



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

**REPORT OF
THE EIGHTH SESSION OF
THE MEETING OF THE PARTIES**

*Dunedin, New Zealand
19 – 23 May 2025*

LIST OF ACRONYMS

| | |
|--------|---|
| 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 |
| ACWP | Advisory Committee Work Programme |
| APEC | Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation |
| BLI | BirdLife International |
| CCAMLR | Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources |
| CMS | Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals |
| CTMFM | Comisión Técnica Mixta del Frente Marítimo |
| CCSBT | Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna |
| DOC | Department of Conservation (New Zealand) |
| EM | Electronic Monitoring |
| FAO | Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations |
| GEF | Global Environment Facility |
| GFW | Global Fishing Watch |
| HPAI | Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (H5N1) |
| ICCAT | International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas |
| ICG | Intersessional Correspondence Group |
| IUCN | International Union for Conservation of Nature |
| MoP | Meeting of the Parties (MoP1, MoP2 etc refer to the first, second etc Sessions of the Meeting of Parties) |
| MoU | Memorandum of Understanding |
| NGO | Non-Governmental Organisation |
| NPOA-S | National Plan of Action – Seabirds |
| PaCSWG | Population and Conservation Status Working Group |
| RCB | Regional Conservation Body |
| RFMO | Regional Fisheries Management Organisation |
| RFMCO | Regional Fisheries Management and Conservation Organisation |
| t-RFMO | tuna Regional Fisheries Management Organisation |
| SBWG | Seabird Bycatch Working Group |
| TWG | Taxonomy Working Group |
| UK | United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland |
| USA | United States of America |
| \$ | Australian Dollars (AUD) |

CONTENTS

| | |
|---|-----------|
| LIST OF ACRONYMS | i |
| 1 OFFICIAL OPENING AND OPENING STATEMENTS | 1 |
| 2 PROCEDURAL ISSUES..... | 2 |
| 2.1 Adoption of Agenda..... | 2 |
| 2.2 Amendments to the MoP Rules of Procedure..... | 2 |
| 2.3 Establishment of Credentials Committee | 3 |
| 3 REPORTS | 3 |
| 3.1 Report of Credentials Committee..... | 3 |
| 3.2 Report of the Depositary | 3 |
| 3.3 Reports of Observers | 3 |
| 4 OPERATION OF THE SECRETARIAT | 5 |
| 4.1 Report of the Secretariat | 5 |
| 4.2 Secretariat Work Programme 2026 - 2028 | 5 |
| 4.3 Review of Staff Regulations | 5 |
| 4.4 Review of Financial Regulations | 6 |
| 4.5 Review of Effectiveness of the Secretariat | 6 |
| 4.6 Recruitment of the Agreement's Executive Secretary | 6 |
| 5 OPERATION OF THE MEETING OF THE PARTIES | 7 |
| 6 OPERATION OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE | 7 |
| 6.1 Report of the Advisory Committee | 7 |
| 6.2 Advisory Committee Work Programme..... | 9 |
| 7 OPERATION OF THE AGREEMENT..... | 9 |
| 7.1 Proposed amendment to Annex 1 – listing of new species | 9 |
| 7.2 Criteria for listing and de-listing species in Annex 1 | 10 |
| 7.3 Report on Implementation of the Agreement | 10 |
| 7.4 Identification of Priority Actions for Conservation Measures | 12 |
| 7.5 Indicators to Measure the Success of the Agreement | 13 |
| 7.6 Capacity Building | 16 |
| 7.7 Communications Strategy | 18 |
| 7.8 Arrangements with Other Organisations..... | 18 |
| 7.9 Financial Report | 19 |
| 7.10 Agreement Budget 2026 – 2028 | 20 |
| 7.11 Scale of Contributions | 21 |
| 7.12 National Plans of Action | 22 |
| 7.13 Accession of Non-Party Range States to the Agreement..... | 23 |
| 8 PROVISIONAL DATE AND VENUE OF THE NINTH MEETING OF THE PARTIES | 24 |
| 9 OTHER BUSINESS | 24 |

| | | |
|-----------|---|-----------|
| 9.1 | Media Release | 24 |
| 9.2 | Participation at future conferences | 24 |
| 10 | ADOPTION OF MOP8 REPORT | 24 |
| 11 | CLOSING REMARKS..... | 25 |
| ANNEX 1. | RESOLUTION 8.1 RULES OF PROCEDURE | 26 |
| ANNEX 2. | RESOLUTION 8.2 SECRETARIAT WORK PROGRAMME 2026 - 2028 | 36 |
| ANNEX 3. | RESOLUTION 8.3 TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR REVIEWING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE SECRETARIAT | 46 |
| ANNEX 4. | RESOLUTION 8.4 ADVISORY COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME 2026 - 2028 | 49 |
| ANNEX 5. | RESOLUTION 8.5 RESOLUTION TO ADDRESS THE CONSERVATION CRISIS FACED BY ALBATROSSES AND PETRELS DUE TO THE THREAT OF FISHERIES BYCATCH..... | 63 |
| ANNEX 6. | RESOLUTION 8.6 ARRANGEMENT WITH THE JOINT TECHNICAL COMMISSION OF THE MARITIME FRONT AND WITH GLOBAL FISHING WATCH | 66 |
| ANNEX 7. | RESOLUTION 8.7 AGREEMENT BUDGET 2026 - 2028 | 71 |
| ANNEX 8. | TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR INTERSESSIONAL GROUP | 79 |
| ANNEX 9. | LIST OF MEETING PARTICIPANTS..... | 80 |
| ANNEX 10. | MEETING AGENDA | 85 |
| ANNEX 11. | LIST OF MEETING DOCUMENTS..... | 87 |
| ANNEX 12. | OBSERVER STATEMENT - CHINESE TAIPEI | 89 |
| ANNEX 13. | OBSERVER STATEMENT - IUCN | 91 |

1 OFFICIAL OPENING AND OPENING STATEMENTS

- 1.1 The Eighth Session of the Meeting of the Parties (MoP8) to the Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels (ACAP) was held at Dunedin, New Zealand, from 19 to 23 May 2025. The meeting was officially opened by Dr Michael Double, Chair of the Advisory Committee, as Acting Chair of the Session in accordance with Rule 12(2) of the Rules of Procedure for the MoP.
- 1.2 All thirteen Parties to the Agreement were represented at the Session: Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Chile, Ecuador, France, New Zealand, Norway, Peru, South Africa, Spain, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (UK) and Uruguay.
- 1.3 Three non-Party Range States: Canada, Namibia and the United States of America (USA), sent their apologies.
- 1.4 An Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum member economy, Chinese Taipei, attended the meeting in an observer capacity. Chinese Taipei's opening statement is provided in **ANNEX 12**.
- 1.5 The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), BirdLife International (BLI) and Royal Forest & Bird Protection Society of New Zealand also attended the meeting in an observer capacity. Humane World for Animals Australia sent their apologies.
- 1.6 The List of Participants is provided in **ANNEX 9**. The List of Documents is provided in **ANNEX 11**.
- 1.7 As is customary in New Zealand, delegates were given a traditional welcome. This welcome was given by Hoani Langsbury, an elder of the local indigenous people. His welcome acknowledged those who have come before us, and ensured that we are firmly rooted in the present and formulate wise decisions for the future.
- 1.8 Ms Stephanie Rowe, Deputy Director-General Biodiversity Heritage and Visitors of New Zealand's Department of Conservation (DOC), formally welcomed all delegates and observers to MoP8 on behalf of the Government of New Zealand, and acknowledged the local tribe (iwi) and the significance of the welcome.
- 1.9 Ms Rowe recalled New Zealand's longstanding involvement in ACAP, having first hosted a Meeting of the Parties in 2006, and reaffirmed its commitment to seabird conservation, noting that the country is home to breeding populations of over half of ACAP's listed species. Expressing concern over the continued decline of albatross and petrel populations, she highlighted the urgent need for stronger protection, particularly against threats at sea such as fisheries bycatch. While New Zealand invests in habitat protection and predator control, she

stressed that these birds' wide-ranging movements demand international cooperation.

- 1.10 Ms Rowe praised ACAP's scientific leadership, but reminded delegates that "advice needs action". She called on Parties to work with determination and unity to reverse declines and protect these treasured species. She closed by thanking the Secretariat and wishing all delegates a successful and productive meeting.
- 1.11 The Acting Chair, on behalf of all delegations, thanked Ms Rowe for her welcoming remarks.
- 1.12 The Acting Chair then called for nominations for the position of Chair of the Meeting. New Zealand proposed the election of Ms Danica Stent (Alternate Representative for New Zealand) as Chair of the Eighth Session of the Meeting of the Parties. This was accepted by acclamation of the Meeting. The acting Chair of the Session, Dr Michael Double, became the Vice-chair of the Meeting, in accordance with Rule 12(2) of the MoP Rules of Procedure.

2 PROCEDURAL ISSUES

2.1 Adoption of Agenda

- 2.1.1 The provisional agenda (**MoP8 Doc 01**), was adopted by the MoP and is provided in **ANNEX 10**.

2.2 Amendments to the MoP Rules of Procedure

- 2.2.1 The Executive Secretary introduced [MoP8 Doc 06](#) which proposed amendments to Rule 4 of the Rules of Procedure for the MoP. Rule 4(3) sets out a procedure to be followed by international bodies for requesting admittance as observers to MoP Sessions, while Rule 4(5) sets out a procedure for non-international bodies. The Executive Secretary indicated that the proposal would align the timeline in Rule 4(5) with that in Rule 4(3), and would be complementary with recent changes made to the Rules of Procedure for the Advisory Committee (AC) agreed at AC14.
- 2.2.2 The Executive Secretary introduced proposed amendments to Rule 5 of the Rules of Procedure for the MoP. Rule 5 sets out a procedure to be followed when submitting the credentials of the Representative and any Alternative Representative of a Party attending Sessions of the MoP. The Executive Secretary indicated that the proposed changes to Rule 5 would allow a Party to submit credentials either as originals or electronically.
- 2.2.3 The MoP agreed to the amendments proposed in paragraphs 2.2.1 and 2.2.2 above and adopted **Resolution 8.1 on** the Rules of Procedure (**ANNEX 1**).

2.3 Establishment of Credentials Committee

- 2.3.1 A Credentials Committee was established in accordance with Rule 5(3) of the Rules of Procedure, consisting of representatives from Australia, New Zealand, Spain and the United Kingdom (Chair).

3 REPORTS

3.1 Report of Credentials Committee

- 3.1.1 The Credentials Committee reported that, the credentials of 13 Parties had been received. Of the credentials received, nine were in order. Eight of these were received by the deadline set out in Rule 5(2) of the Rules of Procedure. Four were received not in the form required by the Rules of Procedure.
- 3.1.2 While the Rules of Procedure require that credentials be submitted no later than 24 hours after the commencement of the Session of the MoP, the Credentials Committee proposed an inclusive approach to enable the Parties that had not yet provided sufficient credentials to participate in the Session. The Credentials Committee proposed that the four Parties whose credentials were not in order provide an assurance that their credentials would be sent to the ACAP Secretariat within 28 days of the closure of the Session.
- 3.1.3 The Parties whose credentials were not in order provided assurances in accordance with paragraph 3.1.2 above.
- 3.1.4 The Credentials Committee's report was accepted by the Parties.

3.2 Report of the Depositary

- 3.2.1 Australia, in its role as Depositary, presented its report ([MoP8 Doc 07](#)). The report noted there had been no new accessions to the Agreement since the most recent Depositary Report of 1 June 2024 to the 14th meeting of the Advisory Committee (AC14), which took place in Lima, Peru, 12-16 August 2024 (**AC14 Doc 06**).
- 3.2.2 Australia reported that the ACAP website now includes information on procedures for accession to the Agreement (www.acap.aq/about-acap/joining-acap), developed by the Secretariat and Australia.

3.3 Reports of Observers

- 3.3.1 A report from BirdLife International was provided prior to the meeting ([MoP8 Inf 03](#)).

- 3.3.2 BLI thanked the Secretariat and reaffirmed BLI's ongoing commitment to collaborate toward achieving the objectives of the Agreement, noting its regular participation in ACAP's technical and working group meetings.
- 3.3.3 BLI highlighted the upcoming IUCN Red List updates for seabird species due to take place between 2027 and 2029. The successful update of the status of species on the Red List will require significant input from experts, including contributions from the ACAP Secretariat. The value of long-standing global collaborations, many initiated 15–20 years ago, was also emphasised. These partnerships with local teams and organisations working on reducing seabird bycatch in fisheries have strengthened conservation efforts and aligned well with ACAP's objectives.
- 3.3.4 Despite progress, BLI acknowledged that critical populations remain in decline, calling for urgent and collective action. Conservation measures must not only be adopted in regulations but also effectively monitored and enforced to ensure implementation.
- 3.3.5 BLI expressed confidence that coordinated ACAP collaboration can support stronger advocacy with fisheries operating on the high seas, promoting ACAP Best Practice Advice to reduce bycatch. While challenges remain, BLI believes the necessary expertise exists within the Parties of the Agreement to meet them.
- 3.3.6 BLI issued two specific calls to action for ACAP Parties: (1) to encourage their national researchers to prepare information that can support Red List species assessments, and (2) to strengthen engagement at tuna Regional Fisheries Management Organisations (t-RFMOs) to improve the effective implementation of mitigation measures in high seas fisheries.
- 3.3.7 Parties congratulated BLI on the quality of its report and acknowledged the organisation's significant and ongoing collaboration with ACAP, noting its substantial contributions to ACAP's objectives.
- 3.3.8 The Vice-chair congratulated BLI on its outstanding contribution to the work of the Advisory Committee and its Working Groups. He noted the breadth of BLI's involvement, ranging from the provision of seabird tracking data and species distribution maps to leading roles in Working Groups and intersessional activities. He expressed his deep appreciation for this multi-faceted engagement.
- 3.3.9 Chinese Taipei welcomed the cooperation with BLI and reiterated its commitment to supporting all efforts aimed at generating reliable data on the fishing industry. Chinese Taipei reaffirmed its willingness to work with the ACAP Secretariat on the conservation of albatrosses and petrels, and expressed interest in contributing to conservation efforts in other ecosystems as well.
- 3.3.10 The IUCN welcomed the continued use of the Red List as a conservation tool and expressed hope that this important work would be maintained in the future.

- 3.3.11 The Chair, on behalf of the MoP, thanked BLI for its report and for its commitment to working with ACAP to achieve the objectives of the Agreement.
- 3.3.12 The IUCN provided information about its activities which is presented in **ANNEX 13**.

4 OPERATION OF THE SECRETARIAT

4.1 Report of the Secretariat

- 4.1.1 The Executive Secretary presented the Secretariat Report ([MoP8 Doc 08](#)). She noted that the main activities for the Secretariat over the triennium included organising two meetings of the Advisory Committee and Working Groups in Edinburgh in 2023 and in Lima in 2024, followed by organising MoP8. The Secretariat and ACAP officials continued representing the Agreement at various meetings, as detailed in the report and in accordance with the Regional Fisheries Management and Conservation Organisations Engagement Strategy ([MoP8 Doc 24](#)). The Executive Secretary also assisted (administratively) the Recruitment Subcommittee in the process for appointing a new Executive Secretary.
- 4.1.2 The MoP expressed appreciation for the work undertaken by the Secretariat.
- 4.1.3 The MoP thanked the Tasmanian Department of State Growth for supporting the Agreement by providing ongoing invaluable financial and administrative assistance to the Secretariat.
- 4.1.4 France noted that it was very helpful to have a French version of the ACAP website and thanked the Secretariat for maintaining this resource.

4.2 Secretariat Work Programme 2026 - 2028

- 4.2.1 The Executive Secretary introduced **MoP8 Doc 18** which sets out the proposed Work Programme for the Secretariat for the 2026 – 2028 triennium.
- 4.2.2 The MoP adopted **Resolution 8.2** on the Secretariat Work Programme (provided in **ANNEX 2**).

4.3 Review of Staff Regulations

- 4.3.1 Brazil proposed the creation of an Intersessional Group to review the criteria for recruitment of the Executive Secretary, contained in Annex A of the current Staff Regulations, in [Resolution 7.3](#).

4.3.2 The MoP supported this initiative. Argentina, Australia, Chile, New Zealand, and the UK expressed interest in participating in the Intersessional Group to be led by Brazil. The Secretariat offered to assist in the process.

4.3.3 The MoP endorsed Terms of Reference for the Intersessional Group (**ANNEX 8**).

4.4 Review of Financial Regulations

4.4.1 [MoP8 Doc 23](#) outlining a proposal to amend the Financial Regulations was discussed under Agenda Item 5, following consideration of Budget options ([MoP8 Doc 19 Rev 2](#)).

4.5 Review of Effectiveness of the Secretariat

4.5.1 The Executive Secretary introduced [MoP8 Doc 10](#) that proposed the terms of reference for the review of the effectiveness of the Secretariat, which is required to be undertaken at MoP9 in accordance with the requirements of Article VIII(14) of the Agreement.

4.5.2 The MoP approved the Terms of Reference for reviewing the effectiveness of the Secretariat and adopted **Resolution 8.3 (ANNEX 3)**.

4.5.3 The MoP established the Review Body that included regional representation from: (i) Europe/Africa – South Africa and the United Kingdom (Chair); (ii) Asia/Australasia – Australia and New Zealand; and (iii) North/South America: Argentina, Brazil, Ecuador, Peru, and Uruguay.

4.6 Recruitment of the Agreement's Executive Secretary

4.6.1 The Chair of the Recruitment Subcommittee, Ms Carmen Rivero, provided a summary of the process followed for the recruitment of the new Executive Secretary. This process is detailed in Annex A of the Staff Regulations for the ACAP Secretariat (**Resolution 7.3**). The Recruitment Subcommittee reported that one candidate from the Americas, one candidate from continental Europe, five candidates from the rest of Europe, one candidate from Africa, and five candidates from Australasia applied for the position. Of the nine candidates, some applicants had dual nationality. All candidates were fluent in English. In addition, one candidate was fluent in, and two candidates had basic knowledge of French, one candidate was fluent in and two candidates had basic knowledge of Spanish, and one candidate spoke basic French and Spanish. Following a rigorous selection process, Mr Jonathon Barrington (Australia) was identified as the most suitable candidate for the position. The Recruitment Subcommittee congratulated him on his appointment.

- 4.6.2 The Executive Secretary, Dr Christine Bogle, thanked the Chair of the Recruitment Subcommittee for providing information on the recruitment process. She warmly congratulated Mr Barrington on his appointment, noting their long-standing professional relationship and his valuable support when she began her own position as the ACAP Executive Secretary.
- 4.6.3 Mr Barrington stated he feels honoured to be appointed Executive Secretary and affirmed his commitment to working with, and for, all Parties.
- 4.6.4 The Meeting of the Parties thanked the Recruitment Subcommittee for its work.
- 4.6.5 The Chair expressed her sincere thanks to both the current Executive Secretary, and the Executive Secretary-elect, paying tribute to Dr Bogle's unwavering support. She said it had been a pleasure to work alongside her.

5 OPERATION OF THE MEETING OF THE PARTIES

- 5.1 Australia introduced a proposal, developed by Australia and New Zealand, to amend the Financial Regulations in order to establish a Budget Subcommittee ([MoP8 Doc 23](#)).
- 5.2 Parties instead committed to convene Representatives of interested Parties informally online no later than 30 days ahead of future sessions of the Meeting of the Parties to discuss the draft Agreement Budget and Parties' assessed contributions in order to streamline these deliberations in the Plenary. The Secretariat will be responsible for convening the online meeting.

6 OPERATION OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

6.1 Report of the Advisory Committee

- 6.1.1 The Vice-chair (in his role as Chair of the Advisory Committee) presented the Advisory Committee Report to the Eighth Meeting of the Parties ([MoP8 Doc 11](#)).
- 6.1.2 He noted that, over the past three years, the Advisory Committee had held two meetings, one (AC13) in Edinburgh, UK, in May 2023 and one (AC14) in Lima, Peru, August 2024, preceded by meetings of the Seabird Bycatch Working Group (SBWG), Population and Conservation Status Working Group (PaCSWG), and joint meetings of both groups.
- 6.1.3 Progress achieved by the Advisory Committee included the continued development of seabird bycatch mitigation Best Practice Advice, guidelines and factsheets, a review of priority conservation actions, funding of Small Grants and Secondments Programmes, development and implementation of ACAP's RFMCO Engagement Strategy, provision of advice on High Pathogenicity Avian

Influenza (HPAI), and continued review of taxonomy-related publications relevant to ACAP species. The AC Chair also noted the Advisory Committee had established 10 intersessional groups to progress its work.

