

**AGREEMENT  
BETWEEN  
THE NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANISATION  
AND  
THE GOVERNMENT OF NEW ZEALAND  
ON THE SECURITY OF INFORMATION**

**AGREEMENT  
ON THE SECURITY OF INFORMATION**

The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO),

represented by

His Excellency Mr Jaap de Hoop Scheffer  
Secretary General of NATO

and

the Government of New Zealand,

represented by

The Right Honourable Helen Clark  
Prime Minister of New Zealand

Considering that New Zealand is a Contact country;

Having agreed to consult on political and security-related issues;

Recognising that NATO and New Zealand have worked together in the past and are working together on an ongoing basis;

Realizing that effective co-operation in these regards entails the exchange of sensitive and/or privileged information among NATO and the Government of New Zealand;

Recalling the Exchange of Letters between the NATO Secretary General and the Minister of Defence of New Zealand dated 3 February 2006;

Have agreed as follows :

## Article 1

The Parties shall:

- (i) protect and safeguard the information or material of the other Party;
- (ii) ensure that, if it is classified, such information or material shall maintain the security classifications established by any Party with respect to information or material of that Party's origin and safeguard such information or material to agreed common standards;
- (iii) not use the exchanged information or material for purposes other than those laid down in the framework of the co-operative activities and the decisions and resolutions pertaining to these co-operative activities;
- (iv) not disclose such information and material to third parties without the consent of the originator.

## Article 2

- (i) The Government of New Zealand accepts the commitment to have all persons of its nationality who, in the conduct of their official duties, require or may have access to information or material exchanged under the co-operative activities approved by the North Atlantic Council appropriately cleared before they are granted access to such information and material.
- (ii) The security clearance procedures shall be designed to determine whether an individual, taking into account his or her loyalty and trustworthiness, can have access to classified information or material without risk to its security.

## Article 3

The NATO Office of Security (NOS), under the direction and on behalf of the Secretary General and the Chairman, NATO Military Committee, acting in the name of the North Atlantic Council and the NATO Military Committee and under their authority, is responsible for security arrangements for the protection of classified information or material exchanged within co-operative activities.

Article 4

The Government of New Zealand shall inform the NOS of the security authority with the similar national responsibility. Separate Administrative Arrangements shall be worked out between NATO and the Government of New Zealand which shall cover *inter alia* the standards of the reciprocal security protection for the information or material to be exchanged and the liaison between the NOS and the security authority of New Zealand.

Article 5

Prior to the exchange of any classified information or material between NATO and the Government of New Zealand, the responsible security authorities shall reciprocally establish to their satisfaction that the recipient Party is prepared to protect the information or material it receives, as required by the originator.

Article 6

The present Agreement shall enter into force at the moment New Zealand communicates to NATO that New Zealand has completed its domestic requirements to give effect to the present Agreement.

Article 7

The Exchange of Letters dated 3 February 2006 shall cease to be in effect on the date when the present Agreement enters into force. Any information exchanged prior to the entry into force of the present Agreement shall be protected in accordance with the provisions of the present Agreement.

In witness whereof, the undersigned, being duly authorised thereto, have signed the present Agreement.

Done in duplicate at Brussels, this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of October 2007, in the English and French languages, both texts being equally authoritative.

For the North Atlantic Treaty  
Organization



Jaap de Hoop Scheffer

For the Government of  
New Zealand



Helen Clark