



# Reef 2050 Plan

## Reef 2050 Advisory Committee - Communique 13 February 2018

The Reef 2050 Advisory Committee (RAC) held its tenth meeting today in Brisbane, chaired by The Honourable Penelope Wensley AC. The RAC is one of 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 other advisory body, chaired by Professor Ian Chubb AC, is the Independent Expert Panel (IEP).

The majority of the meeting was dedicated to discussing the Reef 2050 Plan mid-term review and the draft Reef 2050 Water Quality Improvement Plan 2017-2022, which are both scheduled for delivery by mid-2018.

The Committee held a constructive discussion providing feedback on the draft Reef 2050 Plan as a key step in guiding the mid-term review. The Committee reiterated concerns about the urgency of action required to address the pressures facing the Reef. There was broad agreement among members that the narrative that deals with climate change in the Plan should be strengthened, based on best available science, giving greater recognition to climate change as the most pervasive pressure on the Reef.

The Committee expressed strong interest in further work being undertaken to identify the investment and funding requirements across a range of areas in the Reef 2050 Plan and the Reef 2050 Water Quality Improvement Plan to ensure targets will be met.

The Committee also emphasised the importance of partnerships in implementing both the Reef 2050 Plan and the Reef 2050 Water Quality Improvement Plan. This should be reflected better in the revised drafts.

The meeting considered a number of proposals developed by the Reef 2050 communications network to mark the International Year of the Reef. RAC members responded positively to the proposals and opportunities presented and undertook to explore the possibility of in-kind and financial contributions from their organisations.

The meeting concluded with a presentation on the Reef Integrated Monitoring, Modelling and Reporting Program. The Committee welcomed the progress achieved and looks forward to finalisation of key elements of the program design through 2018.

The Committee expressed its appreciation to the Joint Secretariat for the documents presented to the meeting.

The Reef 2050 Advisory Committee is scheduled to meet again on 24 July 2018.

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, Queensland Regional Natural Resource



Management Groups Collective, 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.