



Cabinet

CAB Min (03) 23/3A

Minute of Decision

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Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade
Minister of Defence

1384

REFERRED TO	
AC (ISP)	
CSP	
DDSP	
DDSP (LOG)	
DDSP (POL)	
DDSP (CONT)	
ADSP	
ADSP (PK)	
ADSP (ESM)	
SPOA	
CSP	
PAVAC (ISP)	
FILE	NZDF

Copies to:

Prime Minister
 Deputy Prime Minister
 Minister of Finance
 Hon Jim Anderton
 Minister for Social Development and
 Employment (MSD)
 Attorney General
 Minister of State Services
 Associate Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade
 (ODA)
 Controller and Auditor-General
 Secretary, POL
 Secretary, ERD

New Zealand Defence Force Contributions to Operation Enduring Freedom: Provincial Reconstruction Team

On 7 July 2003, following reference from the Cabinet Policy Committee, Cabinet:

- 1 noted that on 9 June 2003, Cabinet authorised the deployment of a joint New Zealand Defence Force/Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade reconnaissance team to Afghanistan to assess the practicability of New Zealand participating in or leading an established Provincial Reconstruction Team (PRT) as part of Operation Enduring Freedom [CAB Min (03) 19/12];
- 2 noted that on 30 June 2003 Cabinet invited the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade and the Minister of Defence to provide a revised submission on New Zealand contributions to Operation Enduring Freedom, which takes account of the points discussed at Cabinet, for consideration by the Cabinet Policy Committee (POL) on 2 July 2003 [CAB Min (03) 22/9];
- 3 noted the findings of the joint New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF)/Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade reconnaissance visit to Afghanistan described in the paper under POL (03) 184;
- 4 noted the capability of the NZDF to deploy up to 100 personnel to Afghanistan to lead an established Provincial Reconstruction Team (PRT) for a period of 12 months from late September 2003;

- 5 approved the deployment of up to 100 NZDF personnel to set up and lead the Bamian PRT in Afghanistan for 12 months, from late September 2003, with a possible extension of a further 12 months;
- 6 authorised the Prime Minister, the Minister of Finance and the Minister of Defence to increase the number of NZDF personnel up to 107 if required;
- 7 noted that NZDF officials will conclude formal handover and support arrangements with US Central Command;
- 8 agreed that a Status of Forces-type instrument would be sought with the Afghan Transitional Authority to provide optimal legal immunity and cover for the deployment;
- 9 invited the Minister of Defence to report to the Cabinet External Relations and Defence Committee in early 2004 on the findings of the review of the New Zealand PRT to be undertaken in December 2003, prior to consideration of the extension of the PRT for a further 12 months;
- 10 agreed that the PRT Commander can spend up to NZ\$0.225 million (GST inclusive) on small projects consistent with NZAID policy for such disbursement;
- 11 noted that funding for NZAID projects associated with this deployment has not been specifically identified, and may be met from savings or by seeking additional appropriation;
- 12 agreed to increase funding for the deployment of the PRT in Afghanistan;

	All figures are \$m, GST inclusive, where applicable				
	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08 & Outyears
Operating Balance Impact	20.556	4.635	-	-	-
Debt Impact	0.867	-	-	-	-
No Impact	0.041	0.083	0.083	0.083	0.083
TOTAL	21.464	4.718	0.083	0.083	0.083

- 13 approved the following changes to appropriation to allow the deployment of the PRT to Afghanistan for a twelve-month period commencing in August 2003:

Vote Defence Force	\$m – Increase/(Decrease)					GST
	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08 & Outyears	
Departmental Output Class: Fixed Wing Transport Forces (funded by Revenue Crown)	(0.945)	-	-	-	-	Incl.
Operationally Deployed Forces (funded by Revenue Crown)	17.243	3.985	0.083	0.083	0.083	Incl.
Capital Contributions to the Department	0.867	-	-	-	-	N/A
Vote Social Development Non-Departmental Output Class: Benefits and other unrequited Expenses: Defence Force Allowances	4.299	0.733	-	-	-	N/A
Total Operating	20.597	4.718	0.083	0.083	0.083	
Total Capital	0.867	-	-	-	-	

- 14 agreed that the increases in appropriations in 2003/04 above be included in the 2003/04 Supplementary Estimates and that, in the interim, these expenses be met from Imprest Supply;
- 15 noted that the Minister indicates that consultation will not be required with government caucuses or other parliamentary parties.

Secretary of the Cabinet

Reference: CAB (03) 294; POL Min (03) 16/3

Secretary's Note: Cabinet added paragraph 6. This minute accordingly amends POL Min (03) 16/3.

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