- 6.1.4 The AC Chair reminded MoP8 that, despite all the work by ACAP (and others), the conservation crisis highlighted in 2019 by AC11 was continuing: many populations continued to decline and ACAP was not achieving its stated objective to “achieve and maintain a favourable conservation status for albatrosses and petrels”.
- 6.1.5 The AC Chair nevertheless highlighted achievements of ACAP which are well summarised in the booklet published in 2024 to celebrate 20 years since the entry into force of the Agreement.
- 6.1.6 The AC Chair explained that AC13 had reviewed its reporting to the Meeting of the Parties and decided on a revised format, consisting of more, but shorter, reports, targeted at specific areas.
- 6.1.7 The MoP welcomed the new reporting structure, and recognised the contributions made to ACAP by the Advisory Committee’s Working Groups, Convenors, Vice-convenors and technical experts.
- 6.1.8 New Zealand welcomed the progress achieved by the Advisory Committee but stressed that significant challenges remained, requiring a joint effort by ACAP Parties (and others) to reduce the decline in ACAP species. The collation of data on seabird bycatch and mitigation was a challenge.
- 6.1.9 The UK shared New Zealand’s concern about the ongoing conservation crisis for albatrosses and petrels and called on all Parties to commit to fully implementing the Agreement, and to give their support to the most favourable budget scenario that will enable the Advisory Committee to undertake all aspects of its Work Programme.
- 6.1.10 Australia welcomed the reporting from the AC Chair and highlighted the large number of activities undertaken by the Advisory Committee, especially its officials. Australia saw the 20 year booklet as an excellent summary of achievements and challenges.
- 6.1.11 Australia, New Zealand, and the UK stressed the importance of continuing to provide sufficient funds in the budget for the Advisory Committee Work Programme.
- 6.1.12 BLI congratulated all involved in the Advisory Committee and its Working Groups, welcoming the large amount of technical knowledge available. The SBWG had provided excellent Best Practice Advice, based on available evidence, but there was a need for Parties to provide more comprehensive data to ACAP so that it could be considered collectively and used to provide stronger evidence to influence decisions at RFMOs. BLI also recalled the excellent

support that ACAP had provided for it to hold a workshop (with Global Fishing Watch) in the margins of AC14.

- 6.1.13 Australia suggested that it would be timely, after 20 years, to conduct a review of the Action Plan before the next Meeting of the Parties.
- 6.1.14 The MoP requested that a task be added to the Advisory Committee Work Programme to carry out a Review of Annex 2 (Action Plan) to the Agreement and endorsed the recommendations in **MoP8 Doc 11**:
1. Note the progress and achievements made by the Advisory Committee during the past triennium.
 2. Recognise the contributions made to the Agreement by the Advisory Committee's Working Groups and continue to support engagement by Convenors, Vice-convenors and technical experts in order to progress the Advisory Committee's Work Programme.
 3. Allocate adequate resources to support the continued work of the Advisory Committee, its Working Groups and its Work Programme to ensure timely and reliable advice on the status of ACAP species and their breeding sites; the assessment and mitigation of threats and on priority conservation actions.
 4. Provide feedback to the Advisory Committee on its reporting to the MoP and identify further opportunities to improve the delivery of information and advice.

6.2 Advisory Committee Work Programme

- 6.2.1 The Vice-chair, in his role as Advisory Committee Chair, presented the Advisory Committee's Draft 2026 - 2028 Work Programme (MoP8 Doc 17). The Work Programme was prepared by the Advisory Committee at its Fourteenth Meeting. The AC Work Programme identifies the key actions and outputs required to implement the Agreement's Action Plan over the next triennium, and provides indicative costs for each task to facilitate discussion on the allocation of funding in Appropriation 4 of the Agreement's Budget.
- 6.2.2 The MoP amended the 2026 – 2028 Advisory Committee Work Programme following discussions under Agenda Items 6.1, 7.3, 7.7, and 7.10 and adopted **Resolution 8.4** (provided in **ANNEX 4**).

7 OPERATION OF THE AGREEMENT

7.1 Proposed amendment to Annex 1 – listing of new species

- 7.1.1 There were no proposals to amend Annex 1 of the Agreement.
- 7.1.2 New Zealand provided an update on the development of a joint proposal with Australia to list the Flesh-footed Shearwater *Ardenna carneipes* on Annex II of the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS). The listing proposal intends to highlight further conservation benefits to be achieved if the species were to be also listed on Annex 1 of ACAP, given it shares threats and characteristics with closely related species already on Annex 1, such as the Pink-footed Shearwater *Ardenna creatopus*.
- 7.1.3 New Zealand also informed MoP8 about a second proposal to be presented to CMS relating to 25 species of gadfly (*Pterodroma* and *Pseudobulweria*) petrels, which face threats at their breeding sites, but also from human activities at sea. New Zealand explained that it is engaging with several ACAP Parties on this proposal, and that it is planned to be presented to the CMS Conference of the Parties in March 2026. Some ACAP resources and activities will be of benefit to the conservation of these petrels. New Zealand noted that there may be merit in giving consideration to listing the small number of species within the gadfly group that face similar threats to ACAP species on Annex 1 in the future.

7.2 Criteria for listing and de-listing species in Annex 1

- 7.2.1 Mark Tasker, in his role as the Convenor of the Taxonomy Working Group, introduced [MoP8 Inf 01 Rev 1](#), which sets out a recently updated list of all procellariiform species following IOC World Bird List, sorted by suitability of species for inclusion on Annex 1 of the Agreement. He noted that papers supporting any nominations to Annex 1 should be presented to the Advisory Committee meeting immediately following a Meeting of Parties, to allow timely assessment of the nomination prior to the next MoP.
- 7.2.2 Chinese Taipei provided some information about one of the candidate species, the Streaked Shearwater *Calonectris leucomelas* in the North Pacific. At least three breeding colonies had been invaded by cats and brown rats, and work on invasive rodent eradication at the breeding colony on Mienhua islet has been ongoing since 2022. Based on this information, Chinese Taipei suggested adjusting the score for “Land-based threats” for this species from 1 to 3 or 4 in Table 1 of **MoP8 Inf 01 Rev 1**.

7.3 Report on Implementation of the Agreement

- 7.3.1 The Secretariat presented the Summary Report on Progress with the Implementation of the Agreement 2022 – 2024 ([MoP8 Doc 12](#)). Not all Parties submitted their implementation reports in time to be included in the Summary Report. Four Parties submitted their implementation reports after the due date ([MoP8 Inf 02 Rev 3](#)). The detail provided in Parties’ implementation reports varied greatly. Some broad themes identified in the current triennium included

the adoption, review or update of National Plans of Action, development of new management plans for breeding sites or foraging areas of ACAP species, expansion or declaration of Marine Protected Areas, review of potential impacts on birds from offshore wind farms, and the impact of HPAI.

- 7.3.2 New Zealand thanked the Secretariat for the report, while expressing concern at the increasing level of late reporting (noting Article VI of the Agreement requires all Parties to report on progress in implementing the Action Plan). New Zealand welcomed the information provided, but noted that the reporting lacked the ability to measure progress on implementing the priority conservation actions set by the Advisory Committee.
- 7.3.3 The Vice-chair commented that compiling the information for implementation reports is challenging, but there was an opportunity to provide more clarity on progress, rather than just listing actions taken.
- 7.3.4 Australia, New Zealand, and the UK agreed that it was important to find a way to monitor both the activities of Parties and also the outcomes of those activities. The UK commented that, while the land-based conservation actions did have some helpful explanatory notes (in the reports), the sea-based conservation actions did not.
- 7.3.5 The Secretariat clarified that there was opportunity on the reporting forms for more detailed comments to be provided, but not all Parties did so.
- 7.3.6 BLI agreed on the need to better capture information about activities undertaken to address at-sea threats. It was important for Parties to report on successful conservation actions to show what was possible and share lessons learnt.
- 7.3.7 In light of the limitations identified in the current implementation reporting process, the MoP requested the AC to review the format of reporting on the implementation of the Agreement, with a focus on priority conservation actions, on land, at-sea and for High Priority Populations. This should capture activities undertaken under the Agreement, including those reported by Parties, and an assessment of the effectiveness of these activities in addressing the conservation priorities.
- 7.3.8 The MoP endorsed the recommendations in **MoP8 Doc 12**:
1. Recognise the progress made by Parties in addressing the Conservation Priorities identified in the 2022-2024 triennium.
 2. Provide their Implementation Reports to the Secretariat in a timely manner as per Article VII(1)(c) of the Agreement so that the information can be used to determine progress with implementation of the Agreement.
 3. Continue to take actions to implement the Agreement.

7.4 Identification of Priority Actions for Conservation Measures

- 7.4.1 The Vice-chair, in his role as Advisory Committee Chair, introduced [MoP8 Doc 15](#), which provided an update on priority conservation actions, identified by prioritisation frameworks developed by the Advisory Committee to address both land-based and at-sea threats.
- 7.4.2 The conservation actions are based on information compiled from ACAP Parties, cooperating non-Party Range States, the Seabird Bycatch Working Group, and the Population and Conservation Status Working Group. The report supports the Advisory Committee in fulfilling its obligations to the Meeting of the Parties under Article IX(6)(c) of the Agreement.
- 7.4.3 The MoP endorsed the recommendations as set out in **MoP8 Doc 15**:
1. Endorse the priority conservation actions identified by the Advisory Committee for the 2026 - 2028 triennium.
 2. Implement ACAP's Best Practice Advice on seabird bycatch mitigation in all domestic and high-seas fisheries that impact ACAP species and especially those identified as priorities for conservation action.
 3. Fully support and implement ACAP's RFMCO Engagement Strategy.
 4. Address priority land-based threats through alien species eradications and other management actions.
 5. Support all conservation actions that reduce the threats to ACAP's High Priority Populations.
- 7.4.4 The Executive Secretary, on behalf of the Advisory Committee's Intersessional Correspondence Group (ICG), presented [MoP8 Doc 24](#): ACAP Engagement Strategy with Regional Fisheries Management and Conservation Organisations (RFMCO). She explained that AC13 had set up an intersessional correspondence group to review and update the Strategy, and AC14 decided that the revised Strategy should also be completed by the ICG and provided to MoP8 for its endorsement. She noted that the updated version set out individualised approaches for engagement with each RFMCO (grouped by three categories) and a list of Priority Actions. These would be updated regularly and reviewed by the Advisory Committee at least every three years to account for developments in the respective organisations. She stressed the importance of ACAP Parties in supporting the objectives of the Strategy and advocating for relevant proposals in the RFMCOs of which they were members. She also noted the importance of the MoP agreeing to adequate funding for ACAP's RFMCO engagement (within the budget allocation for the AC Work Programme).
- 7.4.5 The MoP endorsed the revised ACAP RFMCO Engagement Strategy, agreed to allocate sufficient funding in the 2026 – 2028 Advisory Committee Work Programme to fully implement the priority actions outlined in the Strategy, and

acknowledged the pivotal role engagement with these bodies plays in advocating for the implementation of ACAP's Best Practice Advice in conservation and management measures.

- 7.4.6 Chinese Taipei appreciated the preparation of the Engagement Strategy and fully supported its recommendations. As a major distant-water fishing economy, Chinese Taipei highlighted the importance of multilingual outreach materials. Many of their vessel crew members are foreign migrant workers who do not speak English or Mandarin, so having translated guidelines or toolkits would greatly enhance seabird bycatch mitigation efforts. Chinese Taipei also wished to emphasize the importance of land-based restoration in the Northwest Pacific, where the focus is more on restoring breeding habitats than at-sea mitigation. Chinese Taipei stated that it stands ready to cooperate with ACAP on both, multilingual communication tools, and on land-based conservation efforts.
- 7.4.7 New Zealand tabled a draft resolution: *Actions to address the conservation crisis faced by albatrosses and petrels due to the threat of fisheries bycatch* ([MoP8 Doc 22](#)). New Zealand noted that, at AC11, the Advisory Committee agreed that there is a conservation crisis facing albatrosses and petrels. The primary threat to these birds is fisheries bycatch. Hundreds of thousands of albatrosses and petrels are incidentally caught and killed in fisheries each year. ACAP's High Priority Populations remain in steep decline. This negative trajectory will not reverse without intervention. The draft resolution reiterates key actions ACAP and its Parties have agreed to undertake to address the conservation crisis, in line with Parties' commitments under Article VI of the Agreement to implement the Action Plan for achieving a favourable conservation status for albatrosses and petrels.
- 7.4.8 New Zealand noted that the ongoing guidance provided by the Advisory Committee would be essential to focus and inform the Agreement's efforts to address the conservation crisis.
- 7.4.9 Chinese Taipei stated that the term "implementation" often implies a legally binding obligation, and recalled that ACAP's Best Practice Advice is not legally binding. The wording in the operational paragraph 4 of Resolution 8.5 allowed them to better engage with the fisheries sector.
- 7.4.10 The MoP adopted **Resolution 8.5 (ANNEX 5)**.

7.5 Indicators to Measure the Success of the Agreement

- 7.5.1 The Vice-chair (in his role as Chair of the Advisory Committee) introduced [MoP8 Doc 13](#) which describes the status of ACAP species, populations, and breeding sites. The report is based on input from ACAP Parties, cooperating Range States, and BLI. Most ACAP species continue to decline, with their IUCN Red List status worsening since 2004. Over the past 20 years, 52% of species have declined, 16% remained stable, 27% increased, and 6% have unknown trends. Population

monitoring has decreased since 2014, reaching its lowest levels since 2004. Tracking studies have been conducted for all ACAP species, but comprehensive tracking across all life stages remains limited.

- 7.5.2 The Vice-chair emphasised the establishment and ongoing work of the Species Status and Trends Intersessional Group, which is developing advanced analytical methods to progress the assessment of population trends — historical, current, and future. He stated that the message was clear: with more than 50% of ACAP-listed species in decline, current conservation efforts are insufficient to maintain a favourable status for these populations.
- 7.5.3 New Zealand expressed deep concern over the declining conservation status of albatrosses and petrels, emphasising the urgent need for action to address critical threats. New Zealand fully endorsed the proposed recommendations and reaffirmed its commitment to active monitoring and tracking studies. Furthermore, New Zealand highlighted that increased research continues to reveal new challenges, underscoring the vital importance of ongoing monitoring programmes in safeguarding seabird populations.
- 7.5.4 Australia expressed appreciation to the Advisory Committee Chair for the report and affirmed its support for the recommendations. Australia announced plans for a management visit to Heard Island and McDonald Islands to assess breeding populations, identify data gaps, and collect new data, marking the first such survey since 2004. Findings from the visit would be provided upon completion.
- 7.5.5 The United Kingdom acknowledged the ongoing decline of ACAP species and expressed support for the recommendations outlined in the report. The UK reaffirmed its commitment to addressing data gaps and encouraged other Parties to actively contribute to improving research and conservation efforts.
- 7.5.6 The MoP endorsed the recommendations in **MoP8 Doc 13**:
1. Acknowledge the continuing decline in the conservation status of ACAP-listed species and the urgent need to implement ACAP's Priority Conservation Actions in the next triennium (see MoP8 Doc 15).
 2. Implement best practice monitoring that includes censuses of breeding sites conducted at a minimum of 10-year intervals, and annual monitoring of population trend and demography at a minimum of one representative site for each island group;
 3. Continue to submit all breeding site monitoring data to the ACAP Database to maintain the currency of information underpinning analyses.
 4. Conduct priority tracking and other research programmes to describe the at-sea distribution of albatrosses and petrels, and submit any new tracking data to BirdLife International's Seabird Tracking Database.

- 7.5.7 The Vice-chair, in his role as Advisory Committee Chair, introduced [MoP8 Doc 14](#), which provides a comprehensive summary of known and suspected threats to ACAP species, both at sea and at their breeding sites. It outlines mitigation strategies and best practices to reduce these risks. The report is based on consolidated information from ACAP Parties, cooperating Range States, the Seabird Bycatch Working Group, and the Population and Conservation Status Working Group.
- 7.5.8 The United Kingdom reaffirmed its strong support for the recommendations outlined in the report and reiterated its commitment to their implementation.
- 7.5.9 New Zealand welcomed the report and likewise expressed full support for its recommendations. New Zealand highlighted progress in pest eradication, and positive trends seen in the availability of tracking data, but noted challenges in collecting at-sea data for long-term analysis. New Zealand emphasised the value of data-sharing initiatives, such as those of Global Fishing Watch (GFW), to improve automated monitoring. It stressed the need for sufficient resourcing of the Advisory Committee Work Programme to maintain momentum and underscored the importance of a strong communication strategy to ensure expert advice is adopted and translates into effective implementation.
- 7.5.10 Australia expressed its support for the recommendations and emphasised that ACAP does not currently assess threats posed by offshore wind farms, including collision risks, and barrier and displacement effects. Efforts are underway to develop ACAP guidelines on offshore windfarm developments. Additionally, Australia highlighted the need for appropriate t-RFMO conservation and management measures that align with ACAP Best Practice Advice.
- 7.5.11 BLI supported the recommendations in **MoP8 Doc 14**, noting the need for social science skills and education, but stressed the critical importance of effective monitoring and enforcement. It acknowledged the success of electronic monitoring in enhancing compliance, noting these priorities in Recommendation 5.
- 7.5.12 The IUCN emphasised the impact of observing fishing activities, noting that such monitoring influences behavioural changes within the industry. The IUCN highlighted the need for a broader range of expertise to support these efforts and suggested it may be able to find volunteers for the Advisory Committee Working Group to strengthen collaborative initiatives.
- 7.5.13 Chinese Taipei echoed the IUCN's concerns regarding seabird conservation and highlighted its recent bycatch mitigation workshop with the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna (CCSBT). The workshop focused on implementing ACAP Best Practice Advice to reduce seabird bycatch, reinforcing collaborative efforts to enhance mitigation strategies.
- 7.5.14 The Executive Secretary noted that the CCSBT workshop mentioned by Chinese Taipei was part of a project under the auspices of the second phase of a

programme organised by the FAO and funded by the GEF. Both ACAP and BLI are supporting partners of the CCSBT project.

7.5.15 The MoP endorsed the recommendations in **MoP8 Doc 14**:

1. Eradicate feral species from the breeding sites that impact on ACAP species.
2. Mitigate other threats at breeding sites through the development of policy and practices that follow ACAP advice and guidelines.
3. Invest in, and implement, comprehensive management plans for breeding sites of ACAP species.
4. Use ACAP guidelines and Best Practice Advice for seabird bycatch mitigation to guide the development of policy and practice within the fisheries under their jurisdiction or management, and the RFMOs of which they are members.
5. Establish and maintain programmes to determine the magnitude and species composition of seabird bycatch in relevant national and high seas fisheries and to monitor the implementation of effective bycatch mitigation strategies.
6. Assess the efficacy of seabird bycatch mitigation measures used in the fisheries they manage, and in RFMOs they are members of, and explore the performance of new mitigation techniques and technologies, as well as related safety and other operational issues.
7. Monitor and provide information on the fisheries they manage, and the associated seabird bycatch, as part of annual reporting to the Advisory Committee, to enable the assessment and reporting of performance indicators on seabird bycatch.
8. Support the collection and provision of seabird bycatch data by Regional Fisheries Management Organisations (RFMOs) and Regional Conservation Bodies (RCBs).

7.6 Capacity Building

7.6.1 The Secretariat presented [MoP8 Doc 16](#) on capacity building indicators and activities. The document highlighted capacity building through international collaboration facilitated by the Agreement's Small Grants Scheme and Secondment Programme. The paper also noted the difficulties encountered with the collection and analysis of the capacity building indicator related to Parties' domestic activities, which is collated from annual reports to the Advisory Committee.

7.6.2 The MoP reiterated its commitment to capacity building activities supported by the Agreement's Small Grants Scheme and Secondment Programme, noting the

role of these programmes in the sharing of knowledge and strengthening international cooperation.

