



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

**REPORT OF
THE ELEVENTH MEETING OF
THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

*Florianópolis, Brazil
13 – 17 May 2019*

LIST OF ACRONYMS

ABC	American Bird Conservancy
AC	Advisory Committee (AC1, AC2 etc. refer to the first, second, etc. meetings of the Advisory Committee)
ACAP	Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels
AIS	Automatic Identification System
AKP	Abercrombie and Kent Philanthropy
APEC	Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation forum
AUD	Australian Dollars
CCAMLR	Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources
CCSBT	Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
HSI	Humane Society International
IATTC	Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission
IOC	International Ornithological Congress
IOTC	Indian Ocean Tuna Commission
IPOA-Seabirds	International Plan of Action-Seabirds
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources
MoP	Meeting of the Parties (MoP1, MoP2 etc. refer to the first, second etc. Session of the Meeting of Parties)
MoU	Memorandum of understanding
NPOA-Seabirds	National Plan of Action – Seabirds
PaCSWG	Population and Conservation Status Working Group
RoP	Rules of Procedure
SBWG	Seabird Bycatch Working Group
SEAFO	South East Atlantic Fisheries Organisation
SIOFA	Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement
(t)RFMO	(tuna) Regional Fisheries Management Organisation
TWG	Taxonomy Working Group
UK	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
USA	United States of America
VMS	Vessel Monitoring System
WCPFC	Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission
WGs	Working Groups
WPEB	Working Party on Ecosystems and Bycatch

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1 OFFICIAL OPENING AND OPENING REMARKS

- 1.1 The Eleventh Meeting of the Advisory Committee (AC11) to the Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels (ACAP) was held in Florianópolis, Brazil, from 13 to 17 May 2019, with Mr Nathan Walker as Chair and Ms Tatiana Neves as Vice-chair.
- 1.2 Nine Parties were represented: Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Chile, Ecuador, New Zealand, Peru, the United Kingdom (UK) and Uruguay.
- 1.3 In addition, four Range States and one APEC member economy participated as observers: The Bahamas, Canada, Namibia, the United States of America (USA) and Chinese Taipei.
- 1.4 Humane Society International (HSI) and Projeto Albatroz attended the meeting as Observers.
- 1.5 The list of participants is provided in **ANNEX 1**. The list of meeting documents and information papers is provided in **ANNEX 2**.
- 1.6 The meeting opened with a welcoming speech by Mrs Marilia Marques Guimarães Marini, Head of Department of Species Conservation and Management, Ministry of the Environment, Brazil.
- 1.7 Mrs Marini welcomed the meeting participants and noted Brazil's long history of involvement in the Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels, a matter of fundamental importance for the country. She highlighted how Brazil's participation in ACAP had helped it develop relevant legal regulations and scientific research, and implement its National Plan of Action for the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels (PLANACAP).
- 1.8 Mrs Marini stressed that the success of efforts to conserve albatrosses and petrels was dependent on international coordination and cooperation. Given that albatrosses and petrels were highly migratory species, the activities of one country would have a profound effect on those elsewhere. Coordination was crucial to reverse the drastic decline in some migratory populations of albatrosses and petrels, among the most endangered bird species in the world.
- 1.9 On behalf of the Advisory Committee, the AC Chair thanked Mrs Marini for her words and good wishes for the meeting, and congratulated Brazil on its role in the conservation of albatrosses and petrels. The Chair urged all participants in the Advisory Committee to contribute towards a successful outcome from this meeting and progress with ACAP's objectives, with emphasis on the key challenges identified by MoP6.

2 ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

- 2.1 The AC Chair noted that Heads of Delegations had expressed interest in adding an additional item to the meeting agenda presented in **AC11 Doc 01**, to discuss the interaction between SBWG and PaCSWG and how best to consider issues of joint interest to both groups. The Advisory Committee

agreed to add this discussion to the agenda under Item 18. With this addition, the agenda was adopted (**ANNEX 3**).

3 RULES OF PROCEDURE

3.1 Consideration of Rule 20

- 3.1.1 The AC Chair recalled previous discussions on the amendment of Rule 20 (on the Establishment of Working Groups) that took place at AC7, AC8 and AC9, and noted that an intersessional contact group, including Argentina, Brazil, New Zealand and Uruguay, had been established at AC10 to further progress this issue.
- 3.1.2 The AC Chair noted that no paper had been submitted to the meeting (AC11) for consideration by the Advisory Committee.
- 3.1.3 Argentina expressed interest in continuing to discuss this matter, and recalled that it had previously developed a proposal to amend Rule 20, which is contained in Annex 4 of the AC8 meeting report as proposed draft text.
- 3.1.4 Argentina, Australia, Brazil, New Zealand, Uruguay, Canada and the USA agreed to progress the discussion of proposed amendments to Rule 20 intersessionally and report back to AC12.
- 3.1.5 The UK highlighted that any proposal to amend Rules of Procedure should be included in a formal AC meeting document submitted according to the prescribed deadline for the meeting, so that AC members are able to solicit guidance from their capitals in advance of the meeting.

4 REPORT OF THE DEPOSITARY

- 4.1 Australia tabled the Report of the Depositary Government to the Agreement ([AC11 Doc 07](#)), which indicated that there have been no new accessions or notifications to the Agreement since MoP6 in Skukuza, South Africa, 7 - 11 May 2018.
- 4.2 The USA provided an update about its progress towards accession to ACAP. For the third time, relevant legislation was introduced in Congress in February 2019. The legislation would authorise relevant agencies to implement conservation measures for ACAP Annex 1 species, such as mitigating bycatch, restoring habitat, reducing non-native species, developing educational programmes, and cooperating internationally on conservation efforts. A hearing was held within a subcommittee of the Committee on Natural Resources in the House of Representatives. Mr Ed Melvin (a long-standing member of the Seabird Bycatch Working Group) provided testimony during the hearing about the conservation and other benefits to the USA from accession. Further steps will need to be completed in the process of adopting the legislation. Meanwhile, the USA indicated it will continue to work with ACAP Parties and other key participants in efforts to conserve albatross and petrel species.

5 ACAP SECRETARIAT

5.1 Activities undertaken in 2018 - 2019 intersessional period

- 5.1.1 The Executive Secretary provided a report on activities undertaken by the Secretariat during the 2018 - 2019 intersessional period ([AC11 Doc 06](#)). The Executive Secretary recruitment process was finalised during this time, with the new Executive Secretary, Ms Christine Bogle, taking office on 1 December 2018. The outgoing Executive Secretary, Dr Marco Favero, was thanked for the excellent support he provided during the handover period and beyond. The assistance and patience of the Science Officer and other ACAP colleagues, especially the Chair and the Working Group convenors were also acknowledged.
- 5.1.2 The Secretariat provided support for a range of tasks in the Advisory Committee Work Programme, including the Small Grants and Secondments Programmes, internships, and the organisation of the current Advisory Committee and Working Group meetings. The local assistance of Mrs Patricia Serafini, and Mrs Tatiana Neves, with preparations for AC11 and related Working Group meetings was gratefully acknowledged. Actions and tasks in the Secretariat Work Programme also continued to be implemented.
- 5.1.3 The Secretariat and AC officials participated in a range of meetings, including the meeting of the FAO Committee on Fisheries, the SIOFA Meeting of the Parties, CCAMLR and its associated Scientific Committee meetings, a workshop on seabird bycatch mitigation options for Hawaii's pelagic longline fisheries, meetings of the WCPFC Scientific Committee, the IOTC's 14th Working Party on Ecosystems and Bycatch (WPEB14), and the SEAFO Scientific Committee and Commission meetings. Most recently, in February 2019, ACAP was represented at the FAO Common Oceans Tuna Project seabird bycatch assessment workshop in South Africa. Significant outcomes from these meetings included finalisation of MOUs with SIOFA and SEAFO, as approved by MoP6.
- 5.1.4 The Secretariat also continued to collaborate with Abercrombie and Kent Philanthropy (AKP) to raise external funds to support ACAP research into by-catch mitigation. This season's fund-raising totalled USD 4,600 (c. AUD 6,600), which was gratefully received.
- 5.1.5 Since the preparation of **AC11 Doc 06**, discussions (begun by the former Executive Secretary) were also completed with the FAO Common Oceans project about securing a contribution of AUD 28,600 towards the design, production and translation of the updated Seabird Bycatch ID Guide and mitigation fact sheets. Projects must be completed by 30 September 2019 to qualify for funding.
- 5.1.6 The Executive Secretary also highlighted an upcoming liaison visit to Ecuador, Peru and Chile, noting that visits to other ACAP Parties and Range States which might be encouraged to become Parties to ACAP will follow as appropriate and as timing allows.

- 5.1.7 The Advisory Committee thanked the Secretariat for its report and the additional updates provided.

5.2 Secretariat Work Programme 2019 - 2021

- 5.2.1 The Executive Secretary noted that the 2019 – 2021 Secretariat Work Programme (**AC11 Doc 12**) was adopted by Parties at MoP6. It was agreed that, if needed, the Secretariat Work Programme would be amended in line with the AC Work Programme to include any additional items requested by the Advisory Committee for action by the Secretariat in the current triennium (**ANNEX 5**).

6 AGREEMENT'S FINANCIAL MATTERS

6.1 Financial Report

- 6.1.1 The Executive Secretary noted that the MoP6 directed the Secretariat to reduce its financial reporting to two reports per year, one in February covering the first six months of the financial year (to 31 December), and a full-year audited report in September (1 July to 30 June). The most recent of those reports would then be presented to the relevant session of the Advisory Committee or Meeting of Parties.
- 6.1.2 The Executive Secretary presented the interim financial report for 2019 ([AC11 Doc 08 Rev 1](#)), including information on income and expenditures for Appropriations 1, 2, 3 and 4, as well as a summary of closing cash balances as at 31 December 2018 and a summary of outstanding contributions at 29 April 2019.
- 6.1.3 Expenditure is currently within budget allocations, and the cash on-hand in ACAP accounts is sufficient to meet all expected commitments for the 2019 financial year.
- 6.1.4 The Executive Secretary noted that the AC11 venue provided good value, which had enabled good levels of attendance of sponsored experts.
- 6.1.5 Parties' contributions for 2019 were due on 1 January. As at the end of April, the 2019 contributions from several Parties were still outstanding. Some Parties were in arrears for 2018 or even earlier (see Attachment 1 of **AC11 Doc 08 Rev 1**).
- 6.1.6 The Parties with outstanding contributions all provided an update on the challenges that had prevented payment of their contributions and undertook to dedicate additional effort to ensure the payments were received by the Secretariat as soon as possible.

7 OBSERVER REPORTS

7.1 Reports from ACAP Observers at international meetings

- 7.1.1 The Executive Secretary also reported on this matter under agenda item 5.1.
- 7.1.2 The Co-convenors of the Seabird Bycatch Working Group reported on meetings that they, and the Secretariat, had attended on behalf of ACAP during the intersessional period. These included meetings held by IOTC, WCPFC, IATTC, CCAMLR, and workshops held in support of the Common Oceans Tuna Project seabird bycatch assessment initiative. Summary reports of these meetings are provided in [SBWG9 Doc 07 Rev 1](#).
- 7.1.3 The AC Chair reported that he had represented ACAP at a workshop convened by the Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council to review seabird bycatch mitigation measures for Hawaii's pelagic longline fisheries. The workshop provided an opportunity to discuss bycatch mitigation approaches for these fisheries with mitigation experts. A summary report of the workshop was presented in [SBWG9 Inf 01](#).
- 7.1.4 Uruguay reported progress on a collaborative RFMO engagement process currently underway to assess the impact of fisheries on seabirds in the Atlantic and Indian oceans. The AC welcomed the initiative, and supported the suggestion by Uruguay to work towards a more harmonised approach to bycatch and mitigation issues in which bycatch and mitigation are considered across multiple taxa.
- 7.1.5 Peru reported that they are in the process of discussing with other members the possible revision of IATTC's seabird conservation measure (Resolution C-11-02) to bring it more in line with ACAP advice on reducing seabird bycatch in pelagic longline fisheries.
- 7.1.6 The USA expressed appreciation to Peru for initiating steps that could lead to a proposal to revise IATTC's Resolution C-11-02 on seabird bycatch mitigation measures.

