

12 July 2022

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for proactive release

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OIA 28047

Tēnā koe Personal details removed for proactiv

I refer to your email of 9 May 2022 in which you request the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA):

*I would like to make a new OIA request for all documents held by MFAT relating to funding of UNRWA and/or issues within or concerns about that organisation held by MFAT since 24 March, 2021.*

On 24 May 2022, you were notified that the initial search of the Ministry's document management system using the term UNRWA identified over 400 items that could potentially be within the scope of your request. You were invited to refine your request to:

*All key documents held by MFAT relating to funding of UNRWA and/or issues within or concerns about that organisation held by MFAT since 24 March 2021.*

On the same date you agreed to this refinement but asked for clarification as to what is included and excluded with the addition of the word 'key'.

The refinement of your question to only key documents allows the Ministry to search for material within the scope of your request in a more targeted manner. When searching for *all documents* our search has to be broad. The consequence of this was a set of over 400 items could have potentially been within the scope of your request. To make an assessment of this, each item would need to be manually assessed. A random sample of these items were opened and found to be ministerial correspondence, material relating to Official Information Act requests, briefings, file notes and formal messages.

When you refined your request to be for *all key documents* the Ministry was able to search in a more focused manner. We have defined key documents as submissions to the Minister of Foreign Affairs on issues or concerns with UNRWA, and New Zealand's funding to the organisation only.

We are also providing you with written correspondence to the New Zealand Human Rights Commission updating them on New Zealand's future engagement with UNRWA as this correspondence was referenced in the submission. We have not provided the Georg Eckert Report or the UN Watch report referred to in the submission as these documents are available publicly online.

On 3 June 2022, you were notified that we had extended the due date for your request by 25 working days under sections 15A(1)(a) and 15A(1)(b) of the OIA.

The information relevant to your request is attached. We have withheld some information 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;
- 6(b)(ii): to protect the passing of information from an international organisation 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;
- 9(2)(g)(ii): to protect officers and employees from improper pressure or harassment; and
- 9(2)(j): to avoid prejudice to negotiations.

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

Please note that we may publish this letter (with your personal details redacted) and enclosed documents on the Ministry's website.

If you have any questions about this decision, you can contact us by email at: [DM-ESD@mfat.govt.nz](mailto: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](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or freephone 0800 802 602.

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'SC', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Sarah Corbett  
for Secretary of Foreign Affairs and Trade



1 December 2021

Minister of Foreign Affairs

For action by

15 December 2021

## Aotearoa New Zealand's Future Engagement with the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestinian Refugees (UNRWA)

BRIEFING Decision Submission

PURPOSE We provide advice on concerns about UNRWA's use of textbooks produced by the Palestinian Authority and recommendations about Aotearoa New Zealand's future engagement with UNRWA.

### Tukunga tūtohua – Recommended referrals

Associate Minister of Foreign Affairs

For information by

15 December 2021

### Taipitopito whakapā – Contact details

NAME	ROLE	DIVISION	WORK PHONE
Deb Collins	Divisional Manager	Partnerships, Humanitarian and Multilateral	s9(2)(a)
s9(2)(g)(ii)	Unit Manager	Middle East and Africa	

### Mā te Tari Minita e whakakī – Minister's Office to complete

<input type="checkbox"/> Approved	<input type="checkbox"/> Noted	<input type="checkbox"/> Seen
<input type="checkbox"/> Needs amendment	<input type="checkbox"/> Declined	<input type="checkbox"/> Withdrawn
<input type="checkbox"/> Overtaken by events	<input type="checkbox"/> See Minister's notes	

