



## **Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels**

### **Sixth Meeting of Advisory Committee**

*Guayaquil, Ecuador, 29 August – 2 September 2011*

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### **Review of Web-based Reporting System**

**Secretariat**

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## Review of Web-based Reporting System

Following discussions at AC5, the Secretariat developed a web-based system for Parties' Implementation Reports based on the template presented in AC5 Doc 16. The reporting template was incorporated into the ACAP database as two independent sections – an Advisory Committee Report, addressing reporting requirements arising from the Agreement's Action Plan, to be completed preceding each Advisory Committee Meeting (Annex 1); and a MoP Report, for Parties' reports on their progress in implementing the Agreement, to be completed triennially prior to the AC preceding a Meeting of Parties (Annex 2).

National Contact Points and one non-Party Observer were provided with login details (for multiple users if needed) and invited to complete both reports online. The reports could be completed over an unlimited number of login sessions, prior to final submission. Once submitted, no further edits were possible unless the reports were unlocked by the database administrator.

### Advisory Committee Report

The Advisory Committee report allowed Parties to check and update National Contact Point information (Section A), Populations and Breeding Sites information (Section B), Fisheries and Bycatch data (Section C), and to report on any funding received or provided for ACAP related research or capacity building activities (Section D).

Where possible, **Sections A to C** were pre-populated with information previously submitted to the database. Only Parties with Breeding Sites reported on **Section B**. Users who were also breeding site custodians, could directly update any existing Section B information for their sites by following a link to the data entry forms. Users who were not breeding site custodians, could follow a link to contact breeding site custodians via email with any additional information or any questions they had and ask them to amend the database. The content of this email would then be archived in the database against the breeding site record.

Sites in the Antarctic Treaty Area or in Disputed jurisdictions were reported on separately, with all Parties being able to view Section B information for all sites south of 60°S if they chose to create an Antarctic report. Only jurisdictions relevant to disputed sites could view Section B information for those sites.

**Section D** also allowed report editors to upload any supporting documentation for this section.

### MoP Report

This report comprised twenty two questions which required yes or no answers. In case neither option was selected, the default option of "not answered" remained selected. For each question, text boxes were provided for additional information as well as the option to upload supporting documents. The text boxes were not character limited.

### Suggestions for improvements

In the course of completing their reports, Parties identified a number of improvements that could further enhance the new reporting system. Some of the suggestions were

incorporated into the online system immediately, while others are presented below for consideration at AC6. Parties are welcome to provide ideas for further development of the web-based system intersessionally to the Secretariat.

Section C of the AC Report generated the most feedback and will be discussed separately in the SBWG meeting. The SBWG's recommendations will be forwarded in the report of that meeting for consideration at AC6.

### **1. Timing of request for report completion**

Parties were asked to complete the reports within two months. This proved to be an inadequate period of time for some Parties. The timing of the request for reporting in late December, as well as the volume of information on fisheries and bycatch which Parties had to compile for this report, and the lack of familiarity with this new reporting format compounded this problem. Some Parties also welcomed new National Contact Points during this time. It is suggested that in future, three months be provided for Parties to complete their implementation reports, i.e. requests will be made six months prior to the deadline for submission of AC docs.

There was some confusion about the necessity to complete both AC and MoP components of the reports at the same time, as some Parties noted that the next MoP was not until 2012. This is necessary, as the Advisory Committee requires this information to compile its consolidated report to the next MoP on progress made with implementing the Agreement.

### **2. Multiple users and roles**

It quickly became apparent that several users would often need to collaborate to complete different parts of the one report. Although the issue of multiple users with individual logins accessing the same report has been resolved, further work is required to constrain users to their specific roles in report editing, e.g. access and edit fisheries and bycatch forms only. This will be a part of a database-wide user management restructure.

### **3. Antarctic and disputed sites**

Handling disputed sites in the database can become quite complex, so the Secretariat would like all Parties to confirm that they are satisfied with the way those two jurisdictions are presented in the reports, or suggest alternative ways of reporting for those sites. By allowing Parties to view Antarctic or disputed sites the Secretariat maximises the opportunities for data submission.

