

Proactive Release

Date: 2 October 2023

The following Cabinet paper has been proactively released by the Minister of Foreign Affairs

| Title | Reference |
|---|-----------------|
| Report on Overseas Travel: Hon Nanaia Mahuta | CAB-23-MIN-0382 |
| Report to Cabinet: Minister of Foreign Affairs' Visit to Jakarta: 11-16 July 2023 | |

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 security or defence of New Zealand or the international relations of the New Zealand Government.



Cabinet

Minute of Decision

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Report on Overseas Travel: Hon Nanaia Mahuta

Portfolio Foreign Affairs

On 21 August 2023, Cabinet **noted** the report from Hon Nanaia Mahuta under CAB-23-SUB-0382 on her travel, from 11 to 16 July 2023, to Jakarta, Indonesia to attend a series of ASEAN-led ministerial meetings.

Rachel Hayward
Secretary of the Cabinet

Proactively Released
by the Minister of Foreign Affairs

~~RESTRICTED~~

Office of the Minister of Foreign Affairs

Cabinet

Report to Cabinet: Minister of Foreign Affairs' Visit to Jakarta: 1116 July 2023

1 I recommend that Cabinet note this report on my travel to Jakarta 11-16 July 2023.

Report

ASEAN Ministerial Meetings

2 The focus of my visit to Jakarta was to attend the series of ASEAN-led ministerial meetings including the ASEAN-New Zealand Ministerial Meeting, the East Asia Summit, and ASEAN Regional Forum Foreign Ministers' Meetings.

3 The main objectives of my attendance at the meetings were to profile Aotearoa New Zealand's unique partnership with ASEAN; advocate for meaningful progress towards a resolution of the Myanmar crisis, put on record Aotearoa New Zealand's positions on the core issues affecting the region and to demonstrate the importance of Indonesia as a comprehensive partner.

4 Discussions throughout the meeting covered a range of geopolitical issues as well as specific bilateral interests and regional priorities. The ASEAN-New Zealand Ministerial Meeting was the opportunity to traverse the breadth of cooperation between Aotearoa and ASEAN and reflect on the progress made in implementing the ASEAN-New Zealand Plan of Action 2021-2025. Both the EAS Foreign Ministers' Meeting and the ASEAN Regional Forum Foreign Ministers' Meeting were an opportunity to discuss the suite of regional and global issues and reiterate countries' formal positions.

5 A particular matter of discussion throughout the meetings was the crisis in **Myanmar**, whereby I sought to explore what complementary approaches, building coherence, coordination and engagement could bring to help address the crisis. The positions of ASEAN Member States remained varied on proposed next steps s6(a)

6 s6(a)

7 The latest **DPRK missile launch** a day before the meetings (12 July) ensured this issue was referenced by most countries in their interventions. Strong language was also used in the final EAS and ARF Chairman's Statements, including noting the

launch was a “worrisome development that threatens peace and stability in the region”.

8 **Russia’s illegal invasion of Ukraine** also remained high on the mind of all participants.
s6(a)

9 Encouragingly, during the ARF several Ministers referred to the challenge **climate change** presented to regional security and stability. I announced new climate finance to support people living in the Asian mega deltas (including Cambodia, Viet Nam, Myanmar, Bangladesh and India) to develop more climate change resilient and productive rice, horticulture and aquaculture farming systems.

10 Indonesia continued to highlight its interest in using its ASEAN Chair year to build **connections between ASEAN and the Pacific Islands Forum (PIF)**. s6(a)

11 I also held multiple bilateral meetings in the margins of the formal engagements with my counterparts from Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Norway, Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Timor-Leste, and the United Kingdom, plus several pull asides. I also met with the ASEAN Secretary-General.

Bilateral programme

12 My visit to Indonesia also provided an opportunity for several bilateral elements with Indonesia, including a 20-minute meeting with Foreign Minister Retno Marsudi and a geothermal event with Minister of Energy Arifin Tasrif.

13 s6(a)

14 I also took the opportunity to register with Marsudi New Zealand’s appreciation for Indonesia’s support to resolve our Papua consular case and to reiterate that New Zealand’s top priority continues to be the safe and rapid release of our citizen through peaceful negotiations. We agreed to continue sharing information on this complex issue.

15 I also attended a geothermal event to announce an extension to Aotearoa New Zealand’s cooperation with Indonesia in the geothermal sector. Following a short bilateral meeting with Indonesia Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources Arifin Tasrif, he and I attended an event with Indonesian media and private and public sector stakeholders. There I announced an additional NZD\$15.6m, 5-year Geothermal Energy Program focussing on delivering technical assistance and capacity building. The

announcement was successful in amplifying New Zealand's profile (including our private sector technical expertise) as a key renewable energy partner to Indonesia. **Proactive Release**

16 This paper will be proactively released as per Cabinet Office Circular CO (18)4 on the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade's website. Proactive release is subject to redactions as appropriate under the Official Information Act 1982.

Recommendations

The Minister of Foreign Affairs recommends that Cabinet:

1 note this report.

Authorised for lodgement

Hon Nanaia Mahuta

Minita Take Aorere / Minister of Foreign Affairs

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by the Minister of Foreign Affairs