

1 December 2014

MEDIA ADVISORY

GUIDELINES TO MEDIA REPORTING AT REPATRIATION HANDOVER CEREMONIES



Repatriation ceremonies are known as a form of Tangihanga (or funeral) and are deeply moving cultural experiences. The following guidelines will assist media in covering these events to avoid causing offence or stress for cultural participants.

Guidelines:

- Media are welcome to make audio/visual recordings of these events, provided they have registered with the local museum or institution.
- Journalists, camera operators, sound crews and producers/directors are urged to follow the guidance of the official media advisers during ceremonial proceedings.
- During ceremonies, media are not permitted to cross the centre of the ceremonial space before participants do as this may cause an unintended cultural offence. To avoid this occurrence, media are asked to remain in the position they are allocated until directed otherwise.
- Leaders from Te Papa's Repatriation Programme and the American Museum of Natural History will be available for media interviews at the conclusion of the formal proceedings. Under all circumstances please avoid asking questions during ceremonial proceedings.

For further information, contact:

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