**Comments**

## Aotearoa New Zealand's Future Engagement with UNRWA

### Pito matua – Key points

- The UN General Assembly has mandated the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestinian Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) to provide protection and assistance for Palestinian refugees. UNRWA provides a range of essential services including education, healthcare, social services, infrastructure, microfinance, and emergency relief.
- Concerns have been raised in Aotearoa New Zealand and internationally that education textbooks produced by the Palestinian Authority (PA) Ministry of Education contain material that may foster hatred, violence, and antisemitism amongst Palestinian children. UNRWA does not develop, fund or produce these textbooks but does use the textbooks in its schools in Gaza and the West Bank.
- Since our last update to you on this issue in March 2021, the Georg Eckert Institute for International Textbook Research has released a report on its review of PA textbooks.  
s6(a)
- Whilst the confirmation of problematic content in PA textbooks is concerning, it did not come as a surprise. UNRWA had previously advised that a small amount of content in PA textbooks does not align with UN values and principles. The Eckert report did not assess UNRWA's use of the textbooks and we have not identified anything in the report that contradicts what UNRWA has communicated about the textbooks.
- The Eckert report includes some more positive findings; the most recent (2020-21) textbook editions reviewed by the Georg Eckert Institute contain a reduction in problematic content when compared with earlier editions. The PA textbooks extensively address central issues of global citizenship education and largely adhere to UNESCO guidelines on human rights education. Whilst the textbooks call for tolerance, mercy, forgiveness, and justice, these notions do not extend to Israel and the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.
- UNRWA delivers its education services in a complex and highly politicised context. It has to both uphold the rights of Palestinian refugees to receive education and to learn about their cultural identity and values, and adhere to UN values and principles. UNRWA has assured us of its commitment to upholding UN values and principles, and maintains that it has zero tolerance of hatred, violence and antisemitism.
- We accept UNRWA's rationale for using PA textbooks. It is standard practice in refugee education to align to the host nation's education system. Use of host authority education materials allows students to sit state exams, supports them to access host upper secondary and tertiary education (which follow local curriculum), and enables students' social and economic inclusion more broadly.
- UNRWA has systems in place to ensure its education programming aligns to UN values and principles, and we consider these systems to be satisfactory. UNRWA's curriculum framework emphasises the importance of reflecting UN values such as neutrality, human rights, tolerance, equality and non-discrimination.
- UNRWA closely reviews all new textbook editions for any problematic content. s6(b)(ii)  
s6(b)(ii) Through its teacher-centred approach, UNRWA provides detailed guidance to teachers on how to address other problematic content in a way that adheres to UN values. In those situations UNRWA staff teach students to think critically about the material and to consider bias and other perspectives.



## Aotearoa New Zealand's Future Engagement with UNRWA

- UNRWA has systems in place to uphold neutrality in all aspects of its work, including through regular inspections of its sites for weapons, training of all staff on UN values (including their responsibilities when using social media) and vetting of individuals and organisations it engages with against UN sanctions lists. UNRWA has taken disciplinary action in instances where staff have acted in a manner inconsistent with UN values. It is currently investigating a small number of its staff over social media posts.
- None of the other UNRWA donors we engaged with after the Eckert report's release s6(a) s6(a) were surprised by the report's findings or planned to adjust their funding to UNRWA as a result.
- We continue to consider that UNRWA is the only organisation with the mandate and capacity to provide essential services, including education, for Palestinian refugees, and that UNRWA's services play a vital role in maintaining stability in the region.
- In the last triennium, Aotearoa New Zealand provided UNRWA with an un-earmarked contribution of NZ\$1 million per annum. We recommend continuing this quantum and approach in the current triennium. Provision of un-earmarked funding is Aotearoa New Zealand's standard approach when providing core funding to multilateral organisations and aligns with international donor best practice.
- Zero risk is not realistic in the complex and highly politicised context in which UNRWA operates. We can anticipate further allegations against UNRWA and its staff in the future. We have increased our engagement with UNRWA in the last two years. If you agree to continue funding UNRWA we will further manage risk by:
  - s9(2)(j)
  - Engaging with UNRWA and other UNRWA donors on neutrality issues and reporting to you when significant, credible and evidence based allegations emerge.
- Concerns about UNRWA's use of the textbooks have been brought to the attention of the New Zealand Human Rights Commission, which is also assessing the Eckert report. We have undertaken to report to the Commission with our final assessment of the report and implications for our engagement with UNRWA following your decision.