- 7.6.3 The MoP acknowledged that capacity building indicators addressing domestic activities may not be well suited as a monitoring tool and agreed to remove Indicator 2 on domestic capacity building activities from the annual reporting obligations to the Advisory Committee.
- 7.6.4 The MoP also agreed to advise the Secretariat of any updates to the list of authorities, research centres, scientists and non-government organisations concerned with albatrosses and petrels provided on the ACAP website.
- 7.6.5 The Secretariat introduced [MoP8 Doc 25](#) describing the resources allocated and the conservation value of the Agreement's Small Grants Scheme and Secondment Programme, analysing the evolution of resources allocated, the impact of both programmes in conservation and capacity building, and the way both programmes improved international collaboration.
- 7.6.6 The MoP highlighted that the Small Grants and Secondments have clearly enhanced the research capacity of the Agreement, promoting knowledge exchange, and integrated scientific findings into ACAP's decision-making processes, providing an efficient and effective way for the Agreement to progress the Advisory Committee's Work Programme and build capacity within Parties.
- 7.6.7 The MoP acknowledged the substantial amount of human resources allocated in-kind to the implementation of Small Grants and Secondments.
- 7.6.8 All Parties agreed on the very high value of both programmes in progressing actions in the Advisory Committee Work Programme, stressing the crucial importance of securing the funds to keep these programmes operating into the future.
- 7.6.9 Chinese Taipei stated that it appreciates the in-kind contributions along with the Small Grants Scheme and believes their value can be further enhanced through a knowledge-sharing mechanism. Many small grants fund scientific research, and their findings could be valuable not only to researchers, but also to fisheries managers and policymakers. Chinese Taipei suggested creating a clearinghouse or online database where research outputs from funded projects can be shared in the future. This would allow broader access to results, facilitate collaboration, and support the development of best practices.
- 7.6.10 The Vice-chair noted that the reports of many small grants projects are tabled in meetings of ACAP's Working Groups.

7.7 Communications Strategy

- 7.7.1 The Executive Secretary presented [MoP8 Doc 26](#) on the implementation of the ACAP Communications Strategy, noting that the strategy had been developed, implemented and updated since AC11 in 2019. The document contained the latest update of the Communications Strategy as presented to AC14.
- 7.7.2 The Communications Strategy was designed to be drawn on not only by the Secretariat but also by ACAP Parties and cooperating non-Parties in their own efforts to communicate the conservation crisis facing albatrosses and petrels and the solutions available. The latest update of the Strategy had been developed by a Communications Adviser (contracted as a consultant), together with an Intersessional Group established by AC14.
- 7.7.3 The Executive Secretary reminded Parties that ACAP was currently without a Communications Adviser, and encouraged support of the proposal (in **MoP8 Doc 19 Rev 2**) for the establishment of a permanent part-time Communications Adviser position in the Secretariat.
- 7.7.4 The MoP appreciated the importance of improving communication with relevant entities not currently reached, and agreed to allocate funding in the Advisory Committee Work Programme to implement the Communications Strategy, as described under Agenda Item 7.10.

7.8 Arrangements with Other Organisations

- 7.8.1 The Executive Secretary presented [MoP8 Doc 21](#), about arrangements with other organisations. She noted that in intersessional [Resolution 6.11](#) the Parties (in May 2021) authorised the Secretariat to renew or amend existing arrangements if there were no significant changes in the text. She advised that over the past triennium, several such arrangements had been renewed. The arrangement with the Tasmanian Department of State Growth had been changed to a new format (a legally binding Grant Agreement).
- 7.8.2 The last meeting of the Advisory Committee (AC14) had recommended that a MoU be developed with the Comisión Técnica Mixta del Frente Marítimo (CTMFM). The Executive Secretary had discussed this possibility with the CTMFM Secretariat, who welcomed this initiative and had added relevant text (about CTMFM) to the MoU template. The text was ready for the two organisations to sign, if MoP8 agreed.
- 7.8.3 Argentina and Uruguay highlighted the usefulness of the CTMFM for binational cooperation and stated they would welcome this MoU.
- 7.8.4 AC14 also requested the Secretariat to “develop a cooperation arrangement with Global Fishing Watch, for presentation to the Meeting of the Parties.” The Secretariat had approached Global Fishing Watch about the possibility. GFW

had expressed interest in exploring possible areas of cooperation with ACAP, but a draft MoU remained to be developed.

- 7.8.5 Brazil, Chile, New Zealand and Peru described their very positive experience of collaborating with GFW over the past few years. All four Parties stated that they would like ACAP to establish a productive relationship with the organisation. New Zealand noted that ACAP has struggled to access data for risk assessments and fisheries overlap with seabird distribution, and that the availability of information from GFW has revolutionised this work by providing key information on one of the biggest threats to ACAP species. GFW has also been developing tools to assess compliance with some mitigation methods.
- 7.8.6 BLI echoed the experience of Parties with GFW, and encouraged ACAP's engagement with the organisation.
- 7.8.7 The MoP agreed to the Secretariat concluding the arrangement with the CTMFM and developing an arrangement with GFW, and adopted **Resolution 8.6 (ANNEX 6)**.

7.9 Financial Report

- 7.9.1 The Executive Secretary presented the interim financial report for the 2025 financial year up to 31 December 2024, which included updated information about the status of Parties' contributions as at 6 March 2025 ([MoP8 Doc 9 Rev 1](#)). No further funds had been received since that date. The Executive Secretary highlighted that while the Agreement's financial year was from 1 July to 30 June in the following calendar year, Party contributions were only requested by 1 January, meaning that contributions would not be received from Parties until six months after the relevant financial year had commenced.
- 7.9.2 The MoP noted the interim financial report and the total outstanding contributions of \$354,176.
- 7.9.3 Parties whose contributions were in arrears indicated that efforts were being made to ensure their contributions were up to date.
- 7.9.4 Chile thanked the Secretariat for the preparation of the financial report and explained that due to Chile's internal regulations, the institutional responsibility for the payment of international contributions has fallen on different institutions of the Chilean Government. These changes and the corresponding transfer of information from one institution to another have produced some carryover debts. There are currently teams working on identifying them and looking for a prompt administrative way to resolve this issue as quickly as possible.
- 7.9.5 Ecuador stated that it will do everything possible to resolve its debt to the Agreement.

- 7.9.6 The MoP welcomed the voluntary contributions to the Special Fund over the triennium made by New Zealand, the UK, Chinese Taipei, and Abercrombie and Kent Philanthropy.
- 7.9.7 The MoP noted that Financial Regulation 11.1 requires the Parties to appoint an external auditor at each ordinary session of the MoP. The Executive Secretary noted that the Tasmanian Audit Office has offered to continue designating an audit company to provide the external audit services.
- 7.9.8 The MoP agreed to appoint an audit company designated by the Tasmanian Audit Office as the Agreement's external auditor for the 2026 – 2028 triennium.

7.10 Agreement Budget 2026 – 2028

- 7.10.1 The Executive Secretary introduced the draft ACAP Budget for 2026 - 2028 ([MoP8 Doc 19 Rev 2](#)), noting that, as requested by MoP7, three budget scenarios had been prepared: zero nominal growth, zero real growth, and better than zero real growth.
- 7.10.2 **MoP8 Doc 19 Rev 2** described the costs associated with replacing one in-person meeting with a virtual meeting, as a possible option to save funds under a zero nominal growth scenario. The paper also provided an assessment of the costs of holding hybrid meetings (whether Active or Passive), noting the considerable increased costs over in-person meetings. The paper conveyed generally negative comments from most of the organisations consulted that had experience of holding hybrid meetings.
- 7.10.3 The Executive Secretary stressed that the budget agreed by MoP7 for the triennium 2023 - 2025 followed a zero nominal growth scenario (based on the 2021 costings), as did the Scale of Contributions, requiring the use of one-off savings from the General Fund.
- 7.10.4 Following ACAP principles agreed at MoP3, which state that the budget should be based on zero real growth or preferably better, the Executive Secretary explained that a zero nominal growth budget would mean a significant reduction in ACAP's activities, even if some funds from savings were drawn on.
- 7.10.5 The Executive Secretary also explained that the adoption of a zero real growth Budget would require the use of funds from savings to enable the adequate continuation of several ACAP activities, while a better than zero real growth budget would enable an increase in ACAP's conservation activities and enhance the Agreement's profile.
- 7.10.6 There was a divergence in initial views expressed by Parties on the preferred option for the 2026 – 2028 ACAP Budget. Some Parties expressed interest in adopting a better than zero real growth budget. The majority of Parties

expressed concern that the capacity of the Agreement would be seriously compromised with a budget based on a zero nominal growth scenario, and appreciated the fact that even the adoption of a budget under a zero real growth scenario would need to be supplemented by one-off allocations from General Fund savings to meet any shortfalls.

- 7.10.7 New Zealand expressed concern that the overall conservation status of ACAP species is in decline, and without sufficient resources it is would be unlikely that ACAP could address the drivers behind the worsening conservation status of ACAP species. It is therefore essential that Parties continue to fully and sustainably fund the AC Work Programme and ensure adequate funding to implement ACAP's Communications Strategy and RFMCO Engagement Strategy.
- 7.10.8 Parties decided to allocate ongoing funding in the Advisory Committee Work Programme for the implementation of the Communications Strategy.
- 7.10.9 Brazil and Spain encouraged the Secretariat to explore ways to reduce operational costs where possible.
- 7.10.10 The MoP agreed to adopt a zero real growth budget, supported by a one-off draw down of \$306,842 in estimated savings from the General Fund to support the work of the Agreement in the 2026 - 2028 triennium, and adopted **Resolution 8.7 (ANNEX 7)**.

7.11 Scale of Contributions

- 7.11.1 The Executive Secretary presented the Draft 2026 - 2028 Scale of Contributions ([MoP8 Doc 20 Rev 1](#)) for the consideration of Parties. Following a request from MoP7 the document presented three contribution scenarios: zero nominal growth, zero real growth and better than zero real growth.
- 7.11.2 Under Scenario 1 (zero nominal growth), the total contributions for each year of the triennium would be the same as for 2021 to 2025, with individual shares of these contributions differing slightly due to changes in the relative economic status of Parties, in accordance with the agreed formula. Scenario 2 (zero real growth) was based on accumulated inflation of 16.5% used to estimate the 2026 budget (from 2021), and with 1.5% per year applied to the 2026 figures for 2027 and 2028. Finally, Scenario 3 (better than zero real growth) was developed by applying an inflation increase of 37% on the 2021 budget to estimate 2026 figures, and subsequently an increase of 1.5% per year applied to 2027 and 2028.
- 7.11.3 In association with discussions relevant to the Agreement Budget (Agenda Item 7.10), Parties expressed concerns about the potential adoption of a Scale of Contributions under a zero nominal growth scenario, which would negatively impact the effectiveness of the Agreement.

- 7.11.4 The MoP agreed to adopt a zero real growth Scale of Contributions for the 2026 - 2028 triennium as set out in **Resolution 8.7 Appendix C (ANNEX 7)**.

7.12 National Plans of Action

- 7.12.1 The Chair invited Parties to report on actions relevant to their National Plans of Action – Seabirds (NPOA–S).
- 7.12.2 South Africa reported that its National Plan of Action is in its final draft stage and is awaiting approval.
- 7.12.3 Brazil reported that it continues to lead in seabird conservation through its National Action Plan for the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels (PLANACAP), a strategic initiative launched in 2006 to mitigate incidental captures. Brazil stated that the Plan's third cycle (2018–2023) targeted multiple threatened species, while a planning workshop in May 2024 set the stage for the fourth cycle, expected by late 2025. Complementary measures include modernising the Onboard MAP System for electronic data entry and taking steps to reactivate the National Fisheries Observer Program (PROBORDO), suspended since 2012, to improve monitoring of fishing activities. The "Partners Program," spearheaded by ICMBio, has piloted electronic monitoring to develop AI-based mitigation protocols. Brazil advised that it also implements internationally recognised strategies, such as tori lines, night hook setting, and weighted lines, in line with ACAP and ICCAT recommendations.
- 7.12.4 New Zealand reported continued implementation of the third iteration of its National Plan of Action to Reduce the Incidental Mortality of Seabirds in Fisheries (NPOA Seabirds), established in 2020. The Plan sets a goal of achieving zero fishing-related seabird mortalities. A key development in the third iteration was the introduction of Mitigation Standards, closely aligned with ACAP Best Practice Advice, which were implemented through vessel-specific management plans. This led to the widespread adoption of the "three out of three" approach or hook shielding devices across the pelagic longline fleet and the mandatory requirement for their use from 2024. New Zealand has also greatly improved fisheries monitoring, with the roll out of on-board cameras across inshore fisheries. The Plan also includes sections related to recreational fisheries, international collaboration, research, and monitoring. As it is now five years since the NPOA's establishment, a review is planned, and an update will be reported to ACAP.
- 7.12.5 Australia advised the review of 'National Plan of Action for minimising the incidental catch of seabirds in Australian capture fisheries (2018)' will be undertaken during 2025. The NPOA–Seabirds is a voluntary measure that provides a comprehensive and nationally consistent approach to reducing the impact of fishing on seabirds. It draws together existing regulatory and voluntary management arrangements into one document and provides additional guidance for future management decisions around seabird mitigation measures. Australia

indicated that it continues to implement the 'Threat Abatement Plan for the incidental catch (or bycatch) of seabirds during oceanic longline fishing operations (2018)' and that a variation of this plan will be carried out during 2025.

- 7.12.6 Chinese Taipei acknowledged the impact of its fisheries on seabird populations and the considerable size of its national fleet. It reported the implementation of the "two out of three" approach, incorporating bird-scaring lines and weighted branch lines to mitigate incidental captures. In addition to ongoing efforts in land-based seabird surveys and pest eradication initiatives, Chinese Taipei confirmed its active monitoring for H5N1. These measures will continue as part of its long-term conservation strategy.
- 7.12.7 BLI commended Parties on their progress in updating and advancing their National Plans of Action (NPOAs) and reaffirmed its continued support for the regular review of these plans. They emphasized the need for urgent updates to several NPOAs that have lapsed and are significantly overdue for revision. Additionally, BLI highlighted the efforts of Namibia and Kenya in developing and revising their NPOAs, recognizing their commitment to strengthening seabird conservation measures.
- 7.12.8 The Vice-chair, in his capacity as Advisory Committee Chair, commended Parties on their progress in updating their National Plans of Action. He specifically highlighted New Zealand's full implementation of ACAP Best Practice Advice, including the "three out of three" approach or hook shielding devices, acknowledging the substantial effort required to achieve this milestone.
- 7.12.9 MoP8 welcomed the progress reported by Parties.

7.13 Accession of Non-Party Range States to the Agreement

- 7.13.1 The Executive Secretary's report of the Secretariat ([MoP8 Doc 08](#)) included a summary of actions taken with regard to the accession of new Parties.
- 7.13.2 The Chair noted that there had been no new accessions since MoP7.
- 7.13.3 New Zealand highlighted the efforts undertaken by the Secretariat to reach out to other parties in order to promote ACAP and emphasised the importance of continuing such outreach efforts. It also encouraged all Parties to actively promote the Agreement.
- 7.13.4 Australia expressed support for New Zealand's statement and indicated that it would be pleased as Depositary to assist any non-Party Range State, and the Secretariat, concerning any queries about accession to the Agreement.
- 7.13.5 The MoP commended the work of the Secretariat in engaging with Range States and supported the continuation of efforts in this respect.

8 PROVISIONAL DATE AND VENUE OF THE NINTH MEETING OF THE PARTIES

- 8.1 Peru reaffirmed its confidence in the Agreement and formally offered to host the Ninth Session of the Meeting of the Parties in 2028, at a date and location to be decided.
- 8.2 MoP8 warmly welcomed the offer and congratulated Peru on this important initiative.
- 8.3 Brazil underlined the significance of holding such events in South America, noting that this would help reinforce the region's role as a key actor in environmental matters.

9 OTHER BUSINESS

9.1 Media Release

- 9.1.1 The Secretariat advised that it would prepare a media release in conjunction with the host nation and publish it on the ACAP website.

9.2 Participation at future conferences

- 9.2.1 Australia informed MoP8 that the World Seabird Conference will be held in Hobart, Tasmania, from 7 to 11 September 2026.
- 9.2.2 Brazil informed MoP8 that it will host the 15th Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (COP15), which will take place in Campo Grande, from 23 to 29 March 2026.
- 9.2.3 The IUCN informed MoP8 that [IUCN's World Conservation Congress](#) is scheduled to be held in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, from 9 to 15 October 2025. There are two parts to the meeting: the Forum, which is for all participants, members and non-members alike, October 9-12, and the Members' assembly, October 13-15.

10 ADOPTION OF MOP8 REPORT

- 10.1 The Chair was not able to attend the final day of the meeting. The Vice-chair became the Acting Chair.
- 10.2 The Meeting adopted the report of the Eighth Session of the Meeting of the Parties.

11 CLOSING REMARKS

- 11.1 The Acting Chair extended his warm thanks to the Executive Secretary, Dr Christine Bogle, for her excellent guidance at this meeting. Noting this would be Dr Bogle's last meeting of the Agreement in this role before relinquishing the position at the end of June 2025, the Meeting joined in warmly thanking her for her dedicated involvement with the Agreement over the last six and a half years, including her leadership through the COVID-19 pandemic, and wished her all the best for her future.
- 11.2 The Executive Secretary thanked all her colleagues within the ACAP family for their kind words, support and friendship. She enjoyed her time in the role and hoped to be able to contribute to ACAP in the future. She encouraged ACAP in its endeavours, including seeking new Parties to further the reach of the Agreement.
- 11.3 On behalf of the Meeting, the Acting Chair thanked the Chair for steering the meeting through some difficult discussions. He also thanked the interpreters, technical staff, Secretariat team, and staff at Dunedin Leisure Lodge for their effort in ensuring a seamlessly run event. He extended his sincere thanks to the Government of New Zealand for hosting the meeting, the memorable excursion, and the welcome reception organised during the week. He also thanked the Royal Forest & Bird Protection Society of New Zealand for their evening event.
- 11.4 The Acting Chair acknowledged the valuable contributions of delegates to a successful meeting and noted the achievements of the session, including a strong Resolution which recognises the work needed to address the conservation crisis faced by albatrosses and petrels, the adoption of priority conservation actions for the next triennium and full financial support for the RFMCO Engagement and the Communications strategies. He also acknowledged the flexibility shown by Parties in adopting the 2026 - 2028 Budget and he encouraged Parties to use the information presented to, and the decisions made at this MoP to deliver conservation actions for ACAP species.
- 11.5 The Meeting thanked the Acting Chair for his work in the lead up to and during MoP8.
- 11.6 A traditional Maori farewell was given by Hoani Langsbury, who acknowledged the good work of ACAP despite the challenges.
- 11.7 The Acting Chair closed the Eighth Session of the Meeting of the Parties.

ANNEX 1. RESOLUTION 8.1 RULES OF PROCEDURE

AGREEMENT ON THE CONSERVATION OF ALBATROSSES AND PETRELS**Resolution 8.1****Rules of Procedure**

Adopted by the Eighth Session of the Meeting of the Parties, Dunedin, New Zealand,
19 - 23 May 2025

Recalling that, in accordance with Article VIII(11)(a) of the Agreement, the first Session of the Meeting of the Parties adopted its rules of procedure, set out in Annex 4 of the report of that Session;

Recalling also that Article VIII(13)(a) provides that the Meeting of the Parties may amend the Rules of Procedure at any session;

Further recalling that the Rules of Procedure were amended at the Seventh Session of the Meeting of the Parties, set out in Annex 1 of the report of that Session;

Recognising the benefit of harmonising the application timelines for the attendance of non-voting observers at Sessions of the Meeting of the Parties for international and non-international bodies provided for in Rule 4(3) and 4(5) of the Rules of Procedure;

Recognising also the benefit of allowing for electronic credentials for the Representative and any Alternative Representative of a Party at Sessions of the Meeting of the Parties under Rule 5;

The Meeting of the Parties to the Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels**Decides:**

to adopt the Rules of Procedure set out in Appendix A.

RESOLUTION 8.1 APPENDIX A**RULES OF PROCEDURE FOR THE MEETING OF THE
PARTIES TO THE AGREEMENT ON THE CONSERVATION OF ALBATROSSES
AND PETRELS****PART I
ADMINISTRATION****Rule 1 – Purpose**

(1) Unless otherwise stated, these rules of procedure shall apply to any Session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels, convened in accordance with Article VIII of the Agreement.

(2) Unless specified to the contrary in a relevant instrument, these rules shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to any other meeting held within the framework of the Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels, except for the Advisory Committee, which has established its own rules of procedure.

(3) Where any inconsistency between these Rules and the Agreement arises, the Agreement shall prevail.

Rule 2 – Date and Place of Sessions

(1) Ordinary Sessions of the Meeting of the Parties shall be at intervals of not more than three years, unless the Meeting of the Parties decides otherwise.

