1. **Report from the Steering Committee**

The Steering Committee convened in September and October 2013 to consider the progress of the working groups and discuss ongoing issues.

Steering Committee members include the Chairs of the Port Hedland and Bunbury Port Authorities, Chief Executive Officers of the Dampier and Albany Port Authorities, and Deputy Directors General of the Department of Transport (DoT) and the Department of State Development (DSD).

**Ports Legislation Amendment Bill 2013**

In September 2013, Cabinet approved the printing of the *Ports Legislation Amendment Bill 2013*. This legislation enables the consolidation of the existing port authorities, and has been introduced into Parliament to complete the first phase of the reform. When passed by Parliament, the *Ports Legislation Amendment Act 2013* will assign responsibility for the amalgamation process to the new port authority Chairs and their boards.

**Chairs-elect of the proposed port authorities**

In October 2013, Cabinet approved the nomination of four Chairs-elect to facilitate the consolidation of seven of the State’s eight port authorities into four new regional entities.

The Chairs-elect are endorsed as proxy Chairs of the new port authorities prior to the passage of the *Ports Legislation Amendment Bill 2013*. The Chairs-elect will provide direction on organisational and governance structure of the new port authorities; and confidence among port customers, port authority board members and port staff.

The Chairs-elect of the four new regional port authorities are:

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<th>Name</th>
<th>Port authority</th>
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<tr>
<td>Mr Ken Pettit</td>
<td>Pilbara Ports Authority</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ms Neema Premji</td>
<td>Southern Ports Authority</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Ian King</td>
<td>Mid West Ports Authority</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr Laurie Shervington</td>
<td>Kimberley Ports Authority</td>
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**Reconstitution of the Steering Committee and new focus**

With the Chairs-elect to assume responsibility for completing the first phase of the reform, the Steering Committee is able to shift its focus to oversee the second phase of the reform – the transfer of non-port authority ports and port facilities to the new port authorities.

To align with this new focus, it is proposed that the current Steering Committee be reconstituted to comprise the DoT Deputy Director General (Chair), the DSD Deputy Director General, a senior representative from the Department of Treasury, and the Chairs-elect of the Pilbara, Southern, Mid West and Kimberley Ports Authorities. Secretariat support will continue to be provided by DoT.
Terms of Reference for the reconstituted Steering Committee are being drafted and will be progressed to the Minister for Transport for approval, with the aim of establishing the reconstituted Steering Committee in November 2013.

A handover to the reconstituted Steering Committee, coupled with presentations by the four ports working groups on their progress to date, is scheduled for 7 November 2013.

2. **Next phase of legislative work**

In October 2013, DoT met with officers from the Regulatory Gatekeeping Unit to explain the intent of proposed legislative changes in the second phase of the amalgamation, which will effect the transfer of non-port authority ports to the new port authorities.

In relation to this second phase of legislative work, DoT is set to prepare instructions to draft the enabling legislation.

3. **Discussions with the Commonwealth Office of Transport Security**

DoT met with senior officers from the Office of Transport Security (OTS) in early October 2013 to discuss the need to review existing regulatory approvals for maritime security plans such that they are consistent with the governance structures of the new port authorities.

Key messages from the meeting:

- The governance changes resulting from the WA ports amalgamation will be the driver for OTS to rectify or update transport security matters under the *Maritime Transport and Offshore Facilities Security Act 2003*;
- OTS will approach the new port authorities as new entities rather than seek to amend existing regulatory security approvals;
- All regulatory approvals for maritime industry participants will be reviewed;
- It is envisaged that there will be independent maritime security plans for each port and independent maritime security plans for each maritime industry participant, and these plans will need to align with each other;
- Replacement maritime security plans will need to be lodged with OTS at least two months prior to the proposed operating date of the maritime industry participant; and
- OTS will consider how to manage the change of bodies issuing maritime security identification cards.

DoT will facilitate meetings between OTS and the four ports working groups, and will organise a workshop to bring together port security officers from all port authorities to discuss the detail of required actions. Dates for these meetings are to be finalised.

4. **Contacts for more information**

For more information, please contact:

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- Mr Bruce Chan, Project Director, Major Transport Projects, DoT (email: bruce.chan@transport.wa.gov.au or phone: 08 6551 6508)

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- Ms Joanna Hynes, Media Manager, DoT (email: media@transport.wa.gov.au or phone: 0412 027 383)