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New Working Group aims to develop solutions and adaptations for the Reef

The Great Barrier Reef Foundation, through its International Scientific Advisory Committee, has brought together a diverse group of experts representing a unique and ground-breaking approach to dealing with the threat of climate change on coral reefs.

This group, known as the Solutions and Adaptations Working Group, held its first meeting today. Representation on the Working Group includes experts from the fields of coral reef science, climate change research, business, engineering, industry, and natural resource management. The Group will develop new and innovative solutions and adaptations strategies for the Reef.

Solutions are defined as seeking to minimise or reduce a threat to the Reef and associated habitats. By contrast, adaptations either manage, or respond to, the impact on the ecosystem and/or society.

Mrs Judy Stewart, Managing Director of the Great Barrier Reef Foundation, said, "We wanted to bring together experts from a wide range of fields to encourage the development of new and ground-breaking ideas to dealing with the threat of climate change to the Great Barrier Reef. A fresh perspective is required, if we are to protect the Reef against this threat."

The different backgrounds of the participants led to a stimulating discussion of innovative and potentially ground-breaking interventions for the Reef which the Foundation can support.

The Working Group will continue to meet over the next year to develop the potential projects, describe them and commission relevant feasibility studies.

For more information on the Great Barrier Reef Foundation and the makeup of the Solutions and Adaptations Working Group, visit www.barrierreef.org.

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