

# Red Meat MOU Review: Terms of Reference

The Red Meat Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) has been in place for 20 years and it is time to take a critical look at it to ensure relevance and that it is meaningfully contributing to growing the value and reputation of Australia's 75,000 red meat businesses. This includes the roles and responsibilities of all stakeholders within the Red Meat MOU.

## Objectives

A green paper approach is being taken to the Red Meat MOU that is wide ranging, consultative and independent and aims to establish:

- How can a Red Meat MOU create real value for the intended beneficiaries of the MOU – Australia's red meat and livestock businesses?
- What should it look like in order to position the industry for sustainability, prosperity and position for future challenges and opportunities?

## Scope

- Review the effectiveness of the current Red Meat MOU arrangements
- Undertake comprehensive consultation with signatories, key industry and community stakeholders and government



- Provide feedback to key stakeholders on their views and validate key recommendations for reform that ensures the sustainability and prosperity of Australian red meat & livestock businesses
- Report to the Red Meat Advisory Council (RMAC) by March of 2018 on a series of recommendations to improve the operations of the Red Meat MOU

## Guiding Principles

In undertaking a green paper for the Red Meat MOU, the Task Force should aspire to deliver recommendations to RMAC that are –

- Ambitious
- Agile
- Dynamic
- Accountable
- Positions our industry for sustainability and prosperity

## Roles & Tasks / Responsibilities

A Chair and lead reviewer, supported by an independent Task Force will identify robust reform to a Red Meat MOU that ensure the sustainability and prosperity of the Australian red meat and livestock sector.

To do this, the Task Force will consider the operation of the Red Meat MOU, the role of industry and government signatories and ongoing risks and opportunities to the industry; and make recommendations for key reforms to:

- The need for a Red Meat MOU and its role in leading and advancing the value, reputation and sustainability of Australian red meat businesses.
  - Examine whether the purpose, and the principles as set out in the MOU, are being met.
- The roles, responsibilities and interrelationships of MOU signatories including RMAC, Peak Industry Councils and Industry Companies, including:
  - Whether the MOU arrangements provide an adequate framework to support RMAC, the individual sectoral groups and the red meat research and development corporations to work collectively to meet the needs of the red meat industry and the public.
  - Whether RMAC is equipped to meet the leadership expectations and needs of industry.
- Quantifying the current costs and benefits of the Red Meat MOU to all signatories and the red meat and livestock sector with a view to identifying efficiencies in future iterations of the Red Meat



- All other aspects of MOU relationships including:
  - Funding, research and development, intellectual property and issues
  - The role of Aus-Meat & Safe-Meat.
- How all aspects of the Red Meat MOU can be improved or responded to ensure an industry capable of withstanding future challenges and opportunities for the Australia red meat and livestock industry.
- Make recommendations on means to support and improve industry's governance, collaboration and roles and responsibilities to meet future challenges and

## Reporting

The Task Force will report to RMAC as custodians of the Red Meat MOU.

A monthly update to the Board of the Red Meat Advisory Council (RMAC) from October 2018 – March 2019. A final report will be delivered to RMAC by March 2019.

## Consultative Process

The Red Meat MOU process should be independent, wide ranging & consultative and includes key elements of–

- Task Force Review: Set green paper background against the Terms of Reference, purposes & consultation questions (10).
- Guided Discussion: Panel consults initial stakeholders' signatories, outside thinkers and key identified stakeholders.
- Green Paper: 'Guided Discussion' findings validated with initial stakeholder group. Green paper published for wider industry input online, including a formal written submission process.
- White Paper: Stakeholder findings consolidated in a White Paper with series of recommendations delivered to RMAC.

## Membership

Membership of the Task Force will be appointed by RMAC, and be chaired by a lead reviewer.

*Chair & Lead Reviewer* The lead reviewer and Chair of the Task Force is Mr Jim Varghese AO.

*Members* Members of the Task Force will be appointed by RMAC on a skills basis representing a mix of:



- Governance & government experience
- RDCs
- Advocacy
- Business experience
- Supply chain
- Outside thinkers & influencers

## **Secretariat & Support**

An independent Secretariat will also provide the following support to the Taskforce:

- Prepare and distribute relevant papers, including agendas and meeting minutes
- Undertake policy research and support between meetings
- Provide logistical support for all aspects of communications and consultation to the Task Force

## **Confidentiality**

The taskforce's considerations and discussions are confidential except for formal published reports.

## **Proposed Timeframes & Deliverables**

It is proposed the Task Force will meet monthly with the key schedule of deliverables being:

<b>September 2018</b>	Appointment of Chair & Secretariat, call for EOI of Task Force <b>(now closed)</b> Task Force appointed
<b>October 2018</b>	First meeting of Task Force & set initial consultation framework & list of key 'guided discussion' stakeholders
<b>November 2018</b>	Commence guided discussion Guided discussion





## Draft Green Paper release

### December 2018

Comment period Green Paper

### January 2019

Comment period Green Paper

Final Green Paper presented to RMAC

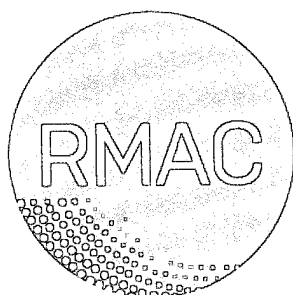
### February 2019

National consultation on Green Paper & close of national consultation / collation of feedback

### March 31 2019

White Paper completed

Changes to the schedule will be by negotiation with RMAC, with the Commonwealth and other signatories advised accordingly.



(<https://rmac.com.au>)

Level 3

National Farmers Federation House

14- 16 Brisbane Avenue

Barton ACT

