

[RESTRICTED]

From: CEO <DM-CEO@mfat.govt.nz>

Sent: Monday, 16 May 2022 9:46 am

To: ...WLN ALL DIVISIONS <WLN-ALLDIVISIONS@mfat.net.nz>; ...ALL POSTS <ALLPOSTS@mfat.net.nz>

Subject: FORMAL MESSAGE: WEEKLY ISSUES UPDATE - WEEK ENDING 13 MAY

[RESTRICTED]

Rāpopoto – Summary

Please find the contents of the weekly reports to MFA, MTEG & MCC for the week ending 13 May combined and copied below. Note that the material was current as of 12 May.

Hohenga – Action

For information

Pūrongo – Report

Out of scope

[Document ID]

[RESTRICTED]

Out of scope

Middle East

Israeli-Palestinian conflict: uptick in tensions

18. Out of scope

Veteran Al Jazeera journalist, Shireen Abu Akleh (a US citizen) was also killed by gunfire in the West Bank allegedly by Israeli sniper fire although this is disputed and investigations are underway to determine the likely cause of death. **Abu Akleh's death is the latest episode of violence during weeks of Palestinian attacks in Israel, and Israeli military raids in the West Bank that have seen 18 Israelis and 30 Palestinians killed.** Out of scope

Senior officials will raise concerns at the recent uptick in violence and concerns at the death of Abu Akleh with the Israeli Ambassador.

Out of scope

Out of scope

Whatsapp conversation between ^{s9(2)(g)(ii)} **Unit Manager Middle East, and**
^{s9(2)(g)(ii)} **Private Secretary, Office of the Minister of Foreign Affairs**
[2:28 pm, 14/05/2022] ^{s9(2)(g)(ii)} Heya sorry to bother you. I was just in touch
with MFA about ^{Out of scope} and she asked me if we are doing a statement or

[Document ID]

anything on the death of the Al Jazeera journo last week. Do you know if we had anything in mind for that? Advise for/against? Sorry I'm sure you're busy with other things right now but she just text me about it...

[3:15 pm, 14/05/2022] s9(2)(g)(ii) (Work): Thanks - I am checking on this and will be in touch.

[3:16 pm, 14/05/2022] s9(2)(g)(ii) Thank you

[4:39 pm, 14/05/2022] s9(2)(g)(ii) (Work): s9(2)(g)(ii) will be speaking with the Israeli Amb to raise concerns over the Al Jazeera journalist's death and the escalation of tensions. s9(2)(g)(i)

We will be in touch with draft tweet language:

[4:42 pm, 14/05/2022] s9(2)(g)(ii) Ok thanks very much. Sorry to bother you on the weekend!

[4:42 pm, 14/05/2022] s9(2)(g)(ii) (Work): No worries at all! Thanks for checking.
Out of scope

[7:17 pm, 14/05/2022] s9(2)(g)(ii) Heya sorry to be a pain as I know you're trying to
to Out of scope at the moment but was the draft tweet likely to come

thru tonight?

[7:25 pm, 14/05/2022] s9(2)(g)(ii) (Work): Yes apologies just back at laptop now and putting together message to you. Sorry about that. Will have it through shortly.
Out of scope

[7:26 pm, 14/05/2022] s9(2)(g)(ii) Awesome thank you sorry I realise this is super annoying

[7:39 pm, 14/05/2022] s9(2)(g)(ii) (Work): No I am sorry it took a while! Have just hit send.

[7:40 pm, 14/05/2022] s9(2)(g)(ii) Fab, thanks!

[8:20 pm, 14/05/2022] s9(2)(g)(ii) (Work): Thanks! And apologies I now see s6(a)

Foreign Ministers have tweeted so there is FM level company.

[8:20 pm, 14/05/2022] s9(2)(g)(ii) Ok great we'll it's good we have one sorted then.

