

Briefing: Climate Priorities Ministerial Group meeting papers for 9 December 2024

Date submitted: 27 November 2024

Tracking number: BRF-5650

Sub Security level: CLASSIFICATION

MfE priority: Urgent

Actions sought from Ministers		
Name and position	Action sought	Response by
To Hon Simon WATTS Minister of Climate Change	Provide feedback , if any, on the attached meeting pack for the Climate Priorities Ministerial Group (CPMG) meeting on 9 December OR Agree to forward the attached meeting papers to CPMG members ahead of the 9 December meeting	6 December 2024

Actions for Minister's office staff
If Minister has feedback on the attached material: Provide feedback to the Climate IEB Unit (board@climateieb.govt.nz) OR, if Minister has no feedback: Forward the attached CPMG agenda and meeting papers to the Ministers listed in recommendation (b) below Return the signed briefing to the Climate IEB Unit (board@climateieb.govt.nz).

Appendices and attachments
1. Climate Priorities Ministerial Group meeting papers for 9 December 2024

Key contacts at Ministry for the Environment			
Position	Name	Cell phone	First contact
Principal Author	Rachael Church	9(2)(a)	
Responsible Manager	Amy Tisdall	027 254 3167	
Acting Executive Director	Jane White	027 275 7836	✓

Minister's comments

Climate Priorities Ministerial Group meeting papers for 9 December 2024

Purpose

1. Attached to this briefing is the final agenda and meeting pack for the upcoming Climate Priorities Ministerial Group (CPMG) meeting, scheduled for Monday 9 December 2024, 7:30pm to 8:30pm (see Attachment 1).
2. The agenda items and discussion objectives are outlined in the table below. Recommendations sought through this meeting are outlined in the CPMG agenda in the attached meeting pack.

#	Item	Purpose / objectives
1	Confirm purpose of meeting	Objectives for the meeting are to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • discuss and agree core elements of the NDC2 target as outlined in the Cabinet paper, ahead of ECO on 18 December, Cabinet in the new year and submission of NDC2 to the UN by 10 February 2025 • note upcoming decisions in 2025, including on the Adaptation Framework ^{9(2)(f)(iv)}, decisions on EB4; whether to revise the 2050 target; and decisions post the methane target review
2	Update from COP29	This is an opportunity for you to share any reflections from COP29
3	Setting the second Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC2)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Part 1 James Palmer, Chair of the Climate Change Executives Board, will set out the requirements for NZ to communicate its second Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC2) to the UNFCCC by 10 February 2025 • Part 2 Ministers to discuss the options for setting NDC2 and confirm the recommended option to take to Cabinet for approval
4	Looking ahead to 2025	Discuss the key areas for CPMG to focus on in 2025, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Preparing to deliver ERP2 - Policy decisions on the Adaptation Framework - Making decisions on EB4 - Whether to revise the 2050 target - Decisions post Methane Science and Targets Review

3. Officials from the Climate IEB Unit and MfE will be available at your officials meetings on Monday 2 December and Monday 9 December 2024 to discuss the proposed approach to the meeting and any questions or concerns you have as Chair.

4. We will also provide you with suggested talking points to support you as Chair at the meeting. These will be provided to your office by 5 December.

Recommendations

5. We recommend that you:

Forward the attached agenda and papers to the Climate Priorities Ministerial Group members ahead of the meeting to be held at 7:30pm on 9 December 2024:

- Hon Nicola Willis – Minister of Finance; Associate Minister of Climate Change
- Hon Chris Bishop – Minister of Infrastructure, Minister Responsible for RMA Reform, Minister of Housing
- Hon Simeon Brown – Minister for Energy, Minister of Transport, Minister of Local Government
- Hon Mark Mitchell, Minister for Emergency Management and Recovery
- Hon Todd McClay – Minister of Agriculture, Minister of Forestry and Minister for Trade
- Hon Tama Potaka, Minister of Conservation, and Māori Crown Relations: Te Arawhiti
- Hon Penny Simmonds – Minister for the Environment
- Hon Chris Penk, Minister for Building and Construction, Minister for Land Information
- Rt Hon Winston Peters – Minister of Foreign Affairs
- Hon Shane Jones, Minister for Regional Development and Resources
- Hon Mark Patterson, Minister for Rural Communities
- Simon Court MP, Parliamentary Under-Secretary to Minister for Infrastructure, Minister Responsible for RMA Reform

Yes | No

Signatures



Jane White
Acting Executive Director,
Climate Change Chief Executives Board Unit
27 November 2024

