledge and understanding between their peoples and of their cultures.



Former New Zealand Foreign Minister Winston Peters and Portuguese Foreign Minister Luís Amado at the Joint Declaration's adoption, Lisbon, September 2007.

The existing basis for cooperation

- 1.** The Participants had laid down priority areas for cooperation in the 'Joint Declaration on Relations between New Zealand and the European Union' of 1999. A joint statement, 'New Zealand and the European Union: priorities for future cooperation', also referred to as the European Union-New Zealand Action Plan, was made in 2004.
- 2.** The Action Plan included a programme of consultation and cooperation across a range of areas that has since been carried out effectively. Consultations at ministerial and senior official level have provided regular opportunities to exchange views, raise issues of concern, and explore scope for enhanced cooperation. The Agreement on mutual recognition in relation to conformity assessment between the Participants (MRA) and the Agreement between the European Community and New Zealand on sanitary measures applicable to trade in live animals and animal products were signed respectively in June 1998 and December 1996 and entered into effect respectively in 1999 and 2003. Areas of longstanding cooperation include science and technology, education, development cooperation and human rights.
- 3.** This new Declaration builds on the Joint Declaration and the substantive achievements under the Action Plan. It includes further specific, practical proposals for cooperation and for strengthening the framework of the relationship.
- 4.** The Participants resolve to promote and strengthen their relationship in the following areas:



New Zealand Foreign Minister
Murray McCully and EU High
Representative Javier Solana
at the EU-New Zealand
Ministerial meeting, May 2009.

High level contacts

5. In today's increasingly volatile and complex international environment, the value of dialogue and the exchange of information cannot be underestimated. Both Participants welcome the existing twice-yearly bilateral Ministerial Troika consultations. Moreover, regular contacts also take place between the President of the Commission, the European Union High Representative and the New Zealand Prime Minister. The participants also note the regular dialogue between the New Zealand Parliament and the European Parliament.



European Commissioner for External Relations Benita Ferrero-Waldner and New Zealand Foreign Minister Murray McCully at the EU-New Zealand Ministerial meeting, May 2009.

PROGRESS SO FAR

Meetings are held twice a year at ministerial level to follow up and implement the Joint Declaration and to further cooperation between the EU and New Zealand. These **Ministerial meetings** are attended by the New Zealand Foreign Minister and a troika from the EU – representatives from the EU Presidency, the European Commission and the Council Secretariat. The first EU-New Zealand Ministerial meeting of the current New Zealand Government was held in Brussels in May 2009.

In principle, Members of both the **European Parliament and New Zealand Parliament** visit each other on alternate years – in 2007 New Zealand MPs went to Brussels; in 2008 MEPs came to New Zealand.

6. Both Participants expect these exchanges to continue on a regular basis. Opportunities will be sought for further dialogue through bilateral visits at Ministerial and Commissioner level and in the margins of international meetings. This will be supplemented with regular information exchange through diplomatic missions and in other fora.

PROGRESS SO FAR

Annual EU-New Zealand **Senior Officials Meetings** alternate between Brussels and Wellington. Brussels hosted the meeting in 2008. In 2009, discussions were held in New Zealand between European Commission External Relations officials and senior members of the New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT).

The **Delegation of the European Commission to New Zealand** regularly works with the MFAT and other New Zealand Ministries to advance Joint Declaration implementation. Similarly, the New Zealand Mission accredited to the European Communities in Brussels has daily contact with its European counterparts.



European Commission External Relations Director Alan Seatter and New Zealand MFAT Deputy Secretary Peter Hamilton during the EU-New Zealand Senior Officials Meeting in Wellington, April 2009.

Global and regional security, counter-terrorism and human rights

7. The Participants share the objective of promoting global peace and security through multilateral cooperation and respect for international law. We jointly support the central role of the United Nations and the work of other multinational institutions and regimes. We appreciate each other's efforts to mediate in difficult international and regional situations and give priority to resolving conflict by peaceful means.

8. The Participants will identify opportunities for closer dialogue and cooperation between the Participants on counter-terrorism. We are both committed to the ratification and implementation of all UN counter-terrorism conventions and protocols, as well as to the implementation of all relevant UN Security Council Resolutions, including UNSCR 1373 (2001), and of the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Strategy. The Participants stand ready to assist third countries in meeting their international counter-terrorism obligations.



Effective measures to counter terrorism and the protection of human rights are complementary and mutually reinforcing goals. We are committed to reducing the threat posed by terrorism and to addressing conditions that may be conducive to its spread. We support initiatives contributing to greater tolerance and understanding, including dialogue, between cultures, faiths and civilisations.