Thanks again

[12:22 pm, 15/05/2022] s9(2)(g)(ii) (Work): Kia ora, hope your Sunday is going well. On the Palestine journalist tweet, do you know when this might go out? By way of update the UN Security Council has now now delivered a statement (by consensus) condemning her killing and calling for a transparent investigation and media is reporting that the UN has also said her death may constitute a war crime.

[12:29 pm, 15/05/2022] s9(2)(g)(ii) Ok thanks for the update. I'm not sure when the tweet will go out, s9(2)(g)(i)

[12:29 pm, 15/05/2022] s9(2)(g)(ii)

Would sooner be better?

[12:29 pm, 15/05/2022] s9(2)(g)(ii)

(Work): Oh magic thank you!!

[12:31 pm, 15/05/2022] s9(2)(g)(ii)

(Work): Sooner would be ideal if possible.

s9(2)(g)(i)

[12:31 pm, 15/05/2022] s9(2)(g)(ii)
Out of scope

Ah ok gotcha.

**Whatsapp conversation between ^{s9(2)(g)(ii)} Unit Manager Middle East, and
^{s9(2)(g)(ii)} Divisional Manager Middle East and Africa**

[2:30 pm, 14/05/2022] ^{s9(2)(g)(ii)} (Work): On another issue MFA has just asked Andrea if we a planning a statement on the death of the Al Jazeera journalist. ^{s9(2)(g)(i)}

[2:35 pm, 14/05/2022] ^{s9(2)(g)(ii)} Out of scope

When you say statement was MFA thinking public comment via tweet or press release?
[2:36 pm, 14/05/2022] ^{s9(2)(g)(ii)} Out of scope

[2:46 pm, 14/05/2022] ^{s9(2)(g)(ii)} (Work): Yeah I read that to mean a press statement but I guess it could be something else like a tweet. Out of scope

[2:47 pm, 14/05/2022] ^{s9(2)(g)(ii)} (Work): ^{s9(2)(g)(i)}

[2:52 pm, 14/05/2022] Out of scope Out of scope

[2:59 pm, 14/05/2022] ^{s9(2)(g)(ii)} I would say given the ^{s6(a)}

^{s9(2)(g)(i)}

If we wanted to go on record expressing condolences and endorsing calls for an investigation and accountability then we'd recommend a tweet. ^{s9(2)(g)(i)}

In the meantime that I am arranging to speak with the Israeli ambassador to register concerns over the killing, Israeli's disproportionate use of force during security operations in the oPt, and the potential for this to inflame tensions.

[3:00 pm, 14/05/2022] ^{s9(2)(g)(ii)} ^{s9(2)(g)(i)}

[3:13 pm, 14/05/2022] ^{s9(2)(g)(ii)} (Work): Thinking over this more, there are a number of statements/tweets online - ^{s6(a)}
^{s9(2)(g)(i)}

[3:32 pm, 14/05/2022] s9(2)(g)(ii) (Work): I've popped this draft tweet Out of scope in email and word form in case you'd like to edit.

Out of scope

[3:45 pm, 14/05/2022] s9(2)(g)(ii) Have responded by email

[3:45 pm, 14/05/2022] s9(2)(g)(ii) Thanks

Email thread 1

From: s9(2)(g)(ii)

Sent: Saturday, 14 May 2022 4:25 pm

To: s9(2)(g)(ii)

Subject: RE: Both draft tweets in word form - for ease of reference

Thanks^{s9(2)(g)}_(ii)

s9(2)(g)(i)

Cheers

s9(2)(g)(ii)

From: s9(2)(g)(ii)

Sent: Saturday, 14 May 2022 3:45 PM

To: s9(2)(g)(ii)

Subject: RE: Both draft tweets in word form - for ease of reference

[IN CONFIDENCE]

Looks good. Thank you very much!

s9(2)(g)(i)

Sent with BlackBerry Work

www.blackberry.com

From: s9(2)(g)(ii)

