**INSPIRATIONBASE**

*A collection of ethical leadership speeches*

Nanaia

Mahuta

*Immagine che contiene persona

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Nanaia Mahuta is Aoteaora New Zealand Minister of Foreign Affairs. During her time in Parliament, Nanaia supported policies and initiatives that built the capacity of communities, especially social service organisations, greater investment in education, employment and training opportunities particularly for young people, supported the continuation of the Treaty settlement process and supported specific initiatives that lift the wellbeing and opportunities for young mums and those who are vulnerable and victims of abuse. Nanaia is a tribal member of Waikato-Tainui, Ngāti Maniapoto and Ngāti Manu and her parliamentary experience has enabled her to contribute to the collective aspirations of Maori and all New Zealanders. In the 2020 Labour Government, Nanaia became the first woman to hold the Foreign Affairs portfolio. She is also Minister of Local Government, and Associate Minister for Māori Development.

(Source: <https://www.beehive.govt.nz/minister/biography/nanaia-mahuta>)

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| **NMS1*. Speech to the Foreign Policy Community of Indonesia (1)*** | | | |  |
| New Zealand is a young nation anchored in the Pacific and part of the broader Indo-Pacific region. [...] Our people-to-people links are strong. Centuries ago, Māori *tūpuna* (ancestors) voyaged through the region on their way to Aotearoa. Māori belong to the Austronesian language group which holds deep connections to South East Asia. It is no wonder that generations of students and migrants from South East Asian countries and beyond have come to call New Zealand home, contributing richly to the vibrancy of our society.  Aotearoa New Zealand is active and engaged in the region and has a long history of cooperation. We have recognised for decades that what happens in the wider Indo-Pacific impacts materially on our neighbourhood the Pacific, its well-being, and its prosperity. [...]  We have all come to see that the Indo-Pacific has become increasingly contested, and the strategic environment more challenging. We have seen rising nationalism, the undermining of democratic norms, and deepening inequalities. Global competition is intensifying, at a time when the need for coordinated action has never been greater.  In my culture the Marae is a contested space where ideas, leadership, direction are often challenged and disputed. But the Marae is also the place where the will of the collective often prevails based on the rules and norms designed to achieve the greatest beneficial outcome with stability and peace as its over-riding objective for all to benefit.  If the Indo-Pacific is our common marae, then ASEAN has a very important role to play. | | | | |
| **Date** | 16/11/2021 | **Source** | Beehive.govt.nz (<https://www.beehive.govt.nz/speech/kia-hora-te-marino-peaceful-prosperous-and-stable-indo-pacific>) | |

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| **NMS1*. Speech to the Foreign Policy Community of Indonesia (2)*** | | | |  |
| Let me share our principles for partnership. Since taking on the role of Foreign Minister, I have spoken of how New Zealand’s independent foreign policy can benefit from drawing on the bicultural values that characterise who we are and how we relate to others. This means that New Zealand approaches our relationships with an understanding of:   * *whanaungatanga*: our connectedness to each other and our natural environment; * *manaakitanga*: kindness and the reciprocity of goodwill; * *mahi tahi and kotahitanga*: working for a collective benefit; and, * *kaitiakitanga*: acting as guardians for the people and the planet.   Ultimately, these are about prioritising people and relationships – the importance of showing respect to others, the importance of working together to address shared challenges, and the importance of protecting the interests of future generations, peace, prosperity and stability. [...]  These values are an intrinsic part of our foreign policy toolkit and the importance we attach to multilateralism, peaceful dispute resolution, environmental stewardship, open and transparent democracy, and universal human rights. [...]  The importance we attach to *kaitiakitanga* is emphasised when responding to climate change, which poses a grave threat to low lying South East Asian countries, as well as to Pacific Island states. We need to work together, taking ambitious global action to reduce emissions and ensure a just transition to a low-emissions future. At the same time we must ensure that economic vulnerability and indebtedness does not become a barrier to climate resilience among those most likely to suffer the devastating impacts of global warming. | | | | |
| **Date** | 16/11/2021 | **Source** | Beehive.govt.nz (<https://www.beehive.govt.nz/speech/kia-hora-te-marino-peaceful-prosperous-and-stable-indo-pacific>) | |

