

# **Manatū Wāhine Ministry for Women Fortnightly Report to the Minister for Women**

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**As at 4 August 2023**

## Current priority outcome areas

### System leadership – national

#### Pay transparency

The paper, *Development of a Pay Transparency System: Phase One*, prepared with Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) officials was considered at the SWC Cabinet Committee on 2 August 2023.

Following this committee meeting, we will work with MBIE to develop a plan for phase two, in particular progressing how to measure the ethnic pay gap and matters relating to the regulator, compliance, and reporting.

#### 123 NGOs granted \$1 million under the Physical Activity and Wellbeing Fund

On Tuesday 1 August letters went out to all 270 applicants of the Physical Activity and Wellbeing Fund, notifying them of the outcome of their application. A total of 123 applicants were approved for funding, and 147 were declined. The \$1 million appropriation for the fund has been confirmed and we anticipate that successful applicants will receive their money over the next four weeks.

We announced the successful applicants with a news item on the Ministry's website and via our social media channels. Over the coming weeks, we will be identifying some standout initiatives being undertaken by successful applicants to profile through case studies. These will be shared with the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment as part of their progress reporting on the FIFA Women's World Cup Australia & New Zealand 2023™ leverage and legacy programme.

#### Policy meetings on North Island Weather Events (NIWE)

Officials attend these weekly meetings facilitated by the Ministry of Social Development to bring together a full forum of central agency funders that have programmes that impact and support the Social Sector Recovery Plans of the weather event areas.

Reports have been presented from the Regional Public/Social Service Commissioners from Tai Tokerau – Northland, Tāmaki Makaurau – Auckland, Waikato, Tairāwhiti – East Coast, Hawkes Bay, Wairarapa and Tararua on how the resources, processes to access the resources, and the timeliness of distributions are being felt amongst the communities they have oversight over.

Close relationships with local government and councils, and overarching communications and coordination of responses, are being led by the Cyclone Recovery Unit within DPMC. We have shared information on our gender-budgeting work and encouraged the forum to bring a gender lens into their funding and feedback systems to ensure all wāhine, who are at the heart of community wellbeing, are supported.

#### Updated statistics from the Household Labour Force Survey (HLFS) – June 2023 quarter

On 2 August 2023 we provided your Office with updated labour market statistics from the release of June 2023 quarter HLFS results. Both unemployment rates and employment rates had risen for women and men in the past three months. This was because New Zealanders were participating in

the labour force at higher rates than ever witnessed before. Both the employment rate and the labour force participation rate are now the highest ever recorded.

This overall trend was not observed for wāhine Māori, or for women living in the Northland region. For both groups of women, there has been growth in unemployment but a reduction in the employment rate and labour force participation rate. The Ministry will continue to monitor outcomes for these groups through future HLFS.

### **Gender and Ethnic Pay Gaps: An industry-level portrait of Aotearoa**

As advised in our previous aide memoire [MW 22-23 0332 refers], the Ministry has received a new report commissioned from the New Zealand Work Research Institute (NZWRI) examining pay gaps by gender and ethnicity within New Zealand industries.

The intersectional and highly detailed data contained within the report is the first of its kind. As the report is highly technical, we are liaising with NZWRI to identify information from the report that can be used to communicate the findings in a more accessible way to the widest possible audiences.

### **Governance New Zealand's Women in Governance Summit**

The Ministry will be attending the summit on 17 August 2023 in Auckland, with the theme of "Embedding Equity".

You will be attending the summit to give an opening address (Aide Memoir due to your office on 10 August). A range of women MPs will be in attendance for sessions during the day, as well as Sue Kedgeley, Co-governor of the National Council of Women New Zealand (NCWNZ) and Mervin Singham, Chief Executive of the Ministry of Ethnic Communities.

Ministry staff will also attend the summit and will run a session on increasing diversity on public sector boards, our Nominations Service, the annual stocktake results and the importance of making boards more inclusive. We will also host a stall throughout the day for more women to find out about, and sign up to, our Nominations Service. The Ministry for Ethnic Affairs will also be attending, along with Sport New Zealand and Community Governance New Zealand.