(2) In accordance with Article VIII (9) and (12)(g), each ordinary Session of the Meeting of the Parties shall decide on the time and venue of the next Session by consensus, or if consensus cannot be achieved, by a two-thirds majority of the Parties present and voting. Such a vote shall take place by a secret ballot.

(3) Any extraordinary Session of the Meeting of the Parties shall be convened not more than 90 days after the date at which the request is made to the Secretariat. The Secretariat shall notify Parties of the date, location and duration of the Session not more than 30 days after such a request.

Rule 3 – Representation

(1) A Party to the Agreement (hereafter referred to as a "Party") shall be entitled to be represented at the Session by a delegation consisting of a Representative and such other accredited Alternative Representatives and Advisers as the Party may deem necessary.

(2) Subject to the provisions of Rule 20 paragraph 2, the Representative of a Party shall exercise the voting rights of that Party. In the Representative's absence, an Alternative Representative of that Party shall act in the Representative's place over the full range of functions.

Rule 4 – Observers

(1) All signatories to the Agreement, other States which are not Parties, any member economy of the Asia Pacific Economic Co-operation Forum in respect of Article VIII, paragraph 15 of the Agreement, the United Nations, any specialised agency of the United Nations, any regional economic integration organisation, any Secretariat of a relevant international convention, particularly regional fisheries management organisations, may send observers to the Sessions of the Meeting of the Parties, who shall have the right to participate but not vote.

- (2) Any international scientific, environmental, cultural or technical body concerned with the conservation and management of marine living resources or the conservation of albatrosses and petrels may request admittance to Sessions of the Meeting of the Parties and its subsidiary bodies. Such participation may include submitting documents to the Secretariat for distribution to the Parties as information documents and addressing the Sessions of the Meeting of the Parties.
- (3) Written applications for attendance from such international bodies (described in paragraph 2) should be received by the Secretariat at least 90 days before the relevant Session, and circulated forthwith by the Secretariat to Parties. Parties shall inform the Secretariat of their acceptance or rejection of all applications no less than 60 days before the Session. An applicant shall be permitted to attend as a non-voting observer unless one third of the Parties object to their application.
- (4) Any other scientific, environmental, cultural or technical body concerned with the conservation and management of marine living resources or the conservation of albatrosses and petrels may request admittance to Sessions of the Meeting of the Parties and its subsidiary bodies. Such participation may include submitting documents to the Secretariat for distribution to the Parties as information documents and addressing the Sessions of the Meeting of the Parties.
- (5) Written applications for attendance from such other bodies (described in para 4) should be received by the Secretariat at least 90 days before the relevant Session, and circulated forthwith by the Secretariat to Parties. Parties shall inform the Secretariat of their acceptance or rejection of all applications no less than 60 days before the Session. An applicant shall be permitted to attend as a non-voting observer provided no objection is received.
- (6) Prior to the Session, the names of Representatives of observers shall be submitted to the Secretariat by the State, agency, organisation or body invited to attend.
- (7) In relation to Article XI of the Agreement, the Secretariat shall be bound by the above procedures.

Rule 5 – Credentials

- (1) The Representative and any Alternative Representative of a Party shall have been granted powers by, or on behalf of, the Head of State, the Head of Government or the Minister of Foreign Affairs, the head of a relevant government department or the head of an executive body of any regional economic organisation, enabling them to represent the Party at the Session and to vote.
- (2) Such credentials shall be submitted as originals or electronically to the Secretariat no later than 24 hours after the Session commences. Any later change in the composition of the delegation affecting voting rights shall also be contingent on submission of revised credentials to the Secretariat.
- (3) A Credentials Committee of three Representatives of Parties shall examine the credentials and shall report thereon to the Session. Pending a decision by the Parties on their credentials, Representatives may participate in the Session.
- (4) If credentials are submitted in a language other than one of the working languages of the Session, they shall be accompanied by a suitable translation into one of these languages to permit efficient validations of the credentials by the Credentials Committee.
- (5) Credentials may be submitted electronically in the form of a scanned letter duly signed by an authority competent under Rule 5(1). Electronic submission shall be considered valid provided that it identifies the Representative and any Alternative Representative of the Party, meets the substantive requirements of Rule 5, and is transmitted to the Secretariat

by the ACAP National Contact Point of the Party. The Credentials Committee may request further validation where necessary to confirm the authenticity of a Party's credentials.

PART II

LANGUAGES, DOCUMENTS AND RECORDS

Rule 6 – Official and Working Languages

(1) English, French and Spanish shall be the official and working languages of the Sessions.

(2) Speeches made in any of the working languages shall be interpreted into the other working languages.

(3) The official documents of the Sessions shall be distributed in the working languages. Information papers will not normally be translated, with the exception of information papers commissioned by either the Advisory Committee or the Meeting of the Parties.

Rule 7 – Other Languages

(1) A speech may be made in a language other than a working language if the speaker provides for interpretation into a working language. Interpretation by the Secretariat into the other working languages may be based upon the first interpretation.

(2) Any document submitted to the Secretariat in any language other than a working language shall be accompanied by an accurate translation into one of the working languages.

Rule 8 – Documents

(1) The documents for each ordinary Session of the Meeting of the Parties, and proposals received from the Parties, subject to Rule 18 of the Rules of Procedure, shall be distributed to the Parties in the working languages by the Secretariat at least 60 days before the opening of the Session.

(2) At the discretion of the Chairperson, and only under exceptional circumstances, documents may be accepted after this deadline but shall be submitted by the Party in all working languages.

(3) Wherever practicable, documents shall be circulated electronically.

Rule 9 – Records

(1) Summary records of the Sessions of the Meeting of the Parties shall be circulated to all Parties in the official languages of the Session within 60 days.

(2) Committees and working groups shall decide upon the form in which their records shall be prepared.

(3) Sound recordings of the Sessions of the Meetings of the Parties, and whenever possible its subsidiary bodies, shall be kept by the Secretariat. Such recordings shall be kept by the Secretariat for the purposes of verification and shall not be retained beyond the end of the next Session. Access to recordings shall be limited to the Secretariat and the Representatives of those delegations present at the Session, and shall be subject to a written request.

PART III

OFFICERS

Rule 10 – Secretariat

(1) The Head of the Agreement Secretariat (the Executive Secretary) shall be the Secretary at the Sessions of the Meeting of the Parties.

(2) At such Sessions, the Executive Secretary shall provide and direct the staff of the Secretariat as required by the Meeting of the Parties.

Rule 11 – Responsibilities of Secretariat

(1) In addition to the functions specified in Article X of the Agreement, the Secretariat shall:

- a) arrange for interpretation at the Sessions of the Meeting of the Parties;
- b) prepare, receive, translate, reproduce and distribute the documents of the Meeting of the Parties;
- c) draft the report of the Session, for consideration by the Meeting of the Parties;
- d) arrange for the custody and preservation of the documents of the Meeting of the Parties; and
- e) perform such other duties as the Meeting of the Parties may require.

Rule 12 – Chairpersons

(1) This Rule applies at all times, including between Sessions of the Meeting of the Parties.

(2) At the beginning of each ordinary Session, the Meeting of the Parties shall elect a Chairperson from among the Representatives of the Parties. The Chairperson of the Advisory Committee shall serve as Vice-Chairperson of the Meeting of the Parties, and shall fulfil the role of the Chairperson should the Chairperson not be available. The term of office of the Chairperson shall commence straight away.

(3) The Chairperson shall remain in office until a new Chairperson is elected.

Rule 13 – Presiding Officer

(1) The Chairperson shall preside at all Sessions of the Meeting of the Parties.

(2) If the Chairperson is absent or is unable to discharge the duties of Presiding Officer, the Vice-Chairperson shall deputise.

(3) In the absence of both the Chairperson and the Vice-Chairperson, a Representative of the Party providing the Chairperson shall deputise in their temporary absence.

(4) The Presiding Officer shall not vote but may designate an Alternative Representative from their delegation.

(5) The terms of the Chairperson shall be limited to a maximum of two ordinary Sessions.

PART IV

AGENDA, COMMITTEES AND WORKING GROUPS

Rule 14 – Agenda

(1) The Secretariat shall prepare the provisional agenda for each Session, in consultation with the Chairperson of the Meeting of the Parties and the Chairperson of the Advisory Committee.

(2) The provisional agenda of each ordinary Session of the Meeting of the Parties shall include, as appropriate:

- (a) items arising from the articles or the Annexes of the Agreement;
- (b) items, the inclusion of which has been decided at a previous Session or which emanate from decisions taken at a previous Session;
- (c) items referred to in paragraph 6 of this Rule; and

d) any item proposed by a Party, the Advisory Committee or the Secretariat. Requests for additional items shall be made in writing, giving the rationale for the request.

(3) The Secretariat shall, in consultation with the Chairperson of the Meeting of the Parties and the Chairperson of the Advisory Committee, include any item that has been proposed by a Party and has been received by the Secretariat after the provisional agenda has been produced, but before the opening of the Session, in a supplementary provisional agenda.

(4) The Meeting of the Parties shall examine the provisional agenda together with any supplementary provisional agenda. When adopting the agenda, it may add, delete, defer or amend items. Only items which are considered by the Meeting of the Parties to be urgent and important may be added to the agenda at this stage.

(5) The provisional Agenda for an extraordinary Session of the Meeting of the Parties shall consist only of those items proposed for consideration in the request for this Session. The provisional agenda and any necessary supporting documents shall be distributed to the Parties at the same time as the invitation to the extraordinary Session, at least 60 days before the Session.

(6) Any item of the agenda of an extraordinary Session of the Meeting of the Parties, consideration of which has not been completed at the Session, shall be included automatically in the agenda of the next Session, unless otherwise decided by the Meeting of the Parties.

Rule 15 – Establishment of Committees and Working Groups

(1) The Meeting of the Parties may establish such committees and working groups as may be necessary for it to carry out its functions. The Meeting of the Parties shall define the terms of reference and composition of each committee and working group. The Meeting of the Parties may decide that any such committee and working group may meet in the period between ordinary Sessions.

(2) Each committee and working group shall elect its own officers.

PART V

RULES OF ORDER AND DEBATE

Rule 16 – Powers of Presiding Officer

(1) In addition to exercising powers conferred elsewhere in these Rules, the Presiding Officer shall at each Session of the Meeting of the Parties:

- (a) open and close the Session;
- (b) direct the discussions;
- (c) ensure the observance of these Rules;
- (d) accord the right to speak;
- (e) put questions to the vote and announce decisions;
- (f) rule on points of order; and
- (g) subject to these Rules, have complete control of the proceedings of the Session and the maintenance of order.

(2) The Presiding Officer may, in the course of discussion at each Session of the Meeting of the Parties, propose to the Session:

- (a) time limits for speakers;
- (b) limitation of the number of times the members of a delegation or an observer may speak on any question;

- (c) the closure of the list of speakers;
- (d) the adjournment or the closure of the debate on the particular subject or question under discussion; and
- (e) the suspension or adjournment of the Session.

(3) The Presiding Officer shall exercise their powers of office in accordance with customary practice and, in the exercise of that office, remain under the authority of the Meeting of the Parties.

Rule 17 – Seating, Quorum

(1) Delegations shall be seated in accordance with the alphabetical order of the names of the Parties in the language of the meeting host.

(2) No Session of the Meeting of the Parties shall take place in the absence of a quorum. A quorum for Sessions of the Meeting of the Parties shall consist of four Parties or one-half of the Parties having delegations at the Session, whichever is the greater.

Rule 18 – Submission of Proposals for Amendment of the Agreement and its Appendices

(1) In accordance with Article XII of the Agreement:

(a) proposed amendments shall be communicated to the Secretariat at least 150 days before the opening of a Session of the Meeting of the Parties, which shall transmit them forthwith to all Parties in the working languages of the Session;

(b) any comments on a proposed amendment by the Parties shall be communicated to the Secretariat no less than 60 days before the opening of the Session. The Secretariat shall, as soon as possible after the last day for submission of comments, communicate to the Parties all comments submitted by that day.

(2) In exceptional circumstances, the Presiding Officer may also permit the discussion and consideration of proposals arising after the period prescribed in subparagraph 1b) of Rule 18 provided that they relate to proposed amendments which have been circulated in accordance with paragraph 1a) of Rule 18 and that their consideration will not unduly inhibit the proceedings of the Session. The Presiding Officer may also permit the discussion of motions as to procedures, even though such motions have not been circulated previously.

(3) After a proposal has been adopted or rejected by the Meeting of the Parties in accordance with Article XII of the Agreement, it shall not be reconsidered unless a two-thirds majority of the Parties participating in the Session so decides.

Rule 19 – Procedural Motions

(1) During the discussion of any matter, a Representative may rise to a point of order, and the Presiding Officer, in accordance with these Rules, shall immediately decide the point of order. A Representative may appeal against any ruling of the Presiding Officer. The appeal shall immediately be put to the vote, and the Presiding Officer's ruling shall stand unless a simple majority of the Parties present and voting otherwise decides. A Representative rising to a point of order may not speak on the substance of the matter under discussion.

(2) Any motion calling for a decision on the competence of the Meeting of the Parties to discuss any matter or adopt a proposal or an amendment to a proposal submitted to it shall be put to the vote before the matter is discussed or a vote is taken on the proposal or amendment in question.

(3) In cases where the votes are equal, a second vote shall be taken. If the second vote is also equal, the motion, or amendment shall not be carried.

(4) The following motions shall have precedence in the following order over all other proposals or motions before the Session:

- (a) to suspend the Session;
- (b) to adjourn the Session;
- (c) to consider a motion in accordance with Rule 19(2) above;
- (d) to adjourn the debate on the particular subject or question under discussion; and
- (e) to close the debate on the particular subject or question under discussion.

PART VI

VOTING

Rule 20 – Voting

(1) Without prejudice to the provisions of Rule 3, paragraph 2, each accredited Party shall have one vote.

(2) Parties which are more than one year behind in paying their budget contributions on the date of the opening of any Session of the Meeting of the Parties shall not be eligible to vote at that Session. However, the Meeting of the Parties may allow such Parties to continue to exercise their right to vote if it is satisfied that the delay in payment arises from exceptional and unavoidable circumstances. The Meeting of the Parties shall receive advice in this regard from the Secretariat.

(3) The Meeting of the Parties shall normally vote by a roll-call vote. The first voter shall be drawn by lot; voting will then proceed as determined by the alphabetical order set forth in Rule 17(1). A Party may request voting to be conducted by secret ballot. Such a request shall require support from at least one-third of Parties present and voting.

(4) Voting by roll-call shall be expressed by "Yes", "No" or "Abstain". Only affirmative and negative votes shall be counted in calculating the number of votes cast.

(5) The Presiding Officer shall be responsible for the counting of the votes and shall announce the result. Tellers appointed by the Secretariat may assist the Presiding Officer.

(6) After the Presiding Officer has announced the beginning of the vote, it shall not be interrupted except by a Representative on a point of order in connection with the actual conduct of the voting. The Presiding Officer may permit Representatives to explain their votes either before or after the voting, and may limit the time to be allowed for such explanations.

Rule 21 – Taking of Decisions

(1) The Chairperson shall put to the Parties, all questions, proposals and actions requiring decisions. In accordance with Article VIII (9), unless provided otherwise in the Agreement or in Rules 4(5), 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25 and 26, decisions of Parties shall be adopted by consensus or, if consensus cannot be achieved, by a two-thirds majority of the Parties present and voting.

(2) In accordance with Article VIII(11)(a), (11)(b), (12)(d) and (15), decisions about rules of procedure, financial matters, and provisions for the relationship to the Agreement by any member economy of the Asia Pacific Economic Co-operation forum whose vessels fish within the range of albatrosses and petrels, shall be adopted by consensus.

Rule 22 – Procedure for Voting on Motions and Amendments

(1) A Representative may move that parts of a proposal or of an amendment be voted on separately. If objection is made to the request for such division, the motion for division shall

be voted upon first. Permission to speak on the motion for division shall be accorded only to a Representative from each of two Parties wishing to speak in favour of and a Representative from each of two Parties wishing to speak against the motion. If the motion for division is carried, those parts of the proposal or amendment, which are subsequently approved, shall be put to the vote as a whole. If all operative parts of the proposal or the amendment have been rejected, the proposal or the amendment shall be considered to have been rejected as a whole.

(2) When an amendment is moved to a proposal, the amendment shall be voted on first. When two or more amendments are moved to a proposal, the Meeting of the Parties shall vote first on the amendment furthest removed in substance from the original proposal and then on the amendment next furthest removed, and so on until all amendments have been put to the vote. When, however, the adoption of one amendment necessarily implies the rejection of another amendment, the latter amendment shall not be put to the vote. If one or more amendments are adopted, the amended proposal shall then be voted upon. A motion is considered an amendment to a proposal if it merely adds to, deletes or revises part of that proposal.

(3) If two or more proposals relate to the same question, the Meeting of the Parties shall, unless it decides otherwise, vote on the proposals in the order in which they have been submitted. The Meeting of the Parties may, after voting on a proposal, decide whether to vote on the next proposal.

Rule 23 – Elections

(1) Elections to office shall be by secret ballot. If, when one person or one delegation is to be elected to a position, no candidate obtains the required majority in the first ballot, a second ballot shall be taken between the two candidates obtaining the largest number of votes. If in the second ballot the votes are equally divided, the Presiding Officer shall decide between the candidates by drawing lots.

(2) If in the first ballot there is a tie amongst candidates obtaining the second largest number of votes, a special ballot shall be held amongst them to reduce the number of candidates to two.

(3) In the case of a tie amongst three or more candidates obtaining the largest number of votes in the first ballot, a special ballot shall be held amongst them to reduce the number of candidates to two. If a tie then results amongst two or more candidates, the Presiding Officer shall reduce the number to two by drawing lots, and a further ballot shall be held in accordance with paragraph 1 of this Rule.

Rule 24 – Intersessional Voting

(1) This Rule applies between Sessions of the Meeting of the Parties.

(2) Where, in the view of any Party, the Executive Secretary or the Chair of the Advisory Committee there are exceptional circumstances that require a decision to be taken in advance of the next ordinary Session of the Meeting of the Parties, any one of them may submit a proposal for such a decision to the Executive Secretary. This proposal for decision may be submitted electronically. Within 7 days, the Executive Secretary shall communicate the proposal to all Parties, together with any additional information that may assist Parties.

(3) Parties shall respond to the Secretariat's communication as soon as possible, but within 30 days of the date of distribution of the proposal, indicating whether they wish to support it, reject it, abstain on it, require additional time to consider it, or whether they consider it is not necessary for the vote to be taken during the period between Sessions of the Meeting of the Parties.

(4) If more than two-thirds of Parties consider it is not necessary for the vote to be taken during the period between Sessions, the Secretariat shall inform all Parties and shall include the proposal on the agenda of the next Session.

(5) Notwithstanding Rule 20, the adoption of any decision between Sessions of the Meeting of the Parties shall be by consensus. For the purposes of this Rule, consensus shall mean that all the responses received by the Secretariat within the time frame specified in paragraph 3 of this Rule either support the decision or abstain. The result shall be promptly communicated by the Secretariat to all Parties. If consensus is not obtained, the matter will be placed on the agenda of the next Session of the Meeting of the Parties.

(6) In so far as they are applicable, these Rules of Procedure shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to any intersessional voting held within the framework of the Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels.

PART VII

PUBLICITY OF DEBATES

Rule 25 – Public Access

(1) All parts of a Session of the Meeting of the Parties held in plenary shall be open to the public unless two-thirds of the Parties present and voting at the Session decide otherwise.

(2) All committees and working groups shall, in the absence of separate rules for those bodies, be open to the public unless two-thirds of the Parties present and voting at the Session decide otherwise.

PART VIII

AMENDMENT

Rule 26 – Amendment

As provided in Article VIII(13)(a), these rules may be amended by the Meeting of the Parties.

ANNEX 2. RESOLUTION 8.2 SECRETARIAT WORK PROGRAMME 2026 - 2028

AGREEMENT ON THE CONSERVATION OF ALBATROSSES AND PETRELS**Resolution 8.2****Secretariat Work Programme 2026 - 2028**

Adopted by the Eighth Session of the Meeting of the Parties, Dunedin, New Zealand,
19 – 23 May 2025

Recalling Article VIII(11)(c) of the Agreement, which required that the first Session of the Meeting of the Parties establish the Secretariat to perform the functions set out in Article X of the Agreement;

Recalling also Article X(b) of the Agreement that a function of the Secretariat shall be to execute the decisions addressed to it by the Meeting of the Parties;

Further recalling Resolution 1.1 adopted at the first Session of the Meeting of the Parties established an Interim Secretariat for the Agreement pending the negotiation of a Headquarters Agreement with the Government of Australia;

Noting that the Headquarters Agreement entered into force on 2 December 2008 and that the Secretariat is thereby established;

The Meeting of the Parties to the Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels**Decides:**

to adopt the Secretariat Work Programme 2026 – 2028 set out in Appendix A.