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| **NMS2*. Speech to the New Zealand Institute of International Affairs*** | | | |  |
| First let me take a moment to share a *whakatauāki* that is a metaphor well understood across the Pacific. *Ka pū te rūhā, ka hāo te rangatahi*, ‘As the old net is cast aside a new net goes fishing’. When we consider the importance of the moana and the resources of the marine environment, fishing is a vital activity to ensure the survival of people and communities. The net is an enduring symbolism of the resilience of people to sustain themselves. The imagery of the old and new net convey intergenerational knowledge passing on. Consider elders, kaumatua and kuia, reinforcing connection, identity and knowledge through the active practices of traditions such as fishing, weaving, sustainable harvesting, understanding the natural environment and caring for the *whānau*, then we begin to gain an appreciation for the endurance and resilience of Pacific people and their culture. [...]  Our connection to the Pacific is reflected through language, peoples, ocean, history, culture, politics, and shared interests. Together, we share *kaitiaki* responsibilities for Te Moana-nui-a-Kiwa — the Blue Ocean Continent. This concept is enduring and intergenerational: what we do for our children today, sets the course for our *tamariki* and *mokopuna*. When we consider livelihoods we speak to intergenerational objectives. [...]  As we recognise, build, maintain and strengthen our connection to the Pacific we do so based on respect for the *mana* of each nation. *Mana* holds a value that is reflected in the quality of the relationship rather than its frequency, it holds an enduring even intergenerational quality that is reinforced through people-to-people connections and if we get it right, may even extend to countries and governments. *Mana* is not subservient, and neither can it be taken for granted. Instead it is a series of engagements that strengthen the quality of a relationship and this can be fostered as a distinctive component of our diplomatic relationships in the region. Mana is also the measure of action beyond words, every year we prepare for the cyclone season because we understand how catastrophic these significant weather events can be on the livelihoods of *whānau* and communities across the Pacific.  Our relationships across the Pacific need to be founded in openness, trust and respect. We are all committed to the best outcome for the region together. This principle enables us to engage in open communication, and highlights the necessity of listening to understand different perspectives. Our engagement must be as partners. Each country has a different starting point and there will not be a one size fits all approach. We must listen to work together for the greater region’s strategic good. | | | | |
| **Date** | 3/11/2021 | **Source** | Beehive.govt.nz (<https://www.beehive.govt.nz/speech/aotearoa-new%C2%A0zealand%E2%80%99s-pacific-engagement-partnering-resilience>) | |

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| **NMS3*. Tonga Speech for the Launch of Aotearoa New Zealand International Climate Finance Strategy*** | | | |  |
| It is an honour to be in the beautiful Kingdom of Tonga, today — welcomed by the warmth and hospitality of the Tongan people, and the abundance of generosity that is truly Pacific.  As much as we acknowledge the people here today, I also want to acknowledge the *whenua*, the *fonua*, your land. Back home in Aotearoa, we recognise *fonua pe tangata, tangata pe fonua*: ‘The land is the people, the people are the land.’  Land is our *tūrangawaewae*, our place where we belong.  The re-opening of your borders on 1 August has allowed me to set foot here, to reconnect in-person, on your soil and as your guest, for the first time as Foreign Minister. Your leaders have travelled, representatives of Aotearoa New Zealand have travelled, and we have talked in person in forums in Africa, in Auckland, on Zoom, and elsewhere. But the ability to stand on your land, after the devastation of a global pandemic, the destruction of a volcanic eruption and tsunami, to bear witness to your experiences and perspective, offers us a significant opportunity.  Just 400 metres north from this venue lies Vuna Road, home to the beating heart of Nuku’ alofa’s commerce, trade and governance. It is a vibrant and historically significant site of social and cultural life.  Cross the road, make your way down the beach to the shoreline, and there lies Te Moana nui a Kiwa, the vast Pacific Ocean, our shared Blue Pacific Continent. The shockwave from the 15 January eruption of Hunga-Tonga Hunga-Ha’apai  was felt here, and on distant shorelines of this ocean continent.  It travelled at astonishing speeds to Japan, to Peru, to Tūtūkaka in the north of Aotearoa, and even to the edges of space, affecting our shared atmosphere and climate. The gravity waves reverberated around the planet, and are still astounding scientists all over the world, whether they are studying the depths of the ocean floor or the heights of our atmosphere. The eruption and tsunami remind us of the fragility and the power of this shoreline; of Tonga’s atolls; of our region; of this Blue Pacific Continent; this planet.  Our awareness of our common vulnerability is more profound, as we seek to adapt and mitigate to the existential threat of climate change here in the Pacific. [...]  Almost a year ago, I set out the values and principles I wanted to see guide Aotearoa in our work in, and with, our Pacific *whanau*: the Pacific Resilience Approach. As a country both in and of the Blue Pacific Continent, our connections are deep and long-standing; woven together through *whakapapa*, language, shared history, culture, interests… and bound by our great ocean, Te Moana-nui-a-Kiwa, for which we share in *kaitiakitanga*, or guardianship, of our natural environment. Our goal is for a region where Aotearoa New Zealand operates as a true partner, collaborating with others in shared stewardship, and supporting peace, prosperity and resilience. The Pacific Resilience Approach is underpinned by our commitment to the relationships that enable us to work together, face challenges together, and engage *kanohi ki te kanohi*: building genuine partnerships and enduring links… and is now embedded in both what we do and how we engage.  This is a values-based approach, recognising that resilience is a holistic concept, where issues and priorities shift — and ebb and flow — in response to what is happening in the world around us. [...]  In conclusion, I would like to end with a *whakatuaki*, or Māori proverb, that speaks to the significance of looking at resilience overall, and with and through an intergenerational lens:    *Whatungarongaro te tangata, toitu te whenua*: ‘As man disappears from sight, the land remains.’  We are standing shoulder to shoulder: *tatou, tatou* — all of us together. | | | | |
| **Date** | 19/08/2022 | **Source** | Beehive.govt.nz (<https://www.beehive.govt.nz/speech/launch-aotearoa-new-zealand%E2%80%99s-international-climate-finance-strategy>) | |

Collected by Lorenzo Buonvivere