7.2 Reports from Observers to AC11

- 7.2.1 Namibia and the USA reported on progress and actions undertaken during the intersessional period, with Namibia and the USA detailing specific progress achieved in their potential accession to the Agreement. Statements were also made by The Bahamas, Canada and Chinese Taipei. These statements are provided in **ANNEXES 7 to 11**.
- 7.2.2 Humane Society International and Projeto Albatroz also made statements to the meeting, which are provided in **ANNEXES 12 and 13**.

8 REPORT FROM THE SIXTH MEETING OF THE PARTIES

- 8.1 The AC Chair reported on the main outcomes of the Sixth Session of the Meeting of the Parties ([AC11 Doc 13](#)), addressing the operation of the

Secretariat, operation of the Advisory Committee and operation of the Agreement.

- 8.2 MoP6 noted that some progress had been achieved on the three priority areas identified at MoP5: i) improving the collection of data on seabird bycatch in relevant fisheries, ii) implementation of best practice seabird bycatch mitigation measures in relevant domestic and high seas fisheries, and iii) filling significant data gaps relating to population status and trends.
- 8.3 Notwithstanding the progress achieved since MoP5, MoP6 noted that much still needs to be done to address these three priority areas, which remain the key challenges for the Agreement. MoP6 agreed that addressing these key challenges is essential for reaching the objectives of the Agreement.
- 8.4 New Zealand thanked the AC Chair for providing a summary of the main matters arising from MoP6 of relevance to the AC, and noted that the process to further develop the ACAP seabird bycatch indicators has been hampered by the lack of fisheries and bycatch information provided to the Secretariat.
- 8.5 The AC highlighted the importance of being able to measure the performance of the Agreement through the suite of ACAP Indicators that have been agreed for this purpose, and urged Parties, collaborating Range States and Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) member economies to use the online reporting template to provide bycatch information to the Secretariat as soon as possible.
- 8.6 The AC welcomed the progress and outcomes achieved at MoP6, particularly the adoption of Resolution 6.8, which enables any member economy of the APEC forum whose vessels fish within the range of albatrosses and petrels to participate as an observer in sessions of the Meeting of Parties and its subsidiary bodies, with the understanding that this in no way affects the respective views of Parties about the legal status of any member economy of APEC.

9 POPULATION AND CONSERVATION STATUS OF ALBATROSSES AND PETRELS

9.1 Report of the Population and Conservation Status Working Group

- 9.1.1 The Co-convenor of the Population and Conservation Status Working Group (PaCSWG), Prof Richard Phillips, introduced the report of the Fifth Meeting of the PaCSWG ([AC11 Doc 09](#)). This report outlined intersessional progress against the Work Programme of the PaCSWG adopted at MoP6 in 2018, and also reflected discussions and advice resulting from the meeting (PaCSWG5) held from 9 to 10 May 2019 in Florianópolis, Brazil.
- 9.1.2 The Advisory Committee agreed the following advice based on recommendations from PaCSWG5 and took note of it when updating the AC Work Programme:

9.1.3 Threats and prioritisation

- (i) Commended the advances that are being achieved in planning and implementing large-scale eradication programmes for non-native species that will ultimately benefit the status of ACAP species.
- (ii) Recognised the importance of mapping areas of greatest overlap and potential bycatch risk, including for higher risk and bycatch-aggravating species such as White-chinned Petrels, *Procellaria aequinoctialis* (which are deeper divers and more nocturnally active), and for birds of different age and sex in order to identify higher risk regions where increased enforcement of compliance with bird bycatch mitigation requirements and improved bycatch monitoring are required.
- (iii) Encouraged further research on the possible effects of noise pollution on the distribution and abundance of ACAP species at sea.
- (iv) Encouraged data-holders to submit their tracking data to the BirdLife International Seabird Tracking Database to enable analyses of overlap and interactions between ACAP species and fisheries.

9.1.4 Data gaps

- (i) Encouraged ACAP Parties and Range States responsible for breeding populations of ACAP species to implement the priority monitoring programmes to increase current knowledge of their population size, trends and demography.
- (ii) Encouraged ACAP Parties and others to undertake the identified priority tracking studies, including those applicable to the bycatch-aggravating, more proficient diving and most nocturnally active species, particularly White-chinned *P. aequinoctialis* and Grey Petrel *Procellaria cinerea* and some of the bycaught species of shearwater.
- (iii) Encouraged non-Party Range States and others to seek opportunities for population and genetic studies of Short-tailed Albatrosses *Phoebastria albatrus* at its western-most current breeding site.

9.1.5 ACAP priority populations

- (i) Advised and encouraged Peru and Ecuador to implement the Waved Albatross *Phoebastria irrorata* Action Plan to the extent possible.
- (ii) Supported the establishment of an ad hoc intersessional group including members of PaCSWG, SBWG, and others to provide advice, when requested, on priority conservation actions for ACAP Priority Populations, e.g. the Waved Albatross *P. irrorata*. Such requests would be made to the ACAP Secretariat in the first instance.

9.1.6 Best practice guidelines and other online resources

- (i) Encouraged the development of guidelines for mitigating the impact of artificial lights on land for ACAP species.
- (ii) Encouraged researchers to use the guidelines and sampling protocols outlined in [PaCSWG5 Doc 05](#) when sampling albatrosses and petrels to

- assess plastic ingestion and contamination from plastic-derived chemicals.
- 9.1.7 The UK highlighted the importance of the ACAP Species Assessments, and that the revision of these assessments should be afforded a high priority. The UK also recommended that the Secretariat should make greater use of experts from the Working Groups, and others to progress the updates.
- 9.1.8 The AC discussed the IUCN Red List process, which depends on proposals for discussion forums for species for which evidence suggests a possible change in conservation status. It was noted that there is no formal process for submitting such proposals, which can be submitted by any expert. It is hoped that ACAP and its Parties can provide information through the updated Species Assessments in time for the 2020 assessment, and this might include proposing and engaging in the discussion forums.
- 9.1.9 The Convenor of the Taxonomy Working Group (TWG), Mr Mark Tasker, noted that ACAP documents and tables used varying approaches in the application of common and scientific nomenclature for ACAP species.
- 9.1.10 The Convenor of the TWG prepared a draft reference table in which the English, Spanish, French and Portuguese common names are included together with the scientific names to address this issue. The AC agreed that the draft reference table should also include the FAO code for each species. The meeting requested TWG to complete this reference table intersessionally with a view to bringing a paper to AC12.
- 9.1.11 The AC also recommended that in all ACAP reports every reference to species should include the scientific name. In English reports, first mention of the species should include both the common name and scientific name, with subsequent references including the common name and a truncated scientific name. In other languages, the scientific name alone would be used. Tables should use shortened versions of the scientific name. Common names should be capitalised as per the reference table.
- 9.1.12 Australia reported that they had recently developed draft national light pollution guidelines that would be made available when finalised to help inform ACAP's development of advice for mitigating the impact of artificial lights on land and at sea on ACAP species.
- 9.1.13 Chile reported that they are formally collaborating with New Zealand to improve the conservation status of Antipodean Albatrosses *Diomedea antipodensis*. The AC welcomed the collaboration.
- 9.1.14 Chile suggested that it would be useful to investigate the use of Automatic Identification System (AIS) and Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) data to better understand overlap of seabirds with fishing vessels and the associated risk.
- 9.1.15 Uruguay reported that the FAO is currently developing a global atlas of fisheries distribution and capacity using AIS data, which could provide another useful source of information for such work.

- 9.1.16 Uruguay highlighted that AIS data provide a useful tool to help understand potential interactions between seabirds and fishing vessels, but that there are biases and limitations of the data that need to be considered in any compliance or related processes.
- 9.1.17 Australia recalled that this issue had been discussed by the SBWG, which had considered that the use of AIS and VMS has the potential to enhance reporting and compliance with mitigation requirements, such as night-setting, and that further innovation in independent monitoring technologies and techniques was encouraged.
- 9.1.18 The AC noted the results of the large-scale beach monitoring project along the southern and southeastern coast of Brazil, commending Brazil for the scope and scale of this work. Given the large numbers of ACAP species recorded washed up on these Brazilian beaches, the AC highlighted the importance of determining the causes of these mortalities so that efforts could be directed towards addressing them, as appropriate. It would be important to know, for example, not only the extent to which fisheries might be a contributing factor, but which specific fisheries.
- 9.1.19 The AC encouraged further work on this subject to gain an understanding of the factors involved in these large-scale mortalities, and that this be done using a collaborative approach.
- 9.1.20 With respect to the data gap regarding the western-most current breeding site of Short-tailed Albatross *P. albatrus*, an intersessional group offered to explore options for enabling monitoring of this population.
- 9.1.21 The AC thanked the PaCSWG and its Convenors for their considerable work and report.

9.2 Future PaCSWG Work Programme

- 9.2.1 The Work Programme of the PaCSWG is outlined in sections 2 and 5 of the AC Work Programme (**ANNEX 4**). The Committee endorsed this Work Programme following discussion under Agenda Item 12.1.

10 TAXONOMY OF ALBATROSSES AND PETRELS

10.1 Report of the Taxonomy Working Group

- 10.1.1 The TWG Convenor advised the meeting that no report had been submitted by the TWG as there were no active tasks to report on since the last AC, but that the TWG is always available to respond to any issues that may arise, as per its Terms of Reference.
- 10.1.2 Australia requested a report be submitted to AC12 on changes to the taxonomy of Procellariiformes arising in the intersessional period, and suggested that this could be an ongoing task for the TWG.

- 10.1.3 The TWG Convenor advised that the TWG does keep up to date with such changes and confirmed that there have been no recent amendments to names or to the taxonomic treatment of the relevant species. The IOC list of species is updated every six months but there have been no changes within the Procellariiformes. He also confirmed that the most recent version of the IOC list would always be used when updating the suitability and priority of candidate species for listing on Annex 1 of the Agreement.

10.2 Future TWG Work Programme

- 10.2.1 The Work Programme of the TWG is outlined in sections 1 and 5 of the AC Work Programme (**ANNEX 4**). The Committee endorsed this Work Programme following discussion under Agenda Item 12.1.

