



Great Barrier Reef Foundation

Research for a resilient Reef

6 October 2016

The Secretariat
International Coral Reef Initiative
Xavier Sticker
Ambassador for the Environment
France
Via email fstaub@icriforum.org

Dear Secretariat

I am writing to request your consideration of the Great Barrier Reef Foundation becoming an ICRI member.

The Great Barrier Reef Foundation (GBRF) was established in 2000 in response to the United Nations World Heritage Convention encouraging countries with world heritage sites to establish a national foundation whose purpose is to invite donations for their protection.

We lead the collaboration of business, science, government and philanthropy – groups who would not otherwise come together – for the benefit of the Reef. Our success is due to the quality of institutions and people we bring together – harnessing advances in science, technology and industry to ensure a future for this global treasure.

Over the past decade we have been entrusted with over \$50 million in donations, grants and corporate partnerships. With these funds we have been able to fund important science and technological breakthroughs that address the threats facing the Great Barrier Reef and of other coral reefs.

Working closely with the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority, we fund priority projects that help protect and restore the Great Barrier Reef and build its resilience in the face of major threats.

The GBRF is strategically aligned with the objectives of ICRI. At the core of our organisation we are committed to reducing the threats facing coral reefs in Australia and abroad, ensuring managers

Unit 1, 9 Longland St, Newstead, QLD
Postal: PO Box 2725,
Fortitude Valley BC, QLD 4006
P +61 7 3252 7555
F +61 7 3252 7666
W barrierreef.org
ABN 82 090 616 443

have the best tools, knowledge and resources available to ensure a future of our reefs and to share the story of coral reefs with the world.

Our science is designed to improve outcomes for the Great Barrier Reef. To achieve this, we first focus on addressing the priority science needs of those charged with managing the Reef. We then scope out projects which address these needs and fill critical gaps in the current evidence-base.

In collaboration with our partners in Reef management, science and industry we use the latest in technological innovation to help accelerate the rate of change and drive innovation to meet the targets within the Reef 2050 Plan. This can be directly, through science that will itself help delivery against specific targets in the plan, or indirectly through catalysing new innovations to assist in delivering the plan more rapidly and efficiently.

The challenges facing our reefs are complex and diverse and requires great cooperation and collaboration. We believe the GBRF can play an important role as an ICRI member, and are looking forward to making a positive contribution to the future of coral reefs across the planet through this forum.

In preparation of this letter we have consulted with Russell Reichelt and Margaret Johnson at the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority and they fully support our application for membership. Please let us know if you would like us to obtain a written letter of support.

We are aware of the commitments required as a member of ICRI and would be pleased to fulfil these obligations.

Please don't hesitate to contact me on 07 3252 7555 or amarsden@barrierreef.org to discuss our application.

Warm regards



Anna Marsden
MANAGING DIRECTOR