RESOLUTION 8.2 APPENDIX A - SECRETARIAT WORK PROGRAMME 2026 – 2028

| Task No. | Topic/Task | Mandate | Officer | 2026 | | 2027 | | 2028 | | Action/Details |
|----------|--|----------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------|-------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|--|
| | | | | Time (days) | Funds (AUD) | Time (days) | Funds (AUD) | Time (days) | Funds (AUD) | |
| 1 | SUPPORT FOR MoP, AC & WG MEETINGS | | | AC15 + WGs | | AC16 + WGs | | MoP9 | | |
| 1.1 | Undertake meeting arrangements. | Article X(a) | | | | | | | | |
| | ▪ selection of venue | | Exec Secretary | 3 | 3,682 | 3 | 3,778 | 3 | 3,876 | 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) | | | | | | | | |
| | ▪ writing of meeting documents | | Exec Secretary, Sci Officer, Contract | 35 | | 35 | 1,500 | 35 | 1,500 | Cost for assistance with Budget preparations |
| | ▪ co-ordination of meeting documents | | Sci Officer, Exec Secretary, | 10 | | 10 | | 5 | | |
| | ▪ drafting of implementation report | | Sci Officer, Exec Secretary | | | 20 | | 10 | | |
| 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 | 7 | | 7 | | 3 | | |
| 1.5 | Support & operation of meetings | Article X(a) | | | | | | | | |

| Task No. | Topic/Task | Mandate | Officer | 2026 | | 2027 | | 2028 | | Action/Details |
|----------|--|--------------|-----------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------------------------|
| | | | | Time (days) | Funds (AUD) | Time (days) | Funds (AUD) | Time (days) | Funds (AUD) | |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ travel for meetings | | Exec Secretary, Sci Officer | 8 | 6,312 | 8 | 6,476 | 8 | 6,644 | 4 days per meeting, airfares |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ travel for meetings | | Contract | 4 | 3,156 | 4 | 3,394 | 4 | 3,482 | Airfares |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ attendance at meeting | | Exec Secretary, Sci Officer | 32 | 7,890 | 32 | 8,095 | 16 | 4,416 | Accommodation and allowances |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ attendance at meeting | | Contract | 12 | 7,364 | 12 | 7,555 | 6 | 4,416 | Contract costs, accommodation |
| 1.6 | Prepare meeting report and distribute to all Parties | Article X(a) | Exec Secretary, Sci Officer | 10 | | 10 | | 10 | | |
| 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) | | | | | | | | |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ payment of accounts | | Exec Secretary | 15 | | 15 | | 15 | | |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ preparation of invoices and receipts | | Exec Secretary | 4 | | 4 | | 4 | | |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ preparation of financial statements | | Exec Secretary | 4 | | 4 | | 4 | | |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 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) | | | | | | | | |

| Task No. | Topic/Task | Mandate | Officer | 2026 | | 2027 | | 2028 | | Action/Details |
|----------|---|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|----------------|
| | | | | Time (days) | Funds (AUD) | Time (days) | Funds (AUD) | Time (days) | Funds (AUD) | |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> preparation of ACAP Latest News for website | | Comms Contract | 90 | | 90 | | 90 | | |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> maintain/update website links and publications | | Sci Officer, Comms Contract | 10 | | 10 | | 10 | | |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> management of ACAP social media | | Comms Contract | 20 | | 20 | | 20 | | |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> preparation of scientific material | | Sci Officer, Comms Contract | 10 | | 10 | | 10 | | |
| 2.4 | Update and maintain the ACAP website | Article X(h) | Sci Officer & Contracts | 20 | 8,416 | 20 | 8,635 | 20 | 8,860 | |
| 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) | Sci Officer, Exec Secretary | | | 25 | | | | |
| 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 | | |

| Task No. | Topic/Task | Mandate | Officer | 2026 | | 2027 | | 2028 | | Action/Details |
|----------|---|------------------|-----------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|--|
| | | | | Time (days) | Funds (AUD) | Time (days) | Funds (AUD) | Time (days) | Funds (AUD) | |
| 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, Sci Officer | 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, Sci Officer | | | 4 | | 2 | | |
| 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) | | | | | | | | |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update 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 | 5,260 | 25 | 5,397 | 25 | 5,537 | 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 | 5,000 | 10 | | May require data portal updates |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update ACAP Species Assessments | AC WP Task 2.4 | Sci Officer | 62 | 12,000 | 62 | | 62 | | Cost for map updates |

| Task No. | Topic/Task | Mandate | Officer | 2026 | | 2027 | | 2028 | | Action/Details |
|----------|---|----------------------|--|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|--|
| | | | | Time (days) | Funds (AUD) | Time (days) | Funds (AUD) | Time (days) | Funds (AUD) | |
| | <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 | 10 | 5,000 | 10 | 5,000 | 10 | 5,000 | |
| | <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"> Identify and review Priority Populations for conservation actions | AC WP Task 2.7 | 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 2.8 | Sci Officer | 5 | | 5 | | 5 | | |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review and update best-practice guidelines | AC WP Task 2.9, 2.11 | Sci Officer | 10 | | 10 | | 10 | | |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop new guidelines for priority issues | AC WP Task 2.12 | Sci Officer | 2 | | 2 | | 2 | | |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide reports on activities to AC meetings | AC WP Task 2.14 | 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 (AC14 Doc 20). Relevant Parties to engage and assist RFMOs and other relevant international bodies in assessing and minimising bycatch of albatrosses and petrels. | AC WP Task 3.1 | Exec Secretary, Sci Officer, Contracts | 70 | 37,500 | 70 | 37,500 | 70 | 37,500 | Attend all relevant meetings as per RFMO Interaction Plan. |

| Task No. | Topic/Task | Mandate | Officer | 2026 | | 2027 | | 2028 | | Action/Details |
|----------|--|------------------|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|--|
| | | | | Time (days) | Funds (AUD) | Time (days) | Funds (AUD) | Time (days) | Funds (AUD) | |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to develop and refine ACAP specific products on best practice bycatch data collection and reporting and present to RFMOs. | AC WP Task 3.1 a | Exec Secretary, Sci Officer, Comms contract | | 1,000 | | 1,000 | | 1,000 | Translation costs. |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engage with other international bodies concerned with the conservation of species affected by fishing (e.g. IAC, CMS) | AC WP Task 3.2 | Exec Secretary | | | | | | | |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify and pursue new approaches to improve the uptake of best practice seabird bycatch mitigation measures | AC WP Task 3.4 | Exec Secretary, Contracts | 10 | | 10 | | 10 | | |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reporting of bycatch indicators and associated data, refine methodological approaches and reporting as required | AC WP Task 3.9 | Sci Officer, Contract | 20 | 10,000 | 20 | 10,000 | 20 | 10,000 | Need for contract support as this is a key element of work (0.25 FTE?) |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to engage with certification schemes, by providing information to sub-group to enable comment on individual fisheries assessments | AC WP Task 3.14 | Sci Officer, Contract | | | | | 5,000 | | Secretariat continue to engage as required consultant who has already provided advice on this process. Secretariat will continue to receive notifications from fishery certification schemes and will share these as relevant with the SBWG sub-group. |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to update Mitigation Fact Sheets using new simplified format in a phased approach: 1) on bird scaring lines for pelagic and demersal LL, and 2) fact sheets dealing with ACAP Best Practice measures. | AC WP Task 3.16 | Sci Officer | 5 | | 5 | 15,000 | 5 | | Design and translation costs. |

| Task No. | Topic/Task | Mandate | Officer | 2026 | | 2027 | | 2028 | | Action/Details |
|----------|---|-----------------|-----------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|--|
| | | | | Time (days) | Funds (AUD) | Time (days) | Funds (AUD) | Time (days) | Funds (AUD) | |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop guidelines for the safe removal of seabirds entangled in nets (purse-seine, trawl, gillnet) | AC WP Task 3.17 | Sci Officer | 5 | | | 8,000 | | | Design and translation costs. |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain bibliography of relevant bycatch information | AC WP Task 3.19 | 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) | Sci Officer | | | | | | | |
| 3.6 | Review and update any publications not already specified in the Work Programme | AC WP Task 5.4 | Sci Officer | 5 | | 5 | | 5 | | |
| 3.7 | Implement system of indicators for the success of the ACAP Agreement | AC WP Task 5.5 | Sci Officer | 5 | | 2 | | 2 | | |
| 3.8 | Review ACAP performance indicators | AC WP Task 5.6 | Sci Officer | | | 5 | | 5 | | |
| 3.9 | Review availability of albatross and petrel tracking/distribution data to ensure representativeness of species/age classes. Prioritise gaps and encourage studies to fill gaps. | AC WP Task 5.9 | Sci Officer, Contract | | | 5 | 24,000 | | | BLI contract |
| 3.10 | Increase understanding of the effects of climate change on albatrosses and petrels | AC WP Task 5.11 | Sci Officer | | | | | | | |
| 3.11 | Manage database of relevant scientific literature | AC WP Task 5.14 | Sci Officer | 10 | | 10 | | 10 | | |
| 3.12 | Manage directory of relevant legislation | AC WP Task 5.15 | Sci Officer | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | Parties to supply further information as available |

| Task No. | Topic/Task | Mandate | Officer | 2026 | | 2027 | | 2028 | | Action/Details |
|----------|--|------------------|--------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|---|
| | | | | Time (days) | Funds (AUD) | Time (days) | Funds (AUD) | Time (days) | Funds (AUD) | |
| 3.13 | Manage a list of authorities, research centres, scientists and non-government organisations relevant to ACAP | AC WP Task 5.16 | Sci Officer, Comms Contract | 2 | | 2 | | 2 | | Parties to supply further information as available |
| 3.14 | Support for World Albatross Day | AC WP Task 5.12 | Comms Contract | 20 | 3,000 | 20 | 3,000 | 20 | 3,000 | Funds for developing, producing and distributing WAD material |
| 3.15 | Implement ACAP's Communications Strategy | AC WP Task 5.13 | Exec Secretary, Comms Contract | | 5,000 | | | | | Review, develop and implement ACAP's Communication Strategy |
| 3.16 | Review the format of reporting on the implementation of the Agreement, with a focus on priority conservation actions, on land, at-sea and for high priority populations. | AC WP Task 5.2 | Sci Officer, | | | | | | | |
| 3.17 | Review Annex 2 (Action Plan) of the Agreement | AC WP Task 5.17 | | | | | | | | |
| 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) | Exec Secretary, Sci Officer | 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 | Article X(d) | Exec Secretary | 15 | 10,520 | 15 | 10,704 | 15 | 11,075 | Airfares, accommodation, allowances |

| Task No. | Topic/Task | Mandate | Officer | 2026 | | 2027 | | 2028 | | Action/Details |
|----------|---|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|---|
| | | | | Time (days) | Funds (AUD) | Time (days) | Funds (AUD) | Time (days) | Funds (AUD) | |
| | Range States, and international and national organisations and institutions whose activities are directly or indirectly relevant to the conservation of albatrosses and petrels. | | | | | | | | | |
| 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 | 15,780 | 10 | 16,190 | 10 | 16,611 | Airfares, accommodation, allowances |
| 4.5 | Facilitate the accession of non-Party Range States to the Agreement | Article X(d), (k), AC WP 4.2 | Exec Secretary | 5 | | 5 | | 5 | | Work with lead Parties and other Parties as needed. |
| 4.6 | Compilation of the triennial implementation report. | Article IX(6)(d), AC WP Task 5.7 | Sci Officer, Exec Secretary | | | 10 | | 10 | | |
| 5 | CAPACITY BUILDING | | | | | | | | | |
| 5.1 | Assist the Advisory Committee and Parties with technical cooperation and capacity building | Article IV(2) | Exec Secretary, Sci Officer | 20 | | 20 | | 20 | | |
| 5.2 | Support secondments programme to aid capacity building | MoP2 | Exec Secretary, Sci Officer | 10 | | 10 | | 10 | | |
| 5.3 | Populate and measure capacity building indicators | AC WP Task 4.4 | Exec Secretary, Sci Officer | | | | | | | |

ANNEX 3. RESOLUTION 8.3 TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR REVIEWING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE SECRETARIAT

AGREEMENT ON THE CONSERVATION OF ALBATROSSES AND PETRELS**Resolution 8.3****Terms of Reference for the Review of the Effectiveness of the Secretariat in Facilitating the Achievement of the Objective of the Agreement**

Adopted by the Eighth Session of the Meeting of the Parties, Dunedin, New Zealand,
19 - 23 May 2025

Recalling Article VIII(14) of the Agreement, which requires the Meeting of the Parties to review the effectiveness of the Secretariat in facilitating the achievement of the objective of the Agreement at every third Session of the Meeting of the Parties;

Noting that Article VIII(14) requires that terms of reference for this review be agreed to at the previous Meeting of the Parties;

The Meeting of the Parties to the Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels**Decides:**

1. to establish a Review Body composed of Representatives of no fewer than two-thirds of the Parties;
2. that the Review Body should seek to ensure regional representation from:
 - a. Europe/Africa;
 - b. Asia/Australasia; and
 - c. North/South America;
3. that Parties participating in the review are not bound by the findings of the Review Body;
4. that the Terms of Reference of the Review Body will be to:
 - a. undertake a review of the effectiveness of the Secretariat in facilitating the achievement of the Agreement's objectives;
 - b. seek the views of all Parties and interview any Chair of the Advisory Committee, and any Executive Secretary, who have held the positions during the period 2017 - 2027;

- c. prepare a report for the Ninth Session of the Meeting of the Parties with recommendations as appropriate for enhancing the effectiveness of the Secretariat in achieving the Agreement's objective; and
 - d. prepare, as necessary, revised performance indicators to allow for quantifiable assessment of the Secretariat's performance;
5. that the Review Body may also decide to seek the views of the Advisory Committee Vice-chairs and Convenors of the Working Groups in post during the period of the review; and
 6. that the Performance Indicators set out in Appendix A will be used in the review.

RESOLUTION 8.3 APPENDIX A**PERFORMANCE INDICATORS FOR MEASURING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE SECRETARIAT OF THE AGREEMENT ON THE CONSERVATION OF ALBATROSSES AND PETRELS**

1. All relevant information and meeting documents will be provided to the Parties within the timeframes specified by the Agreement.
2. All necessary staffing, logistics, interpretation, and other administrative arrangements required by the Parties will be carried out in coordination and consultation with the host governments of meetings.
3. All decisions will be executed, as required, in such a manner that is consistent with the Meeting of the Parties' intent, prioritising as appropriate within the limited available resources.
4. Facilitation and coordination activities, in accordance with the directions of the Meeting of the Parties or the Advisory Committee, will be carried out, as required, to fulfil the objectives of the Agreement.
5. Other international and national organisations and institutions are contacted, as appropriate, on matters related to achieving the objectives of the Agreement.
6. Other organisations are informed of the activities of the Agreement in order to facilitate information and technology exchange about approaches that contribute to achieving and maintaining a favourable conservation status for albatrosses and petrels.
7. A report on the status of the budget for the implementation of the Agreement is prepared and provided in accordance with timescales set by the Meeting of the Parties.
8. The Agreement's budget is executed in a responsible, efficient, and accountable manner and in accordance with the financial regulations for the Agreement.
9. Assistance is provided to Parties, through the website, in their efforts to educate the general public about the Agreement and its objectives.
10. A system of performance indicators is provided to measure the effectiveness and efficiency of the Secretariat in facilitating the achievement of the objectives of the Agreement.
11. The Secretariat will supply to Parties all information identified by the Meeting of the Parties as relevant to the effective functioning of the Agreement.
12. A report is provided to each Meeting of the Parties and meetings of the Advisory Committee identifying activities that the Secretariat has been unable to carry out, providing reasons for any inaction, for example limitations in resources, and options for rectification.
13. The staff of the Secretariat follows the directions of the Executive Secretary, as required by the Meeting of the Parties.

**ANNEX 4. RESOLUTION 8.4 ADVISORY COMMITTEE WORK
PROGRAMME 2026 - 2028**

AGREEMENT ON THE CONSERVATION OF ALBATROSSES AND PETRELS

Resolution 8.4

Advisory Committee Work Programme 2026 – 2028

Adopted by the Eighth Session of the Meeting of the Parties, Dunedin, New Zealand,
19 – 23 May 2025

Recalling Article VIII(11)(d) of the Agreement, which required that the first Session of the Meeting of the Parties establish the Advisory Committee provided for in Article IX of the Agreement;

Further recalling Resolution 1.5 of the Meeting of the Parties on the establishment of the Advisory Committee which included a work programme for this Committee;

Noting that the Fourteenth Meeting of the Advisory Committee developed a work programme for the period 2026 - 2028 (AC14 Report, Annex 6) taking into account the outcomes of its own meeting and those of the preceding meetings of the Population and Conservation Status, and Seabird Bycatch Working Groups, and recommendations provided by the Taxonomy Working Group;

The Meeting of the Parties to the Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels

Decides:

to adopt the Advisory Committee Work Programme 2026 – 2028 set out in Appendix A.

