



JOHN HAYES

Member of Parliament for Wairarapa

17 November 2011

Mary Wareham
Coordinator
ANZCMC-CALM
200 Oriental Parade
WELLINGTON 6011

Dear Mary

Thank you for your letter dated 28 October in regard to questions for the National Party on landmines and cluster munitions. I write to you on behalf of my colleagues the Prime Minister, Rt Hon John Key as well as Minister of Foreign Affairs, Hon Murray McCully.

Firstly, please accept my apologies for the delay in replying to your letter.

Below are the answers to the questions you submitted.

- Q1) Would the National Government adequately resource our diplomats so that New Zealand actively engages with and supports our existing treaty commitments, while working with like-minded governments to advance the disarmament agenda on conventional weapons?
- A) *New Zealand's existing treaty commitments are implemented through legislation and through Government policy. We also actively participate in the review processes, where they exist, of treaties to which we are party.*
- Q2) Would the National Government direct New Zealand officials to promote universalisation (accession, ratification) of the 2008 Convention on Cluster Munitions and 1997 Mine Ban Treaty, especially with our Pacific neighbours?
- A) *New Zealand uses appropriate opportunities to encourage relevant Pacific Island states and other non-State parties to accede to both treaties.*
- Q3) Would the National Government continue and expand New Zealand funding support to the clearance of unexploded remnants of war, including landmines and cluster munition remnants?

Authorised by John Hayes MP, 82 Queen Street, Masterton 5810

Parliament Buildings direct dial: +64 4 817 9938
Wellington facsimile: +64 4 817 8036
New Zealand email: john.hayes@parliament.govt.nz



82 Queen Street direct dial: +64 6 370 1213
PO Box 904 facsimile: +64 6 370 1214
Masterton call free: 0800 2 HAYES
email: johnhayes.mp@xtra.co.nz

A) *New Zealand has participated extensively in operations to clear landmines and cluster munitions, particularly in Asia (Afghanistan, Lao PDR, Cambodia) and the Middle East (Egypt). In July 2011 the New Zealand Government approved a contribution to the UN Mine Action Service of \$2.8 million over two years for the establishment of a national mine clearance capability within the Palestinian Authority and clearance of up to 18 mine fields across the West Bank (oPt).*

Q4) Would the National Government reinstate the contribution of New Zealand Defence Force military personnel to serve as seconded staff in the United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS) in New York?

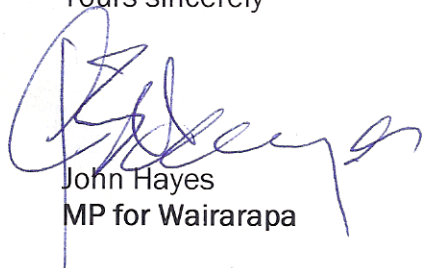
A) *National does not plan to reinstate this. New Zealand has other priorities for demining resources.*

Q5) Would the National Government take measures to ensure that New Zealand investors, including state owned enterprises and crown financial institutions such as the New Zealand Superannuation Fund, fully comply with the disinvestment provisions of the Cluster Munitions Prohibition Act 2009?

A) *The New Zealand Superannuation fund has not been found to be in contravention of the provisions of the Cluster Munitions Prohibition Act 2009.*

If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to contact me in the first instance.

Yours sincerely



John Hayes
MP for Wairarapa