



Reef 2050 Plan

INDEPENDENT EXPERT PANEL - MINUTES

Date: Friday, 02 June 2023, 09:00am – 11.00am AEDT

Venue: Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane and videoconference.

ATTENDEES

Members

Prof Ian Chubb AC, Chair

Dr Richard Brinkman

Prof Damien Burrows

Adj Assoc Prof Stephan Schnierer

Doctor Rebecca Bartley

Prof Helene Marsh AO

Dr. Stuart Whitten

Dr Russell Reichelt AO

Prof Kerrie Wilson

Doctor Mitchell Gibbs

Professor Matthew England

Professor Tiffany Morrison

Ms Jane Waterhouse

APOLOGIES

Prof. Catherine Lovelock

Prof. Terry Hughes

Other attendees

Mr John Foster Assistant Secretary, Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water

Mr Stephen Briggs Assistant Director, Secretariat, Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water

Mr Peter David A/g Senior Policy Officer, Secretariat, Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water

Ms Liz Borburgh Policy Officer, Secretariat, Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water

Dr Julia Playford A/g Executive Director, Office of the Great Barrier Reef, Department of Environment and Science

Louise Smyth Director, Office of the Great Barrier Reef, Department of Environment and Science

Dr Roger Beeden A/g Chief Scientist, Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority

Ms Margaret Johnson General Manager, Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority

Ms Patricia Schluter Assistant Director, Great Barrier Reef Marine Park

1. Acknowledgement of Country

The Chair acknowledged the traditional custodians of the lands on which the meeting was held, and paid respects to their Elders past, present and emerging.

2. Welcome to Members

The Chair welcomed members and noted apologies. The Chair outlined the main items of business on the agenda, which would include an extended discussion on the Australian Academy of Science project.

3.. Australian Academy of Science Reef Futures Roundtables - continued

The Chair commenced the session by summarising the key points raised by Panel and RAC members in the previous session and stating the purpose of this session was to further build on and refine the points synthesised the previous day.

Panel members raised additional points to be highlighted in their advice to Ministers, including:

- The nature of values shifting over time as the condition of the Reef changes due to climate change and other factors.
- Policy responses should be agile to adapt to those changes
- Intervisibility between land and sea as understood by Traditional Owner knowledge
- Management frameworks must recognize the whole system and address the interconnectivity of flows from catchment to inshore and out to deep water
- Knowledge gaps of ecosystems services and Reef functionality
- Prioritise investments based on forward-looking evidence, not just the current condition of the Reef
- Integration of regional planning.

The Chair commented that more work needs to be done to ensure monitoring and reporting systems are appropriately informing decision-making with clear and consistent metrics. We need to consider if we are equipped to rapid change. This needs to be at the center of the discussion.

The Chair set a date to complete a draft advice to ministers with the secretariat and Panel and concluded the meeting.