

# COMMUNIQUÉ

---

## Hazards Insurance Partnership (HIP) – Meeting 7

21 May 2024 – Virtual

---

The Hazards Insurance Partnership (HIP) met for the seventh time on 21 May 2024.

- List of attendees – Attachment A
- Members endorsed the [Meeting Six Communiqué](#) prior to this meeting.

### *Member Updates*

National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) Coordinator-General Brendan Moon AM (Chair) opened the meeting and welcomed representatives from the Treasury, Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, the Australian Climate Service (ACS), the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS), the Deputy Chair and CEO of the Insurance Council of Australia (ICA), Mr Andrew Hall (Deputy Chair), along with Insurance Australia Group, Suncorp, QBE, Allianz and Royal Automobile Club of Queensland (RACQ) and observers from Australian Prudential Regulation Authority (APRA), Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC) and the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC).

Following announcements in Budget 2024-25, the Chair gave members an update on the outcomes in the emergency management space including enduring funding for NEMA across the coming four years, enhanced national aerial fire-fighting capability, and broader emergency management funding to sustain and mature the national stockpile of emergency management goods and services.

A representative from the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet advised members of the establishment of the Insurance Affordability and Natural Hazard Risk Reduction Taskforce, whose focus will be to develop an integrated, cross-Government approach to natural hazard risk reduction in order to minimise the impacts of disaster on the community. A representative from the Treasury provided a summary of the current status of the review of standard definitions and standard cover. A more detailed update to be provided at the next HIP meeting in August 2024.

Reflecting that the HIP has evolved over the last 18 months and to ensure the partnership hears the views from all parts of the insurance sector, members agreed to expand membership to an additional major insurer in the Australian market, as well as two major reinsurers, as well as adding the Australian Reinsurance Pool Corporation as an observer at future HIP meetings.

Members discussed opportunities to ensure the benefits of targeted investment by both governments and households in reducing disaster risk are translated to downwards pressure on household premiums. Through the HIP Working Group, members will develop an approach to consider the relationship between investment in a range of mitigation measures including public infrastructure and individual household actions, and insurance premium price setting.

The ABS provided an update on their work towards developing an enduring data asset to better understand insurance coverage, availability and affordability including progress on data sharing arrangements for insurance policy data. The HIP agreed to proceed with collecting aggregated and non-identifiable data to generate a national picture of insurance affordability and coverage by August 2024 (from the ICA's policy-in-force insurance data). Concurrently, privacy and other relevant assessments are underway to ensure the appropriate treatment of policy-in-force insurance data as it is transferred securely from insurers into the ABS environment to build the enduring data asset.

HIP members discussed the national flood risk prioritisation approach that identifies high priority catchment areas. These locations will form the basis for further investigations into potential flood mitigation investment options that will reduce flood risk and help to exert downward pressure on insurance premiums.



## OFFICIAL

NEMA provided members with a summary of the outcomes from the Community Awareness and Attitudinal Research project (Stage One - Survey). NEMA has commenced the next phase of the project to develop a suite of online awareness and education materials by the end of the year. This Toolkit will support increased community and household awareness of natural hazard risks and encourage them to take action to prepare for and mitigate against future natural hazards.

### *Next meeting*

The next meeting of the HIP will be held on 29 August 2024, and the next working group on 18 June 2024.



## Attachment A: Attendee List

Insurance Council of Australia (ICA)
Allianz
Insurance Australia Group (IAG)
QBE
Royal Automobile Club of Queensland (RACQ)
Suncorp
The Office of the Minister for Emergency Management
National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA)
The Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (PM&C)
The Treasury
Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS)
Australian Climate Service (ACS)
Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC)
Australian Prudential Regulatory Authority (APRA)
Australian Securities and Investment Commission (ASIC)

