



22 May 2024

9(2)(a)

Tēnā koe 9(2)(a)

Thank you for your email of 16 April 2024 requesting the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

Any MFAT authored brief to the Minister for Climate Change and/or Cabinet relating to the update of New Zealand's first NDC. This was for the immediate period leading up to the Glasgow Conference of the Parties meeting in December 2021 where NZ announced its updated NDC. A recent OIA response from MfE contained a Cabinet Minute (CAB-2-MIN-0434) that refers to an accompanying paper Progressing International Cooperation to Reduce Emissions and Complement Domestic Action (CAB-21-SUB-0435). Could I also request this, if it has not already been proactively released

On 23 April 2024, the Ministry for the Environment accepted the partial transfer of your request from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade under section 14 of Act.

The Cabinet paper *Progressing International Cooperation to Reduce Emissions and Complement Domestic Action* and the Cabinet minute *21-MIN-0435* have been released in part, with some information withheld under the following section of the Act:

9(2)(f)(iv) To maintain the constitutional conventions for the time being which protect the confidentiality of advice tendered by Ministers of the Crown and officials.

9(2)(g)(i) To maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the free and frank expression of opinions by or between or to Ministers of the Crown or members of an organisation or officers and employees of any public service agency or organisation in the course of their duty.

9(2)(j), to enable a Minister of the Crown or any public service agency or organisation holding the information to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations).

In terms of section 9(1) of the Act, I am satisfied that, in the circumstances, the withholding of this information is not outweighed by other considerations that render it desirable to make the information available in the public interest.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Office of the Ombudsman of my decision to withhold information relating to this request, in accordance with section 28(3) of the Act. The relevant details can be found on their website at:

www.ombudsman.parliament.nz.

Please note that due to the public interest in our work the Ministry for the Environment publishes responses to requests for official information 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 Ministerial Services team: ministerials@mfe.govt.nz.

Nāku noa, nā,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'JR', is positioned above the name and title of the signatory.

Jacqueline Ruesga
Manager - International Markets
Ministry for the Environment | Manatū Mō Te Taiao