

MINISTRY OF BUSINESS, INNOVATION & EMPLOYMENT HĪKINA WHAKATUTUKI



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

Information redacted

YES / NO

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

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Cabinet Economic Development Committee

Minute of Decision

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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 worldleading 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;

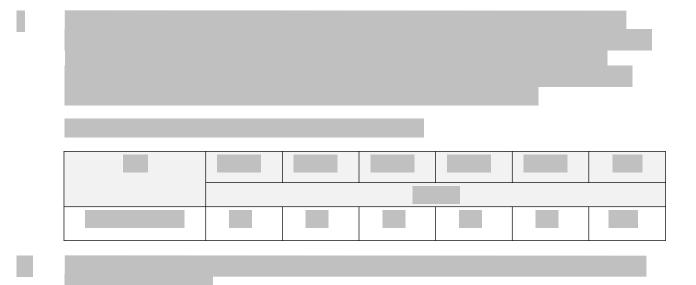
Negotiating mandate

- 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



BUDGET : RESTRICTED

National economy	/			

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

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 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