



Cabinet

CAB Min (06) 12/15

6269

Minute of Decision

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CABINET PAPERS

Minister of Defence

Copies to:

- Prime Minister
- Minister Responsible for the GCSB
- Deputy Prime Minister
- Minister of Finance
- Hon Jim Anderton
- Minister of Police
- Minister of Foreign Affairs

CDF/VCDF

~~GPO~~

AC DEV

AC PERC

AC RESCS

AC SCI

CN

CA

CAF

DG DLS

~~DSC~~

HEAD/IDR

~~ETO~~

HSE

~~DIG (0)~~

Additional Item: Afghanistan and the International Campaign Against Terrorism: Continuing New Zealand Defence Force and New Zealand Police Participation in 2006/07

On 7 April 2006, following reference from the group of Ministers with Power to Act on Operation Enduring Freedom, Cabinet

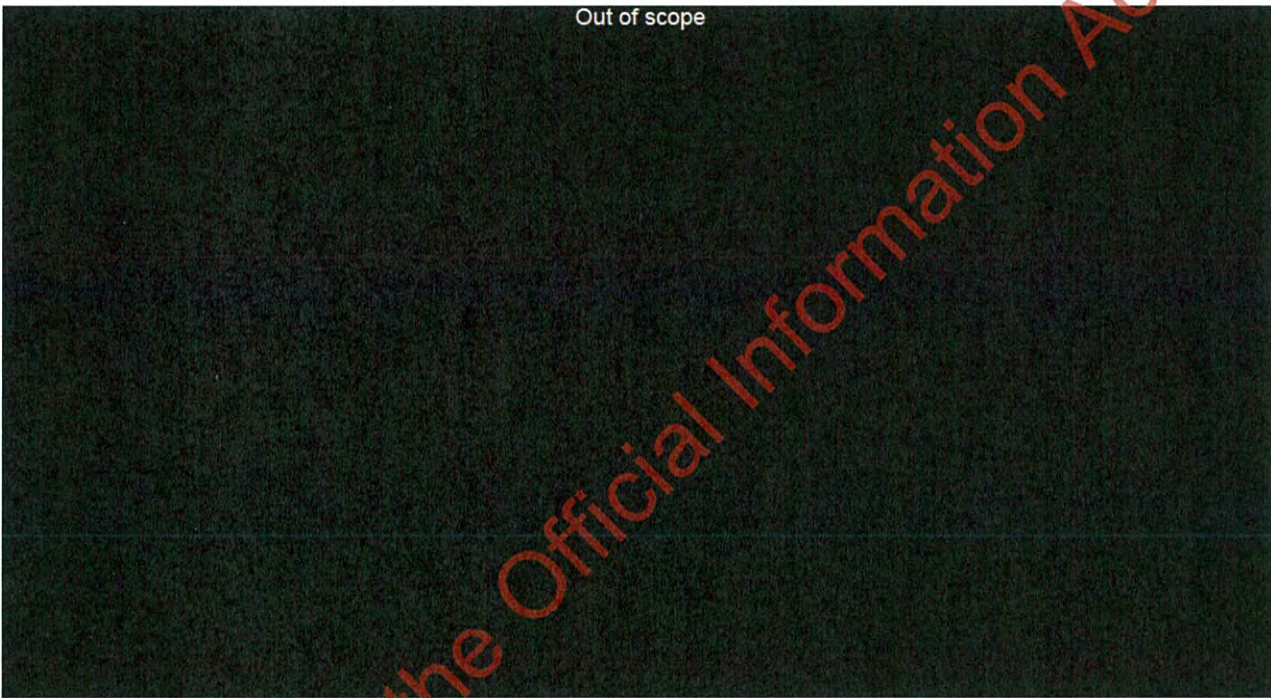
Background

- 1 noted that the group of Ministers with Power to Act on Operation Enduring Freedom [CAB Min (02) 34/17] recently considered the extension of the New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF) and Police deployments in Afghanistan;
- 2 noted the continuous involvement of NZDF personnel and assets in Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF) since December 2001 [CAB Min (02) 23/2; CAB Min (02) 30/20; CAB Min (03) 19/12; CAB Min (04) 8/5; CAB Min (04) 41/31; and CAB Min (05) 40/1];
- 3 noted that despite the success of the recent elections and the inauguration of parliament, Afghanistan still faces significant political, economic and security challenges that require assistance from the international community;
- 4 noted that NZAID has contributed over \$20 million supporting infrastructure projects, human rights and governance reform, police training, sustainable rural livelihoods, community development and education programmes, and has committed a further \$15 million over the next three years;