PROGRESS SO FAR

New Zealand and the European Union share common goals of defending human rights, pursuing democracy and good international citizenship. Examples of cooperation are the **UN human rights resolutions** on Belarus, North Korea and Myanmar in 2007 and 2008, which were endorsed by both New Zealand and the EU. In 2009, New Zealand supported the EU's resolution on Sudan at the UN.

9. To be fully effective in their efforts, the Participants have taken concrete action and cooperated closely on the ground, for example through New Zealand's recently completed participation in the European Union-led stabilisation force in Bosnia-Herzegovina and through New Zealand participation in the EUPOL mission in Afghanistan. Both Participants will look to continue this practice of close, practical cooperation in similar crisis management and post- conflict stabilisation activities.

PROGRESS SO FAR

New Zealand is among four non-EU countries contributing to the **EUPOL Mission in Afghanistan**. In 2009, its contribution was increased to five police officers.

10. Respect for human rights and the rule of law are crucial in the promotion of peace and security. The Participants are both determined to work cooperatively for the protection and promotion of international human rights, as embodied in the Universal Declaration on Human Rights as well as in the core human rights conventions and their protocols. The Participants will continue annual consultations in troika format on international human rights issues, and will closely cooperate in international human rights fora, including the Human Rights Council.



PROGRESS SO FAR

Annual human rights consultations between the EU and New Zealand were held in Brussels in 2008 and 2009. The consultations enable the EU and New Zealand to discuss a wide range of issues on matters of common concern and to coordinate their position at the United Nations.

11. The Participants share a common interest in supporting democracy, accountable governance and rule of law as a fundamental contribution to peace and security. Where possible they will work together to achieve this common interest.

12. The stability and prosperity of the Asia-Pacific region is a priority for both Participants and is therefore a significant focus of political and security dialogues. We share the concern that some countries in the Pacific face particular challenges in these areas and we will work together to address this.

13. The Participants value their good cooperation as like-minded partners in the ASEAN Regional Forum and will continue their joint efforts to further strengthen the ARF as a regional forum for dialogue and cooperation in the Asia-Pacific, including through developing its preventive diplomacy role. The Participants will continue exchanges through diplomatic channels on their respective cooperation with countries in the region, including ASEAN.

14. The Participants welcome the regular dialogue at ministerial and official levels on these issues and will hold informal senior officials' consultations on Common Foreign and Security Policy issues with appropriate EU interlocutors.

PROGRESS SO FAR

In 2009, the European Commission co-funded a conference on **disarmament** with New Zealand and Norway in Vanuatu.

In 2008, New Zealand organised the **Asia-Pacific Regional Media Programme**, which was held in Jakarta, Indonesia, co-financed by European Union and Norway. The conference gathered around 60 people – mostly top editors and freelance writers from across the Asia-Pacific region – for three days to discuss the role of journalism in the relationship between different cultures, religions and civilisations.

Movement of people

15. The incorporation of the Schengen Agreement into EC law has the potential to cut across the visa-free arrangements New Zealand has with all current European Union members, which permit New Zealanders to spend up to three months visa-free in each member state. The European Union recognises the difficulties this could pose for travelling New Zealanders. The Commission confirms that the bilateral agreements that New Zealand has with Member States are in force and will remain so until new concrete actions are taken and enter into force to replace them. The Commission will consult fully with New Zealand with respect to any developments that could have implications for these bilateral agreements and work to reach a solution, based on reciprocity.



16. Also of importance in terms of mutual understanding are the reciprocal arrangements that enable young people to visit other countries for up to a year and take up work and study options while doing so – known as working holiday schemes. The visits that take place under these schemes represent a significant investment for the future. New Zealand now has such arrangements with thirteen European Union member states and is working actively to conclude a number of others in accordance with national legislation and particularities.

PROGRESS SO FAR

Visa-free access bilateral agreements between certain EU Member States and New Zealand continue to be in force.

In 2009, a new reciprocal **working holiday scheme** was signed between New Zealand and Spain enabling up to 200 New Zealanders to live in Spain for a year and to work for up to six months. New Zealand has working holiday schemes with 14 other EU countries as well.

Development cooperation

17. The Participants recognise that development and security are inter-dependent and that the elimination of poverty is hence critical to decreasing global and regional insecurity. In this light, both Participants' development assistance programmes contribute towards the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and by the same token to a more stable, peaceful and prosperous world.

18. The Participants underscore that democracy, human rights, good governance and the rule of law are of prime importance for achieving sustainable development and call on all donors to support improved standards of public administration in recipient countries. In designing and implementing their respective development programmes, both Participants recognise the importance of cooperation between donors of development assistance.