RESOLUTION 8.4 APPENDIX A - ADVISORY COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME 2026 – 2028

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, in particular BirdLife International (BLI). 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 reflect the amount of time that AC Officials and the Secretariat will spend on these tasks.

| Topic/ Task | Responsible group | Time frame | Resources | | Action detail/ comments | |
|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------|-----------|--|----------------------------------|---|
| | | | Time | Funds (AUD) | | |
| 1. Taxonomy and Annex 1 review | | | | | | |
| 1.1 | Keep the bibliographic database updated with relevant taxonomy documents | TWG led by Convenor | Ongoing | 0.5 week p.a. | | Ensure relevant taxonomy papers are added to ACAP's bibliographic database |
| 1.2 | Continue to work on ways of visually separating similar ACAP taxa | TWG | 2026-2028 | 2 weeks | | This will facilitate the taxonomic process and the identification of bycatch specimens |
| 1.3 | Continue the establishment of a morphometric database | TWG led by Convenor | 2026-2028 | 2 weeks | | This will facilitate the taxonomic process, the identification of bycatch specimens, and the long-term storage of valuable data |
| 1.4 | Maintain a database of site-specific information on the availability of samples relevant to studies of population genetics of ACAP species | TWG | 2026-2028 | 1 month | 5,000 (for database development) | Conduct a gap analysis of colonies/sites where there is insufficient genetic information |
| 1.5 | Consider taxonomic issues relating to species proposed for addition to Annex 1 of the Agreement | Parties and AC | Ongoing | Variable, depending if there are proposals | | Respond to proposals (using species assessment template) submitted by Parties. |
| 1.6 | Respond to queries on taxonomic issues relating to ACAP species and keep AC updated on relevant taxonomic issues | TWG led by Convenor | Ongoing | 1-2 weeks p.a. | | 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) | | |
| 1.7 | Maintain list of candidate species | TWG led by Convenor, AC | Ongoing | 1-2 weeks p.a. | | Attempt to resolve issues with prioritisation. Maintain in line with ACAP/IOC taxonomy. |
| 2. Information on status, trends and breeding sites | | | | | | |
| 2.1 | Update gaps in population, 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. | | Parties to provide new or outstanding data each year. Science Officer to issue reminders 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. | | |
| 2.3 | Assess and update global population trends | PaCSWG Convenors, Science Officer and BLI with other experts as required. Intersessional Group established at AC14. | Ongoing | 3 weeks | 5,000 | May require further data portal updates. Consider alternative approaches as required. Review at AC16. |
| 2.4 | Update ACAP Species Assessments | Species Assessments Coordinating Group to oversee updates | Ongoing | 6 weeks p.a. | 12,000 | Costs for BirdLife to update maps. Reports on progress provided to each PaCSWG meeting. Working with Lead editors |
| 2.5 | Translate updates to Species Assessments and ACAP guidelines into Spanish and French | Science Officer | Ongoing | 2 weeks p.a. | 15,000 | Opportunity for secondments or in-kind support |

| Topic/ Task | | Responsible group | Time frame | Resources | | Action detail/ comments |
|-------------|---|--|------------|--------------|-------------|--|
| | | | | Time | Funds (AUD) | |
| 2.6 | Identify priorities for monitoring of numbers, trends and demography | PaCSWG, Science Officer | Ongoing | 2 weeks p.a. | | Review and update priorities and reflect on progress against priorities and provide reports to each AC Meeting. |
| 2.7 | Identify and review High Priority Populations for conservation actions. | PaCSWG, Science Officer | Ongoing | 1 week p.a. | | Review at each AC Meeting |
| 2.8 | Review and prioritise the threats to breeding sites and identify gaps in knowledge. | PaCSWG, Science Officer | Ongoing | 1 week p.a. | | Annual updating of priorities by Parties, re-run prioritisation for AC16. |
| 2.9 | Update eradication guidelines | PaCSWG, Science Officer, UK, South Africa, USA, Mark Tasker | 2026 | 3 weeks | | Required in light of new insights gained from recent attempts to eradicate house mice from islands |
| 2.10 | Review and update Guidelines for working with albatrosses and petrels during the high pathogenicity avian influenza (HPAI) H5Nx panzootic | External experts, Lead Patricia Serafini | Ongoing | | | Guidelines for ACAP species offering broad recommendations to supplement local or regional risk management and biosecurity regarding the high-pathogenicity (HPAI) H5Nx avian influenza panzootic. Disease risk assessment for HPAI H5Nx for ACAP species to be carried out by the intersessional group. |
| 2.11 | Review and update other best-practice guidelines | PaCSWG, Science Officer | Ongoing | 3 weeks p.a. | | Opportunity for secondments and small grants . |
| 2.12 | Develop new guidelines | PaCSWG, Secretariat and experts as required (identify leads) | Ongoing | ? | ? | Opportunity for secondments and small grants . E.g colony management, acoustic monitoring. Review at each AC. |

| Topic/ Task | | Responsible group | Time frame | Resources | | Action detail/ comments |
|---------------------------|---|--|---------------|---------------|---------------------------------|--|
| | | | | Time | Funds (AUD) | |
| 2.13 | Consider emerging threats to albatrosses and petrels i) Offshore Wind Farm Infrastructure ii) chemical pollutants iii) marine plastic | PaCSWG, Intersessional Group established at AC14 | Ongoing | 2026-2028 | | Opportunity for secondments and small grants . Develop ways to assess, model, monitor, and mitigate impacts including cumulative impacts on seabirds. Provide relevant information to the bibliographic database. i) Review availability of albatross and petrel flight height data. ii) Develop guidelines for offshore wind farm risk assessments (Intersessional Group established at aC14) |
| 2.14 | Provide reports on intersessional activities and working group meetings to AC meetings | PaCSWG, Science Officer | 2026 and 2027 | 12 weeks | | |
| 3. Seabird Bycatch | | | | | | |
| 3.1 | Continue to implement the RFMCO Engagement Strategy (AC14 Doc 20) with relevant bodies that manage international fisheries (RFMOs and others) . Relevant Parties to engage and assist RFMOs and other relevant international bodies in assessing and minimising bycatch of albatrosses and petrels. | Parties, Individual RFMO leads, Secretariat, SBWG and AC | Ongoing | 18 weeks p.a. | 70,000 p.a. (subject to review) | Travel etc costs for attendance at selected RFMCO meetings (less if Party can contribute directly). Several RFMOs are engaging in the review of seabird measures during the early part of the triennium. Reflects cost of attending two meetings per RFMO for six RFMOs, based on 2024 costs. Figure will be kept under review to reflect changing priorities based on progress in RFMO CMM reviews. |

| Topic/ Task | | Responsible group | Time frame | Resources | | Action detail/ comments |
|-------------|--|---|------------|--------------|---|---|
| | | | | Time | Funds (AUD) | |
| 3.1.a | Continue to develop and refine ACAP specific products on best practice bycatch data collection and reporting, and present to RFMOs. | Individual RFMO leads, Secretariat, SBWG | Ongoing | 2 weeks p.a. | 3,000 (for translation) | These guidelines will also be relevant for national (Party) observer programmes. Includes development and dissemination of resources |
| 3.1.b | Continue the review, and update the RFMCO Engagement Strategy at each Joint WG meeting. | Leads: Dimas Gianuca and Sebastián Jiménez. | Ongoing | | | |
| 3.2 | Engage with other international bodies concerned with the conservation of species affected by fishing (e.g. IAC, CMS) | SBWG, Secretariat | Ongoing | | | In order to ensure as far possible any mitigation measures proposed for ACAP species do not adversely affect other species and to pursue mutual gains in species conservation. |
| 3.3 | Intersessional review of ACAP Best Practice Advice and Review documents for pelagic and demersal longline, trawl, and purse seine fishing gear | SBWG via leads – Pelagic LL: Sebastián Jiménez Demersal LL: Megan Tierney, Ed Melvin, Juan Pablo Seco Pon Trawl: Igor Debski, Verónica Iriarte, Leandro Tamini Purse seine: Cristian Suazo, Joanna Alfaro | Ongoing | | 3,000 (for translation of purse seine document) | Complete review and restructure of advice documents to improve readability and consistency between documents; version control; and documenting changes made between versions. Present to SBWG13. Review evidence on the relative effectiveness, noting regional differences of different combinations of measures to support Best Practice Advice. |
| 3.3.a | Sink rate testing advice | Intersessional group established at AC14. Lead: Sebastián Jiménez | 2026 | | | Complete guidance on adequate testing methodologies to demonstrate compliance with ACAP sink rate criterion. Present to SBWG13. |

| Topic/ Task | | Responsible group | Time frame | Resources | | Action detail/ comments |
|-------------|---|--|------------|-----------|-------------------------|--|
| | | | | Time | Funds (AUD) | |
| 3.4 | Identify and pursue new approaches to improve uptake of best practice seabird bycatch mitigation measures. | SBWG, PaCSWG Secretariat | Ongoing | | | Aimed to help inform the development of future strategies for engagement with fishing fleets. Scope of work dependent on ongoing investigation into enhancing implementation of mitigation measures. |
| 3.5 | 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: Dimas Gianuca, Javier Quiñones, Gabriel Canani | Ongoing | | 2,000 (for translation) | Continued development of the toolbox to provide advice on mitigation options available for artisanal and small-scale fisheries. Good opportunity for secondment . |
| 3.5.a | Understand and mitigate the effects on seabirds of small-scale pelagic fisheries, in particular where the mainline is attached directly to surface floats | SBWG | | | | Opportunity for secondments and small grants |
| 3.6 | Further development of best practice advice for mitigation in gillnet fisheries. | SBWG | Ongoing | 2 weeks | | Through liaison with external initiatives. It is anticipated that the first step of this process will be a comprehensive literature review of all gillnet mitigation research across taxa to be compiled for SBWG11, and that ACAP Parties contribute towards this work, as appropriate. |
| 3.7 | Further understand and mitigate seabird bycatch of floated demersal longlines, including ways to increase the sink rate of this gear. | SBWG Intersessional Group | 2026-2028 | | | Opportunity for secondment and small grant |

| Topic/ Task | | Responsible group | Time frame | Resources | | Action detail/ comments |
|-------------|--|--|------------|-----------|--|---|
| | | | | Time | Funds (AUD) | |
| 3.8 | Further development and assessment of pelagic longline branch line weighting or other priority research areas | SBWG | | | | Opportunity for secondments and small grants Includes assessment of the effectiveness of weighted hook designs, and use of non-toxic alternatives to lead when adding weight to the hook. |
| 3.9 | Reporting on bycatch indicators and associated data, methodological approaches and reporting format refined as required. Intersessional review to refine indicators | Parties, SBWG, Secretariat, Intersessional Group established at AC14 | Ongoing | 20 weeks | 10,000 p.a. | Need for contract support as this is a key element of work (0.25 FTE?). To support the reporting of response indicators. Possible secondment . Provide input into data workshops held by Parties if feasible. Complete refinement of simple Response Indicators (SBWG13) Implement plan to support Parties and Range States to complete reporting requirements |
| 3.10 | Review and update the prioritisation framework data for at-sea threats | Parties and SBWG | MoP9 | 4 weeks | 10,000 (contract to collate information from RFMOs and other States) | Use a staged approach to update the fisheries: 1) Parties and Range State and APEC Member Economy Observers to update information on their fisheries; 2) information on fisheries managed by RFMOs updated using publicly available materials and via MoUs; and 3) a further process would be needed for other States not presently interacting with ACAP. Opportunity for secondment or small grant . |

| Topic/ Task | | Responsible group | Time frame | Resources | | Action detail/ comments |
|-------------|---|--|------------|-----------|---|---|
| | | | | Time | Funds (AUD) | |
| 3.11 | Review of best practice guidelines for data collection by observer programmes and the use of Electronic Monitoring for the assessment and monitoring of seabird bycatch | SBWG, Intersessional Group established at AC14. Lead: Igor Debski | Ongoing | | | Complete initial review at SBWG13, including provision of advice on seabird bycatch estimation methods. Task 3.1 (RFMCO Engagement) will be an important mechanism for dissemination. |
| 3.12 | Model bycatch threat to seabird populations to communicate the extinction risk to ACAP Species. | | | | | Will require resources (possible secondment/small grant opportunity). ACAP should respond to relevant opportunities. Further investigate the human dimension of bycatch and mitigation as a relevant approach to increase the uptake of conservation measures. |
| 3.13 | Help facilitate and support collaborative seabird impact and risk assessments at various scales. | SBWG | Ongoing | | | Encourage and help facilitate and support collaborative efforts to undertake seabird bycatch risk and impact assessments, including building capacity to undertake assessments – secondment opportunity. A number of initiatives currently underway. |
| 3.14 | Continue to engage with certification schemes by providing information to sub-group to enable comment on individual fisheries assessments | Secretariat, SBWG | Ongoing | | 5,000 (for secondee/ contractee to continue to advise on the process) | Secretariat continue to engage, as required, consultant who has already provided advice on this process. A sub-group of SBWG will continue to pursue opportunities to engage with relevant schemes and will indicate when further input from the consultant would be helpful. Secretariat will continue to receive notifications from fishery certification schemes and will share these as relevant with the sub-group. |

| Topic/ Task | | Responsible group | Time frame | Resources | | Action detail/ comments |
|-------------|--|---|------------|-----------------------|--|---|
| | | | | Time | Funds (AUD) | |
| 3.15 | Further development of technologies and techniques for monitoring compliance with seabird mitigation measures. | SBWG | Ongoing | | | Opportunity for secondments and small grants . Review current status of monitoring across key fisheries and undertake research on the development of technologies and techniques for monitoring compliance, including EM. |
| 3.16 | Continue to update Mitigation Fact Sheets using new simplified format in a phased approach: 1) line weighting safety practices 2) updated advice on bird scaring lines for pelagic and demersal LL, and 3) fact sheets dealing with ACAP Best Practice measures. | SBWG, BLI, Secretariat. Leads: Bird scaring lines: Sebastián Jiménez Demersal longline line weighting: Barry Baker Trawl cable, including net monitoring, mitigation: Marcelo Garcia Safe handling of seabirds entangled in nets: Verónica Iriarte | Ongoing | 1 week per fact sheet | 15,000 (for translation, and for new factsheets) | |
| 3.17 | Develop guidelines for the safe removal of birds entangled in nets (purse seine, trawl, gillnet). | SBWG, Verónica Iriarte, Cristián Suazo, Juan Pablo Seco Pon, Secretariat, Yann Rouxel | SBWG13 | 12 weeks | 8,000 | Standardise procedures and develop infographic guidelines. Costs for development of graphic images, guidelines design, and translation. |
| 3.18 | Disseminate Seabird-Safe Toolkit for the tuna supply chain by Southern Seabirds Trust | SBWG, BLI | Ongoing | | | Share resources and provide expert advice. |

| Topic/ Task | | Responsible group | Time frame | Resources | | Action detail/ comments |
|--|---|--|------------|-------------|-------------|---|
| | | | | Time | Funds (AUD) | |
| 3.19 | Maintain bibliography of relevant bycatch information (Also see Task 5.7) | SBWG, Science Officer | Ongoing | 1 week p.a. | | 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. |
| 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 BLI | Ongoing | 10 weeks | | 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, Secretariat | Ongoing | | | 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 | PaCSWG, SBWG, TWG, AC | Ongoing | | | |
| 4.4 | Populate and measure capacity building indicators. | AC, Parties, Secretariat | Ongoing | | | Focus on capacity building between Parties, not on domestic activities. Reconsider capacity building indicators in light of discussions at MoP8. |
| 4.5 | Identify opportunities to build capacity when considering Small Grant and Secondment applications | PaCSWG, SBWG, TWG, Small Grants sub-committee. | Ongoing | | | Small Grants and Secondments are a key way that ACAP advances capacity building between Parties and with others. |

| 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 | 2027 | 4 weeks | | Report to MoP9. See also Task 2.8 and 3.10. |
| 5.2 | Review the format of reporting on the implementation of the Agreement, with a focus on priority conservation actions, on land, at-sea and for high priority populations. | AC Chair, WG Convenors, Secretariat | 2026-2028 | 4 weeks p.a. | | The reporting format should capture activities undertaken under the Agreement, including those reported by Parties, and an assessment of the effectiveness of these activities in addressing the conservation priorities. The review will also identify opportunities to simplify the report. |
| 5.3 | Review existing Action Plans (for National Plans, when asked by relevant Party), and advise on new Action Plans for ACAP species and High Priority Populations | PaCSWG, SBWG, TWG, AC, Parties | Ongoing | 16 weeks | | Intersessional group on High Priority Populations to respond to requests by Parties e.g. the implementation of the Waved Albatross <i>P. irrorata</i> Action Plan. |
| 5.4 | Review and update any publications not already specified in the Work Programme | PaCSWG, SBWG, TWG, Secretariat | Ongoing | 4 weeks | | |
| 5.5 | Implement system of indicators for the success of the ACAP Agreement | Parties, Secretariat, BLI and AC | Ongoing | 1 week p.a. | | Requires reporting by Parties, collation of information by Secretariat |
| 5.6 | Review ACAP performance indicators | PaCSWG, SBWG Convenors, Science Officer and BLI | 2027 | 3 weeks | | Examine ways to improve reporting of implementation of best practice mitigation measures by Parties. |
| 5.7 | Review information and drafts of triennial implementation report and other reporting to MoP. | Advisory Committee, Secretariat | 2027 | | | In accordance with Article IX 6 (d) of the Agreement. |

| Topic/ Task | | Responsible group | Time frame | Resources | | Action detail/ comments |
|-------------|---|--|------------|-----------|-----------------------|--|
| | | | | Time | Funds (AUD) | |
| 5.8 | 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 and CCAMLR. | SBWG, PaCSWG and Parties, BLI | Ongoing | 16 weeks | 10,000 | Opportunities for small grants . Assess any capacity building requirements to facilitate regional coordination to better assess bycatch. Increase focus on ACAP High Priority Populations and high-risk bycatch areas. |
| 5.9 | Review availability of albatross and petrel tracking/distribution data to ensure representativeness of species/age classes. Prioritise gaps and encourage studies to fill gaps. | PaCSWG, AC, Science Officer and BirdLife International | 2026-2027 | 6 months | 24,000 (BLI contract) | Review tracking indicators at AC16. Support a BLI contract to identify gaps in tracking data coverage; to contact holders of tracking data that are not in the Tracking Database; and encourage them to submit their data, and to assist data holders with data submission. Any contract with BLI would include significant in-kind contribution. |
| 5.10 | Develop ACAP guidelines for seabird-fisheries overlap and risk assessment analyses | SBWG and PaCSWG (Intersessional Group established at AC14) | AC15 | | | See ToRs developed at AC14. |
| 5.11 | Increase understanding of the effects of climate change on albatrosses and petrels. | PaCSWG, SBWG, TWG, Parties, Science Officer | Ongoing | | | Possible small grant opportunity. Support research and monitoring into the effects of climate change on life history, breeding behaviour and success, breeding habitat condition, and disease prevalence, etc. Identify ways to increase the resilience of albatrosses and petrels to these effects. Cooperative and coordinated international responses are required to address critical research needs. |

| Topic/ Task | | Responsible group | Time frame | Resources | | Action detail/ comments |
|--|--|--|------------|---------------|--|---|
| | | | | Time | Funds (AUD) | |
| 5.12 | Support for World Albatross Day | Secretariat, PaCSWG, SBWG, Parties | Ongoing | | 3,000 p.a. | Developing, producing and distributing WAD materials e.g. logo, posters, brochure. Support other means of promoting WAD, e.g. competitions etc. |
| 5.13 | Implement ACAP's Communications Strategy. | WG Convenors, AC Chairs, and Secretariat | Ongoing | | 65, 000 p.a. (including contracting of additional expertise) | Opportunities for secondments . Enhance the communication of the conservation crisis facing albatrosses and petrels and of ACAP's effective solutions. |
| 5.14 | Manage database of relevant scientific literature | Secretariat | Ongoing | 2 weeks p.a. | | |
| 5.15 | Manage directory of relevant legislation | Secretariat | Ongoing | 1 week p.a. | | Parties to supply further information, as available |
| 5.16 | Manage a list of authorities, research centres, scientists and non-governmental organisations relevant to ACAP | Secretariat | Ongoing | 2 days p.a. | | Parties and AC to supply further information, as available |
| 5.17 | Review Annex 2 (Action Plan) of the Agreement | AC, Parties, Secretariat | 2026-2027 | | | AC officials to draft report to AC. Report to MoP. |
| 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. | | Short-term advice provided by the AC Chair |
| 6.2 | Consider and advise on Staff matters as needed | AC | Ongoing | 1 week p.a. | | 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. | | |
| 6.4 | Manage work of Advisory Committee | Chair, Vice-chair and Convenors | Ongoing | 18 weeks p.a. | | |

ANNEX 5. RESOLUTION 8.5 RESOLUTION TO ADDRESS THE CONSERVATION CRISIS FACED BY ALBATROSSES AND PETRELS DUE TO THE THREAT OF FISHERIES BYCATCH

AGREEMENT ON THE CONSERVATION OF ALBATROSSES AND PETRELS**Resolution 8.5****Resolution to address the conservation crisis faced by albatrosses and petrels due to the threat of fisheries bycatch**

Adopted by the Eighth Session of the Meeting of the Parties, Dunedin, New Zealand,
19 – 23 May 2025

Recalling that the Advisory Committee to the Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels (the Agreement, or ACAP) highlighted at its eleventh meeting in 2019 that albatrosses and petrels face an ongoing conservation crisis;

Recognising that the conservation status of albatrosses and petrels continues to be threatened by incidental mortality associated with commercial fishing activities, including those of non-Party and distant water fishing fleets, both within and beyond areas of national jurisdiction;

Further recognising the importance of ensuring that the threats posed to albatrosses and petrels are effectively mitigated throughout their range;

Recalling Article II (1) of the Agreement that the objective of this Agreement is to achieve and maintain a favourable conservation status for albatrosses and petrels;

Further recalling Annex 2 (3.2.1) of the Agreement that Parties shall take appropriate operational, management, and other measures to reduce or eliminate the mortality of albatrosses and petrels resulting incidentally from fishing activities. Where possible, the measures applied should follow best current practice;

Further recalling Article XI (1) of the Agreement that Parties shall promote the objectives of this Agreement and develop and maintain coordinated and complementary working relationships with all relevant international, regional, and sub-regional bodies, including those concerned with the conservation and management of seabirds and their habitats and other marine living resources;

Welcoming the adoption of the Agreement under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Marine Biological Diversity of Areas beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ Agreement), which may constitute an opportunity under the BBNJ Agreement to support the objectives of the Agreement;

Aware that achieving adequate protection could be enhanced through cooperation with other Range States whose vessels fish within the range of albatrosses and petrels listed in Annex 1 to the Agreement, particularly those areas with a high incidence of bycatch of albatross and petrels;

Conscious of the benefit to the Agreement of wider cooperation of Range States in the management of fisheries to minimise the bycatch of albatrosses and petrels;

The Meeting of the Parties to the Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels

1. *Declares* that, based on new evidence on the continued decline in population status, a conservation crisis continues to face the species listed on Annex 1 of the Agreement with hundreds of thousands of albatrosses and petrels dying every year as a result of fisheries operations;
2. *Strongly urges* Parties, according to their national circumstances, to make renewed efforts to review and where necessary improve their operational, management, and other measures to reduce or eliminate the incidental mortality of albatrosses and petrels from fishing activities, in particular through the adoption and implementation of ACAP's Best Practice Advice, and through the collection and monitoring of bycatch and mitigation use data;
3. *Encourages* Parties who are Contracting Parties or Cooperating non-Contracting Parties to regional fisheries management and conservation organisations whose fisheries pose bycatch risks to albatrosses and petrels to promote the adoption and implementation of ACAP's Best Practice Advice to minimise seabird bycatch. These actions should align with ACAP's engagement strategy with regional fisheries management and conservation organisations and include coordinated engagement with relevant Range States;
4. *Further encourages* Parties, as appropriate, to seek avenues to engage with Range States and member economies of Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation forum whose vessels fish within the range of albatrosses and petrels to promote the objectives of the Agreement, according to their respective circumstances, for example in areas not covered by regional fisheries management and conservation organisations, in particular through promoting the adoption and implementation of ACAP's Best Practice Advice to reduce or eliminate the incidental mortality of albatrosses and petrels resulting from fishing activities;
5. *Further encourages* Parties to focus their communication and promotion actions related to the conservation crisis faced by albatrosses and petrels to align with, and support, ACAP's Communication Strategy;
6. *Requests* Parties provide to the Secretariat, in a timely manner, all available information, according to their national circumstances, on their actions taken to reduce or eliminate the incidental mortality of albatrosses and petrels resulting from fishing activities, in particular through the application of ACAP's Best Practice Advice; and

7. *Encourages* Parties to cooperate in the provision of technical assistance that supports Parties with limited capacity to progressively enhance their ability to reduce or eliminate bycatch of albatrosses and petrels.

