

Office of Rt Hon Winston Peters

Minister of Foreign Affairs
Minister for Racing
Minister for Rail



24 April 2026

Erika Whittome
fyi-request-34238-87477333@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Erika Whittome

Thank you for your email of 25 March 2026, in which you request the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA):

*"I note your announcement as Foreign Affairs Minister:
"Today New Zealand has informed the Director General of the World Health Organisation via New Zealand's Permanent Mission to the UN in Geneva that in accordance with Article 61 of the International Health Regulations, New Zealand has officially rejected the proposed Amendments. New Zealand First has always said that any decisions about the health of kiwis should be made from Wellington, not Geneva.
We have fought on your behalf for these IHR amendments to be fully rejected, we made a promise to put the national interests of New Zealanders first, to maintain our sovereign decision making, and to push back on globalist bureaucrats - and we have kept that promise."*

"Would you please share a copy of this official communication that rejects the Amendments?"

Your request is refused under section 18(d) of the OIA the information will soon be publicly available on the Ministry of Health website here: <https://www.health.govt.nz/information-releases?f%5B0%5D=type%3A359>

In response to your query regarding out-of-date links and updated amendments. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade OIA responses reflect the most up-to-date information at the time of release, they are not updated or amended after they have been published online.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision by contacting www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jackson Burgess'.

Jackson Burgess
Private Secretary (Advisory/Media)