



## **FIRST MEETING OF THE EXPERT MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL FOR INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION 2 March 2022**

On 2 March 2022, the Expert Members of the Council for International Education held their first meeting of the year. The meeting discussed a range of initiatives underway to drive implementation of the *Australian Strategy for International Education 2021-2030* (the Strategy), released by the Australian Government in November 2021.

Expert Members considered sector feedback on the *International Student Diversity at Australian Universities Discussion Paper* published by government in February 2022. The paper is intended to progress a range of policy measures outlined in the Strategy which support universities to diversify international student cohorts and source countries. Expert Members highlighted the importance of ensuring that diversification policy measures enable long-term growth and sustainability, as well as post-pandemic recovery for the sector. Expert Members noted continued collaboration between government and the sector will be important as this body of work progresses.

Expert Members discussed the government's review of the Education Services for Overseas Students (ESOS) framework, another commitment under the Strategy. Expert Members will continue to provide advice to government out of session to ensure regulatory settings are well placed to reshape and recover the sector. Expert Members noted that public consultations for written submissions are open until 29 April 2022.

Expert Members discussed the government's establishment of an \$8 million competitive fund for industry to develop up to 70 micro-credentials for international delivery, driving the Strategy's objective to grow and diversify Australia's offshore and online delivery to international students.

Lastly, Expert Members received an update on the six initiatives to be delivered under the \$10 million International Education Innovation Fund (IEIF). The IEIF will support implementation of the Strategy over the next three years. Expert Members noted that industry advisory panels will be established to support ongoing implementation of the IEIF initiatives.

The next Expert Members meeting is scheduled for May 2022.