



Meeting 2 Out-of-Session, 14 June 2024

## ***Sustainable Biosecurity Funding Advisory Panel***

### **Chair's Note**

#### **Key updates**

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

At this meeting the Panel discussed next steps for the Biosecurity Protection Levy and possible alternate approaches for primary producers to make a direct contribution to Commonwealth biosecurity. Overall, there was consensus from Panel members that there was no support for an alternative producer funded contribution. The advice of the Panel will be provided to the government to inform considerations about the future of the policy. Notwithstanding this, the Panel expressed an interest in discussing broader funding mechanisms for Commonwealth biosecurity and the broader biosecurity system, including from other system beneficiaries and risk creators in future meetings.

The department delivered a presentation on work being undertaken to refresh the Department's Commonwealth Biosecurity 2030 Roadmap and sought the Panel's input into the Department's biosecurity priorities for the 2024-25 financial year. Panel members provided strategic perspectives regarding biosecurity priorities. The department will consider the Panel's advice in allocating its funding and resources to these priorities in this financial year.

The Panel discussed the importance of financial reporting and data as critical inputs into the Panel's deliberations and development of advice. It was noted that there are current limitations to the information that is available, however, the department advised that this would mature over time.

The Panel also discussed its revised Terms of Reference (ToR) and work plan for this calendar year. The Panel agreed to finalise the revised ToR and work plan out-of-session.

#### **Attendees**

The following Panel members attended the out-of-session meeting:

- Animal Health Australia Industry Forum
- Australian Dairy Farmers
- Australian Forest Products Association
- Australian Fresh Produce Alliance
- Australian Grape and Wine
- Australian Pork Limited
- Cattle Australia

- Centre of Excellence for Biosecurity Risk Analysis
- Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation
- Cotton Australia
- Freight and Trade Alliance
- Grain Producers Australia
- GrainGrowers Limited
- International Forwarders and Customs Brokers Association
- Invasive Species Council
- Plant Health Australia Industry Forum
- Seafood Industry Australia
- 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 **late August 2024**.

**Justine Saunders APM**

**Deputy Secretary Biosecurity, Operations and Compliance Group  
Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry**