

NZ Parliamentary Questions On Aid and Development Related Issues - Search Results, 2010

Search Undertaken At: <http://www.parliament.nz/en-NZ/Search/?q=&x=25&y=10>

Note: the search method used here is something of an experiment. We have searched by date, type, and questions from Labour MP Phil Twyford (who has been asking the majority of aid related questions). We've limited the search thus to avoid endless questions on the Rugby World Cup. Please let us know if you have any better selection strategies.

32120 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (29 Sep 2010): What relevant development experience does Mark Blumsky have that led to him being awarded the Niue Tourism Development Coordinator contract?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: Mr Blumsky was a highly successful Mayor of Wellington who made a special contribution to the city's success in the tourism sector. It is for that reason that he was suitable for the tourism development co-ordinator role prior to being appointed High Commissioner, in which he will oversee the completion of the tourism development project

32121 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (29 Sep 2010): Was Trevor Hall listed on the Approved Contractor Scheme at the time the contract for the Special Envoy for Tourism Development on Niue was awarded to him?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: I appointed Mr Hall as a Special Envoy. The Approved Contractor Scheme bears no relevance to his appointment.

32118 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (29 Sep 2010): Further to the answer to question 30890 (2010), what, if any, relevant development experience does Mr Peachey have that led to him being selected for this assignment?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: I refer the Member to the answer to PQ32113

32119 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (29 Sep 2010): Was Mark Blumsky listed on the Approved Contractor Scheme at the time the Niue Tourism Development Coordinator contract was awarded to him?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: No

32116 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (29 Sep 2010): Further to the answer to question 30886 (2010), what was the breakdown of the travel cost of NZ\$3,631.50?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: The travel cost of NZ\$3,631.50 is made up of: NZ\$708.10 Auckland – Brisbane; NZ\$1948.40 Brisbane – Honiara; NZ\$975.00 Honiara – Brisbane – Auckland

32117 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (29 Sep 2010): Further to the answer to question 30886 (2010), did Mr Peachey fly business class?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: Mr Peachey flew business class on the flights to Honiara, but economy class on the flights home.

32114 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (29 Sep 2010): Further to the answer to question 30890 (2010), what, if any, relevant education experience does Mr Peachey have in developing countries that led to him being selected for this assignment?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: I refer the Member to the answer to PQ32113

32115 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (29 Sep 2010): Further to the answer to question 30891 (2010), what, if any, written reports has Mr Peachey supplied to the Minister since his visit to the Solomon Islands; for each provide the title and date?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: I refer the Member to the answer to PQ30891 (2010)

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32113 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (29 Sep 2010): Further to the answer to question 30885 (2010), what, if any, relevant experience in Solomon Island affairs does Mr Peachey have that led to him being selected for this assignment?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: Mr Peachey was, prior to entering Parliament, principal of one of New Zealand's largest and most successful secondary schools. He is currently chair of Parliament's Education Select Committee. While New Zealand spends \$14 million per year supporting the Solomon Islands' education system, it has been clear for some time, including from audit reports, that there is significant scope to improve the manner in which those funds are expended. I made the offer of Mr Peachey's involvement to the then-Education Minister in the Solomons, and it was accepted. If the Member is, through his Parliamentary questions, implying that a lower standard of education is acceptable in developing countries, then I do not share his view.

31922 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (23 Sep 2010): Who, if anyone, did his officials consult with regarding the recommendation of the two names presented to the Minister, before he appointed Mark Blumsky to the Niue Tourism Development Coordinator contract?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: Both Mark Blumsky and the other candidate were consulted on whether they wished to be considered for the position.

31923 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (23 Sep 2010): What, if any, organisations did his officials consult with regarding the recommendation of the two names presented to the Minister, before he appointed Mark Blumsky to the Niue Tourism Development Coordinator contract?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: I discussed Mr Blumsky's nomination with Premier Talagi before the appointment was made.

31919 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (23 Sep 2010): Further to the answer to question 17612 (2010), how many consultants were considered by the Ministry for the contract for the Special Envoy for Tourism Development on Niue?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: I refer the Member to the answer to PQ31918 (2010).

