

<b>Committee:</b>	<b>National Committee for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food</b>
<b>Period covered:</b>	1 January 2015 – 31 December 2017
<b>Chair:</b>	Doctor Jeremy Burdon
<b>Version and date:</b>	Final - Approved 11 August 2016

<b>Purpose</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To connect the Academy to science and scientists in Australia, especially those in scientific disciplines relevant to agriculture, fisheries and food;</li> <li>2. To link the Academy to relevant Australian scientific societies in order to work together to promote the development of the disciplines;</li> <li>3. To link Australian science in the relevant disciplines to world science, in particular through the membership of appropriate international organisations;</li> <li>4. To ensure that Australia has a voice and a role in the global development of the disciplines;</li> <li>5. To provide strategic science policy advice, to the Academy, as input to Academy science policy statements, and (with the approval of the Executive Committee of Council) to the Australian Government and Australian organisations;</li> <li>6. Develop, promote and implement a Decadal Plan for Agricultural Sciences;</li> </ol>
<b>Description and objectives</b>	<p>The NC for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food is a committee of the Council of the Australian Academy of Science. The broad aims of the committee are (1) to foster the key scientific disciplines that underpin productive and sustainable agriculture, fisheries and food industries in Australia, (2) to link the Academy to scientists in these disciplines, (3) to interact with relevant scientific societies, and (4) to serve as a link between Australian and overseas agricultural scientists, primarily through the International Union for Biological Sciences (IUBS).</p> <p>Sciences underpinning the future development agriculture, fisheries and food are now globally significant because food security has become a major international concern. Australia has traditionally been strong in the relevant disciplines with research undertaken in universities, CSIRO, State Government Departments and private sector organisations. However, there has been no attempt to provide a blueprint for how the relevant sciences should be fostered nationally and applied to ensure continued innovation in farming systems. Other NCs have addressed such concerns by developing Decadal Plans. A key activity of the NCAFF will be to deliver a Decadal Plan for agricultural sciences.</p>
<b>Coverage</b>	Plant production (food and fibre), plant genetics and breeding, development of new crops, genetically modified organisms, plant pathology, invasive plant species and weeds, forest science, animal production (including genetics, breeding, physiology, reproduction, and pathology), soil science, plant

	<p>nutrition, plant physiology, carbon sequestration, integrated system science, water issues in crop and animal production, marine science as related to fisheries, education and training</p>
<p><b>Linked international organisation</b></p>	<p>International Union for Biological Sciences (IUBS)</p>
<p><b>Key connected organisations</b></p>	<p>Australian Societies and Organisations: Australian Society of Plant Scientists, Australian Society of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, Australian Soil Science Society, Australian Society of Agronomy, Australian Society of Horticultural Science, Australasian Plant Pathology Society, Australian Society of Animal Production, Australian Society for Fish Biology, Australian Institute of Food Science and Technology, Australian Institute of Agricultural Science and Technology, Australian Council of Deans of Agriculture.</p> <p><b>International Organisations:</b> International Union of Biological Sciences, Global Plant Council, International Union of Soil Sciences, International Society of Plant Pathology, International Crop Science Society, International Union of Food Science and Technology, International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO), World Council of Fisheries Societies.</p> <p><b>Links to other National Committees:</b> Nutrition; Earth System Science; Cellular and Developmental Biology; Ecology, Evolution and Conservation.</p>
<p><b>Key outcomes</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Approved committee structure and membership (annual);</li> <li>2. Approved annual report (annual);</li> <li>3. Engagement with relevant Australian disciplines by contributing news items to society publications, and seeking opportunities to discuss NC activities at general meetings of the societies;</li> <li>4. Engagement with relevant Australian societies and organisations, by having nominees of key scientific societies on the NC, and inviting representatives of other relevant societies and the IUBS as observers to NC meetings, and seeking opportunities to provide a regular statement on NC activities to the relevant societies and other organisations;</li> <li>5. Engagement with relevant national committees on issues of common interest;</li> <li>6. Engagement with IUBS and other international organisations, including nomination of members of IUBS commissions, and of delegates at IUBS General Assemblies;</li> <li>7. Development, of a Decadal Plan for Agricultural Sciences, including obtaining funding to support this activity ;</li> <li>8. Obtaining financial and other resources to assist in the delivery of NCAFF</li> </ol>

	activities.
<b>Indicative budget</b>	1. \$3000 per annum for meetings provided by AAS
<b>Approved by / date</b>	Sec A & B OOS, 11 August 2016