

7 March 2025

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Personal details removed for proactive release

OIA 29939

Personal details removed for proactive release

Thank you for your email of 8 February 2025 in which you request the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA):

1. Any correspondence received from any of the signatories of the Joint Statement regarding the signing of the statement. This includes any requests made for New Zealand to sign the statement or any information provided to New Zealand before the release of the statement.

2. All communications between New Zealand government ministers and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade concerning this statement and its contents.

Please find the information relevant to your request attached. Some information is withheld under the following sections of the OIA:

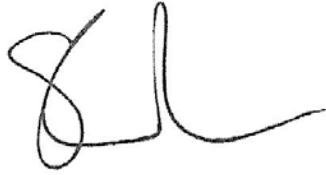
- 6(a): to avoid prejudicing the security or defence of New Zealand or the international relations of the New Zealand Government;
- 6(b)(i): to protect the passing of information from another government on a confidential basis;
- 9(2)(a): to protect individuals' privacy;
- 9(2)(g)(i): to protect the free and frank expression of opinions by departments; and
- 9(2)(g)(ii): to protect officers and employees from improper pressure or harassment.

Where the information has been withheld under section 9 of the OIA, no public interest in releasing the information has been identified that would override the reasons for withholding it.

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, consisting of a large, stylized 'S' followed by a horizontal line that tapers to the right.

Sarah Corbett
for Secretary of Foreign Affairs and Trade

From: s9(2)(g)(ii)
To:
Cc:
Subject: RE: For information: NZ will not join a statement in support of the ICC [SEC=RESTRICTED] [SEC=RESTRICTED] .[SEC=RESTRICTED].
Date: 7 February 2025 12:49:06 pm
Attachments: [image001.jpg](#)

[RESTRICTED]

Thanks s9(2)(g)(ii) - that is helpful. s6(a)

From: s9(2)(g)(ii)
Date: Friday, 07 Feb 2025 at 12:46 PM
To: s9(2)(g)(ii)
Cc: s9(2)(g)(ii)

Subject: RE: For information: NZ will not join a statement in support of the ICC [SEC=RESTRICTED] .[SEC=RESTRICTED].
[SEC=RESTRICTED]

[RESTRICTED]

s9(2)(g)(ii) at al

Some useful context here from OTT. s9(2)(g)(ii) from OTT called me shortly after we had spoken, s9(2)(g)(ii) and we had a quick conversation ahead of me forwarding a copy of your email.

As we move forward on this and similar issues, I think the point about s6(a), s9(2)(g)(i)

Cheers
s9(2)(g)(ii)

Thanks s9(2)(g)(ii) – really helpful.

s6(a), s6(b)(i)

Cheers,
s9(2)(g)(ii)

Sent with BlackBerry Work
(www.blackberry.com)

From: s9(2)(g)(ii)
Date: Thursday, Feb 06, 2025 at 6:17 PM
To: s9(2)(g)(ii)
Cc: s9(2)(g)(ii)

Subject: RE: For information: NZ will not join a statement in support of the ICC [SEC=RESTRICTED]

[RESTRICTED]

Hi all,

The EO is now up: [Imposing Sanctions on the International Criminal Court – The White House](#)

Kind regards,

s9(2)(g)(ii)

From: s9(2)(g)(ii)
Sent: Thursday, February 6, 2025 5:20 PM
To: s9(2)(g)(ii)
Cc: s9(2)(g)(ii)

Subject: RE: For information: NZ will not join a statement in support of the ICC

Hi s9(2)(g)(ii)

Further to this, the s6(a), s6(b)(i)

Kind regards,

s9(2)(g)(ii)

From: s9(2)(g)(ii)
Sent: Thursday, February 6, 2025 3:51 PM
To: s9(2)(g)(ii)
Cc: s9(2)(g)(ii)

Subject: RE: For information: NZ will not join a statement in support of the ICC

Hi s9(2)(g)(ii)

Thank you for this. s6(a), s6(b)(i)

Kind regards,

s9(2)(g)(ii)

From: s9(2)(g)(ii)
Sent: Thursday, February 6, 2025 3:45 PM
To: s9(2)(g)(ii)
Cc: s9(2)(g)(ii)

Subject: RE: For information: NZ will not join a statement in support of the ICC

[RESTRICTED]

Hi s9(2)(g)(ii)

s6(a), s6(b)(i), s9(2)(g)(i)

This is what we were advised:

Thanks^{s9(2)(a)} I have worked through similar issues with MFA over the last few weeks, including with respect to the ICC.

s6(a), s9(2)(g)(i)

Let me know if that's enough direction for now - or whether you're wanting me to call MFA this morning to put a specific proposition / recommendation to him.