31920 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (23 Sep 2010): Did the Minister recommend Mark Blumsky be named as one of the two consultants to be considered for the Niue Tourism Development Coordinator contract?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: No

31921 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (23 Sep 2010): Did Trevor Hall recommend Mark Blumsky be named as one of the two consultants to be considered for the Niue Tourism Development Coordinator contract?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: I am advised that Mr Hall suggested Mark Blumsky be considered for the position

31918 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (23 Sep 2010): Further to the answer to question 17612 (2010), was the contract for the Special Envoy for Tourism Development on Niue openly tendered; if not, why not?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: No, because the Niue Premier and I agreed that Trevor Hall was the best person for the job

31917 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (23 Sep 2010): Further to the answer to question 17612 (2010), what was Trevor Hall contracted to do in Niue by the Ministry for Foreign Affairs and Trade?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: As noted in the answer to PQ17612 (2010), Trevor Hall was contracted to assess the potential for growth in Niue's tourism sector.

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31043 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (17 Sep 2010): Further to the answer to question 17620 (2010), did the Tokelau authorities sign off on the previous government's processes which led to a major blowout of that budget; if so, have they now fully endorsed your new plan?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: Tokelau's leaders have told me they are keen to ensure the best possible decisions are made regarding Tokelau's future transportation needs. Discussions with them are on-going.

31041 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (17 Sep 2010): Further to the answer to question 17618 (2010), who, if anyone, provided the advice to the Minister that showed that the previous government's processes were completely misconceived, ill-judged and extremely expensive?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: The matters referred to in answer to PQ17618 (2010) did not require any advice. They were abundantly obvious.

31040 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (17 Sep 2010): Further to the answer to question 17618 (2010), what aspects of the previous government's processes did he consider to be extremely expensive?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: I refer the Member to the answer to PQ 31038 (2010)

31039 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (17 Sep 2010): Further to the answer to question 17618 (2010), what aspects of the previous government's processes did he consider to be completely ill-judged?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: I refer the Member to the answer to PQ 31038 (2010)

31038 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (17 Sep 2010): Further to the answer to question 17618 (2010), what aspects of the previous government's processes did he consider to be completely misconceived?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: The previous government made a range of foolish decisions, including: signing a contract that could have cost New Zealanders close to \$300 million over 25 years to service 1500 people; failing to consider complementary services in the region that might have made the service economic; failing to take account of the likelihood that an air service would almost certainly be needed inside the next 25 years, and leaving the people of Tokelau dependent upon the MV Tokelau for a period of some years when a much quicker response was called for.

31037 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (17 Sep 2010): Further to the answer to question 17615 (2010), how many names were canvassed with the Premier when selecting Mr Hall?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: I cannot recall whether other names were canvassed. The Premier wanted the best person available to prepare the report on Niue's tourism potential, and I agreed to approach Mr Hall as a result.

31035 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (17 Sep 2010): Further to the answer to question 17606 (2010), what reports, if any, has the Minister received from the Niue Tourism Development Coordinator; for each please provide a title and date?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: Most reports have been verbal. However I have received three written reports, dated 8 February, 26 April, and 30 May 2010

31042 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (17 Sep 2010): Further to the answer to question 17618 (2010), has he discussed any issues with private companies about air transport providers with regard to the Tokelau air service; if so, what was the names of those companies and when did he meet with them?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: A request for information, designed to fully scope all possible air service options for Tokelau that the market could provide, has been issued and private air transport companies with an interest in the matter will no doubt respond. I have encouraged any parties interested to participate in this contested process.

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31036 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (17 Sep 2010): Further to the answer to question 17612 (2010), what was the impasse between New Zealand and Niue that he refers to?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: The impasse was that New Zealand and Niue had reached a stalemate on the future of the ODA relationship. The Member should refer to various public statements made by the Premier of Niue at the time.

31044 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (17 Sep 2010): Further to the answer to question 17620 (2010), how much does he estimate will be saved by his new plan to rectify this situation?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: The objective is not to make savings. My primary concern is to find the best-possible solution for Tokelau's long-term transportation needs, at reasonable cost.

30891 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (16 Sep 2010): What reports, if any, has the Minister received from Allan Peachey regarding the trip to the Solomon Islands; for each please provide a title and date of the reports?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: I have had a number of meetings with Mr Peachey since his return.

30892 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (16 Sep 2010): What reports, if any, has the Minister received from the New Zealand High Commission in the Solomon Islands regarding Allan Peachey's trip; for each please provide a title and date of the reports?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: New Zealand's High Commission in Honiara reported on Mr Peachey's visit following the conclusion of his trip.

