

25 July 2022

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Tēnā koe Adam Irish

I refer to your email of 26 May 2022 in which you request the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA):

*"...what efforts have been made to propose or reform the Pacific Islands Forum (PIF) into a political and economic union along the lines of the European Union.*

*Additionally I request under the Official Information Act if New Zealand, Australia, ANZUS or the PIF have a similar policy to the Monroe Doctrine. Where any outside attempt by a outside power to oppress or control any nation in the PIF area would be viewed as a hostile act against New Zealand, Australia or the PIF.*

*Additionally I request under the Official Information Act if any agreement has been made or is in process to prevent the stationing of any armed forces from the People's Republic of China in PIF countries.*

*Lastly, I request under the Official Information Act if the ANZUS treaty would be triggered if an act from a foreign aggressor presents an existential threat to a member country. For example, should the People's Republic of China try to move troops into the Solomon Islands would ANZUS have at its disposal the ability to blockade this deployment and it result in a similar situation to the Cuban missile crisis."*

On 27 June 2022 we advised that we needed to extend the timeframe to respond to 25 July 2022.

I have now made a decision to grant your request. However, it will take us a little more time to prepare this information for release. We will send it to you by 29 July 2022.

If you have any questions about this decision, you can contact us by email at: [DM-ESD@mfat.govt.nz](mailto:DM-ESD@mfat.govt.nz).

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision by contacting [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or freephone 0800 802 602.

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several overlapping loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Owen Thornber  
for Secretary of Foreign Affairs and Trade