Jonathan Kings  
for Secretary of Foreign Affairs and Trade

## Aotearoa New Zealand's Future Engagement with UNRWA

Tūtohu – Recommendations

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It is recommended that you:

- 1 **Note** that UNRWA is the only organisation with the mandate and capacity to provide essential services, including education services, for Palestinian refugees. **Yes / No**
- 2 **Note** that officials have undertaken due diligence on concerns related to UNRWA's use of host authority textbooks and assess that UNRWA's systems for ensuring that its services are delivered in line with UN values and principles are satisfactory. **Yes / No**
- 3 **Agree to** Aotearoa New Zealand providing un-earmarked core contributions of NZ\$1 million per annum to UNRWA in the current triennium. **Yes / No**
- 4 **Note** s9(2)(j) **Yes / No**  

and that we will continue to follow up on any significant, credible and evidence based allegations.
- 5 **Note** we intend to write to the New Zealand Human Rights Commission to update them on our assessment of UNRWA's use of PA textbooks and Aotearoa New Zealand's future engagement with UNRWA. **Yes / No**
- 6 **Refer** a copy of this submission to the Associate Minister of Foreign Affairs. **Yes / No**

Hon Nanaia Mahuta  
Minister of Foreign Affairs / Minita Take Aorere

Date:            /            /

## Aotearoa New Zealand's Future Engagement with UNRWA

### Pūrongo – Report

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#### UNRWA's education services and other programming

1. Since its establishment in 1949 UNRWA has provided a wide range of development and humanitarian services for Palestinian refugees including education, healthcare, social services, infrastructure, microfinance and emergency relief. UNRWA's work spans five fields of operation: Gaza, West Bank, Jordan, Lebanon, and Syria.
2. Education is a major focus of UNRWA's work. It operates over 700 schools that provide education for over 539,000 Palestinian refugee children, 50% of whom are female. It employs over 20,000 educational staff, many of whom are also Palestinian refugees.
3. UNRWA's education programme has been, and still is, a cooperation between UNESCO and UNRWA. UNESCO has provided the technical expertise to underpin the programme, and seconds the positions of Director and Deputy Director of Education.
4. UNRWA has used host authority textbooks in its education programming since its establishment. This is a standard approach for refugee education. UNRWA uses PA Ministry of Education textbooks for its schools in Gaza and the West Bank (and other authorities' textbooks in its other fields of operation). s6(a)

#### The Georg Eckert Institute report presents a complex picture

5. The EU, which is a donor to both the PA and UNRWA, commissioned the Georg Eckert Institute to review PA textbooks following concerns about textbook content. The Eckert report was released in June 2021. It provides an assessment of 156 textbooks and 16 teacher guides published between 2017 and 2019 for the main subjects taught in Palestinian schools. The report notes that "Palestinian textbooks are produced and located within an environment saturated with ongoing occupation, conflict, and violence, which they in turn reflect".
6. The researchers found that the PA textbooks extensively address central issues of global citizenship education. The textbooks convey the concept of human rights and the obligation of citizens to comply with law and order. They promote political participation and emphasise cultural, social and religious values that support coexistence.
7. The textbooks largely adhere to UNESCO guidelines on human rights education, with human rights explicitly discussed across a range of textbook subjects. However, whilst the textbooks call for tolerance, mercy, forgiveness, and justice, and encourage students to respect human values, these notions are not applied to Israel and the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.
8. The Eckert report compared 18 textbook editions for the 2020/21 academic year with earlier versions and found reductions in problematic content in later versions in a number of instances.
9. The Eckert report does not assess Israeli textbooks so it does not provide a comprehensive picture of education materials in Israel and the Palestinian territories. The report's literature review does note a 2013 study (conducted by both Israeli and Palestinian researchers) that found problematic content in both Palestinian and Israeli curricula

## Aotearoa New Zealand's Future Engagement with UNRWA

10. Israel annexed East Jerusalem in 1980 and controls the education sector in that part of the city. The Eckert report assesses the changes Israeli authorities have made in seven Palestinian textbooks that are used in East Jerusalem schools. It finds that an idealised representation of coexistence is presented. References to Palestinian identity and national symbols are deleted and some entire history chapters are removed. The Eckert report argues that these changes fundamentally impact the Palestinian narrative.
11. UNRWA's use of the textbooks is outside the scope of the report and we have not identified anything in the Eckert report that contradicts what UNRWA has communicated to us about the textbooks before the report's release.

