

19 January 2022

133 Molesworth Street  
PO Box 5013  
Wellington 6140  
New Zealand  
T+64 4 496 2000

s 9(2)(a)

Ref: H202117009

Tēnā koe s 9(2)(a)

### Response to your request for official information

Thank you for your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) received by the Ministry of Health (the Ministry) on 1 December 2021 for:

- "1. Did the Ministry of Health receive advice from other countries in regards to New Zealand's Covid response?*
- 2. If so, Which countries did the Ministry of Health receive advice from in regards to New Zealand's Covid response?"*

Please note 'advice' has been interpreted as any instructions or directions from other countries regarding New Zealand's COVID-19 Response.

New Zealand does not take instruction or direction from other states or countries as to our domestic health policy, or our response to international health emergencies such as COVID-19. The Ministry has not received such advice from other countries regarding New Zealand's COVID-19 Response.

The Ministry of Health has engaged with many countries regarding the global response to the pandemic, including through the World Health Organization. For your information, formal diplomatic exchange with other governments, in relation to third countries' COVID-19 experience, primarily sits within the preserve of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT). You may wish to contact MFAT for more information: [enquiries@mfat.govt.nz](mailto:enquiries@mfat.govt.nz).

Under section 28(3) of the Act you have the right to ask the Ombudsman to review any decisions made under this request. The Ombudsman may be contacted by email at: [info@ombudsman.parliament.nz](mailto:info@ombudsman.parliament.nz) or by calling 0800 802 602.

Please note that this response, with your personal details removed, may be published on the Ministry of Health website at: [www.health.govt.nz/about-ministry/information-releases](http://www.health.govt.nz/about-ministry/information-releases).

Nāku noa, nā



Elisabeth Brunt  
**Acting Deputy Director-General**  
**Office of the Director-General**