



# Cabinet

CAB Min (01) 31/13

## Minute of Decision

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Convenor, Ministerial Group on Climate Change

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Secretary, POL  
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## Climate Change: Paper 3: Plan for Consultation and Release of Discussion Document

On 8 October 2001, following reference from the Cabinet Policy Committee (POL), Cabinet:

### Timing of consultation

- 1 **noted** that consultation on ratification of the Kyoto Protocol and the domestic policy options for meeting Protocol obligations is timed to take place between 15 October and 15 December 2001, and that a second round will take place between 15 March and 15 May 2002, based on the Government's preferred option;

### Discussion document and approach

- 2 2.1 **noted** that the Ministerial Group on Climate Change comprises the Hon Pete Hodgson (Convenor), Minister for Economic Development, Minister of Finance, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Minister of Conservation, Minister for Biosecurity, Minister for the Environment and the Minister of Transport;

- 2.2 **authorised** the Ministerial Group on Climate Change to approve the climate change consultation document for stage one consultation, and any summary documents that are prepared from this document, by round robin or otherwise;
- 3 **noted** the approach to the consultation process set out in the annex attached to this minute;
- 4 **noted** that the approach includes a strong communications element, to ensure that there is a balanced, informed debate during the consultation process;
- 5 **noted** that previous consultation processes have not achieved the desired outcomes and, because of the risks involved, there is a critical need for ministerial engagement in and leadership of the consultation process;
- 6 **noted** that because the climate change consultation is expected to present a number of risks and challenges, a dedicated management team for consultation, operating from within the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, will be needed to manage the process of consultation;

### Funding Implications

- 7 **noted** that additional funding will be required for the consultation process:
- 7.1 the costs of setting up the consultation team and undertaking the two stages of the consultation programme are \$1.95 million;
- 7.2 departments involved in the climate change programme are able to provide \$0.908 million of these costs from within existing baselines, leaving a shortfall of \$1.042 million;
- 8 **agreed** to increase funding for Climate Change: Consultation and Communications in Vote Prime Minister and Cabinet as set out below with the following impact on the Government's operating provisions:

	All figures are \$m, GST inclusive				
	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	Outyears
Operating provisions	1.354	-	-	-	-
Less fiscally neutral transfers	0.312	-	-	-	-
Total operating impact	1.042	-	-	-	-

- 9 **approved** the following changes to appropriations for Climate Change: Consultation and Communication:

<i>(all departmental output classes)</i>	<b>\$m – increase/(decrease)</b>					
	<b>2001/02</b>	<b>2002/03</b>	<b>2003/04</b>	<b>2004/05</b>	<b>Outyears</b>	<b>GST</b>
<b>Vote Prime Minister and Cabinet</b> Policy Advice and Secretariat and Coordination Services	1.354	-	-	-	-	Incl
<b>Vote Agriculture and Forestry</b> Agriculture and Forestry Policy Advice	(0.028)	-	-	-	-	Incl
<b>Vote Energy</b> Policy Advice on Energy and Resource Issues	(0.028)	-	-	-	-	Incl
<b>Vote Environment</b> Environmental Policy Advice	(0.206)	-	-	-	-	Incl
<b>Vote Foreign Affairs and Trade</b> Policy Advice and Representation: international organisations all funded by revenue Crown	(0.050)	-	-	-	-	Incl

- 10 **agreed** that the increases in appropriations in 2001/02 above be included in the 2001/02 Supplementary Estimates and that, in the interim, these expenses be met from Imprest Supply;

### **Centrally-based Project Team**

- 11 **noted** that officials from the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, in consultation with other departments involved in the programme, are investigating the desirability and feasibility (including the appropriate form) of a centrally-based climate change project team by the end of December 2001, comprising all of the key officials in the programme (currently totalling about 30);
- 12 **invited** the Convenor of the Ministerial Group on Climate Change to report to POL by 3 December 2001 on the possible creation of a centrally-based interdepartmental project team for the remainder of the Kyoto Protocol ratification process, including any financial implications.