

Defence House
34 Bowen Street
Wellington, New Zealand

P +64 (04) 496 0999
E info@defence.govt.nz

PO Box 12703
Molesworth Street
Wellington 6144, New Zealand

www.defence.govt.nz



**MANATŪ KAUPAPA
WAONGA**
NEW ZEALAND
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

28 July 2026

RESPONSE TO YOUR OFFICIAL INFORMATION REQUEST

Thank you for your email of 1 July 2026, in which you requested, pursuant to the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), *all briefings on the PIPIR (Partnership for Indo-Pacific Industrial Resilience) programme written between 1 Jan 2025 and today.*

The Ministry of Defence has identified five documents in scope of your request:

No.	Title of Document	Date	Decision on release
1.	Ministry of Defence internal memorandum, <i>Partnership for Indo-Pacific Industrial Resilience: Meeting Report</i>	4 Mar 2025	Details below, elements withheld under s6(a), s6(b)(i) and s9(2)(g)(i)
2.	PIPIR talking points for Defence Chief Executive Briefing for the June 2025 Foreign Affairs Defence and Trade Committee meeting	Jun 2025	Provided below.
3.	Pre-travel Ministry of Defence briefing: PIPIR content, <i>New Zealand-United States Defence Policy Dialogue Briefing Document</i>	4 Dec 2025	Enclosed, elements withheld under s6(a)
4.	Ministry of Defence internal report back on 14 January 2026 PIPIR meeting	Jan 2026	Details below. Elements withheld under section 6(a), s6(b)(i) and s9(2)(g)(i).
5.	Ministry of Defence Meeting Brief, <i>Partnership for Indo-Pacific Industrial Resilience (PIPIR) Virtual Plenary Meeting</i>	18 Mar 2026	Available on the Ministry's website, link provided below.

6.	US-provided slide deck, <i>Partnership for Indo-Pacific Industrial Resilience (PIPIR)</i> , <i>Virtual Plenary Meeting</i>	18 Mar 2026	Withheld under s6(b)(i)
----	--	-------------	-------------------------

Item 1: On 4 March 2025 the Assistant Secretary, Capability Delivery provided a memo to the Ministry's Deputy Secretary Capability Delivery, cc-ed to the NZDF's Commander Logistics. It noted that the Assistant Secretary had attended the PIPIR Activate meeting in Honolulu on 12 February 2025. Following the Plenary meeting in October, which confirmed the PIPIR Core Vision/TOR and created Workstreams: Policy and Optimization, Production Sustainment, and Supply Chain Resilience. The report noted that PIPIR is a multilateral forum connecting allies and partners from the Indo-Pacific region and Europe with a focus on industrial base resilience and deterrence. It noted that it is too early to know what PIPIR might deliver for New Zealand.

Further details regarding this report are withheld, consistent with the Act, and in order to:

- protect information that would be likely to prejudice the security or defence of New Zealand or the international relations of the Government of New Zealand (section 6(a));
- protect information entrusted to the Government of New Zealand on a basis of confidence by the Government of any other country or any agency of such a Government (section 6(b)(i));
- maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the free and frank expression of opinions by officials (section 9(2)(g)(i)).

Item 2: The following talking points on PIPIR were also prepared for Defence Chief Executive for the June 2025 Foreign Affairs Defence and Trade Committee meeting:

- This initiative is led by the United States and is focused on enhancing Defence industrial and supply chain resilience to promote regional security, and economic security and prosperity.
- New Zealand is one of a number of countries in the contact group, such as Australia, Canada, Japan and Singapore.
- New Zealand was represented at the first working meeting in February 2025.

Item 3: This Ministry of Defence internal briefing was provided to the Deputy Secretary Policy and Planning in support of his overseas trip to the United States. The PIPIR content is enclosed. Certain information from the briefing is withheld in accordance with section 6(a) of the Act, as the release of this material would likely prejudice the security and defence of New Zealand, or the international relations of the Government of New Zealand. Certain information that is out of scope of your request is redacted.