### UNRWA's approach to upholding UN values in its education programming

12. Following the Eckert report's release we met virtually with UNRWA's Director of Education and Neutrality Coordinator to seek further details on how UNRWA upholds UN values and principles, and to get their reaction to the Eckert report. UNRWA's representatives told us UNRWA had already identified all of the examples of problematic content in the Eckert report through its own textbook review processes.
13. UNRWA's curriculum framework emphasises the importance of reflecting UN values such as neutrality, human rights, tolerance, equality and non-discrimination with regard to race, gender, language and religion in UNRWA schools. It also aims to ensure that the UNRWA's education services acknowledge the Palestinian heritage and culture of the students, and meets their learning needs.
14. Staff closely review all new editions of host country textbooks for potential problematic content. s6(b)(ii)
15. Under its teacher-centred approach, UNRWA provides teachers with specific guidance regarding any issues identified in host curricula textbooks. s6(a)  
  
students are taught to think critically about the material and to consider bias and other perspectives. UNRWA implements this system through its teacher training processes and with guidance documents.
16. UNRWA representatives provided an illustrative example of UNRWA's teacher-centred approach: s6(a)
17. UNRWA has school quality assurance teams in each of its five fields of operations. These teams regularly visit UNRWA's schools, provide support to teachers and monitor the implementation of UNRWA's teacher-centred approach.
18. A disciplinary system is in place for any staff that breach standards, including in relation to anything staff post on social media. s6(b)(ii)  
  
UNRWA also provides training for staff on their responsibilities around upholding UN values and principles.
19. UNRWA has noted that it needs to consider the right of children to access their own cultural identity through education when considering its approach to education. This right is captured in Article 29 of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.



## Aotearoa New Zealand's Future Engagement with UNRWA

20. We have previously reported to you regarding the self-learning education materials that UNRWA field teams rapidly developed in response to COVID-19, and the associated closure of UNRWA schools. A small proportion of these materials contained problematic content which UNRWA did not pick up before their release. In response to these concerns UNRWA has significantly strengthened its review processes for UNRWA-generated education content, including reviews at UNRWA HQ level. UNRWA is now uploading this content to its new digital learning platform, which supports transparency.

### Other donors' approaches to UNRWA and neutrality concerns

21. After the Eckert report's release we reached out to a number of UNRWA's other donors s6(a) to seek their views on the report and whether they retained confidence in UNRWA's ability to uphold UN values. None were considering changing their funding to UNRWA as a result of the report's findings, with many noting UNRWA is not responsible for the content of PA textbooks.
22. In April 2021 the Biden Administration reinstated US funding to UNRWA after the previous administration had halted funding in 2018. Its initial contribution of US\$150m was followed by a \$33m humanitarian contribution in May (in response to the Israeli-Palestinian hostilities at that time) and a further US\$135m in July. The US has signed a new framework agreement with UNRWA that sets out a number of conditions related to neutrality.
23. In October the EU contributed a further €92 million to UNRWA and in November it signed a new Joint Declaration with the agency, which covers the EU's support to UNRWA for the period out to 2024. In public comments made at the Declaration's signing, senior EU representatives stated that the EU is determined to continue supporting UNRWA politically and financially, and noted that the EU will continue to promote quality education for Palestinian children and full compliance with UNESCO standards in education material.
24. In the latter part of 2020 (months before the Eckert report's release), Australia's Department for Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) requested UNRWA to direct Australia's funding towards its health security and stability programming. This change reflects a wider reprioritisation of funding within the Australia Aid Programme towards health security programming and is in line with the Australian Government's *Partnerships for Recovery: Australia's COVID-19 Development Response Policy* and its *COVID-19 Development Response Plan for the Palestinian Territories*. s6(b)(i)
25. On 16 November Sweden and Jordan hosted an international conference to build support for UNRWA's work. Over 50 member states attended. All states who took the floor expressed support for UNRWA's work and many made new funding pledges.

26. s6(b)(i)

We are supportive of these advocacy efforts, noting New Zealand has limited influence with the PA as we do not provide funding to it. s6(a)

### Recent allegations: social media posts of UNRWA staff

27. In August s9(2)(g)(i) UN Watch released a report claiming 22 UNRWA staff have supported terrorism or incited violence and/or antisemitism in social

## Aotearoa New Zealand's Future Engagement with UNRWA

media posts. UNRWA immediately commenced an internal review of the claims and s6(b)(i)

Twelve of the cases were unable to be linked to the agency.

