

Proactive Release

4/09/2023

The following Cabinet papers and related Cabinet minutes have been proactively released by the Minister of Foreign Affairs

Title	Reference
<i>Cabinet Minute of Decision – Proposed Overseas Travel: Hon Nanaia Mahuta</i>	CAB-23-MIN-0311
<i>Proposed Overseas Travel: Hon Nanaia Mahuta – South Africa 1 - 8 August</i>	

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 OIA). Where this is the case, the relevant sections of the OIA 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 OIA 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

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: Hon Nanaia Mahuta

Portfolio **Foreign Affairs**

On 24 July 2023, Cabinet:

- 1 **authorised** the absence of Hon Nanaia Mahuta from New Zealand, from 1 to 8 August 2023, to travel to Pretoria and Cape Town, South Africa to hold bilateral meetings and support the New Zealand Silver Ferns;
- 2 **agreed** that she be accompanied by one member of staff;
- 3 **approved** the estimated expenditure of up to \$50,476.95 for the travel expenses of the ministerial party as a charge to Vote: Internal Affairs (Members of the Executive – Travel);
- 4 **noted** that she will be accompanied by officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, whose costs will be met their agency;
- 5 **noted** that she will also be accompanied by her daughter, whose costs will be met by her personally;
- 6 **agreed** that in her absence Hon David Parker act as Minister of Foreign Affairs and Minister for Disarmament and Arms Control;
- 7 **noted** that leave from Parliament has been sought.

Rachel Hayward
Secretary of the Cabinet

~~IN CONFIDENCE~~

Office of the Minister of Foreign Affairs

Chair, Cabinet

Proposed Overseas Travel: Hon Nanaia Mahuta

- 1 I seek Cabinet approval to travel to South Africa for bilateral meetings with ministerial counterparts and to support the New Zealand Silver Ferns at key games of the Netball World Cup from 1 August to 8 August inclusive. This will be the first visit by a New Zealand Minister to South Africa since 2015 and my first as Foreign Minister to the Africa continent. Prime Minister Chris Hipkins has approved this travel in-principle.

Executive Summary

- 2 South Africa is one of Aotearoa New Zealand's highest priority relationships in Africa.^{s6(a)} The relationship is grounded in whānangatanga, people to people links and our shared respect for culture and our land. Over 70,000 South Africans now call New Zealand home. South Africa has significant influence, including on issues of mutual interest such as disarmament and non-proliferation.
- 3 In Pretoria, South Africa my bilateral programme will include engagement with key ministerial counterparts. I will meet with the Minister of International Relations and Cooperation, Naledi Pandor. I also intend to meet with the Minister of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs, Thembi Nkadimeng, and the Minister of Small Business Development, Stella Ndabeni-Abrahams. I also plan to be involved with sports diplomacy, meeting with the head of Netball New Zealand and attending several of the New Zealand Silver Ferns games at the Netball World Cup.
- 4 South Africa is a G20 member, a diverse trading partner and a critical point of entry to the continent for New Zealand business. It acts as a gateway market to the new African Continental Free Trade Agreement Area (AfCFTA), one of the world's largest free trade areas, for many businesses looking to diversify their export markets. I will host a business engagement event as a chance to understand the opportunities and challenges New Zealand businesses are facing in South Africa and the continent more broadly.
- 5 A visit to South Africa would deliver on the following objectives:

- My meeting with the Minister of International Relations and Cooperation will strengthen New Zealand's ties with South Africa and advance New Zealand's interests in maintaining a rules-based international order. ^{s6(a)}
s6(a)

- Promote bilateral sports diplomacy through engagement with Netball New Zealand and attendance at Silver Ferns netball games. Both Aotearoa New Zealand and South Africa share a love of sport. On behalf of Minister of Sport and Recreation, Hon Grant Robinson, I will support the New Zealand Silver Ferns, the current World Champions, who will represent New Zealand at the Netball World Cup in Cape Town. This will provide an opportunity to build on New Zealand's profile in South Africa, and the continent more broadly, through the medium of women's sport.

Outline of Proposed Programme

- 6 During seven days in South Africa (1 – 8 August) I will:

- o Meet with my South African counterpart, the Minister of International Relations and Cooperation, Naledi Pandor. I also intend to meet with the Minister of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs, Thembu Nkandimeng, and the Minister of Small Business Development, Stella Ndabeni-Abrahams.
- o Host an event for New Zealand business;
- o Meet regional leaders attending the Netball World Cup;
- o Meet with indigenous KhopiSan representatives;
- o Pay respects at key sites of the anti-apartheid struggle, including Nelson Mandela’s house in Soweto;
- o Attend a meet and greet with the Silver Ferns, and attend the Netball World Cup quarterfinals, semi-finals and finals; and
- o Host an event for a New Zealand-funded local NGO focused on women’s and girl’s empowerment.

Travel

- 7 If my travel is approved, I will depart Auckland on Tuesday 1 August. I intend to return to New Zealand on Tuesday 8 August. The substantive elements of my visit will take place between 2-5 August.
- 8 My daughter will accompany me on this visit to South Africa. I will cover all costs on this visit personally.

Ministerial Party

- 9 I propose to be accompanied by one staff member paid for by ministerial services. I will also be accompanied by two officials whose costs will be met by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

Estimated Costs

- 10 The estimated cost for this travel is:

	Cost and comment	Total
Flights	Minister plus one staff	NZD 39,480
Accommodation - Minister	<u>Pretoria</u> – NZ Official Residence (two nights 1-2 August) – No cost <u>Cape Town</u> – ^{s6(a)} _{s6(a)} Junior Suite	

	Three nights (3 rd 5 th and 6 th August) @ NZD425 each Two nights complimentary accommodation funded by South Africa. NZD 850	NZD 850
Gifts	One gift for each of the Ministerial meetings I will have NZD450	NZD 1,350
Transportation	<u>Pretoria</u> Additional driver hire for two days @NZD 200 <u>Cape Town</u> Car and driver provided with compliments of the host government	NZD 200
Receptions / Events	<u>Pretoria</u> Small business engagement event for 24 pax NZD 1000 Office to pay half of NZD 1000: NZD 500.	NZD 500
Other meals miscellaneous	MFAT per diem rates for business travel <u>South Africa</u> <u>ZAR 1478 per day for two people, seven days ZAR 10,346 / NZD 913</u>	NZD 913
Safari	Safari in Cape Town overnight on 4 August. Minister plus one staff. Cost @300 each	NZD 600
Subtotal		NZD 43,893
Contingency 15%		NZD 6,583.95
Total		NZD 50,476.95

Acting Ministers

11 Leave is being sought from the House.

POLI-162-658

- 12 If my travel is approved, I propose that Hon David Parker act as Minister for my Foreign Affairs and Disarmament and Arms Control portfolios.

Recommendations

I recommend that Cabinet:

- 1 Authorise my absence from New Zealand from 1 – 8 August to travel to South Africa.
- 2 Agree that I will be accompanied by a member of my staff paid for by ministerial services.
- 3 Note that I will be accompanied by officials whose costs will be met by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade.
- 4 Note that my daughter will accompany me on this visit and that I will cover all costs personally.
- 5 Approve the expenditure of \$50,476.95 for the travel expenses of the ministerial party as a charge to Vote Internal Affairs, Members of the Executive – Travel.
- 6 Agree that Hon David Parker will be Acting Minister in my absence.

Authorised for lodgement

Hon Nanaia Mahuta

Minister of Foreign Affairs / Minita Take Aorere