30889 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (16 Sep 2010): Did Allan Peachey receive any payment for the services he rendered on behalf of the Minister; if so, how much and who paid for these services?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: No

30890 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (16 Sep 2010): What was the process for selecting Allan Peachey to represent the Minister on his trip to the Solomon Islands?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: It was agreed during discussions with the Solomon Islands Minister of Education during my visit to Honiara in January

30887 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (16 Sep 2010): Was any taxpayer funding used to pay for Allan Peachey's accommodation in the Solomon Islands to carry an assignment on behalf of the Minister; if so, how much and who paid for them?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: Accommodation costs of \$NZ 497.03 were paid for by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

30888 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (16 Sep 2010): Did any officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade accompany Allan Peachey on the trip to the Solomon Islands; if so, did they report to the Minister and what was the date and titles of these reports?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: Mr Peachey was accompanied by an official who contributed to the report sent by the New Zealand High Commission in Honiara on 23 April 2010

30885 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (16 Sep 2010): Why did the Minister select Allan Peachey to travel to the Solomon Islands from the 19th-22nd April to carry out an assignment on his behalf?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: To provide an objective perspective on New Zealand's contribution to the Solomon Islands education sector, drawing on his extensive experience and expertise as a former school principal and educator.

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30886 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (16 Sep 2010): Was any taxpayer funding used to pay for Allan Peachey's flights to the Solomon Islands to carry an assignment on behalf of the Minister; if so, how much and who paid for them?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: Travel costs totalling NZ\$3,631.50 were paid by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

23591 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (28 Jul 2010): What involvement has he had in the Redevelopment of Matavai contract in Niue?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: None

23588 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (28 Jul 2010): Who was awarded the Redevelopment of Matavai contract in Niue?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: An open tender relating to a due diligence assessment on the proposed redevelopment of the Matavai Resort was let in June. Horwath Hotel, Tourism and Leisure Consultants Ltd was awarded the contract. Work is currently in progress.

23589 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (28 Jul 2010): How many tenders were received for the Redevelopment of Matavai contract in Niue and what is the name of each of the applicants?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: Seven applications were received. Naming them all would create commercial prejudice against unsuccessful applicants.

23587 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister for Disarmament and Arms Control (28 Jul 2010): Further to the answer to question 17920 (2010), when does the Government expect to receive the first draft of this year's 1st Committee resolution?

Hon Georgina te Heuheu (Minister for Disarmament and Arms Control) replied: Resolutions can be received any time from late September to mid October. In 2009 the depleted uranium resolution was circulated in the second week of October.

23592 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (28 Jul 2010): Did his involvement, if any, in the Redevelopment of Matavai contract in Niue include involvement in selecting a contractor; if so, who was his preferred contractor for that contract?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: I was not involved in selecting a contractor

23590 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (28 Jul 2010): What was the value of the Redevelopment of Matavai contract in Niue?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: The contract with Horwath HTL Ltd to undertake a due diligence assessment on the proposed redevelopment of the Matavai Resort has a current value of \$76,700.

23595 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (28 Jul 2010): Did he make any directions to his officials about the Redevelopment of Matavai contract in Niue; if so, what were those directions?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: I directed officials to investigate options to advance the proposed redevelopment of the Matavai Resort, in a timely and cost-effective manner

23594 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (28 Jul 2010): Was he consulted about who was contracted to carry out the work on the Redevelopment of Matavai contract in Niue; if so, did he suggest a particular contractor to work on that contract?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: No

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23593 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (28 Jul 2010): Was he closely involved in the decision making process around the Redevelopment of Matavai contract in Niue?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: The proposed redevelopment of the Matavai Resort is a key recommendation of the Hall Report. Agreement on its implementation as a cornerstone of New Zealand's development assistance to Niue was reached during discussions I had with the Premier of Niue.

23596 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (28 Jul 2010): Did he have any discussions with the Premier of Niue regarding the Redevelopment of Matavai contract; if so, what was the nature of those discussions?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: The Premier of Niue and I discussed and agreed the importance of sustainable tourism development for improving Niue's long-term viability. The Matavai is the only hotel in Niue, and is therefore a cornerstone of tourism development. Its redevelopment will be a key factor in growing the tourism industry there.

23597 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (28 Jul 2010): Why is the Government considering taking a material stake in the Matavai Resort in return for a capital contribution to fund the proposed redevelopment and will his officials be expected to manage that stake for the Government?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: It is only one option being investigated by officials, who have been instructed to consider a wide range of options, which they are currently doing.

19824 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (23 Jul 2010): Did his substantial involvement in the Technical Assistance to the Joint Initiative for Achieving Universal Quality Basic Education 2010-12 contract include involvement in selecting a contractor; if so, who was his preferred contractor for that contract?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: No

17945 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (16 Jul 2010): Have any overseas development projects had a direct connection to any Regional Economic Organisations since November 2008; if so, provide a list of all these?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: I refer the Member to the attached list. These projects are in addition to direct support that New Zealand provides these regional organisations, as a member and a donor, for their core budgets and/or annual work programmes.

