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## **AGREEMENT ON THE CONSERVATION OF ALBATROSSES AND PETRELS**

### **Resolution 4.4**

#### **Advisory Committee Work Programme**

Adopted by the Fourth Session of the Meeting of the Parties, Lima, 23 - 27 April 2012

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*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 sixth meeting of the Advisory Committee developed a work programme for the period 2013 - 2015 (AC6 Final Report – Annex 6) taking into consideration the outcomes of its meeting and the preceding meetings of the Breeding Sites, Seabird Bycatch and Status and Trends Working Groups;

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

##### **Decides:**

to approve the Advisory Committee Work Programme in Appendix A, subject to available funding.

**RESOLUTION 4.4 - APPENDIX A**

**ADVISORY COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME 2013-2015**

Tasks shown in an *italicized* font are ongoing tasks from the current work programme that are due to be completed by 2012. Some of these actions may not be completed, in which case they could be rolled forwards.

	Topic/Task	Responsible group	Timeframe	Resources		Action detail
				Time	Funds for AC	
<b>1. Taxonomy and Annex 1 review</b>						
1.1	Keep the Taxonomy Working Group's bibliographic database updated	TWG led by Convenor	2013-2015	0.5 week p.a. (per annum)	AUD 0	
1.2	Continue the establishment of a morphometric and plumage database	TWG led by Convenor, Science Officer	2013-2015	2 weeks	AUD 0	This will facilitate the taxonomic process, the identification of bycatch specimens, and the long-term storage of valuable data
1.3	Consider taxonomic issues relating to species proposed for addition to Annex 1 of the Agreement	Parties and AC	2013-2015	0.5 week p.a.	AUD 0	Development of papers as required, using species assessment template. <i>Spain to develop document on Balearic shearwater for AC5</i>
1.4	Respond to queries on taxonomic issues relating to ACAP species	TWG led by Convenor	2013-2015	1-2 weeks p.a.	AUD 0	<i>In 2011-2012, consider status of possible Black-footed albatross sub-species</i>
<b>2. Information on status, trends and breeding sites</b>						
2.1	<i>Establish Population and Conservation Status Working Group membership</i>	<i>Parties with assistance of Convenors</i>	<i>2012</i>			

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2.2	Consider gaps in population, tracking, breeding site management, threats and regulatory protection data submitted to ACAP; request any outstanding data and incorporate changes	PaCSWG, Science Officer	2013-2015	10 weeks p.a.	AUD 0	Parties to provide new or outstanding data
2.3	Improve data portal structure and queries	Science Officer, Convenors	2013-2015	8 weeks p.a.	AUD 15,000	Science Officer to facilitate modification of database as required
2.4	Review and refine standardised queries and outputs for analysis and interpretation	Science Officer, Convenors	2013-2015	2 weeks p.a.	AUD 5,000	
2.5	<i>Trial approaches accurately to categorise global population trends</i>	<i>PaCSWG Convenors, Science Officer and BirdLife International</i>	<i>By end 2011</i>	<i>2 weeks</i>	<i>AUD 5,000</i>	<i>May require further data portal updates</i>
2.6	Update ACAP Species Assessments	PaCSWG Convenors, Science Officer	2013-2015	4 weeks p.a.	AUD 0	
2.7	Translate updates to Species Assessments and ACAP guidelines into Spanish and French	Science Officer, Spanish and French speaking Parties	2013-2015		AUD 8,000	No costs if translation can be undertaken in kind by Spanish and French speaking Parties
2.8	Identify priority species or populations for monitoring of numbers, trends and demography	PaCSWG, Science Officer	2013-2015	2 weeks p.a.	AUD 0	
2.9	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	2013-2015	1 week p.a.	AUD 5,000	Review status at AC8
2.10	Identify priority species or populations for conservation actions	PaCSWG, Science Officer	2013-2015	1 week p.a.	AUD 0	