Date: Saturday, 14 May 2022, 3:30 PM

To: s9(2)(g)(ii)

Subject: Both draft tweets in word form - for ease of reference [SEC=IN CONFIDENCE]

[IN CONFIDENCE]

s9(2)(g)(ii)

Please find below and attached both tweets in word form for consideration and if you want to edit them:

Out of scope

s9(2)(g)(i)

Cheers

s9(2)(g)(ii)

Email thread 2

From: s9(2)(g)(ii)

Sent: Saturday, 14 May 2022 7:42 PM

To: s9(2)(g)(ii)

Subject: RE: Two tweets proposed for MFA - Out of scope
Palestinian/US journalist Shireen Abu Akleh

and one on death of

Great, many thanks s9(2)(g)(ii)

Sent with BlackBerry Work
(www.blackberry.com)

From: s9(2)(g)(ii)

Date: Saturday, 14 May 2022, 7:39 PM

To: s9(2)(g)(ii)

Palestinian/US journalist Shireen Abu Akleh

of UAE President and one on death of

[SEEMAIL] [RESTRICTED]

Kia ora ^{s9(2)(g)(ii)}

As discussed, please find below two proposed tweets for MFA.

Out of scope

200 characters

The second tweet follows on from our discussion around what NZ could say in response to the death of Palestinian/US journalist Shireen Abu Akleh. As you know we will be raising concerns with the Israeli Ambassador ^{s6(a)}

but we think it would be appropriate to make a public comment on her killing (in addition because media reports have stated that her funeral overnight saw a violent response from Israeli forces which has drawn criticism). ^{s6(a)}

Other partner countries have also made statements (although most have been at Ministry or Ambassador level) at this stage - [The world reacts to the killing of Al Jazeera's Shireen Abu Akleh | Media News | Al Jazeera](#).

Draft tweet:

NZ is deeply saddened by the death of Al Jazeera journalist Shireen Abu Akleh in Jenin and the violence at her funeral. We call for an independent, transparent and thorough investigation into the circumstances of her death.

223 characters

Happy to discuss.

Ngā mihi
^{s9(2)(g)(ii)}

Email thread 3

From: ^{s9(2)(g)(ii)}

Sent: Saturday, 14 May 2022 9:45 pm

To: ^{s9(2)(g)(ii)}

Subject: RE: Two tweets proposed for MFA - Out of scope and one on death of Palestinian/US journalist Shireen Abu Akleh [SEC=RESTRICTED]

[RESTRICTED]

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[RESTRICTED]

No worries. s9(2)(g)(i)

Sent with BlackBerry Work

(www.blackberry.com)

[RESTRICTED]

From: s9(2)(g)(ii)

Date: Saturday, 14 May 2022, 8:36 PM

To: s9(2)(g)(ii)

Subject: RE: Two tweets proposed for MFA - s9(2)(g)(ii) and one on death of Palestinian/US journalist Shireen Abu Akleh [SEC=RESTRICTED]

[RESTRICTED]

Thanks s9(2)(g)(ii)

Sent with BlackBerry Work

(www.blackberry.com)

From: s9(2)(g)(ii)

Date: Saturday, 14 May 2022, 7:39 PM

To: s9(2)(g)(ii)

MEDIA <media@mfat.govt.nz>, s9(2)(g)(ii)

Subject: Two tweets proposed for MFA - s9(2)(g)(ii) and one on death of Palestinian/US journalist Shireen Abu Akleh

[SEEMAIL] [RESTRICTED]

Kia ora s9(2)(g)(ii)

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Out of scope

[Document ID]

[RESTRICTED]

Out of scope

200 characters

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but we think it would be appropriate to make a public comment on her killing (in addition because media reports have stated that her funeral overnight saw a violent response from Israeli forces which has drawn criticism). ^{s6(a)}

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Draft tweet:

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223 characters

Happy to discuss.

