



NEW ZEALAND
FOREIGN AFFAIRS & TRADE



New Zealand Ministry of
Foreign Affairs and Trade
Manatū Aorere

24 October 2019

John Luke
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Dear John Luke

I refer to your email of 16 September 2019 in which you request the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA):

"I would like to know in the past 3 years has MFAT make any recommendations to appoint any experts to the United Nations and its associated bodies. E.g Panel of Experts on Trade Protocol for WHO.

https://www.who.int/fctc/protocol/activities/Expert_Panel_on_Illicit_Trade_Protocol/en/"

On 26 September 2019, you clarified you were asking for the information regarding recommending New Zealand experts to the United Nations and its associated bodies.

New Zealand has nominated the following candidates in the last three years to United Nations (UN) bodies (year of the election is in brackets):

- Mr Robert Martin for the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities [2016]
- Rt Hon. Helen Clark for UN Secretary-General [2016]
- Dr Colin Tukuitonga for Regional Director of the Western Pacific Region of the World Health Organization [2018]
- Judge Graeme Colgan for the UN Appeals Tribunal [2018]
- Mr Robert Martin for re-election to the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities [2020]
- Dr Penelope Ridings for the International Law Commission [2021]

New Zealand has also made nominations of candidates in the last three years outside of the UN system:

- Dr John Barker for Director-General of the International Organization of Vine and Wine [2018]
- Commissioner Mike Bush for Delegate for Asia on the Executive Committee of Interpol. [2018]

Please note that this letter (with your personal details redacted) may be published on the Ministry's website.

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, consisting of a large, stylized 'W' followed by a long horizontal line.

Wendy Adams
for Secretary of Foreign Affairs and Trade