



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: 3 December 2019

The following documents have been included in this release:

***Title of paper: Proposed Overseas Travel: Rt Hon Jacinda Ardern
(CAB-19-SUB-0547 refers)***

***Title of minute: Proposed Overseas Travel: Prime Minister
(CAB-19-MIN-0547 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:

- 6(a): to avoid prejudicing the international relations of the New Zealand Government;
- 6(e)(vi): to prevent serious damage to the economy of New Zealand by disclosing prematurely decisions relating to the entering into of overseas trade agreements; and
- 9(2)(f)(iv) to maintain the current constitutional conventions protecting the confidentiality of advice tendered by ministers and officials.

MEMORANDUM TO CABINET

PROPOSED OVERSEAS TRAVEL: PRIME MINISTER

Proposal

I seek the approval of Cabinet for my absence from New Zealand from the morning of Sunday 3 November to the afternoon of Tuesday 5 November to undertake official travel to Bangkok, Thailand.

Background

2. The visit will enable me to underscore New Zealand's commitment to the rules-based order, our enduring commitment to collective action on regional challenges, and our support for ASEAN-centred regional architecture as key mechanisms for shaping the evolving regional order.

3. My visit will serve four major purposes:

- To participate in the annual East Asia Summit;
- 6(e)(vi) [REDACTED]
- To strengthen bilateral engagement with ASEAN, 6(a) [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]
- To advance New Zealand interests with key bilateral partners in the region.

4. A media contingent from New Zealand will travel with me.

Prime Ministerial Party

5. I will be accompanied by my Chief of Staff, my Deputy Chief Press Secretary, officials from DPMC and MFAT, and Police Protection Service officers.

Estimated Cost

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

Accommodation & meals

9(2)(f)(iv)

Gifts, miscellaneous & contingency

Total:

7. 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.

8. Some costs associated with accommodation and transport will be met by the host government.

9. The party will travel to Thailand by RNZAF aircraft.

Proactive Release

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

Acting Ministers

11. In my absence, I propose that Hon Kelvin Davis will act as Prime Minister and Minister for National Security and Intelligence on 3 November and Rt Hon Winston Peters will act on 4 and 5 November; Hon Kris Faafoi will act as Minister for Arts, Culture and Heritage on 3 November and Hon Grant Robertson will act on 4 and 5 November, and Hon Tracey Martin will act as Minister for Child Poverty Reduction.

Recommendations

12. I recommend that Cabinet:

- a. approve my absence from New Zealand from the morning of Sunday 3 November to the afternoon of Tuesday 5 November to undertake official travel to Bangkok, Thailand;
- b. agree that I will be accompanied by my Chief of Staff, my Deputy Chief Press Secretary, officials from DPMC and MFAT, and Police Protection Service officers;
- c. 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);
- d. note that the costs for the DPMC and MFAT officials, and the Police Protection Service officers, will be a charge to their respective votes;
- e. note that the host government will assist with some accommodation and transport costs;

- f. note that travel to and from Thailand will be by RNZAF aircraft;
- g. note that a media contingent from NZ will travel with me;
- h. agree that Hon Kelvin Davis will act as Prime Minister and Minister for National Security and Intelligence on 3 November and that Rt Hon Winston Peters will act on 4 and 5 November; Hon Kris Faafoi will act as Minister for Arts, Culture and Heritage on 3 November and Hon Grant Robertson will act on 4 and 5 November, and Hon Tracey Martin will act as Minister for Child Poverty Reduction;
- i. note that Cabinet on 4 November will be chaired in my absence.

Authorised for Lodgement

Rt Hon Jacinda Ardern
PRIME MINISTER

Proactively released by the 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 21 October 2019, Cabinet:

- 1 **authorised** the absence of the Prime Minister from New Zealand from the morning of Sunday 3 November 2019 to the afternoon of Tuesday, 5 November 2019, to undertake official travel to Bangkok, Thailand;
- 2 **agreed** that she be accompanied by two members of staff;
- 3 **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);
- 4 **noted** that she will 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;
- 5 **noted** that she will also be accompanied by a New Zealand media contingent;
- 6 **noted** that travel to and from Thailand will be by RNZAF aircraft;
- 7 **noted** that the host government will assist with some accommodation and transport costs;
- 8 **agreed** that in her absence:
 - 8.1 Hon Kelvin Davis act as Prime Minister and Minister for National Security and Intelligence on 3 November 2019;
 - 8.2 Rt Hon Winston Peters act as Prime Minister and Minister for National Security and Intelligence on 4 and 5 November 2019;
 - 8.3 Hon Kris Faafoi act as Minister for Arts, Culture and Heritage on 3 November 2019;
 - 8.4 Hon Grant Robertson act as Minister for Arts, Culture and Heritage on 4 and 5 November 2019;
 - 8.5 Hon Tracey Martin act as Minister for Child Poverty Reduction;

Michael Webster
Secretary of the Cabinet

Hard-copy distribution:
Prime Minister
Deputy Prime Minister