[View attachment \[PDF 9k\]](#)

17943 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (16 Jul 2010): Have any overseas development contracts, if any, have been tendered outside the Approved Contractor Scheme over the last 3 years; if so, how many and what is the breakdown by year a list of all these contracts?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: A total of 79 overseas development contracts were tendered for over the last three years. See the attached document for a full year-by-year breakdown.

[View attachment \[PDF 17k\]](#)

17940 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (16 Jul 2010): Are any plans being undertaken to close or reduce in size the Southern African and Latin American overseas development programmes; if so, provide a breakdown of these reductions?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: Such matters are considered by the Government on a year by year basis

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17935 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (16 Jul 2010): Which Votes are the decreases going to come from in the Official Development Assistance in other Votes in 2010/11; for each what is the name of the programme being terminated, not renewed or cut and what is the amount of the decrease?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: No programmes are being terminated, not renewed or cut. The forecast decrease primarily relates to a forecast change in the proportion of Vote Defence Force – NZDF Maritime Surveillance Operations in the South Pacific and Economic Exclusion Zones (of member nations of the Forum Fisheries Agencies) which is reportable as Official Development Assistance.

17930 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (16 Jul 2010): What is the strategy behind New Zealand's overseas development programme to Niue given that it has reduced from \$16.69 million in 2008/09 to \$9.52 million in 2010/11?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: I refer the Member to the answer for PQ17928

17929 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (16 Jul 2010): What is the rationale behind the decrease in New Zealand's overseas development programme to Niue given that it has reduced from \$16.69 million in 2008/09 to \$9.52 million in 2010/11?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: I refer the Member to the answer to PQ17928 (2010)

17926 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (16 Jul 2010): What is the rationale for increasing overseas development spending in Polynesian countries over and above Melanesian countries?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: I refer the Member to the answer to PQ17925 (2010)

17925 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (16 Jul 2010): What is the policy basis for the Government's shift in priority to a greater focus on Polynesia in Vote Official Development Assistance?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: The Government is attempting to correct a distortion created by the previous government when it injected significant extra funding into the ODA programme and directed most of it Melanesia. New Zealand has a close relationship with the nations of Polynesia, and our primary obligation is to assisting them.

17931 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (16 Jul 2010): Why has the Ministry cut New Zealand's overseas development programme to Tokelau from \$15.125 million in 2008/09 to \$13 million in 2010/11?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: The question is incorrect. Final decisions have yet to be taken on the level of New Zealand assistance to Tokelau in 2010/11.

17919 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister for Disarmament and Arms Control (16 Jul 2010): Have MFAT officials met with representatives of the International Coalition to Ban Uranium Weapons this year; if so; what was discussed?

Hon Georgina te Heuheu (Minister for Disarmament and Arms Control) replied: Yes. The International Coalition to Ban Uranium Weapons explained its position on depleted uranium weapons.

17942 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (16 Jul 2010): What overseas development programmes, if any, have been terminated, not renewed, or cut by 50% or more over the last financial year; for each what is the name of the programme and what is the amount of the decrease?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: No ODA programmes were terminated, not renewed, or cut by more than 50 per cent during 2009/10

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17622 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (16 Jul 2010): Did he make any directions to his officials about the Study of Air Service Solution for Tokelau contract; if so, what were those directions?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: Upon coming to office and being briefed on work in progress to address Tokelau's immediate and longer term transport needs, I instructed officials to ensure that the possibility of air service options for Tokelau were assessed alongside the shipping service work already in progress.

17934 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (16 Jul 2010): Why does the Ministry forecast that Official Development Assistance in other Votes will decrease from \$38.2 million in 2009/10 to \$34 million in 2010/11?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: Both 2009/10 and 2010/11 numbers are estimates, based on discussions with other departments. The change between years relates both to changes in forecast total spend and the portion that can be classified as Official Development Assistance under OECD – Development Assistance Committee guidelines.

17923 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (16 Jul 2010): Does the Ministry routinely conduct any gender analysis with regard to overseas development programmes focused on sustainable economic development or trade; if so, what are the titles of any documents setting out policy and practice on this?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: MFAT uses gender analysis to inform the development of regional and country development programmes and initiatives. In the first instance, MFAT draws upon the poverty and gender analyses undertaken by other agencies and the countries themselves.