28. We are following UNRWA's response to these allegations closely to ensure its actions are consistent with its stated commitment to upholding UN values and principles. s6(b)(ii), s9(2) s6(b)(ii), s9(2)(g)(i) ) (i)

29. In previous investigations relating to 101 cases raised by UN Watch, UNRWA found that 58 of the allegations could not be attributed to personnel or staff employed by UNRWA at the time of the incident, with the remaining cases receiving disciplinary or administrative action.

## Aotearoa New Zealand's engagement with UNRWA

30. Aotearoa New Zealand is a long term funder of UNRWA. In the 2018-2021 triennium we provided an un-earmarked annual contribution of NZ\$1 million (approximately 0.06% of UNRWA's total budget). Provision of un-earmarked core funding is consistent with our funding to other multilateral partners and is seen as best donor practise.
31. In addition to these annual core contributions, we have periodically made ad-hoc contributions towards the emergency humanitarian appeals that UNRWA launches s6(a) s6(a)
32. We recommend Aotearoa New Zealand continues to provide an un-earmarked core contribution of NZ\$1 million per year this triennium. We continue to believe that UNRWA is the only organisation with the mandate and capacity to provide essential services for Palestinian refugees. In the absence of a two state solution UNRWA's services continue to play a vital role in upholding human rights and maintaining stability.
33. Whilst the continued existence of a small amount of problematic content in PA textbooks is concerning, UNRWA is not responsible for the funding, development or production of these textbooks and it is not part of UNRWA's mandate to influence host authority education curricula - decisions around education curricula are ultimately a matter for host authorities.
34. We accept UNRWA's rationale for using host authority textbooks. UNRWA's curriculum framework and teacher-centred approach are appropriate means of achieving UNRWA's commitment to upholding UN values and its human rights obligations, including Palestinian students' right to education and right to learn about their cultural identity and values.
35. UNRWA's adherence to UN values and principles will continue to be highly scrutinised, with entrenched and highly polarised views on both sides of the conflict. Given this context it is essential for UNRWA to maintain its neutrality and adhere to other UN values and principles. s9(2)(j)

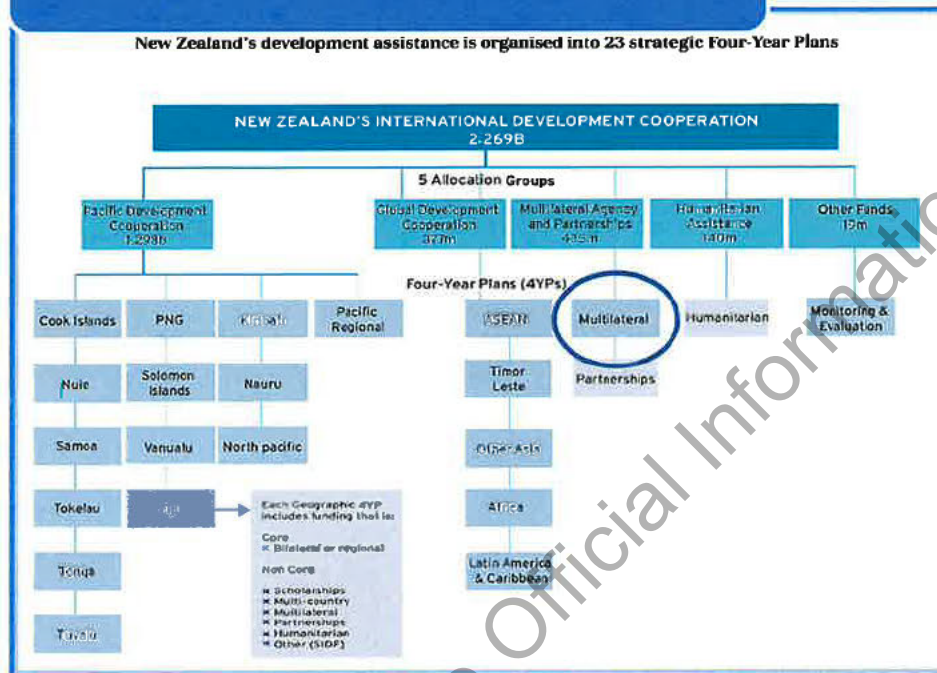
We will engage regularly will UNRWA and other donors to monitor UNRWA's performance in the coming period, including in relation to neutrality issues.