ANNEX 6. RESOLUTION 8.6 ARRANGEMENT WITH THE JOINT TECHNICAL COMMISSION OF THE MARITIME FRONT AND WITH GLOBAL FISHING WATCH

AGREEMENT ON THE CONSERVATION OF ALBATROSSES AND PETRELS**Resolution 8.6****Arrangement with the Joint Technical Commission of the Maritime Front and with Global Fishing Watch**

Adopted by the Eighth Session of the Meeting of the Parties, Dunedin, New Zealand,
19 - 23 May 2025

Recalling that Article X(d) of the Agreement calls upon the Secretariat to, *inter alia*, liaise with international organisations and institutions whose activities are directly or indirectly relevant to the conservation, including the protection and management, of albatrosses and petrels;

Recalling also Article XI(1) that calls upon Parties to, *inter alia*, promote the objectives of this Agreement and develop and maintain coordinated and complementary working relationships with all relevant international, regional and sub-regional bodies, including those concerned with the conservation and management of seabirds and their habitats and other marine living resources;

Further recalling Article XI(3) that authorises the Secretariat to enter into arrangements, with the approval of the Meeting of Parties, with other organisations and institutions as may be appropriate;

Further recalling Resolution 6.11 of the Sixth Session of the Meeting of the Parties on the Authority of the Secretariat to Enter into Arrangements with Relevant International Organisations, which includes a template and modalities for such arrangements;

Noting that Resolution 6.11 states that any substantive derogation from the template that is more than merely editorial must be approved by the Parties;

Noting also that Resolution 6.11 states that any proposed amendments of a substantive nature must be approved by the Parties.

The Meeting of the Parties to the Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels

Decides:

1. that the Secretariat may sign a Memorandum of Understanding with the Joint Technical Commission of the Maritime Front as set out in Appendix A;
2. that the Secretariat may develop and conclude a Memorandum of Understanding with Global Fishing Watch;
3. that the template set out in Resolution 6.11 will be used in respect of the arrangement referred to in paragraph 2 above.

RESOLUTION 8.6 APPENDIX A

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

between

THE PRESIDENCY OF THE JOINT TECHNICAL COMMISSION OF THE MARITIME
FRONT

and

THE SECRETARIAT OF THE AGREEMENT ON THE CONSERVATION OF
ALBATROSSES AND PETRELS

The Presidency of the Joint Technical Commission of the Maritime Front (hereafter the **CTMFM**), represented herein by *Pro Tempore* President Navy Captain (R) Zapicán Bonino Cola, and the Secretariat of the Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels (hereafter the ACAP Secretariat), represented herein by Dr Christine Bogle; hereafter 'the Participants';

ACKNOWLEDGING that the *Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels* (hereafter ACAP), developed under the auspices of the *Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals*, is a multilateral agreement that seeks to achieve and maintain a favourable conservation status for albatrosses and petrels by coordinating international activity to mitigate known threats to albatross and petrel populations;

NOTING that Article X(d) of ACAP authorises the ACAP Secretariat to liaise with non-Party Range States and regional economic integration organisations and 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, including the protection and management, of albatrosses and petrels;

NOTING FURTHER that Article XI of ACAP authorises the ACAP Secretariat to consult and cooperate, where appropriate, with the secretariats of other relevant conventions and international instruments concerning matters of common interest, and to enter into arrangements, with the approval of the Meeting of Parties, with other organisations and institutions, as may be appropriate, and to consult and cooperate with such organisations and institutions in exchanging information and data;

ACKNOWLEDGING that Article 80 of the Treaty of the Río de la Plata and its Maritime Front provides that the **CTMFM** shall seek to conduct studies and adopt and coordinate plans and measures for the conservation, preservation, and rational exploitation of living resources, and the protection of the marine environment in the area of mutual interest established in Article 73 of said Treaty;

ACKNOWLEDGING FURTHER that Article 82(b), assigns to the **CTMFM** the role of promoting joint studies and scientific research, particularly within the area of mutual interest, relevant to the prevention and elimination of potentially harmful effects from the use, exploration, and exploitation of the marine environment;

CONSCIOUS that both Member States of the **CTMFM** are Parties to ACAP;

NOTING that Chapter II (Article 2) of the **CTMFM** Statute provides that the Commission is an International Body with the required legal capacity to perform its specific functions;

RECOGNISING that the achievement of the goals of the **CTMFM** and ACAP will benefit from cooperation, with a view to harmonising the conservation measures adopted in respect of albatrosses and petrels;

DESIRING to put into place arrangements and procedures to promote cooperation to enhance the conservation of albatrosses and petrels;

Have reached the following understandings:

1. OBJECTIVE OF THIS MOU

The objective of this Memorandum of Understanding (“MoU”) is to facilitate cooperation between the CTMFM and the ACAP Secretariat (“the Participants”) with a view to supporting efforts to minimise the bycatch of albatrosses and petrels listed in Annex 1 of ACAP in the area managed by the CTMFM, the Argentine-Uruguayan Common Fishing Zone (ZCPAU).

2. AREAS OF COOPERATION

The **CTMFM** and the ACAP Secretariat may consult, cooperate and collaborate with each other in areas of common interest that are directly or indirectly relevant to the conservation, including the protection and management, of albatrosses and petrels, including:

- a) development of systems for collecting and analysing data, and exchanging information concerning the bycatch of albatrosses and petrels in the ZCPAU;
- b) exchange of information regarding management approaches relevant to the conservation of albatrosses and petrels;
- c) implementation of education and awareness programmes for fishers who operate in areas where albatrosses and petrels may be encountered;
- d) design, testing, and implementation of albatross and petrel bycatch mitigation measures relevant to fishing operations in the ZCPAU;
- e) development of training programmes on conservation techniques and measures to mitigate threats affecting albatrosses and petrels;
- f) exchange of expertise, techniques, and knowledge relevant to the conservation of albatrosses and petrels in the ZCPAU; and
- a) reciprocal participation with observer status at the relevant meetings of ACAP and the **CTMFM**.

3. REVIEW AND AMENDMENT

This MoU may be reviewed or amended at any time by the mutual written consent of both Participants.

4. LEGAL STATUS

The Participants acknowledge that this MoU is not legally binding for them.

5. COMING INTO EFFECT AND TERMINATION

This MoU will come into effect on the date of signature.

A Participant may unilaterally terminate this MoU by providing six (6) months written notice to the other Participant.

Signed by:

| | |
|---|--|
| <p>For the [Secretariat of Organisation] ([Organisation])</p> <p>Date: / /20...</p> <p>(signature)</p> <p>[Name] Chair/Executive Secretary [Organisation]</p> | <p>For the Secretariat for the Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels (ACAP Secretariat)</p> <p>Date: / /20...</p> <p>(signature)</p> <p>[Name] Executive Secretary ACAP Secretariat</p> |
|---|--|

ANNEX 7. RESOLUTION 8.7 AGREEMENT BUDGET 2026 - 2028

AGREEMENT ON THE CONSERVATION OF ALBATROSSES AND PETRELS

Resolution 8.7

Agreement Budget 2026 - 2028

Adopted by the Eighth Session of the Meeting of the Parties, Dunedin, New Zealand,
19 - 23 May 2025

Recalling that Article VIII(8) of the Agreement requires the Meeting of the Parties, at each of its ordinary Sessions, to adopt a budget for the next financial period;

Recalling also that Article VII(2)(a) of the Agreement requires decisions relating to the budget and any scale of contributions to be adopted by the Meeting of the Parties by consensus, having regard to the differing resources of the Parties;

Noting that Resolution 1.3 adopted at the first Session of the Meeting of the Parties agreed to give consideration to amending the Scale of Contributions;

Further recalling that Resolution 7.5 adopted at the Seventh Session of the Meeting of the Parties adopted a scale of contributions formula and Budget for 2023 - 2025;

Bearing in mind Resolution 8.2 Secretariat Work Programme 2026 - 2028, and Resolution 8.4, Advisory Committee Work Programme 2026 - 2028;

The Meeting of the Parties to the Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels

Decides:

1. to adopt the 2026 - 2028 Budget set out in Appendix A;
2. to adopt the scale of contributions formula set out in Appendix B to calculate the contributions for existing Parties;
3. that in the financial years 2026, 2027 and 2028, the core budget shall be based on fixed annual payments from the Parties, as set out in Appendix C;
4. that the accession of any Party to the Agreement during an intersessional period will not result in the recalculation of the fixed annual payments for any other Party prior to the next Session of the Meeting of the Parties;

5. that the budget is to be allocated on a functional basis into four appropriations as follows:
 - Appropriation 1 – Operation of the Secretariat
 - Appropriation 2 – Meetings of the Parties
 - Appropriation 3 – Meetings of the Advisory Committee
 - Appropriation 4 – Advisory Committee Work Programme;
6. that Parties should pay any outstanding contributions as soon as possible;
7. that all contributions shall be paid in Australian dollars (AUD);
8. that a working capital shall be maintained at a constant level of AUD 100,000;
9. that the Advisory Committee shall keep the status of the General Fund and other funds drawn up in accordance with the Agreement under regular review; and
10. that additional funds which become available should other States accede to the Agreement during the 2026 - 2028 triennium will be allocated toward the Special Fund, consistent with Financial Regulation 5.4.

Urges:

all Parties consider making voluntary contributions to the Special Fund to support the activities of the Agreement.

Invites:

non-Party Range States, governmental, inter-governmental and non-governmental organisations and other agencies to consider contributing to the Special Fund or to specific activities.

Requests:

the Secretariat to make best endeavours to seek external funding and to identify innovative mechanisms to reduce costs.

RESOLUTION 8.7 APPENDIX A

Agreement Budget 2026 – 2028

| Ref. No | Description | 2026 Budget | 2027 Budget | 2028 Budget |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------|------------------|------------------|
| 1. INCOME | | | | |
| | Contributions from Parties | 926,230 | 940,123 | 954,225 |
| | Interest on funds | 20,000 | 20,300 | 20,605 |
| | Tax refunds | 15,889 | 16,127 | 16,369 |
| | MoU - Tasmanian Government | 28,659 | 29,089 | 29,525 |
| | Total Income | 990,778 | 1,005,639 | 1,020,724 |
| 2. EXPENDITURE | | | | |
| APPROPRIATION 1 - SECRETARIAT | | | | |
| Employee salaries | | | | |
| 1.1.1 | Salaries – Executive Secretary | 173,328 | 175,928 | 178,567 |
| 1.1.2 | Superannuation | 20,799 | 21,111 | 21,428 |
| 1.1.3 | Recruitment Costs | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 1.1.4 | Salaries - Science Officer | 125,246 | 127,125 | 129,032 |
| 1.1.5 | Superannuation | 15,030 | 15,255 | 15,484 |
| 1.1.6 | Workers Compensation | 4,500 | 4,568 | 4,637 |
| | Total Salaries | 338,903 | 343,987 | 349,148 |
| Employee expenses | | | | |
| 1.2.1 | Accommodation | 14,408 | 14,624 | 14,843 |
| 1.2.2 | Airfares | 36,021 | 36,561 | 37,109 |
| 1.2.3 | Travel Allowances | 15,358 | 15,588 | 15,822 |
| 1.2.4 | Travel Insurance | 1,405 | 1,426 | 1,447 |
| 1.2.5 | Consultants | 50,000 | 50,000 | 50,000 |
| 1.2.6 | Relocation expense (staff) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 1.2.8 | General insurance | 2,033 | 2,063 | 2,094 |
| 1.2.9 | Representation expenses | 1,903 | 1,903 | 1,903 |
| 1.2.10 | Other travel costs - visas | 1,189 | 1,207 | 1,225 |
| | Total Employee expenses | 122,317 | 123,372 | 124,443 |
| Operational costs | | | | |
| 1.3.1 | Office equipment /furniture | 5,000 | 5,075 | 5,151 |
| 1.3.2 | Office equipment maintenance | 995 | 1,010 | 1,025 |
| 1.3.3 | Office requisites - stationery | 2,000 | 2,030 | 2,060 |
| 1.3.4 | Publications /books | 289 | 293 | 297 |
| 1.3.6 | Printing and copying (PR material) | 2,442 | 2,479 | 2,516 |
| 1.3.7 | Telephones - telecommunications | 3,108 | 3,155 | 3,202 |

| Ref. No | Description | 2026 Budget | 2027 Budget | 2028 Budget |
|--|---|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| 1.3.8 | Translations - correspondence | 13,755 | 13,961 | 14,170 |
| 1.3.9 | Postage | 200 | 203 | 206 |
| 1.3.10 | Freight/couriers | 200 | 203 | 206 |
| 1.3.11 | Light and power | 3,336 | 3,386 | 3,437 |
| 1.3.12 | Insurance property | 1,865 | 1,893 | 1,921 |
| 1.3.14 | Vehicle running costs | 4,351 | 4,416 | 4,483 |
| 1.3.15 | Cab charge - taxis | 647 | 657 | 667 |
| 1.3.16 | Parking | 7,474 | 7,586 | 7,700 |
| 1.3.18 | Staff training | 2,041 | 2,072 | 2,103 |
| 1.3.19 | Staff conferences / seminars | 1,500 | 1,523 | 1,546 |
| 1.3.20 | Bank charges | 362 | 367 | 373 |
| 1.3.21 | Bad and doubtful debts | 395 | 401 | 407 |
| 1.3.22 | Software purchase | 3,232 | 3,280 | 3,329 |
| 1.3.23 | Server lease | 800 | 812 | 824 |
| 1.3.24 | Outsourced IT services | 2,509 | 2,547 | 2,585 |
| 1.3.25 | Modifications to database | 25,000 | 25,375 | 25,756 |
| 1.3.26 | WAN Wireless network | 1,467 | 1,489 | 1,511 |
| 1.3.27 | Rent - ACAP office | 37,855 | 38,423 | 38,999 |
| 1.3.28 | Rates and water | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 1.3.29 | Preventative maintenance | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 1.3.30 | Office cleaning | 300 | 305 | 310 |
| | Total Office operational costs | 121,123 | 122,941 | 124,783 |
| TOTAL APPROPRIATION 1 - SECRETARIAT | | 582,343 | 590,300 | 598,374 |
| APPROPRIATION 2 - MEETINGS OF THE PARTIES | | | | |
| Interpretation / Translation Costs | | | | |
| 2.1.1 | Simultaneous interpretation | 0 | 0 | 57,024 |
| 2.1.2 | Hire of interpretation equipment | 0 | 0 | 41,479 |
| 2.1.3 | Translation of documents | 0 | 0 | 46,990 |
| | Total Interpretation/Translation | 0 | 0 | 145,493 |
| Meeting support costs | | | | |
| 2.2.1 | Hire of venue (including catering) | 0 | 0 | 20,737 |
| 2.2.2 | Hire/purchase of equipment | 0 | 0 | 13,824 |
| 2.2.3 | Support staff | 0 | 0 | 39,946 |
| 2.2.4 | Printing of documents/report | 0 | 0 | 9,504 |
| | Total Meeting support costs | 0 | 0 | 84,011 |
| Sponsorship | | | | |
| 2.3.1 | Sponsorship - experts | 0 | 0 | 31,628 |
| | Total Sponsorship costs | 0 | 0 | 31,628 |
| TOTAL APPROPRIATION 2 - MOP | | 0 | 0 | 261,132 |

| Ref. No | Description | 2026 Budget | 2027 Budget | 2028 Budget |
|---|--------------------------------------|----------------|------------------|------------------|
| APPROPRIATION 3 - ADVISORY COMMITTEE | | | | |
| Interpretation / Translation Costs | | | | |
| 3.1.1 | Simultaneous interpretation | 59,705 | 60,601 | 0 |
| 3.1.2 | Hire of interpretation equipment | 53,300 | 49,440 | 0 |
| 3.1.3 | Translation of meeting documents | 33,385 | 33,886 | 0 |
| | Total Interpretation | 146,390 | 143,927 | 0 |
| Venue and meeting support costs | | | | |
| 3.2.1 | Hire of venue (including catering) | 31,601 | 32,075 | 0 |
| 3.2.2 | Hire/purchase of equipment | 2,872 | 2,915 | 0 |
| 3.2.3 | Support staff | 31,104 | 31,570 | 0 |
| | Total Venue and meeting costs | 65,577 | 66,560 | 0 |
| Sponsorship | | | | |
| 3.3.1 | Sponsorship of experts | 22,390 | 22,726 | 0 |
| | Sponsorship non-Party Range States | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | Total sponsorship | 22,390 | 22,726 | 0 |
| Support for Advisory Committee Officials | | | | |
| 3.4.1 | Support for AC Officials | 34,050 | 34,561 | 0 |
| | Total support | 34,050 | 34,561 | 0 |
| TOTAL APPROPRIATION 3 - AC | | 268,407 | 267,775 | 0 |
| APPROPRIATION 4 - AC WORK PROGRAMME | | | | |
| | Support for Secondments | 20,000 | 20,000 | 20,000 |
| | Advisory Committee Work Programme | 120,028 | 127,564 | 141,218 |
| TOTAL APPROPRIATION 4 - AC WP | | 140,028 | 147,564 | 161,218 |
| TOTAL AGREEMENT BUDGET | | 990,778 | 1,005,639 | 1,020,724 |

In addition, **\$306,842** from savings will be drawn on to support the budget as follows:

| One-off allocations from savings in General Fund | 2026 - 2028 |
|--|-------------|
| 1.3.25 Database migration/rebuild | 75,000 |
| Secretariat vehicle | 35,000 |
| Advisory Committee Work Programme | 196,842 |

RESOLUTION 8.7 APPENDIX B

Scale of Contributions Formulae

1. For Parties whose scale of assessment under the United Nations Scale of Assessment for the UN Budget (currently [Resolution A/RES/79/249](#), issued on 31 December 2024) is less than or equal to 0.15%, annual contributions shall be calculated on the UN Scale of Assessment.

$$\text{Contribution1} = \frac{\text{UN}\%}{\sum \text{UN}\% \text{ACAP}} * \text{ACAPBudget}$$

(Equation 1)

where: UN % is the calculated UN Scale of Assessment for a Party outlined in the United Nations Scale of Assessment for payment of annual contributions to the UN Budget (currently Resolution 79/249, 31 December 2024).

$\sum \text{UN}\% \text{ACAP}$ is the sum of the UN Scale of Assessment for all ACAP Parties outlined in UN Resolution 79/249; and

ACAPBudget is the annual budget approved by the Meeting of the Parties.

2. For Parties whose scale of assessment under the United Nations Scale of Assessment for the UN Budget (Resolution 79/249, 31 December 2024) is greater than 0.15%, annual contributions shall be calculated based on 50% GNI, and 50% GNI per capita, with no party paying more than 20% of the total ACAP Budget. It is calculated using the following equations:

$$\text{Contribution2} = \left[\sum \left(\frac{\text{GNI}\%}{\sum \text{GNI}\% \text{ACAP}} \cdot 0.5 \right), \left(\frac{\text{GNIpc}\%}{\sum \text{GNIpc}\% \text{ACAP}} \cdot 0.5 \right) \right] \cdot (1 - \sum \% \text{Contribution1})$$

* ACAP Budget

(Equation 2)

where: GNI % is the Gross National Income for a Party that has a Scale of Assessment under the United Nations Scale of Assessment that is greater than 0.15%.

