Department of the Environment, Tourism, Science and Innovation

Queensland Government

Expression of Interest

INDEPENDENT CHAIR

Gondwana World Heritage Advisory Committee (Qld Section)

The Department of the Environment, Tourism, Science, and Innovation is pleased to welcome expressions of interest to be the Chair of the Gondwana World Heritage Advisory Committee (Qld Section) (the Committee).

About this Role

The purpose of the Committee is to provide advice to Queensland and Australian Government Ministers and management agencies responsible for World Heritage to ensure Australia continues to meet its obligations under the World Heritage Convention to protect, conserve and present this World Heritage property.

Advice may include the review of and input into plans and strategies, research needs, or management activities. This advice is to be communicated to the Queensland and Australian Government Ministers responsible for World Heritage in the form of:

- A Communique prepared after each meeting of the Committee; and
- Written communication from the Chair on behalf of the Committee as required.

Only the Chair has the authority to make statements on behalf of the Committee.

Committee members are appointed by the Queensland Minister responsible for World Heritage and the Chair is jointly appointed by the Queensland and Australian Government Ministers responsible for World Heritage.

The Chair will represent the Committee on the Australian World Heritage Advisory Committee (AWHAC). AWHAC provides advice to the Australian and State/Territory Ministers on issues affecting Australia's World Heritage properties.

The World Heritage Convention is a primary influence on the work of the Committee. This calls on State Parties to ensure the identification, protection, conservation, presentation, and transmission to future generations, of World Heritage properties. The Convention also encourages State Parties to ensure that cultural and natural heritage has a function in the life of the community.

Term of Appointment

For this term, the Chair and 50% of the Committee members will be appointed for a four-year term and the remaining 50% of the Committee for a two-year term, commencing on the date advised in the letter of appointment. This approach will:

- Stagger future Committee appointments to enable recruitment of new and diverse membership engaged in current World Heritage related projects, research, and activities;
- Ensure continuity of Committee expertise while welcoming new membership;
- Ensure continuity for key projects prioritised by each committee; and
- Reduce the risk of a lapse in Committee membership between terms.

The Chair or Committee members may resign at any time and are eligible for reappointment in another term.

Membership

Membership of the Committee is to support its purpose to provide advice on the management and protection of this World Heritage property's OUV. Membership will comprise First Nations, scientific and community interests and expertise relevant to the management of Gondwana Rainforests of Australia (Qld Section).

Member interest and expertise will broadly be reflected by up to a total of **17 representatives** as follows:

- The Chair is an independent, non-government person, with no current direct financial or vested political interest in the way in which Gondwana Rainforests of Australia (Qld Section) World Heritage property is managed.
- Six representatives of the First Nations peoples with rights and interests of the Gondwana Rainforests of Australia (Qld Section) with:
    - Two memberships for the Githabul peoples;
    - Two memberships for the Yugambeh peoples; and
    - Two memberships for Yuggera Ugarapul peoples.
- Up to five community members, with community interest/expertise, including representatives of the following sectors:
    - Tourism
    - Recreation
    - Residential
    - Conservation
    - Natural resource management
    - Local government.
- Up to five members with scientific expertise for example in relation to:
    - Botany
    - Zoology
    - General ecology
    - Geomorphology
    - Sustainable tourism/visitor management
    - Cultural heritage/ archaeology/anthropology
    - Stewardship and governance of social ecological systems

  - Implementation of the operational guidelines
  - Social science
  - Climate/climate change
  - Biosecurity/protected area management.

- First Nations representatives may apply for any position on the Committee if they can address representation requirements outlined above.

The Committee must comprise at least 50 percent women.

Selection Criteria

Candidate selection will be based on:

- Familiarity with, and/or an interest in the Gondwana Rainforests of Australia World Heritage property (Qld section);
- Demonstrated experience in the independent facilitation/operation of advisory committees or similar bodies; and/or demonstrated expertise in the management of the Gondwana Rainforests of Australia World Heritage property (Qld section); and
- Familiarity with Australia's obligations under the World Heritage Convention.

Duties of the Role

a) Chair meetings in accordance with provided formal meeting protocols;

b) Liaise with the Executive Officer as required to develop agendas and approve meeting notes;

c) Facilitate discussion on the agenda items and provide advice to the Ministers;

d) Facilitate participation of all Committee members in the meeting and encourage members to share and exchange information with each other and the Secretariat;

e) Maintain adherence to the Code of Conduct at meetings;

f) Speak on behalf of the Committee;

g) Present the Committee's advice via a Communique to the Ministers within two weeks of each meeting; and

h) Represent (or proxy) Gondwana Rainforests of Australia (Qld section) on the AWHAC, which will consider national and cross-cutting issues relevant to all World Heritage properties in Australia.

How to Apply

Please provide a brief application of 1 -2 pages (2 pages maximum) addressing the selection criteria and a current resume (including at least 1 referee) by **11pm on Sunday, 29 November 2026** to:

Email: world.heritage@detsi.qld.gov.au OR

Department of the Environment, Tourism, Science and Innovation

Queensland Government

Mail: World Heritage Unit
Department of the Environment, Tourism, Science and Innovation
Level 27, 400 George street
Brisbane QLD 4001

Further information
Find out more by reading the Terms of Reference at:

World heritage areas | Environment | Department of the Environment, Tourism, Science and Innovation, Queensland

For further information contact world.heritage@detsi.qld.gov.au.