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2.11	Review and prioritise the threats to breeding sites and identify gaps in knowledge	PaCSWG, Science Officer	2013-2015	1 week p.a.	AUD 0	
2.12	Develop, review and update best-practice guidelines to mitigate selected threats to breeding sites	PaCSWG, Science Officer	2013-2015	3 weeks p.a.	AUD 0	
2.13	Develop best-practice guidelines for monitoring of numbers and trends	PaCSWG, Lead UK, Science Officer	By MoP4, AC7	4 weeks	AUD 0	Production of two documents ( <i>one by MoP4, other by AC7</i> )
2.14	Review evidence for impacts of pathogens and parasites on ACAP species and effectiveness of mitigation measures	PaCSWG, Science Officer, Lead Argentina	By AC7	4 weeks	AUD 0	Update review of pathogens and parasites. May need input from pathologists
2.15	Post web links on biological sampling guidelines following disease outbreaks	Science Officer, PaCSWG	2013-2015	1 day	AUD 0	
2.16	<i>Produce centralised catalogue of plastic rings used on ACAP species and email contact list, and addresses of ringing authorities</i>	<i>Science Officer, PaCSWG, Lead France.</i>	<i>By 2012</i>	<i>1 week</i>	<i>AUD 0</i>	
2.17	Provide reports on activities to AC meetings	PaCSWG, Science Officer	As needed	12 weeks	AUD 0	
<b>3. Seabird Bycatch</b>						
3.1	Continue to implement the RFMO interaction plan for ACAP (AC5 Doc 29) and relevant Parties to engage and assist RFMOs and other relevant international bodies in assessing and minimising bycatch of albatrosses and petrels	Individual RFMO co-ordinators, Secretariat, SBWG and AC	2013-2015	a) 18 weeks p.a. b) 18 week p.a. c) 2 week p.a.	a+b) AUD 30,000 each pa  AUD 0	a) Travel etc costs for attendance at selected RFMO meetings (less if Party can contribute directly) b) RFMO co-ordinator activities  c) Review of process and recommend changes (SBWG)

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3.2	Update analysis of overlaps of distributions and albatrosses and petrels with fisheries managed by RFMOs	BirdLife / ACAP	2013	4 weeks	AUD 20,000	
3.3	Continue to develop materials (both generic and specific) to assist RFMOs and other relevant international and national bodies in reducing seabird bycatch and to maximise effective participation and consideration of issues relevant to ACAP	SBWG Convenor with other SBWG consultation to review needs (Secretariat)	2013-2015	1) 1 week p.a. 2) 8 weeks	<more detail needed>	1) <i>Observer programme designs including protocols for the collection of seabird bycatch data, with consideration of analytical methods for assessing seabird bycatch to be examined first.</i> ID guide for drowned birds, including protocol for photographing dead birds Guidance on handling of hooked live birds – may be available from non-ACAP sources
3.4	Continue to review and utilise available information on foraging distribution, fisheries and seabird bycatch to aid prioritisation of actions to reduce the risk of fishing operations to ACAP species in waters subject to national jurisdiction.	SBWG and Parties	2013-2015	1) 8 weeks 2) 2 weeks	AUD 0	1) Commission initial report on knowledge of fisheries, status of any bycatch mitigation, knowledge of relevant seabird distribution for AC5. Note overlap with 4.4. NPOA seabirds also can be used. (AUD \$0) 2) Assess needs for waters subject to national jurisdiction and any capacity building requirements
3.5	Maintain bibliography of relevant bycatch information	BirdLife/SBWG Science Officer	2013-2015	1 week pa	AUD 0	Includes both published and unpublished literature

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3.6	Based on new information, update ACAP/BirdLife fact sheets on mitigation measures for fishing methods known to impact albatrosses and petrels (trawl, pelagic longline, demersal longline)	SBWG/BirdLife	2013-2015	1 week per fact sheet	AUD 5,000	Costs are for translation. Leads - Trawl: New Zealand Pelagic longline: Australia Demersal longline: UK General: BirdLife
3.7	<i>Produce report on lessons from mitigation success stories in commercial fisheries</i>	<i>BirdLife/ Australia/ Convenor SBWG/WWF</i>	<i>2010-2012</i>	<i>3 weeks</i>	<i>AUD 0</i>	<i>Should be completed within current triennium – target audience is fisheries managers</i>
3.8	<i>Prepare review of knowledge on deliberate take/killing of ACAP species at sea</i>	<i>Australia/ Brazil/ New Zealand/ Peru/ UK/ WWF/ SBWG</i>	<i>2010</i>	<i>4 weeks</i>	<i>AUD 0</i>	<i>Review to describe current knowledge (much from unpublished literature) and causes of any deliberate take and to consider possible take reduction strategies. Should be completed within current triennium using secondee to Secretariat</i>
3.9	Review results of any research on seabird bycatch issues, particularly that funded by ACAP	SBWG	2013-2015	2 weeks pa	AUD 0	Draw conclusions and make recommendations to AC as appropriate
3.10	Maintain review of research needs and priorities for bycatch research and mitigation development	SBWG	2013-2015	2 weeks	AUD 0	
3.11	Provide recommendations to the AC on measures to address at-sea threats identified as conservation priorities	SBWG	2013-2015	1 week	AUD 0	
3.12	Review and update the prioritisation framework for at-sea threats	SBWG	2014	1 week	AUD 10,000	One workshop and some analysis and update of data relating to threats and mitigation