## Aotearoa New Zealand's Future Engagement with UNRWA

## Annex: Other Key Information

Funding for UNRWA comes from multilateral programme:



**Resilience:** Funding UNRWA will support multiple aspects of resilience for Palestinian refugees in Gaza, West Bank, Jordan, Lebanon and Syria.

**Impact:** Contributing to UNRWA will help ensure Palestinian refugees can access a range of essential services including education, healthcare, social services, infrastructure, microfinance, and emergency relief. It will support the realisation of human rights for Palestinian refugees.

**Measuring impact:** We will review UNRWA's annual consolidated donor reporting on its activities, review independent evaluations of UNRWA, and periodically seek feedback from other donors in order to assess the impact of the services UNRWA is providing to Palestinian refugees.

**Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):** UNRWA's programmes support a majority of the SDGs, including Goals 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 10, 13 and 17.



New Zealand Ministry of  
Foreign Affairs and Trade  
Manatū Aorere

24 December 2021

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Paul Hunt  
Chief Human Rights Commissioner  
Human Rights Commission  
Level 1, Stantec House, 10 Brandon Street  
Wellington 6011

Tēnā koe Commissioner Hunt

I am writing to update the Human Rights Commission on Aotearoa New Zealand's future engagement with the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA).

Before finalising our position on future engagement we have looked closely at how UNRWA delivers its education services, including its use of Palestinian Authority (PA) textbooks, given the concerns regarding some textbook content. UNRWA does not develop, fund or produce PA textbooks, but does use the textbooks in its schools in Gaza and the West Bank.

### **UNRWA's approach to upholding UN values and principles**

UNRWA is committed to adhering to UN values and principles including neutrality, respect for human rights, tolerance, equality and non-discrimination.

We accept UNRWA's rationale for using PA textbooks in Gaza and the West Bank. It is common practice in refugee education to align to the host nation's education system. Use of host authority education materials allows students to sit state exams, supports them to access higher education, and enables students' social and economic inclusion more broadly. It is not part of UNRWA's mandate to influence host authority education curricula.

UNRWA has systems in place to ensure that its education services adhere to UN values and principles. Its curriculum framework informs an education approach that emphasises neutrality, respect for human rights, tolerance, equality and non-discrimination. UNRWA closely reviews all new textbook editions provided by host authorities (including textbooks from authorities of Jordan, Syria and Lebanon), and identifies any content that does not align with UN values and principles. UNRWA provides detailed guidance to its teachers on how to teach textbook content in a way that adheres to UN values and principles, and promotes students' critical thinking. UNRWA actively monitors how its schools are implementing this approach.

UNRWA's education programme has been, and still is, a cooperation between UNESCO and UNRWA. UNESCO has provided the technical expertise to underpin the programme, and seconds the positions of Director and Deputy Director of Education.



UNRWA has assured us it has zero tolerance of hatred, violence and antisemitism. Zero tolerance does not equate to zero risk in such a complex context and in recent years a small number of breaches of UN values and principles by UNRWA staff have occurred. We're satisfied that UNRWA has systems to mitigate the occurrence of breaches, and to respond appropriately when breaches occur.

### **Our assessment of the Eckert report**

The Georg Eckert Institute for International Textbook Research released a report ("the Eckert report") on its review of PA textbooks in June. We have studied the Eckert report closely and engaged with UNRWA and other donors to consider the report's findings and any potential implications for our engagement with UNRWA.

The Eckert report identifies examples of textbook content that are problematic. The confirmation of problematic content in PA textbooks is concerning. However, it did not come as a surprise given UNRWA had previously advised that a small proportion of content in PA textbooks does not align with UN values and principles. We note the Eckert report found that the most recent (2020-21) textbook editions contain a reduction in problematic content when compared with earlier editions.

The Eckert report did not assess UNRWA's use of the textbooks and we did not identify anything in the Eckert report that contradicts what UNRWA has communicated about the PA textbooks.

