

26 April 2023

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OIA 28496

Tēnā koe Reagan Gibbons

I refer to your email of 30 January 2023 in which you request the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA):

*I request all advice provided by MFAT to the Minister of Foreign Affairs since 1 January 2022 regarding the Occupied Palestinian Territories.*

On 15 February 2023, you agreed to refine your request to be for:

*Key Submissions provided by MFAT to the Minister of Foreign Affairs since 1 January 2022 regarding the Occupied Palestinian Territories.*

On 28 February 2023, your request was extended by 20 working days.

On 28 March 2023, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade advised you of our decision to release to you information in scope of your request, and that this would be provided as soon as possible. Thank you for your patience.

The information relevant to your request is attached. Some of this information is withheld under the following sections of the OIA:

- 6(a): to avoid prejudicing the security or defence of New Zealand or the international relations of the New Zealand Government;
- 6(b)(i): to protect the passing of information from another government on a confidential basis;
- 9(2)(a): to protect individuals' privacy;
- 9(2)(g)(i): to protect the free and frank expression of opinions by departments; and,
- 9(2)(h): to maintain legal professional privilege.

Where the information has been withheld under section 9 of the OIA, we have identified no public interest in releasing the information that would override the reasons for withholding it.

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 a stylized 'S' followed by a horizontal line and a vertical stroke.

Sarah Corbett  
for Secretary of Foreign Affairs and Trade