11 SEABIRD BYCATCH

11.1 Report of the Seabird Bycatch Working Group

- 11.1.1 Co-convenor of the Seabird Bycatch Working Group (SBWG), Dr Anton Wolfaardt, introduced the report of the Ninth Meeting of the Seabird Bycatch Working Group (SBWG9) held from 6 - 8 May 2019, in Florianópolis, Brazil. This report ([AC11 Doc 10](#)) outlined intersessional progress against the SBWG Work Programme, as well as discussions and advice resulting from SBWG9
- 11.1.2 The Advisory Committee agreed the following advice based on recommendations from SBWG9 and took note of it when developing the AC Work Programme:
- 11.1.3 ACAP best practice seabird bycatch mitigation criteria and definition
- (i) Encouraged collaboration by ACAP with organisations working on the reduction of bycatch of other taxa to facilitate a co-ordinated approach to bycatch assessment and management.
- 11.1.4 Seabird bycatch mitigation in trawl fisheries
- (i) Endorsed the changes to the Summary Best Practice Advice for Reducing the Impact of Pelagic and Demersal Trawl Fisheries on Seabirds (included in ANNEX 2 of the SBWG9 report: **AC11 Doc 10**).
 - (ii) Encouraged implementation of the identified research priorities for bycatch mitigation in trawl fisheries identified in Section 5.3 of the SBWG9 report (**AC11 Doc 10**).
- 11.1.5 Seabird bycatch mitigation in demersal longline fisheries
- (i) Encouraged intersessional work to collate and review available information on the nature and extent of seabird bycatch associated with floated demersal longlines, and ways to increase the sink rate of, or alternative mitigation options for, this gear.
 - (ii) Encouraged Parties and others to prioritise research to identify mitigation measures that improve the sink rate of baited hooks on floated

demersal longlines, and to keep the Working Group informed of developments associated with research on seabird mortality and mitigation in demersal longline fisheries.

11.1.6 Seabird bycatch mitigation in pelagic longline fisheries

- (i) Endorsed the ACAP advice on improving safety when hauling branchlines during pelagic longline operations (provided in ANNEX 4 of the SBWG9 report: **AC11 Doc 10**).
- (ii) Endorsed the updated review and best practice advice for reducing the impact of pelagic longline fisheries on seabirds related to branchline weighting and night-setting contained in ANNEX 3 of the SBWG9 report: **AC11 Doc 10**.
- (iii) Encouraged implementation of the research priorities identified in Section 7.3 of the SBWG9 report (**AC11 Doc 10**) for reducing seabird bycatch associated with pelagic longline gear.

11.1.7 Seabird bycatch mitigation in gillnet fisheries

- (i) Encouraged Parties and others to keep the SBWG informed of developments in research on seabird mortality and mitigation in gillnet fisheries, and other relevant information in order to allow future discussion of priority research activities and best practice.
- (ii) Encouraged Parties and others to complete a comprehensive literature review of all gillnet mitigation research across taxa before SBWG10.

11.1.8 Assessment of risks posed to ACAP species from net fishing methods other than gillnet and trawl

- (i) Endorsed the development and dissemination of a stand-alone document for the toolbox advice for reducing the impact of purse seine nets on seabirds and the development and inclusion of introductory text explaining the purpose of the toolbox and its application (toolbox advice provided in ANNEX 5 of the SBWG9 report: **AC11 Doc 10**).
- (ii) Encouraged implementation of research on purse seine gear mitigation with the following priorities: i) deterrents; ii) physical barriers; iii) night-setting; iv) modifications to net design; v) improved safe release practices if birds are caught.

11.1.9 Artisanal and small-scale fisheries

- (i) Endorsed the mitigation toolbox providing advice on reducing seabird bycatch in artisanal and small-scale fisheries provided in ANNEX 6 of the SBWG9 report: **AC11 Doc 10**.
- (ii) Endorsed making the toolbox available on the ACAP website following the development and inclusion of introductory text explaining the purpose of the toolbox and its application.
- (iii) Encouraged further intersessional work to populate the toolboxes with available information and report back to future meetings.

11.1.10 Laser technology to mitigate seabird bycatch

- (i) Encouraged Parties and others to keep SBWG informed of developments in research and information on the safety to seabirds and humans of using laser technology as a tool for seabird bycatch mitigation
- (ii) Expressed serious concerns regarding bird welfare issues associated with continued marketing and increasing use of laser technology to mitigate seabird bycatch, and considered that it should be the manufacturer's responsibility to demonstrate these devices do not cause damage to seabirds prior to marketing them.

11.1.11 Drivers and barriers in the uptake of best practice seabird bycatch mitigation measures

- (i) Endorsed the development of a communication strategy and communications products that highlight:
 - a. The ongoing conservation crisis facing albatrosses and petrels,
 - b. Best practice fishing methods (perhaps by providing a toolbox of best practices),
 - c. Success stories,
 - d. Overcoming impediments to implementation,
 - e. Other information resources available from ACAP,
 - f. Modelling on the extinction threat faced by ACAP species.
- (ii) Endorsed the investigation of opportunities to broaden the range of expertise available to ACAP to contribute to future considerations in this area (including media and socio-economic experts).
- (iii) Endorsed the recommendation to engage with certification schemes by contributing to the review of fisheries certification standards relevant to bycatch to encourage these to be fully informed by ACAP advice.
- (iv) Requested that the ACAP Secretariat asks fishery certification schemes to notify it of new applications and to then pass on notifications as information to relevant ACAP Parties and/or SBWG members.

11.1.12 ACAP performance indicators: seabird bycatch

- (i) Re-iterated the importance of bycatch data being made available to progress the work on indicators and urged all ACAP Parties and collaborating Range States to use the reporting template to provide bycatch information as soon as possible.
- (ii) Supported intersessional work to complete the data collection guidelines for observer programmes before the dissemination of this advice.

11.1.13 Co-ordination of activities relating to RFMOs

- (i) Supported implementation of the prioritised key areas for engagement with RFMOs and CCAMLR, as identified in ANNEX 9 of the SBWG9

report (**AC11 Doc 10**), and continued provision of the resources necessary to achieve this.

- (ii) Discussed approaches for ACAP Parties and collaborating Range States to collaborate and coordinate efforts at RFMOs and CCAMLR, including during intersessional periods, and between RFMOs and CCAMLR.

11.1.14 Electronic monitoring

- (i) Supported the planned intersessional work on further developing advice regarding the use of electronic monitoring of seabird bycatch and mitigation use, and encouraged Parties and others to participate in this work.

11.1.15 Risk assessment

- (i) Encouraged ACAP Parties and others to consider and take into account the potentially low subsequent survival rate of birds captured alive and released, when producing ecological risk assessments, and other approaches for assessing impacts of fisheries bycatch on seabird populations.
- (ii) Recommended that in addition to recording seabird mortality, observer programmes should always collect data on the circumstances, species, age, and condition of birds captured alive and released.
- (iii) Emphasised the need for more studies of survival of live-caught birds, particularly in longline fisheries.
- (iv) Encouraged ACAP Parties and others to consider the importance of cryptic mortality when assessing impacts of fisheries bycatch on ACAP species, and consider the range of possible values based on different studies.
- (v) Encouraged the use of modelling of the distribution of all life stages of albatross and petrel populations in order to better understand the overlap of ACAP species with fisheries.

11.1.16 Deliberate take and killing of ACAP species

- (i) Encouraged Parties and others to provide relevant information on the nature and extent of deliberate take of ACAP species at sea, while noting that such take is prohibited under the Agreement.
- (ii) Encouraged Parties and others to provide relevant information on accidental captures (bycatch) culminating in practices leading to bill mutilation.

11.1.17 FAO IPOA/NPOA-Seabirds

- (i) Encouraged ACAP Parties that do not have a National Plan of Action – Seabirds (NPOA-Seabirds) to, as relevant, prepare and adopt a plan that fully complies with FAO's Best Practice Technical Guidelines, taking into account the elements of best practice identified in [SBWG9 Doc 22](#).

- (ii) Encouraged Parties with an existing NPOA-Seabirds to review their plans and strengthen them, as applicable, to ensure full compliance with FAO's Technical Guidelines, taking into account the elements of best practice identified in **SBWG9 Doc 22**.

11.1.18 Listing of species on Annex 1

- (i) Endorsed further work on the prioritisation criteria for ACAP species by SBWG and PaCSWG, so that Table 1 of [AC11 Inf 04](#) can be revised and presented at AC12.

11.1.19 Mitigation Fact Sheets

- (i) Supported the update of the remaining Mitigation Fact Sheets to the new simplified format in a phased approach prioritising measures that are considered best practice, and allocated funding to achieve this aim. This includes the finalization and production of the new format Mitigation Fact Sheets for line weighting and hook- shielding devices.
- (ii) Endorsed further work on the guide to removing entangled seabirds from nets.

11.1.20 During the presentation of the SBWG report, a number of points were made by delegates regarding particular recommendations, but the debate also extended to wider overarching themes and ideas. The discussion that ensued is summarised below.

11.1.21 The AC highlighted the ongoing conservation crisis facing albatrosses and petrels, and considered an urgent response is required. The AC also agreed that the conservation crisis should be given prominence on the ACAP website.

11.1.22 It was noted by some members of the AC that in their fisheries a small number of vessels pose a disproportionate amount of risk to seabirds, with higher bycatch than the rest of the fleet, and that this poses challenges for rigorously estimating bycatch levels for an entire fleet.

11.1.23 Compliance with conservation and management measures relevant to seabird bycatch was highlighted by the AC as an important area in which ACAP should engage as part of the RFMO strategy. The AC requested that the SBWG investigate further and provide specific proposals on realising compliance with the recommended best practice measures for seabird bycatch mitigation. This could include: (a) addressing the real-world situation facing RFMOs and Range States when establishing feasible, efficient and effective approaches to improving the reporting and regulation of fishing operations concerning impacts on seabirds, particularly ACAP-listed albatrosses and petrels; (b) examining the potential of innovative approaches for the independent monitoring of fishing operations and providing advice responding to any implementation issues; and (c) designing adaptive management approaches to assist individual fishing vessels and/or fishing fleets with implementation issues.

11.1.24 Chile noted that some fishers are using lasers to mitigate seabird bycatch in Chilean waters, likely due to ease of use and purported effectiveness. Further

advice on the appropriateness of lasers regarding seabird safety would aid Range States in managing their use appropriately.

- 11.1.25 The AC considered that it was preferable to refer to 'drivers and barriers' in future with positive language, e.g. 'enhancing the uptake of mitigation'.
- 11.1.26 The AC stressed that ACAP's communication strategy should highlight and send clear signals to RFMOs about the conservation crisis facing many seabird populations, particularly endangered albatrosses and petrels. RFMOs needed to actively consider ways to reduce the impacts that fisheries under their jurisdiction have on seabirds.
- 11.1.27 The AC agreed that another key element of the communication strategy would be to highlight that ACAP's best practice mitigation advice recommends simultaneous use of three measures in pelagic longline fisheries, and recent information indicates: a) night-setting is both highly effective and increasingly able to be monitored through independent technologies and techniques, and b) ACAP's recommended branchline weighting configurations significantly reduce seabird bycatch without affecting catch rates of target species.
- 11.1.28 The AC agreed that RFMOs need to take urgent action to improve ways to ensure the effective implementation of seabird bycatch mitigation measures and to enhance reporting of the impacts of fishing on seabirds. The AC recognised there was considerable value in moving to an outcome-based focus on reducing seabird bycatch, and in exploring innovative approaches for the independent monitoring of fishing operations.
- 11.1.29 The AC agreed that engaging with fisheries certification schemes to ensure that their underlying standards align with ACAP advice on best practice mitigation is important for the Agreement, as well as potentially increasing the reach of ACAP to more fisheries.
- 11.1.30 The AC discussed a suggestion proposed during SBWG to draft a Resolution committing ACAP Parties to implement measures (e.g. ACAP Best Practice) in their nationally managed fisheries so that ACAP Parties could demonstrate leadership on bycatch mitigation implementation to RFMOs and other non-ACAP Parties.
- 11.1.31 Some Parties considered that stronger instruction from ACAP, e.g. a Resolution, would help considerably in the implementation of best practice mitigation in their fisheries. Other Parties indicated that a Resolution was not preferred as variation in governance would make this challenging to implement across all Parties. Concerns were also raised about the complexities this would imply for the Agreement, as it would require a compliance monitoring mechanism, and it was noted that other instruments and organisations already have legally binding mechanisms and compliance structures.
- 11.1.32 The AC expressed concern that without an improved understanding of the data and estimates available on seabird bycatch it is difficult to make progress on measuring the seabird bycatch performance indicators. The AC urged Parties to contribute to the online database as early as possible to allow time

for any assistance from the Secretariat or others. Further discussion on this was covered under Agenda Items 8 and 13.