Item 4: This Ministry of Defence internal report was provided by a Capability Delivery Principal Advisor, reporting on their attendance at a 14 January 2026 PIPIR table top exercise. Further details regarding this report are withheld, consistent with the Act, and in order to:

- protect information that would be likely to prejudice the security or defence of New Zealand or the international relations of the Government of New Zealand (section 6(a));
- protect information entrusted to the Government of New Zealand on a basis of confidence by the Government of any other country or any agency of such a Government (section 6(b)(i));
- maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the free and frank expression of opinions by officials (section 9(2)(g)(i)).

Item 5: The meeting brief from 18 March 2026 is available from the Ministry's website at: <https://www.defence.govt.nz/publications/partnership-for-indo-pacific-industrial-resilience-pipr-virtual-plenary-meeting-18-March-2026/>. As such, this element of your request is declined, pursuant to section 18(d) of the Act – that the information requested is publicly available. Please also note that the outcomes of the associated meeting can be found in the joint statement, available here: <https://www.war.gov/News/Releases/Release/Article/4439861/joint-statement-reaffirming-a-shared-commitment-to-defense-industrial-resilience/>.

Item 6: The slide deck was provided to the Ministry by the Government of the United States with an expectation of confidence, and is withheld in full, in accordance with section 6(b)(i) of the Act. This is to protect information entrusted to the Government of New Zealand on a basis of confidence by the Government of any other country or any agency of such a Government.

Under section 28(3) of the Act you have the right to request the Ombudsman to investigate and review this response.

Yours sincerely

Sarah Minson
Deputy Secretary Capability Delivery

Enclosed:

- PIPIR content from *the New Zealand-United States Defence Policy Dialogue Briefing Document, 4 December 2025*.

Key messages

- Building greater resilience into our Defence industrial base and lifting production capability are critical parts of our deterrence posture. For this reason, New Zealand was quick to endorse the “Statement of Principles” establishing PIPIR.
- In October, the Minister of Defence released the New Zealand Defence Industry Strategy. Many of themes will be familiar to the US, including the need to deliver capability faster and the importance of building sovereign industry capability.
- The Strategy aligns with PIPIR’s objectives.
- We welcomed Secretary Hegseth’s comments in Singapore in May regarding plans to establish, as a PIPIR initiative, a P-8A radar repair capability in Australia, and agree with the US’ goal of strengthening regional resiliency by increasing access to repair capabilities in theatre, and reducing dependencies on far away supply chains (e.g. the United States).
- Likewise, our ability to use [REDACTED] s6(a) [REDACTED] for repair and maintenance of our tactical radios, [REDACTED] s6(a) [REDACTED] will significantly reduce maintenance times and keep them in the hands of the operator.
- PIPIR is an important initiative. [REDACTED] s6(a) [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Background

1. Enhancing Defence regional supply chain resilience is a priority for the US. At the Shangri-La Dialogue in May 2024, the then US Secretary of Defence announced that the US would endorse the “Statement of Principles” (SOPs) for Indo-Pacific Defence Industrial Base Collaboration. The supporting press release quoted Secretary Austin: “together with our friends in the region, we’re breaking down national barriers and better integrating our defence industries. We’re also working together to fortify the shared capacity of the defence industrial bases of our allies”. In May, Secretary Hegseth re-affirmed the US’ ongoing support of PIPIR, also at the Shangri-La Dialogue.

2. The Minister of Defence also endorsed the SOPs in a speech at the Shangri-La Dialogue in May 2024. New Zealand’s commitment to co-operate with partners was noted, which was why New Zealand was “pleased to endorse the Statement of Principles to strengthen the region’s defence industrial base”.

3. Fourteen countries are partners of PIPIR, including the US, Australia, Japan, South Korea, and India. [REDACTED] s6(a) [REDACTED] New Zealand participates in the Policy and Optimisation and Supply Chain Resilience workstreams, as resources allow. [REDACTED] s6(a) [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

4. It is too early to know what PIPIR might deliver for New Zealand, and how we might make a meaningful contribution. [REDACTED] s6(a) [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

s6(a)

Out of scope

Released under the Official Information Act 1982