



Reef 2050 Plan

Reef 2050 Advisory Committee - Communique 12 November 2019

The Reef 2050 Advisory Committee (RAC) held its fifteenth 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 followed a joint workshop, on 24 October, also in Brisbane, with the RAC's fellow Reef 2050 Advisory body, the Independent Expert Panel (IEP). At this workshop, building on work undertaken at the August, 2019 meetings of the RAC and IEP, participants provided further comment on the proposed draft structure for the revised plan and reviewed early chapter content. At today's meeting, members reviewed a summary of the workshop outcomes, then provided advice on the development of revised objectives, targets and indicators for the 2020 Review. While generally welcoming the work undertaken to date, and giving broad endorsement to the inclusion in the revised Plan of a set of overarching objectives, supported by targets and indicators, RAC members raised a number of questions about the draft proposed objectives and offered suggestions for areas requiring clarification and meriting further consideration. Members acknowledged that there is further work underway on management targets and look forward to reviewing the entire framework of objectives, targets and indicators when available.

Noting that the draft environmental, social and cultural objectives had been developed in extensive consultation with technical experts, members recommended that this process be well documented and published, with the revised Plan for public consultation. Members also reiterated the need for a clear investment framework which addressed the resourcing required to achieve the targets set for the revised plan.

Members heard a presentation from the Great Barrier Reef Foundation (GBRF), on the Reef Prioritisation and Investment Tool, which has informed its water quality investment under the Reef Trust partnership. The Committee received an update from the Department of the Environment and Energy on progress with preparation of the State Party Report, to be presented to the World Heritage Centre by 1 December, and updates from the Joint Secretariat on implementation of the current Plan and the work of the Reef 2050 Communications Network.

In response to an invitation from the Chairman, RAC members identified current priorities and discussed opportunities for their sectors to be involved with and contribute to the revised Reef 2050 Plan.



Membership of the Reef 2050 Advisory Committee includes the Association of Marine Park Tourism Operators, the Queensland Seafood Industry Association, Independent Traditional Owners, 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.

The commercial fishing sector and the cane industry were not represented at the meeting.