1. The Wet Tropics of Queensland World Heritage Area is managed under the *Wet Tropics World Heritage Protection and Management Act 1993* (the Queensland Act) and the *Wet Tropics of Queensland World Heritage Area Conservation Act 1994*. These Acts implement Australia’s international duty for the protection, conservation, presentation, rehabilitation and transmission to future generations of the World Heritage Area.
2. The Queensland Act establishes the Wet Tropics Management Authority (the Authority) and provides the legal basis for the Wet Tropics Management Plan 1998 that regulates land use activities in the Area through a zoning and permit system.
3. The Board is established by the Queensland Act with the key function to implement programs to meet Australia’s international obligations for the Area under the World Heritage Convention. The roles of the Board include: being responsible for the way in which the Authority performs its functions and exercises its powers; deciding the objectives, strategies and policies to be followed by the Authority; and ensuring that the Authority performs its functions in a proper, effective and efficient way.
4. The Board consists of seven directors, six of whom serve in a part time capacity. The Chair and a designated Aboriginal director are nominated by the Ministerial Forum. Two directors are nominated by the Australian Government and two by the Queensland Government. The Executive Director of the Authority is the seventh and non-voting board director. In accordance with the Commonwealth Act, at least one of the Commonwealth’s two nominees to the Board must be an Aboriginal person.
5. A Wet Tropics Ministerial Forum co-ordinates policy and funding for the Wet Tropics of Queensland between the Commonwealth and Queensland Governments at a Ministerial level and, where appropriate, provides a mechanism to liaise with the Authority and the Board of Directors.
6. A selection process was run by the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection to identify potential nominees. Mr John Courtenay, Ms Anne Clarke and Professor Iain Gordon were subsequently nominated.
7. Ms Leah Talbot was identified for re‑appointment by the Wet Tropics Ministerial Forum as the Aboriginal nominee. A second Aboriginal nominee will be identified through a selection process being undertaken by the Authority on behalf of the Commonwealth.
8. The Commonwealth selected Mr John Courtenay as its other nominee as a result of the selection process run by the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection.
9. Cabinet endorsed that Mr John Courtenay, Ms Anne Clarke, Professor Iain Gordon and Ms Leah Talbot be recommended to the Governor in Council for appointment as members of the Board of Directors of the Wet Tropics Management Authority for a term of three years commencing from the date of Governor in Council approval.
10. Cabinet endorsed the Minister for Environment and Heritage Protection and Minister for National Parks and the Great Barrier Reef will recommend to the Governor in Council the appointment of the Commonwealth nominee upon receipt of the Commonwealth Government’s nomination.
11. *Attachments*
	* Nil.