



**Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels**

*Interim Secretariat provided by the Australian Government*

**First Meeting of Advisory Committee**

*Hobart, Australia, 20 – 22 July 2005*

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*Agenda Item No. 16.1*  
ACAP/AC1/Doc.15  
**Interim Secretariat**

**Reporting by the Advisory Committee and Parties on the  
Implementation of the Agreement**



## **Reporting by the Advisory Committee and Parties on the Implementation of the Agreement**

1. A key function of the ACAP Advisory Committee is to report to the Meeting of the Parties on the implementation of Agreement (Article IX (6) d)).
2. This report is to be based on information provided by the Parties to the Agreement via the Secretariat (Article VII (1) c) and Article VIII (10)). The Secretariat is required to collate this information as appropriate under Article X j).

### **Purpose of Reporting**

3. The key objectives for reporting on the implementation of the agreement would seem to be as follows:
  - (i) To provide information to underpin the assessment of progress towards the objective of the Agreement – to achieve and maintain a favourable conservation status for albatrosses and petrels (Article II (1));
  - (ii) To share information on lessons learned – success and failures – with the aim of conducting albatross and petrel conservation in the most efficient and effective way;
  - (iii) To provide a resource of material on albatross and petrel conservation.

### **Previous development work on formats for Party and Advisory Committee Reports**

4. The interim Secretariat has previously submitted a common draft format for the above reports for consideration by the first session of the Meeting of the Parties to ACAP (MOP1) and the informal Scientific Meeting which preceded it (MOP1/Doc.17, attachment 2).
5. The informal Scientific meeting (see MOP1/Doc.15, paragraphs 6.34 – 6.37) took note of a report from South Africa on the *Status and conservation of albatrosses and petrels and the larger petrels in South Africa* (ScM1/Inf.8) which was considered to cover many of the requirements of a Party Report in narrative form. The meeting further noted that some sections of Party reports may need, at least initially, to be narrative, but recommended that wherever practicable, the Advisory Committee and Parties should develop an efficient protocol-based reporting system with precise questions. It was thought that the report format was likely to evolve rapidly and may need to focus on particular issues in different years. Finally the Scientific meeting suggested that reporting items should be divided into three categories:
  - (i) those where protocol reporting can be sought now;
  - (ii) those where narrative is appropriate; and
  - (iii) those where Parties or others should indicate the sources of relevant information, rather than supplying it.
6. MOP1 considered a draft format for the above reports (paper MOP1/Doc.17) and agreed that each Party should provide relevant information to each meeting of the Parties in a format to be advised by the Secretariat based on the Advisory Committee Work Program (Resolution 1.5, point 4).

## **Proposed format for Report**

6. The interim Secretariat has refined the report outlines presented at MOP1 and now suggests separate outlines for the Advisory Committee Report (Attachment 1) and Party Reports (Attachment 2). The outlines presented in this report include an indication of links to relevant sections of the ACAP Action Plan (Annex 1 of the Agreement), the Advisory Committee Work Programme (Annex 2 of Resolution 1.5) and the Agreement text.
7. It is also noted that some of the information that might otherwise be included in Party Reports is being collected through Advisory Committee Working Groups (in particular the Status and Trends Group) and through the ongoing collation by the Secretariat of information on the management and protection status of breeding sites. Obviously, there will be no need for Parties to repeat such information in their reports to the Secretariat and Advisory Committee.

## **Provision and collation of report for MOP2**

8. For MOP2, it is suggested that Parties are asked to provide electronic copies of reports in narrative form organised into the sections given in Attachment 2; and that this information is then collated by the Secretariat into the format outlined in Attachment 1 and provided to the Advisory Committee for comment and additions as appropriate. The Advisory Committee may wish to seek a 'volunteer' from amongst the Parties to the Agreement to prepare an example report that could be circulated to other Parties. Such an example report could usefully illustrate the level of detail required.
9. Reports from the Status and Trends and Taxonomy working Group will also contribute to appropriate sections of the Advisory Committee Report to MOP2 and these will be provided to the Secretariat by the chairs of the respective groups.

## **Timing of Report to MOP2**

10. The text of the Agreement (Article IX (6) d)) indicates that reports from the Advisory Committee to sessions of the Meeting of the Parties must be submitted to the Secretariat at least 120 days before the meeting. Subject to any direction from the Meeting of the Parties, the Committee may set such prior time limits for the submission of information by Parties.

## **ACTION BY ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

11. The Advisory Committee is asked to:
  - (i) consider and comment on the draft report formats for the Advisory Committee and Parties in attachments (1) and (2);
  - (ii) identify priority topics for inclusion in reports by Parties and the Advisory Committee to the second session of the Meeting of the Parties (MOP2);
  - (iii) consider the advice of the informal Scientific Meeting (paragraph 4 above) with respect to the requirements and formats for reporting under different topics;
  - (iv) agree the timing of Party (and Working Group if appropriate) reports to the Secretariat and Advisory Committee which will form the basis of the Advisory Committee report to MOP2 on the implementation of the Agreement;

- (v) consider opportunities for collation and dissemination of information in Party reports e.g. to provide reference information on good practice for albatross and petrel conservation

## ATTACHMENT 1

Draft format for Advisory Committee report to the Meeting of Parties on the implementation of the Agreement, with particular reference to the Action Plan and conservation measures undertaken (Article IX (6) d)).

It is proposed that the report will include the following sections AS APPROPRIATE depending on progress made with the implementation of the Agreement, the Advisory Committee Work Program, and priorities set by the Meeting of the Parties / Advisory Committee.