- 11.1.33 The AC highlighted that RFMOs represent a critical mechanism for ACAP to progress its conservation objectives, and that efforts should continue to strengthen ACAP's advice and influence in RFMOs to facilitate the more widespread adoption and use of best practice approaches to reducing seabird bycatch.
- 11.1.34 The AC noted that the consideration of seabird bycatch and mitigation, and the associated data collection requirements, were challenging in an RFMO context, as RFMOs have a primary objective of managing fish stocks. However, it was noted that there are some positive collaborative analyses underway in several RFMOs.
- 11.1.35 It was noted that it is important for ACAP to remain engaged in RFMO processes to ensure that seabird conservation matters remain an important item on the agendas of RFMOs. The limited resources and capacity available to the AC and the Secretariat for such engagement were noted, highlighting the need for a strategic approach to RFMO engagement.
- 11.1.36 Chile noted that they would shortly implement electronic monitoring on all their larger vessels to monitor bycatch of protected species and discards. Parties congratulated Chile on progressing this approach and requested Chile to share its experience from this programme at the next meeting of the AC.

11.2 Future SBWG Work Programme

- 11.2.1 The Work Programme of the SBWG is outlined in sections 3 and 5 of the AC Work Programme (**ANNEX 4**). The Committee endorsed this Work Programme following discussion under Agenda Item 12.1.

12 ADVISORY COMMITTEE

12.1 Advisory Committee Work Programme 2019 - 2021

- 12.1.1 The 2019 - 2021 Work Programme (**AC11 Doc 11**) was reviewed during the meetings of SBWG9 and PaCSWG5, and was further discussed by the AC. Completed actions were noted and further actions were decided upon. Some actions were amended to better describe the topic or task. A number of possible opportunities for secondments were also noted. An updated version of the Work Programme for the current triennium was agreed (**ANNEX 4**).
- 12.1.2 Some actions in the Work Programme have a cost indicated against them (in Australian dollars). These figures are indicative only. The cost of work to implement the Work Programme that is carried out by Parties, Range States, Observer Organisations and the Secretariat, and many scientists on their budgets and in their time, is not included.

12.2 Agreement Grant Scheme

- 12.2.1 The AC Chair advised that a successful funding round for small grants was held in 2017 - 2018. Ten project proposals were received and six of those were funded. [AC11 Inf 02](#) summarises progress with those projects as well as with the four secondments supported. Several of these have already reported in detail to the SBWG and PaCSWG. The AC highlighted the success of both the small grant and secondment schemes in terms of capacity building and seabird conservation research.
- 12.2.2 The Secretariat noted that the website re-design planned for later this year will be a good opportunity to better showcase both schemes and the good outcomes achieved through the many projects supported to date.
- 12.2.3 The next call for applications for both programmes will be held in the second half of 2019 with approximately AUD 115,000 available for Small Grants and approximately AUD 20,000 available for Secondments in that round.
- 12.2.4 Chile thanked the Secretariat for arranging the Chilean secondments as well as the Parties that hosted the secondees, and welcomed the continuation of this worthwhile programme.

12.3 Agreement Secondment Programme

- 12.3.1 This agenda item was considered under item 12.2.

12.4 Outcomes of projects and secondments supported

- 12.4.1 This agenda item was considered under item 12.2

12.5 Capacity Building Strategy

- 12.5.1 The AC Chair noted that the Capacity Building Strategy ([MoP6 Doc 22](#)) was endorsed by MoP6.

13 INDICATORS TO MEASURE THE SUCCESS OF ACAP

- 13.1 The Co-convenor of the SBWG noted that in order to progress the Seabird Bycatch indicators, Parties and collaborating Range States needed to provide bycatch information through the new reporting template. Data can be provided at any time. Parties and collaborating Range States were encouraged to commence this process as soon as possible. Information on zero bycatch or no data in any fisheries is also important, as are any comments on the reporting template itself.
- 13.2 New Zealand recalled that the development of bycatch indicators was a clear instruction from MoP6 and a key priority for the Agreement. This was discussed under Agenda Items 8 and 11.

- 13.3 The PaCSWG Co-convenor noted that there is already a set of indicators in use for breeding site management, population monitoring and trends, as well as tracking data. These are dependent on a timely provision of information not only to the ACAP database but also to the Seabird Tracking Database curated by BirdLife International, and all data holders were encouraged to do so.
- 13.4 Australia suggested that advance notice, three months before the formal opening of the annual online reports may help facilitate domestic consultations concerning provision of data.
- 13.5 The provision of data against capacity building indicators was also discussed. The AC noted that two capacity building indicators were adopted by MoP6 ([MoP6 Doc 21](#)):
- INDICATOR 1. Number of meetings, workshops, trainings and other events where ACAP has assisted technically or financially to build capacities among Parties.
- INDICATOR 2. Evolution in the number and range of meetings, workshops, trainings and other capacity building events since the Party ratified the Agreement.
- 13.6 The AC noted that these will need to be reported against for AC12 and the information will be collected through the online national reporting template.

14 LISTING OF NEW SPECIES

- 14.1 The AC Chair reported that no proposals had been submitted to list new species in Annex 1 of the Agreement.
- 14.2 The AC noted that following the recommendation and endorsement by AC10 and MoP6 respectively, to adopt the IOC taxonomy, the remaining task is for PaCSWG and SBWG to finalise the prioritisation criteria. On the basis of these updates, revised scores for all Procellariiformes will be presented to AC12.
- 14.3 The AC noted that MoP6 adopted Resolution 6.1 to remove the *Puffinus creatopus* synonym, leaving only *Ardenna creatopus* as the nomenclature for the species.
- 14.4 The AC noted that any Party preparing a nomination for listing a species under Annex 1 should notify the Secretariat as early as possible, and should ensure that the nomination, together with the accompanying documentation, is presented to the AC prior to the MoP. [AC8 Doc 24 Rev 2](#) outlines the steps involved in the listing process to ensure that the timeframes are met.
- 14.5 New Zealand reported that based on current listing prioritisation advice and knowledge of shared threats with other ACAP-listed species, they were considering the merit of nominating the Flesh-footed Shearwater *Puffinus carneipes*.

- 14.6 Ecuador reported that they were in the process of preparing the necessary information for the re-nomination of the Galapagos Petrel *Pterodroma phaeopygia*.
- 14.7 HSI suggested that Great-winged Petrel *Pterodroma macroptera* and Grey-faced Petrel *Pterodroma gouldi* might be other candidate species for nomination.

15 BIBLIOGRAPHIC REFERENCES

- 15.1 The AC Chair informed the meeting that a disclaimer on bibliographic references was agreed at MoP6, and that this footnote had been implemented by the Secretariat for papers submitted to SBWG9 and PaCSWG5.
- 15.2 Argentina acknowledged that a lot of progress had been made on this and related issues at MoP6, and in general was pleased with the balanced approach achieved. However, it believes that the footnote was intended to not only refer to bibliographic references, but also to any reference or mention of disputed territories elsewhere in the text of the relevant papers. Argentina stated that it would work intersessionally with Parties to resolve any doubt about the application of this disclaimer if the Rules of Procedure allow such an approach. Such consultation with the MoP would be not to modify the text, but rather to clarify the application of the disclaimer.

16 ELECTION AND APPOINTMENT OF AC OFFICERS

- 16.1 The AC Chair reminded the meeting that all of the Committee officer positions concluded at the end of the current meeting, but some were eligible to be considered for re-election. Elections would be required to elect officers for the next period, which will conclude at the end of the AC meeting after the Seventh Meeting of Parties (AC 13 in 2022). He asked in turn for nominations:
- 16.2 Convenor, Taxonomy Working Group: Argentina proposed Mark Tasker (UK), who was elected unopposed.
- 16.3 Vice-convenor, Taxonomy Working Group: the UK proposed Mike Double (Australia), who was elected unopposed.
- 16.4 Co-convenors: Population and Conservation Status Working Group: Peru nominated Patricia Pereira Serafini (Brazil), and the UK nominated Marco Favero (Argentina), who were both elected unopposed.
- 16.5 Vice-convenor: Population and Conservation Status Working Group: Brazil nominated Richard Phillips (UK), who was elected unopposed.
- 16.6 Co-convenors: Seabird Bycatch Working Group: Brazil nominated Anton Wolfaardt (UK), and Australia nominated Igor Debski (New Zealand), who were both elected unopposed.
- 16.7 Vice-convenors: Seabird Bycatch Working Group: New Zealand nominated Sebastián Jiménez (Uruguay), and Uruguay nominated Juan Pablo Seco Pon

(Argentina), who were both elected unopposed.

- 16.8 Vice-chair, Advisory Committee: Uruguay nominated Tatiana Neves (Brazil), who was elected unopposed.
- 16.9 Chair, Advisory Committee: the UK nominated Nathan Walker (New Zealand), who was elected unopposed.
- 16.10 AC11 congratulated all of the elected AC officials on their appointments and thanked the out-going officials for their contribution to ACAP's work.

17 TWELFTH MEETING OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

17.1 Timing and Venue

- 17.1.1 Ecuador offered to host AC12 in 2020, either in the Galapagos Islands, or at a mainland location, the final decision regarding the venue being subject to cost considerations.
- 17.1.2 The Advisory Committee warmly welcomed this offer.

17.2 Draft Agenda

- 17.2.1 A draft agenda for AC12 was reviewed by the Advisory Committee (**ANNEX 6**) and will be forwarded to Parties for their consideration ahead of AC12.

18 OTHER BUSINESS

18.1 Interaction between SBWG and PaCSWG

- 18.1.1 The AC discussed how to best address cross-cutting and overarching issues relevant to both SBWG and PaCSWG. It was agreed that a joint meeting of these two Working Groups would be held on the first morning previously assigned to PaCSWG, to collectively explore agenda items on risk assessment, listing of new species, priority populations, overlapping tools and guidelines, and any other cross-cutting issues that emerged from papers submitted. A separate report on this session would be submitted to the AC. The draft Agenda for AC12 was amended to reflect this. It was suggested that if the Convenors of PaCSWG and SBWG, having looked at the papers likely to be submitted to their WGs, considered that more time than one morning was required for these joint agenda items, then the joint meeting might start on the afternoon of the final day assigned to SBWG.
- 18.1.2 The discussion highlighted the need for authors to advise the WG Convenors and the Secretariat of intended meeting papers at the earliest opportunity. It was suggested that an earlier deadline for paper titles could assist with planning of the agendas and the structure of the meetings, noting that the AC Rules of Procedure did not specify such deadlines. AC RoP Rule 17 could be the focus of intersessional work to develop a proposed amendment to

formalise this timeline. Alternatively, voluntary early notification from authors could be called for by the WG Convenors to assist in their planning.

- 18.2 The meeting also discussed the merit of establishing a World Albatross Day as described in [AC11 Inf 05](#). There was considerable support for this initiative, as it aligned well with the aim of giving the Agreement greater visibility. It was thought that it could initially be modest in scope, without requiring large resources.
- 18.3 An intersessional group was formed to explore this proposal further comprising Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Chile, Ecuador, the Information Officer, Projeto Albatroz, and the UK, to be led by Verónica López from Chile. Consultation was also proposed with Birdlife International about their potential involvement with this initiative.
- 18.4 HSI and Projeto Albatroz also offered to assist with resourcing this initiative where they could.

