

23 October 2020

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Ref. OIA 27147

Dear Jungdong Keun

I refer to your email of 17 October 2020 in which you request the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA):

"Please kindly supply all information MFAT hold about dates, venues, participants, and briefing notes, reports etc of meetings between MFAT staffs and Korean Embassy staffs in Wellington."

The provision of information relating to the work of New Zealand Government agencies, such as the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (the Ministry), is governed by the OIA. The OIA specifies who can rely on it to seek information from government agencies. This criteria is found in section 12(1) of the OIA and provides:

Any person, being-

- (a) A New Zealand citizen; or
 - (b) A permanent resident of New Zealand; or
 - (c) A person who is in New Zealand; or
 - (d) A body corporate which is incorporated in New Zealand; or
 - (e) A body corporate which is incorporated outside New Zealand but which has a place of business in New Zealand,
- may request ... specified official information.

Could you please provide proof that you fulfil one of the criteria outlined in section 12(1) of the OIA. You may send your confirmation to dm-esd@mfat.govt.nz.

As it is currently worded, your request is very broad: it does not specify a time period nor a specific topic regarding meetings between the Ministry and Korean Embassy staff in Wellington. In order to avoid the potential for a significant extension, charging, or refusing your request due to the substantial collation and research involved in responding, we invite you to consider narrowing the time period in question, and advising if there is a specific area of interest.

Yours sincerely



Julie-Anne Lee
for Secretary of Foreign Affairs and Trade