Best

s9(2)(g)(ii)

Thanks again
s9(2)(g)(ii)

From: s9(2)(g)(ii)
Sent: Friday, February 7, 2025 8:47 AM
To: s9(2)(g)(ii)
Cc: s9(2)(g)(ii)

Subject: RE: For information: NZ will not join a statement in support of the ICC

[RESTRICTED]

Thank you. s9(2)(g)(i)

From: s9(2)(g)(ii)
Sent: Thursday, February 6, 2025 2:04 PM
To: s9(2)(g)(ii)
Cc: s9(2)(g)(ii)

Subject: RE: For information: NZ will not join a statement in support of the ICC

[RESTRICTED]

Thanks s9(2)(i) I am just about to check in with OMFA so will come back to you asap
) ()

From: s9(2)(g)(ii)
Sent: Friday, February 7, 2025 8:03 AM
To: s9(2)(g)(ii)
Cc: s9(2)(g)(ii)

Subject: RE: For information: NZ will not join a statement in support of the ICC

[RESTRICTED]

s9(2)(g)(ii)
Hi

Thank and apologies again for the multiple messages. The latest in NY is as follows, noting this is all subject to change in the next couple of hours:

s6(a)

s6(b)(i), s6(a)

s6(a), s6(b)(i)

Kind regards,

s9(2)(g)(ii)

From: s9(2)(g)(ii)
Sent: Thursday, February 6, 2025 1:55 PM
To: s9(2)(g)(ii)
Cc: s9(2)(g)(ii)

Subject: RE: For information: NZ will not join a statement in support of the ICC

[RESTRICTED]

Hi s9(2)(g)(ii)

I will come back to you asap about this.

Thanks
s9(2)(g)(ii)

From: s9(2)(g)(ii)
Sent: Thursday, February 6, 2025 4:15 PM
To: s9(2)(g)(ii)

Cc: s9(2)(g)(ii)
Subject: RE: For information: NZ will not join a statement in support of the ICC

[RESTRICTED]

Hi all,

With apologies for the multiple messages, s6(a), s6(b)(i)

Thanks,
s9(2)(g)(ii)

From: s9(2)(g)(ii)
Sent: Wednesday, February 5, 2025 6:45 PM
To: s9(2)(g)(ii)

Cc: s9(2)(g)(ii)
Subject: RE: For information: NZ will not join a statement in support of the ICC

Kia ora,

A quick update on the ICC sanctions statement^{s9(2)(g)(ii)} welcome any thoughts from you as I see both^{s9(2)(g)} and have 000 replies); the focal points have communicated an update, as follows: s6(a), s9(2)(g)(i)

The statement as-was distributed by email remains unchanged.

As I understand it NZ's priority remains s6(a)

any guidance in advance.

– otherwise, welcome

Happy to discuss if that would be helpful!

Kind regards,

s9(2)(g)(ii)

From: s9(2)(g)(ii)

Sent: Wednesday, February 5, 2025 4:04 PM

To: s9(2)(g)(ii)

Cc: s9(2)(g)(ii)

Subject: RE: For information: NZ will not join a statement in support of the ICC

Thanks^{s9(2)(g)(ii)} s6(a)

From: s9(2)(g)(ii)

Sent: Tuesday, February 4, 2025 4:13 PM

To: s9(2)(g)(ii)

Cc: s9(2)(g)(ii)

Subject: RE: For information: NZ will not join a statement in support of the ICC

[RESTRICTED]

Hi^{s9(2)(g)(ii)}

Please do remain in contact on the issue. s6(a)

Please include^{s9(2)(g)(ii)} in communications on this issue from tomorrow, as I am on leave on Friday,

s9(2)(g)(ii)

From: s9(2)(g)(ii)

Sent: Wednesday, February 5, 2025 10:09 AM

To: s9(2)(g)(ii)

