



# Reef 2050 Plan

## Reef 2050 Advisory Committee - Communique 1 March 2019

The Reef 2050 Advisory Committee (RAC) held its thirteenth meeting today in Brisbane, chaired by the Honourable Penelope Wensley AC. The RAC is one of the two advisory bodies established to provide strategic advice to the Australian and Queensland governments on implementation of the Reef 2050 Long-Term Sustainability Plan (Reef 2050 Plan).

The RAC meeting was preceded by a joint briefing and discussion session, on 28 March, also in Brisbane, with the RAC's fellow Reef 2050 Advisory body- the Independent Expert Panel. At this joint meeting, co-chaired by both Chairmen. Members received briefings on: the current state of the Reef; progress with preparation of the 2019 Great Barrier Reef Outlook Report (a five yearly report prepared by the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority, in accordance with the provisions of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Act 1975); the conclusions and recommendations of the Reef 2050 Traditional Owners Aspirations Project; a modelling project being conducted by the University of Queensland on different climate scenarios, to assist prioritisation of reef management actions; and on the outcomes of a Program Logic Workshop, held on 11 February, to consider approaches to the 2020 Review of the Reef 2050 Plan. Following these presentations, IEP and RAC members discussed aspects of the 2020 Review of the Reef 2050 Plan, notably how the issue of climate change could be addressed, the need to revise the Reef 2050 Plan's Vision statement, and the possible addition of a Mission statement.

At its 1 March meeting, RAC members continued this discussion, focusing on: setting the context for the Plan, the Vision statement and refining the outcomes considered at the joint meeting and the prior Program Logic workshop. A further workshop is scheduled for May, to develop the next layer of detail.

The Committee received reports on and discussed the following subjects:

- development of the Reef Integrated Monitoring and Reporting Program (RIMReP) from a representative of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority
- the Reef Credit Scheme from the representative of Natural Resource Management Regions Queensland
- the North East Shipping Management Plan review from a representative of the Australian Maritime Safety Authority.

RAC members welcomed the presentations and expressed appreciation for the large bodies of work represented. In particular, RAC members noted that, while the shipping sector is not directly represented in the RAC membership, there are good links to the Reef 2050 Plan and there has been strong leadership from the Australian Maritime Safety Authority and Maritime Safety Queensland. RAC members expressed interest



in the next stages of implementation of the Reef Credit scheme, and in further development of the Reef 2050 Integrated Monitoring and Reporting Program.

RAC members also expressed interest in the Reef Restoration and Adaptation Program and received an informal briefing over lunch from the CEO of the Australian Institute of Marine Science.

In accordance with the agreement through the 2017 RAC self-evaluation to have opportunities to hear from members, RAC members gave brief updates about their organisation or sector's priorities and current activities.

The next meeting of the RAC is scheduled to be held on 6-7 August, 2019 in a location in the Great Barrier Reef region.

Membership of the Reef 2050 Advisory Committee includes the Association of Marine Park Tourism Operators, the Queensland Seafood Industry Association, an Independent Traditional Owner, Queensland Resources Council, Queensland Farmers Federation, AgForce, CANEGROWERS, Natural Resource Management Regions Queensland, Local Government Association of Queensland, Australian Committee of International Union of the Conservation of Nature, Australian Institute of Marine Science, CAREFISH, CSIRO, Great Barrier Reef Foundation, Local Marine Advisory Committees, Queensland Conservation Council, Queensland Ports Association and the World Wildlife Fund. All members were represented at this meeting.