

Trans-Pacific SEP (Brunei, New Zealand, Chile, Singapore)

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Singapore, Brunei, Chile and New Zealand Complete Fifth Round of FTA Talks

Singapore, Chile, New Zealand and Brunei conducted the fifth round of FTA negotiations from 18 to 23 Apr 2005 in Singapore. Brunei, which had participated in preceding rounds of FTA negotiations as an observer, took part in the fifth round as a full negotiating party. All four parties to the FTA talks are member economies of APEC.

The four parties conducted discussions on a comprehensive range of issues. These include trade in goods, rules of origin, customs procedures, trade remedies, sanitary and phytosanitary measures, technical barriers to trade, trade in services, financial services, investment, temporary entry of persons, intellectual property, competition policy, government procurement, cooperation, institutional provisions and dispute settlement. Labour and environment officials from the four parties also held discussions during the round.

The parties reached agreement on substantially all areas and are continuing to work towards the conclusion of the negotiations as a whole by early May 2005.

Ministry of Trade and Industry
25 April 2005