Cc: s9(2)(g)(ii)

Subject: RE: For information: NZ will not join a statement in support of the ICC

[RESTRICTED]

Hi s9(2)
() (ii)

As my email last night s6(a)

s6(b)(i)

s6(a)

s6(a), s6(b)(i)

s6(a)

Kind regards,

s9(2)(g)(ii)

From: s9(2)(g)(ii)

Sent: Monday, February 3, 2025 7:35 PM

To: s9(2)(g)(ii)

Subject: FW: For information: NZ will not join a statement in support of the ICC

[UNCLASSIFIED]

FYI ^{s9(2)(g)(i)} Thanks for your work on this,

s9(2)(g)(ii)

From: s9(2)(g)(ii)

Sent: Tuesday, February 4, 2025 1:18 PM

To: s9(2)(g)(ii)

Cc: s9(2)(g)(ii)

Subject: RE: For information: NZ will not join a statement in support of the ICC

Thanks for the update, ^{s9(2)}

From: s9(2)(g)(ii)

Sent: Tuesday, 4 February 2025, 12:33 PM

To: s9(2)(g)(ii)

Cc: s9(2)(g)(ii)

Subject: For information: NZ will not join a statement in support of the ICC

[SEEMAIL] [RESTRICTED]

Hi s9(2)(g)(ii)

s6(a), s9(2)(g)(i)

s6(a), s9(2)(g)(i)

I am happy to answer any further questions you may have,

s9(2)(g)(ii)

Legal Adviser, General International Law Unit | Roopu Ture o Te Ao
Legal Division
New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs & Trade | Manatū Aorere

M s9(2)(a) E s9(2)(g)(ii)

Out of scope

Released under the Official Information Act

Remainder of this email chain is
out of scope

From: s9(2)(g)(ii)
To: s9(2)(g)(ii) s9(2)(g)(ii)
Cc: s9(2)(g)(ii)

Subject: Re: ICC statement on sanctions - NZ support
Date: 7 February 2025 9:09:17 am
Attachments: image001.jpg

Thanks s9(2)(g)(ii) I have worked through similar issues with MFA over the last few weeks, including with respect to the ICC.

s6(a), s9(2)(g)(i)

Let me know if that's enough direction for now - or whether you're wanting me to call MFA this morning to put a specific proposition / recommendation to him.

Best

s9(2)
s9(2)(ii)

s9(2)(g)(ii)
Senior Foreign Affairs Adviser
Office of Rt Hon Winston Peters
New Zealand Deputy Prime Minister & Minister of Foreign Affairs
Phone/WhatsApp: s9(2)(a)

From: s9(2)(g)(ii)
Sent: Friday, February 7, 2025 08:11
To: s9(2)(g)(ii)
Cc: s9(2)(g)(ii)

Subject: ICC statement on sanctions - NZ support

[SEEMAIL] [RESTRICTED]

Good morning s9(2)(g)(ii)

s6(a), s6(b)(i), s9(2)(g)(i)

Apologies for the short notice, and happy to discuss.

Thanks
s9(2)(g)(ii)

Duplicate information removed

Released under the Official Information Act

Released under the Official Information Act

Duplicate Information Removed

Released under the Official Information Act

Out of scope

Remainder of email is out of scope

From: s9(2)(g)(ii)
To:
Cc:
Subject: RE: Trump issues EO sanctioning ICC
Date: 8 February 2025 8:05:07 am

[RESTRICTED]

Thanks s9(2)(g)(ii)

s6(a)

s6(b)(i)

s6(a)

s6(a)

s6(a)

Thanks everyone for the good multi-post engagement on this today.

S.

From: s9(2)(g)(ii)
Sent: Friday, 7 February 2025 6:11 pm
To: s9(2)(g)(ii)

Cc: s9(2)(g)(i)

Subject: RE: Trump issues EO sanctioning ICC
Importance: High

[RESTRICTED]

Hi s9(2)(g)(ii)

Sorry for coming in late to this as my emails have been down this morning due to our Outlook being migrated today.

We had guidance from DS MLG/LGL yesterday afternoon that ^{s6(a)}

^{s6(a), s6(b)(i)}

^{s9(2)(g)(i), s6(a)}

^{s6(a)}

I will talk with ^{s9(2)(g)(ii)} when we have a chance to connect about FM reporting later today (she's off site at the moment).