19 ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

- 19.1 The meeting adopted the report of AC11.

20 CLOSING REMARKS

- 20.1 The Chair concluded the meeting by reflecting on the considerable changes that Advisory Committee meetings had undergone since he took up the position in 2016. In the intervening period significant progress had been made on procedural issues which had previously taken up a good deal of time; with those issues largely resolved, AC11 had been able to concentrate on its key priorities - the conservation challenges facing albatrosses and petrels. Through the combined efforts of all participants, the meeting had focused on several important on-going issues and had also identified some new initiatives. The Chair thanked all participants for their excellent engagement and particularly welcomed two new observer delegations – The Bahamas and Chinese Taipei, who were attending for the first time.
- 20.2 The Advisory Committee thanked the Chair, Vice-chair, Working Group Convenors and Vice-convenors, Secretariat officials, interpreters, technicians and all who had contributed to making the meeting a success. The host country, Brazil, was thanked for its excellent hosting of the meeting and side-events. Thanks were also extended to the staff of Hotel Il Campanario Villaggio for their first rate services.

ANNEX 1. LIST OF MEETING PARTICIPANTS

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ANNEX 2. LIST OF MEETING DOCUMENTS

WORKING DOCUMENTS			
Paper	Title	Agenda Item	Submitted by
AC11 Doc 01	Draft Meeting Agenda	2	Advisory Committee, Secretariat
AC11 Doc 02	Annotated Draft Agenda	2	AC Chair
AC11 Doc 03	Meeting Schedule	2	AC Chair, Secretariat
AC11 Doc 04 Rev 1	List of Meeting Participants	2	Secretariat
AC11 Doc 05	List of Meeting Documents	2	AC Chair, Secretariat
AC11 Doc 06	Secretariat Report	5.1	Secretariat
AC11 Doc 07	Report of Depositary Government on the Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels (Canberra, 19 June 2001)	4	Australia
AC11 Doc 08 Rev 1	2019 Interim Financial Report	6.1	Secretariat
AC11 Doc 09	Report of Population and Conservation Status Working Group	9.1	PaCSWG Convenors
AC11 Doc 10	Report of Seabird Bycatch Working Group	11.1	SBWG Convenors
AC11 Doc 11	Advisory Committee Work Programme 2019 - 2021	12.1	AC Chair, Vice-chair
AC11 Doc 12	Secretariat Work Programme 2019 - 2021	5.2	Secretariat
AC11 Doc 13	MoP6 outcomes relevant to the Advisory Committee Work Programme	8 & 12	AC Chair, Secretariat

INFORMATION PAPERS			
Paper	Title	Agenda Item	Submitted by
AC11 Inf 01	Agreement Budget 2019 - 2021	8 & 12	Secretariat
AC11 Inf 02	Small Grants and Secondment Programmes supported by the AC	12.4	Secretariat
AC11 Inf 03	Project 2018-02: Prevalence and magnitude of plastic exposure (macro and microplastics and select chemical compounds) in albatrosses and petrels off the shores of Argentina and Brazil	12.4	Secretariat
AC11 Inf 04	Considering nominations to Annex 1 of the Agreement - list of candidate species	14	Secretariat
AC11 Inf 05	A proposal for a world albatross day	18	Secretariat

ANNEX 3. AC11 AGENDA

AC11 AGENDA	
1. Opening Remarks	
2. Adoption of the Agenda	
3. Rules of Procedure	3.1 Consideration of Rule 20
4. Report of the Depositary	
5. ACAP Secretariat	5.1 Activities undertaken in 2018/2019 intersessional period 5.2 Secretariat Work Programme 2019 – 2021
6. Agreement's Financial Matters	6.1 Financial Report
7. Observer Reports	7.1 Reports from ACAP Observers at International Meetings 7.2 Reports from Observers to AC11
8. Report from the Sixth Meeting of the Parties	
9. Population and Conservation Status of Albatrosses and Petrels	9.1 Report of the Population and Conservation Status Working Group 9.2 Future PaCSWG Work Programme
10. Taxonomy of Albatrosses and Petrels	10.1 Report of the Taxonomy Working Group 10.2 Future TWG Work Programme
11. Seabird Bycatch	11.1 Report of the Seabird Bycatch Working Group 11.2 Future SBWG Work Programme
12. Advisory Committee	12.1 Advisory Committee Work Programme 2019 - 2021 12.2 Agreement Grant Scheme 12.3 Agreement Secondment Programme 12.4 Outcomes of projects and secondments supported 12.5 Capacity Building Strategy
13. Indicators to Measure the Success of ACAP	
14. Listing of New Species	
15. Bibliographic References	
16. Election and Appointment of AC Officers	

17. Twelfth Meeting of the Advisory Committee
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17.1 Timing and Venue

17.2 Draft Agenda

18. Other Business

18.1 Interaction between SBWG and PaCSWG
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19. Adoption of Report

20. Closing Remarks

ANNEX 4. ADVISORY COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME 2019 – 2021

This Work Programme provides indicative costs (in AUD) and time required to complete the tasks. Significant levels of financial and staffing resources will be required from other sources to undertake the work programme, primarily from the Secretariat and the Advisory Committee Officials, but also from Parties, Range States and NGOs. Note that these staffing resources are in most cases provided pro-bono. The hours shown do not include time spent by the Parties or other organisations, but is a reflection of the amount of time that AC Officials and the Secretariat will spend on these tasks. The Work Programme was adopted by MoP6. Actions that have been completed or are no longer relevant are crossed out. New actions identified at SBWG9, PaCSWG5 and AC11 are highlighted in blue.

Topic/ Task	Responsible group	Time frame	Resources		Action detail/ comments	
			Time	Funds (AUD)		
1. Taxonomy and Annex 1 review						
1.1	Keep the Taxonomy Working Group's bibliographic database updated	TWG led by Convenor	Ongoing	0.5 week per annum (p.a.)	0	Ensure that ACAP's bibliographic database is kept updated
1.2	Continue the establishment of a morphometric and plumage database	TWG led by Convenor, Science Officer	2019-2021	2 weeks	0	This will facilitate the taxonomic process, the identification of bycatch specimens, and the long-term storage of valuable data. Possibly a catalogue of taxa that are difficult to separate visually instead.
1.3	Maintain a database of site-specific information on the availability of samples relevant to studies of population genetics of ACAP species	TWG	2019-2021	2 months	?	In co-operation with PaCSWG a database of researchers holding site specific samples was developed initially.
1.4	Consider taxonomic issues relating to species proposed for addition to Annex 1 of the Agreement	Parties and AC	Ongoing	0.5 week p.a.	0	Development of papers as required, using species assessment template.
1.5	Respond to queries on taxonomic issues relating to ACAP species	TWG led by Convenor	Ongoing	1-2 weeks p.a.	0	Encourage ongoing harmonisation with CMS and IUCN. Maintain species reference table with scientific and common names across multiple languages.

Topic/ Task	Responsible group	Time frame	Resources		Action detail/ comments	
			Time	Funds (AUD)		
2. Information on status, trends and breeding sites						
2.1	Consider gaps in population, tracking, breeding site management, threats and regulatory protection data submitted to ACAP; request any outstanding data and incorporate changes.	PaCSWG, Science Officer	Ongoing	8 weeks p.a.	0	Parties to provide new or outstanding data each year. Science Officer to issue reminders in June each year. Maximise use of existing data (could be suitable for secondments).
2.2	Review and refine standardised queries and outputs for analysis and interpretation. Continue to improve data portal structure and queries.	Science Officer, Convenors, Vice Convenors, PaCSWG	Ongoing	12 weeks p.a.	0	
2.3	Accurately assess and update global population trends	PaCSWG Convenors, Science Officer and BirdLife International with other experts as required	Ongoing	3 weeks	5,000 (core)	May require further data portal updates. Consider alternative approaches as required. Review at AC12.
2.4	Update ACAP Species Assessments	Science Officer, PaCSWG leads	Ongoing	6 weeks p.a.	4,000 (core)	Costs for BirdLife to update maps. Prioritise a small group of species for urgent completion (starting with Priority Populations) .
2.5	Translate updates to Species Assessments and ACAP guidelines into Spanish and French	Science Officer	Ongoing		10,000 (core)	
2.6	Identify priorities for monitoring of numbers, trends and demography	PaCSWG, Science Officer	Ongoing	2 weeks p.a.	0	Review and update priorities and reflect on progress against priorities and provide reports to each AC Meeting.
2.7	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	2020	1 week p.a.	1,000 (core)	Review at AC12
2.8	Identify and review Priority Populations for conservation actions.	PaCSWG, Science Officer	Ongoing	1 week p.a.	0	Review at each AC Meeting

Topic/ Task		Responsible group	Time frame	Resources		Action detail/ comments
				Time	Funds (AUD)	
2.9	Review and prioritise the threats to breeding sites and identify gaps in knowledge.	PaCSWG, Science Officer	Ongoing	1 week p.a.	0	Annual updating of priorities by Parties, re-run prioritisation for AC12.
2.10	Review and update best-practice guidelines	PaCSWG, Science Officer	Ongoing	3 weeks p.a.	0	
2.11	Provide reports on activities to AC meetings	PaCSWG, Science Officer	As needed	12 weeks	0	
3. Seabird Bycatch						
3.1	Continue to implement the RFMO and CCAMLR engagement strategy for ACAP (SBWG8 Doc 13) (SBWG9 Doc 07 Rev 1) and review at each SBWG meeting. Relevant Parties to engage and assist RFMOs and other relevant international bodies in assessing and minimising bycatch of albatrosses and petrels. Develop ACAP specific products on best practice bycatch data collection and reporting for presentation to RFMOs. Reformat ACAP RFMO Engagement Strategy document. Convert Table 1 into a more efficient format for reporting, with clearer actions.	Individual RFMO co-ordinators, Secretariat, SBWG and AC	Ongoing	a) 18 weeks p.a. b) 18 weeks p.a. c) 2 weeks p.a.	(a+b) 30,000 p.a. (core)	a) Travel etc costs for attendance at selected RFMO meetings (less if Party can contribute directly) b) RFMO co-ordinator activities c) Review of process and recommend changes (SBWG) Includes development and dissemination of resources
3.2	Intersessional review of ACAP Best Practice Advice and Review documents for pelagic and demersal longline and trawl fishing gear	SBWG via leads – Pelagic LL: Jonathon Barrington, Sebastián Jiménez Demersal LL: Oli Yates, Anton Wolfaardt, Ed Melvin to help Trawl: Amanda Kuepfer, Igor Debski	Ongoing			

Topic/ Task		Responsible group	Time frame	Resources		Action detail/ comments
				Time	Funds (AUD)	
3.3	Further development of mitigation advice for purse-seine fisheries Formalisation of ACAP Advice document for the purse seine mitigation advice. This advice document will include introductory and explanatory text, and will be made available on the ACAP website	SBWG, via leads: Cristian Suazo, Barry Baker Joanna Alfaro (Jonathon Barrington to help)	Ongoing	4 weeks		Using the toolbox approach.
3.4	Continue to update Mitigation Fact Sheets using new simplified format in a phased approach: 1) complete fact sheets for pelagic LL line weighting and hook-shielding devices, 2) line weighting safety practices 3) updated advice on bird scaring lines for pelagic and demersal LL, and 4) fact sheets dealing with ACAP Best Practice measures.	SBWG, BirdLife, Secretariat	2019-2021	1 week per fact sheet	10,000 (core, for translation and for new factsheet)	New fact sheet on improving safety when using branchline weighting (either as separate fact sheet or as part of line weighting fact sheet). Opportunity of FAO funding with timeline.
3.5	Further investigate the barriers and drivers in the and pursue approaches to improve uptake of best practice seabird bycatch mitigation measures (e.g. produce report on lessons from mitigation success stories in commercial fisheries, develop the flagship species approach to raise the profile of seabird bycatch, bycatch mitigation and other conservation measures in fisheries in high risk areas/ for high priority populations).	SBWG, PaCSWG Secretariat	2019-2021			Aimed to help inform the development of future strategies for engagement with fishing fleets. Scope of work dependent on outputs of investigation into drivers and barriers Media secondment Note cross-over with PaCSWG, communication is important for these matters as well