19. Addressing the development challenges in the Pacific region remains the focus of the New Zealand – European Union dialogue in this field. Both Participants recognise also the need for engagement with the Pacific island states if they are to address the unique challenges they face and to achieve, by the shared efforts of donor and recipient countries, greater stability and development in the region

consistent with the objectives of the region's own Pacific Plan. The Participants therefore welcomed in mid-2006 the launch of a new European Union strategy for the Pacific and the announcement of continued European Union financial support for sustainable development in the Pacific. Both Participants welcome the increased frequency of consultations on development cooperation since 2004, including through visits by senior European Union representatives to the region, and collaboration on selected projects within the Pacific region. Moreover, New Zealand welcomes the declared intention of the European Union to upgrade its political dialogue with the Pacific Island Forum countries.



New Zealand MFAT Deputy Secretary Chris Seed and Stefano Manservigi, European Commission Director-General for Development and Relations with African, Caribbean and Pacific States at the Pacific Islands Forum, August 2009.

20. The Participants accordingly resolve to maintain their regular bilateral dialogue in relation to development and trade issues and to broaden this exchange of views to encompass wider issues relevant to the stability of the region, including environmental sustainability and the threats posed to regional security by political instability, crime or terrorism.

21. Given their mutual desire to work together in development cooperation, both Participants envisage regular and broad ranging discussions and further exchange of information on Pacific issues. Periodic consultation in Wellington and Brussels, as well as in the field, will focus on ensuring both Participants are meeting their commitments under the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness. They aim to look for opportunities to maximise donor harmonisation and promote complementarity and appropriate division of labour, work within sector-wide approaches and to align with Pacific countries' priorities, systems and processes in our exchanges. Both Participants will also seek to identify further areas for both policy and practical collaboration for poverty reduction in the Pacific region.

PROGRESS SO FAR

In 2008, an inaugural **trilateral meeting** was held in Canberra between the EU, Australia and New Zealand on cooperation in the Pacific. Together the three partners aim to promote stability and practical, meaningful development in the region. The latest trilateral was held in Wellington, New Zealand in October 2009, covering such areas as Samoa's tsunami, budget support and Aid for Trade.

The EU and New Zealand worked together to achieve the **EU-Pacific Islands Forum Climate Change Declaration** and continue to assist the Pacific Islands Forum to achieve its goals.

The EU and New Zealand are working closely together to encourage **Fiji's return to democracy**.

Trade and economic cooperation

22. The trade and economic links between the Participants are fundamental to the sound relationship overall. The European Union is currently New Zealand's second largest trading partner; New Zealand ranks 50th in the European Union's external trade. Bilateral trade is expanding and the flows of goods and services are underpinned by important bilateral agreements, including the Agreement on mutual recognition in relation to conformity assessment between the European Community and New Zealand and the Agreement between the European Community and New Zealand on sanitary measures applicable to trade in live animals and animal products.



New Zealand Trade Minister Tim Groser and European Commissioner for Agriculture Mariann Fischer Boel. at the International Food and Agriculture Trade Policy Council Seminar, May 2009.

23. The Participants will keep under review the possibility of negotiating a broader framework for trade and economic relations in the future. As part of building our trade and economic linkages, both Participants will also continue to look for areas of economic policy in which, due to their mutual interests and priorities, both would benefit from exchanging views and identifying areas of practical cooperation. This could include options to promote investment, possible improvements in the bilateral investment environment and developments in regulatory and competition policy approaches.

24. Both Participants will continue to deepen cooperation and to explore opportunities to facilitate trade through the conclusion of new agreements where these can enhance the value of existing arrangements. One proposed area of enhanced cooperation is the wine sector, where the parties will re-examine the merits of re-opening negotiations for a bilateral wine agreement, and the right moment for doing so. Both Participants will also investigate the benefits of a Customs Cooperation Agreement.

PROGRESS SO FAR

Both the EU and New Zealand recognise the benefits of a **Customs Cooperation Agreement** and are working towards being in a position to start negotiations.

25. Consistent with efforts to enhance trade, the Participants will also continue negotiations on amendments to the existing Agreement on mutual recognition in relation to conformity assessment between the Participants to improve its efficiency and effectiveness. Further, the Participants will investigate the feasibility and potential benefits of extending the scope of their co-operation on technical regulations, standards and conformity assessment. In addition, both Participants should seek to explore other ways to enhance regulatory co-ordination between them in the context of global regulatory developments, with a view to reducing transaction costs for businesses and further facilitating trade.

PROGRESS SO FAR

An updated **Mutual Recognition Agreement** between the EU and New Zealand was initialled in 2009.

