

Education New Zealand Briefing

Title: Domestic international education engagement opportunities
Date: 26 April 2024
Priority: Medium
Security level: In confidence
ENZ ID no: 2324-120

Action sought

Addressee	Action sought	Deadline
Minister for Tertiary Education and Skills	Indicate opportunities for domestic international education engagement that you may wish to pursue or receive further information	10 May 2024

Contact for telephone discussion (if required)

Name	Position	Telephone	Cellphone	1 st contact
Linda Sissons	Acting Chief Executive		s9(2)(a)	
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The following departments/agencies have seen this report

- ERO MoE NZQA TPK MBIE MoH
 NZTE TEC MSD MFaT Treasury

Minister's office to complete

- Approved Declined Noted Needs change Seen
 Overtaken by events See ministers notes Withdrawn

Comments

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Recommendations

Education New Zealand Manapou ki te Ao recommends that you:

- a. **Note** that the attached table containing prioritised opportunities for domestic international education engagement have been identified by Education New Zealand, the Ministry of Education, and the New Zealand Qualifications Authority
- b. **Indicate** any opportunities that you wish to pursue or receive further information about
- c. **Agree** that this briefing is proactively released as soon as practicable.



Linda Sissons
Acting Chief Executive
Education New Zealand



Hon Penny Simmonds
Minister for Tertiary Education and Skills
5/5/24

Purpose

1. The purpose of this briefing is to explore your interest in a range of domestic (New Zealand-based) opportunities for international education engagement over the remainder of 2024.

Context

2. Over the course of 2024, there are known events, including in connection with visiting delegations and other occasions. Education New Zealand Manapou ki te Ao (ENZ) consulted with the Ministry of Education (MoE) and the New Zealand Qualifications Authority (NZQA) to determine which events we recommend you consider participating in.
3. Your participation could fold in media opportunities, particularly where your presence would attract positive coverage.
4. As the sector continues to increase the number of in-bound international students, agencies note the positive effect your involvement would achieve through engaging with opportunities to highlight the benefit international education brings to international students, the providers they study with, the communities they live in, and the New Zealand students they learn with.
5. Regarding opportunities to meet with visiting delegations, the benefit here would be to emphasise the importance international education plays through people-to-people links that support New Zealand's bilateral relationships, and the value of education diplomacy to broaden and deepen our connections internationally.
6. The table attached as **Appendix One** sets out a forward schedule of domestic international education engagement opportunities.

Peak Bodies Forum

7. The Peak Bodies Forum is a formal strategic mechanism to engage with the sector (represented by sub-sector peak bodies) alongside key government agencies (like MoE, NZQA, Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment and Immigration New Zealand). The forums are constructive and would provide the Minister with the opportunity to get a sector-wide view of the issues to support the growth of international education.
8. ENZ would work with the Peak Bodies Alliance on a pre-briefing to ensure a constructive session with the Minister. The refreshed terms and conditions for the Peak Bodies Forum emphasise the importance of all parties acting in a professional manner.
9. The Peak Bodies Forum is a key forum to engage directly with the sector, and ENZ would therefore recommend the Minister considers this engagement as an opportunity to present your vision and priorities for international education.

CEAIE delegation visit

10. We note that an Event Briefing request was sent to your office on 16 April, setting out an opportunity for you to travel to Auckland on 27 May for a Higher Education Forum (HEF) being organised by Universities New Zealand (UNZ), with support from ENZ.
11. The HEF is being scheduled to coincide with the visit to New Zealand of a senior delegation being organised by the China Education Association for International Exchange (CEAIE). MoE and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade were consulted regarding that briefing.

Inbound Ministerial visits

12. Education agencies note that reactive inbound Ministerial visits are likely to continue throughout the year. An example of this was the visit of the Education Minister from Timor-Leste with Partial Guest of Government status in March 2024.
13. While officials may not be able to specifically forecast these visits, as soon as we become aware of any international education engagement opportunities in New Zealand that are connected with them, we will raise these with your office (as we have done with the CEAIE delegation visit).

Media opportunities

14. During 2024 ENZ and other education agencies are likely to identify potential media opportunities that we will offer for your consideration.
15. Examples of these:
 - Announcing the results of Prime Minister's Scholarships for Asia (PMSA) and Latin America (PMSLA) group and Individual rounds
 - Announcing the full year enrolment numbers, the annual student experience survey results and public perception/social licence research findings.
16. ENZ will keep you updated on any timelines for potential media opportunities.

Next Steps

17. ENZ recommends that you consider the following table and indicate any domestic engagement opportunities that you would like to pursue or receive further information on.

Proactive release


18. ENZ intends to proactively release this briefing as per your expectation that information be released as soon as possible. Any information which may need to be withheld will be done so in line with the provisions of the Official Information Act 1982.



Appendix One: Proposed Domestic Engagements

Date	Title	Location	Priority	Notes
21-22 May	China Agent Familiarisation (famil) visit to New Zealand	Invercargill	Medium	<p>ENZ is inviting key education stakeholders from top performing agencies in Greater China to participate in a famil visit to Dunedin, Invercargill, Hamilton and Auckland.</p> <p>Given your previous roles, ENZ could arrange a meet and greet with the Chinese education stakeholders during their visit to Invercargill's education providers.</p> <p>Potential Minister Involvement: Welcome at Southern Institute of Technology or a courtesy call.</p>
27 May	CEAIE visit	Auckland	High	<p>As per a separate Event Briefing request (ref 2324-141), ENZ is working with Universities New Zealand and the China Education Association for International Exchange (CEAIE) on plans for a large delegation involving 20 Chinese universities, at senior levels, intending to visit Auckland and hold the 6th New Zealand-China Higher Education Forum on 26-28 May.</p> <p>The planned visit will likely involve 20 Chinese universities – at Vice Chancellor/Deputy Vice Chancellor level – and the Deputy Director-General CEAIE, plus associated officials/academics. In total, 54 people planning to attend from China.</p> <p>Potential Minister Involvement: Welcome Remarks at the Higher Education Forum.</p>
Tentative – June onwards	CHED visit	Wellington	TBC	<p>NZQA and the Philippines Commission on Higher Education (CHED) have been working on a joint project to support the recognition of each country's bachelor's degree qualifications.</p> <p>During his Trade Mission to the Philippines in April 2024, the New Zealand Prime Minister invited CHED to visit New</p>



