



# Secretaries Board Communique

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Date: 10 April 2024

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The Secretaries Board met today at the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet to discuss the following matters.

## COVID-19 Response Inquiry

The Board received an update from Ms Robyn Kruk AO, Panel Chair, on the progress of the Commonwealth Government COVID-19 Response Inquiry, including stakeholder engagement and emerging themes for the Inquiry.

## Central Australia Update

The Board received an update from Ms Jody Broun, Chief Executive Officer of the National Indigenous Australians Agency on the response to recent events in central Australia.

## First Nations Economic Empowerment Framework

The Board welcomed Professor Peter Yu who provided a briefing on the work of the Australian National University First Nations Portfolio, including on recommended areas to improve economic development and economic self-determination for First Nations people.

## Secretaries Board Governance

The Board considered the Review of the Secretaries Board undertaken by Ms Rosemary Huxtable AO PSM and agreed an approach to implementing the Review's recommendations. The Review is available: [Review of the Secretaries Board](#).

## Geostrategic update

The Board received an update from Ms Jan Adams AO PSM, Secretary of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, and Mr Steven Groves, Chief Finance Officer of the Department of Defence.

## Economic and Budget update

The Board received an update from Ms Jenny Wilkinson PSM, Secretary of the Department of Finance, and Dr Steven Kennedy PSM, Secretary of the Treasury.

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## Future of Work Sub-Committee progress report

The Board noted the Future of Work Sub-committee's progress report capturing achievements since its last update in October 2023 including release of the [APS Employee Value Proposition](#), the [Strategic Commissioning Framework](#), achievements of the AI in Government Taskforce, and delivery of four [capability reviews](#).

## Secretaries Board Digital and Data Committee update

The Board noted the biannual report from the Secretaries' Digital and Data Committee, which highlighted progress made in the second half of 2023 and outlined the focus for the next six months.

## Next Meetings

The next Secretaries Board meeting is scheduled for 7 May 2024.