PROGRESS SO FAR

The **Joint Management Committee (JMC)** between the two sides met at Akaroa, New Zealand in 2009 to continue implementing the 1997 Veterinary Agreement. The JMC works towards easing two-way trade by agreeing health management controls and ensures that each party's level of protection is maintained. As an example of this strong cooperation, general import rules for unpasteurised cheeses to be exported from the EU to New Zealand were established in 2009.

The Joint Declaration has also encouraged the EC and New Zealand to establish an **animal welfare forum** to improve standards in the mutual treatment of animals.

26. The Participants underline the importance of maintaining the integrity of their trading relationship, consistent with multilateral principles, and to resolving any bilateral concerns constructively. In this context, the annual Agricultural Trade Talks are an important vehicle for ensuring views on key bilateral and global issues relating to agricultural trade are exchanged at a senior level. However, there are many issues of common interest – services and non-agricultural goods, and strengthening of multilateral rules – that are not appropriately addressed in this forum. From 2007, these will be addressed during annual trade talks, to be held as far as possible alternately in Brussels and Wellington.

PROGRESS SO FAR

Both the EU and New Zealand are believers in the importance and value of free trade and the need to find ways of increasing two-way commerce. Consequently, the EU and New Zealand inaugurated their first annual **trade talks** in 2007. They were held again in 2008. Subjects have included the Doha Development Agenda, each partner's own bilateral trade policies and strengthening EU-New Zealand bilateral trade relations.

Agriculture talks continue to be held annually, discussing the current EU-New Zealand trade relationship, exchanging views on respective agriculture policies and sharing responses to common agricultural issues.

27. The Participants recognise the importance of the private sector dynamic in developing and expanding markets and, to that end, will continue to encourage the establishment and expansion of business relations. Both Participants welcome the establishment of the New Zealand-Europe Business Council (NZEBC), formed with the aim of fostering good trade relations between Europe and New Zealand. The Participants will look to facilitate regular visits to Europe by leading New Zealand business representatives and vice versa.



Peter Kiely and Monique Surges. past and present Presidents of the New Zealand-Europe Business Council.

PROGRESS SO FAR

Incorporated in 2005, the **New Zealand – Europe Business Council** is an umbrella organisation that brings together the many and varied interests of those involved in the major New Zealand-Europe bilateral trade. It provides a forum for the coordination of activities of various business councils and associations, trade organisations, diplomatic missions and consular representatives from European countries. 22 European countries are represented in the Council, which is based in Auckland.

28. The Participants will continue to work closely together in the World Trade Organisation (WTO) to further strengthen the multilateral trading system by achieving the ambitious, balanced and global objectives agreed in the Doha Development Agenda (DDA). Their priorities and positions may differ in some areas, but both Participants will take a constructive approach.

PROGRESS SO FAR

New Zealand and the EU maintain regular contacts to encourage an ambitious and comprehensive deal within the context of the **Doha Development Agenda** at the World Trade Organisation.

Science, technology and innovation

29. The development of a strong science and technology relationship with the European Union is of great value to New Zealand in view of the resources committed to scientific research in Europe and the priority which the European Union and its Member States, like New Zealand, have attached to the development of a competitive economy, with science and education being among the major drivers for growth. New Zealand's longstanding research strength in selected fields can also add value to activities within the European Union.

30. The steps taken in recent years to foster increased cooperation have included the appointment of a Science Counsellor to the New Zealand Mission in Brussels to work with the Commission and Member States in enhancing science links; the creation of a jointly funded promotion platform (FRENZ) to ensure that information about opportunities for scientific collaboration is disseminated within New Zealand; and an expanded programme of visits by officials as part of sharing information about opportunities for cooperative activities.



31. In recognition of the growing level of cooperation, both Participants have decided to engage towards a substantial Science & Technology Cooperation Agreement as a way to reinforce the cooperation started under the 1991 Science and Technology Cooperation Arrangement between the European Commission and New Zealand, and are starting preparatory talks to that effect. Both Participants anticipate that a significant benefit will be derived from the Joint Science and Technology Committee meetings that will then be regularly organised and will endeavour to hold such meetings every one to two years according to the need, alternating between Brussels and Wellington.

32. Both Participants have decided to continue to work together to maximise the opportunities for participation in each other's science-related activities. They recognise that cooperation under the Sixth Framework Programme for Research and Development (FP6) has increased significantly and could be further enhanced under the Seventh Framework Programme for Research and Development (FP7) that just started for a seven-year period from 2007 to 2013.



New Zealand's Ambassador to the EU Peter Kennedy, Minister for Higher Education and Research Valérie Pécresse (on behalf of the then French EU Presidency), and European Commissioner in charge of Science and Research Janez Potočnik sign an Agreement on Scientific and Technological Cooperation, July 2008.

