

\$200 million Increase in Value of Export Education

Education New Zealand: Media Release 21/04/10

Education New Zealand, the umbrella industry body for New Zealand's education exporters welcomed the release today of figures indicating that New Zealand attracted an increased number of international students. Tuition revenue collected from more than 93,500 international students increased by \$61.7 million last year. This was a 10 per cent increase over 2008 revenue.

"Revenue growth of \$61 million in a single year is an outstanding achievement, and full credit needs to go to the hardworking international educators that have driven this growth", said Robert Stevens, Chief Executive of Education New Zealand.

"But what makes this achievement even more significant is that this \$61 million growth excludes the additional economic multiplier of international student expenditure throughout the economy on accommodation and living costs. Once this wider economic impact is taken into account, growth is more like \$200 million¹".

"We believe that 10 per cent industry growth per annum, which is our goal for the next three years, is responsible and sustainable. New Zealand institutions enjoy a fantastic reputation for looking after their international students, and we know that they have the capacity to continue to deliver their excellent services," says Robert Stevens, Chief Executive of Education New Zealand.

The growth does look set to continue in 2010. In March this year Immigration New Zealand numbers show that about 72,000 international students were currently studying in New Zealand, an increase of around 2,500 from the same time in 2009.

Ends

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¹ The total value of export education to New Zealand was estimated at \$2.3 billion in foreign exchange in 2008. Using the same (Infometrics) multipliers used in that report, the industry should now be worth roughly \$2.5 billion, or growth of \$200 million last year.