

Proactive Release

Date: 18 November 2021

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

Oral Item: Deployments in Support of United Nations Sanctions Against North Korea:
Update

CAB-21-MIN-0401

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 security or defence of New Zealand or the international relations of the New Zealand Government.

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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 of the Cabinet External Relations and Security Committee: Period Ended 1 October 2021

On 4 October 2021, Cabinet made the following decisions on the work of the Cabinet External Relations and Security Committee for the period ended 1 October 2021:

ERS-21-MIN-0028 **Oral Item: Deployments in Support of United Nations
Sanctions Against North Korea: Update** CONFIRMED
Portfolios: Foreign Affairs / Defence

Michael Webster
Secretary of the Cabinet



Cabinet External Relations and Security Committee

Minute of Decision

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Oral Item: Deployments in Support of United Nations Sanctions Against North Korea: Update

Portfolios Foreign Affairs / Defence

On 28 September 2021, the Cabinet External Relations and Security Committee (ERS):

- 1 **noted** that New Zealand contributes to the enforcement of United Nations Security Council sanctions against North Korea through:
 - 1.1 regular New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF) P-3K2 maritime surveillance deployments to Northeast Asia, with personnel based at the Kadena Air Base in Japan;
 - 1.2 a NZDF liaison officer assigned to the ^{s6(a)} which analyses the collected imagery and collates information for the United Nations Panel of Experts;
- 2 **noted** that the final P-3K2 deployment under the current mandate is scheduled for ^{s6(a)}
- 3 **noted** that on 29 June 2020, Cabinet directed officials to report back to ERS on the strategic environment before any further deployment takes place in support of United Nations sanctions against North Korea [CAB-20-MIN-0311.01];
- 4 **noted** the advice of the Minister of Foreign Affairs and the Minister of Defence on the strategic environment;
- 5 **directed** officials to provide further updates to ERS on these matters, as appropriate;
- 6 ^{s6(a)}

Janine Harvey
Committee Secretary

Attendees: (see over)

Present:

Rt Hon Jacinda Ardern (Chair)
Hon Grant Robertson
Hon Kelvin Davis
Hon Andrew Little
Hon David Parker
Hon Nanaia Mahuta
Hon Poto Williams
Hon Damien O'Connor
Hon Kris Faafoi
Hon Peeni Henare
Hon Kiri Allen
Hon Phil Twyford

Officials present from:

Office of the Prime Minister
Officials Committee for ERS

Proactively Released by the
Minister of Foreign Affairs



Cabinet External Relations and Security Committee

ERS-21-SUB-0028

Summary

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Oral Item: Deployments in Support of United Nations Sanctions Against North Korea: Update

Portfolios **Foreign Affairs / Defence**

At its meeting on 28 September 2021, the Cabinet External Relations and Security Committee will be considering an item on *Deployments in Support of United Nations Sanctions Against North Korea: Update*. The attached document is provided to support the discussion at the meeting.

Janine Harvey
Committee Secretary

Hard-copy distribution:
Cabinet External Relations and Security Committee



AIDE MEMOIRE: DEPLOYMENTS IN SUPPORT OF UNITED NATIONS SANCTIONS AGAINST NORTH KOREA: UPDATE

Outcome sought

To report to ERS Ministers on the strategic environment before the final mandated deployment in November, as Cabinet directed in 2020.

- New Zealand contributes to the enforcement of United Nations Security Council sanctions against North Korea through:
 - Regular New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF) P-3K2 maritime surveillance deployments to Northeast Asia (four deployments since 2018); and
 - A NZDF liaison officer ^{s6(a)} which analyses the collected imagery and collates information for the United Nations Panel of Experts.
- NZDF P-3K2 deployments have been based from the US Kadena Air Base in Japan ^{s6(a)}
- The final P-3K2 deployment under the current mandate is scheduled for ^{s6(a)}

The threat level is ^{s6(a)}

- The overall threat to NZDF personnel stationed in Japan and conducting maritime patrols in the operational area is ^{s6(a)}
- ^{s6(a)}

North Korea continues to violate UNSC sanctions

- Sanctions are the international community's key leverage to induce North Korea to pursue denuclearisation and return to diplomacy. There are clear exemptions for imported humanitarian aid.
- North Korea continues to violate sanctions by illicitly importing refined petroleum and exporting commodities such as coal.
- s6(a)

Partner support for sanctions enforcement remains strong

- New Zealand's support for sanctions against North Korea is conducted alongside s6(a) including Australia, Canada, France, Germany, Japan, the Republic of Korea, the United States, and the United Kingdom.
- s6(a) partners are committed to sanctions enforcement s6(a)

Next steps

- The next deployment in s6(a) before the NZDF transitions from the P-3K2 aircraft to the P-8A aircraft. s6(a)
- s6(a)

- **Bottom line**

- United Nations Security Council sanctions against North Korea are having an impact and our partners are committed to ongoing sanctions enforcement activities.

s6(a)