

Proactive Release

Date: 8 December 2025

The following Cabinet paper and related Cabinet minute have been proactively released by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade:

<i>Title of papers</i>	<i>Title of minutes</i>
CAB-25-MIN-0385	Report on Overseas Travel: Rt Hon Winston Peters – 15-16 September 2025
CAB-25-SUB-0385	Report on Overseas Travel: Rt Hon Winston Peters – 15-16 September 2025

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Proactively Released by the Minister of Foreign Affairs



Cabinet

Minute of Decision

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Report on Overseas Travel: Rt Hon Winston Peters - 15-16 September 2025

Portfolio Foreign Affairs

On 3 November 2025, Cabinet **noted** the report from the Rt Hon Winston Peters under CAB-25-SUB-0385 on his travel, from 15 to 16 September 2025, to Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea to attend the 50th Anniversary of Independence.

Rachel Hayward
Secretary of the Cabinet

Proactively Released by the Minister of Foreign Affairs

In-confidence

Office of the Minister of Foreign Affairs

Chair, Cabinet

Report on Overseas Travel: Rt Hon Winston Peters – 15 to 16 September 2025

I recommend that Cabinet note this report on my travel to Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea, from 15-16 September 2025 to attend the celebrations of Papua New Guinea's 50th Anniversary of Independence.

Report

- 1 The purpose of the travel was to demonstrate New Zealand's commitment to our partnership with Papua New Guinea by attending the celebrations of its 50th Anniversary of Independence.
- 2 Hon Peeni Henare (Labour Spokesperson for Foreign Affairs) accompanied the visit to Port Moresby. Consistent with New Zealand's approach over successive governments, cross party representation demonstrated the commitment of our political system to Papua New Guinea.
- 3 The official programme of events hosted by Papua New Guinea included a state banquet; a breakfast; and flag raising and flag lowering ceremonies. The official programme capped off a series of 50th anniversary events, including the formal participation of New Zealand Defence Force personnel and assets in activities the week prior.
- 4 New Zealand's visible presence at the 50th anniversary events and the recent increased tempo of bilateral engagements was noted and appreciated by the Papua New Guinea Government. The visit complemented Prime Minister Luxon's travel to Port Moresby in August 2025, which focused on celebrating fifty years of diplomatic relations between New Zealand and Papua New Guinea.
- 5 Attendance at the 50th anniversary events enabled high level engagement with Prime Minister Marape and the Papua New Guinea government. There were also opportunities to discuss shared interests with Pacific leaders including Heads of State and Heads of Government (Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Solomon Islands and Tuvalu); Deputy Prime Ministers (Fiji and Vanuatu); Foreign Ministers (Tonga and Solomon Islands); Special Envoys (Marshall Islands and Kiribati); and Pacific Island Forum Secretary General Waqa. Australia was represented by Prime Minister Albanese, Deputy Prime Minister Marles, and Pacific Island Affairs Minister Conroy.

- 6 The Minister and Hon Henare attended a bilateral meeting with the United States Deputy Secretary of State Christopher Landau and Commander of Indo-Pacific Command, Admiral Samuel Paparo, to discuss bilateral relations and our shared interests in the Pacific.
- 7 The Minister and Hon Henare also attended a bilateral meeting with Nauru President David Adeang and exchanged perspectives on the recent Pacific Islands Forum Leaders Meeting.
- 8 Political representation from New Zealand sent a strong signal of our commitment to our relationship with Papua New Guinea and, in the context of recent leader-level engagement with the Solomon Islands, to our engagement with Melanesia more broadly.

Proactive release

- 9 This Cabinet paper will be proactively released as per Cabinet Office Circular CO(18) 4 on the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade website. Proactive release is subject to redaction as appropriate under the Official Information Act 1982.

Recommendation

- 10 I recommend that Cabinet note this report.

Authorised for lodgement

Rt Hon Winston Peters

Minister of Foreign Affairs