

# Proactive Release

Date: 1 April 2019

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

***Report on Overseas Travel: Rt Hon Winston Peters: Washington DC:  
14-17 December 2018 (CAB-19-SUB-0029 refers)***

***Report on Overseas Travel: Rt Hon Winston Peters: Cabinet Minute  
(CAB-19-MIN-0029 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;
- 6(b): to protect the passing of information from another government on a confidential basis; and
- 9(2)(d): to protect the economic interests of New Zealand.



# 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.*

---

### Report on Overseas Travel: Rt Hon Winston Peters

**Portfolio**                      **Foreign Affairs**

On 18 February 2019, Cabinet **noted** the report from the Rt Hon Winston Peters under CAB-19-SUB-0029 on his travel, from 13 to 19 December 2018, to Washington, United States for a bilateral visit.

Michael Webster  
Secretary of the Cabinet

---

**Hard-copy distribution:**  
Prime Minister  
Minister of Foreign Affairs

Chair,  
Cabinet

**REPORT ON OVERSEAS TRAVEL: RT HON WINSTON PETERS: WASHINGTON DC: 14-17 DECEMBER 2018**

It is recommended that Cabinet note this report on the travel by the Minister of Foreign Affairs to Washington DC from 14-17 December 2018.

2 The visit included meetings with Vice President Pence, Secretary of State Pompeo, National Security Adviser John Bolton and Director of National Intelligence Dan Coats. During discussions with Vice President Pence and his Trump Administration colleagues, s6(a)

- New Zealand as a stable, long established democracy is committed to a strong, strategic partnership with the United States;
- s6(a)
- s9(2)(d), s6(a)

3 The Vice President characterised the relationship with New Zealand as one of the closest the US has, and said "we want to grow this relationship even stronger". In all meetings there was an empathetic response to New Zealand's emphasis on shared democratic values. The tone of discussions was open, relaxed and friendly.

s6(a)

s6(b)

The

visit also featured a speech on 14 December speech on “Pacific Partnerships” to an audience of senior officials, diplomatic and academic colleagues at the New Zealand Embassy in association with Georgetown University s6(b)

s6(b)

s6(b)

s6(a)

s6(a)

Proactively released by the  
Minister of Foreign Affairs

### *North Korea*

10 New Zealand support for US efforts on North Korea was welcomed by both Secretary of State Pompeo and by Vice President Pence. [s6(a)]

### *Conclusion*

11 The visit was well timed to have significant impact in Washington DC, following as it did the widespread engagement that New Zealand had had with Administration members at the East Asia Summit and APEC. [s6(a)]

[s6(a), s9(2)(d)]

[s6(a)]

### **Proactive release**

14 It is intended that a redacted version of this Cabinet paper will be proactively released under the Official Information Act. Some of the paper will need to be redacted under section 6 (a) of the Act.

### **Recommendation**

15 It is recommended that Cabinet **note** this report.

Approved for lodgement

Rt Hon Winston Peters  
Minister of Foreign Affairs

Proactively released by the  
Minister of Foreign Affairs