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|  <p>Agreement on the Conservation<br/>of Albatrosses and Petrels</p> | <p><b>Seventh Meeting of the Advisory Committee</b><br/><i>La Rochelle, France, 6 – 10 May 2013</i></p> <p><b>Advisory Committee Work Programme</b><br/><b>2013 - 2015</b></p> <p><b><i>Advisory Committee Chair, Vice-chair</i></b></p> |
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### **ABSTRACT**

A Work Programme 2013 - 2015 approved by the Fourth Session of the Meeting of the Parties is introduced to the Advisory Committee.

### **RECOMENDATIONS**

That the Advisory Committee:

1. Review and update the work programme, and
2. Define actions/ areas to be prioritized in the allocation of funds during 2013 and early 2014.

## **1. ADVISORY COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME 2013-15**

Following the recommendation of the Advisory Committee, a Work Programme for the triennium 2013 - 2015 was approved by the Fourth Session of the Meeting of the Parties (MoP4, Resolution 4.4). This work programme is detailed in Annex 1. The Advisory Committee's Work Programme will be updated and amended at the Seventh Meeting of the Advisory Committee (AC7) to reflect the revised tasks in the work programmes of the Working Groups and other actions, as well as to reflect decisions taken during the course of AC7.

**ANNEX 1**

**ADVISORY COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME 2013-2015**

|  | Topic/Task  | Responsible group                           | Timeframe | Resources                 |              | Action detail   |
|--|---|---|-----------|---------------------------|--------------|---|
|  |   |   |           | Time                      | Funds for AC |   |
| <b>1. Taxonomy and Annex 1 review</b>                      |   |   |           |                           |              |   |
| 1.1  | Keep the Taxonomy Working Group's bibliographic database updated                                | TWG led by Convenor                         | 2013-2015 | 0.5 week per annum (p.a.) | AUD \$0      |   |
| 1.2  | Continue the establishment of a morphometric and plumage database                               | TWG led by Convenor, Science Officer        | 2013-2015 | 2 weeks                   | AUD \$0      | This will facilitate the taxonomic process, the identification of bycatch specimens, and the long-term storage of valuable data       |
| 1.3  | Consider taxonomic issues relating to species proposed for addition to Annex 1 of the Agreement | Parties and AC                              | 2013-2015 | 0.5 week p.a.             | AUD \$0      | Development of papers as required, using species assessment template. <i>Spain to develop document on Balearic shearwater for AC5</i> |
| 1.4  | Respond to queries on taxonomic issues relating to ACAP species                                 | TWG led by Convenor                         | 2013-2015 | 1-2 weeks p.a.            | AUD \$0      | <i>In 2011-2012, consider status of possible Black-footed albatross sub-species</i>   |
| <b>2. Information on status, trends and breeding sites</b> |   |   |           |                           |              |   |
| 2.1  | <i>Establish Population and Conservation Status Working Group membership</i>                    | <i>Parties with assistance of Convenors</i> | 2012      |                           |              |   |

|     | Topic/Task  | Responsible group   | Timeframe              | Resources      |                    | Action detail  |
|-----|---|---|------------------------|----------------|--------------------|--|
|     |   |   |                        | Time           | Funds for AC       |  |
| 2.2 | Consider gaps in population, tracking, breeding site management, threats and regulatory protection data submitted to ACAP; request any outstanding data and incorporate changes | PaCSWG,<br>Science Officer  | 2013-2015              | 10 weeks p.a.  | AUD \$0            | Parties to provide new or outstanding data   |
| 2.3 | Improve data portal structure and queries   | Science Officer,<br>Convenors   | 2013-2015              | 8 weeks p.a.   | AUD \$15,000       | Science Officer to facilitate modification of database as required                       |
| 2.4 | Review and refine standardised queries and outputs for analysis and interpretation  | Science Officer,<br>Convenors   | 2013-2015              | 2 weeks p.a.   | AUD \$5,000        |  |
| 2.5 | <i>Trial approaches accurately to categorise global population trends</i>   | <i>PaCSWG<br/>Convenors,<br/>Science Officer and<br/>BirdLife<br/>International</i> | <i>By end<br/>2011</i> | <i>2 weeks</i> | <i>AUD \$5,000</i> | <i>May require further data portal updates</i>   |
| 2.6 | Update ACAP Species Assessments   | PaCSWG<br>Convenors,<br>Science Officer   | 2013-2015              | 4 weeks p.a.   | AUD \$0            |  |
| 2.7 | Translate updates to Species Assessments and ACAP guidelines into Spanish and French  | Science Officer,<br>Spanish and<br>French speaking<br>Parties                       | 2013-2015              |                | AUD \$8,000        | No costs if translation can be undertaken in kind by Spanish and French speaking Parties |