Ngā mihi

^{s9(2)(g)(ii)}

From: ^{s9(2)(g)(ii)}

Sent: Saturday, 14 May 2022 8:27 pm

To: ^{s9(2)(g)(ii)}

Subject: RE: Two tweets proposed for MFA - Out of scope
death of Palestinian/US journalist Shireen Abu Akleh

and one on

Thanks ^{s9(2)(g)(ii)} will touch base with MFA now.

Hope you have a good one too!

[Document ID]

s9(2)(g)(ii)

Press Secretary | Office of Hon Nanaia Mahuta
s9(2)(a)

From: s9(2)(g)(ii)

Date: Saturday, 14 May 2022, 7:51 PM

To: s9(2)(g)(ii)

Subject: FW: Two tweets proposed for MFA - Out of scope and one on death of Palestinian/US journalist Shireen Abu Akleh

Kia ora s9(2)(g)(ii)

See below two draft tweets that MFAT have recommended regarding Out of scope and the death of the Al Jazeera journalist Shireen Abu Akleh. I've sent these directly to the Minister as well via text as she was texting me about this earlier today. But this is a heads up in case you want to make any tweaks etc.

Have a good weekend!

Nā

s9(2)(g)(ii)

Sent with BlackBerry Work
(www.blackberry.com)

Text Messages between Hon. Nanaia Mahuta, Minister of Foreign Affairs, and Private Secretary, Office of the Minister of Foreign Affairs
s9(2)(g)(ii)

Sat 14 May, 1.46pm

- MFA to Is there a proposed statement about the killing of the Al Jazeera journalist?
- to MFA: I haven't received one yet but I'll check in with MFAT

Sat 14 May, 5.08pm

- to MFA: On the Al Jazeera journalist, they said that the head of the Middle East Division is going to speak to the Israeli Ambassador to raise our concerns. They also recommended you put out a tweet, I'm just waiting for some draft language.

Sat 14 May, 7.45pm

Redactions made under Section 9(2)(g)(ii)

[Document ID]

- to MFA: Kia ora Minita, apologies for the delay, but here is a draft tweet for the killing of the journalist (I will send this to too for her info): *NZ is deeply saddened by the death of Al Jazeera journalist Shireen Abu Akleh in Jenin and the violence at her funeral. We call for an independent, transparent and thorough investigation into the circumstances of her death.* (223 characters).

Redactions made under
Section 9(2)(g)(ii)

**Text Messages between s9(2)(g)(ii), Press Secretary, and s9(2)(g)(ii)
Private Secretary, Office of the Minister of Foreign Affairs**

Sat 14 May, 7.52pm

- to Heya, sorry for the Saturday night text but I just forwarded you an email about a couple of tweets mfat has recommended about events in the Middle East. MFA already has them but just so you're aware ☺
- Sweet thank you and no worries, I was thinking about checking in re: Middle East events

Internal memo

s9(2)(g)(ii) to *Hon Nanaia Mahuta*

May 14, 2022, 8:24pm

Kia ora e te Minita,

MFAT has sent through the following tweets regarding events in the Middle East. She's sent them through to you via txt but thought it might be easier to transact if you want any changes here.

I think that both would be good to tweet out ^{Out of scope} and the second due to the approach we take with similar levels of unrest. You've also had a few joint statements or tweets around media freedoms and human rights in the past as well which this situation highlights the importance of.

Out of scope

Tweet 2: Response to the death of Palestinian/US journalist Shireen Abu Akleh.

Draft tweet:

[Document ID]

NZ is deeply saddened by the death of Al Jazeera journalist Shireen Abu Akleh in Jenin and the violence at her funeral. We call for an independent, transparent and thorough investigation into the circumstances of her death.

Timing

Today/tonight

Ngā mihi,

s9(2)
(a)

Hon Nanaia Mahuta to ^{s9(2)(g)(ii)}

May 15, 2022, 11:42am

Approved.