

The Rt Hon. Liam Byrne MP
Chair, Business and Trade Committee
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

26 June 2026

Dear Liam,

I wrote to you on 22 June 2026 to notify you of the welcome news that the terms of the UK's accession to the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) have entered into force with Mexico. I am writing to you again today with the outcomes from the latest CPTPP Commission Meeting which I attended in the early hours of 26 June 2026, UK time.

At that meeting, CPTPP Minister and Representatives approved by consensus to begin preparatory discussions on accessions with Indonesia, the Philippines and the United Arab Emirates. This follows on from the valuable discussions CPTPP Ministers held at the [last Commission meeting in Melbourne, Australia](#), where it was recognised that these three economies are in line with the Auckland Principles. CPTPP officials have now been tasked to commence these preparatory discussions over the coming months.

At the Commission meeting, CPTPP Ministers also:

- Noted the substantive conclusion of negotiations with Costa Rica and that we have commenced Uruguay's Accession Working Group.
- Approved the establishment of an ad hoc working group to enhance cooperation on rules of origin, customs administration and trade facilitation to maintain a fair and transparent trading environment.

- Took note of ongoing work to upgrade the CPTPP agreement following the General Review.
- Recommitted to the work underway in dialogues between CPTPP Parties and the EU and ASEAN.

At the same meeting, CPTPP ministers issued a Joint Ministerial Statement emphasizing the importance of maintaining free and open markets and rules-based trade in energy and other impacted products, in light of recent global disruptions. The statement can be read in full here: [Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership \(CPTPP\) joint ministerial statement on energy security and supply chains for essential energy products and other impacted products - GOV.UK](#)

As you can see, the outcomes and statements issued from this most recent [CPTPP Commission Meeting](#) demonstrate the UK Government's active delivery of the Trade Strategy, through CPTPP, to widen, deepen and secure UK trade; objectives that I know are fundamental to your work as well.

I look forward to keeping you updated on future CPTPP developments.

Sir Chris Bryant MP

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Chris Bryant". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial "C".

Minister of State for Trade Policy and Economic Security

Department for Business and Trade