



19-D-01614

s 9(2)(a)

Dear s 9(2)(a)

Thank you for your email of 02 August 2019 requesting the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

Can you please send OIA information on payments made to the Paris accord & what the money was used for.

Does the ministry have any audits on how New Zealand's contribution to Paris Accord is spent What has the contribution money has been used on please be specific, or itemise list.

Where is New Zealand's Paris Accord contribution/ Money sent, what organisation receives it, who is the person at that organisation that manages the Contribution money, what is their position in the organisation, How much have we contributed to the paris accord from first payment to present day.

When is the next contribution/payment due & how much.

Does any of this Contribution/money get sent to NGOs Please list all NGOs that have received funds/contributions/ payments from New Zealand or New Zealand Paris accord contributions.

On 06 August you clarified the scope of your request:

Yes please include UNFCCC OIA

I am after any payments New Zealand has made to the Paris Accord & all bodies with in it structure , who those payments go to & what they are used to fund.

Any NGOs that receive those funds & how they use it.

An account of the audit process by the govt for accountability & how often they audit it Which minister is incharge of Audits.

I am writing an essay on how New Zealand contributes are spent through the Paris climate Accord who receives the money & whats it used to fund.

I want to understand that process so I can be accurate.

On 21 August you clarified the scope of your request, confirming that you seek information on:

What I need is a spread sheet with itemised amounts to show how much was contributed & to where with dates.

I also request total amount of contributions made year by year from 2014 to present date including govt budgets to service these contributions.

I am declining your request under section 18(d) of the Act, as the information is publicly available online. Please find a table with some useful links in Appendix 1. We do not have an itemised list or

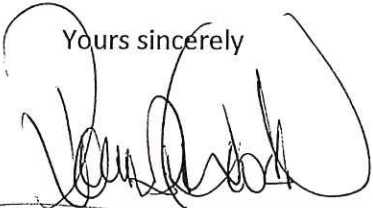


spreadsheet as you requested. Please also refer to the email correspondence with Adam Houppermans from 19 August 2019, in which he provided useful links to your request (Appendix 2).

Due to the public interest in our work the Ministry for the Environment publishes responses to requests for official information on our website on our [OIA responses page](#) shortly after the response has been sent.

If you have any queries about this, please feel free to contact our Executive Relations team at ministerials@mfe.govt.nz.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Roger Lincoln', written over a horizontal line.

Roger Lincoln
Director, Climate Change

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the Official Information Act 1982

Appendix 1:

Links that relate to the request, which include the answers to the requested points.

Name of document	Link	Information within document
Ministry for the Environment Annual Report 2015-2016	https://www.mfe.govt.nz/sites/default/files/media/mfe-annual-report-2016-fa.pdf	Page 103: Finances of the years 2014/2015 up to 2015/2016, with a forecast to 2016/17. Under "Non-departmental other expenses" find <i>Climate Change Development Fund</i> (2 nd entry from the top of the table) and the <i>Framework Convention on Climate Change</i> (5 th entry from the top of the table)
Ministry for the Environment Annual Report 2016-2017	https://www.mfe.govt.nz/sites/default/files/media/About/soi-annual-report-2017.pdf	page 154: Finances of the years 2015/2016 up to 2016/2017, with a forecast to 2017/18. Climate Change Development Fund (2 nd entry from the top of the table) and the Framework Convention on Climate Change (5 th entry from the top of the table)
Ministry for the Environment Annual Report 2017/2018	https://www.mfe.govt.nz/sites/default/files/media/About/Annual-report-2017-18-WEB.pdf	page 128: Finances of the years 2016/2017 up to 2017/2018, with a forecast to 2018/19. Climate Change Development Fund (2 nd entry from the top of the table) and the Framework Convention on Climate Change (5 th entry from the top of the table)
Seventh National Communication and Third Biennial Report	https://www.mfe.govt.nz/sites/default/files/media/Climate%20Change/21-12-17%20Web%20FINAL%20-%20Seventh%20National%20Communication%202017.pdf and http://unfccc.int/files/national_reports/biennial_reports_and_iar/submitted_biennial_reports/application/pdf/148395_new_zealand-br3-1-	Information on payments to developing countries to fight climate change, <i>Seventh National Communication</i> : Chapter 7, from page 196 <i>Third Biennial Report</i> : Chapter V, from page 53

