

Proactive Release

Published on or before: 15 July 2026

The following Cabinet papers and related Cabinet minutes have been proactively released by the Minister of Foreign Affairs

Title	Reference
<i>Cabinet Minute of Decision – Report on Overseas Travel: Rt Hon Winston Peters – 6-10 April 2026</i>	CAB-26-MIN-0181
<i>Report on Overseas Travel: Rt Hon Winston Peters – April 2026</i>	

Some parts of this information release would not be appropriate to release and, if requested, would be withheld under the Official Information Act 1982 (the OIA). Where this is the case, the relevant sections of the OIA that would apply have been identified. Where information has been withheld, no public interest has been identified that would outweigh the reasons for withholding it.

Key to OIA redaction codes:

- 6(a): to avoid prejudicing the security or defence of New Zealand or the international relations of the New Zealand Government; and,
- 6(b)(i): to protect the passing of information from another government on a confidential basis.



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.

Report on Overseas Travel: Rt Hon Winston Peters – 6-10 April 2026

Portfolio **Foreign Affairs**

On 2 June 2026, Cabinet **noted** the report from the Rt Hon Winston Peters under CAB-26-SUB-0181 on his travel, from 6 to 10 April 2026, to Washington DC, United States of America for meetings with Secretary of State Rubio and other senior United States figures.

Rachel Hayward
Secretary of the Cabinet

Proactively released by the
Minister of Foreign Affairs

~~RESTRICTED~~

Office of the Minister of Foreign Affairs

Chair, Cabinet

Report on Overseas Travel: Rt Hon Winston Peters – April 2026

Proposal

- 1 This paper recommends that Cabinet note this report on travel by the Minister of Foreign Affairs to the United States of America from 6 to 10 April 2026.

Relation to government priorities

- 2 This was our second visit to Washington DC in the second Trump Administration. It follows Cabinet agreement in July 2025 to prioritise engagement by the Prime Minister and Ministers of Trade, Defence and Foreign Affairs with United States counterparts to underline consistency on New Zealand's key interests and values.
- 3 Meetings occurred with Secretary of State Marco Rubio, Deputy Secretary of State Christopher Landau, as well as an informal engagement with former United States Trade Representative General Counsel Stephen Vaughn, s6(a)
- 4 The meeting with Secretary of State Rubio was the third in a sequence of annual meetings of the New Zealand Foreign Minister and the US Secretary of State. s6(a)

The meeting took place in the context of a critical moment in the US conflict with Iran.

- 5 New Zealand's objectives for the meeting with Secretary Rubio were s6(a)

6 s6(b)(i) our meeting with him occurred just ahead of President Trump's announcement of a conditional ceasefire with Iran. s6(b)(i)

7 In response to us raising the fuel challenges that New Zealand and the Pacific were facing as a result of the war, Secretary Rubio noted s6(b)(i)

8 s6(a)

9 s6(a)

10 In response to an outline of the illicit drug challenge in the Pacific, Deputy Secretary Landau noted s6(b)(i)

11 s6(b)(i)

Proactive Release

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

Recommendation

13 It is recommended that Cabinet note this report.

Authorised for lodgement

Rt Hon Winston Peters

Minister of Foreign Affairs