33. Both Participants will develop initiatives to enhance researcher's mobility between them, and to pursue their ongoing efforts to identify areas and topics of common interest in which to promote additional cooperation actions. They have also decided to provide support for FRENZ or its equivalent.



PROGRESS SO FAR

FRENZ (Facilitating Research cooperation between Europe and New Zealand) is an initiative co-funded by the European Commission and the New Zealand Ministry of Research, Science and Technology. It seeks to facilitate scientific cooperation in three ways:

1. Improve the process of providing information on programmes and funding designed to promote cooperation between Europe and New Zealand
2. Better identify and demonstrate mutual interest and benefit in Science and Technology cooperation between the EU and New Zealand
3. Share best practices via joint fora such as workshops and presenting the state of the art and the prospects for cooperation in particular fields.

continued overleaf

The increased emphasis on EU and New Zealand scientific cooperation – most visible in FRENZ– has seen a dramatic jump in New Zealand's participation in the **Seventh Framework Programme (FP7)**, the EU's scientific research and funding programme. The number and success of New Zealand projects has already more than doubled in the time that FP7 has been running – and it is only half way into its term.

In June 2009, EC and New Zealand senior officials had their first Joint Committee following the prompt signature of the **Scientific and Technological Cooperation Agreement** that entered into force in January 2009. As a result, cooperation is being further enhanced and reinforced in diverse areas, such as movement and exchanges of scientists and researchers; Food, Agriculture and Fisheries, and Biotechnology; and Information and Communication Technologies.

Specifically, three new instruments have been selected for funding to commence by end 2009:

- **ACCESS4EU** identifies opportunities for the participation of legal entities based in the EU Member States and Associated Countries in New Zealand research and innovation programmes;
- **INCONET** Pacific assists the joint identification of topics for collaboration at regional level in Pacific and Overseas Countries and Territories of EU Member States.
- **EURASIAPAC** aims to connect people working in ICT in Europe and Asia-Pacific.

The Scientific & Technological Cooperation Agreement has opened the door for New Zealand to enjoy success in the European Commission's new programme, **IRSES** – International Research Staff Exchange Scheme. In 2008, six New Zealand proposals were accepted within IRSES – 10% of all approved proposals worldwide. A further four (out of six) proposals were accepted for the 2009 call.

FRENZ has also begun a project called **Diaspora**, to gauge existing Europe-New Zealand research collaboration; to achieve a better understanding of both the number and motivations for researcher mobility; and to identify further opportunities for cooperation in areas of mutual interest.

In the last twelve months, New Zealand has received in excess of €1 million (more than NZ\$2 million) from the EU for science, technology and innovation funding.

Education and professional exchanges

34. The Participants welcome the enhanced linkages between New Zealand and European educational institutions since 2004. Both Participants will maintain education policy consultations at the senior officials' level and encourage contact between education experts in areas of mutual interest. In this respect, the presence of a New Zealand Education Counsellor in Brussels since February 2006 is highly appreciated by both Participants



35. The Participants will encourage relevant quality assurance bodies to discuss and promote alignment between New Zealand quality assurance processes and degree structures and the Bologna process and the European Qualifications Framework. The Participants are pleased that New Zealand's request to accede to the Lisbon Convention on the recognition of qualifications was unanimously approved on 19 June 2007.

PROGRESS SO FAR

Erasmus Mundus is a scholarship programme open to New Zealand students of exceptional quality to attend Masters courses at two or more European universities. For the 2009/10 academic year, 11 New Zealanders were awarded Erasmus Mundus scholarships to study throughout Europe.

The accession of New Zealand to the **Lisbon Convention** in February 2008 means that New Zealand qualifications are now recognised throughout Europe – expanding the employment and study opportunities for New Zealanders there. So far, there have been two joint **academic mobility projects** funded, involving 12 European and New Zealand institutions and over 150 student exchanges.

The European Commission was pleased to announce it was awarding three new **Jean Monnet** grants for New Zealand in 2009. These follow a total of four Jean Monnet grants in 2007 and 2008.

A study tour for **New Zealand tertiary education leaders** to promote Europe as a centre of excellence in learning and to foster collaborative opportunities has been organised for February 2010. In the last 12 months, New Zealand has received in excess of €1.1 million (more than NZ\$2.2 million) from the EU for tertiary funding.

36. Greater New Zealand participation in European Union funded programmes for student and academic scholarships, and collaboration with New Zealand institutions in developing and maintaining active partnerships will see mobility increase over time. In this context, the Participants welcome the successful start of co-operation in higher education, enabling students to complete masters' degrees jointly in New Zealand and European Union universities. Decisions on further pilot projects will be taken following a review of the first project. The Participants will look into funding further pilot projects and entering into a structured policy-oriented dialogue on issues of common interest. Particular attention will also be given to the exchange of teaching staff at vocational and training institutions.

