

28 March 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 for information to:

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

On 28 February 2023, the timeframes for responding to your request were extended by 20 working days. Thank you for your patience.

We have decided to grant your request for information. The documents are in the final stages of being prepared for release and will be provided to you as soon as practicable. Some information in these documents will be 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, no public interest in releasing the information has been identified 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 large, stylized 'S' followed by a horizontal line that ends in a small upward flick.

Sarah Corbett  
for Secretary of Foreign Affairs and Trade