

20 February 2025

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OIA 29904

Thank you for your email of 22 January 2025 in which you request the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA):

*"was the Cabinet paper under ERD (10) 54 made public as proposed by MFAT and noted by Cabinet on 15/12/10?
is there a way/intention to confirm if there is evidence it was made public? Would there be a list of Māori and other stakeholders the negotiations information was shared with?"*


The Cabinet paper referenced was proactively released on the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade's (the Ministry) website, and is held at Archives New Zealand here: <https://ndhadeliver.natlib.govt.nz/webarchive/20110604190122/http://www.mfat.govt.nz/Foreign-Relations/1-Global-Issues/Environment/7-Species-Conservation/geneticres.php>

While the Cabinet paper does not include information on consultations, we can advise that consultation with Māori was undertaken during the development of New Zealand's mandate. Led by the then Ministry for Economic Development (as lead agency on bioprospecting and access and benefit-sharing work), a series of hui were held in regional centres, including Napier, Christchurch and Kaitia, along with regular meetings in Wellington. These meetings were chaired by Rauru Kirikiri, contracted to the Ministry for Economic Development.

Please note that it is our policy to proactively release our responses to official information requests where possible. Therefore, our response to your request (with your personal information removed) may be published on the Ministry website: www.mfat.govt.nz/en/about-us/contact-us/official-information-act-responses/

If you have any questions about this decision, you can contact us by email at: DM-ESD@mfat.govt.nz. You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision by contacting www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'SC', written in a cursive style.

Sarah Corbett
for Secretary of Foreign Affairs and Trade