

Joint Declaration between France and New Zealand
Elysée Palace, 16 April 2018

New Zealand and France have an enduring friendship forged as allies during two World Wars. We continue to work together today to promote shared democratic values and principles, multilateralism, a rules-based international order and the sustainability of the planet and its people.

As open and dynamic countries and part of a chain of democracies, New Zealand and France resolve to stand against protectionism and to champion progressive and inclusive trade that builds prosperity, promotes the highest social, environmental and health standards, and supports sustainable development.

As close neighbours in the Pacific, shared strategic, defence and security, environmental and development interests underpin our cooperation in this region.

Our strong people to people links reflect a passion for our respective cultures. Increased tourism, stronger links in the field of education, and the popularity of the working holiday scheme, particularly amongst our youth, contribute to the dynamism of our relationship.

Inspired by these linkages and aspirations, we agree to enhance even further our bilateral relationship, through delivery of the following core priorities.

1) Working together for the sustainability of the planet, the fight against climate change and for the environment by:

- a. leading ambition, action and delivery to tackle the global community's most pressing issue of climate change, including its impact in the Pacific region;
- b. promoting the effective and urgent implementation of the Paris Agreement, including by concluding the Work Programme in a manner consistent with its mandate at COP24;
- c. collaborating in the "2050 Pathways Platform" and the "Towards Carbon Neutrality" coalition to inspire effective policy implementation;
- d. supporting progress by the "One Planet Sovereign Wealth Fund Working Group" launched on 13 December 2017 in order to accelerate efforts to integrate financial risks and opportunities related to climate change in the management of large, long-term asset pools;
- e. enhancing cooperation on climate change initiatives, including through the Global Research Alliance on Agricultural Greenhouse Gases, the "4 per 1000" initiative on agricultural soils for food security and climate, collaboration on a COP24 Agriculture and Climate Change event with a focus on sustainable agriculture and climate change, including precision agriculture and agro-ecology, and acknowledging the Make Our Planet Great Again priorities;
- f. ensuring international climate change negotiations take into account the positions and interests of the most vulnerable countries, including Least Developed Countries and Small Island Developing States, and cooperating on building resilience in the Pacific region through initiatives such as the Climate Risk Early Warning System (CREWS) and enabling access to international funding;
- g. working together bilaterally and in international fora towards the phase-out of environmentally harmful subsidies;

- h. actively encouraging the adoption by the International Maritime Organisation of an ambitious strategy on reduction of greenhouse gas emission from ships, consistent with the “Tony de Brum Declaration”;
- i. supporting the creation of a network of Marine Protected Areas in the Southern Ocean through the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR);
- j. working constructively together on responses to contemporary environmental challenges, including the proposal for a Global Pact for the Environment;
- k. conducting annual senior climate officials’ consultations in capitals.

2) Promoting multilateralism and an international rules-based order by:

- a. working together to promote and defend an effective international rules-based system including by advocating for rules and institutions to adapt and address global challenges such as climate change;
- b. working together at the United Nations and in Pacific regional organisations to promote and protect human rights;
- c. addressing the current challenges of the negotiations in the World Trade Organisation (WTO), and the criticism its Dispute Settlement Body is facing, and promoting reform by working more closely with other trade partners;
- d. strengthening cooperation to enhance and better enforce the rules of the global trading system in order to reduce and eliminate all trade distorting practices to foster a truly level playing field;
- e. working together in the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) on trade, environment, climate issues, and to improve well-being on an inclusive and sustainable basis, through better domestic policies and international cooperation;
- f. enhancing cooperation in Antarctica, especially by establishing an annual bilateral dialogue on Antarctic issues during the Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting (ATCM).

