

Proactive Release

Date: 5 November 2019

The following Cabinet paper and related Cabinet minute have been proactively released by the Minister of Foreign Affairs:

Proposed Overseas Travel: Rt Hon Winston Peters: (CAB-19-MIN-0497 refers)

Some parts of this information release would not be appropriate to release and, if requested, would be withheld under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act). Where this is the case, the relevant sections of the Act that would apply have been identified. Where information has been withheld, no public interest has been identified that would outweigh the reasons for withholding it.

Key to redaction codes:

- 6(a): to avoid prejudicing the international relations of the New Zealand Government; and
- 9(2)(g)(i): to protect the free and frank expression of opinions by departments;

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Cabinet

Minute of Decision

This document contains information for the New Zealand Cabinet. It must be treated in confidence and handled in accordance with any security classification, or other endorsement. The information can only be released, including under the Official Information Act 1982, by persons with the appropriate authority.

Proposed Overseas Travel: Rt Hon Winston Peters

Portfolio **Foreign Affairs**

On 23 September 2019, Cabinet:

- 1 **authorised** the absence of the Rt Hon Winston Peters from New Zealand, from 28 October to 3 November 2019, to travel to Seoul, Korea and Tokyo, Japan for bilateral visits;
- 2 **agreed** that he be accompanied by one member of staff;
- 3 **approved** the estimated expenditure of up to \$37,462 for the travel expenses of the Ministerial party as a charge to Vote: Internal Affairs (Members of the Executive – Travel);
- 4 **agreed** that in his absence:
 - 4.1 Hon David Parker act as Minister of Foreign Affairs and Minister for Disarmament and Arms Control;
 - 4.2 Hon Dr David Clark act as Minister for State Owned Enterprises;
 - 4.3 Hon Shane Jones act as Minister for Racing;
- 5 **noted** that the House is not sitting during his absence.

Michael Webster
Secretary of the Cabinet

Hard-copy distribution:
Prime Minister
Minister of Foreign Affairs

Chair
Cabinet

KOREA AND JAPAN: 28 OCTOBER – 3 NOVEMBER 2019

I seek Cabinet approval to travel to Korea and Japan from 28 October – 3 November, for bilateral engagements. The Prime Minister has granted in principle approval for this travel.

Visit Objectives and Programme

2 The objectives of the **Seoul, Korea** programme are:

- s6(a)

3 My programme in Seoul will involve political engagements, including requested meetings with s6(a) and Foreign Minister Kang. The programme will also feature a speech at Yonsei University's Centre for Oceania Studies on challenges in the Asia-Pacific. s6(a)

4 The objectives of the **Tokyo, Japan** programme are:

- s6(a)

5 My programme in Tokyo will involve political engagements, including with Deputy Prime Minister and Finance Minister Taro Aso; Foreign Minister Toshimitsu Motegi; and Parliamentarians that form part of the Japan-New Zealand Parliamentarians League. I will also:

- demonstrate New Zealand's enduring friendship with Japan through representing New Zealand in an official ceremony to gift a New Zealand white horse, Komaru, to the Nikko Toshogu shrine, a unique and visible centrepiece of the cultural and people-to-people links between our two countries; and
- promote the Pacific links between New Zealand and Japan by ^{s6(a)} announcing a package of projects; and attending a Reception for MPs, officials, academics and diplomats with a focus on the Pacific Islands region.

At the conclusion of the working week, ^{s9(2)(g)(i)}

^{s9(2)(g)(i)}

Travel

6 I propose to depart New Zealand on the morning of Monday 28 October (Labour Day) and return on the evening of Sunday 3 November 2019. I will not miss any Cabinet meetings.

Ministerial Party

7 I would be accompanied by the Senior Foreign Affairs Adviser in my office.

Acting Ministers

8 If Cabinet approves my travel, I would propose that Hon Dr David Clark act in my State Owned Enterprises portfolio; Hon David Parker act in my Foreign Affairs and Disarmament and Arms Control Portfolios, and Hon Shane Jones act in my Racing portfolio from 28 October - 3 November 2019.

Costs of Travel

9 The projected costs of the proposed travel for the Ministerial Party are:

Airfares:	\$26,814
Accommodation:	\$1,604*
Interpreters	\$3,733
Hospitality and gifts:	\$1,135
Meals	\$2,500
Transport (train between Tokyo/Nikko)	\$176
Contingency:	\$1,500
TOTAL	\$37,462

N.B. In Tokyo, no accommodation costs will be incurred as my staff member and I will stay at the Official Residence of New Zealand's Ambassador to Japan.

Proactive Release

10 I plan to release this paper in part within 30 business days. All redactions will be made in line with the Official Information Act 1982.

Recommendation

11 I recommend that Cabinet:

- a) **approve** my proposed travel to Korea and Japan from 28 October till 3 November 2019;
- b) **note** that I would be accompanied by the Senior Foreign Affairs Adviser from my office;
- c) **approve** expenditure of up to \$37,462 for travel expenses for the official delegation as a charge to Vote Internal Affairs: Members of the Executive – Travel;
- d) **agree** that Hon Dr David Clark act in my State Owned Enterprises portfolio; Hon David Parker act in my Foreign Affairs and Disarmament and Arms Control Portfolios, and Hon Shane Jones act in my Racing portfolio from 28 October - 3 November 2019

Approved for lodgement

Rt Hon Winston Peters
Minister of Foreign Affairs