

21 August 2025

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OIA 30301

Personal details removed for proactive release.

Thank you for your email of 14 July 2024 to Ministry for the Environment in which you requested information under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA). On 21 July 2025 the following parts of your request were transferred to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (the Ministry) under section 14(b) of the OIA for response:

1. *The total number of staff who went, including job title.*
2. *The total cost of these trips:
Please also provide individual costs broken down by activity (i.e. flights, accommodation, entertainment, food and drink, salary).*
3. *The total number who flew business class and/or had special lounge access."*

We have numbered your request for administration purposes.

Response to your request

For part one of your request, please refer to the table below:

The total number of staff who attended COP29, including job titles	
TOTAL NUMBER	JOB TITLES
8 MFAT staff members	Climate Change Ambassador
	Chief Negotiator, UN Climate Change
	Senior Policy Officer
	Policy Officer x3
	Senior Adviser
	Senior Policy Adviser

For part two of your request, please refer you to the table below. Individual salary costs have been withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the OIA, to protect the privacy of Ministry staff. Where the information has been withheld under section 9 of the OIA, no public interest in releasing the information has been identified that would override the reasons for withholding it.

Total cost in N (excluding GST) of staff attendance at COP29, with individual costs by activity			
JOB TITLE	FLIGHTS/ TRAVEL	ACCOMMODATION	FOOD & DRINK
Climate Change Ambassador	\$18,146	\$6,295	\$406

Chief Negotiator, UN Climate Change	\$13,994	\$7,985	\$1,108
Senior Policy Officer	\$14,921	\$6,251	\$946
Policy Officer	\$13,480	\$6,558	\$1,482
Policy Officer	\$13,480	\$6,558	\$1,112
Policy Officer	\$14,950	\$5,264	\$1,285
Senior Policy Adviser	\$533	\$4,888	\$321
Senior Adviser	\$2,710	\$5,866	\$942
TOTAL	\$92,214 NZD	\$49,665 NZD	\$7,602 NZD

The Ministry did not cover any entertainment expenses for these staff, and therefore no information is held in relation to this part of your request. Accordingly, this part of your request has been refused under section 18(e), as the information does not exist.

In response to part three of your request, six of the eight Ministry staff members travelled in business class in accordance with Ministry travel policy. None of the MFAT attendees received special lounge access.

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