



COVERSHEET

Minister	Hon Megan Woods	Portfolio	Research, Science, Innovation
Title of Cabinet paper	Changes to National Standards Regulations 1976	Date to be published	27 June 2019

List of documents that have been proactively released		
Date	Title	Author
24 October 2018	Changes to National Standards Regulations 1976	Office of the Minister for Research, Science and Innovation
24 October 2018	DEV-18-MIN-0236 Minute	Cabinet Office

Information redacted	YES / NO (please select)
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Cabinet Economic Development Committee

Minute of Decision

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Changes to National Standards Regulations 1976

Portfolio **Research, Science and Innovation**

On 24 October 2018, the Cabinet Economic Development Committee:

- 1 **noted** that the Minister of Research, Science and Innovation (the Minister) is responsible for establishing and maintaining standards of measurement;
- 2 **noted** that officials expect new international measurement standards will come into force in May 2019 based on agreed values of fundamental physical constants;
- 3 **agreed** that the National Standards Regulations 1976 be amended to:
 - 3.1 introduce a new standard of measurement to allow for a measurement based on a fundamental physical constant;
 - 3.2 update the regulations in light of new ISO standards and the imposition of the metric system under the Weights and Measures Act 1987;
- 4 **agreed** that minor technical amendments be made to modernise the National Standards Regulations to:
 - 4.1 authorise the Chief Metrologist to operate with the international mutual recognition arrangement, whereby calibration certificates from other countries National Metrology institutes are recognised under the International Committee for Weights and Measures Mutual Recognition Agreement (CIPM MRA);
 - 4.2 allow the Chief Metrologist to advise the Minister on designating other countries' National Metrology Institutes for mutual recognition of calibration, and for the Minister to appoint verifying authorities under the CIPM MRA;
 - 4.3 update references to replace an obsolete New Zealand Standard (NZS 6501:1982);
 - 4.4 remove references to preservation of the imperial system (section 6), as these have since been superseded by amendments to the Weights and Measures Act 1987 which require the use of the metric system;
 - 4.5 remove the definition of physical quantity;

- 5 **invited** the Minister to issue drafting instructions to the Parliamentary Counsel Office to give effect to the above amendments.

Gerrard Carter
Committee Secretary

Present:

Rt Hon Winston Peters
Hon Grant Robertson (Chair)
Hon Nanaia Mahuta
Hon Stuart Nash
Hon Iain Lees-Galloway
Hon Jenny Salesa
Hon Damien O'Connor
Hon Shane Jones
Hon Kris Faafoi
Hon Willie Jackson
Hon Eugenie Sage

Officials present from:

Office of the Prime Minister
Office of the Chair
Officials Committee for DEV

Hard-copy distribution:

Minister of Research, Science and Innovation

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