Name of document	Link	Information within document
	new zealand third biennial report.pdf	
UNFCCC website to search for relevant documents	https://unfccc.int/documents	Search engine for all types of information on UNFCCC
UNFCCC website – collection of “Past Conferences”	https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings#:~:q=606038e4-000c-47ee-8c49-4f590df37224:9b6196fd-b9b5-4b2c-a133-ab97ac611271	Collection of conference minutes
Report of the Conference of the Parties on its nineteenth session, held in Warsaw from 11 to 23 November 2013	https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/reso-urce/docs/2014/cop20/eng/10a01.pdf	UNFCCC Budget for 2014-2015: Starting on page 20 (Budget it is always determined for 2 years)
Report of the Conference of the Parties on its twenty-first session, held in Paris from 30 November to 13 December 2015	https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/reso-urce/docs/2015/cop21/eng/10a03.pdf	UNFCCC Budget for 2016-2017: Starting on page 22
Report of the Conference of the Parties on its twenty-third session, held in Bonn from 6 to 18 November 2017	https://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2017/cop23/eng/11a02.pdf	UNFCCC Budget for 2018-2019: Starting on page 23
Report of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation on its fiftieth session, held in Bonn from 17 to 27 June 2019	https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/reso-urce/sbi2019_9a1_advance.pdf	Preparation for COP25 (December 2019): The document contains draft decisions forwarded by the Subsidiary Body for Implementation to the COP (and CMP) for adoption at the UNFCCC meeting in December 2019 (COP25). The draft budget decisions start on page 38, and paragraph 7 on page 38 refers to the United Nations indicative scale of contributions which is annexed to the decision (page 44), and which determines the proportion of the budget that NZ pays.

Name of document	Link	Information within document
<p>fiftieth session, held in Bonn from 17 to 27 June 2019</p>		<p>Subsidiary Body for Implementation to the COP (and CMP) for adoption at the UNFCCC meeting in December 2019 (COP25). The draft budget decisions start on page 38, and paragraph 7 on page 38 refers to the United Nations indicative scale of contributions which is annexed to the decision (page 44), and which determines the proportion of the budget that NZ pays.</p>

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Appendix 2

Email correspondence between the Ministry for the Environment and the requestor to clarify the request

From: Ministerials

Sent: Monday, 19 August 2019 2:51 PM

To: blanchfieldinc@gmail.com

Subject: RE: Clarification email for 19-D-01614 Shawn Blanchfield OIA

Kia ora Shawn,

I am emailing you regarding your Official Information Act request, as Curtis is not in the office this week.

We would like to further clarify the request you made on the Paris Accord. We want to confirm exactly what the information is that you are requesting.

The following context and some information/details may help you clarify what you are seeking.

1. **New Zealand's payments to the UNFCCC since the Paris Agreement:**
 - a. Through which funds is the UNFCCC paid.

The Funds can be viewed in publicly released "Annual Reports" for Ministry for the Environment (MfE).
You can search the MfE website for "Annual Report" here:
<https://www.mfe.govt.nz/publication-search>
 - b. "Who" receives them at the UNFCCC.

The receiver is the UNFCCC secretariat, which allocates certain sums to tasks that need to be achieved, rather than a particular person. All these tasks are decided during the "Conference of the Parties" (short COP) and these decisions are published in the minutes after each meeting.
 - c. What the UNFCCC does with the contributions from NZ.

As stated under 1. b. those tasks are published after each COP in their minutes/protocols.
 - d. When these payments are made.

That is also established in the COP minutes.
 - e. How much is paid.

It is a contribution by e.g. country size, which is scaled by the UN. That is also established in the COP minutes.

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→ These are all publicly available documents that can be downloaded by searching online.
2. Whether NGO's receive funds
Generally no. We may not hold any additional official information on this, depending on what specifically you are seeking.
3. Who audits the sums that go to the UNFCCC.
As all government bodies, the Ministry for the Environment is also annually audited (by Audit NZ) and publishes the complete audits in "Annual Reports".

4. It is not quite clear yet, if you additionally want information on New Zealand's payments to aid developing countries combatting climate change.

This fund is administered by The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT) and therefore might be better responded to by MFAT. Although please note that it is published in the current *Seventh National Communication* and *Third Biennial Report* (the newest *Fourth Biennial Report* will come out in January 2020).

Can you confirm what, given the above information, you are seeking as part of your request?

If this is not the information you are looking for, we kindly ask you to provide us with a telephone number to clarify your request as it may be easier to discuss over the phone. Once your request has been adequately clarified we will be able to begin processing your request.

Looking forward to hearing back from you.

Ngā mihi

Adam Houppermans, Senior Advisor

Executive Relations Team

Ministry for the Environment – Manatū Mō Te Taiao

Website: www.mfe.govt.nz

23 Kate Sheppard Place, PO Box 10362, Wellington 6143



Ministry for the
Environment
Manatū Mō Te Taiao



*Making Aotearoa New Zealand
the most liveable place in the world*
Aotearoa - Ee whēnua tino kōwhiri mō te taiao

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Aotearoa - he wānanga māua kua mā te taiao

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