



Proactive Release

The following documents have been proactively released by the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (DPMC), on behalf of the Prime Minister, Rt Hon Jacinda Ardern:

Report on Overseas Travel: Rt Hon Jacinda Ardern and cross-party delegation

The following documents have been included in this release:

Title of paper: Report on Overseas Travel: Rt Hon Jacinda Ardern and cross-party delegation (CAB-22-SUB-0475 refers)

Title of minute: Report on Overseas Travel: PM, Hon Carmel Sepuloni and Hon Aupito William Sio (CAB-22-MIN-0475 refers)

Some parts of this information 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:

- Section 6(a), to protect the security or defence of New Zealand or the international relations of the Government of New Zealand.

~~[Restricted]~~

Office of the Prime Minister

Chair, Cabinet

Report on Overseas Travel: Rt Hon Jacinda Ardern and cross-party delegation

I recommend that Cabinet note this report on my travel to Apia on 1 – 2 August.

Report

- 1 I visited Samoa to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of Friendship between Samoa and New Zealand. It was my first official visit to Samoa since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- 2 I was accompanied by a 60-strong travelling party comprising cross-party parliamentary delegation; representatives from the Māori and Samoan communities; and New Zealand and Samoan media outlets.
- 3 Throughout the visit, Prime Minister Fiame Naomi Mata'afa and I reiterated our countries' enduring commitment to the Treaty of Friendship, acknowledging the growth of our relationship over the last 60 years, and recognising our mutual desire to continue working closely together.

Official reception

- 4 Acknowledgement of our shared history and shared future was underscored in my and Prime Minister Fiame's keynote speeches during the official reception. We affirmed a renewed commitment to the principles of the Treaty of Friendship: between two governments of "sovereign and equal status" founded on respect for human rights and "the purpose and principles of the Charter of the United Nations". We acknowledged the relationship founded on "friendship, confidence, and a mutual endeavour to obtain for our peoples fuller opportunities for social progress", and committed to maintain and strengthen the bonds between our two countries.
- 5 In our speeches, we recognised that our shared story had not always been exemplary, and that we may still have some hiccups, but that there was a mutual understanding that there was always space to talanoa and keep dialogues open. Prime Minister Fiame and I both noted that the relationship continued to thrive through honest, frequent, and equal dialogue.

Meeting with Samoa's Cabinet

- 6 In a special gesture by Samoa, cross-party representatives from New Zealand, including the National, Green, Act and Māori Parties, were invited to participate in a meeting with Samoa's full Cabinet – the first meeting of this kind in recent memory. This was a warm and engaging dialogue, characterised by a notable level of trust between Parliamentarians, as well as

a genuine and open conversation and free flow of constructive ideas. Importantly, there was a united commitment from New Zealand's cross-party Parliamentary delegation to support Samoa's aspirations and vision of "a Samoa where people want to stay".

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s6(a)



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Rebuilding the tourism sector to ensure it was high quality was also a key focus. Affordable flight connections were an important issue, s6(a)



Announcements

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During the visit, I announced New Zealand support for Samoa's infrastructure priorities by committing to co-fund the rebuilding of the Savalalo Market in central Apia at a cost of NZ\$12 million. I also announced NZ\$15 million in flexible financing to support implementation of Samoa's climate change priorities.

Proactive release

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

Recommendation

I recommend that Cabinet note this report.

Authorised for lodgement

Rt Hon Jacinda Ardern

Prime Minister



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: Prime Minister, Hon Carmel Sepuloni and Hon Aupito William Sio

Portfolio **Prime Minister**

On 31 October 2022, Cabinet **noted** the report from the Prime Minister under CAB-22-SUB-0475 on her travel, together with Hon Carmel Sepuloni and Hon Aupito William Sio, from 1 to 2 August 2022, to Apia, Samoa to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of Friendship between Samoa and Aotearoa New Zealand.

Rachel Hayward
Acting Secretary of the Cabinet