



NATIONAL SEAFOOD INDUSTRY ALLIANCE

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COMMUNIQUE

March 2012

NSIA met with the Hon. Joe Ludwig, Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry in Brisbane in early March to discuss the seafood industry and NSIA priority areas, including Country of Origin Labelling, Australian Fisheries Standard, Marine Bioregional Planning and amendments to the PIERD Act.

NSIA participated in the FRDC/Seafood CRC Levy workshop in late February 2012 and will shortly be distributing further information to state based industry councils advising of the key points from the workshop, which include:

- Government needs unequivocal support from industry to expand FRDC's functions to include activities that are not research and development – including marketing, promotion, and demonstration of environmental stewardship.
- To progress this development, industry needs to support the concept.
- Once government has put in place the mechanism, individuals or sectors can then choose to participate or not.
- The mechanism to collect funds will only apply to those who want to participate.
- Those who participate have control on when they start (or stop), how much they contribute and what the funds are spent on.
- Key point is the people who give the funds have control over where it is spent.

The NSIA met via telephone conference on the 26th March for a general meeting to discuss its key priority areas and also the future direction of the organisation.

NSIA will participate in a proposed meeting to discuss the role and resources of a range of national based organisations in early April 2012. Following the outcomes of this workshop, NSIA will look to hold a broader workshop with industry to discuss the strategic plan for NSIA in the next 6 months, 18 months and beyond.

MEMBERS OF NATIONAL SEAFOOD INDUSTRY ALLIANCE



NSIA is working closely with the Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA) over the national commercial vessel safety and has nominated Neil Stump, Brett McCallum, Stuart Richey and Angus Callander to the Part E reference group which will specify minimum requirements for the safe operation of domestic commercial vessels in Australia. NSIA welcomes written comments from industry on the proposed changes.

NSIA will be participating in the Rio + 20 Oceans and Industry Workshop (4th April 2012 Canberra) which has been organised by the Australian Association for Maritime Affairs Inc. The workshop will be attended by representatives of Australian maritime industries and will aid the Australian Government in their preparation for the UN's Sustainable Development Conference (Rio + 20) being held in Brazil 20-22 June. The workshop will also discuss the development of multi-sectoral ocean industry leadership alliance in Australia as a means for leadership companies to engage with each other and collaborate on engaging other ocean stakeholders on cross-cutting ocean issues affecting the future of responsible ocean economic activity. Attached is a briefing note from the World Ocean Council for further information.

For further information:

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