3) Promoting a sustainable, inclusive and progressive trade agenda to cooperate against protectionism:

- a. maintaining a commitment to a rules-based trading system with the WTO at its centre;
- b. striving to affirm the principles of the Paris Agreement as an essential element in political dialogue and cooperation as well as in trade agreements;
- c. driving progress on rationalising and exploring the scope for phasing out inefficient fossil fuel subsidies and enhancing transparency and reporting on this issue to the WTO;
- d. pursuing WTO negotiations on fisheries subsidies reform and transparency, in order to meet the Sustainable Development Goal Target 14.6 deadline of 2020 to eliminate and prohibit harmful subsidies;
- e. enhancing opportunities for bilateral trade and investment, including through the future negotiation of a balanced, mutually beneficial, progressive and inclusive free trade agreement between New-Zealand and the European Union (EU) that preserves the right of governments to regulate for legitimate public policy objectives such as the promotion of sustainable development;

- f. Promoting trade policy that supports our shared multilateral commitments in areas such as labour and the environment, including the effective implementation of the Paris Agreement.

4) Enhance security and defence cooperation by:

- a. upholding our fight against terrorism worldwide, particularly in the Middle-East, South-East Asia and Africa, both on the ground and by sharing information on regional developments;
- b. holding regular dialogue between New Zealand, France, and other regional actors on Pacific issues, including on regional security and the impacts of climate change;
- c. supporting the implementation of the priorities of the South Pacific Defence Ministers Meetings (SPDMM);
- d. maintaining our cooperation on maritime surveillance in the Pacific, especially through multilateral engagements like the Quadrilateral Defence Coordination Group (Quad);
- e. to this end, reinforcing our interoperability via the participation of our forces in multinational exercises;
- f. enhancing Civil Military Cooperation (CIMIC) within FRANZ (France, Australia, New Zealand Agreement) to coordinate humanitarian assistance and disaster relief response in the Pacific;
- g. supporting academic research relating to environmental security in the South Pacific, particularly on how the effects of climate change will impact on the operations of our Defence Forces;
- h. continuing cooperation in the field of cybersecurity;
- i. strengthening cooperation on regional security issues, including combatting drug trafficking.

5) Collaboration on the effective delivery of the sustainable development goals, especially in the Pacific, by :

- a. reaffirming their joint commitment to Pacific Island Countries, as global partners and regional neighbours, and to deepening their coordination on issues of mutual interest in the Pacific;
- b. agreeing to work together to ensure that development partners effectively coordinate and efficiently deliver aid that generates positive impacts, in particular for the Pacific;
- c. underlining the importance of the EU's contribution in the Pacific, and promoting its continued engagement in the region in the context of the post-2020 negotiations with the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States (ACP), including through cooperation between the EU and New Zealand on development programmes;
- d. supporting enhanced regional engagement by the French Pacific Territories (New Caledonia, French Polynesia and Wallis and Futuna) in core Pacific regional organisations, including the Pacific Islands Forum (PIF);
- e. strengthening cooperation with France as a Pacific Islands Forum Dialogue partner;
- f. enhancing bilateral engagement between New Zealand and the French Pacific Territories, including through the implementation of Joint Cooperation Plans, with due regard the competencies of each territory concerned.

6) Deepen and encourage people to people, cultural, educational and scientific cooperation by:

- a. promoting innovation and creativity through initiatives which reinforce areas of mutual interest and expertise including in relation to green-tech, film, and scientific research;
- b. further promoting uptake of the Working Holiday Scheme and facilitating two way flows of young people, including exploring its expansion to include the French Pacific Territories;
- c. further promoting uptake of the “talent passport” and the multiannual residence permit implemented in France to welcome international students and scientists;
- d. encouraging student, academic and professional mobility between the two countries, in order to preserve and promote our shared history and heritage (including our shared memory of World War One), and to create a new generation of global citizens able to tackle the main global issues. In this respect, France and New Zealand foreign ministries will study ways to exchange diplomats on a regular basis;
- e. acknowledging the value of plurilingualism in schools and universities;
- f. supporting new professional networks and clusters, such as France Aotearoa Science Technology and Innovation (FAST!) in order to enhance exchanges in science and innovation, and to open new business opportunities;
- g. promoting partnerships in sectors such as agriculture, transport, infrastructure and the creative industries.

This declaration and the proposed actions will be regularly reviewed during annual consultations that will take place on a biennial basis, alternatively between the Chief Executive of the New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade and the Secretary General of the French Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs and at senior officials’ level for a Strategic Dialogue on Political, Defence and Security issues.