

15 January 2024

Personal details removed for proactive
release

195 Lambton Quay
Private Bag 18–901
Wellington 6160
New Zealand

T +64 4 439 8000
F +64 4 472 9596

OIA 28938

Tēnā koe Personal details removed for proactive release

I refer to your email of 30 November 2023 in which you request the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA):

Copies of all internal and external correspondence including but not limited to emails, letters, emails, text messages, Whatsapp, Signal, sent or received by any member of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade regarding or relating to Government representatives to COP28.

Copies of all internal and external correspondence including but not limited to emails, letters, emails, text messages, Whatsapp, Signal, sent or received by any member of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade regarding or relating to Parliamentary representatives to COP28.

Copies of all briefings, memos, aide-memoires, or any other documents regarding or relating to Government representatives to COP28.

Copies of all briefings, memos, aide-memoires, or any other documents regarding or relating to Parliamentary representatives to COP28.

Where any document is withheld I request the name of the document and the reason for it being withheld.

On 8 December 2023, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (the Ministry) contacted you to advise that responding to your request as framed above would capture a significant volume of information. As such, it would be likely that your request would be refused under section 18(f) of the OIA, as it would require substantial collation. In the same email the Ministry proposed the following rescope of your request:

Copies of formal advice provided to Hon Simon Watts, Minister of Climate Change on New Zealand approach and Ministerial attendance at COP28, including any formal advice regarding invitations to Opposition Spokespersons.

On 11 December 2023, you declined our proposed rescope and responded with the following rescope of your own:

- *Copies of advice provided to Hon Simon Watts, Minister of Climate Change, or any member of his Office on New Zealand approach and Ministerial attendance at COP28, including any formal advice regarding invitations to Opposition Spokespersons, since 15 October 2023.*

- *Copies of advice provided to the Prime Minister or any member of his Office on New Zealand approach and Ministerial attendance at COP28, including any formal advice regarding invitations to Opposition Spokespersons, since 15 October 2023.*
- *Copies of advice provided to the Minister of Foreign Affairs or any member of his Office on New Zealand approach and Ministerial attendance at COP28, including any formal advice regarding invitations to Opposition Spokespersons, since 15 October 2023.*
- *Copies of all correspondence to and from Hon Simon Watts, Minister of Climate Change, or any member of his Office on New Zealand approach and Ministerial attendance at COP28, including any formal advice regarding invitations to Opposition Spokespersons, since 15 October 2023.*
- *Copies of all correspondence to and from the Prime Minister or any member of his Office on New Zealand approach and Ministerial attendance at COP28, including any formal advice regarding invitations to Opposition Spokespersons, since 15 October 2023.*
- *Copies of all correspondence to and from the Minister of Foreign Affairs or any member of his Office on New Zealand approach and Ministerial attendance at COP28, including any formal advice regarding invitations to Opposition Spokespersons, since 15 October 2023.*

On the same day the Ministry advised you that your rescoped request, as above, would still capture a significant volume of information. As such, it would be likely that your request would be refused under section 18(f) of the OIA. The Ministry proposed the following further rescope of your request:

- *any formal advice to the Minister of Climate Change, PM or Minister of Foreign Affairs regarding invitations to Opposition Spokespersons to COP28, since 15 October 2023*

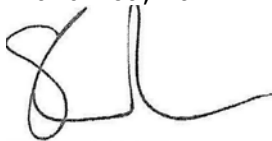
On the same day, you declined the above proposed rescope. Therefore, your request is refused under section 18(f) of the OIA, as the information requested cannot be made available without substantial collusion.

Should you wish to make a new request please contact us at enquires@mfat.govt.nz.

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



Sarah Corbett
for Secretary of Foreign Affairs and Trade