Topic/ Task	Responsible group	Time frame	Resources		Action detail/ comments
			Time	Funds (AUD)	
<p>Develop communication strategy and products to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reinvigorate advice ▪ Communicate with different audiences (e.g. presentations, videos, other multi-media) to include success stories and information aimed at overcoming impediments to implementation <p>Model bycatch threat to seabird populations to communicate the extinction risk to ACAP Species.</p> <p>Engage with certification schemes, by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Contributing to reviews of standards on bycatch considerations to encourage these to be informed by ACAP advice. ▪ Providing information to Parties and others to enable comment on individual fisheries assessments 	Secretariat, SBWG			5,000? (core) for a secondee/ contractee to lead the process	<p>ACAP should respond to relevant opportunities. Secretariat to find a suitable secondee or place a contract to lead the process, working with known experts in this area. A sub-group of SBWG would also be consulted/provide guidance to the lead person</p> <p>ACAP Secretariat to ask fishery certification schemes to notify it of new applications and to then pass on notifications as information to relevant ACAP Parties and/or SBWG members</p>
3.6	<p>Recommend priority actions to advance implementation of line weighting in pelagic longline fisheries. Extend fly back safety studies to consider hook tear outs and 80 g weight if practicable. Make available and disseminate ACAP advice on improving safety when hauling branchlines during pelagic longline operations.</p>	SBWG	Ongoing		<p>Will be informed by output of research underway in 2017, the results of which will be reported to SBWG9. Note studies done with 40, 45 and 60g, not presently feasible to test 80g.</p>

Topic/ Task		Responsible group	Time frame	Resources		Action detail/ comments
				Time	Funds (AUD)	
3.7	Development of bycatch indicators and associated data, methodological approaches and reporting required	SBWG, Secretariat	2019-2021	20 weeks	10,000 (core)	Possibility for continued secondments to build capacity. Need for contract support as this is a key element of work (0.25 FTE?)
3.8	Review and update the prioritisation framework for at-sea threats	SBWG	2020 (for MoP7)	1 week	5,000 (core)	Analysis and update of data relating to threats and mitigation. Possible workshop.
3.9	Further development/update of best practice advice for mitigation in artisanal, small scale and recreational fisheries, including research for these fisheries. Make advice (toolboxes) available on ACAP website and facilitate dissemination of advice.	SBWG, Lead: Jeff Mangel	Ongoing		0	Continued development of the toolbox to provide advice on mitigation options available for artisanal and small-scale fisheries. Good opportunity for secondment . Before posting on website, include introductory text explaining the context, purpose and use of the advice
3.10	Further development of best practice advice for mitigation in gillnet fisheries.	SBWG	Ongoing	2 weeks	0	Through liaison with external initiatives.
3.11	Further development of best practice guidelines in the use of Electronic Monitoring for the assessment and monitoring of seabird bycatch	SBWG Leads: Nathan Walker and Jonathon Barrington	2019-2021			Will hopefully commence prior to the triennium ending 2018 Planned to commence prior to in the triennium ending 2020.
3.12	Evaluate the factors that drive or limit success of NPOA-Seabirds in reducing the bycatch of seabirds	SBWG	2019-2021	20 weeks	0	Will be taken forward by the work being undertaken by Barry Baker and BirdLife. Outcomes should be presented to SBWG9, and will inform future actions for this triennium.
3.13	Help facilitate and support collaborative seabird impact and risk assessments at various scales	SBWG	2019-2021			Encourage and help facilitate and support collaborative efforts to undertake seabird bycatch risk and impact assessments, including building capacity to undertake assessments. A number of initiatives currently underway. Progress will be reported at SBWG9, and will inform further actions.

Topic/ Task		Responsible group	Time frame	Resources		Action detail/ comments
				Time	Funds (AUD)	
3.14	Maintain bibliography of relevant bycatch information.	BirdLife/SBWG Science Officer	Ongoing	1 week p.a.	0	Includes both published and unpublished literature. Replace working papers with published papers where possible. Submission of information from Parties and others encouraged. Refer and link to BMIS and other online bycatch databases
3.15	Prepare review of knowledge on deliberate take/killing of ACAP species at sea	SBWG Leads: Barry Baker and Joanna Alfaro	2019-2021			Possible actions dependent on outcome of investigation planned for 2017-2018.
3.16	Prepare a review of available information on the nature and extent of seabird bycatch associated with floated demersal longlines, and ways to increase the sink rate of this gear	SBWG intersessional group. Lead: Anton Wolfaardt	2019-2020			Possible secondment
4. Capacity building, New Parties, Organisation of Work						
4.1	Provide assistance and capacity building to facilitate drafting and implementation of NPOA-Seabirds	AC, Parties and BirdLife to consider	Ongoing	10 weeks	0	Capacity building in accordance with the needs identified by interested Parties in order to encourage implementation, particularly in Ecuador, France, Peru, South Africa, (Angola, Namibia, Mozambique, Madagascar), Tristan da Cunha (UK), and EC external fisheries
4.2	Continue to develop and implement the strategy for adding further Parties, and engaging with States not Party to ACAP	AC, Parties	Ongoing		0	Initial work carried out at AC7, further work intersessionally, work with lead Parties and Secretariat as needed.
4.3	Consider Working Group structure and function, including role and participation of members and experts	WGs, AC	Ongoing		0	
4.4	Populate and measure capacity building indicators	Argentina, Australia, Brazil, New Zealand, UK	Ongoing		0	

Topic/ Task	Responsible group	Time frame	Resources		Action detail/ comments	
			Time	Funds (AUD)		
5. Indicators, priorities, reviews and collective conservation action						
5.1	Review data inputs to breeding sites and at-sea prioritisation frameworks agreed at MoP4, revise conservation priorities and identify actions required to address these priority threats.	WG Convenors and WGs	2020	4 weeks	?	
5.2	Review existing Action Plans (for National Plans, when asked by relevant Party), and advise on new Action Plans for ACAP species and Priority Populations	PaCSWG, SBWG, TWG, AC, Parties	Ongoing	16 weeks	0	Intersessional group on Priority Populations to respond to requests by Parties e.g. the implementation of the Waved Albatross <i>P. irrorata</i> Action Plan.
5.3	Review, refine and standardise criteria to include new species on Annex 1.	PaCSWG, SBWG, TWG, Science Officer	Ongoing	1 week	0	Develop delisting criteria. Update scores as needed.
5.4	Review and update any publications not already specified in the Work Programme	PaCSWG, SBWG, TWG, Secretariat	Ongoing	4 weeks	0	If Seabird Bycatch ID guide not updated by the end of 2018, it will be a high priority for this triennium. Core funds of 20,000 AUD proposed (see 5.15 of 2016-2018 WP).
5.5	Implement system of indicators for the success of the ACAP Agreement	Parties, Secretariat, BirdLife and AC	Ongoing	1 week p.a.	0	
5.6	Review ACAP performance indicators	PaCSWG, SBWG Convenors, Science Officer and BirdLife International	2020	3 weeks	0	
5.7	Manage database of relevant scientific literature	Secretariat	Ongoing	2 weeks p.a.	0	
5.8	Manage directory of relevant legislation	Secretariat	Ongoing	1 week p.a.	0	Parties to supply further information, as available

Topic/ Task		Responsible group	Time frame	Resources		Action detail/ comments
				Time	Funds (AUD)	
5.9	Manage a list of authorities, research centres, scientists and non-governmental organisations relevant to ACAP	Secretariat	Ongoing	2 days p.a.	0	Parties and AC to supply further information, as available
5.10	Review information and drafts of triennial implementation report.	Advisory Committee, Secretariat	2020		0	In accordance with Article IX 6 (d) of the Agreement
5.11	Continue to update analysis of overlaps of distributions, and interactions , of albatrosses and petrels with fisheries and bycatch information to aid prioritisation and targeting of actions to reduce the risk of fishing operations to ACAP species in waters subject to national jurisdiction and those managed by RFMOs.	SBWG, PaCSWG and Parties	Ongoing	16 weeks	10,000 (core) 10,000 (grant)	Assess any capacity building requirements to facilitate regional coordination to better assess bycatch. Increase focus on ACAP Priority Populations and high-risk bycatch areas.
6. Management of AC work, secretariat oversight and liaison, and interaction of ACAP bodies						
6.1	Consider and advise on budget matters as needed	AC	Ongoing	2 weeks p.a.	0	Short-term advice provided by the AC Chair
6.2	Consider and advise on Staff matters as needed	AC	Ongoing	1 week p.a.	0	Short-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	Ongoing	6 weeks p.a.	0	
6.4	Manage work of Advisory Committee	Chair, Vice-chair and Convenors	Ongoing	18 weeks p.a.	0	

ANNEX 5. SECRETARIAT WORK PROGRAMME 2019 – 2021

The Work Programme was adopted by MoP6. Actions that have been completed or are no longer relevant are crossed out. New actions identified at SBWG9, PaCSWG5 and AC11 are highlighted in blue.

Task No.	Topic/Task	Mandate	Officer	2019		2020		2021		Action/Details
				Time (days)	Funds (AUD)	Time (days)	Funds (AUD)	Time (days)	Funds (AUD)	
1	SUPPORT FOR MoP, AC & WG MEETINGS			AC11 + WGs		AC12 + WGs		MoP7		
1.1	Undertake meeting arrangements.	Article X.a								
	▪ selection of venue		Exec Secretary	3	3,500	3	3,500	3	3,500	Travel costs
	▪ organise contracts, venue/equipment		Exec Secretary	5		5		5		
	▪ liaison with host government		Exec Secretary	2		2		2		
1.2	Preparation of meeting papers	Article X.a								Within 60 days of meeting
	▪ writing of meeting documents		Exec Secretary, Sci Officer, Tech Advisor	35		35		35		
	▪ co-ordination of meeting documents		Exec Secretary, Sci Officer	10		10		5		
	▪ drafting of implementation report		Exec Secretary			5		5		
	▪ drafting of implementation report		Sci Officer			15		5		

Task No.	Topic/Task	Mandate	Officer	2019		2020		2021		Action/Details
				Time (days)	Funds (AUD)	Time (days)	Funds (AUD)	Time (days)	Funds (AUD)	
1.3	Support the attendance of sponsored experts and delegates	Article VII 5	Exec Secretary	10		10		5		Correspondence, organise travel, acquittal of accounts
1.4	Organise the translation and posting of meeting documents and provision of interpretation services	AC RoP 17 (1)								Within 30 days of meeting
	▪ coordination with service provider		Exec Secretary, Sci Officer	5		5		5		
	▪ posting of documents		Sci Officer	5		5		3		
1.5	Support & operation of meetings	Article X.a								
	▪ travel for meetings		Exec Secretary, Sci Officer	8	6,000	8	6,000	8	6,000	4 days per meeting, airfares x 2
	▪ travel for meetings		Contract x 1	4	3,000	4	3,000	4	3,000	Airfares
	▪ attendance at meeting		Exec Secretary, Sci Officer	32	7,500	32	7,500	16	4,000	Accommodation and allowances x 2
	▪ attendance at meeting		Contract x 1	12	7,000	12	7,000	6	4,000	Contract costs, accommodation
1.6	Prepare meeting report and distribute to all Parties	Article X.a	Exec Secretary, Sci Officer	10		10		10		

