1. The Wet Tropics of Queensland World Heritage Area is managed under the *Wet Tropics World Heritage Protection and Management Act 1993* (the Act) and the Commonwealth *Wet Tropics of Queensland World Heritage Area Conservation Act 1994* (the Commonwealth Act). 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 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 of Directors of the Wet Tropics Management Authority (the Board) is established by the Act with the key function to implement programs to meet Australia’s international obligations for the Area under the World Heritage Convention. The Board is 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 members, six of whom are appointed on a part-time basis. The chairperson and a designated Aboriginal director are nominated by the relevant Environment Ministers of the Commonwealth and Queensland Governments. Two directors are nominated by the Commonwealth Government; and two directors are nominated by the Queensland Government. The Executive Director of the Authority is the seventh and non-voting director of the Board. In accordance with the Commonwealth Act, at least one of the Commonwealth’s two nominees to the Board must be an Aboriginal person.
5. The relevant nominating Minister for the proposed appointments is the Honourable Meaghan Scanlon MP, Queensland Minister for the Environment and the Great Barrier Reef and Minister for Science and Youth Affairs.
6. Cabinet endorsed that Professor Stephen Williams and Ms Robin Clark be recommended to the Governor in Council for appointment as directors of the Board of Directors of the Wet Tropics Management Authority from the date of Governor in Council approval.
7. *Attachments*:
* Nil.