17922 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (16 Jul 2010): Does the Ministry routinely conduct any poverty analysis with regard to overseas development programmes focused on sustainable economic development or trade; if so, what are the titles of any documents setting out policy and practice on this?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: MFAT uses poverty analysis to inform the development of regional and country development programmes and initiatives. In the first instance, MFAT draws upon the poverty analyses undertaken by other agencies and the countries themselves.

17617 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (16 Jul 2010): Did any of the numerous and detailed exchanges that he had with the Government of Niue regarding the Special Envoy for Tourism Development on Niue contract include any discussions regarding the appointment of contractors; if so, what was the nature of those discussions?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: No

17620 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (16 Jul 2010): Why was he "closely involved in the decision making process" around the Study of Air Service Solution for Tokelau contract?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: In the last financial year New Zealand taxpayers spent \$19.648 million providing support to Tokelau. The previous government committed New Zealand to a major blowout of that budget, without proper consideration of the implications. I am attempting to rectify that situation.

17621 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (16 Jul 2010): Was he consulted about who was contracted to carry out the work on the Study of Air Service Solution for Tokelau contract; if so, did he suggest a particular contractor to work on that contract?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: I refer the Member to the answers to PQ17618 and 17620 (2010)

17642 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (16 Jul 2010): Did any of the numerous and detailed exchanges that he had with the Government of Solomon Islands regarding the Joint Initiative for Achieving Universal Quality Basic Education 2010-12 contract include any discussions regarding the appointment of contractors; if so, what was the nature of those discussions?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: No.

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17624 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (16 Jul 2010): What was the nature of the substantial involvement that he had in the Tokelau Air Services Follow-Up Review contract?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: Upon receipt of the initial report on potential air service options for Tokelau I requested that a Request for Information was issued to test the market further.

17627 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (16 Jul 2010): Was he consulted about who was contracted to carry out the work on the Tokelau Air Services Follow-Up Review contract; if so, did he suggest a particular contractor to work on that contract?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: I refer the Member to the answer to PQ17618 and PQ17620 (2010)

17633 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (16 Jul 2010): Why was he "closely involved in the decision making process" around the Technical Assistance to the Joint Review of the Solomon Islands Education Sector Wide Approach contract?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: I refer the Member to the answer to PQ17630 (2010)

17636 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (16 Jul 2010): Did any of the numerous and detailed exchanges that he had with the Government of Solomon Islands regarding the Technical Assistance to the Joint Review of the Solomon Islands Education Sector Wide Approach contract include any discussions regarding the appointment of contractors; if so, what was the nature of those discussions?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: No.

17637 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (16 Jul 2010): What was the nature of the substantial involvement that he had in the Joint Initiative for Achieving Universal Quality Basic Education 2010-12 contract?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: As the responsible Minister, I took this matter to Cabinet as delegations for Vote ODA require all financial authorities of more than \$15 million to be granted by Cabinet.

17619 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (16 Jul 2010): Did his substantial involvement in the Study of Air Service Solution for Tokelau contract include involvement in selecting a contractor; if so, who was his preferred contractor for that contract?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: I refer the Member to the answer to PQ17618 (2010)

17613 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (16 Jul 2010): Did his substantial involvement in the Special Envoy for Tourism Development on Niue contract include involvement in selecting a contractor; if so, who was his preferred contractor for that contract?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: I refer the Member to the answer to PQ17612 (2010).

17611 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (16 Jul 2010): Did any of the numerous and detailed exchanges that he had with the Government of Niue regarding the Niue Tourism Development Coordinator contract include any discussions regarding the appointment of contractors; if so, what was the nature of those discussions?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: Yes. In the course of broader discussions I informed them that a Niue Tourism Development Coordinator had been appointed, and requested that Niue work closely with him.

17607 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (16 Jul 2010): Did his substantial involvement in the Niue Tourism Development Coordinator contract include involvement in selecting a contractor; if so, who was his preferred contractor for that contract?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: I refer the Member to the answer to PQ17606 (2010).

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17635 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (16 Jul 2010): Did he make any directions to his officials about the Technical Assistance to the Joint Review of the Solomon Islands Education Sector Wide Approach contract; if so, what were those directions?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: I made no such directions.

