



Resolution to extend the ICRI Ad Hoc Committee on Resilience-based Management

Adopted at the 35th ICRI General Meeting (online), February 2021

Coral reefs are some of the most valuable ecosystems on Earth, providing ecosystem and social benefits that sustain communities and their national economies. In recent years, intensifying pressures on coral reefs have caused their continuing decline and urgent action is required to protect them.

There is growing understanding that management strategies require greater innovation and agility to build the resilience of coral reef ecosystems under current climate change trajectories. Resilience-based management (RBM) uses knowledge of current and future drivers to prioritise, implement, and adapt management actions that sustain ecosystems and human well-being. While RBM cannot prevent major impacts from disturbances such as coral bleaching and cyclones, building ecosystem resilience can increase the capacity of coral reefs to withstand and recover from these disturbances.

The ICRI Plan of Action calls for innovation and adaptive management to protect and preserve coral reefs. As part of the 34th ICRI General Meeting in Townsville, Australia, the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority, together with the Nature Conservancy and the Great Barrier Reef Foundation, convened a side event on Managing for Resilience. As an outcome of the event, ICRI members agreed to form an ad hoc Committee to build on the objectives identified in the Plan of Action. The Committee seeks to continue its work to ‘identify supports and develop best-practice guidance on the actions that will enable members to tailor and scale up Resilience-Based Management to meet local, national and global needs’.

Annex: Amended terms of reference

Working with ICRI members, reef-bearing nations and relevant partners, the Committee will:

- Identify global, national and local RBM communication needs, priorities and key messages. Share RBM communication strategies that can be scaled and tailored to meet these needs. Share best-practice examples of RBM outcomes.
- Identify key challenges to RBM implementation and share case studies on how these could be addressed at global, national and local scales.
- Identify the priority opportunities for RBM implementation and support member engagement and participation.
- Identify opportunities for partnership between members, NGOs, industry and community organisations who can build understanding and enable members to scale up and tailor RBM.

Chair: Australia

Members: Experts from the ICRI Membership, other reef-bearing nations and relevant partners.

Duration: The *ad hoc* committee will last not more than one year, with the final report to be presented at the 36th ICRI General Meeting. The report will be available on the ICRI Forum.

Working procedures: The *ad hoc* committee will conduct its work virtually.