



Proactive Release

The following Cabinet paper and related Cabinet minute have been proactively released by the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, on behalf of Hon Kris Faafoi:

Report on Overseas Travel: Hon Kris Faafoi

The following documents have been included in this release:

***Title of paper: Report on Overseas Travel: Hon Kris Faafoi
(CAB-19-SUB-0352 refers)***

***Title of minute: Report on Overseas Travel: Hon Kris Faafoi
(CAB-19-MIN-0352 refers)***

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 section of the Act that would apply has been identified. Where information has been withheld, no public interest has been identified that would outweigh the reasons for withholding it.

Key to redaction code:

- 9(2)(f)(iv): to maintain the confidentiality of advice tendered by or to Ministers and officials; and
- 9(2)(g)(i): to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the free and frank expression of opinion.

~~In Confidence~~

Office of the Minister of Broadcasting, Communications and Digital Media
Chair, Cabinet

Report on Overseas Travel: Hon Kris Faafoi

I recommend that Cabinet notes this report on my travel to Ireland, the United Kingdom, France and Switzerland from Friday 10 May – Monday 20 May 2019.

Report

- 1 The United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction invited me, in my capacity as Minister of Civil Defence, to attend and speak at the Sixth Session of the Global Platform on Disaster Risk Reduction in Geneva, Switzerland.
- 2 This was an ideal opportunity, while in the region, to meet with my counterparts and organisations relevant to my Ministerial portfolios in the United Kingdom and Ireland.
- 3 My itinerary was later altered to include travel to Paris to support the Prime Minister with the Christchurch Call at the G7. I also added further cyber engagements to planned travel to support the Government's focus on international collaboration on cyber issues.
- 4 I have outlined summaries of my meetings, including key outcomes, by country.

Dublin, Ireland

- 5 In my capacity as Minister of Broadcasting, Communications and Digital Media I had discussions with Government and private sector representatives from the broadcasting and cyber sectors, canvassing a range of common interests.

- 6 I met with representatives of the Irish state broadcaster, Raidió Teilifís Éireann (RTÉ), 9(2)(f)(iv), 9(2)(g)(i)

RTE also discussed its approach to local content promotion, in particular to Irish language content. We also explored common challenges such as changes to broadcasting revenue streams and preserving plurality in the sector, and possible policy responses.

- 7 In addition, I met with the Broadcast Authority of Ireland (BAI) to discuss how the BAI operates in both its regulatory and funding/commissioning responsibilities.
- 8 I discussed emerging developments in Irish cyber security policy with Richard Brunton TD (Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment) and with officials from the National Cyber Security Centre of Ireland. At the time, I was due to release New Zealand's national cyber security strategy and I discussed how we might learn from each other as we develop our policy frameworks.
- 9 I also met with Ireland's representatives on the International Grand Committee for Disinformation and Fake News (the Committee). The Committee discussed its work with domestic and international stakeholders on a wide range of issues including child protection and privacy and data protection.
9(2)(f)(iv)

Paris, France

- 10 I represented New Zealand at the informal G7 Digital Ministers Meeting in Paris on 15 May, held immediately prior to the Christchurch Call Summit. The G7 meeting represented an opportunity for New Zealand to integrate the objectives of the Christchurch Call within the G7 process. Sessions focussed on human-centric Artificial Intelligence, fighting online harms, and trust and data-flows and digital infrastructures.
- 11 I also confirmed New Zealand's support for the establishment of an International Panel on Artificial Intelligence and New Zealand's interest in joining the Panel.
- 12 This meeting was a useful opportunity to engage with like-minded countries on our shared digital challenges. We are all grappling with the same issues, and much of the discussion was relevant to policy areas that I am engaging with across my Ministerial portfolios.

Geneva, Switzerland

- 13 In my capacity as Minister of Civil Defence, I spoke at the Sixth Session of the Global Platform on Disaster Risk Reduction. This is a biennial multi-stakeholder forum established by the UN General Assembly to review progress, share knowledge and discuss the latest developments and trends in reducing disaster risk.
- 14 My speech provided an opportunity to showcase the work that our Government is leading to reform the emergency management system and the development of New Zealand's National Disaster Resilience Strategy.
- 15 I also participated in a Ministerial Roundtable on the economics of disaster risk reduction; a working session on innovative investment modalities for

disaster risk reductions; and met with the Pacific Heads of Delegation to outline New Zealand's disaster risk reduction priorities in the Pacific.

London, United Kingdom

- 16 In my capacity as Minister of Broadcasting, Communications and Digital Media and as Minister of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, I had engagements on online harm, 5G roll-out, cyber issues and Brexit/Customs with senior UK Ministers including Rt Hon David Lidington, Rt Hon Jeremy Wright, the UK National Cyber Security Centre and Vodafone.
- 17 I met with executives at the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) to discuss the significant challenges facing public media worldwide. The BBC shared its perspectives on maintaining its audience and adapting to a digital strategy in an increasingly fragmented and competitive sector, as well as its approach to a combined news service. The meeting also provided an opportunity to discuss the BBC's Local News Partnerships programme to support local democracy reporting at a regional level. Radio New Zealand, NZ On Air and the Newspaper Publishers Association are piloting a similar programme in New Zealand.
- 18 I also met the co-chair of a parliamentary group dealing with ticket resale issues, and we agreed to continue mutually beneficial work to address ticket scalping.

Proactive release

- 19 I propose to release this paper proactively.

Recommendation

I recommend that Cabinet note this report.

Authorised for lodgement

Hon Kris Faafoi

Minister of Broadcasting, Communications, and Digital Media



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: Hon Kris Faafoi

Portfolio **Broadcasting, Communications and Digital Media**

On 22 July 2019, Cabinet **noted** the report from Hon Kris Faafoi under CAB-19-SUB-0352 on his travel, from 10 to 20 May 2019, to:

- 1 Dublin, Ireland to meet with broadcasting and cyber sector representatives;
- 2 Paris, France to attend the G7 Digital Ministers Meeting and support the Prime Minister at the Christchurch Call Summit;
- 3 Geneva, Switzerland to attend and speak at the Sixth Session of the Global Platform on Disaster Risk Reduction;
- 4 London, United Kingdom to undertake portfolio-related meetings.

Martin Bell
for Secretary of the Cabinet

Hard-copy distribution:
Prime Minister
Deputy Prime Minister
Hon Kris Faafoi