Date	Title	Location	Priority	Notes
				<p>Zealand later this year to formally mark the completion of the project, and to continue the dialogue on supporting qualification recognition between our two countries.</p> <p>The project is the first of its kind to be signed for the Philippines so the Chairman of CHED, who is equivalent to a New Zealand Cabinet Minister, would like to visit New Zealand to promote this project.</p> <p>s9(2)(f)(iv)</p>  <p>Officials will keep your office informed on the timing for this visit.</p>
14 June	Korean Polytechnic Presidents Delegation	Wellington	Medium	<p>Korean Council for University College Education is preparing a delegation of Korean Polytechnic Presidents to visit Wellington and Queenstown from 14-17 June.</p> <p>ENZ is liaising with relevant New Zealand government agencies to provide presentations on New Zealand's vocational education system and is arranging campus visits to WelTec and Whitireia in Wellington and Queenstown Resort College in Queenstown.</p> <p>The objective of the visit is to develop institution level partnerships and learn more about New Zealand Government-industry/institution partnerships to grow regional workforce.</p>



Date	Title	Location	Priority	Notes
				<p>Potential Minister Involvement: Meet and greet during Mihi Whakatau or informal welcome remarks at meeting at ENZ office in Wellington.</p>
19 June	Peak Bodies Forum	Wellington	High	<p>The Peak Bodies Forum is a quarterly meeting which brings key Government agencies involved in international education together with international education peak body representatives.</p> <p>The meeting is hosted and chaired by ENZ and held at ENZ offices in Wellington. The agenda is formed via requests from peak bodies and Government agencies.</p> <p>Potential Ministerial Involvement: Engage directly with key international education peak body representatives, share your vision and priorities for international education and to discuss key issues.</p>
24-26 June	APRU Annual Presidents Meeting	Auckland	Medium	<p>The Association of Pacific Rim Universities (APRU) Network Annual Presidents Meeting on 24-26 June hosted at the University of Auckland (Dawn Freshwater is a Vice Chair APRU steering committee).</p> <p>APRU involves over 60 leading universities across the Americas, Asia and Australasia.</p> <p>Potential Ministerial Involvement: You may already have an invitation to the dinner. Pending confirmation and assessment of an invitation from APRU this would be a useful event to engage with, noting New Zealand's strong tertiary and research relationships with the Asia-Pacific.</p>



Date	Title	Location	Priority	Notes
6-8 August	NZIEC KI TUA	Wellington	High	<p>The New Zealand International Education Conference (NZIEC KI TUA) being held at Tākina in Wellington on 6-8 August. Approximately 500-600 delegates from across the international education sector are expected to attend, alongside education agencies.</p> <p>Country of Honour (COH) has been a feature of previous NZIEC KI TUA conferences. A COH is recognised, celebrated, and featured throughout the delivery of the conference. For 2024, India has accepted an offer to be COH. While we are not expecting a Minister from India to attend NZIEC KI TUA (given the proximity of the Indian parliamentary elections), the presence of the New Zealand Minister responsible for international education will be a key element in the conference.</p> <p>In previous years, ENZ has invited the responsible Minister to attend NZIEC KI TUA and address delegates.</p> <p>Potential Ministerial Involvement: ENZ will provide a separate Event Briefing request about NZIEC KI TUA. We will invite you to attend the following two components: Opening plenary: 8.45am on 7 August Gala Dinner: 6.30pm on 7 August.</p>
18 September	Peak Bodies Forum	Wellington	Medium	<p>The Peak Bodies Forum is a quarterly meeting which brings key Government agencies involved in international education together with international education peak body representatives.</p> <p>The meeting is hosted and chaired by ENZ and held at ENZ offices in Wellington. The agenda is formed via requests from peak bodies and Government agencies.</p>



Date	Title	Location	Priority	Notes
				<p>Potential Ministerial Involvement: Engage directly with key international education peak body representatives, share your vision and priorities for international education and to discuss key issues.</p>
27 November	Peak Bodies Forum	Wellington	Medium	<p>The Peak Bodies Forum is a quarterly meeting which brings key Government agencies involved in international education together with international education peak body representatives.</p> <p>The meeting is hosted and chaired by ENZ and held at ENZ offices in Wellington. The agenda is formed via requests from peak bodies and Government agencies.</p> <p>Potential Ministerial Involvement: Engage directly with key international education peak body representatives, share your vision and priorities for international education and to discuss key issues.</p>
November 2025	WIPCE	Auckland	TBC	<p>The World Indigenous Peoples Conference on Education (WIPCE) is a primary opportunity to engage widely with other countries with an interest in indigenous education. Te Wānanga Aronui O Tāmaki Makau Rau (AUT) was selected to host.</p> <p>MoE has indicated it can provide further advice on your engagement closer to the time, should you indicate interest in this potential future opportunity. Further information is available here https://wipce2025.com/.</p>