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## AGREEMENT ON THE CONSERVATION OF ALBATROSSES AND PETRELS

### Resolution 6.8

#### **Resolution on implementation of Article VIII(15) of the Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels concerning any member economy of the Asia Pacific Economic Co-operation forum whose vessels fish within the range of albatrosses and petrels**

Adopted by the Sixth Session of the Meeting of the Parties, Skukuza, South Africa,  
7 – 11 May 2018

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*Recognising* that the conservation status of albatrosses and petrels is threatened by incidental mortality associated with commercial fishing activities, including those of distant water fishing fleets;

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

*Aware* that such protection can be greatly enhanced by cooperation with member economies of the Asia Pacific Economic Co-operation forum whose vessels fish within the range of albatrosses and petrels listed in Annex I to the Agreement, particularly those with a high incidence of bycatch of albatross and petrel species;

*Conscious* of the benefit to the Agreement of the participation in the Meeting of the Parties and its subsidiary bodies by member economies of the Asia Pacific Economic Co-operation forum whose vessels fish within the range of albatrosses and petrels, including as observers;

*Recalling* that Article VIII(15) of the Agreement provides that the Meeting of the Parties may adopt by consensus 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; and that those provisions, once adopted, shall enable the member economy to participate in the work of the Meeting of the Parties and its subsidiary bodies, including decision-making, and to comply with all obligations under the Agreement;

*Recalling also* that Article VIII(4) of the Agreement provides that the Meeting of the Parties shall make provision in its rules of procedure for governing the attendance and participation of observers; and that such rules shall not be unduly restrictive;

*Noting* that pursuant to Article VIII(11)(a) and Article VIII(13)(a) the Meeting of the Parties has adopted Rules of Procedure for the Meeting of the Parties to the Agreement including, among other things, concerning observership by any member economy of the Asia Pacific Economic Co-operation forum whose vessels fish within the range of albatrosses and petrels;

*Desiring* to encourage cooperation with member economies of the Asia Pacific Economic Co-operation forum whose vessels fish within the range of albatrosses and petrels, in order to advance the objective and fundamental principles of the Agreement, set out in Article II of the Agreement;

*Recognising* that any decision on the participation by any member economy of the Asia Pacific Economic Co-operation forum whose vessels fish within the range of albatrosses and petrels in no way affects the respective views of Parties about the legal status of any member economy:

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

1. *Agrees* pursuant to Article VIII(15) of the Agreement, to the participation by any member economy of the Asia Pacific Economic Co-operation forum whose vessels fish within the range of albatrosses and petrels, as an observer in the work of the Meeting of the Parties and its subsidiary bodies in accordance with Rules of Procedure adopted by the Parties from time to time. Participation by any member economy, as an observer, does not include the right to vote in the course of decision-making.