37. Staff and student exchanges under the auspices of the European Union Centres Network (EUCN) are an important part of the academic connections between New Zealand and Europe. Both Participants recognise and support the contribution made by the Network, with the support of the Commission, to promoting interest and expertise in the European Union within New Zealand. Both Participants will explore other opportunities to promote student and academic mobility and to deepen links between European and New Zealand counterparts.



Minister of Education, Hon Anne Tolley, launching EU teaching resources for the New Zealand school curriculum, August 2009.

PROGRESS SO FAR

In order to stimulate learning about the EU in New Zealand, the New Zealand Ministry of Education, the European Union Centres Network and the Delegation of the European Commission to New Zealand have created the first in a series of **teaching resources on the EU for the New Zealand school curriculum**. The resources will facilitate learning about the EU in history, economics and geography. For details, please visit:

http://www.eucnetwork.org.nz/resources/secondary_school/index.html

Environment and climate change

38. Given the range of their common interests, the Participants will endeavour to step up exchanges and investigate opportunities for enhanced cooperation on issues of mutual interest, for example sustainable and renewable energy, tackling climate change, chemical and waste management, biodiversity and nature conservation, water and marine issues.

39. Key environmental concerns such as climate change and the drive to decarbonise energy while maintaining energy security can be addressed most effectively on a global basis. Discussions and subject-specific visits have led to an enhanced appreciation of shared objectives and recognition of the value of enhanced cooperation. Both Participants share the view that careful analysis is required of the precise nature of environmental concerns and the most appropriate remedies given national circumstances, and consider the early sharing of perspectives is desirable and will be encouraged.



40. According to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), global emissions of greenhouse gases (GHGs) have to be reduced to very low levels, well below half of levels in 2000 by the middle of the 21st century, in order to stabilise their concentrations at the lowest levels assessed by the IPCC to date in its scenarios. The lower the stabilisation level achieved, the lower the consequent damage. The Participants share similar ambitions for strong and early global action to tackle climate change and to develop and implement practical and cost-effective mechanisms to do so, which take into account differing national circumstances and capabilities. Both Participants also identify the need to broaden participation in international action so that all major GHG emitters are included.

41. The Participants further share the view that negotiations on a comprehensive post-2012 framework, building upon the best features of the current international arrangements we have, including the Kyoto Protocol and providing a fair and flexible framework for the widest possible participation, need to be launched at the UN international climate conference at the end of 2007. Both Participants share the view that market-based mechanisms such as emissions trading offer economically efficient means of reducing emissions, and that such mechanisms should remain an essential element of the post-2012 framework.

42. On climate change, the Participants will enhance cooperation including through sharing perspectives on the use of market based instruments, such as emissions trading, increasing energy efficiency and renewable energy use, and on addressing greenhouse gas emissions from relevant key sectors, including transport, agriculture and forestry.



Prof. Martin Manning (Victoria University of Wellington), HE Bruno Julien (previous EC Ambassador to Australia and New Zealand), Dr Lavanya Rajamani (Centre for Policy Research, New Dehli) and Dr Malte Meinshausen (Potsdam Institute for Climate Change) at the Climate Change Burden Sharing Conference, July 2008.

PROGRESS SO FAR

In 2008, Victoria University's Institute of Policy Studies, in collaboration with the New Zealand European Union Centres Network, hosted the **Post-2012 Burden Sharing Symposium**. It brought together diverse perspectives on the portions both developed and developing countries should bear to reduce carbon emissions. The event was attended by senior diplomats, academics, students, public officials, business people and members of the general public.

The EC Delegation in Wellington organised a videoconference briefing with Brussels on the EU's Emission Trading Scheme (ETS) for New Zealand's **ETS Parliamentary Review Committee** in 2009.

New Zealand supported and assisted the **EC-Pacific Islands Forum Climate Change Declaration** agreed in 2008. The two regions are committed to addressing the challenges posed by climate change and agree on the importance of an ambitious and comprehensive post-2012 climate change agreement under the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

New Zealand and the EU are maintaining dialogue in the lead-up to the **Copenhagen Climate Change Conference**.

The partners have also cooperated on **biodiversity** issues in the build-up to UN resolutions.

Fisheries

43. The sustainable management of fisheries on a global basis is an issue of concern to both Participants. Both Participants welcome the regular dialogue on fisheries-related issues held since 2004. Further dialogue meetings will be held on a flexible basis, with the aim of consulting closely at intervals convenient to both Participants, on bilateral, multilateral and regional fisheries issues.



