

Australia-New Zealand Emergency Management Committee

Friday, 20 March 2026

COMMUNIQUÉ

A meeting of the Australia-New Zealand Emergency Management Committee (ANZEMC) was held virtually on 20 March 2026.

Higher Risk Weather Season Update

With significant and compounding events impacting Australian communities during the 2025-26 Higher Risk Weather Season, members shared reflections on the season to date with a focus on new or emerging risks and opportunities across both emergency response and recovery. Members also noted ongoing risks for the remainder of the season and reaffirmed their commitment to continued collaboration to strengthen national emergency management capability.

Australian Disaster Preparedness Framework

Members noted the revised Australian Disaster Preparedness Framework (2026). A final version will be provided for endorsement at the June ANZEMC meeting.

National Emergency Volunteering Strategy

Members noted the draft National Emergency Volunteering Strategy and its six strategic objectives and agreed NSW to progress targeted consultation (including with jurisdictions and relevant stakeholders) to refine the Strategy and proposed actions for further ANZEMC consideration.

NEMMM Priorities and ANZEMC Work Plan Refresh

Members discussed the progress on the ANZEMC Work Plan refresh, with further work to be undertaken to refine the Work Plan ahead of the next ANZEMC meeting.

Hazard Insurance Partnership Update

Members received an update on the ongoing work of the Hazards Insurance Partnership and the work underway to put downward pressure on insurance premiums, including the development of guiding principles for recognising investment in resilience.

More information on the is available on the [Hazards Insurance Partnership](#) National Emergency Management Agency website.

Draft Articles on the Protection of Persons in the Event of Disasters

ANZEMC members were briefed on the United Nations International Law Commission's draft Articles on the Protection of Persons in the Event of Disasters ahead of formal treaty negotiations in 2027 and agreed to participate in ongoing consultations through the National Emergency Management Agency and Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

Interjurisdictional Agreement for Community Recovery Resources

Members noted the Guidelines for Interjurisdictional Assistance (Community Recovery) which underpin interjurisdictional resource sharing arrangements for staff with recovery specific capabilities and experience, and have requested further work be undertaken to ensure they are fit for purpose.

National Register and Reunite Guidelines

Members endorsed the ANZEMC National Register and Reunite Guidelines which aim to foster inter-jurisdictional partnerships and collaboration to reconnect people and their families in difficult circumstances. Members agreed to implement the Guidelines as necessary in their jurisdiction.