

## **TERMS OF REFERENCE - NATIONAL CLIMATE SCIENCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

### **Purpose**

The purpose of the National Climate Science Advisory Committee is to advise the Australian Government on a nationally aligned and integrated approach to climate science, which will inform the direction and sustainability of Australia's climate science capability and research priorities.

### **Specific responsibilities**

The National Climate Science Advisory Committee will:

- 1) advise the Government on the development of a strategy for climate science in Australia, including:
  - a) Australia's climate science priorities, capabilities and resources, including a stocktake of existing capabilities and options for addressing any gaps;
  - b) consolidation of commitments from key climate science delivery agents for current and future resourcing of the strategy; and
  - c) ongoing climate science community coordination arrangements.
- 2) provide an ongoing forum to coordinate and drive local and international collaboration across key climate science agencies, investors and users of science.
- 3) promote Australia's climate science research capability with both Australian and international stakeholders.

### **Membership**

The Committee will be chaired by an independent person with demonstrated national leadership, experience in government and science credentials. The Chair will be appointed for a period of up to three years and will be eligible for reappointment.

The Chair will be appointed by the Prime Minister, on the recommendation of the Minister for Industry, Innovation and Science and the Minister for the Environment.

There will be up to 13 members (including ex-officio appointees) of the Committee, comprising:

- Ex-officio appointees:
  - Secretary, Department of Industry, Innovation and Science
  - Secretary, Department of the Environment and Energy
  - Chief Scientist, Antarctic Division, Department of the Environment and Energy
  - Director, Bureau of Meteorology
  - Director, CSIRO Climate Science Centre
  - Director, National Environmental Science Programme Earth Systems and Climate Change Hub
  - Chief Scientist of Australia
- members drawn from leading climate science universities or research centres, Australian Academy of Science and adaptation policy users.

The Committee will also have relevant international expertise.

Members and ex-officio appointees of the Committee will be appointed by both the Minister for Industry, Innovation and Science and the Minister for the Environment and Energy for a period of up to three years and will be eligible for reappointment.

### **Remuneration**

Remuneration will only be provided to the Chair and the independent members of the Committee, at the discretion of both Ministers.

### **Meetings**

There will be at least two meetings of the Advisory Committee per annum. At a meeting of the Advisory Committee a quorum is met if the number of ex-officio appointees or independent members present constitute a majority of the appointed ex-officio appointees and independent members plus the Chair.

Secretariat support will be provided by both Departments.

### **Reporting to Government**

Following each meeting, the Chair of the Committee will write to the Minister for Industry, Innovation and Science and the Minister for the Environment and Energy outlining the key areas of discussion and advice.