

23 February 2024

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On 18 December 2023, the following part of your Official Information Act (OIA) request to the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet was transferred to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (the Ministry) for response:

*CAB-20-MIN-0504*

On 5 February 2024, the timeframes for responding to your request were extended by an additional 25 working days due to the consultations necessary to make a decision on your request (section 15A(1)(b) of the OIA refers).

The information relevant to your request is attached.

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/](http://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](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



Sarah Corbett  
for Acting Secretary of Foreign Affairs and Trade



# 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.*

### Support for Pacific and Global Vaccine Access and Roll-out

Portfolio                      Foreign Affairs

On 7 December 2020, Cabinet:

- 1        **noted** that New Zealand is committed to equitable global access to COVID-19 vaccines and immunisation efforts, in particular its support to the Pacific;
- 2        **noted** that New Zealand is pursuing multiple pathways to support global efforts to equitable access to vaccines and specifically to support Pacific access and roll-out at an early opportunity of a safe and effective COVID-19 vaccine;
- 3        **noted** that the combination of options eventually pursued will depend on a range of factors including vaccine suitability, timing and costs, indemnities and other the contributions of other donors to vaccine efforts, and as these factors become clearer, adaptability will ensure New Zealand's support is most effective;
- 4        **agreed** that New Zealand-sourced vaccines for the Pacific will be assessed by the Ministry of Health to ensure they are suitable for use in the Pacific;
- 5        **noted** that funding will be re-prioritised from Official Development Assistance;
- 6        **agreed** that up to NZ\$75 million be allocated from Vote Official Development Assistance to support Pacific and global vaccine access and roll-out;
- 7        **agreed** that from the NZ\$75 million, New Zealand makes an additional NZ\$10 million contribution to the COVAX Advance Market Commitment to support multilateral efforts to ensure equitable access to vaccines for developing countries;
- 8        **agreed** that New Zealand should actively seek to purchase up to 360,000 additional doses of at least one suitable vaccine candidate specifically for Polynesia as part of domestic purchasing efforts, from within the NZ\$75 million;
- 9        **agreed** that for approval of other specific initiatives supported from within this funding envelope existing delegations will apply;
- 10       **agreed** that for initiatives over NZ\$25 million that would normally require Cabinet approval, approval will be sought from Joint Ministers, being the Minister of Foreign Affairs and the Minister of Finance;

- 11 **agreed** that an announcement of New Zealand's funding package be made by the Prime Minister, at an appropriate point before mid-December.

Michael Webster  
Secretary of the Cabinet

Released under the Official Information Act