

Great Barrier Reef Ministerial Forum

Meeting 45 – 19 November 2019

Time: 10am -12:30pm AEST

Venue: GBRMPA Boardroom (Gothenburg Room), 280 Flinders Street, Townsville

Agenda Topic: State Party Report on the State of Conservation of the Great Barrier Reef

Sponsor: Department of the Environment and Energy

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Key issues

2. In July 2017, the 41st session of the World Heritage Committee (the Committee) requested Australia submit a State Party Report on the state of conservation of the Great Barrier Reef by 1 December 2019. The Committee will consider the State Party Report, and advice of the Centre, at its 44th session in mid-2020.
3. The State Party Report (draft at **Attachment A**) will demonstrate the progress and commitment of Australia in managing and protecting the outstanding universal value (OUV) of the Great Barrier Reef since the last State Party Report in 2015.
4. In 2015, the Committee welcomed Australia's efforts to protect the Great Barrier Reef and decided not to inscribe the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger. In 2017, the Committee welcomed the progress made since inception of the *Reef 2050 Long-term Sustainability Plan* (the Reef 2050 Plan) and expressed appreciation for the significant efforts of those involved.
5. Since the 2015 decision there has been no indication that the Committee is considering the inscription of the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger. Discussion with the Centre indicates strong support for Australia's protection of the Great Barrier Reef and an interest in continued dialogue between Australia and the Centre in the development of the

Report. The International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) will also play a critical role in assessing the Report and Australia will continue to engage both the Centre and the IUCN throughout the Report assessment phase.