

## **PUBLIC VERSION OF THE INDIVIDUALLY TAILORED PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMME BETWEEN NATO AND NEW ZEALAND – 2024-2027**

### **PART 1 – THE NEW ZEALAND – NATO PARTNERSHIP**

1. The New Zealand-NATO partnership is long-standing and mutually beneficial. It is underpinned by both partners' support for the rules-based international order. NATO and New Zealand have deployed side-by-side for over 25 years, including in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Afghanistan, the Arabian Gulf and the Mediterranean Sea. The relationship was formalised in 2012 by our first Individual Partnership and Cooperation Programme (IPCP) and is supported by the 2007 New Zealand-NATO Security of Information Agreement and a number of stand-alone instruments relating to specific operational contributions.

2. The New Zealand-NATO partnership has continued to evolve since 2012 with operational and technical cooperation as well as increased strategic and political dialogue. It is an active and effective partnership that helps to protect and advance our citizens' interests and our mutual security and contributes to international stability, prosperity and security initiatives to manage global risks and enhance resilience particularly in the Euro-Atlantic and Indo-Pacific regions.

3. The partnership continues to be important given that New Zealand and NATO share common international security challenges in an increasingly complex global and regional security environment. The Euro-Atlantic area is not at peace. The Russian Federation's war of aggression against Ukraine has shattered peace and gravely altered the global security environment. It is a blatant breach of the UN Charter and an affront to the rules-based international order. We also face the persistent threat of terrorism, in all its forms and manifestations. Strategic competition, pervasive instability, and recurrent shocks define our broader security environment. The threats we face are global and interconnected.

4. New Zealand's defence policy and strategy settings identify strategic competition and the impacts of climate change as the two principal challenges to New Zealand's interests. These settings note that New Zealand's defence interests include a secure, stable and resilient South Pacific region, a strong and effective international rules-based order and collective security through a strong network of partners, and these are also reflected in New Zealand's National Security Strategy Secure Together: Tō Tātou Korowai Manaaki, which outlines a more challenging strategic environment within which New Zealand must contend with a range of complex and disruptive security challenges.

5. In an increasingly contested global environment, partnerships, particularly those based on shared principles and common values, are more important than ever. Indeed, New Zealand's defence policy and strategy settings recognise the importance of enhancing partnerships in support of collective security and maximising interoperability with partners. The bedrock of New Zealand and NATO's relationship has always been a mutual commitment to our shared values, including respect for human rights, the rule of law, democracy, fairness, and freedom. The New Zealand-

NATO partnership provides an important platform for both NATO and New Zealand to work together to protect and advance our shared values and interests, and our support to the international rules-based order.

6. As outlined in the NATO 2022 Strategic Concept, the Indo-Pacific is important for NATO, given that developments in that region can directly affect Euro-Atlantic security. As confirmed in the NATO Vilnius Summit Communiqué, NATO welcomes the contribution of its partners in the Asia-Pacific region – Australia, Japan, New Zealand, and the Republic of Korea – to security in the Euro-Atlantic, including their commitment to supporting Ukraine. NATO will further strengthen its dialogue and cooperation with these partners to tackle shared security challenges, including on cyber defence, technology and hybrid, underpinned by a shared commitment to upholding international law and the international rules-based order. This ITPP is an important contribution to this work. In addition, bilateral cooperation between New Zealand and NATO will complement NATO's cooperation with its partners in the Indo-Pacific through the 'NATO-Asia-Pacific Partners' Agenda for Tackling Shared Security Challenges'.

7. New Zealand and NATO underscore their close ties and affirm that the following will form the basis for their ongoing and future cooperation.

## **PART 2 – STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES OF COOPERATION**

8. The purpose of this ITPP is to allow for unity of effort, coherence, and more integrated management of the NATO-New Zealand partnership in line with the mutually identified Strategic Objectives. The Strategic Objectives for the NATO-New Zealand ITPP are based on an analysis of the nexus of Allied and New Zealand's respective priorities for engagement.

9. For the ITPP cycle lasting from 2024-2027, the following Strategic Objectives have been identified:

- **Strategic Objective 1:** NATO-New Zealand cooperation contributes to upholding the rules-based international order on issues of common security interest.
- **Strategic Objective 2:** New Zealand and NATO continue to cooperate to address common security challenges.
- **Strategic Objective 3:** The New Zealand Defence Force is effective and interoperable with NATO forces.

### PART 3 – PARTNERSHIP GOALS

10. The ITPP Goals for New Zealand reflect the Strategic Objectives and developments within the NATO – New Zealand relationship.

11. The ITPP provides the overall framework for practical cooperation within the NATO – New Zealand partnership.

12. The ITPP Goals 2024-2027 build upon the 2020-2023 Individual Partnership and Cooperation Programme between NATO and New Zealand. They focus on the period 2024-2027, and beyond, in order to facilitate New Zealand's and NATO's cooperation on promoting security and multilateralism, as well as in developing the capabilities of New Zealand's forces for operating in NATO-led operations and missions.

13. The ITPP 2024-2027 for New Zealand comprises six Partnership Goals:

- **Dialogue and Consultation:** through dialogue and consultation in appropriate formats, New Zealand and NATO will engage on issues of common interest, consolidated mutual understanding of shared security challenges, exchanged perspectives, and facilitated mutually beneficial political and practical cooperation.
- **Operations Preparation and Training:** New Zealand Defence Force capabilities and units, as identified by New Zealand, are able to participate in NATO's operations, missions and exercises on an interoperable basis.
- **Public Diplomacy:** New Zealand and NATO foster awareness and understanding of the New Zealand-NATO partnership, including its values, policies and activities, and promote public discussion and understanding of NATO's role as a Euro-Atlantic security organisation. New Zealand and NATO cooperate to share best practices and increase mutual awareness and understanding of the global information environment.
- **Emerging and Disruptive Technologies:** New Zealand and NATO will cooperate effectively on the current and future challenges and opportunities posed by Emerging and Disruptive Technologies (EDTs), including by advancing responsible innovation and Principles of Responsible Use and exploring opportunities for further collaboration.
- **Cyber Defence:** New Zealand and NATO will cooperate on cyber defence with a view to raising awareness and addressing malicious cyber activity while promoting the application of international law to cyberspace and adherence to norms of responsible state behaviour in cyberspace.
- **Climate Change and Security:** New Zealand and NATO will cooperate effectively on climate change and security, and promote climate change awareness and increased climate action in the security and defence sector.

14. New Zealand and NATO will achieve the outcomes in each Partnership Goal through activities such as policy consultations, joint training and exercises, personnel development and exchanges, and research cooperation. New Zealand welcomes the participation of individual Allies in bilateral activities and exercises.

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