17634 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (16 Jul 2010): Was he consulted about who was contracted to carry out the work on the Technical Assistance to the Joint Review of the Solomon Islands Education Sector Wide Approach contract; if so, did he suggest a particular contractor to work on that contract?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: No

17632 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (16 Jul 2010): Did his substantial involvement in the Technical Assistance to the Joint Review of the Solomon Islands Education Sector Wide Approach contract include involvement in selecting a contractor; if so, who was his preferred contractor for that contract?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: No

17626 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (16 Jul 2010): Why was he "closely involved in the decision making process" around the Tokelau Air Services Follow-Up Review contract?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: I refer the Member to the answers to PQ17618 and 17620 (2010)

17630 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (16 Jul 2010): What was the nature of the substantial involvement that he had in the Technical Assistance to the Joint Review of the Solomon Islands Education Sector Wide Approach contract?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: The support provided by New Zealand taxpayers to education in the Solomon Islands amounts to \$14 million per year. There is mounting evidence that this funding is not well targeted and it is my intention to resolve that problem.

17927 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (16 Jul 2010): Why has the Government increased spending on programmes in Polynesia by over 40% from 2008/09 but has only increased spending on programmes in Melanesia by 18%?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: I refer the Member to the answer to PQ17925 (2010)

17628 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (16 Jul 2010): Did he make any directions to his officials about the Tokelau Air Services Follow-Up Review contract; if so, what were those directions?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: I refer the Member to the answer to PQ17618 and PQ17620 (2010)

17938 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (16 Jul 2010): What will the Minister cut in order to reduce the overall percentage of departmental expenditure from 7.9% in 2008/09 to 6.9% by 2012/13?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: I refer the Member to the answer to PQ17937 (2010)

17924 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (16 Jul 2010): Does the Ministry routinely conduct any analysis on the effect on social equity of overseas development programmes focused on sustainable economic development or trade; if so, what are the titles of any documents setting out policy and practice on this?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: MFAT considers social equity issues in the development of regional and country development programmes and initiatives. These issues are usually covered in poverty and/or gender analysis undertaken or drawn upon by MFAT.

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17640 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (16 Jul 2010): Was he consulted about who was contracted to carry out the work on the Joint Initiative for Achieving Universal Quality Basic Education 2010-12 contract?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: I refer the Member to the answer to PQ17637 (2010)

17618 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (16 Jul 2010): What was the nature of the substantial involvement that he had in the Study of Air Service Solution for Tokelau contract?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: The previous government had committed New Zealand to a process that was completely misconceived, ill-judged, and extremely expensive. I asked that those foolish decisions be reviewed.

17933 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (16 Jul 2010): What is the strategy behind New Zealand's overseas development programme to Tokelau given that it has reduced from \$15.125 million in 2008/09 to \$13 million in 2010/11?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: I refer the Member to the answer to PQ17931 (2010)

17629 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (16 Jul 2010): Did any of the numerous and detailed exchanges that he had with the Government of Tokelau regarding the Tokelau Air Services Follow-Up Review contract include any discussions regarding the appointment of contractors; if so, what was the nature of those discussions?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: No

17605 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (16 Jul 2010): Is he closely involved in the decision making processes, if any, of all Overseas Development contracts; if not, for each contract that he was closely involved in decision making what was the contract and what involvement did he have?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: I am closely involved where the scale of the financial commitment or its strategic significance dictate that I should be involved

17936 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (16 Jul 2010): What international benchmarks, if any, does the Minister use for achieving management efficiencies i.e. the proportion of Vote ODA spent on managing the ODA programme?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: The Government forms its own views as to the most effective and efficient way to deliver its Official Development Assistance programme.

17625 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (16 Jul 2010): Did his substantial involvement in the Tokelau Air Services Follow-Up Review contract include involvement in selecting a contractor; if so, who was his preferred contractor for that contract?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: No

17606 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (16 Jul 2010): What was the nature of the substantial involvement that he had in the Niue Tourism Development Coordinator contract?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: I took a close interest in relation to Niue matters following a helpful personal briefing from the Rt Hon Helen Clark. The Niue tourism strategy was a natural consequence of that process

17614 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (16 Jul 2010): Why was he "closely involved in the decision making process" around the Special Envoy for Tourism Development on Niue contract?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: I refer the Member to the answer to PQ17606 (2010).