Task No.	Topic/Task	Mandate	Officer	2019		2020		2021		Action/Details
				Time (days)	Funds (AUD)	Time (days)	Funds (AUD)	Time (days)	Funds (AUD)	
2	MANAGEMENT OF SECRETARIAT									
2.1	Administer the budget for the Agreement and the Special Fund provided for in Article VII (3) in accordance with the Agreement's Financial Regulations;	Article X.g								
	▪ payment of accounts		Exec Secretary	15		15		15		
	▪ preparation of invoices and receipts		Exec Secretary	4		4		4		
	▪ preparation of financial statements		Exec Secretary	4		4		4		
	▪ maintain advance & assets registers		Exec Secretary	1		1		1		
2.2	Prepare biannual financial reports for the information of the Parties and the Chair of the Advisory Committee	AC2, MoP2	Exec Secretary	4		4		4		
2.3	Provide information to the general public concerning the Agreement and its objectives, and promote the objectives of this Agreement	Article X.h								
	▪ preparation of ACAP Latest News for website		Info Officer	90		90		90		
	▪ maintain/update website links and publications		Sci & Info Officers	5		5		5		
	▪ management of ACAP Facebook page		Info Officer	5		5		5		
	▪ preparation of scientific material		Sci Officer	10		10		10		

Task No.	Topic/Task	Mandate	Officer	2019		2020		2021		Action/Details
				Time (days)	Funds (AUD)	Time (days)	Funds (AUD)	Time (days)	Funds (AUD)	
2.4	Update and maintain the ACAP website	Article X.h	Sci Officer & Contract	20	8,000	20	8,000	20	8,000	
2.5	Collate as appropriate synthesized information provided by Parties on the implementation and effective functioning of the Agreement with particular reference to the conservation measures undertaken	Article X.j;								
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ review data, liaise with stakeholders, amend database, collate information and draft consolidated reports 	Article VII (1) c); Article VIII (10)	Exec Secretary, Sci Officer			20				
2.6	Prepare a report on Secretariat activities for AC and MoP meetings	Article X f)	Exec Secretary	2		2		2		
2.7	Recruit and manage the Secretariat's staff in accordance with the Staff Regulations and the directions of the Meeting of the Parties	Staff Regs	Exec Secretary	5		5		5		
3	FACILITATE THE WORK OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE									
3.1	Assist the Chair of the Advisory Committee as required to facilitate the work of the Advisory Committee	Article X k)	Exec Secretary	25		25		25		
3.2	Assist the Chair of the Advisory Committee in preparing a report to the MoP on the activities of the Advisory Committee	Article IX 6.e)	Exec Secretary			2		1		
3.3	Assist the Convenors of the Population and Conservation Status Working Group as required to facilitate the work of the Group	Article X k)								

Task No.	Topic/Task	Mandate	Officer	2019		2020		2021		Action/Details
				Time (days)	Funds (AUD)	Time (days)	Funds (AUD)	Time (days)	Funds (AUD)	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider gaps in population, tracking, breeding site management, threats and regulatory protection data submitted to ACAP; request any outstanding data and incorporate changes 	AC WP Task 2.1	Sci Officer	25		25		25		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review and refine standardised queries and outputs for analysis and interpretation. Continue to improve data portal structure and queries 	AC WP Task 2.2	Sci Officer & Contract	25	5,000	25	5,000	25	5,000	Consultant database programmer/ developer
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess and update global population trends 	AC WP Task 2.3	Sci Officer	10		10		10		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update ACAP Species Assessments 	AC WP Task 2.4	Sci Officer	30		30		30	4,000	Cost for map updates
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Translate updates to Species Assessments and ACAP guidelines into Spanish and French 	AC WP Task 2.5	Sci Officer & Contract	3	3,000	3	3,000	3	3,000	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify priorities for monitoring of numbers, trends and demography 	AC WP Task 2.6	Sci Officer	5		5		5		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review availability of albatross and petrel tracking/distribution data to ensure representativeness of species/age classes. Prioritise gaps and encourage studies to fill gaps 	AC WP Task 2.7	Sci Officer			5	1,000			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify and review Priority Populations for conservation actions 	AC WP Task 2.8	Sci Officer	5		5		5		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review and prioritise the threats to breeding sites and identify gaps in knowledge 	AC WP Task 2.9	Sci Officer	5		5		5		

Task No.	Topic/Task	Mandate	Officer	2019		2020		2021		Action/Details
				Time (days)	Funds (AUD)	Time (days)	Funds (AUD)	Time (days)	Funds (AUD)	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review and update best-practice guidelines 	AC WP Task 2.10	Sci Officer	10		10		10		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide reports on activities to AC meetings 	AC WP Task 2.11	Sci Officer	30		30				
3.4	Assist the Convenor of the Seabird Bycatch Working Group as required to facilitate the work of the Group	Article X k)								
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to implement the RFMO and CCAMLR engagement strategy for ACAP (SBWG8 Doc 13) and review at each SBWG meeting. Relevant Parties to engage and assist RFMOs and other relevant international bodies in assessing and minimising bycatch of albatrosses and petrels. Develop ACAP specific products on best practice bycatch data collection and reporting for presentation to RFMOs. 	AC WP Task 3.1	Exec Secretary, Tech Advisor	70	30,000	70	30,000	70	30,000	Attend all relevant meetings as per RFMO Interaction Plan
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to update Mitigation Fact Sheets using new simplified format in a phased approach: 1) complete fact sheets for pelagic LL line weighting and hook-shielding devices, 2) line weighting safety practices 3) updated advice on bird scaring lines for pelagic and demersal LL, and 4) fact sheets dealing with ACAP Best Practice measures. 	AC WP Task 3.4	Sci Officer, Exec Secretary				10,000			New fact sheet on improving safety when using branchline weighting (either as separate fact sheet or as part of line weighting fact sheet). Opportunity of FAO funding with timeline.

Task No.	Topic/Task	Mandate	Officer	2019		2020		2021		Action/Details
				Time (days)	Funds (AUD)	Time (days)	Funds (AUD)	Time (days)	Funds (AUD)	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Further pursue approaches to improve investigate the barriers and drivers in the uptake of best practice seabird bycatch mitigation measures (e.g. produce report on lessons from mitigation success stories in commercial fisheries, develop the flagship species approach to raise the profile of seabird bycatch, bycatch mitigation and other conservation measures in fisheries in high-risk areas/ for high priority populations). <p>Develop communication strategy and products to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reinvigorate advice ▪ Communicate with different audiences (e.g. presentations, videos, other multi-media) to include success stories and information aimed at overcoming impediments to implementation <p>Model bycatch threat to seabird populations to communicate the extinction risk to ACAP Species.</p> <p>Engage with certification schemes, by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Contributing to reviews of standards on bycatch considerations to encourage these to be informed by ACAP advice. ▪ Providing information to Parties and others to enable comment on individual fisheries assessments 	AC WP Task 3.5	Sci Officer, Exec Secretary	10					<p>Communication strategy:</p> <p>Media secondment</p> <p>Certification schemes:</p> <p>Secretariat to find a suitable seconded or contract to lead the process, working with known experts.</p> <p>Secretariat to ask fishery certification schemes to notify it of new applications and to then pass on notifications to relevant ACAP Parties and/or SBWG members.</p>	

Task No.	Topic/Task	Mandate	Officer	2019		2020		2021		Action/Details
				Time (days)	Funds (AUD)	Time (days)	Funds (AUD)	Time (days)	Funds (AUD)	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development of bycatch indicators and associated data, methodological approaches and reporting required 	AC WP Task 3.7	Sci Officer	20		20	10,000	20		Need for contract support as this is a key element of work (0.25 FTE?)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain bibliography of relevant bycatch information 	AC WP Task 3.14	Sci Officer	5		5		5		
3.5	Assist the Convenor of the Taxonomy WG as required to facilitate the work of the Group	Article X k)								
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue the establishment of a morphometric and plumage database 	AC WP Task 1.2	Sci Officer	1		1		1		
3.6	Review, refine and standardise criteria to include new species on Annex 1	AC WP Task 5.3	Sci Officer	3		3		3		
3.7	Review and update any publications not already specified in the Work Programme	AC WP Task 5.4	Sci Officer	5		5		5		
3.8	Implement system of indicators for the success of the ACAP Agreement	AC WP Task 5.5	Sci Officer	5		2		2		
3.9	Review ACAP performance indicators	AC WP Task 5.6	Sci Officer			5		5		
3.10	Manage database of relevant scientific literature	AC WP Task 5.7	Sci Officer	10		10		10		
3.11	Manage directory of relevant legislation	AC WP Task 5.8	Sci Officer	1		1		1		Parties to supply further information as available
3.12	Manage a list of authorities, research centres, scientists and non-government organisations relevant to ACAP	AC WP Task 5.9	Sci & Info Officers	2		2		2		Parties to supply further information as available

Task No.	Topic/Task	Mandate	Officer	2019		2020		2021		Action/Details
				Time (days)	Funds (AUD)	Time (days)	Funds (AUD)	Time (days)	Funds (AUD)	
4	IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AGREEMENT									
4.1	Assist Parties in providing training, technical and financial support to other Parties on a multilateral or bilateral basis to facilitate implementation of the Agreement.	Article VIII 14	Sci Officer, Exec Secretary	5		5		5		
4.2	Promote and coordinate activities under the Agreement, including the Action Plan, in accordance with decisions of the Meeting of the Parties	Article X c)	Exec Secretary	15		15		15		
4.3	Liaise with non-Party Range States and regional economic integration organisations to facilitate coordination between Parties and non-Party Range States, and international and national organisations and institutions whose activities are directly or indirectly relevant to the conservation of albatrosses and petrels.	Article X d)	Exec Secretary	15	10,000	15	10,000	15	10,000	Airfares, accommodation, allowances
4.4	Consult with and enter into arrangements, with the approval of the Meeting of Parties, with other organisations and institutions, and as appropriate exchange information and data.	Article XI 2 c), 3 & 4	Exec Secretary	10	15,000	10	15,000	10	15,000	Airfares, accommodation, allowances
4.5	Facilitate the accession of non-Party Range States to the Agreement	Article X d), k)	Exec Secretary	5		5		5		Work with lead Parties and other Parties as needed.
4.6	Assist with the compilation of the triennial implementation report.	Article IX 6 (d)	Exec Sec, Sci Officer			10		10		

Task No.	Topic/Task	Mandate	Officer	2019		2020		2021		Action/Details
				Time (days)	Funds (AUD)	Time (days)	Funds (AUD)	Time (days)	Funds (AUD)	
5	CAPACITY BUILDING									
5.1	Assist the Advisory Committee and Parties with technical cooperation and capacity building	Article IV (2)	Exec Sec, Sci Officer	20		20		20		
5.2	Support secondments programme to aid capacity building	MoP2	Exec Secretary, Sci Officer	10		10		10		Airfares, accomm, allowances for secondees

ANNEX 6. DRAFT AC12 AGENDA

DRAFT AC12 AGENDA	
1. Opening Remarks	
2. Adoption of the Agenda	
3. Rules of Procedure	
4. Report of the Depositary	
5. ACAP Secretariat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5.1 Activities undertaken in 2019/2020 intersessional period 5.2 Secretariat Work Programme 2019 – 2021 5.3 Secretariat Work Programme 2022 – 2024
6. Agreement's Financial Matters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6.1 Financial Report 6.2 Agreement Budget 2022 - 2024
7. Observer Reports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7.1 Reports from Observers to AC12
8. Report on the Implementation of the Agreement	
9. Advisory Committee Report to the Seventh Meeting of the Parties	
10. Population and Conservation Status of Albatrosses and Petrels	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10.1 Report of the Population and Conservation Status Working Group
11. Taxonomy of Albatrosses and Petrels	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 11.1 Report of the Taxonomy Working Group
12. Seabird Bycatch	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12.1 Report of the Seabird Bycatch Working Group
13. Joint meeting of the Seabird Bycatch and Population and Conservation Status Working Groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 13.1 Report of the joint meeting of the Seabird Bycatch and Population and Conservation Status Working Groups
14. Advisory Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 14.1 Advisory Committee Work Programme 2019 - 2021 14.2 Advisory Committee Work Programme 2022 - 2024 14.3 Agreement Grant Scheme and Secondment Programme
15. Indicators to Measure the Success of ACAP	
16. Listing of New Species	

17. Election and Appointment of AC Officers if required
18. Seventh Meeting of the Parties 18.1 Timing and Venue 18.2 Draft Provisional Agenda
19. Thirteenth Meeting of the Advisory Committee 19.1 Timing and Venue 19.2 Draft Agenda
20. Other Business
21. Adoption of Report
22. Closing Remarks

ANNEX 7. STATEMENTS FROM OBSERVERS – THE BAHAMAS

I bring greetings from the Government and people of the Commonwealth of the Bahamas. Thank you for welcoming us to these meetings and for allowing our participation.