European Commissioner for Fisheries and Maritime Affairs Joe Borg and Rt Hon Simon Upton, High Seas Task Force Director, November 2005.

PROGRESS SO FAR

New Zealand and the EC have a common ambition to strengthen and implement an **ecosystems-based approach to fisheries**. Both seek the sustainable management and utilisation of fish stock. The two support each other in multilateral fora, such as the Convention on the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources, the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission and the soon-to-be established South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organisation.

The EC and New Zealand have supported each other at the **International Whaling Commission** to ensure the survival of these endangered species.



Transport

44. Air services provide a vital link in the strengthening relationship between the Participants. They welcomed the signature of the horizontal agreement in June 2006, which primarily addressed nationality restrictions in the bilateral air services agreements between New Zealand and Member States. Both Participants



will make every effort to commence negotiations on a comprehensive air services agreement with the aim of concluding negotiations in 2008 reflecting the similar views on both sides of the principles involved.

PROGRESS SO FAR

Negotiations between the European Commission and New Zealand for a comprehensive **air services agreement** kicked off in Brussels in 2008. These negotiations for an air liberalisation agreement aim both to give greater market access and to improve investment opportunities. It will ensure wider regulatory cooperation in areas such as aviation safety, security and environmental protection.

People-to-people links and outreach activities

45. The media has an increasingly influential role in providing information, and influencing community perceptions, about other countries. The Participants acknowledge the annual European Union Journalist Award, designed to engender understanding of the European Union in New Zealand through providing a New Zealand working journalist the opportunity to travel to Europe for two weeks and study a topic of the journalist's choosing that is relevant to a New Zealand audience. To promote greater understanding among respective media, the Participants will work with media organisations to foster an understanding of the bilateral relationship including by promoting exchanges between media organisations, in particular for journalists.

PROGRESS SO FAR

Sponsored and administered by the European Parliament and the European Commission, the **European Union Visitors Programme** has welcomed New Zealanders to the EU for many years. New Zealand's promising young leaders are invited to Europe to gain a first-hand appreciation of the EU's goals, policies and people. One visitor from New Zealand is selected each year.

Both the European Commission in Brussels and its Delegation in Wellington offer opportunities for **New Zealand journalists to visit Brussels**. In 2009, four members of the New Zealand media visited Brussels: three business & economic journalists and the Paris-based correspondent of the New Zealand Herald.

46. The Commission will encourage journalism schools and the training departments of various New Zealand mainstream media organisations to include training modules on reporting on contemporary Europe.

47. Recognising that a better understanding of the functioning of the European Union will enhance the bilateral relationship, the Commission will co-operate with New Zealand to support the placement of New Zealand officials on short term internships across the Commission on an occasional basis, funded by New Zealand, subject to the identification of suitable positions. New Zealand confirms that it would accept Commission officials on a similar basis.

48. The Participants acknowledge the importance of the EUCN to European Union-New Zealand relations, the Commission's funding of the network and they reconfirm their commitment to continued support to this activity.



Hon Margaret Wilson, then Speaker of the New Zealand House of Representatives and host of Europe Day, exceptionally held in the New Zealand Parliament, May 2008.

49. The Participants also encourage the EUCN to continue to be instrumental in the annual placement of graduate students on short-term internships in the European Parliament. These internships are very useful for both Participants; beneficial to the interns by providing them with an experience of the European Parliament; and create partnerships between the students and the Members of the Australia and New Zealand European Parliament Delegation.



Professor Martin Holland, Director of the National Centre for Research on Europe and the European Union Centres Network.

PROGRESS SO FAR

In 2006, the **European Union Centres Network (EUCN)** was established with the help of EU funding to promote multidisciplinary research and understanding of the European Union within New Zealand. The network comprises centres at seven universities throughout New Zealand. Its activities include:

- hosting a European-in-Residence each year;
- an annual Europa Lecture, given by a high level politician or EU official;
- competitive scholarships (42 to date);
- research awards for students;
- internship placements; weekend study retreats for students;
- academic pilot research funding (20 to date);
- teaching fellows;
- an annual conference;
- public opinion surveys;
- regular seminars and symposia.

In November 2009, the EUCN organised a conference series on the **20th Anniversary of the Fall of the Berlin Wall and the 5th Anniversary of the 2004 enlargement of the EU.**

50. Regular exchanges between the European Parliament and the New Zealand Parliament are an important dimension of the overall relationship between New Zealand and European institutions and contribute to a broader understanding of the relationship on both Participants. The New Zealand Mission to the European Union in Brussels and the European Commission Delegation in Wellington will maintain close relations with the respective Parliaments to provide information on developments in the relationship and identify opportunities to increase contact and mutual understanding.



