MINISTRY OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY
SINGAPORE

FOR IMMEDIATE REPORTING

PRESS RELEASE

ENTRY INTO FORCE OF THE AGREEMENT ON TRADE IN ESSENTIAL SUPPLIES BETWEEN SINGAPORE AND NEW ZEALAND

1. The Agreement on Trade in Essential Supplies (AOTES) has entered into force between Singapore and New Zealand today, following the completion of domestic procedures by both countries.

2. As the world's first legally binding bilateral supply chain resilience agreement, the Agreement reflects both countries' longstanding commitment to uphold free and unimpeded trade. The Agreement will be incorporated into the Agreement between New Zealand and Singapore on a Closer Economic Partnership (ANZSCEP), the bilateral Free Trade Agreement between both countries.

3. Under the Agreement, Singapore and New Zealand commit not to impose unnecessary export restrictions on agreed essential supplies, including food, fuel, healthcare, chemical and construction products. The Agreement also establishes a framework for both countries to facilitate the movement of goods, share information, and engage in consultations before or during supply chain disruptions. This will provide businesses and consumers on both sides with greater confidence should supply chain disruptions occur.

4. Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Trade and Industry Gan Kim Yong said, "The entry into force of the Agreement marks a significant milestone in Singapore-New Zealand economic relations. It reflects our shared desire to push boundaries, learn from past crises, and prepare ahead. We will continue to work with like-minded partners to build a more resilient and open trading environment, one that gives our businesses and people the confidence to navigate an increasingly uncertain world."

5. The Agreement was signed by Singapore Minister-in-charge of Energy and Science & Technology Dr Tan See Leng and New Zealand Minister for Trade and Investment Todd McClay, and witnessed by Prime Minister Lawrence Wong and New Zealand Prime Minister Christopher Luxon on 4 May 2026.

Annex A: Factsheet on Agreement on Trade in Essential Supplies (AOTES)
Annex B: Photo of Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Trade and Industry Gan Kim Yong and New Zealand Minister for Trade and Investment Todd McClay at exchange ceremony

MINISTRY OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY
17 July 2026

100 High Street, #09-01, The Treasury, Singapore 179434
www.mti.gov.sg
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For media queries, please contact:

Lu Huijun
Senior Assistant Director, Communications and Engagement Division
Ministry of Trade and Industry
LU_Huijun@mti.gov.sg

PRESS RELEASE

Annex A

Factsheet on Agreement on Trade in Essential Supplies (AOTES)

1. Singapore and New Zealand signed an Agreement on Trade in Essential Supplies (AOTES) on 4 May 2026 at the Singapore-New Zealand Annual Leaders' Meeting in Singapore.

2. The Agreement was signed by Singapore Minister-in-charge of Energy, Science and Technology Dr Tan See Leng, and New Zealand Minister for Trade and Industry Todd McClay. The signing was witnessed by Prime Minister Lawrence Wong and New Zealand Prime Minister Christopher Luxon.

Key Features

3. The AOTES reflects both countries' longstanding commitment to uphold free and unimpeded trade. It is the world's first legally-binding bilateral supply chain resilience agreement. It will be incorporated into the Agreement between New Zealand and Singapore on a Closer Economic Partnership (ANZSCEP) – the bilateral Free Trade Agreement (FTA) between Singapore and New Zealand.

4. Under the Agreement, Singapore and New Zealand commit not to impose unnecessary export restrictions on agreed essential supplies, including food, fuel, healthcare and chemical and construction products.
5. The Agreement also establishes a framework for both countries to facilitate the movement of goods, share information and engage in consultations before or during supply chain disruptions.

6. This will provide businesses and consumers on both sides with greater confidence and stability during supply chain disruptions.

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Annex B

Photo

Caption
Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Trade and Industry Gan Kim Yong and New Zealand Minister for Trade and Investment Todd McClay at the exchange ceremony on 17 July 2026.

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