

Proactive Release

Published on or before: 21/09/2026

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

Title	Reference
Report on Overseas Travel: Rt Hon Winston Peters – July 2026	CAB-26-MIN-0257

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 Act). Where this is the case, the relevant sections of the Act 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 redaction codes:

- 6(a): to avoid prejudicing the international relations of the New Zealand Government;
- 9(2)(b)(ii): to avoid prejudice to the commercial position of another party; and
- 9(2)(g)(i): to protect the free and frank expression of opinions by departments.



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 – July 2026

Portfolio Foreign Affairs

On 10 August 2026, Cabinet **noted** the report from the Rt Hon Winston Peters under CAB-26-SUB-0257, on his travel, from 5 to 12 July 2026, to Singapore and Japan to undertake bilateral engagements.

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 – July 2026

This paper recommends that Cabinet note this report on travel to Singapore and Japan from Sunday 5 July to Saturday 12 July 2026.

Report

- 1 The purpose of the travel was to visit Singapore and Japan for bilateral engagements with Foreign Minister counterparts and other relevant political and business leaders.
- 2 The visit to Singapore provided an opportunity to carry forward the progress New Zealand and Singapore are making under the bilateral Comprehensive Strategic Partnership (CSP). In the context of increasing geopolitical competition and supply chain disruptions, engagements were key to gathering insights into how Singapore is managing global instability ^{s6(a)}
- 3 The visit to Japan provided an opportunity to register the importance New Zealand places on the relationship with Japan; ^{s6(a)} and emphasise to Japanese businesses with interests in New Zealand the value of their ongoing investments.

Singapore

- 4 While in Singapore, we met with Singapore's Foreign Minister Dr Vivian Balakrishnan, former Prime Minister – now Senior Minister – Lee Hsien Loong, former Defence Minister Dr Ng, and former diplomat and current Chairman of the Middle East Institute at National University of Singapore Bilahari Kausikan.
- 5 The visit achieved its objectives of carrying forward the positive momentum of our New Zealand-Singapore Comprehensive Strategic Partnership (CSP); discussing our approaches to strategic regional challenges in the Indo-Pacific; and seeking Singapore's insights on global issues. ^{s6(a)}
- 6 Discussions with Minister of Foreign Affairs Vivian Balakrishnan and Senior Minister Lee provided valuable opportunities to exchange insights on global and regional challenges. ^{s6(a)}

Japan

- 7 In Japan, we met Foreign Minister Toshimitsu Motegi; Defence Minister Shinjiro Koizumi; Deputy Chair of the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) and former Prime Minister Taro Aso; Diet member, Asia New Zealand Honorary Adviser and former Foreign Minister Hirofumi Nakasone; and six members of the New Zealand Parliamentary Friendship League and former New Zealand Prime Ministers' Fellows. We met three Japanese businesses with interests in New Zealand – Oji, Obayashi and Umios. We also engaged with Pacific Ambassadors based in Tokyo; NZDF personnel deployed to multinational DPRK sanctions monitoring efforts in Japan; and had an interview with the Nikkei newspaper.
- 8 Our engagements shifted the dial for New Zealand's interests in the relationship
s6(a)

s6(a), s9(2)(g)(i)

- 9 Our meetings with Oji, Obayashi and Umios reinforced New Zealand's support for the companies' long-term presence
s9(2)(b)(ii)

Proactive release

- 10 This Cabinet paper would 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

It is recommended that Cabinet note this report.

Authorised for lodgement

Rt. Hon Winston Peters

Minister of Foreign Affairs