

 <p>Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Eighth Meeting of the Parties <i>Dunedin, New Zealand, 19 - 23 May 2025</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Establishing a Budget Sub-committee</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Australia, New Zealand</i></p>
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SUMMARY

The Financial Regulations for the Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels govern the administration and financial arrangements of the Agreement including the development of a budget for each triennium. Prior to each ordinary session of the Meeting of the Parties, the Executive Secretary prepares and submits to all Parties a draft budget for the next triennium. Following consideration, the Parties adopt the budget by consensus at each ordinary session of the Meeting of the Parties.

It is proposed that a Budget Sub-committee be established to assist the Meeting of the Parties in considering the draft triennium budget of the Agreement. The Budget Sub-committee would be convened each triennium during the ordinary sessions of the Meeting of the Parties and would examine the draft budget developed in accordance with Regulation 3 of the Financial Regulations, and prepare a report thereon to the Meeting of the Parties, including recommendations. A suggested amendment to the Financial Regulations about establishing the Budget Sub-committee is provided as **Attachment A**.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Meeting of the Parties:

1. Agrees to repeal Resolution 4.5 of the fourth Meeting of the Parties.
2. Agrees to adopt the Financial Regulations for the Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels, as set out in **Attachment A**.

ESTABLISHING A BUDGET SUBCOMMITTEE

In accordance with Article VIII(11)(b) of the Agreement, the first Session of the Meeting of the Parties developed the Financial Regulations for the Agreement. These financial regulations were last amended in [Resolution 4.5](#) of the fourth Session of the Meeting of the Parties.

Regulation 3 of the Financial Regulations concerns the budget for the Agreement. The Executive Secretary prepares the draft budget and submits this to the Parties 60 days before the next ordinary Session of the Meeting of the Parties.

Currently, the draft budget is considered in Plenary by the Meeting of the Parties. During recent Meetings of the Parties ad hoc arrangements between Parties have led to informal, in-margin discussions among Parties concerning the draft budget. The proposed Budget Subcommittee would help to free up the Plenary for substantive discussions on other priority matters.

The Meeting of the Parties is invited to consider a proposal to establish a Budget Subcommittee. The Budget Sub-committee would have two related objectives:

1. To review the draft budget prepared by the Executive Secretary for the next triennium under Regulation 3 of the Financial Regulations.
2. To prepare a report thereon to the Meeting of the Parties, including recommendations.

The consideration of the draft budget by the Budget Sub-committee will facilitate making any necessary adjustments or revisions to the draft budget ahead of adoption of the budget by consensus by the Meeting of the Parties.

A draft proposed resolution to amend the Financial Regulations to establish the Budget Subcommittee is provided at **Attachment A**.

ATTACHMENT A

AGREEMENT ON THE CONSERVATION OF ALBATROSSES AND PETRELS

Resolution 8.x

Financial Regulations

Adopted by the ...

Recalling that, in accordance with Article VIII(11)(b) of the Agreement, the first Session of the Meeting of the Parties developed financial regulations for the Agreement Secretariat, contained in Annex 5 of the report of that Session;

Further recalling Resolution 4.5 of the fourth Session of the Meeting of the Parties on Amendments to the Financial Regulations;

Recognising the benefit of establishing a Budget Sub-committee to the Meeting of the Parties;

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

Decides:

1. To repeal Resolution 4.5 of the fourth Session of the Meeting of the Parties.
2. To adopt the Financial Regulations set out in Appendix A.

RESOLUTION 8.X APPENDIX A

FINANCIAL REGULATIONS FOR THE AGREEMENT ON THE CONSERVATION OF ALBATROSSES AND PETRELS

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REGULATION 3 – THE BUDGET

- 3.1 A draft budget comprising estimates of receipts by the Secretariat and of expenditures by the Secretariat and the Advisory Committee and any subsidiary bodies shall be prepared by the Executive Secretary for the ensuing financial period. This period shall comprise three financial years apportioned into three annual budgets.
- 3.2 The Executive Secretary shall submit the draft budget to all Parties to the Agreement 60 days before a Session of the Meeting of Parties in years where such a meeting takes place.
- 3.3 The draft budget shall include a statement of the significant financial implications for the subsequent financial period in respect of any proposed work programmes presented in terms of administrative, recurrent and capital expenditure.
- 3.4 The draft budget shall be divided by functions into items and, where necessary or appropriate, into sub-items. Appropriations shall be allocated at the function level.
- 3.5 The draft budget shall be accompanied by details of the appropriations made for the previous triennium. Details of expenditure for the first two years of the triennium and estimated expenditure for the final year against these appropriations should also be provided together with such information annexes as may be required by Parties to the Agreement or deemed necessary or desirable by the Executive Secretary. The draft budget shall be presented in the format prescribed in Attachment 1 to these regulations.
- 3.6 The draft budget shall be presented in Australian dollars (AUD).
- 3.7 A Budget Sub-committee to the Meeting of the Parties is established with the functions outlined in these Regulations.
- 3.8 The Budget Sub-committee shall normally be convened once each triennium during the ordinary Meeting of the Parties, unless the Meeting of the Parties decides otherwise.
- 3.9 The Budget Sub-committee shall examine the draft budget described in Regulation 3 of these Regulations. The Budget Sub-committee shall report thereon to the Meeting of the Parties, including recommendations.
- 3.10 After consideration of the Budget Sub-committee's report and after any necessary adjustments or revisions have been made, the Parties shall adopt the budget by consensus at each ordinary Session of the Meeting of the Parties.
- 3.11 The budget shall retain a working capital provision of AUD 100,000.

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