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17932 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (16 Jul 2010): What is the rationale behind the decrease in New Zealand's overseas development programme to Tokelau given that it has reduced from \$15.125 million in 2008/09 to \$13 million in 2010/11?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: I refer the Member to the answer to PQ17931 (2010)

17641 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (16 Jul 2010): Did he make any directions to his officials about the Joint Initiative for Achieving Universal Quality Basic Education 2010-12 contract; if so, what were those directions?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: I refer the Member to the answer to PQ17638 (2010)

17631 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (16 Jul 2010): What was the nature of the substantial involvement that he had in the Technical Assistance to the Joint Review of the Solomon Islands Education Sector Wide Approach contract?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: I refer the Member to the answer to PQ17630 (2010)

17623 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (16 Jul 2010): Did any of the numerous and detailed exchanges that he had with the Government of Tokelau regarding the Study of Air Service Solution for Tokelau contract include any discussions regarding the appointment of contractors; if so, what was the nature of those discussions?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: No

17639 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (16 Jul 2010): Why was he "closely involved in the decision making process" around the Joint Initiative for Achieving Universal Quality Basic Education 2010-12 contract?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: I refer the Member to the answer to PQ17637 (2010)

17937 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (16 Jul 2010): How does the Minister intend to reduce the overall percentage of Vote ODA departmental expenditure from 7.9% in 2008/09 to 6.9% by 2012/13?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: These matters are being addressed now that a new Deputy Secretary with responsibility for the International Development Group within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade has been appointed.

17616 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (16 Jul 2010): Did he make any directions to his officials about the Special Envoy for Tourism Development on Niue contract; if so, what were those directions?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: I directed that the Special Envoy should be appointed. All matters involved in that appointment were handled by officials under standard contracting arrangements

17944 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (16 Jul 2010): Have any overseas development projects had a connection to Pacer + and other free trade agreements since November 2008; if so, provide a list of all these?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: The following ODA projects have a connection with either Pacer Plus, or free trade agreements since November 2008: Regional Trade Facilitation Programme - Pacific Agreement on Closer Economic Relations (PACER); Office of the Chief Trade Adviser - PACER Plus; ODA scholarships - China FTA (signed April 2008); Dairy Project for the Philippines - associated with AANZFTA (signed Feb 2009).

17608 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (16 Jul 2010): Why was he "closely involved in the decision making process" around the Niue Tourism Development Coordinator contract?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: I refer the Member to the answer to PQ17606 (2010)

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17939 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (16 Jul 2010): Is any consideration being given to reduce the geographic spread of the ODA programme; if so, what countries or regions are likely see their programmes closed or reduced in size?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: I refer the Member to the mandate of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

17928 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (16 Jul 2010): Why has the Ministry cut New Zealand's overseas development programme to Niue from \$16.69 million in 2008/09 to \$9.52 million in 2010/11?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: The Member's figures are incorrect.

17610 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (16 Jul 2010): Did he make any directions to his officials about Niue Tourism Development Coordinator contract; if so, what were those directions?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: I refer the Member to the answer to PQ17606 (2010)

17615 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (16 Jul 2010): Was he consulted about who was contracted to carry out the work on the Special Envoy for Tourism Development on Niue contract; if so, did he suggest a particular contractor to work on that contract?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: Yes. I canvassed th names with Premier Talagi and selected Mr Hall as Special Envoy accordingly. All commercial arrangements were handled by the Ministry as per standard practice.

17941 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (16 Jul 2010): What aid projects, if any, will lose funding due to the Government shifting its aid focus to the South Pacific region; for each, what is the name of the project being terminated, not renewed, or cut and what is the amount of the decrease?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: No aid projects have lost funding due to the Government shifting its aid focus to the South Pacific region.

17612 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (16 Jul 2010): What was the nature of the substantial involvement that he had in the Special Envoy for Tourism Development on Niue contract?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: In order to deal with the impasse between New Zealand and Niue, I proposed to Premier Talagi that we should ask a skilled and experienced tourism executive to assess the Premier's contention that the tourism sector has strong potential for growth. The Premier agreed in principle and also agreed with my suggestion that Mr Trevor Hall would be an appropriate nominee. It was my view that the Government of New Zealand would want to have a high degree of confidence in any individual recommending the expenditure of ODA funding in tourism. Mr Hall has my confidence in this respect.

17609 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (16 Jul 2010): Was he consulted about who was contracted to carry out the work on Niue Tourism Development Coordinator contract; if so, did he suggest a particular contractor to work on that contract?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: I refer the Member to the answers to PQ17606 (2010).

17921 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister for Disarmament and Arms Control (16 Jul 2010): Will the Government be submitting a report to the UN Secretary-General this year concerning Depleted Uranium weapons; if so, what date will it be submitted, if it has already been submitted, what is the title of that report and when was it be submitted?

Hon Georgina te Heuheu (Minister for Disarmament and Arms Control) replied: Yes, the "New Zealand Report to the United Nations Secretary-General on Depleted Uranium" was delivered at UN Headquarters, New York, on 1 June 2010.

