

## **2014 Relationship Accord and Confidence and Supply Agreement with the Maori Party**

### **‘Te Tatau ki te Paerangi’ – A doorway to our horizons**

The Maori Party agrees to provide confidence and supply through positive votes of support for the term of this Parliament to a National-led Government in return for National's agreement to the matters set out in this document.

The agreement between the Maori Party and National builds on the stable and constructive relationship developed between the two parties over the past six years and will continue to be based on good faith and no surprises.

#### **Consultation arrangements**

The Government will consult with the Maori Party including on:

- the broad outline of the legislative programme
- key legislative measures
- major policy issues
- broad budget parameters; and
- policy issues and legislative measures to which the Maori Party is likely to be particularly sensitive.

Consultation will occur in a timely fashion to ensure the Maori Party views can be incorporated into final decision-making.

Formal consultation will be managed between the Prime Minister's Office and the Office of the Co-Leaders of the Maori Party.

Other co-operation will include:

- access to relevant Ministers
- regular meetings between the Prime Minister and Maori Party Co-Leaders
- advance notification to the other party of significant announcements by either the Government or the Maori Party, and
- briefings by Ministers and officials on significant issues and issues that are likely to be politically sensitive before any public announcement.

## **Policy programme**

National and the Maori Party have worked together constructively over the past two parliamentary terms to provide stable government.

Throughout the six years, the Maori Party has continued to be a strong, independent voice for Maori and has voted against government legislation when it has believed that to be in the best interests of Maori.

But by being “at the table”, the Maori Party has gained significant policy wins for its constituents.

In this parliamentary term the Maori Party wishes to continue to pursue its policy priorities with the government – ongoing investment in Whanau Ora; the continuation of the work by the Ministerial Committee on Poverty; a focus on Maori economic and regional development; encouraging greater Maori participation in the electoral process, among the key ones. These priorities will guide the work of Te Puni Kokiri and be reflected in the Statement of Intent to be agreed between the Minister and Chief Executive.

National agrees to work with the Maori Party on these and other policy areas as may be identified from time to time in good faith.

With respect to National’s legislative agenda, Ministerial offices will work with the Māori Party Co-Leader’s Office on matters to come before the House. The Maori Party will consider its position on each Bill in good faith and advise the relevant Minister.

## **Executive position**

Te Ururoa Flavell will be appointed to the positions of Minister for Maori Development and Minister for Whanau Ora, and Associate Minister for Economic Development.

Te Ururoa Flavell will be appointed a member of the Cabinet Appointments and Honours Committee, the Cabinet Committee on Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations; the Cabinet Committee on Social Policy and the Cabinet Economic Growth and Infrastructure Committee. He will also attend other Cabinet committees as appropriate.

## **Ministerial questions**

National and the Maori Party agree that National will allocate on a case-by-case basis question opportunities for the Maori Party to use in the House.

## **Speaking slots**

National and the Maori Party agree that from time to time on a case-by-case basis the Maori Party will be allocated a National speaking slot in the House on legislation and other general debates.

## **Confidentiality**

It is agreed that where briefings are provided to the Maori Party, or where the Maori Party is involved in consultative arrangements with regard to legislation, policy or budgetary matters, all such discussions shall be confidential unless otherwise agreed.

In the event that Government papers are provided to the Maori Party in the course of consultation or briefings they shall be treated as confidential and shall not be released, or the information used for any public purpose, without the express agreement of the relevant Minister.

In the event that Cabinet or Cabinet committee papers are provided to the Maori Party for the purposes of consultation they shall be provided to a designated person within the Office of Te Ururoa Flavell, who will take responsibility for ensuring they are accorded the appropriate degree of confidentiality.

## **Collective responsibility**

Te Ururoa Flavell agrees to be bound by collective responsibility in relation to his portfolios. When he speaks about issues within his portfolio responsibilities he will speak for the Government, representing the Government's position in relation to those responsibilities. When he speaks about matters outside his portfolio responsibilities, however, he may speak as a Maori Party Co-Leader, or as a Member of Parliament. He will support the Government's position in all matters that are the subject of confidence and supply votes.

Where there has been full participation in the development of a policy initiative outside of any portfolio responsibility held by Te Ururoa Flavell, and that participation has led to an agreed position, it is expected that all parties to this agreement will publicly support the process and the outcome.

## **Cabinet Manual**

Te Ururoa Flavell agrees to be bound by the Cabinet Manual in the exercise of his responsibilities as a Minister and, in particular, agrees to be bound by the provisions in the Cabinet Manual on the conduct, public duty, and personal interests of Ministers.

## **Procedural motions**

The Maori Party agrees that it will support the Government on procedural motions in the House and in Select Committees, unless the Maori Party has previously advised that such support is not forthcoming. The Government agrees that it will operate a no-surprises policy in terms of procedural motions it intends to put before the House or a Select Committee.

## **Legislative programme**

Support for particular measures which do not relate to confidence or supply will be negotiated on a case-by-case basis.

## **Engagement with Māori**

The two parties commit to an engagement strategy with whānau, hapū and iwi, Māori organisations and businesses to share at a local level progress being achieved for Maori across priority policy areas.

When engaging with iwi and Maori organisations, the Government will keep the Maori Party informed and involved where appropriate.

Dated: 5 October 2014

**Rt Hon John Key**  
**National Party Leader**

**Hon Tariana Turia**  
**Māori Party Co-Leader**

**Te Ururoa Flavell**  
**Māori Party Co-Leader**

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