|      | Topic/Task  | Responsible group                                      | Timeframe    | Resources    |              | Action detail  |
|------|---|--|--------------|--------------|--------------|--|
|      |   |  |              | Time         | Funds for AC |  |
| 2.8  | Identify priority species or populations for monitoring of numbers, trends and demography   | PaCSWG, Science Officer                                | 2013-2015    | 2 weeks p.a. | AUD \$0      |  |
| 2.9  | Review availability of albatross and petrel tracking/distribution data to ensure representativeness of species/age classes. Prioritise gaps and encourage studies to fill gaps. | PaCSWG, AC, Science Officer and BirdLife International | 2013-2015    | 1 week p.a.  | AUD \$5,000  | Review status at AC8   |
| 2.10 | Identify priority species or populations for conservation actions   | PaCSWG, Science Officer                                | 2013-2015    | 1 week p.a.  | AUD \$0      |  |
| 2.11 | Review and prioritise the threats to breeding sites and identify gaps in knowledge  | PaCSWG, Science Officer                                | 2013-2015    | 1 week p.a.  | AUD \$0      |  |
| 2.12 | Develop, review and update best-practice guidelines to mitigate selected threats to breeding sites  | PaCSWG, Science Officer                                | 2013-2015    | 3 weeks p.a. | AUD \$0      |  |
| 2.13 | Develop best-practice guidelines for monitoring of numbers and trends   | PaCSWG, Lead UK, Science Officer                       | By MoP4, AC7 | 4 weeks      | AUD \$0      | Production of two documents ( <i>one by MoP4, other by AC7</i> )           |
| 2.14 | Review evidence for impacts of pathogens and parasites on ACAP species and effectiveness of mitigation measures   | PaCSWG, Science Officer, Lead Argentina                | By AC7       | 4 weeks      | AUD \$0      | Update review of pathogens and parasites. May need input from pathologists |

|                           | Topic/Task   | Responsible group                                       | Timeframe      | Resources   |  | Action detail  |
|---------------------------|--|---|----------------|---|--|--|
|                           |  |   |                | Time  | Funds for AC                             |  |
| 2.15                      | Post web links on biological sampling guidelines following disease outbreaks   | Science Officer, PaCSWG                                 | 2013-2015      | 1 day   | AUD \$0                                  |  |
| 2.16                      | <i>Produce centralised catalogue of plastic rings used on ACAP species and email contact list, and addresses of ringing authorities</i>  | <i>Science Officer, PaCSWG, Lead France.</i>            | <i>By 2012</i> | <i>1 week</i>   | <i>AUD \$0</i>                           |  |
| 2.17                      | Provide reports on activities to AC meetings   | PaCSWG, Science Officer                                 | As needed      | 12 weeks  | AUD \$0                                  |  |
| <b>3. Seabird Bycatch</b> |  |   |                |   |  |  |
| 3.1                       | Continue to implement the RFMO interaction plan for ACAP (AC5 Doc 29) and relevant Parties to engage and assist RFMOs and other relevant international bodies in assessing and minimising bycatch of albatrosses and petrels | Individual RFMO co-ordinators, Secretariat, SBWG and AC | 2013-2015      | a) 18 weeks p.a.<br>b) 18 week p.a.<br>c) 2 week p.a. | a+b) AUD \$30,000 each pa<br><br>AUD \$0 | a) Travel etc costs for attendance at selected RFMO meetings (less if Party can contribute directly)<br>b) RFMO co-ordinator activities<br><br>c) Review of process and recommend changes (SBWG) |
| 3.3                       | Update analysis of overlaps of distributions and albatrosses and petrels with fisheries managed by RFMOs   | BirdLife / ACAP   | 2013           | 4 weeks   | AUD \$20,000                             |  |

|     | Topic/Task   | Responsible group  | Timeframe | Resources                        |                      | Action detail  |
|-----|--|--|-----------|----------------------------------|----------------------|--|
|     |  |  |           | Time                             | Funds for AC         |  |
| 3.4 | Continue to develop materials (both generic and specific) to assist RFMOs and other relevant international and national bodies in reducing seabird bycatch and to maximise effective participation and consideration of issues relevant to ACAP    | SBWG Convenor with other SBWG consultation to review needs (Secretariat) | 2013-2015 | 1) 1 week p.a.<br><br>2) 8 weeks | <more detail needed> | 1) <i>Observer programme designs including protocols for the collection of seabird bycatch data, with consideration of analytical methods for assessing seabird bycatch to be examined first.</i><br>ID guide for drowned birds, including protocol for photographing dead birds<br>Guidance on handling of hooked live birds – may be available from non-ACAP sources |
| 3.5 | Continue to review and utilise available information on foraging distribution, fisheries and seabird bycatch to aid prioritisation of actions to reduce the risk of fishing operations to ACAP species in waters subject to national jurisdiction. | SBWG and Parties   | 2013-2015 | 1) 8 weeks<br><br>2) 2 weeks     | AUD \$0              | 1) Commission initial report on knowledge of fisheries, status of any bycatch mitigation, knowledge of relevant seabird distribution for AC5. Note overlap with 4.4. NPOA seabirds also can be used. (AUD \$0)<br>2) Assess needs for waters subject to national jurisdiction and any capacity building requirements   |
| 3.6 | Maintain bibliography of relevant bycatch information  | BirdLife/SBWG Science Officer  | 2013-2015 | 1 week p.a.                      | AUD \$0              | Includes both published and unpublished literature   |