### **Views of other UNRWA donors and UN Member States**

UNRWA's mandate continues to receive widespread backing from UN Member States in the General Assembly. Its work is funded by a diverse mix of donor countries (annex one provides a list of UNRWA's donors in 2020). The US restored its funding to UNRWA in April this year. We heard direct reactions to the Eckert report from six other UNRWA donors. None planned to adjust their funding to UNRWA as a result of the report's findings.

### **Aotearoa New Zealand's future engagement with UNRWA**

Aotearoa New Zealand's long engagement with UNRWA reflects our view that UNRWA's services play a vital role in meeting basic needs and contributing to the realisation of human rights for Palestinian refugees, and in maintaining stability in the region.

In preparing our recent advice to the Minister of Foreign Affairs on Aotearoa New Zealand's future engagement with UNRWA we have been mindful of the point you made last year that New Zealand's human rights obligations extend offshore. We advised that UNRWA is the organisation with the mandate and capacity to provide essential services, including education, for Palestinian refugees. Further, we advised that UNRWA has satisfactory systems in place to ensure that it adheres to UN values and principles including neutrality, respect for human rights, tolerance, equality and non-discrimination when delivering its services.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs has agreed to our recommendation that Aotearoa New Zealand provide UNRWA with an un-earmarked core contribution of NZ\$1 million per annum for the next three financial years. This is the same level of annual core funding that was provided in the previous three years. The first core contribution payment is due to be made before June 2022. We advised the Minister that we have stepped up our engagement with UNRWA and will continue to do so. We have reaffirmed to UNRWA our expectation that it operates in line with UN values and principles when delivering its services. s9(2)(j)

s9(2)(j)

We are conscious that zero risk is not realistic in the complex and highly politicised context in which UNRWA operates. We can anticipate further allegations against UNRWA and its staff in future. We will engage with UNRWA and other UNRWA donors whenever significant, credible and evidence based allegations emerge to ensure its response is aligned to its stated commitments to upholding UN values and principles.

We thank the Human Rights Commission for your engagement to date on this important topic. We would be happy to meet with you again to further discuss any aspects of our engagement with UNRWA.

Ngā mihi nui



Jonathan Kings  
Deputy Secretary, Pacific and Development Group  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade

[CC.] Meng Foon  
Race Relations Commissioner



# Annex One: UNRWA Donors in 2020

Governments and EU Pledges to UNRWA's Programmes in 2020  
as 31 December 2020  
In USD

