



Australian Government

Department of the Environment and Energy

Review of Governance of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority

Terms of Reference

Background

The Australian Government is committed to protecting the Great Barrier Reef, a World Heritage site, now and for future generations. The Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority is central to this commitment. The Authority is currently comprised of a Chairperson and four other members. The Chairperson also acts as CEO for the broader organisation.

The Authority was established through the *Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Act 1975* to set up and manage the marine park, provide advice to the Minister, conduct research and provide educational, advisory and information services.

The 2006 review of the *Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Act 1975* noted that the governance framework of the Authority will be shaped by the changing needs of the Reef. The Great Barrier Reef is a dynamic environment that has seen substantial change in its management arrangements over the last decade. The Australian Government is committed to ensuring that the institutions in place to support the health and resilience of the Reef are strong and continue to evolve in light of this change. It is timely to review the Authority's governance arrangements to ensure it continues to provide for improvement in the outstanding universal value of the Reef.

The review will be led by Dr Wendy Craik AM reporting to the Minister for the Environment and Energy, the Hon Josh Frydenberg MP. Public submissions will be invited and targeted stakeholder consultations undertaken.

Scope of review

The review will focus on the effectiveness of:

- the role and composition of the Authority's board and
- the Authority's executive management arrangements

in supporting the functions and powers of the Authority as set out in the *Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Act 1975*.

The review will provide recommendations and advice on:

- any changes to improve the corporate governance arrangements of the Authority
- any legislative or administrative amendments required to make such changes.