This, being our first intervention with ACAP, I was happy to see the level of research work that ACAP supports with regard to seabird study and conservation. The Bahamas, as a party of the Convention on Biodiversity that was signed here in Brazil in 1992, we are committed to upholding the tenets of this Convention to preserve global biodiversity.

While the bird species in ACAP's listing may not breed in our waters, a few of these species, can, and have been found In Bahamian waters during migratory periods, searching out food, and taking rest. Certainly other sea birds currently not within the ACAP listing do breed in the Bahamas, and could see some benefit from the best practices presented in the working group meetings.

We in The Bahamas welcome these discussions and learning how, through possible adoption of relevant ACAP best practices and fishing techniques, we can work together in the protection of seabird species.

I will certainly present my report, and recommendations from the information gained here to my government, to assess how best we may support the ACAP conservation efforts. Thank you.

ANNEX 8. STATEMENTS FROM OBSERVERS – CANADA

Canada thanks Brazil, local committee members and the ACAP Secretariat for hosting and organizing the meetings of the working groups and the Advisory Committee.

As a reminder, three ACAP-listed species (Short-tailed Albatross, Black-footed Albatross and Pink-footed Shearwater) are protected under Canada's Species At Risk Act. Canada recognizes that without the continued collaborative work of Parties, Range States, the attending APEC member economy and Non-Governmental Organizations to mitigate the bycatch of albatrosses and petrels, it is unlikely that Canada will achieve the conservation and recovery goals for the three species.

ANNEX 9. STATEMENTS FROM OBSERVERS – NAMIBIA

Desmond Tom, on behalf of the Namibian Government, thanked the Secretariat for the invitation and sponsorship to attend this important meeting of AC11 (as well as the SBWG & PaCSWG). He also thanked the Federative Republic of Brazil for hosting this meeting in Florianopolis, Santa Catarina.

Progress on acceding to ACAP

1. Cabinet endorsement by the different Ministers in Parliament.
2. Input from the Attorney General's Office regarding ACAP.
3. The documents are currently with the Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources-Policy Planning and Economic Directorate (PPE). It is up to the Ministry (PPE) to take it to Parliament for approval and further ratification. The main reason why the Ministry has halted the process of acceding to ACAP was to do a Cost Benefit Analysis (CBA) and weigh the benefits and costs of becoming a party to ACAP. It is hoped that, even though albatrosses and petrels do not breed in Namibia, Namibia will gain in terms of conservation of our seabird species.

Other progress made regarding seabird conservation:

1. National Plan of Action for Seabirds was recently finalised. (Regulations passed: use of Bird Scaring Lines).
2. ATF-Bird Life international: training of observers and Fisheries personnel in Seabird Identification and Bycatch and ATF is also planning to train fisheries scientists to handle the bycatch database. The plan is for the Namibian government to take this task on and independently report on seabird bycatch.
3. Both the Hake demersal trawl and Longline fisheries are currently in the process of going through MSC certification.

Hopefully with this progress made, Namibia will accede to ACAP soon.

ANNEX 10. STATEMENTS FROM OBSERVERS – CHINESE TAIPEI

Chinese Taipei thanks the Brazil government for hosting the 11th meeting of the Advisory Committee of ACAP in this beautiful island and thanks to Secretariat for their hard work to arrange these working group meetings and Advisory meeting.

We are pleased to attend this meeting as observer and would like to express our appreciation to the ACAP to adopt Resolution 6.8 last year.

Chinese Taipei, with our tuna longline fishing vessels operating in the three oceans that might interact with those albatross and petrels. We have taken measures in accordance with the resolutions/recommendations adopted by Regional Fisheries Management Organizations to request our fishing vessels to take measures, such as the best practice to mitigate the seabird bycatch. In addition, we deploy observers onboard to collect bycatch information, sharing these information and analysis with RFMO. Meanwhile, the National Plan of Action to reducing seabirds incidental catch by longline fisheries is adopted in 2006 and revised in 2014.

In April 2018, a new agency, the Ocean Conservation Administration, Ocean Affairs Council has established. Hence, this Agency will cooperate tightly with Fisheries Agency to conserve seabird populations. We together look forward to having more cooperation with ACAP in the future.

ANNEX 11. STATEMENTS FROM OBSERVERS – USA

The United States thanks the Secretariat and Brazil for organizing and hosting this 11th Meeting of the Advisory Committee of ACAP. The United States supports and encourages ACAP's role as the international expert body on the conservation needs of imperiled albatrosses and petrels, and notes the progress on key issues related to seabird bycatch mitigation, eradicating non-native species on breeding sites, and monitoring of the short-tailed albatross population.

During the working group meetings, U.S. participants have shared information on these issues, such as the seabird bycatch mitigation efforts in U.S. trawl and pelagic longline fisheries that were described in information papers for SBWG9 and the updates provided to PaCSWG5 related to the Laysan and Black-footed Albatross colonies on Midway Island. We benefit from the information shared in the papers submitted to the Working Group meetings, which provide opportunities to collaborate with colleagues from the various regions to enhance each other's work to more efficiently attain goals that we share with respect to seabird conservation. And in relation to work toward the shared goals, the United States would like to thank AC Chair, Nathan Walker, for his helpful participation in the workshop on the pelagic longline fisheries in Hawaii. We would also like to thank Peru for initiating steps that may lead to Peru submitting a proposal to revise IATTC's Resolution C-11-02 on seabird bycatch mitigation measures.

The United States would like to report on an item that had not been reported in the Working Group meetings. Pacific Rim Conservation (a non-governmental organization), in partnership with national and state agencies, is working to establish albatross and petrel colonies on high islands in anticipation of continuing losses of breeding colonies in the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands. The goals of this "[No Net Loss](#)" initiative is to protect as much seabird nesting habitat in the main islands as is being lost because of the effects of climate change; and 2) to establish new breeding colonies of seabird species that are safe from sea level rise and non-native predators. There have already been positive outcomes of this project since its initiation in 2015 such as the successful translocation of multiple cohorts of Laysan and Black-footed Albatrosses, Bonin Petrel, and Tristram's Storm-Petrel chicks to the predator proof area of the James Campbell National Wildlife Refuge on O`ahu. Some of these birds that fledged in previous years are already returning to the new colony and additional higher elevation sites on offshore islets are being considered for coming years.

ANNEX 12. STATEMENTS FROM OBSERVERS – HUMANE SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL

Humane Society International (HSI) appreciates ACAP Parties making its attendance possible at both Working Group meetings and this 11th meeting of the Advisory Committee, and extends a warm welcome to the Agreement's third Executive Secretary Christine Bogle. It is HSI's 6th consecutive attendance at ACAP, clear evidence of our belief in and commitment to international albatross and petrel conservation efforts.

HSI is concerned that despite the decade-long ACAP process directed at securing the conservation status of albatrosses and petrels, PaCSWG5 has reported little or no evidence of this having been achieved. Evidence examined by SBWG9 also demonstrates widespread fisheries bycatch mitigation failings. For these reasons HSI welcomes consideration by SBWG9 to the drivers and barriers of adoption of more effective seabird bycatch mitigation in particular by those fishing industries recognised to be impacting the population status of seabirds such as pelagic longlining and certain trawl fisheries. HSI supports and welcomes the initiatives put forward in SBWG9 to improve ACAP performance and mitigation recommended best practices, especially those pertaining to line weighting and night-setting in pelagic hook fisheries.

HSI urges Parties to acknowledge the obvious need to follow the advice of the ACAP to improve fisheries seabird bycatch mitigation performance. It is necessary for Parties to lead by example in terms of implementing ACAP best practice advice.

The mitigation of seabird bycatch by certain fisheries management instrumentalities such as CCAMLR must be acknowledged as evidence that this goal IS achievable. Likewise mitigation of the land-based threats to seabird populations need to be recognised and applauded. However these conservation gains are severely undermined unless more effective mitigation is to be used and implemented more widely, and then this practice to be further advocated for in international fora such as tuna RFMOs. We welcome discussions held in this meeting towards this goal.

HSI acknowledges the commitment of Parties to conservation of albatrosses and petrels by their participation as members of ACAP. We remain confident the ACAP will continue to consolidate its credibility, effective influence and guiding role for improving international conservation against the greatest immediate threat albatrosses and petrels face, their indiscriminate but avoidable killing by fisheries remaining seemingly indifferent to their impact.

Finally, we take this opportunity to commend Brazil for first class hosting of AC11, and for providing a wonderful venue. I now want to live at Lagoa da Conceição.

Humane Society International
May 2019

ANNEX 13. STATEMENTS FROM OBSERVERS – PROJETO ALBATROZ

The Projeto Albatroz was born in Santos-SP in 1990, and since then has been studying the interaction of seabirds with fishing to develop conservation measures. It is recognized as a reference in the subject, representing Brazil in national and international meetings.

Besides Santos, the Projeto Albatroz works with five other regional bases in Santa Catarina (Itajaí and Florianópolis), Rio Grande do Sul (Rio Grande), Espírito Santo (Itaipava) and Rio de Janeiro (Cabo Frio), where some of the main fishing ports in the country are located.

Projeto Albatroz has an effective team of onboard observers who carry out work to collect scientific data on the occurrence and interaction of albatrosses and petrels with fishing in the southern and southeastern regions of Brazil.

The accomplishment of this work relies on several stakeholders, in particular Petrobras, that sponsors the Projeto Albatroz through the Petrobras Socioambiental Program. The Albatross Task Force (ATF), Birdlife International and the Royal Society for Protection of Birds (RSPB) are also important supporters of this mission.

The Marine Environmental Education Program 'Albatroz na Escola' is a didactic tool for the dissemination of knowledge about marine biodiversity and presents albatrosses and petrels for primary and secondary education institutions. The 'Albatroz na Escola' offers technical training and didactic material especially developed for teachers and students.

The Program began in 2011 and has already involved more than 20,000 students and 1,000 teachers of public and private educational networks in the regions of São Paulo, Rio de Janeiro, Santa Catarina and Rio Grande do Sul states. During the second week of AC11 meetings, Projeto Albatroz will be taking 'Albatroz na Escola' to two schools in Florianópolis and 300 students and teachers will participate.