

Proactive Release

13/06/2023

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 – Retrospective Approval of Overseas Travel: Hon Nanaia Mahuta</i>	CAB-23-MIN-0157
<i>Retrospective Overseas Travel: Hon Nanaia Mahuta Travel to Samoa 19 to 22 April 2023</i>	

Proactively Released by the
Minister of Foreign Affairs



Cabinet

Minute of Decision

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Retrospective Approval of Overseas Travel: Hon Nanaia Mahuta

Portfolio Foreign Affairs

On 1 May 2023, Cabinet:

- 1 **retrospectively authorised** the absence of Hon Nanaia Mahuta from New Zealand, from 19 to 22 April 2023, to travel to Samoa for a bilateral visit;
- 2 **noted** that she was accompanied by one member of staff;
- 3 **retrospectively approved** the expenditure of up to \$4,498 for the travel expenses of the ministerial party as a charge to Vote: Internal Affairs (Members of the Executive – Travel);
- 4 **noted** that she was also accompanied by officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, whose travel costs were met by their department;
- 5 **noted** that in her absence Hon Parker acted as Minister of Foreign Affairs and Minister for Disarmament and Arms Control.

Rachel Hayward
Secretary of the Cabinet

Office of the Minister for Foreign Affairs
Chair, Cabinet

Retrospective Overseas Travel: Hon Nanaia Mahuta

1. Following the Prime Minister's in-principle approval for me to travel to Samoa from 19-22 April 2023, I am seeking Cabinet's retrospective approval.

Reasons for Travel

2. During my first bilateral visit to Samoa as Minister of Foreign Affairs, I was able to underscore the importance of the bilateral relationship between Aotearoa New Zealand and Samoa, during the 60th anniversary year of Samoa's independence and the 60th anniversary of diplomatic relations between our two countries.
3. I presented Aotearoa New Zealand's ongoing support for Samoa's post-COVID socio-economic recovery, and Aotearoa New Zealand's willingness to help address long-term issues including the existential threats of climate change.
4. The visit enabled me to reaffirm Aotearoa New Zealand's commitment to help Samoa host a quality CHOGM27 meeting in 2024 that delivers on Samoa's chosen theme of "one resilient common future".
5. Furthermore, the visit presented opportunities to showcase Aotearoa New Zealand's international development programme activities in Samoa, including in the healthcare sector, support for climate finance, and the forthcoming redevelopment of the Savalalo Market.
6. United Kingdom Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs, the Rt Hon James Cleverly MP had initially planned to join me for part of this visit, however, he had to cancel his plans due to the situation in Sudan.

Travel

7. I departed Aotearoa New Zealand by commercial means on 19 April and returned by commercial means on 22 April.

Ministerial Party

8. I was accompanied by one Private Secretary from my office. Officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade also accompanied me on the visit. Their costs were covered by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

Acting Ministers

9. In my absence, Hon Parker acted as Minister of Foreign Affairs, and Minister for Disarmament and Arms Control.

POLI-91-3558

Estimated Cost

10. The estimated cost for this travel is:

Flights	\$1812
Other transportation	\$200
Accommodation	\$1200
Other expenses including meals	\$400
Gifts	\$300
Subtotal	\$3912
<i>Contingency 15 percent</i>	\$586
Total	\$4498

Recommendations

11. I recommend that Cabinet retrospectively:

- **Authorise** my absence from New Zealand from 19 to 22 April 2023 to travel to Samoa.
- **Agree** that I will be accompanied by my Private Secretary.
- **Note** that I will also be accompanied by officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade.
- **Approve** the expenditure of \$4498 for the travel expenses of the ministerial party as a charge to Vote Internal Affairs, Members of the Executive – Travel.
- **Agree** that in my absence Hon Parker act as Minister of Foreign Affairs and Minister for Disarmament and Arms Control.

– Authorised for lodgement –

Hon Nanaia Mahuta

Minita Take Aorere / Minister of Foreign Affairs