



New Zealand Ministry of
Foreign Affairs and Trade
Manatū Aotearoa

4 May 2016

Marama Meikle
fyi-request-3787-e7645912@requests.fyi.org.nz

195 Lambton Quay
Private Bag 18-901
Wellington 5045
New Zealand

T +64 4 439 8000
F +64 4 472 9596

Dear Marama Meikle

I refer to your email of 18 March 2016 in which you request the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA):

- "1a. What has it cost the New Zealand Taxpayer to negotiate the TPP from 2008 to present?
1b. What do these total costs entail? Can you please break down all costs associated on all levels regarding TPP negotiations?
2a. What are the total costs for consulting the New Zealand Public on the TPP from 2008 to present?
2b. How much in particular has it cost to consult specifically with Maori on the TPP?
2c. What do these total costs entail? Can you please break down all costs associated on all levels regarding all consultation on the TPP?"

With respect to part 1a of your request, the first round of negotiations for the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) Agreement was held in March 2010 and negotiations officially concluded in October 2015. We have therefore provided information on costs incurred by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT) for the years 2010 to 2015 (inclusive).

We also refer you to the National Interest Analysis that is publically available at www.tpp.mfat.govt.nz, specifically 'Section 8 – The costs to New Zealand of Compliance with the treaty'. This provides a summary of fiscal costs including foregone tariff revenue, TPP institutional arrangements, outreach activities and administrative costs.

MFAT incurred the following expenses in hosting TPP negotiation rounds which took place in New Zealand. These expenses include venue hire, in-house catering, security, accommodation and travel related costs:

Table 1. Total Expenditure (NZ\$) per calendar year for TPP Negotiation Rounds held in New Zealand.

2010	2011	2012	2013
\$148,550.33	\$80,654.59	\$256,382.00	\$241,908.00

In addition to the costs noted in Table 1, MFAT also incurred an expense of \$20,970.50 for a ten-day meeting for legal verification of the final text that took place in Wellington in 2015. The total amount included venue hire and in-house catering, audio-visual equipment hire, and security costs.

Table 2 below outlines the MFAT total expenditure for travel, accommodation, and other related expenses incurred by all government staff involved in negotiations of the TPP from 2010 to 2015 (including the costs of negotiation rounds and legal scrub meetings that took place in New Zealand):

Table 2. Total Expenditure (NZ\$) per calendar year for expenses incurred by all staff attending TPP negotiations.

2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
\$2,009,154.73	\$2,070,521.88	\$2,129,855.22	\$1,514,964.70	\$1,168,624.60	\$1,149,946.14

We are unable to provide an accurate itemised breakdown of costs for all relevant government staff involved in negotiations of TPP, as our financial coding structure does not capture those details. Therefore, this part of your request is refused under section 18(e) of the OIA as the information requested does not exist. However, Table 3 provides a breakdown of travel and associated costs for MFAT staff involved in TPP negotiations:

Table 3. Itemised expenditure (NZ\$) per calendar year for travel related costs incurred by MFAT staff attending TPP negotiations.

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Accommodation	\$43,525.38	\$111,023.74	\$69,969.11	\$285,657.58	\$173,974.16	\$187,101.80
Flights	\$149,696.38	\$543,629.66	\$108,814.86	\$781,797.80	\$329,564.00	\$516,112.00
Other travel costs including ground transportation, meals	\$23,697.57	\$78,793.90	\$326,598.59	\$150,956.00	\$75,622.44	\$140,022.62
Total travel costs for MFAT staff	\$216,919.33	\$733,447.30	\$505,382.56	\$1,218,411.38	\$579,160.60	\$843,236.42

With respect to 2a and 2c of your request, as post-negotiation consultation for the TPP is currently in process, we are unable to provide the total costs for consultation. We can advise that for the 16 roadshows and Hui-a-iwi, an average of \$23,750 per meeting has been budgeted. The budget is intended to cover venue hire, accommodation, transport, security and other costs. This information has been previously provided to you in our extension letter dated 19 April 2016 and is contained within the Parliamentary Questions answered by the Minister of Trade (available at http://www.parliament.nz/en-nz/pb/business/qwa/QWA_00871_2016/871-2016-james-shaw-to-the-minister-of-trade).

We have not provided an itemised breakdown for the Roadshow or Hui-a-iwi events as final invoices are yet to be received and processed. We expect this information to be available by the beginning of June, and can provide a summary of these costs to you should you wish to receive them.

With respect to 2b of your request, information on the costs to consult *specifically* with Māori does not exist. This part of your request has therefore also been refused under section 18(e) of the OIA. Māori consultation was undertaken in accordance with MFAT's Strategy for Engagement with Māori on International Treaties. This Strategy aims to ensure that issues of relevance to Māori in international treaties are identified early, and that engagement with Māori on a particular treaty is appropriately tailored according to the nature, extent and relative strength of the Māori interest. For TPP, MFAT engaged with Māori through a number of mechanisms. However, this consultation occurred alongside broader interested parties and therefore specific records for costs of Māori consultation were not kept.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade also distributed to iwi and Māori organisations a six monthly report on international treaties under negotiation, as a means of ensuring that Māori were kept informed of developments in the various negotiations (this has recently been made available as an online database, 'New Zealand Treaties Online', available at <http://www.treaties.mfat.govt.nz/>). This work was undertaken by staff as part of their regular work requirements.

You have the right under section 28(3) of the OIA to seek a review of this response by the Ombudsman.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Joana Johnston', written in a cursive style.

Joana Johnston
for Secretary of Foreign Affairs and Trade