

# Response ID ANON-9W22-T9B2-N

Submitted to Updating Aotearoa New Zealand's Approach to International Climate Change Negotiations  
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## Submitter Details

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Association - please select any that apply

NGO, Youth

If you are submitting on behalf of an organisation, please provide your organisation name:  
350 Aotearoa

Location

New Zealand

## Section 1: What do you think New Zealand should be seeking to achieve through our participation at COP?

How can New Zealand best use COP to advance effective and ambitious global action?

Enter your answer here:

First off all be honest and note that Oxfam Aotearoa's 2020 report is still the most current assessment of an equitable 2030 target for Aotearoa.

Stand with the Pacific, be honest about our challenges, be honest about how we're doing on agriculture, push hard for better inclusion, for accountability, for loss & damage.

Biogenic methane should get no special treatment. We need to stand by our emissions budgets and hold the world to account on reducing agricultural emissions.

In particular, New Zealand should align with the Pacific (PSIDs) asks made in the Port Vila call for a Just Transition to a Fossil Fuel Free Pacific, and especially commit to moving to full membership of the Beyond Oil and Gas Alliance and endorse the Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty.

What areas are most critical for New Zealand to promote effective and ambitious global action at COP?

Importance - Global emissions reduction (Mitigation):

Very Important

Importance - Increasing resilience (Adaptation):

Somewhat important

Importance - Climate finance and technical support for climate action in developing countries:

Most Important

Importance - Aligning global financial flows with the net zero transition:

Very Important

Importance - Loss and damage:

Most Important

Importance - Nature-positive climate action (e.g. through native ecosystems and nature based solutions, addressing the linkage between the biodiversity and climate crises):

Very Important

Importance - Trade policies and instruments that support climate action:

Not important

Importance - Agricultural sector climate action:

Very Important

Importance - Circular economy and sustainable industry (e.g., reducing plastic waste, etc.):

Very Important

Importance - Technology, innovation and transfer of technology:

Not important

Importance - Other (please specify below):

Why? Tell us more:

Full reparation through Loss and Damage - standing with the Global South, which includes the Pacific Islands, acknowledging that those least responsible for climate damage, are being hit first and worst.

We almost must be calling out militarism and moving away from five eyes. war is a climate change disaster!

Rapid military emissions reductions matter. Some nations promote the armed forces as valuable allies in the "fight" against climate change - but armed forces are major contributors to dangerous climate changes (as outlined below). Now more than ever before, diplomacy and cooperation are needed among nations - not endless preparation for war. We urgently need civilian agencies properly equipped and trained to deal with extreme weather events and disaster relief - not armed forces with inappropriate military equipment and personnel trained for combat.

There are three main ways armed forces around the world are a major contributor to climate changes. Firstly, armed forces are a massive consumer of non-renewable resources - including fossil fuels used by military vehicles, vessels, aircraft and spacecraft - and a major source of greenhouse gas emissions. A recent study estimated that the total military carbon footprint is approximately 5.5% of global emissions - a level exceeded only by three nations: China, USA and India.

Secondly, the opportunity cost - the excessive amount of military expenditure, and levels of military research and development, divert financial and human resources away from developing sustainable energy sources and other initiatives to slow the pace, and reduce the impact, of climate change. Global military spending exceeded \$(US)2.24 trillion last year, while the amount allocated for NZ's armed forces in the 2022 Budget was more than \$(NZ)6 billion. Opportunity cost is opportunity lost for the financial and human resources we urgently need to act on climate change. Global military spending is more than 22 times the 2020 (now 2025) goal of mobilising \$(US)100 billion annually, originally agreed at COP15.

Thirdly, the way of thinking that underlies the choice of many states, including NZ, to waste enormous amounts of public money on maintaining combat-ready armed forces is the same way of thinking that has seen those same states choosing not to act with the urgency the climate emergency requires. Business as usual, with perhaps some small cosmetic changes, carries on even as the future of life on earth is at stake.

How can New Zealand best leverage participation in COP to support our own low-emissions transition?

Enter your answer here:

Make it clear to Ministers how embarrassing it can be at COP to not have clear policies to announce. Be honest that other countries must not copy our failed dairy model

Any leverage must be genuinely to reduce NZ's emissions and to make just transitions. What it should not be, is the continuation of the provision of false impressions that we are making a huge effort when we are not. In particular, the wildly exaggerated claims about how NZ is leading on agriculture must be dropped because the reality is that we are doing VERY little to reduce agricultural emissions and we are allowing agriculture a mostly free ride at the expense of taxpayers. On the other hand, New Zealand could appropriately be said to be leading on agriculture with progressive emissions reductions.