Extension of Deployments

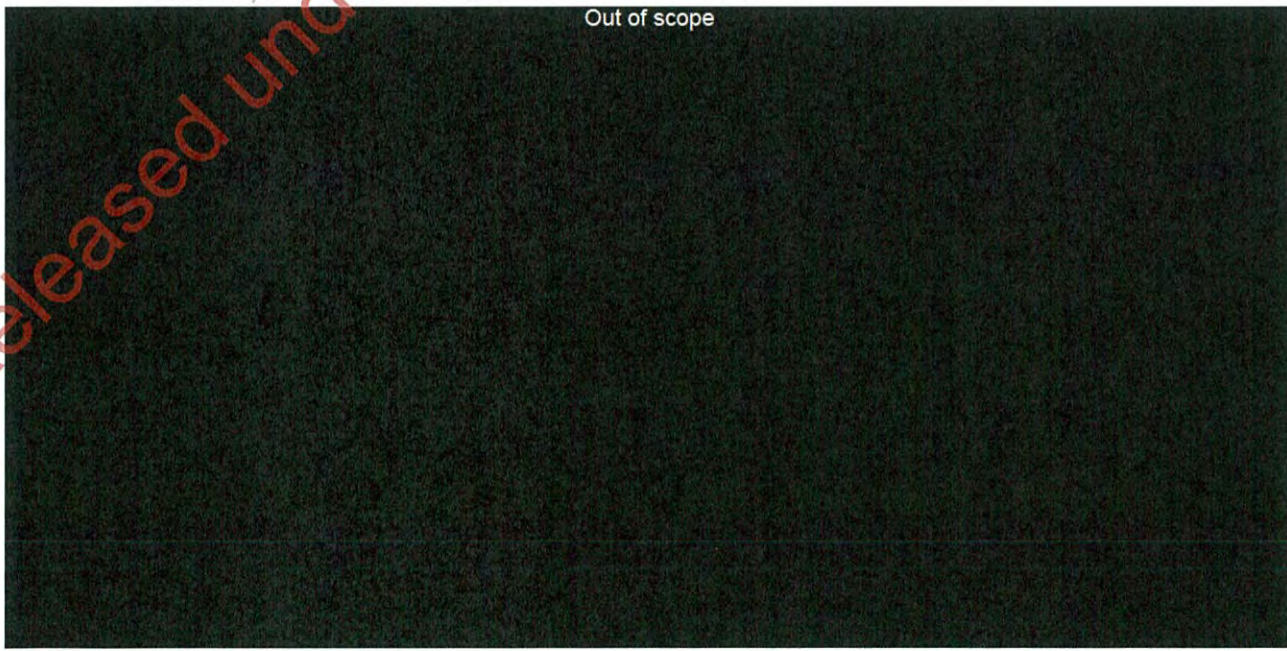
- 5 **agreed** to an extension to the New Zealand Provincial Reconstruction Team (PRT) in Bamyán province for 12 months, until 30 September 2007, at a cost of \$24.680 million;
- 6 **agreed** that towards the end of 2006 Cabinet would consider whether a further extension of the PRT should occur;
- 7 **agreed** to an extension to the Provincial Reconstruction Team's ad hoc patrolling of the northern districts of Dai Kundi province and the provision of extra resources to cover this, without undermining the Bamyán mission, until 30 September 2007, at a cost of \$2.4 million;

Out of scope



- 11 **agreed** to the continued deployment of three NZ Police officers involved in training and mentoring Afghan Police in Bamyán province at a cost of \$0.546 million, to be funded by NZAID;

Out of scope



- 16 **noted** that the costs of the NZDF continued contribution to Afghanistan and the International Campaign against Terrorism for 2006/07, resulting from the above decisions, will be met from within existing NZDF baselines and Multi Year Appropriation in Vote Defence Force;

Renewal of Power to Act for Group of Ministers

- 17 **noted** that the authority for the group of Ministers to have Power to Act dates from 16 December 2002 when Cabinet authorised a group of Ministers comprising the Prime Minister, Minister of Finance, Hon Jim Anderton, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade and Minister of Defence to have Power to Act, if necessary, to respond to policy and other issues related to New Zealand's military contribution, including special forces, to Operation Enduring Freedom [CAB Min (02) 34/17];
- 18 **authorised** the group of Ministers (comprising the Prime Minister, Minister of Finance, Hon Jim Anderton, Minister of Defence and Minister of Foreign Affairs) to continue to have Power to Act, if necessary, to respond to policy and other issues related to New Zealand's military contribution, including special forces, to Operation Enduring Freedom.

Secretary of the Cabinet

Reference: Minute tabled by the Minister of Defence