$\sum \text{GNI}\% \text{ACAP}$ is the sum of the Gross National Incomes for all ACAP Parties that have a Scale of Assessment under the United Nations Scale of Assessment that is greater than 0.15%.

GNIpc% is the Gross National Income per capita for a Party that has a Scale of Assessment under the United Nations Scale of Assessment that is greater than 0.15%.

$\sum \text{GNIpc}\% \text{ACAP}$ is the sum of the Gross National Incomes per capita for all ACAP Parties that have a Scale of Assessment under the United Nations Scale of Assessment that is greater than 0.15%; and

$\sum \% Contribution_1$ is the total assessed contributions for Parties whose scale of assessment under the United Nations Scale of Assessment for the UN Budget is less than or equal to 0.15%: it is expressed as a percentage of the ACAP budget.

3. If the calculated percentage contribution for one or more parties resulting from Equation 2 exceeds 20%, the contribution for the Party/Parties is set at 20% of the annual budget, and the contribution for the residual Parties recalculated in one or more subsequent iterations of the following formula:

$$Contribution = \left[\sum \left(\frac{GNI\%}{\sum GNI\% ACAP < 20\%} \cdot 0.5 \right), \left(\frac{GNIpc\%}{\sum GNIpc\% ACAP < 20\%} \cdot 0.5 \right) \right] \\ \bullet \left(1 - [(0.20 \bullet Parties > 20\%) + (\sum \% Contribution_1)] \right) \bullet ACAPBudget$$

(Equation 3)

where: $\sum GNI\% ACAP Parties < 20\%$ is the sum of the Gross National Incomes for all ACAP Parties that have an assessed annual ACAP contribution < 20% in Equation 2.

$\sum GNIpc\% ACAP Parties < 20\%$ is the sum of the Gross National Incomes per capita for all ACAP Parties that have an assessed annual ACAP contribution < 20% in Equation 2.

$Parties > 20\%$ is the number of Parties that have an assessed contribution from Equation 2 or subsequent iterations of this equation that is >20% of the ACAP Budget.

RESOLUTION 8.7 APPENDIX C

Parties' Contributions 2026 - 2028

| Party | 2026 Contributions (AUD) | 2027 Contributions (AUD) | 2028 Contributions (AUD) |
|----------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Argentina | 57,332 | 58,192 | 59,065 |
| Australia | 102,825 | 104,367 | 105,933 |
| Brazil | 115,571 | 117,304 | 119,064 |
| Chile | 42,580 | 43,219 | 43,867 |
| Ecuador | 3,871 | 3,929 | 3,988 |
| France | 144,977 | 147,152 | 149,359 |
| New Zealand | 54,080 | 54,891 | 55,714 |
| Norway | 111,087 | 112,753 | 114,444 |
| Peru | 8,635 | 8,764 | 8,896 |
| South Africa | 35,088 | 35,615 | 36,149 |
| Spain | 106,049 | 107,639 | 109,254 |
| United Kingdom | 139,432 | 141,524 | 143,646 |
| Uruguay | 4,704 | 4,775 | 4,847 |
| TOTALS | 926,230 | 940,123 | 954,225 |

ANNEX 8. TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR INTERSESSIONAL GROUP**Terms of Reference****Intersessional Group (IG) to review the current criteria for recruitment of the Executive Secretary, outlined in Resolution 7.3, Annex A.**

Recognizing the expectation stated in Article VIII(13)(c) of the Agreement, related to measures to improve its effectiveness, the Eighth Session of the Meeting of the Parties (MoP8) agreed to create an Intersessional Group (IG) to review the current process for recruitment of the Executive Secretary, outlined in Resolution 7.3, Annex A.

The IG will:

1. In the intersessional period, assess the current process outlined in sections “Executive Secretary” and “Suggested Selection Criteria for the Appointment of the Executive Secretary to ACAP”, to identify possible areas where improvements to the current recruitment procedure, related to, *inter alia*, efficiency, transparency, inclusive and balanced geographical representation, can be made, taking into account the current official working languages of the Agreement;
2. Report back to the next Meeting of the Parties with possible suggestions for improvement of the current process for recruitment.

To fulfil its mandate, the IG may, among other matters, identify good practices and criteria from other international organisations of similar size and scope to the Agreement. It may also request the support of the Secretariat in consulting with other organizations that have agreements or established relations with ACAP.

ANNEX 9. LIST OF MEETING PARTICIPANTS**CHAIR**

Ms Danica STENT
dtsent@doc.govt.nz

VICE-CHAIR

Dr Michael DOUBLE
mike.double@aad.gov.au

PARTIES**ARGENTINA**

Representative Ms Carmen RIVERO
 Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores, Comercio Internacional y Culto
grv@mrecic.gov.ar

AUSTRALIA

Representative Ms Mandi LIVESEY
 Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water
 (Australian Antarctic Division)
mandi.livesey@aad.gov.au

Alternate Representative Ms Annette DUNKLEY
 Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water
 (Australian Antarctic Division)
annette.dunkley@aad.gov.au

BRAZIL

Representative Mr Leandro MAGALHAES
 Ministry of Foreign Affairs
leandro.magalhaes@itamaraty.gov.br

Alternate Representative Mr Pedro ALEXANDRE DE ALBUQUERQUE
 Fisheries co-Management Department (DPES), Ministry of the
 Environment and Climate Change
pedro.albuquerque@mma.gov.br

Advisor Mrs Tatiana NEVES
 Projeto Albatroz

| CHILE | |
|--------------------------|---|
| Representative | Mr Marcelo GARCIA ALVARADO Subsecretaria de Pesca y Acuicultura mgarcia@subpesca.cl |
| ECUADOR | |
| Representative | Ms Manuela FERNÁNDEZ DE CÓRDOVA Embassy of Ecuador in Australia, cross-accredited to New Zealand mfernandezc@cancilleria.gob.ec |
| FRANCE | |
| Representative | Ms Agathe HITCHON Embassy of France in New Zealand agathe.hitchon@diplomatie.gouv.fr |
| NEW ZEALAND | |
| Representative | Miss Julia ROBINSON Department of Conservation jurobinson@doc.govt.nz |
| Alternate Representative | Dr Igor DEBSKI Department of Conservation idebski@doc.govt.nz |
| Alternate Representative | Ms Danica STENT Department of Conservation dtsent@doc.govt.nz |
| Advisor | Ms Clara BEAUVOIR Ministry of Primary Industries |
| Advisor | Dr Johannes FISCHER Department of Conservation |
| Advisor | Mr Mark GEYTENBEEK Ministry of Primary Industries |
| Advisor | Ms Mandy LEATHERS Department of Conservation |
| Advisor | Miss Vivita MATANIMEKE Ministry of Primary Industries |
| Advisor | Miss Sally ZHANG Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade |

| NORWAY | |
|--------------------------|---|
| Representative | Ms Astrid HØGESTØL Norwegian Polar Institute astrid.hogestol@npolar.no |
| PERU | |
| Representative | Mr Julio Armando REINOSO CALDERÓN Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores jreinoso@rree.gob.pe |
| SOUTH AFRICA | |
| Representative | Mr Johannes DE GOEDE Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment JdeGoede@dfffe.gov.za |
| SPAIN | |
| Representative | Ms Elvira Minaya GARCÍA-BELLIDO CAPDEVILA Ministry for the Ecological Transition and the Demographic Challenge emgbellido@miteco.es |
| Alternate Representative | Ms Helena MORENO COLERA Ministry for the Ecological Transition and the Demographic Challenge hmoreno@miteco.es |
| UNITED KINGDOM | |
| Representative | Ms Elizabeth BIOTT Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) elizabeth.biott@defra.gov.uk |
| Alternate Representative | Mr Mark TASKER Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC) mltasker@aol.com |
| Alternate Representative | Dr Megan TIERNEY Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC) megan.tierney@jncc.gov.uk |
| URUGUAY | |
| Representative | Ms Gabriela JORGE Ministerio de Ambiente gabriela.jorge@ambiente.gub.uy |

OBSERVERS: APEC MEMBER ECONOMIES**CHINESE TAIPEI**

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| Head of Delegation | Mr Chin-Ming LO Ocean Conservation Administration, Ocean Affairs Council oca999@oca.gov.tw |
| | Mr Po-Sheng HSIEH Ocean Conservation Administration, Ocean Affairs Council |
| | Mr Herbert W. M. HSU Department of International Organizations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs |
| | Mr Chung Hang HUNG National Taiwan University |
| | Mr Ansel SHEN Department of International Organizations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs |
| | Associate Professor Chi-Ting (Robert) TSAI Department of Political Science, National Taiwan University |

OBSERVERS: INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS**IUCN**

Prof Catherine IORNS
catherine.iorns@vuw.ac.nz

OBSERVERS: NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS**BIRDLIFE INTERNATIONAL**

Head of Delegation Mr Oliver YATES
oli.yates@rspb.org.uk

Dr Stephanie BORRELLE

ROYAL FOREST & BIRD PROTECTION SOCIETY OF NEW ZEALAND

Head of Delegation Mr Geoffrey KEEY
g.keey@forestandbird.org.nz

Ms Sue MATURIN

Ms Chelsea MCGAW

SECRETARIAT

Executive Secretary: Dr Christine BOGLE
christine.bogle@acap.aq

Science Officer: Dr Wiesława MISIAK
wieslawamisiak@acap.aq

MoP8 Support: Mr Jonathon BARRINGTON
 Miss Axelle COMPAIN
 Dr Marco FAVERO
 Dr Olivia ROWLEY

INTERPRETERS

French ↔ English: Dr Marc ORLANDO
 Mr Philippe TANGUY

Spanish ↔ English: Mrs Cecilia ALAL
 Dr Sandra HALE

ANNEX 10. MEETING AGENDA

| Agenda | |
|---|--|
| Eighth Session of the Meeting of the Parties to ACAP | |
| 1. Official Opening | |
| 1.1 | Official Opening and Opening Statements |
| 2. Procedural Issues | |
| 2.1 | Adoption of Agenda |
| 2.2 | Amendments to the MoP Rules of Procedure |
| 2.3 | Establishment of Credentials Committee |
| 3. Reports | |
| 3.1 | Report of Credentials Committee |
| 3.2 | Report of the Depositary |
| 3.3 | Reports of Observers |
| 4. Operation of the Secretariat | |
| 4.1 | Report of the Secretariat |
| 4.2 | Secretariat Work Programme 2026 - 2028 |
| 4.3 | Review of Staff Regulations |
| 4.4 | Review of Financial Regulations |
| 4.5 | Review of Effectiveness of the Secretariat |
| 4.6 | Recruitment of the Agreement's Executive Secretary |
| 5. Operation of the Meeting of the Parties | |
| 6. Operation of the Advisory Committee | |
| 6.1 | Report of the Advisory Committee |
| 6.1.1 | Advisory Committee reporting framework |
| 6.2 | Advisory Committee Work Programme 2026 - 2028 |
| 7. Operation of the Agreement | |
| 7.1 | Proposed Amendment to Annex 1 - listing of new species |
| 7.2 | Criteria for listing and de-listing species in Annex 1 |
| 7.3 | Report on Implementation of the Agreement |
| 7.4 | Identification of Priority Actions for Conservation Measures |
| 7.5 | Indicators to Measure the Success of the Agreement |
| 7.6 | Capacity Building |
| 7.7 | Communication Strategy |
| 7.8 | Arrangements with Other Organisations |
| 7.9 | Financial Report |

| | |
|------------|--|
| 7.10 | Agreement Budget 2026 - 2028 |
| 7.11 | Scale of Contributions |
| 7.12 | National Plans of Action |
| 7.13 | Accession of non-Party Range States to the Agreement |
| 8. | Provisional Date and Venue of the Ninth Meeting |
| 9. | Other Business |
| 9.1 | Media Release |
| 9.2 | Participation at future Conferences |
| 10. | Adoption of MoP8 Report |
| 11. | Closing Remarks |

ANNEX 11. LIST OF MEETING DOCUMENTS

| WORKING DOCUMENTS | | | |
|--------------------------|--|---------------------|---|
| Paper | Title | Agenda Item | Submitted by |
| MoP8 Doc 01 | Provisional Agenda | 2.1 | Secretariat, Advisory Committee Chair, MoP7 Chair, Advisory Committee |
| MoP8 Doc 02 | Annotated Provisional Agenda | 2.1 | Secretariat, MoP8 Vice-chair |
| MoP8 Doc 03 | Meeting Schedule | 2.1 | Secretariat, MoP8 Vice-chair |
| MoP8 Doc 04 | List of Meeting Documents | 2.1 | Secretariat |
| MoP8 Doc 05 Rev 3 | List of Meeting Participants | 2 | Secretariat |
| MoP8 Doc 06 | Amendment to Rule 4 of the Rules of Procedure for the Meeting of the Parties | 2.2 | Secretariat |
| MoP8 Doc 07 | Report of Depositary Government on the Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels (Canberra, 19 June 2001) | 3.2 | Australia |
| MoP8 Doc 08 | Secretariat Report | 4.1, 4.3, 4.4, 7.13 | Secretariat |
| MoP8 Doc 09 Rev 1 | Interim 2025 Financial Report | 4.4, 7.9 | Secretariat |
| MoP8 Doc 10 | Review of the effectiveness of the Secretariat | 4.5 | Secretariat |
| MoP8 Doc 11 | Advisory Committee Report to the Eighth Meeting of Parties | 6.1 | Advisory Committee |
| MoP8 Doc 12 | Summary Report on Progress with the Implementation of the Agreement 2022 - 2024 | 7.3 | Secretariat |
| MoP8 Doc 13 | Status of ACAP species, populations and breeding sites | 7.3, 7.5 | Advisory Committee, Secretariat |
| MoP8 Doc 14 | Threats to ACAP species and mitigation actions | 7.3, 7.5 | Advisory Committee, Secretariat |
| MoP8 Doc 15 | ACAP Priority Conservation Actions for 2026 - 2028 | 7.4 | Advisory Committee, Secretariat |

| WORKING DOCUMENTS | | | |
|-------------------|--|-------------|---|
| Paper | Title | Agenda Item | Submitted by |
| MoP8 Doc 16 | Capacity building and outreach | 7.6 | Secretariat, Advisory Committee Chair |
| MoP8 Doc 17 | Draft Advisory Committee Work Programme 2026 - 2028 | 6.2 | Advisory Committee |
| MoP8 Doc 18 | Draft Secretariat Work Programme 2026 - 2028 | 4.2 | Secretariat |
| MoP8 Doc 19 Rev 2 | Draft Agreement Budget 2026 - 2028 | 7.10 | Secretariat |
| MoP8 Doc 20 Rev 1 | Draft Scale of Contributions 2026 - 2028 | 7.11 | Secretariat |
| MoP8 Doc 21 | Arrangements with other organisations | 7.8 | Secretariat |
| MoP8 Doc 22 | Actions to address the conservation crisis faced by albatrosses and petrels due to the threat of fisheries bycatch | 7.4 | New Zealand |
| MoP8 Doc 23 | Establishing a Budget Sub-committee | 4.4 | Australia, New Zealand |
| MoP8 Doc 24 | ACAP Engagement Strategy with Regional Fisheries Management and Conservation Organisations | 7.4 | AC Intersessional Correspondence Group, Secretariat |
| MoP8 Doc 25 | ACAP Small Grants and Secondment Programmes: Resources Allocated by the Agreement and their Conservation Value | 7.6 | Advisory Committee Intersessional Group, Advisory Committee Chair |
| MoP8 Doc 26 | Implementation of ACAP Communications Strategy | 7.7 | Secretariat |

| INFORMATION DOCUMENTS | | | |
|-----------------------|---|-------------|------------------------|
| Paper | Title | Agenda Item | Submitted by |
| MoP8 Inf 01 Rev 1 | Considering nominations to Annex 1 of the Agreement - list of candidate species | 7.2 | Secretariat |
| MoP8 Inf 02 Rev 3 | Parties' 2024 Implementation Reports submitted late | 7.3 | Secretariat |
| MoP8 Inf 03 | Observer Report | 3.3 | BirdLife International |

ANNEX 12. OBSERVER STATEMENT - CHINESE TAIPEI

“It is a pleasure for Chinese Taipei to participate once again as an observer in this important forum. We extend our sincere appreciation to the Government of New Zealand and the ACAP Secretariat for their outstanding efforts in organizing and hosting the Eighth Meeting of the Parties.

Chinese Taipei remains firmly committed to the goals and values of ACAP. Since 2019, we have actively engaged in international efforts to conserve seabirds, with a particular focus on albatrosses and petrels. Our participation in various Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (RFMOs) has deepened our understanding of global fisheries governance and underscored the importance of robust conservation frameworks.

Reducing seabird bycatch is a national priority. Chinese Taipei has progressively incorporated RFMO-adopted mitigation measures into domestic regulations, requiring our longline fleets to implement techniques such as bird-scaring lines, weighted branch lines, and night setting. In 2024, we co-hosted a seabird bycatch mitigation workshop with the CCSBT, bringing together experts from the International Seafood Sustainability Foundation (ISSF) and BirdLife International to share best practices.

Our efforts extend beyond fisheries. In 2025, National Taiwan University launched the country’s first satellite tracking project on black-footed and short-tailed albatrosses off the eastern coast of Taiwan. We also continue to monitor the nesting of Streaked Shearwaters and support invasive species removal on Mien-hua and Huaping Isles. In parallel, we have established the Tern Conservation Platform to support local NGO-led restoration of little tern breeding populations.

Chinese Taipei believes that ACAP should continue to demonstrate greater conservation ambition for albatrosses and other seabirds, geographically, scientifically, and biologically. In terms of geographic coverage, we see room for more attention not only to areas beyond national jurisdiction, but also to coastal zones and “range areas” as defined under the Agreement. While ACAP has made important strides in the Southern Hemisphere, research and data collection in the Northern Hemisphere remain in the early stages. This gap is also reflected in the species list, which does not yet include several seabird species that now regularly appear in Northern Hemisphere ecosystems and merit formal inclusion. Finally, ACAP could broaden its engagement to include more habitats and jurisdictions where albatrosses and petrels inhabit, stay, cross, or fly over, beyond its existing coordination with RFMOs.

At present, we note four key governance gaps across geographic scope, scientific data, species coverage, and participating actors. Bridging these gaps will require the active effort and solidarity of all ACAP participants. In terms of these gaps, Chinese Taipei urge all ACAP participants to look beyond the horizon, broaden the scope, and fill the gaps. A more inclusive ACAP with full and equal participation will definitely contribute to the positive development of ACAP.

Supporting international initiatives remains a top priority. Chinese Taipei contributed to ACAP’s Small Grants Fund in 2022 and 2024, and we look forward to continuing this support in the years ahead.

Chinese Taipei is committed to constructive engagement in global seabird conservation. We view ACAP not only as a platform for cooperation but also as a vital space for shared learning. We are also willing to hold Advisory Committee meeting to deepen our commitment to this Agreement. Through our participation, we hope to exchange experiences, foster partnerships, and contribute meaningfully to the protection of albatrosses, petrels, and all seabirds for generations to come”.

ANNEX 13. OBSERVER STATEMENT - IUCN

“IUCN is very appreciative of the opportunity to attend this year’s Meeting of the Parties. We did not submit a report of our activities, such as Birdlife International did. So I am taking this opportunity to offer a brief mention of some relevant work.

The Union carries out a good number of activities in relation to the birds covered by this Agreement, ranging from expert assessment of the conservation status of albatrosses and petrels, to on-the-ground projects in collaboration with many partners.

We have already heard about the partnership we have with Birdlife International to undertake assessments for the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species.

Another example is the work carried out by the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas and its Specialist Group on Connectivity Conservation, which addresses ecological connectivity and corridors, highly relevant to seabirds.

IUCN Members have adopted numerous resolutions linked to the conservation of seabirds, their habitats and their threats including climate change, marine pollution, and others.

Finally, I would like to note that IUCN’s Council recently approved a new Strategy on Antarctica and the Southern Ocean, and we are in the process of preparing an Action Plan to further conservation work in the region.

We know that several ACAP species are threatened with extinction and are vulnerable, so we appreciate the collective action of the ACAP Parties, and look forward to assisting where we can in the future. I welcome suggestions from the Parties on how we can best assist”.