



Reef 2050 Plan

Reef 2050 Advisory Committee - Communique 15 April 2021

The Reef 2050 Advisory Committee (RAC) held its eighteenth meeting today, in Brisbane and by videoconference, chaired by the Honourable Penelope Wensley AC. The RAC is one of two advisory bodies for the Reef 2050 Plan, established in 2015, to facilitate engagement with industry and the broader community on the implementation and review of the Reef 2050 Plan and to provide strategic advice to the Australian and Queensland governments on reef policy matters.

An update on progress with the development of the revised draft Reef 2050 Plan was provided. The Joint Secretariat has held out-of-session meetings with a number of RAC members to discuss changes to the draft Plan made in response to advisory body and public feedback, and seek advice on sector-specific communications material. Several more such sessions are scheduled, including with AMPTO, Traditional Owners, CAREFISH, QRC and LGAQ.

The RAC discussed draft and proposed communications products, including factsheets to support release of the revised Plan, a stand-alone executive summary, and specific materials focused on responding to stakeholder needs. RAC members provided a range of constructive comments to inform review of the drafts, continue development of further products and also investigate a range of communications methods beyond factsheets. RAC members agreed to further out-of-session consultation to provide input to these products.

The RAC discussed and provided advice on the response to the recommendations of the final report of the Independent Review of Reef 2050 Governance. Amendments to RAC's Terms of Reference would be presented to Ministers to reflect the response to the review's recommendations.

The RAC welcomed the development of a work plan for the Committee for the remainder of 2021. Members suggested it would be helpful to include information on milestones for key Reef-related programs over the next two years to inform its work program for 2021 and beyond and requested provision of a rolling plan to be updated at each meeting.

The Committee also received updates on:

- The State of the Reef from Dr David Wachenfeld, Chief Scientist, GBRMPA
- World Heritage Committee process and upcoming 44th Session (online) hosted by China from 16 – 31 July.

RAC Members are: The Association of Marine Park Tourism Operators (AMPTO), the Queensland Seafood Industry Association (QSIA), Traditional Owner groups in the GBR, Queensland Resources Council(QRC), Queensland Farmers Federation (QFF), AgForce, CANEGROWERS, Natural Resource Management Regions Queensland, Local Government Association of Queensland (LGAQ), the Australian Committee of the International Union of the Conservation of Nature (AIUCN), the Australian Institute of Marine Science (AIMS), CAREFISH, CSIRO, the Great Barrier Reef Foundation (GBRF), Local Marine Advisory Committees, Queensland Conservation Council (QCC), Queensland Ports Association and the Worldwide Fund for Nature (WWF).

AgForce was not represented at the meeting.

