

# Hon Simon Watts

Minister of Climate Change  
Minister of Revenue



Filip Kotowski

Public Affairs

True Animal Protein Price Coalition  
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CORM-3270

Dear Filip,

I write to respond to your email dated 21 November 2024 on behalf of the True Animal Protein Price Coalition and others regarding agri-food emission commitments and the New Zealand Government's closing statement at COP29. Your email has been forwarded to me for response as the matters you raise fall within my portfolio responsibilities as the Minister of Climate Change.

I note that this statement has already been made but thank you for raising the importance of climate action on agriculture and food systems, and the funding needs of countries that require urgent support due to the impacts of climate change.

New Zealand is committed to the goals of the Paris Agreement. We will contribute to these goals by driving ambitious climate action both domestically and internationally. We know that climate change cannot be tackled alone, and we are committed to fostering international cooperation, sharing knowledge, and promoting solutions.

While New Zealand's National Statement at COP29 has already been delivered, I welcome the opportunity to highlight some of our key contributions and reaffirm our ongoing efforts in this area.

COP29 was a success in many regards, for example:

- The key outcome was Parties successfully agreeing to a New Collective Quantified Goal on climate finance. This includes a collective target of at least \$300 billion by 2035, a tripling of the previous goal.
- Singapore's Minister Grace Fu and I co-chaired negotiations on Article 6 (carbon market rules) to a successful conclusion. This is being widely reported as representing the 'full operationalisation of Article 6' — negotiations that have been nine years in the making.
- Outside the negotiations, New Zealand progressed several bilateral cooperation arrangements with partners and joined a number of new initiatives related to energy, agriculture and fossil fuel subsidy reform.

New Zealand also engaged across COP29 to ensure that agriculture and food systems are acknowledged appropriately in the global climate agenda. Officials participated in Ministerial meetings for a range of initiatives to which New Zealand is a signatory. This included the Food and Agriculture Sustainable Transformation Partnership, an initiative focused on unlocking more and better climate finance for agriculture and food systems, and

the US- and UAE-led Agriculture Innovation Mission for Climate to build mitigation solutions for the sector. We also joined the Baku Harmoniya Initiative for Farmers.

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In our National Statement made at COP29, New Zealand affirmed its commitment to meeting climate targets and doing its part to reduce the impacts of climate change. In this statement we also highlighted the importance of ensuring that we deliver concrete outcomes for small island developing states, and announced new funding contributions the Government has made, including \$20 million to the Pacific Resilience Facility to support Pacific-led solutions to build resilience and a further \$10 million to the global fund for Responding to Loss and Damage.

The Government is committed to supporting farmers to sustainably reduce agricultural emissions. The Government is taking a technology-led approach to this and is focussed on delivering solutions that work in New Zealand's unique farming systems. We established the Centre for Climate Action on Agricultural Emissions (the Centre), which plays a key role in efforts to lower New Zealand's on-farm emissions. The Government has committed more than \$400 million for investment over the next four years through the Centre, which aligns the work of two organisations:

- The New Zealand Agricultural Greenhouse Gas Research Centre - an independent research centre leading agricultural research and development to mitigate agricultural greenhouse gas emissions.
- AgriZero - a public-private joint venture to drive product development and commercialisation of mitigation tools. AgriZero has already invested in several projects including a methane inhibiting bolus, novel probiotics, and research for a methane vaccine and inhibitors.

The Government has also committed to a fair and sustainable pricing system for agriculture by 2030. To support this work, we are standardising a methodology for use by existing emissions calculators and farm management tools to support pricing in the future and onfarm emissions measurement by 2025.

New Zealand's full COP29 National Statement is available on the Beehive's website at: <https://www.beehive.govt.nz/soeoch/new-zealand%E2%80%99s-c0029-national-statement>. More information about the Government's climate action is available on the Ministry for the Environment website at: <https://environment.govt.nz/>.

Thank you again for writing to me on this important issue.

Yours sincerely,



Hon Simon Watts  
Minister of Climate Change