Some of the 30 members of the New Zealand-European Union Parliamentary Friendship Group.

PROGRESS SO FAR

The New Zealand-European Union Parliamentary Friendship Group

is chaired by Charles Chauvel MP. Since the 2008 New Zealand general election, it has become the largest parliamentary friendship group with a quarter of the Parliament from across the New Zealand political spectrum as members.

Mrs Mara Bizzotto (EFD, Italy) was elected Chair of **the European Parliamentary Delegation for relations with Australia and New Zealand** in September 2009. Its thirty two members represented all main political groups in the European Parliament and a large number of EU Member States.



Review

- 51.** The Participants will regularly monitor progress in implementing the actions identified in this Joint Declaration. In 2012, both Participants will again conduct a comprehensive review of practical steps to maintain close consultation and develop greater cooperation between the Participants.



ABOVE

HE Ambassador David Daly, Head of Delegation to Australia and New Zealand, presenting his credentials to Hon Sir Anand Satyanand, Governor-General of New Zealand, February 2009.



RIGHT

Prime Minister John Key with EC Delegation Chargé d'Affaires a.i. George Cunningham (L), February 2009.

EUROPEAN UNION REPRESENTATION TO NEW ZEALAND

Most EU countries with accreditation to New Zealand have their Embassies located in either Wellington or Canberra. The eight EU Member States Embassies and High Commission based in Wellington represent France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Netherlands, Poland, Spain and the United Kingdom. The European Commission Delegation is also present.



EU Member States and European Commission resident in Wellington, January 2008.

Fourteen EU Member States based in Canberra are also accredited to New Zealand: Austria, Belgium, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, Hungary, Ireland, Malta, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia and Sweden. In addition, the Ambassador of the European Commission Delegation to Australia and New Zealand is also based in Canberra. Estonia's Ambassador is resident in Tokyo and Latvia's in London. Bulgaria, Lithuania and Luxembourg are not accredited to New Zealand at this stage. Bulgaria's consular affairs are dealt with from their Embassy in Canberra while Luxembourg's fall under the responsibility of the Netherlands Embassy in Wellington.

To cover the ground in the absence of full Embassies in New Zealand – and to have a wider reach outside Wellington for those with Embassies – there are a total of 48 Consuls-General and Honorary Consuls representing EU countries in the four main cities of New Zealand – Auckland, Wellington, Christchurch and Dunedin. All countries accredited to New Zealand have Embassies, Consulates-General or Consulates based on the ground in New Zealand.

EUROPEAN COMMISSION DELEGATION TO NEW ZEALAND

The European Union and New Zealand share a strong historical, cultural, economic and political relationship that has grown and developed over many decades.

- The Delegation in particular:
- Ensures the representation of the European Commission in New Zealand.
- Maintains and develops bilateral relations in accordance with the 2007 EU-New Zealand Joint Declaration on Relations and Cooperation in the areas of political, economic, trade, development, education, research, science, and technology, transport, environment and cultural cooperation.
- Contributes to coordination with EU Member States Embassies.
- Reports back to headquarters on all matters of interest for EU policies.
- Works towards increasing the visibility, awareness and understanding of the EU in New Zealand.
- Carries out press and public diplomatic activities in pursuit of the above.



HE Ambassador David Daly, Head of Delegation to Australia and New Zealand.



Chargé d'Affaires a.i. George Cunningham greets Minister for Pacific Islands Affairs Hon Georgina te Heuheu, Europe Day, May 2009.

EUROPEAN COMMISSION DELEGATIONS IN THE PACIFIC

The EU strategy in the Pacific aims to strengthen political dialogue in discussions on security, governance, economic relations, climate change and the environment. As well, the EU undertakes development cooperation and aims to improve the effectiveness of aid delivery through beneficiary-led donor coordination, in particular with Australia and New Zealand. Of all the regions in the world, the Pacific countries receive the highest development aid per capita from the European Union.

In the Pacific, the European Commission is represented by six delegations, as well as those in Australia and New Zealand:



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Wiepke van der Goot

Head of Delegation to the Pacific

HE Ambassador Mr Wiepke van der Goot

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THE EUROPEAN UNION IN NEW ZEALAND WEB PORTAL

<http://www.eu.org.nz>



New Zealanders and Europeans can get up-to-date on all EU political, economic, academic and cultural activities in New Zealand from our new web portal – <http://www.eu.org.nz>

Also, you are invited to sign up to our weekly newsletter – news@eu – to stay informed about EU activities happening in the world and in New Zealand.

To sign up,
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