

Political Declaration
between
the Prime Minister of New Zealand
and
the Prime Minister of Niue

November 2025

On the occasion of the inaugural Annual Leaders' Meeting between New Zealand and Niue;

Affirming the value of their unique partnership, and recalling the historic bond of kinship and enduring social, cultural and economic ties between the peoples of New Zealand and Niue;

Recalling Niue's decision to enter into a relationship of free association with New Zealand in 1974, a status distinct from emergence as a sovereign and independent state, grounded in mutual respect and shared interests, as set out in the Niue Constitution Act 1974;



Acknowledging Niue's 50 years of successful self-governance in free association with New Zealand, and affirming the strength of the partnership, marked by close bonds between their peoples, the valuable contributions of the Niuean diaspora in New Zealand, strong intergovernmental cooperation, and regular, warm political engagement;

Recalling the deep and enduring trust that underpins the close partnership between New Zealand and Niue, founded on shared values and the interconnected interests of their peoples, and sustained through decades of mutual respect, cooperation, and commitment to Niue's ongoing development;

Reaffirming their intention for Niue to remain in a relationship of free association with New Zealand, and setting out established parameters of the constitutional relationship between New Zealand and Niue, both being part of the Realm of New Zealand;



Acknowledging the increasingly complex global and regional context, and reaffirming their shared commitment to a peaceful, stable and rules-based international order, in which their relationship remains a steadfast foundation for collective resilience and shared purpose;

Further acknowledging the central role of the Pacific Islands Forum in the Pacific region for advancing the collective prosperity, peace, and security of Pacific Islands countries.

The Leaders of New Zealand and Niue hereby state:

Free Association

1. The relationship of free association between New Zealand and Niue is a voluntary relationship based on mutual consent, and maintained on the basis of ongoing cooperation, communication and trust, shared interests and shared values;
2. New Zealand and Niue share one Head of State, the Sovereign in right of New Zealand. On the issues that trigger the Sovereign's interests there must be consistency across the Realm, as the Sovereign cannot have conflicting interests.
3. New Zealand reaffirms its commitment to extending New Zealand citizenship to the people of Niue, on the basis of Niue's commitment to uphold the fundamental values upon which that citizenship is based.
4. As set out in the Niue Constitution Act 1974 the Sovereign in right of New Zealand retains a constitutional responsibility for the external affairs and defence of Niue. New Zealand remains committed to the defence of Niue, and acting as Niue's agent for matters of external affairs at its request.
5. New Zealand and Niue reaffirm their commitment to upholding democratic principles, the purpose and principles of the United Nations Charter, rule of law, and respect for human rights. Niue pursues its foreign policy in accordance with the interests of its people consistently with its enduring alignment with New Zealand's fundamental interests and its responsibilities within the Realm. New Zealand and Niue's shared



and interconnected interests have long guided Niue's international engagement and will continue to do so.

6. In accordance with Niue's constitution, Niue exercises executive authority over its exclusive economic zone, land territory and airspace. In keeping with the spirit of partnership and constitutional responsibility, Niue will continue to permit the New Zealand Defence Force access to these areas to fulfil its defence mandates and uphold shared security commitments.
7. New Zealand and Niue share the objective of safeguarding the defence and security of the Realm of New Zealand. New Zealand is responsible for the defence and security of the Realm, including that of Niue. Niue contributes to the defence and security of the Realm by conducting its affairs consistently with that shared objective, and by reinforcing the distinct yet interconnected security interests of Niue, New Zealand, and the Realm as a whole.
8. New Zealand and Niue affirm that any disputes or differences that may arise with other members of the Realm of New Zealand will not affect, involve, or undermine the strength, integrity, or continuity of the relationship between New Zealand and Niue. Both partners commit to maintaining open communication and mutual respect, and to resolving any such matters in a manner that reflects the spirit of their enduring partnership and remains free from external influence or pressure.

Cooperation and communication

9. The relationship of free association is a partnership based on trust and open communication. Regular, structured dialogue will be held between officials, Foreign Ministers, and annually between Prime Ministers, to ensure alignment of fundamental interests.
10. Where one partner requests information on a matter of interest from the other, that information will be shared to the fullest extent possible, and within a timeframe commensurate with the nature of the information and objective of the request.



11. To support the function of the respective constitutional responsibilities within the relationship, New Zealand and Niue commit to good faith engagement on matters of foreign policy, defence and security. Both partners will share information and alert one another to risks that may affect either or both countries, or the Realm of New Zealand, and will cooperate to mitigate such risks as agreed between them in a spirit of partnership.

12. New Zealand and Niue will not put in place activities, agreements or arrangements with third parties that would compromise their ability to meet any of the commitments contained in this Declaration. This reflects their shared interest in maintaining the integrity and security of the Realm and underscores the importance of mutual respect and collaboration in these areas.

Economic and Administrative Assistance

13. New Zealand remains committed to its continuing responsibility to provide necessary economic and administrative assistance to Niue to ensure its people are safe, secure and prosperous, and Niue's way of life is protected, now and into the future.



14. New Zealand has duties towards New Zealand citizens residing in Niue, including for their ongoing access to services within New Zealand, and consular duties for Niuean people offshore.

15. New Zealand and Niue will continue to cooperate to advance Niue's aspirations for prosperity, greater sustainability, and a strong, resilient and dynamic Niue economy. In recognition of the shared interest in Niue's social and economic wellbeing, both partners commit to actively pursue initiatives that create the conditions for Niuean people to succeed in Niue—enabling Niuean people to live, work, and contribute to the development of their communities.

Regional and international cooperation

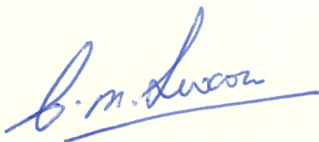
16. In the spirit of shared values and priorities, New Zealand and Niue agree that New Zealand will, when requested by Niue or with Niue's prior

agreement, and where mutually agreed, advocate for Niue's agreed priorities in multilateral fora and other external engagements.

17. New Zealand and Niue are committed to strengthening Pacific regionalism to secure the future the region and deliver on shared regional priorities.

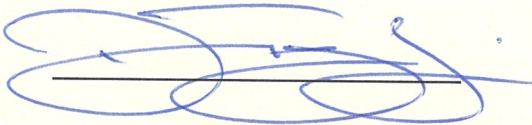
Signed in Auckland on the 13th day of November 2025

**On behalf of the Government of
New Zealand**



Christopher Luxon
Prime Minister of New Zealand

**On behalf of the Government of
Niue**



Dalton Tagelagi
Prime Minister of Niue