|      | Topic/Task   | Responsible group  | Timeframe        | Resources             |                | Action detail  |
|------|--|--|------------------|-----------------------|----------------|--|
|      |  |  |                  | Time                  | Funds for AC   |  |
| 3.7  | Based on new information, update ACAP/BirdLife fact sheets on mitigation measures for fishing methods known to impact albatrosses and petrels (trawl, pelagic longline, demersal longline) | SBWG/BirdLife  | 2013-2015        | 1 week per fact sheet | AUD \$5,000    | Costs are for translation. Leads -<br>Trawl: New Zealand<br>Pelagic longline: Australia<br>Demersal longline: UK<br>General: BirdLife  |
| 3.8  | <i>Produce report on lessons from mitigation success stories in commercial fisheries</i>   | <i>BirdLife/ Australia/ Convenor SBWG/WWF</i>              | <i>2010-2012</i> | <i>3 weeks</i>        | <i>AUD \$0</i> | <i>Should be completed within current triennium – target audience is fisheries managers</i>  |
| 3.9  | <i>Prepare review of knowledge on deliberate take/killing of ACAP species at sea</i>   | <i>Australia/ Brazil/ New Zealand/ Peru/ UK/ WWF/ SBWG</i> | <i>2010</i>      | <i>4 weeks</i>        | <i>AUD \$0</i> | <i>Review to describe current knowledge (much from unpublished literature) and causes of any deliberate take and to consider possible take reduction strategies. Should be completed within current triennium using secondees to Secretariat</i> |
| 3.10 | Review results of any research on seabird bycatch issues, particularly that funded by ACAP   | SBWG   | 2013-2015        | 2 weeks p.a.          | AUD \$0        | Draw conclusions and make recommendations to AC as appropriate   |
| 3.11 | Maintain review of research needs and priorities for bycatch research and mitigation development   | SBWG   | 2013-2015        | 2 weeks               | AUD \$0        |  |

|      | Topic/Task   | Responsible group   | Timeframe | Resources |                             | Action detail  |
|------|--|---|-----------|-----------|-----------------------------|--|
|      |  |   |           | Time      | Funds for AC                |  |
| 3.12 | Provide recommendations to the AC on measures to address at-sea threats identified as conservation priorities                            | SBWG  | 2013-2015 | 1 week    | AUD \$0                     |  |
| 3.13 | Review and update the prioritisation framework for at-sea threats  | SBWG  | 2014      | 1 week    | AUD \$10,000                | One workshop and some analysis and update of data relating to threats and mitigation         |
| 3.14 | Review and consider seabird bycatch issues as they relate to smaller vessels (including issues of defining “smaller vessels”)            | SBWG  | at SBWG-5 | 1 week    | AUD \$0                     |  |
| 3.15 | Consider which data would be appropriate as baselines for assessing trends in bycatch levels and rates and formulate suitable indicators | SBWG  | 2012-2013 | 1 week    | AUD \$0                     | Data is described in the global review of seabird bycatch in longline fisheries (AC6 Doc 30) |
| 3.16 | Estimate mortality in previously unobserved fisheries in range of Waved albatross  | Ecuador and Peru, BirdLife, AC, American Bird Conservancy | 2013-2015 | 4 weeks   | AUD \$30,000 over triennium | Part of implementation from Waved Albatross Action Plan                                      |
| 3.17 | Improve access to relevant data (e.g. from observers) held by others   | SBWG  | 2013-2015 |           |                             | Need compilation of meta-data e.g. observer data   |