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17920 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister for Disarmament and Arms Control (16 Jul 2010): What position is the Government's likely to take on Depleted Uranium weapons when the First Committee of the United Nations discusses it in October 2010?

Hon Georgina te Heuheu (Minister for Disarmament and Arms Control) replied: The government is awaiting receipt of the first draft of this year's 1st Committee resolution. A position will be formulated based on that draft once it becomes available.

10914 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (16 Jun 2010): Further to the answer to question 10118 (2010), what was the name and value of the Overseas Development Assistance contract?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: Corrected reply: The contract was entitled Joint Initiative for Achieving Universal Quality Basic Education 2010-12. The value over three years is 165 million Solomon Islands Dollars (approx \$NZ40 million). The contract was with the Government of the Solomon Islands for a continuation of work to strengthen that country's education sector delivery. As a government-to-government funding arrangement, it fell outside the New Zealand Government's procurement rules, and a tender was not required. The contract was referred to Cabinet because delegations for Vote ODA require all financial authorities of more than NZ\$15m to be granted by Cabinet.

10915 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (16 Jun 2010): Further to the answer to question 10118 (2010), what date did this Overseas Development Assistance contract go to Cabinet?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: The contract went to Cabinet on 9 November 2009.

10916 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (16 Jun 2010): Further to the answer to question 10118 (2010), why did this Overseas Development Assistance contract go to Cabinet?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: I refer the Member to the answer to PQ10914

10917 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (16 Jun 2010): Further to the answer to question 10118 (2010), who was awarded this Overseas Development Assistance contract?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: I refer the Member to the answer to PQ10914

10918 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (16 Jun 2010): Further to the answer to question 10118 (2010), how many tenders were received for this Overseas Development Assistance contract and what is the name of each of the applicants?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: I refer the Member to the answer to PQ10914

10120 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (02 Jun 2010): Further to the answer to question 09484 (2010), what are the applicable rules required when Cabinet advice or decisions are sought on Overseas Development Assistance contracts?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: The following rules require Cabinet decisions on Overseas Development Assistance contracts: When contracts requiring expenditure of more than \$15 million (CAB (91) M40/12); When proposed expenditure is not within the scope of existing Vote ODA appropriations as per section nine of the Public Finance Act 1989; and, Any contract where additional funds or a transfer between appropriations is required, and Cabinet approval must be sought as per Guidelines for Changes to Baselines Cabinet Office Circular (CO(09) 6). Current exceptions are for transfers that Cabinet has delegated authority for approval to joint Ministers, as per annex to Cabinet Minute (09) 13/8 (43).

10118 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (02 Jun 2010): Further to the answer to question 09484 (2010), how many occasions during the past year has an Overseas Development Assistance contract met the applicable rules requiring Cabinet advice or decisions to be sought?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: One

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10121 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (02 Jun 2010): Further to the answer to question 09484 (2010), when were these applicable rules developed?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: The decisions in Cabinet Minute CAB (91) M40/12 were made in 1991; the material provisions of the Public Finance Act were enacted by the Public Finance Amendment Act 2004; Cabinet Office Circular CO (09) 6 was issued in 2009.

9484 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (24 May 2010): Further to the answer to question 08779 (2010), on how many occasions during the past year has he deemed it appropriate to seek Cabinet advice or decisions on Overseas Development Assistance contracts?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: As required by the applicable rules

8781 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (12 May 2010): On how many occasions has he provided input to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on Overseas Development Assistance contracts; for each what was the name of the contract, the value of the contract, what date did it go to Cabinet and who was awarded the contract?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: The Member is referred to the answer to Written Question 08780 (2010)

8780 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (12 May 2010): On how many occasions has he been consulted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs regarding Overseas Development Assistance contracts; for each what was the name of the contract, the value of the contract, what date did it go to Cabinet and who was awarded the contract?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: Oversight of the \$500 million Official Development Assistance programme is part of my Ministerial responsibility. For any of a variety of reasons, contracts that form part of that programme might be raised with me.

8779 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (12 May 2010): On how many occasions has he sought Cabinet advice or decisions on Overseas Development Assistance contracts; for each what was the name of the contract, the value of the contract, what date did it go to Cabinet and who was awarded the contract?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: Cabinet advice or decisions on Official Development Assistance contracts would be sought as is deemed to be appropriate.

4518 (2010). Phil Twyford to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (20 Apr 2010): When is Cabinet likely to consider the report undertaken to review all aspects of New Zealand's response to the Samoan Tsunami?

Hon Murray McCully (Minister of Foreign Affairs) replied: In the fullness of time
