

 <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;">Arrangements with other organisations</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Secretariat</i></p>
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SUMMARY

This paper reports on the current status of ACAP's cooperation arrangements with other organisations and, as recommended by AC14, seeks approval to conclude an arrangement with the Joint Technical Commission of the Maritime Front (CTMFM) and to develop an arrangement with Global Fishing Watch (GFW).

RECOMMENDATION

That the Parties:

1. Agree to the Secretariat signing a cooperation arrangement with the CTMFM.
2. Agree to the development of a cooperation arrangement with Global Fishing Watch.
3. Note the current status of ACAP's cooperation arrangements with other organisations.
4. Thank the Tasmanian Department of State Growth for its valuable ongoing assistance to ACAP.

1. INTRODUCTION

During the intersessional decision-making process of the Meeting of the Parties in 2020-2021, the ACAP Parties (in [Resolution 6.11](#)) authorised the Secretariat to renew or amend existing arrangements concerning matters of common interest between this Agreement and a network of other organisations with which there was an existing arrangement. The Resolution also included a suggested updated framework for developing such arrangements (updating the template agreed in [Resolution 3.7](#)).

Resolution 6.11 also stated that the Meeting of the Parties “may direct the Secretariat to establish arrangements concerning matters of common interest between this Agreement 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 relevant to the conservation, including the protection and management, of albatrosses and petrels”.

2. PROPOSED MOU WITH CTMFM

La Comisión Técnica Mixta del Frente Marítimo (CTMFM) - The Joint Technical Commission of the Maritime Front - is a bi-national organisation between Argentina and Uruguay related to marine living resources in the Maritime Front. Among other undertakings, the CTMFM has established a regional Action Plan for reducing the interaction between seabirds and fisheries in the Maritime Front.

The fourteenth meeting of ACAP’s Advisory Committee (AC14), in August 2024, requested the Secretariat to “develop a cooperation arrangement between the ACAP Secretariat and the Joint Technical Commission of the Maritime Front, for presentation to the Meeting of the Parties” ([AC14 Report](#), paragraph 14.3.iii). The Executive Secretary called on the CTMFM’s Executive Secretary, Ramiro Sánchez, in Montevideo in September 2024 to discuss the matter. The CTMFM then prepared a proposal (in Spanish), based on ACAPs framework, which was agreed by the CTMFM members and is now attached for consideration by the Meeting of the Parties (**ANNEX 1**).

3. PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF A COOPERATION ARRANGEMENT WITH GLOBAL FISHING WATCH

AC14 also requested the Secretariat to “develop a cooperation arrangement with Global Fishing Watch (GFW), for presentation to the Meeting of the Parties.” (**AC14 Report**, paragraph 12.1.4 .vi). In addition, AC14 encouraged Parties to cooperate with GFW. This is set out in the AC14 Report as follows:

12.1.4. iv. Encourage Parties to improve knowledge of artisanal and small-scale fisheries to better understand impacts on seabirds, and provide ground-truthing data to assist Global Fishing Watch with remote detection of these fleets

and

12.1.4. vii. Encourage Parties to share Vessel Monitoring System data, including with Global Fishing Watch, and make it publicly available.

The Secretariat has approached Global Fishing Watch about the possibility of developing a cooperation arrangement, and GFW have expressed interest in exploring possible areas of cooperation with ACAP. They have explained that “Global Fishing Watch is an international NGO using satellite technology, machine learning and data visualization tools to build a comprehensive view of human activity at sea. Global Fishing Watch free data and platforms can provide support to ACAP activities, flagging fishing activity in areas of interest and providing data about fixed infrastructure that may affect birds, for example.” GFW have further commented that “One of the possible avenues for collaboration includes GFW’s longline fishing model ([Kroodsmas et al 2018](#)), which can predict the setting and hauling of longline fishing lines and potentially be improved to monitor compliance of night setting as a bycatch mitigation tool.”

4. UPDATE ON CURRENT STATUS OF COOPERATION ARRANGEMENTS

ANNEX 2 shows the current state of ACAP's existing arrangements. Since MoP7 (May 2022), seven arrangements have been renewed and a new format agreed (with the intersessional agreement of the ACAP Parties) for the arrangement with the Tasmanian Department of State Growth. The Meeting of the Parties might wish to thank the Tasmanian Department of State Growth for its valuable ongoing assistance to ACAP.

**ANNEX 1. PROPOSED 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**

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:

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

ANNEX 2. ACAP'S COOPERATION ARRANGEMENTS WITH ORGANISATIONS AND INSTITUTIONS

	Adopted / Renewed	Duration	Expiry
International organisations			
Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR)	22 November 2024	3 years	21 November 2027
Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna (CCSBT)	6 December 2021	6 years	6 December 2027
Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC)	23 February 2021	5 years	23 February 2026
Inter-American Convention for the Protection and Conservation of Sea Turtles (IAC)	30 January 2023	Ongoing	—
Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC)	15 May 2023	Successive periods of 6 years	Renewed automatically after 6 years unless Participants decide otherwise
International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT)	2 September 2022	6 years	2 September 2028
South-East Atlantic Fisheries Organisation (SEAFO)	6 December 2024	6 years	6 December 2030
Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement (SIOFA)	5 November 2024	6 years	4 November 2030
South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organisation (SPRFMO)	28 October 2014	Ongoing	—
Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC)	7 December 2007	Ongoing	—
Government agencies			
Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Arts (DEDTA), now Department of State Growth (DSG), Tasmania, Australia	21 January 2025	5 years from 1 February 2024	31 January 2029 (Now called Grant Agreement)
Institutions			
Karen C. Drayer Wildlife Health Center, School of Veterinary Medicine (UC Davis)	25 May 2022	Ongoing	—