|                             | Topic/Task  | Responsible group                               | Timeframe | Resources                  |                              | Action detail   |
|-----------------------------|---|---|-----------|----------------------------|------------------------------|---|
|                             |   |   |           | Time                       | Funds for AC                 |   |
| 3.18                        | Analyse bycatch data in collaboration with Japanese researchers                                 | SBWG  | 2013-2015 | 6 months                   | AUD \$50,000                 | Might be best done by an appropriate experienced secondee. Costings difficult to estimate accurately  |
| 3.19                        | Analyse bycatch data from other fishing nations as information becomes available                | SBWG  | 2013-2015 | 6 months                   | AUD \$50,000                 | This is a contingency cost; we are not yet sure how much and when data might become available   |
| 3.20                        | Identify hot spots for temporal/spatial management  | RFMO coordinators/<br>Canada/ BirdLife/<br>SBWG | 2013-2014 | Post-doctorate for 2 years | AUD \$10,000<br>AUD \$50,000 | AUD \$10,000 is a contribution to a potential Canadian/BirdLife/ACAP project in the North Pacific that could be done in the 2010-12 triennium. A total global cost might be in the order of AUD \$50,000  |
| 3.21                        | Provide draft advice on suitable analyses of bycatch data                                       | SBWG  | 2013-2015 | 3 months                   | AUD \$20,000                 | Statistical advice may be required  |
| 3.22                        | Provide reports on activities to AC meetings  | SBWG and AC                                     | 2013-2015 | 1 week                     | AUD \$0                      |   |
| <b>4. Capacity building</b> |   |   |           |                            |                              |   |
| 4.1                         | Provide assistance and capacity building to ensure drafting and implementation of NPOA-Seabirds | AC ,Parties and BirdLife to consider            | 2013-2015 | 10 weeks                   | AUD \$0                      | Capacity building in accordance with the needs identified by interested Parties in order to encourage implementation, particularly in Ecuador, France, Peru, South Africa, (Mozambique, Madagascar), Tristan da Cunha (UK), and EC external fisheries |

|  | Topic/Task  | Responsible group                               | Timeframe | Resources       |              | Action detail   |
|--|---|---|-----------|-----------------|--------------|---|
|  |   |   |           | Time            | Funds for AC |   |
| <b>5. Indicators, priorities, reviews and collective conservation action</b>                       |   |   |           |                 |              |   |
| 5.1  | Identify and prioritise conservation measures required for each species and by each Party to the Agreement                    | WG Convenors and ad-hoc group, lead New Zealand | 2013-2015 | 4 weeks<br>2013 | AUD \$10,000 | Better integrate information with ACAP database and reporting structure         |
| 5.2  | Develop and harmonise conservation strategies or plans for particular species or groups of species of albatrosses and petrels | WGs, AC (Secretariat)                           | 2013-2015 | 2 weeks p.a.    | AUD \$0      | Precise definition of what is needed difficult at this stage                    |
| 5.3  | Implement conservation strategies for particular species or groups of species of albatrosses and petrels                      | Parties, AC                                     | 2013-2015 | unknown weeks   | AUD \$0      | Precise definition of what needed is difficult at this stage                    |
| 5.4  | Implement system of indicators for the success of the ACAP Agreement  | Parties, Secretariat, BirdLife and AC           | 2013-2015 | 1 week p.a.     | AUD \$0      | Review in time for MoP5   |
| 5.5  | Support database of relevant scientific literature  | AC, lead: Argentina, UK (Secretariat)           | 2013-2015 | 12 weeks        | AUD \$0      | Much exists already in various places. Also relevant for several other actions. |
| 5.7  | <i>Develop a directory of relevant legislation</i>  | Argentina, UK (Secretariat)                     | 2013-2015 | 12 weeks        | AUD \$0      | <i>Parties will need to supply information</i>                                  |
| 5.8  | Develop a list of authorities, research centres, scientists and non-governmental organisations relevant to ACAP               | Argentina, UK (Secretariat)                     | 2013-2015 | 12 weeks        | AUD \$0      | Requires input from AC and Parties  |
| <b>6. Management of AC work, secretariat oversight and liaison, and interaction of ACAP bodies</b> |   |   |           |                 |              |   |

|     | Topic/Task  | Responsible group               | Timeframe | Resources     |              | Action detail                                   |
|-----|---|---------------------------------|-----------|---------------|--------------|---|
|     |   |                                 |           | Time          | Funds for AC |   |
| 6.1 | Consider and advise on budget matters as needed                           | AC                              | 2013-2015 | 2 weeks p.a.  | AUD \$0      | Shorter-term advice provided by the AC Chair    |
| 6.2 | Consider and advise on Staff matters as needed                            | AC                              | 2013-2015 | 1 week p.a.   | AUD \$0      | Shorter-term advice provided by the AC Chair    |
| 6.3 | Oversee, advise and guide Secretariat in relation to database, web portal | Convenors, Chair and Vice-chair | 2013-2015 | 6 weeks p.a.  | AUD \$0      |   |
| 6.4 | Manage work of Advisory Committee   | Chair, Vice-chair and Convenors | 2013-2015 | 18 weeks p.a. | AUD \$0      | Regular teleconferences and email conversations |