



IFA Media Release

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IFA “tenure-neutral” President to co-chair new forest advisory group

The Prime Minister, Tony Abbott, has named the President of the Institute of Foresters of Australia (IFA) Rob de Fégely, as co-chair of the newly formed Forestry Industry Advisory Council.

The IFA’s Chief Executive Officer, Alison Carmichael has welcomed the news on behalf of IFA members.

“Rob de Fégely was appointed by the IFA as President in 2012 in recognition of the breadth and depth of his forestry experience, in Australia and overseas for both corporate and government clients, and the Institute believes Rob will be an outstanding and passionate leader in the group, able to contribute years of forest business and technical acumen to committee deliberations,” she said.

Rob is the first to describe himself as “tenure-neutral”, meaning that he does not have a preference for where forests are situated or for what purpose, as long as they are well-managed for that purpose.

“The energy and goodwill felt at this week’s Gala Forestry Dinner was fantastic,” said Mr de Fégely, “and hearing the messages of support expressed for sound forest management from the Prime Minister was heartening.”

“Wood is a fantastic renewable source, and must be part of Australia’s sustainable future particularly in a carbon constrained economy,” said Mr de Fégely.

“And we are indeed fortunate to have a Parliamentary Secretary in Senator Richard Colbeck who understands the value of good forest management.”

Noting that the terms of reference for the advisory committee have not yet been finalised, Mr de Fégely said he is looking forward to the role.

“It is too early to comment on what the committee might achieve, but I am looking forward to using my expertise and networks to create a more healthy, vibrant forest sector serving both conservation and production,” he said.



The Institute of Foresters of Australia

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The Institute of Foresters of Australia is a national professional body, fast approaching its 80th anniversary. Its principal objective is professional management of national parks, production forests, plantations, agro forests, water catchments and urban forests.

“Rob can be sure that he will have the full support of the Institute and its members in his new role,” said Alison Carmichael.

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