What areas are most critical for New Zealand to promote our domestic transition through our participation at COP?

Domestic Transition - Insight into other countries' transition policies (e.g. on just transition, or implementation of nature-based solutions):

Domestic Transition - Cooperation with other countries to support New Zealand's transition (e.g. on transport, attracting used EVs):

Domestic Transition - Promoting New Zealand as a low-carbon tech proving ground/green investment destination:

Domestic Transition - Access for New Zealand businesses to world-leading international businesses' transition technologies and business models:

Domestic Transition - Export opportunities for cleantech or carbon-efficient New Zealand exporters:

Domestic Transition - Other (please specify below):

Why? Tell us more?:

If you are a business or you represent a Māori, civil society or industry organisation, are you considering participating in COP? Why/why not?

Enter your answer here:

We have in the past, but didn't feel respected, so probably not.

Supporting the Pacific is a key component of our approach to COP. What do you think is important to consider as we do this, and why?

Enter your answer here:

Following AOSIS, and sticking with their positions - not oppose them like we have in the past.

On the "how" to support, provision of travel and other assistance; support for bans on the most damaging activities such as seabed mining and bottom trawling; support for indigenous people with accessing speaking spots; NZ refraining from allying with the countries that would continue high emissions and in denying Pacific demands.

Indigenous leadership: What role should New Zealand play in amplifying indigenous voices in the global climate change regime? How can we do this most effectively?

Enter your answer here:

Nature-positive climate action: How should we seek to ensure our global response to climate change also improves the resilience of our native ecosystems, and avoids harm to biodiversity?

Enter your answer here:

Should New Zealand be pursuing other aims at COP not mentioned above? If so, what, and why?

Other aims:

How should we be looking ahead to the prospect of an Australian COP in 2026 to support New Zealand and Pacific interests? Should it affect how we participate in COP in the run up to 2026?

Australia COP:

Our priority at this COP28 is keeping the window open to limit global warming to 1.5 degrees plus playing our part as a good global citizen (as above). This includes strongly backing Pacific interests, the Alliance of Small Island States, and the Global South. New Zealand interests are limiting global warming within 1.5 degrees with a high likelihood. Australia, like this year's COP28 host the United Arab Emirates, is highly vested in fossil fuels. Consequently, New Zealand should look to amplify Pacific nations' call for a 'Fossil Free Pacific' throughout the leadup to COP31.

## Section 2: How should New Zealand engage at COP?

What role do you think New Zealand should aim to play at COP? E.g. should we seek to be seen as a constructive bridge-builder, or be more prepared to be an outlier? Why?

Enter your answer here:

Who should we be working and aligning with, and why?

Enter your answer here:

Is New Zealand part of the right initiatives and coalitions to achieve our COP objectives?

Not Answered

Why? Why not?:

What should we do differently?:

How should we give effect to our Treaty partnership with Māori in how we engage at COP?

Enter your answer here:

Who do you think should be represented at COP to drive the outcomes New Zealand seeks?

Enter your answer here:

## Agriculture

What outcomes would you like to see internationally in relation to agricultural climate action?

Enter your answer here:

Recognition of the need to move to plant-based diets.

How do you think Māori rights and interests in agriculture and the land sector should be advocated for at COP?

Enter your answer here:

By talking about how colonisation and theft of Māori land has contributed towards the agricultural problems NZ faces.

Recognising New Zealand's domestic action to address agricultural emissions, should we be hard lined in negotiations by requiring text to recognise that all countries should be seeking to reduce their agricultural emissions?

Enter your answer here:

The more hard-hitting the text to cut ag emissions, the better.

## Youth and climate change

Youth is a cross-cutting issue. How do you think New Zealand should advocate internationally for young people when taking action to address climate change?

Enter your answer here:

have a young person in the delegation, and actually enable them to meaningfully participate. Look at models of sweden, canada etc.

How can views from young people be better understood and reflected in negotiating positions?

Enter your answer here:

Again, respect where young people are coming from and don't cut us out.

## Section 4: Provide General Feedback

You are welcome to provide feedback on any part of the proposal to update New Zealand's approach to international climate negotiations.

Add your comments, ideas, and feedback here:

Great we're reviewing it. Fundementally, we need less closed, and more open and transparant negotiation process that is open to civil society - and doesn't keep funding nz buisness reps.

There has been a variety of incorrect beliefs in the nz cop dels about a range of matters, such as what non-official badges mean in reality. WE should follow the leadership of countries such as sweden, who have far more collaborative and inclusive approaches. Finally, we should work more with AOSIS. When people critisise NZ, instead of immediately get on the defensive, we should have a hard think about why people are making that critique. When people accuse of of not standing with the pacific - they do so for some valid reasons.

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