



JOINT REPORT

5th European Union (EU) – New Zealand Joint Science and Technology Cooperation Committee Meeting

Wellington, 29 July 2019

New Zealand and the EU have a positive cooperation in the field of science, technology and innovation, underpinned by the Science and Technology Agreement signed in 2009. The meetings of the New Zealand-EU Joint Science and Technology Cooperation Committee (JSTCC) are the principal mechanism for setting bilateral NZ-EU research collaboration priorities and monitoring cooperation. The 5th EU-New Zealand Joint Science and Technology Cooperation Committee (JSTCC) meeting was hosted by the Government of New Zealand in Wellington on 29 July 2019.

Mr Jean-Eric Paquet, Director-General for Research and Innovation at the European Commission, co-chaired the dialogue for the EU. Dr Peter Crabtree, General Manager for Science, Innovation and International at the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE), co-chaired the dialogue for New Zealand.

Lists of EU and New Zealand participants are in Annex A.

The meeting covered discussions on recent developments in science and technology policy, and on current New Zealand-EU cooperation in research and innovation, including in societal challenges such as bioeconomy, food and natural resources. New Zealand's membership and involvement in the International Bioeconomy Forum (IBF) was highly valued and the EU considered New Zealand as a very good candidate to take over the co-chair of the IBF as from end 2019. Both parties welcomed New Zealand engagement with the EU's Joint Programming Initiatives (JPIs) 'A Healthy Diet for a Healthy Life' and 'Agriculture, Food Security and Climate Change'.

Other areas of discussion were: climate/low carbon economy and oceans, hydrogen and key enabling technologies, advanced transport and health, mobility of researchers. Both the EU and New Zealand are engaged to deliver on the Paris Agreement commitments and should aim to work together on research relating to affordable and clean energy and broader decarbonisation. The EU invited New Zealand to remain open to consider the possibility to join Mission Innovation, and the EU Joint Programming Initiative on Anti-Microbial Resistance, also in order to align common priorities and activities. The EU also invited New Zealand to consider the possibility to establish a matching funding scheme and a contact point for the Marie Sklodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA).

New Zealand presented lessons learned from the NZ National Science Challenges and from the Innovation support measures (including Callaghan Innovation, and NZ Venture Investment Fund).

The EU presented the new EU programme for Research and Innovation (2021-2027), *Horizon Europe*, including its missions, clusters and partnerships, the European Research Council and the future opportunities for EU-NZ cooperation under Horizon Europe. Both parties committed to further dialogue on potential cooperation opportunities under Horizon Europe.

Other opportunities to foster R&I cooperation were also discussed, including through the Pacific regional cooperation (eg. an ACP-EU programme to strengthen research and innovation capacity), Open Science and the EU policy support services (with the EU inviting New Zealand to possibly benefit from the Service facility, the Innowwide project, and Euraxess).

The next EU-New Zealand JSTCC meeting is to be held in Brussels in 2021.

On behalf of the European Commission

On behalf of the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment

ANNEX A: List of Participants

New Zealand

Dr Peter Crabtree, General Manager, Science, Innovation and International, Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment

Dr Prue Williams, General Manager, Science System Investments and Performance, Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment

Mr Simon Rae, Manager, International Science Partnerships, Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment

Mr Peter Bartlett, Counsellor, Science and Innovation, Europe Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment

Mrs Shannon Austin, Unit Manager, Europe Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade

Mr Hayden Montgomery, Ministry for Primary Industries

European Union

Mr Jean-Eric Paquet, Director-General for Research and Innovation at the European Commission

Ms Carmela Cutugno, Policy Officer for International Cooperation in the Directorate-General for Research and Innovation at the European Commission

Mr Bernard Savage, EU Ambassador in New Zealand

Mr Peter Saktor, EU Delegation in New Zealand