## **System leadership – international**

### **All-women Sri Lankan delegation visit to Manatū Wāhine**

Manatū Wāhine hosted the all-women Sri Lankan parliamentary delegation on Wednesday 2 August. The delegation comprised the Women's Parliamentary Caucus, a multi-party body committed to protecting women's rights and enhancing gender equality and social inclusion.

The delegation included eleven Sri Lankan members of parliament, including the State Minister of Women and Child Affairs, State Minister of Health, and the Minister of Wildlife and Forest Resources Conservation. The purpose of the delegation's visit is to learn about gender initiatives in New Zealand.

Manatū Wāhine officials provided an overview of the Ministry's role and work programme including *Te Mahere Whai Mahi Wāhine Women's Employment Action Plan*, women in leadership, gender budgeting, and the gender analysis and gender data that informs the Ministry's policy work. The discussion was well received by the delegation.

### **APEC Women's Equality Forum**

The Ministry is preparing for the Women's Equality Forum (WEF) taking place between 15 and 21 August 2023 in Seattle, Washington. As previously agreed, Kellie Coombes will be head of delegation for New Zealand at the WEF and will deliver New Zealand's statement at the High-Level Policy Dialogue on Women and the Economy.

Negotiations for the WEF statement are ongoing. We are working with likeminded countries to enable successful negotiations of the statement but have indicated that we will support a statement from the Chair if consensus is not reached.

We are arranging bilaterals meetings with Japan, Australia, Peru, Chile, Mexico, and the United States to discuss international cooperation, PPWE priorities, trade, indigenous rights, and to offer our support to the United States as hosts of the WEF this year. Peru is next year's host and we will offer our support to them, given our recent hosting experience.

### **Upcoming visit by UN Women Executive Board – 14 August, Auckland**

We are working with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT) to coordinate an incoming visit by the UN Women's Executive Board to New Zealand, 12-15-August 2023, en route to Vanuatu. Addressing violence against women is a key focus of the visit and the Delegation are interested in meeting with non-Governmental organisations (NGOs) who work in this space.

We are preparing for three meetings with the Board in Auckland on Monday 14 August: one with MFAT officials on the Ministry's work programme; one with MFAT focused on gender, development, and the Pacific; and one with NGOs. The delegation includes nine representatives from various countries, including three Ambassadors from Colombia, Thailand and Ukraine.

## **Ministerial Servicing**

<b>Policy advice and reports in progress</b>			
<b>Type</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Log number</b>	<b>Due date</b>
	NONE		

<b>Event and meeting briefings in progress</b>			
<b>Type</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Log number</b>	<b>Due date</b>
Aide Memoire	EET Meeting, 14 August 2023	MW 23-24 0014	10/08/23

Event and meeting briefings in progress			
Type	Title	Log number	Due date
Aide Memoire	Minister's opening of the Women and Governance Summit at AUT, 17 August 2023	MW 23-24 0015	10/08/23
Aide Memoire	Minister's meeting with Commissioner Sumeo	MW 23-24 0016	10/08/23

Ministerial letters and responses		
Subject	Log number	Due date
NONE		

Official Information Act requests in progress			
Subject	Log number	Due to Min's office	Due to requester
<b>Ministry OIA requests</b>			
NONE			
<b>Minister OIA requests</b>			
NONE			

WPQs in progress			
Subject	Log number	Due to Min's office	Due to requester
NONE			

Proactive releases in progress	
Title	Planned release date
Fortnightly Reports – June 2023	31 August 2023
Fortnightly Reports – July 2023	30 September 2023

## Publications and events in the next six months

Publications or event	Date	Agency lead
Nil	N/A	N/A

## Proactive release

This Weekly Report will be considered for release within three months of publication, under the Ministry's 'proactive release of documents' policy.



**Kellie Coombes**  
Secretary for Women



**Hon Jan Tinetti**  
Minister for Women

Date: 06/08/2023