



Process for developing CANA positions:

- CANA positions are developed via a consensus decision making process. In exceptional circumstances, where all organisations but one or two agree, we may byline a CANA position with the names of the organisations who object to the position.
- New, or updated, CANA positions are developed by a CANA working group. The formation and existence of a working group is published in the CANA Member Update, and participation encouraged across all CANA Members.
- New positions are advertised across all CANA Members (usually via a CANA Member Update) and a minimum of a week is provided to object to the position.
- CANA Members will be given as many opportunities as is possible to comment on a new/updated position. If a CANA Member has chosen not to participate in the working group, or to comment early in the process, their objections will be considered by the working group, but may not block consensus.
- A similar process is followed for submissions.

What do CANA positions mean?:

- CANA positions represent the view of the majority of CANA Members.
- Consensus doesn't mean we all have to be happy, it means we can't be *too* unhappy
- Not all CANA Members are expected to completely 100% agree with CANA positions, but CANA Members are expected to act within the spirit of the CANA position, and not have positions that contradict the CANA position.
- Ideally, all CANA Members will have the identical position to CANA, however where this is not possible, CANA Members' individual positions may exist within a compatible "grey area" of the CANA position. Eg: if the CANA target position was that Australia's emissions target should be at least at the top end of 25-40% emissions reductions by 2020, some CANA Members may choose to have the position of 30% by 2020 and some 50% by 2020 and others 20% by 2020 but 60% by 2030. This would be an acceptable "grey area", and not inconsistent with the CANA position.

Advantages of having a CANA position:

- Allows CANA Members who work in one area, or are too small to be across all issues in detail, to take a wide range of positions.
- A small working group of CANA Members undertake the work required to come to a position (investigating the issue in detail), and all CANA Members can benefit from this work.
- Non CANA Members (particularly small, grass roots groups) often use this as their own position.
- Forces us to go through a rigorous process, and all points of view to be considered.
- The process helps us to understand each organisations point of view.
- The process of coming to a joint position builds relationships that we can then draw on in campaigning etc.
- If we are all communicating one position we are much, much, much, much, much, much more likely to be heard by a) the public and b) the politicians.

Disadvantages of having a CANA position:

- It is hard work.

What stops CANA having a position:

- If there are views amongst CANA Members that are irreconcilable, then no position will be formed.
- If it is not considered sufficiently useful to developed a CANA position, none will be developed.