



Proactive Release

The following Cabinet paper and related Cabinet minute have been proactively released by the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, on behalf of Rt Hon Jacinda Ardern, Prime Minister:

Proposed Overseas Travel: Prime Minister

Date of release: 25 October 2019

The following documents have been included in this release:

***Title of paper: Proposed Overseas Travel: Prime Minister
(CAB-19-SUB-0482 refers)***

***Title of minute: Proposed Overseas Travel: Prime Minister
(CAB-19-MIN-0482 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 section of the Act that would apply has been identified. Where information has been withheld, no public interest has been identified that would outweigh the reasons for withholding it.

Key to redaction code:

- 9(2)(f)(iv): to maintain the confidentiality of advice tendered by or to Ministers and officials.

The Paper states the Prime Minister's intention to attend a Sustainable Development Summit. Due to scheduling conflicts, the Prime Minister was unable to attend this event.

OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER

MEMORANDUM TO CABINET

PROPOSED OVERSEAS TRAVEL: PRIME MINISTER

Proposal

I seek the approval of Cabinet for my absence from New Zealand from the evening of Tuesday 17 September to the morning of Saturday 28 September to undertake official travel to Japan and to attend the 74th Regular Session of the UN General Assembly (UNGA 74), in New York.

Background

Japan

2. In Tokyo, the centrepiece of my visit will be the Summit with Prime Minister Abe. I will discuss ways to expand our cooperation and identify opportunities for cooperation in our region and in partnership with our Pacific neighbours. We will also exchange perspectives on regional security issues like North Korea, and on the current state of the international trading system.

3. I will attend a range of business, political and cultural events. These include a speech to a business audience over lunch, engagement with New Zealand companies and presiding over the signing of R&D partnerships, and attending an investment event. I will also be taking the opportunity to attend the Tourism New Zealand-led Project Rippa consumer activation cultural event, and will personally support the All Blacks during their first match of the Rugby World Cup 2019 on 21 September.

New York

4. In New York I will be taking part in the opening of the 74th Regular Session of the UN General Assembly (UNGA 74), "Leaders' Week", from 22 to 26 September. My key objectives are to: demonstrate New Zealand's action on climate change and mobilise

support for accelerating collective action; profile New Zealand's wellbeing approach to sustainable development; demonstrate progress on the Christchurch Call to Action; amplify the Pacific voice internationally, and deepen relationships with countries that are important to New Zealand. Priority events include participation in the UN Secretary General's Climate Action Summit, the **Sustainable Development Summit**, and a Leaders' Dialogue on the Christchurch Call to Action. I will also be speaking at a number of other high profile events outside the UN (e.g. Bloomberg Business Forum and the "Goalkeepers" event hosted by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation), and meeting with a range of my counterparts to advance New Zealand's foreign, trade and multilateral interests.

5. Hon Aupito William Sio, Minister for Pacific Peoples, will join me for part of my programme (approval for his travel will be the subject of a separate submission to Cabinet).

Prime Ministerial Party

6. I will be accompanied by my Chief of Staff, my Chief Press Secretary, officials from DPMC and MFAT, and Police Protection Service officers (Note – my Chief of Staff will travel separately and join the delegation for the New York part of the travel only).

7. My partner will accompany me on the Japan leg of the visit only, to participate in key parts of my programme and a spouse's programme that includes engagement with Mrs Abe.

Estimated Cost

8. The cost of the travel is estimated to be:

Airfares	9(2)(f)(iv)
Accommodation & meals	
Transport & communications	
Gifts, miscellaneous & contingency	
Total:	

9. The above costs will be a charge to Vote: Internal Affairs (Members of the Executive – Travel). The costs for the DPMC and MFAT officials, and the Police Protection Service officers, will be a charge to their respective votes.

10. Some costs associated with accommodation, transport and facilitation will be met by the host governments.

Proactive Release

**Due to scheduling conflicts the Prime Minister was unable to attend the Sustainable Development Summit.*

11. This paper will be proactively released, subject to any redactions.

Acting Ministers

12. In my absence, I propose that Rt Hon Winston Peters will act as Prime Minister and Minister for National Security and Intelligence; Hon Grant Robertson will act as Minister for Arts, Culture and Heritage, and Hon Tracey Martin will act as Minister for Child Poverty Reduction.

Recommendations

13. I recommend that Cabinet:

- a. approve my absence from New Zealand from the evening of Tuesday 17 September to the morning of Saturday 28 September to undertake official travel to Japan and to attend the 74th Regular Session of the UN General Assembly (UNGA 74), in New York;
- b. note that the Minister for Pacific Peoples, Hon Aupito William Sio, will join me for part of my programme in New York (approval for his travel will be the subject of a separate submission to Cabinet);
- c. agree that I will be accompanied by my Chief of Staff (in New York), my Chief Press Secretary, officials from DPMC and MFAT, and Police Protection Service officers;
- d. note that my partner will accompany me to Japan only, to participate in key parts of my programme and a separate spouse's programme including engagement with Mrs Abe;
- e. approve the estimated expenditure of 9(2)(f)(iv) for the Prime Ministerial party as a charge to Vote: Internal Affairs (Members of the Executive – Travel);
- f. note that the costs for the DPMC and MFAT officials, and the Police Protection Service officers, will be a charge to their respective votes;
- g. note that the host governments will assist with some accommodation, transport and facilitation costs;
- h. agree that in my absence Rt Hon Winston Peters will act as Prime Minister and Minister for National Security and Intelligence; Hon Grant Robertson will act as Minister for Arts, Culture and Heritage, and Hon Tracey Martin will act as Minister for Child Poverty Reduction.

Authorised for lodgement

Rt Hon Jacinda Ardern
PRIME MINISTER



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: Prime Minister

Portfolio **Prime Minister**

On 16 September 2019, Cabinet:

- 1 **authorised** the absence of the Prime Minister from New Zealand, from the evening of Tuesday, 17 September, to the morning of Saturday, 28 September 2019, to travel to:
 - 1.1 Tokyo, Japan to undertake an official visit and attend a Summit meeting with Prime Minister Abe;
 - 1.2 New York, United States of America, to attend the 74th Regular Session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA 74);
- 2 **noted** that she will be accompanied by Hon Aupito William Sio for part of the programme in New York, with approval for his travel previously agreed by Cabinet;
- 3 **agreed** that she be accompanied by her Chief of Staff (in New York) and her Chief Press Secretary;
- 4 **noted** that she will be accompanied by her partner to Japan only, to participate in key parts of the official programme, and a separate spouse's programme, including engagement with Mrs Abe;
- 5 **approved** the estimated expenditure of up to 9(2)(f)(iv) for the Prime Ministerial party as a charge to Vote: Internal Affairs (Members of the Executive – Travel);
- 6 **noted** that the host governments will assist with some accommodation, transport and facilitation costs;
- 7 **noted** that she will also be accompanied by officials from the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, and Police Protection Service officers, whose costs will be met by their respective Votes;
- 8 **agreed** that in her absence:
 - 8.1 Rt Hon Winston Peters act as Prime Minister and Minister for National Security and Intelligence;
 - 8.2 Hon Grant Robertson act as Minister for Arts, Culture and Heritage;
 - 8.3 Hon Tracey Martin act as Minister for Child Poverty Reduction;

9 **noted** that the House is sitting during her absence.

Michael Webster
Secretary of the Cabinet

Hard-copy distribution:

Prime Minister
Deputy Prime Minister

Proactively released by the Prime Minister