

12 August 2026

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Personal details removed for proactive release

Thank you for your email of 15 July 2026, in which you request the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA):

"I am looking for the backtrace of implemenation of SR 2000/85, signed Simon Peter Wallace Murdoch in the role of New Zealand High Commissioner to Australia on 12 of Apr 2000 at canberra.

Under what authority was 'New Zealand High Commissioner to Australia' authorised to sign the Australia-New Zealand Child Support Agreement on 12 April 2000?

e.g. pursuant to Full Powers, pursuant to Cabinet authority or no separate Full Powers existed?"

Response to your request

Attached is the Instrument of Full Powers signed by then Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade, the Honourable Phillip Goff and dated 23 March 2000.

The Instrument of Full Powers provides Simon Murdoch, New Zealand's High Commissioner to Australia at the time, authority to sign the *Agreement between the Government of Australia and the Government of New Zealand on Child and Spousal Maintenance*.

In New Zealand, the Governor-General, Minister of Foreign Affairs, or the Prime Minister of New Zealand may sign an Instrument of Full Powers to authorise another individual to sign an international, legally binding treaty on behalf of the Government of New Zealand.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'SC', written in a cursive style.

Sarah Corbett
for Secretary of Foreign Affairs and Trade

A/mr/2/4/2

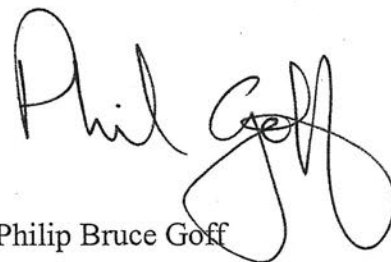
I, PHILIP BRUCE GOFF
Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade
of New Zealand

do hereby certify that

SIMON PETER MURDOCH
New Zealand High Commissioner to Australia

is vested with full power and authority to sign on behalf of the Government of
New Zealand the Agreement Between the Government of Australia and the Government
of New Zealand on Child and Spousal Maintenance.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have signed and sealed these presents at Wellington this
23rd day of March 2000.



Philip Bruce Goff

Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade

Released under the Official Information Act 1982