



In Confidence

CAB Min (06) 15/13

Cabinet

Minute of Decision

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Minister of Defence

Additional Item: Report of the Joint Working Group on Concerns of Viet Nam Veterans

On 1 May 2006 Cabinet:

- 1 **noted** the briefing by the Minister of Defence and the contents of the paper tabled at Cabinet on the Report of the Joint Working Group on Concerns of Viet Nam Veterans;
- 2 **noted** that the recommendations of the Report range from a formal apology through to improving delivery of health and other services to veterans, and also include a proposed reparation and disability pension package;
- 3 **noted** that a detailed assessment of the recommendations of the Report will need to be undertaken, including the policy, fiscal, precedent and other implications;

- 4 **invited** the Minister of Defence and Minister of Veterans' Affairs to:
- 4.1 arrange for an officials group (including officials from Defence, Veteran's Affairs, Ministry of Social Development and DPMC, in consultation with the Crown Law Office, Treasury, and the Ministry of Health and other departments as appropriate) to undertake a detailed assessment of the Report's recommendations;
 - 4.2 report to the Cabinet Policy Committee on 24 May 2006 on the detailed assessment of the Report's recommendations and the proposed next steps.

Secretary of the Cabinet

Reference: Paper tabled by the Minister of Defence, *Preliminary Briefing on the Report of the Joint Working Group on Concerns of Viet Nam Veterans*