Hon Simon WATTS
Minister of Climate Change
Date

Climate Priorities Ministerial Group Meeting

Date	9 December 2024	Time	7:30 to 8:30pm
Venue	Ministerial Meeting Room, Level 2, Executive Wing, Parliament Buildings		
Attendees	<p><u>Core members</u></p> <p>Hon Simon Watts – Minister of Climate Change Hon Nicola Willis – Minister of Finance; Associate Minister of Climate Change Hon Chris Bishop – Minister of Infrastructure, Minister Responsible for RMA Reform, Minister of Housing Hon Simeon Brown – Minister for Energy, Minister of Transport, Minister of Local Government Hon Todd McClay – Minister of Agriculture, Minister of Forestry, Minister for Trade Rt Hon Winston Peters – Minister of Foreign Affairs</p> <p><u>High-interest members</u></p> <p>Hon Mark Mitchell, Minister for Emergency Management and Recovery Hon Tama Potaka, Minister of Conservation, and Māori Crown Relations: Te Arawhiti Hon Penny Simmonds, Minister for the Environment Hon Chris Penk, Minister for Building and Construction, Minister for Land Information Hon Shane Jones, Minister for Regional Development and Resources Hon Mark Patterson, Minister for Rural Communities Simon Court MP, Parliamentary Under-Secretary to Minister for Infrastructure, Minister Responsible for RMA Reform</p>		
Apologies	<i>To be updated when confirmed</i>		

Meeting open – Welcome			
#	Time	Agenda Item	Recommendations
1	5 mins	Welcome / confirm purpose of meeting Chair: Hon Simon Watts	
		Meeting objectives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discuss and agree core elements of the NDC2 target as outlined in the Cabinet paper, ahead of ECO on 18 December and submission of NDC2 by 10 February 2025 Note upcoming decisions in 2025, including on the Adaptation Framework ^{9(2)(f)(iv)}, decisions on EB4; whether to revise the 2050 target; and decisions post the methane target review 	
2	5 mins	Update from COP 29 Lead: Hon Simon Watts	

Key discussion item		
3	40 mins	Setting the second Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC2)
Part 1	15 mins	Climate Change Interdepartmental Board advice to inform a pre-Cabinet conversation on setting the second Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC2) Lead speaker: James Palmer (Chair of the Climate Change Interdepartmental Executive Board) and other members of the Board
		<p>Context: James Palmer, Chair of the Interdepartmental Executive Board, will set out the requirements for NZ to communicate its second Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC2) to the UNFCCC by 10 February 2025. This will be New Zealand's international climate mitigation target covering the period 2031-2035. Under the Paris Agreement rules, it is required to be a progression on NDC1 and must reflect New Zealand's highest possible ambition. The Government has choices about how it sets NDC2 and what factors to prioritise in this decision.</p> <p>Risks and issues: NDC2 decisions should consider a range of factors including New Zealand's contribution to the Paris Agreement's global temperature goals (noting we are a developed country so will be expected to do more than the global average), the cost and feasibility of delivering a target, and international reputation and standing against other countries. There are trade-offs between these factors - the more ambitious a target, the more it supports the global effort but the higher cost and challenge to deliver.</p> <p>Supporting paper: 3.1 <i>A3s: Setting New Zealand's next nationally determined contribution (NDC2)</i></p> <p>Note the advice provided by the Climate Change Interdepartmental Executive Board</p>
Part 2	25 mins	Ministerial discussion Lead facilitator: Minister Watts
		<p>Decisions required: Ministers to discuss the options for setting NDC2 and confirm the recommended option to take to Cabinet for approval.</p> <p>Supporting paper: 3.2 <i>Draft Cabinet paper: Setting New Zealand's second nationally determined contribution</i></p> <p>Discuss the options for setting NDC2 and recommendations for Cabinet</p>
4	10 mins	Looking ahead to 2025 Lead speaker: Minister Watts
		<p>Context: ERP2 is expected to be published on 11 December and the 2025 focus will be preparing to deliver the plan. Other areas of focus include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy decisions on the Adaptation Framework • Making decisions on EB4 • Whether to revise the 2050 target • Decisions post Methane Science and Targets Review <p>Supporting paper: 4.1 <i>A3 on climate milestones 2024/2025</i></p> <p>Discuss the key areas for CPMG to focus on in 2025</p>

Papers 3.1 and 3.2 are publicly available at: <https://environment.govt/assets/publications/Mfe-NDC2.pdf>

Meeting close		
Indicative forward agenda items		
Date	CPMG focus area	Discussion topic
17 Feb 2025	Adaptation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Emerging policy positions for the Adaptation Framework

