

 <p>Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels</p>	<p><b>Fifteenth Meeting of the Advisory Committee</b> <i>Swakopmund, Namibia, 1 – 5 June 2026</i></p> <p><b>Review of the Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels</b> <b>Annex 2: Action Plan</b> <b><i>Australia and New Zealand</i></b></p>
---	--

## SUMMARY

The [Action Plan](#) contained in Annex 2 of the Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels has not been reviewed since its adoption over 20 years ago.

At the Eighth Meeting of the Parties (MoP8), [Parties agreed](#) that the Advisory Committee would consider a proposal to undertake a review of the Action Plan during the 2026-2028 triennial period.

This paper presents draft Terms of Reference (ToRs), a timeline and proposed work programme to develop a revised Action Plan for consideration at AC16.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Advisory Committee:

1. Note the MoP direction to undertake a review of Annex 2 Action Plan (the Review) during the 2026-2028 triennial period.
2. Agree the timelines, scope and draft Terms of Reference for the Intersessional Contact Group.
3. Invite other interested Parties to contribute to relevant components of the Review and establish an Intersessional Contact Group.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

The Eighth Meeting of the Parties ([MoP8 Doc 11](#)), highlighted the achievements of ACAP since the Agreement entered into force 20 years ago. It further welcomed the Advisory Committee's new reporting structure to the MoP, which was revised to facilitate the development of shorter, topic-specific papers while still meeting the Advisory Committee's reporting obligations.

Considering these reporting improvements, Parties further noted the [Action Plan](#) under the Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels, contained in Annex 2, has not been reviewed since its adoption over 20 years ago.

MoP8 agreed it would be timely to conduct a review of the Action Plan before the next Meeting of the Parties and requested that a task be added to the Advisory Committee Work Programme to undertake a review of Annex 2 Action Plan (the Review) during the 2026-2028 triennial period.

A proposal for conducting the Review, including draft ToRs, timeline and outputs for consideration at the Ninth Meeting of the Parties (MoP9) in 2028 is provided below.

The Review is intended to ensure the Action Plan remains contemporary including understanding of threats to ACAP species, conservation priorities, best practice advice, and implementation opportunities and challenges. It will build on the strengths of the current Action Plan including retaining effective provisions, while improving clarity, structure and usability for Parties and stakeholders.

## **2. DRAFT TERMS OF REFERENCE, TIMELINE AND PROPOSED ACTIONS**

### **2.1 Terms of Reference: Review of ACAP Annex 2 Action Plan**

#### **1. Background**

The Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels (ACAP) Annex 2 sets out the Action Plan for the conservation of listed species. A periodic review is required to ensure the Action Plan remains current, effective, and responsive to emerging threats and scientific knowledge.

#### **2. Objective**

To assess the implementation, relevance, and effectiveness of the Annex 2 Action Plan and recommend revisions as appropriate.

#### **3. Scope**

The review will:

- Assess the implementation of each set of actions and identify possible barriers where implementation has been limited;
- Identify Annex 2 actions that are no longer relevant or require updating;
- Consider the frequency and utility of reporting implementation of current action in Annex 2 to the Meeting of Parties;
- Consider including new or emerging threats to Annex 2 and incorporate relevant scientific developments;
- Assess consistency with current ACAP priorities and international conservation frameworks;
- Identify priority actions; and
- Propose amendments to the Action Plan for consideration by the Advisory Committee and Meeting of Parties.

#### 4. Process

- The review will be led by the ICG in consultation with the National Contact Points and endorsed by the AC prior to MoP9. As the Action Plan is wide-ranging, Members are encouraged to consider ICG representation from a broad range of competencies including legal, policy, science and ethics where possible.
- A draft revised Action Plan will be circulated for comment prior to AC16.

#### 5. Timeline

- The review will be completed in time for consideration at MoP9, with interim milestones agreed at AC15.

#### 6. Outputs

- A report summarising findings and recommendations; and
- A revised draft Annex 2 Action Plan for adoption by MoP9.

### 2.2. Timeline and proposed actions

Period	Activity	Output / Decision Point
Q2 2026	Consider provisional review framework and request activity is put on AC15 agenda	Australia / New Zealand draft proposal for consideration at AC15
Q3 2026	Present scoping paper to AC15.	AC15: 1. Endorse review framework, scope, and methodology. Action put on AC16 work program for consideration at MoP9. 2. Intersessional Contact Group (ICG) established and draft ToRs endorsed.
Q4 2026	Conduct performance evaluation, gap analysis, and review of legal/policy alignment.	Progress report to NCPs for feedback intersessionally.
Q1-Q2 2027	Draft and consult revised Action Plan and supporting documents.	Draft circulated to NCPs for consultation.
Q3 2027	Present draft to AC16.	AC16: Review and provide feedback.
Q4 2027	Revise based on feedback; second consultation if needed.	Final draft prepared.
Q1 2028	Prepare final revised Action Plan and decision paper including draft Resolution for consideration at MoP9.	Document finalised and submit for consideration at MoP9.
Q2 2028	Considered by MoP9.	Resolution would come into effect 90 days after MoP.