



## **Media Release**

For Immediate Release

### **ACA views Federal Government announcements as a huge step forward**

(February 14, 2022) The agreement at National Cabinet that the Federal Government, and NSW, Victoria and Queensland state governments will work with the cruise industry around the protocols for a cruise re-start is welcome news for our sector.

“This is the most encouraging sign we have had from Government that they are now willing to actively engage in dialogue around bringing cruise ships back into the country since the Biosecurity ban was put in place nearly two years ago” said Jill Abel, CEO of the Australian Cruise Association.

“We are confident that the states will be able to draw on the extensive data developed by cruise destinations around the world who have already been through this strategic modelling as they welcomed cruise ships back into their ports. This should help to expedite the process.

“While the announcement today to extend the Biosecurity ban to 17 April is disappointing, it provides the time we need to work with our members in port destinations around Australia to help them prepare for a phased re-start” Abel continued.

The Australian Cruise Association, in conjunction with CLIA Australasia and Tourism Australia, has already held workshops with their members in Queensland and will continue those in Victoria in March. The half-day sessions are designed to help the tourism industry prepare for the carefully managed, responsible, and long-awaited arrival of cruise ships, crew and passengers back into the country’s ports and communities.

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**About Australian Cruise Association:**

Australian Cruise Association is the co-operative marketing brand for cruise tourism in the Australia and Pacific region and represents a diversity of interests including regional ports, international, national and state tourism agencies, shipping agents, inbound tour operators and companies dedicated to marketing the region as a world class cruise destination.

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