



MEDIA RELEASE

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Helen Clark announced as Patron of the Jane Goodall Institute New Zealand

The Jane Goodall Institute New Zealand (JGINZ) is delighted to announce the appointment of the Right Honourable Helen Clark, former Prime Minister of New Zealand and former UNDP Administrator, as patron for the charity.

JGINZ CEO and Co-Founder, Dr Melanie Vivian said: “It is an honour to welcome Helen Clark as our inaugural patron. We are greatly looking forward to working together to bring attention to some of the most important issues facing people, animals, and our shared environments at this critical time, and the actions that can be taken to make a difference”.

“While Helen’s expertise across the board in sustainable development, public policy and advocacy, including for environmental protection and climate action, make her a wonderful match with the institute, it was Helen’s friendship with Jane which really confirmed the ideal fit in offering her this position. We were, of course, thrilled when Helen accepted.”

Helen Clark said she was honoured to be offered the role of patron. “I have long had huge admiration for Jane Goodall and her work. We both share an appreciation for the interconnectedness of issues affecting animals, people, and the environment.”

Speaking at a luncheon in 2016 Helen Clark said: “The earth’s biodiversity is the very foundation of human survival and well-being. Losing it not only has serious implications for our natural environment: it also undermines livelihoods, health, and food and water security – particularly for the world’s poorest and rural populations.”

Helen Clark is a strong advocate for the Sustainable Development Goals agreed by world leaders at the United Nations in 2015. They are a set of seventeen goals which aim to end poverty and protect our planet. These goals, which are also widely supported by civil society organisations and individuals around the world, are also at the very heart of the work undertaken by JGINZ.

Already Ms Clark has provided her support to the work of JGINZ, adding her voice to the organisations campaign work to ban the provision of single-use plastic bags in New Zealand and to end the domestic trade of ivory and horn in New Zealand.

For more information contact Dr Melanie Vivian- m.vivian@janegoodall.org.nz or +64 21 185 4319

About The Jane Goodall Institute of New Zealand

The Jane Goodall Institute New Zealand exists to undertake work on global and local sustainability issues and to inspire and empower people to take action to make the world a better place for animals, people, and the environment.

The Jane Goodall Institute is a global non-profit organisation with its mission based on Dr Jane Goodall's belief that the well-being of our world relies on people taking an active interest in all living things.

The Jane Goodall Institute of New Zealand is one of 27 chapters worldwide.

www.janegoodall.org.nz

Accompanying photo: Rt Hon Helen Clark, Dr. Jane Goodall, Governor-General Dame Pasty Reed, Sir David Gascoigne and JGINZ CEO & Co-Founder Dr. Melanie Vivian – At the Jane Goodall Institute New Zealand launch at Te Papa.