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3.13	Review and consider seabird bycatch issues as they relate to smaller vessels (including issues of defining “smaller vessels”)	SBWG	at SBWG-5	1 week	AUD 0	
3.14	Consider which data would be appropriate as baselines for assessing trends in bycatch levels and rates and formulate suitable indicators	SBWG	2012-2013	1 week	AUD 0	Data is described in the global review of seabird bycatch in longline fisheries (AC6 Doc 30)
3.15	Estimate mortality in previously unobserved fisheries in range of Waved albatross	Ecuador and Peru, BirdLife, AC, American Bird Conservancy	2013-2015	4 weeks	AUD 30,000 over triennium	Part of implementation from Waved Albatross Action Plan
3.16	Improve access to relevant data (e.g. from observers) held by others	SBWG	2013-2015			Need compilation of meta-data e.g. observer data
3.17	Analyse bycatch data in collaboration with Japanese researchers	SBWG	2013-2015	6 months	AUD 50,000	Might be best done by an appropriate experienced secondee. Costings difficult to estimate accurately
3.18	Analyse bycatch data from other fishing nations as information becomes available	SBWG	2013-2015	6 months	AUD 50,000	This is a contingency cost; we are not yet sure how much and when data might become available
3.19	Identify hot spots for temporal/spatial management	RFMO coordinators/ Canada/ BirdLife/ SBWG	2013-2014	Post-doctorate for 2 years	AUD 10,000 AUD 50,000	AUD \$10,000 is a contribution to a potential Canadian/BirdLife/ACAP project in the North Pacific that could be done in the 2010-12 triennium. A total global cost might be in the order of AUD \$50,000
3.20	Provide draft advice on suitable analyses of bycatch data	SBWG	2013-2015	3 months	AUD 20,000	Statistical advice may be required

	Topic/Task	Responsible group	Timeframe	Resources		Action detail
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3.21	Provide reports on activities to AC meetings	SBWG and AC	2013-2015	1 week	AUD 0	
<b>4. Capacity building</b>						
4.1	Provide assistance and capacity building to ensure drafting and implementation of NPOA-Seabirds	AC ,Parties and BirdLife to consider	2013-2015	10 weeks	AUD 0	Capacity building in accordance with the needs identified by interested Parties in order to encourage implementation, particularly in Ecuador, France, Peru, South Africa, (Mozambique, Madagascar), Tristan da Cunha (UK), and EC external fisheries
<b>5. Indicators, priorities, reviews and collective conservation action</b>						
5.1	Identify and prioritise conservation measures required for each species and by each Party to the Agreement	WG Convenors and ad-hoc group, lead New Zealand	2013-2015	4 weeks 2013	AUD 10,000	Better integrate information with ACAP database and reporting structure
5.2	Develop and harmonise conservation strategies or plans for particular species or groups of species of albatrosses and petrels	WGs, AC (Secretariat)	2013-2015	2 weeks p.a.	AUD 0	Precise definition of what is needed difficult at this stage
5.3	Implement conservation strategies for particular species or groups of species of albatrosses and petrels	Parties, AC	2013-2015	unknown weeks	AUD 0	Precise definition of what needed is difficult at this stage
5.4	Implement system of indicators for the success of the ACAP Agreement	Parties, Secretariat, BirdLife and AC	2013-2015	1 week pa	AUD 0	Review in time for MoP5
5.5	Support database of relevant scientific literature	AC, lead: Argentina, UK (Secretariat)	2013-2015	12 weeks	AUD 0	Much exists already in various places. Also relevant for several other actions.
5.6	<i>Develop a directory of relevant legislation</i>	<i>Argentina, UK (Secretariat)</i>	<i>2013-2015</i>	<i>12 weeks</i>	<i>AUD 0</i>	<i>Parties will need to supply information</i>



	Topic/Task	Responsible group	Timeframe	Resources		Action detail
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5.7	Develop a list of authorities, research centres, scientists and non-governmental organisations relevant to ACAP	Argentina, UK (Secretariat)	2013-2015	12 weeks	AUD 0	Requires input from AC and Parties
<b>6. Management of AC work, secretariat oversight and liaison, and interaction of ACAP bodies</b>						
6.1	Consider and advise on budget matters as needed	AC	2013-2015	2 weeks pa	AUD 0	Shorter-term advice provided by the AC Chair
6.2	Consider and advise on Staff matters as needed	AC	2013-2015	1 week pa	AUD 0	Shorter-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	2013-2015	6 weeks pa	AUD 0	
6.4	Manage work of Advisory Committee	Chair, Vice-chair and Convenors	2013-2015	18 weeks pa	AUD 0	Regular teleconferences and email conversations