

 <p>Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Eighth Meeting of the Parties</b> <i>Dunedin, New Zealand, 19 - 23 May 2025</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Review of the effectiveness of the Secretariat</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><i>Secretariat</i></b></p>
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## SUMMARY

MoP9 in 2028 will be required to consider a review of the effectiveness of the Secretariat, in accordance with Article VIII(14) of the Agreement. MoP8 is required by the Agreement to agree the Terms of Reference for the Review. This paper provides draft Terms of Reference for consideration by MoP8.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Meeting of the Parties:

1. agrees to Terms of Reference for the review of the effectiveness of the Secretariat in facilitating the achievement of the objectives of the Agreement, to be undertaken at MoP9;
2. establishes a Review Body in accordance with the Terms of Reference.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

The Agreement (Article VIII(14)) requires the Meeting of the Parties to review the effectiveness of the Secretariat in facilitating the achievement of the objectives of the Agreement at every third session of the Meeting of the Parties. The terms of reference for this review are to be agreed to at the previous Meeting of the Parties. The ninth session of the Meeting of the Parties (MoP9) in 2028 will carry out this review. MoP8 is therefore required to agree the Terms of Reference for the review. This paper proposes draft Terms of Reference for the review.

## 2. BACKGROUND

The last review of the effectiveness of the Secretariat was carried out at the sixth session of the Meeting of the Parties (MoP6). The previous session of the Meeting of the Parties (MoP5) adopted [Resolution 5.5](#) that agreed Terms of Reference for the Review and established a Review Body. The resolution established that the Review Body would comprise “no less than two-thirds of Parties”, with regional representation from “(a) Europe/Africa, (b) Asia/Australasia and (c) North/South America”.

The Review Body reported to MoP6 and made a number of recommendations (see **MoP6 Doc 10**). MoP6 adopted a resolution ([Resolution 6.3](#)) including Terms of Reference for the next review and revised Performance Indicators for measuring the effectiveness of the Secretariat.

## 3. PROPOSED TERMS OF REFERENCE AND PERFORMANCE INDICATORS FOR REVIEW

The Meeting of the Parties is invited to consider the proposed Terms of Reference and Performance Indicators for the MoP9 review process (attached in ANNEX 1 as a draft Resolution from MoP8), and to establish a Review Body in accordance with the Terms of Reference. The proposals in ANNEX 1 closely resemble those agreed in Resolution 6.3, with the following suggested changes to paragraph 4 (highlighted in red) :

“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 the Chair of the Advisory Committee, ~~and~~ the **incoming** Executive Secretary **and the outgoing Executive Secretary**
- 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.”

**ANNEX 1. Draft Resolution 8.x on Terms of Reference for the Review of the Effectiveness of the Secretariat in Facilitating the Achievement of the Objective of the Agreement**

*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; and

*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**

**Agrees:**

1. to establish a body comprising no less than two-thirds of Parties to undertake the review (the Review Body);
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 the Chair of the Advisory Committee, **and the incoming Executive Secretary and the outgoing Executive Secretary**
  - 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 Performance Indicators in Appendix A will be used in the review.

**RESOLUTION 8.x 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.