REPORT SECTION	ACTION PLAN REFERENCE	AC WORK PROGRAM REFERENCE	AGREEMENT REFERENCE
<b>Reporting Period</b>			
<b>Collation of information by Advisory Committee</b>	5.		
Assessment of the status and trends of populations of albatrosses and petrels	5.1 a)	2. (Status and Trends Working Group)	
Identification of internationally important breeding sites	5.1 b)	7.1, (3 also relevant)	
Review of foraging ranges, foraging areas, migration routes and migration patterns.	5.1 c)	4. (especially 4.1-4.3)	
Identification and assessment of known and suspected threats.	5.1 d)	5 (also 3 for breeding site threats)	III (1) c)
Identification of existing and new methods to avoid or mitigate threats	5.1 e)	6	III (1) c)
Review of data on the fishery-related mortality of albatrosses and petrels	5.1 f)	5.1	
Review of data on distribution and seasonality of effort in fisheries effecting albatrosses and petrels	5.1 g)	4.4	
Review of the status at breeding sites of introduced animals, plants and disease-causing organisms	5.1 h)	3 (this task is not specifically listed under 3 but is implied)	III (1) b)
Reviews of the nature of, coverage by and effectiveness of, protection arrangements for albatrosses and petrels	5.1 i)	3.4	
Review of recent and current research on albatrosses and petrels with relevance to their conservation status	5.1 j)		
Lists of authorities, research centres, scientists and non-governmental organisations concerned with albatrosses and petrels	5.1 k)		
Directory of legislation concerning albatrosses and petrels	5.1 l)	3 (some information on legislation requested in breeding sites proformas)	

<b>REPORT SECTION</b>	<b>ACTION PLAN REFERENCE</b>	<b>AC WORK PROGRAM REFERENCE</b>	<b>AGREEMENT REFERENCE</b>
Review of education and information programmes aimed at conserving albatrosses and petrels	5.1 m)		III (1) (e), (f)
Review of current taxonomy in relation to albatrosses in petrels	5.1 n)	1. (Taxonomy Working Group)	
Requirements for Conservation guidelines	7.1		
<b>Conservation status of ACAP species</b>			
Review of each species against the criteria for favourable conservation status.			II (1)
Emergency Criteria			VIII (11) e)
<b>Overview of Action Plan implementation</b>			
Summary of progress to date			
Outline of priorities for implementation over the next reporting period			
Outline of priorities for international cooperation over the next reporting period			
Outline of priorities for research over the next reporting period			III (1) d)
Overview of known or potential international funding mechanisms and any funding provided to Parties through the Agreement to assist implementation			

## ATTACHMENT 2

Proposed format for Party reports to the Secretariat and Advisory Committee (Article VII (1) c)).

As noted above, it is proposed that the report will include the following sections AS APPROPRIATE depending on progress made with the implementation of the Agreement, the Advisory Committee Work Program, and priorities set by the Meeting of the Parties / Advisory Committee.

REPORT SECTION	ACTION PLAN REFERENCE	AC WORK PROGRAM REFERENCE	AGREEMENT REFERENCE
<b>Reporting Period</b>			
<b>Overview of Implementation of Agreement and Action Plan</b>	7.		
Summary of progress to date and comments on implementation			
Resourcing of Action Plan implementation			
International cooperation over the implementation of the ACAP plan			
Outline of planned actions for national implementation over the next three years			
Outline of priorities for international cooperation over the next three years			
<b>Species conservation</b>			
Measures to eliminate, control or prevent introduction of non-native species to breeding sites	1.4	3 (information on management of non-native species will be collated)	III (1) b)
Report on any exemptions to prohibitions on the taking or harming of albatrosses and petrels			III (3)
Use and trade	1.1.1, 1.1.2		
Single or multi-species conservation strategies / Action Plans	1.1.3		
Emergency Measures	1.2		VIII (11) e)
Re-establishment schemes	1.3		
Any other conservation projects for ACAP species			
Legal and policy instruments for species protection of albatrosses and petrels	5.1 l)	3 (some information on legislation requested in breeding sites proformas)	
<b>Habitat conservation</b>			
Measures (legal and policy instruments and actions) to implement protection and management of breeding sites including habitat restoration.	2.2	3 (information on management plans and actions at breeding sites requested)	III (1) a)



<b>REPORT SECTION</b>	<b>ACTION PLAN REFERENCE</b>	<b>AC WORK PROGRAM REFERENCE</b>	<b>AGREEMENT REFERENCE</b>
Sustainable management of marine living resources which provide food for albatrosses and petrels	2.3.1 a)		
Management and protection of important marine areas for albatrosses and petrels	2.3.2, 2.3.3	4	
<b>Management of human activities</b>			
Legal and policy instruments for environmental impact assessments	3.1		
Report on EIAs related to albatrosses and petrels	3.1		
Measures to reduce or eliminate incidental mortality in fisheries	3.2	6	
Measures to combat IUU fishing	3.2.4	6	
Measures to minimise discharge of pollutants and marine debris (with reference to MARPOL)	2.3.1 b), 3.3		
Measures to minimise disturbance in marine and terrestrial habitats	3.3		
<b>Research and monitoring</b>			
Ongoing research programmes relating to the conservation of albatrosses and petrels.	4.1		
Observer programs to monitor fisheries bycatch of albatrosses and petrels	4.2	5.1	
National institutions (lists of authorities, research centres, scientists and non-governmental organisations) involved in albatross and petrel conservation			
<b>Education and public awareness</b>			
Dissemination of information / training for 'user audiences' e.g. scientists, fishermen, conservation bodies, and decision-makers	6.1		
Dissemination of information to the general public	6.2		
<b>Progress to implement Resolutions and Recommendations of the Meeting of the Parties</b>			
Summarise progress to implement decisions of previous Meetings of the Parties.			
<b>Bibliography</b> List of recent relevant publications (since the last report) including scientific and popular articles, videos, websites, pamphlets, manuals, identification guides etc.			