Donor	Programme Budget				Non Programme Budget				TOTAL	
	Programme Budget	SSNP	In-kind	Total Programme Budget	EA oPt	Syria Appeal	Projects	Covid-19		
Germany	70,108,549	0	0	70,108,549	39,129,287	28,178,624	39,795,043	33,172,836	210,384,339	1
EU	95,605,399	0	0	95,605,399	1,155,524	46,688,821	161	13,609,330	157,059,235	2
UK	53,017,612	0	0	53,017,612	1,328,346	9,139,141	644,335	0	64,129,434	3
Sweden	56,036,602	0	237,903	56,274,505	2,590,942	1,554,565	0	0	60,420,012	4
Japan	15,932,688	9,573	245,573	16,187,833	7,071,644	4,105,981	4,169,110	1,545,454	33,060,021	5
Switzerland	23,030,475	0	381,375	23,411,850	0	0	250,810	5,867,153	29,529,812	6
Saudi Arabia	28,933,333	0	0	28,933,333	0	0	0	0	28,933,333	7
Norway	16,545,592	0	0	16,545,592	0	10,076,350	133,815	1,131,844	27,887,600	8
Canada	18,376,723	0	0	18,376,723	0	3,852,080	765,697	1,088,907	24,083,407	9
France	18,131,721	818,777	111,138	19,061,636	1,386,959	1,091,703	308,112	1,137,656	22,986,067	10
Netherlands	21,517,245	0	0	21,517,245	0	0	613,569	0	22,130,814	11
Turkey	10,000,000	899,910	0	10,899,910	9,661,115	0	0	0	20,561,025	12
Italy	9,828,212	0	129,852	9,958,064	2,986,858	4,206,983	562,195	0	17,714,100	13
Denmark	15,612,280	0	0	15,612,280	0	0	104,875	0	15,717,155	14
Spain (including Regional Governments)	10,567,287	416,887	92,555	11,076,729	860,164	747,532	1,289,740	384,097	14,358,622	15
Belgium (including Government of Flanders)	7,055,684	0	0	7,055,684	0	2,702,709	3,444,901	0	13,203,288	16
Finland	10,242,571	0	110,000	10,352,571	0	0	0	0	10,352,571	17
Ireland	7,818,438	0	23,200	7,841,638	0	1,091,703	0	0	8,933,341	18
Australia	8,393,204	0	0	8,393,204	0	0	0	0	8,393,204	19
Qatar	8,000,000	0	0	8,000,000	0	0	0	0	8,000,000	20
Jordan	0	0	7,392,615	7,392,615	0	0	0	0	7,392,615	21
Luxembourg	5,572,075	0	0	5,572,075	0	0	0	0	5,572,075	22
Austria	2,663,748	0	0	2,663,748	0	2,356,348	29,412	0	5,049,507	23
India	5,000,000	0	0	5,000,000	0	0	0	0	5,000,000	24
Palestine	0	0	4,176,174	4,176,174	0	0	0	10,000	4,186,174	25
China	0	0	0	0	1,000,000	0	0	2,291,904	3,291,904	26
Russia	2,000,000	0	0	2,000,000	0	0	0	0	2,000,000	27
Republic of Korea	1,164,611	0	0	1,164,611	0	0	0	0	1,164,611	28
UAE	1,000,000	0	0	1,000,000	0	0	0	0	1,000,000	29
Poland	792,645	0	0	792,645	0	0	0	0	792,645	30
Mexico	750,000	0	0	750,000	0	0	0	0	750,000	31
Monaco	0	0	131,404	131,404	0	2,198	428,857	54,289	616,748	32
New Zealand	595,300	0	0	595,300	0	0	0	0	595,300	33
Syria	0	0	457,279	457,279	0	0	0	0	457,279	34
Oman	0	0	0	0	216,262	0	216,375	0	432,637	35
Iceland	196,974	0	0	196,974	0	0	118,065	0	315,039	36
Estonia	308,911	0	0	308,911	0	0	0	0	308,911	37
Azerbaijan	300,000	0	0	300,000	0	0	0	0	300,000	38
Czech Republic	0	0	0	0	128,055	103,492	0	0	231,547	39
Lebanon	0	0	224,931	224,931	0	0	0	0	224,931	40
Indonesia	200,000	0	0	200,000	0	0	0	0	200,000	41
Cyprus	168,000	0	0	168,000	0	0	0	0	168,000	42
Malaysia (including Zakat Pulau Pinang-ZPPP)	120,000	0	0	120,000	0	0	13,347	0	133,347	43
Brunei Darussalam	114,712	0	0	114,712	0	0	0	0	114,712	44
Liechtenstein	103,093	0	0	103,093	0	0	0	0	103,093	45
Kazakhstan	100,000	0	0	100,000	0	0	0	0	100,000	46
Malta	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	83,910	83,910	47
Portugal	81,350	0	0	81,350	0	0	0	0	81,350	48
Bulgaria	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	77,263	77,263	49
Brazil	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	75,000	75,000	50
Thailand	70,000	0	0	70,000	0	0	0	0	70,000	51
Lithuania	54,289	0	0	54,289	0	0	0	0	54,289	52
Slovenia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	54,289	54,289	53
Bahrain	50,000	0	0	50,000	0	0	0	0	50,000	54
Bangladesh	50,000	0	0	50,000	0	0	0	0	50,000	55
Vietnam	50,000	0	0	50,000	0	0	0	0	50,000	56
Greece	44,867	0	0	44,867	0	0	0	0	44,867	57
Romania	44,300	0	0	44,300	0	0	0	0	44,300	58
Latvia	20,812	0	0	20,812	0	0	0	0	20,812	59
Egypt	20,000	0	0	20,000	0	0	0	0	20,000	60
Holy See	20,000	0	0	20,000	0	0	0	0	20,000	61
Slovakia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	16,797	16,797	62
Pakistan	13,690	0	0	13,690	0	0	0	0	13,690	63
Total	526,422,990	2,145,147	13,714,000	542,282,137	67,515,155	115,898,224	52,888,416	60,600,729	839,184,660	