



Meeting 3, 11 September 2024

## ***Sustainable Biosecurity Funding Advisory Panel (Panel)***

### **Chair's Note**

#### **Key updates**

Today, I was pleased to host the second in-session meeting of the Sustainable Biosecurity Funding Advisory Panel (the Panel).

At this meeting the department delivered a presentation of its 2023-24 end of financial year results for biosecurity, in advance of these being published in the department's Annual Report in October.

The Panel was provided with a draft of the new Biosecurity Funding and Expenditure Report, a deliverable of the Government's Biosecurity Sustainable Funding Package in the 2023-24 Budget. Once finalised, the Report will be published as an appendix to the Annual Report.

The Panel expressed appreciation for the additional transparency provided by the Report and offered suggestions for the department to consider in the Report. Feedback included a request for more information on departmental appropriation funded activities and how biosecurity preparedness and responses are funded. Members also expressed an interest in being engaged early in the development of future reports.

The department provided an update on the finalisation of the refresh the Commonwealth Biosecurity 2030 Roadmap, including proposed amendments to the nine strategic actions following feedback from the Panel at its last meeting.

Discussions continued with the Panel on the Commonwealth's biosecurity funding priorities for 2024-25. This included how these aligned with the National Biosecurity Strategy Action Plan. The Panel discussed key issues including the department's approach to risk and prioritisation, recruitment and retention of staff and technology investment.

#### **Attendees**

The following Panel members attended the meeting:

- Animal Health Australia Industry Forum
- Australian Dairy Farmers
- Australian Forest Products Association
- Australian Grape and Wine
- Centre of Excellence for Biosecurity Risk Analysis
- Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation
- Freight and Trade Alliance

- GrainGrowers Limited
- International Forwarders and Customs Brokers Association
- Invasive Species Council
- Plant Health Australia Industry Forum
- Sheep Producers Australia
- WoolProducers Australia.

I thank Panel members for their participation in this meeting and for their ongoing collaborative engagement and partnership in ensuring strengthened biosecurity outcomes for Australia.

**Next meeting**

The next Panel meeting will be held in **December 2024**.

**Justine Saunders APM**

**Deputy Secretary Biosecurity, Operations and Compliance Group**

**Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry**