



COVERSHEET

Minister	Hon Dr Ayesha Verrall	Portfolio	Research, Science and Innovation
Title of Cabinet papers	Horizon Europe Association Agreement between the European Union and New Zealand: Approval for Signature New Zealand Association to Horizon Europe: Negotiating Mandate	Date to be published	10 July 2023

List of documents that have been proactively released

Date	Title	Author
23 November 2022	<i>New Zealand Association to Horizon Europe - Negotiating Mandate</i>	<i>Office of the Minister of Research, Science and Innovation</i>
10 May 2023	<i>Horizon Europe Association Agreement between the European Union and New Zealand - Approval for Signature</i>	
	<i>Annex One - EU-NZ Horizon Europe Association Agreement and Protocol</i>	
	<i>Annex Two - National Interest Analysis, Horizon Europe Association</i>	
25 January 2023	<i>New Zealand Association to Horizon Europe: Negotiating Mandate</i> <i>DEV-22-MIN-0281 Minute</i>	<i>Cabinet Office</i>
10 May 2023	<i>Horizon Europe Association Agreement between the European Union and New Zealand: Approval for Signature</i> <i>DEV-23-MIN-0076 Minute</i>	

Information redacted

YES / NO

Any information redacted in this document is redacted in accordance with MBIE's policy on Proactive Release and is labelled with the reason for redaction. This may include information that would be redacted if this information was requested under Official Information Act 1982. Where this is the case, the reasons for withholding information are listed below. Where information has been withheld, no public interest has been identified that would outweigh the reasons for withholding it.

Some information has been withheld for the reasons of National Economy, Confidential Advice to Government, Free and Frank Opinions, and International Relations.



Cabinet Economic Development Committee

Minute of Decision

This document contains information for the New Zealand Cabinet. It must be treated in confidence and handled in accordance with any security classification, or other endorsement. The information can only be released, including under the Official Information Act 1982, by persons with the appropriate authority.

New Zealand Association to Horizon Europe: Negotiating Mandate

Portfolio **Research, Science and Innovation**

On 23 November 2022, the Cabinet Economic Development Committee (DEV):

Horizon Europe

- 1 **noted** that Horizon Europe is:
 - 1.1 the European Union's main research and innovation framework and funding platform (worth €95.5 billion, NZ \$160 billion), and will run from 2021-2028;
 - 1.2 organised under three pillars: 1) Excellent Science, 2) Global Challenges and European Industrial Competitiveness, and 3) Innovative Europe;
- 2 **noted** that formal association by New Zealand to Horizon Europe would confer eligibility onto New Zealand researchers to bid into pillar two of the programme, and receive funding on the same terms as European researchers, and would also grant them access to world-leading research infrastructure in Europe;
- 3 **noted** that association to Horizon Europe will contribute to strengthening New Zealand's international connections in science and innovation through high-quality collaborations with the European Union and its member states, and their international partners across both research and industry;
- 4 **noted** that formal association is achieved through negotiating a Treaty-level commitment whose overarching text (the preamble) sets an enduring framework for a broad range of future mutually beneficial partnerships with the European Union beyond research and innovation;

Negotiating mandate

- 5 **noted** that in June 2022, the Prime Minister and European Commission President jointly announced their expectation to see formal negotiations or New Zealand's association to Horizon Europe launched and concluded swiftly;
- 6 **noted** that in September 2022, DEV noted that, during her visit to Europe in October 2022, the Minister of Research, Science and Innovation intended to support the request that New Zealand become an associate partner to Horizon Europe [DEV-22-MIN-0225];
- 7 **agreed** that officials commence formal negotiations for New Zealand's association within the following parameters:

- 7.1 overall benefit to a wide range and number of New Zealand researchers, with positive impacts across the economy, environment, and society;
- 7.2 recognition of Te Tiriti o Waitangi, including in relation to paragraphs 7.3 – 7.6 below;
- 7.3 New Zealand researchers’ full access to pillar two of Horizon Europe, which is the mission-based element of the research programme;
- 7.4 negotiators should work within the existing European Union framework for setting the operational contribution and participation fees and seek the most accurate possible estimate for pillar two costs, noting the current cost expectations as set out in paragraph 8 below;
- 7.5 Intellectual Property rights to be shared on an equitable basis;
- 7.6 open science commitments to reflect ‘as open as possible, as closed as necessary’, subject to securing arrangements which satisfy Māori data use and access concerns;

Costs

8 National economy

[Redacted]

[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Redacted]
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National economy

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12 noted that New Zealand will incur no financial obligations until the agreement is first signed by Cabinet and then ratified by Parliament, and that any set-up costs can be met from baseline;

Provisional entry into force and cost liabilities

13 noted that, to align with European ratification processes and to secure timely access for researchers into the 2023 grant year, officials will negotiate provisional application of the agreement, and that this provisional period is likely to run from signature in early 2023 until full ratification by both Parliaments, expected to be late 2023 or early 2024;

14 National economy

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Further report

- 17 **authorised** the Minister of Research, Science and Innovation, the Minister of Finance, and the Minister of Foreign Affairs to approve provisions that do not depart significantly from the parameters outlined in paragraph 7, as negotiations progress and if a more detailed mandate is required;
- 18 **invited** the Minister of Research, Science and Innovation to report back to Cabinet in early 2023 with the final treaty for association to seek approval for treaty actions (including signature, provisional application, and final entry into force), as well as approval for a National Interest Assessment and legislation, if applicable.

Janine Harvey
Committee Secretary

Present:

Hon Grant Robertson (Chair)
Hon Dr Megan Woods
Hon David Parker
Hon Damien O'Connor
Hon Willie Jackson
Hon Michael Wood
Hon Dr David Clark
Hon Dr Ayesha Verrall
Hon Priyanca Radhakrishnan
Hon Meka Whaitiri
Hon Phil Twyford
Hon Kieran McAnulty
Rino Tirikatene, MP
Dr Deborah Russell, MP

Officials present from:

Office of the Prime Minister
Officials Committee for DEV