Cheers

^{s9(2)(g)(ii)}

From: ^{s9(2)(g)(ii)}

Sent: Friday, February 7, 2025 10:19 AM

To: ^{s9(2)(g)(ii)}

Cc: ^{s9(2)(g)(ii)}

Subject: RE: Trump issues EO sanctioning ICC

[RESTRICTED]

Further to this message:

^{s6(a), s6(b)(i)}

Out of scope

Out of scope

Thanks everyone.

From: s9(2)(g)(ii)
Sent: Friday, 7 February 2025 11:31 am
To: s9(2)(g)(ii)

Cc: s9(2)(g)(ii)

Subject: FW: Trump issues EO sanctioning ICC

In my cut-and-paste haste, I left off s9(2)(g)(ii). Sorry! s9(2)(g)(i)

From: s9(2)(g)(ii)
Sent: Friday, 7 February 2025 11:23 am
To: s9(2)(g)(ii)

Cc: s9(2)(g)(ii)

Subject: FW: Trump issues EO sanctioning ICC

[RESTRICTED]

Out of scope

Out of scope

The joint statement

s9(2)(g)(i)

s6(a), s9(2)(g)(i)

In terms of messaging s6(a)

we are making these points:

- Our position on support for the ICC and opposition to sanctions is clear and on the record, including the Bureau statement, the statement last June, the ICC Assembly Resolution (consensus) in December.
- s6(a)

- s6(a)

In terms of next steps, we note that as of today s6(a)

The **Netherlands MFA Casper Veldkamp has made a public statement** on the Executive Order. Caspar Veldkamp on X: "The Netherlands regrets the executive order imposing sanctions on the ICC. The court's work is essential in the fight against impunity. Our country has a strong reputation and responsibility as a host country of important international legal institutions. 1/2" / X

Out of scope

Released under the Official Information Act

Out of scope

From: s9(2)(g)(ii)

Sent: Friday, 7 February 2025 1:19 am

To: s9(2)(g)(ii)

Cc: s9(2)(g)(ii)

Subject: Trump issues EO sanctioning ICC

[IN CONFIDENCE]

Kia ora koutou,

s6(a)

Please send this on to anyone I've undoubtedly missed!

Cheers
s9(2)(g)
(ii)

Sent with BlackBerry Work
(www.blackberry.com)

Released under the Official Information Act

From: WASHINGTON
Sent: 8 February 2025 10:21 am
To: AMER; LGL
Cc: FM.Defence (Seemail); FM.P/S MFA (Seemail); FM.DPMC (FPA) (Seemail); FM.DPMC (Seemail); FM.P/S Defence (Seemail); FM.P/S Associate MFA (Seemail); ...WLN SLT; ALL POSTS (FM); ...POLICY DIVISIONS; OCE; HAGUE; MEA; WASHINGTON
Subject: FORMAL MESSAGE: US EXECUTIVE ORDER AUTHORISING SANCTIONS ON ICC [SEC=RESTRICTED]

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

[RESTRICTED]

HOHENGA – ACTION

For information.

SUMMARY

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Joint Statement

9. In response to the EO, a number of states parties to the ICC (79 at the time of writing) issued a Joint Statement affirming their support for the ICC and opposition to the imposition of sanctions. The Joint Statement was published on social media accounts on 7 February (EST).
10. The statement does not refer directly to the US Executive Order, but states that “measures sanctioning the Court, its officials and staff, and those cooperating with it have been adopted in response to the Court carrying out its mandate in accordance with the Rome Statute”. The statement outlines ways in which sanctions may negatively affect the work of the Court; “regret[s]

any attempts to undermine the Court’s independence, integrity and impartiality”; reaffirms supporters’ commitment the ICC’s business continuity in order to allow the Court to carry out its functions; and underscores the Court’s role in ending impunity and upholding international law.

11. Canada and the United Kingdom joined the statement. Australia did not, and nor did regional ICC states parties ROK and Japan. (Comment: While New Zealand did not join the statement, we are on the ICC bureau, which issued a proactive statement in support of the Court in January).

Out of scope

MUTU - ENDS

Remainder of document is out of scope

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