### **4. AC Report Section D: Funding received and provided**

This section generated some questions as to the merit of asking for this information, as well as the level of detail able to be presented in the current format. Feedback is required regarding removing or expanding this section.

### **5. Accessing bycatch forms outside AC Report**

Some Parties advised that collating several years of data on fisheries and bycatch is time consuming and that insufficient time was allowed for completion of this component. Consequently, it wasn't possible to provide all the information that could have been provided for this section. The Secretariat recommends that the fisheries component be

made available outside of the AC reporting process so that it can be updated on an ongoing basis, as happens with population and breeding site data.

## **6. AC and MoP reports request overlapping information**

Some Parties noted that some questions appear to ask for the same information. More help files and notes could be added to the forms in the future to help clarify what information is being sought, however, Parties are asked to review whether some of the questions are necessary e.g.

- AC report section D asks for research and capacity building information, while the MoP report requests information on research programs and education (which could include capacity building) in sections 5 and 6.
- MoP Report: The difference between question 2.7 (*Has the Party implemented any legal or policy instruments for environmental impact assessments?*) and 4.1 (*Has the Party completed any new environmental impact assessments related to albatrosses and petrels?*) was not clear.

## **7. Reporting forms are designed for Parties and not Observers**

While not a Party, BirdLife International noted that they have considerable relevant information to contribute from work conducted both onshore (census data, Red List conservation status updates and habitat restoration/eradications) and at-sea (ATF, RFMO advocacy, mitigation trials), but currently only have the ability to report on these activities under Section D (Other Annual Reporting) in the AC Report.

To accommodate non-Party reporting, the existing AC forms would need to:

- a) be modified to allow non-Party Observers to view and comment on all Parties' sites and fisheries, or
- b) non-Party Observers report using the MoP module only, or
- c) a separate report could be constructed for non-government organisations.

## **Recommendation to the AC**

The Advisory Committee is requested to:

- review the issues identified above, and any others that may be generated from Working Group or AC discussions; and
- endorse a revised reporting format for use with future reports.

## ANNEX 1

### Report template - Advisory Committee Annual Report

#### Section A: Party Information

Designated National Contact Point:

Institution:

Email:

Mailing Address:

Telephone:  (w)  (m)

#### National Contact for country contributions

Name:

Institution:

Email:

Mailing Address:

Telephone:  (w)  (m)

#### Section B: Populations and Threats on Land

##### B1 - Populations

Extirpated sites are indicated by **\*\*\*\*** in the latest population.

| Sites / Species | Latest Population | Year | Survey accuracy | Trend [Applicable Years] | Ongoing Population | Ongoing Survival | options                                      |
|-----------------|-------------------|------|-----------------|--------------------------|--------------------|------------------|--|
|                 |                   |      |                 |                          |                    |                  | Add new data or Inform custodian #icon_link# |

##### B2 - Threats

| Sites / Species | Threats | options                                      |
|-----------------|---------|--|
|                 |         | Add new data or Inform custodian #icon_link# |

##### B3 - Plans

#### Conservation Listings and Management Plans

| Sites / Species | Conservation Category | Year applied   | Legislation (optional) | options                                      |
|-----------------|-----------------------|----------------|------------------------|--|
|                 |                       |                |                        | Add new data or Inform custodian #icon_link# |
| Sites / Species | Management Plan name  | Year published | Legislation (optional) | options                                      |
|                 |                       |                |                        | Add new data or Inform custodian #icon_link# |

##### B4 Tracking

Please provide the date/year of latest track available for each group

| Sites / Species | Breeding adults | Adult Non-breeders | Juvenile Non-breeders | options                                      |
|-----------------|-----------------|--------------------|-----------------------|--|
|                 |                 |                    |                       | Add new data or Inform custodian #icon_link# |

**Section C: Threats at Sea - Fisheries**

|                                   |                      |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------|
| Fishery name                      | <input type="text"/> |
| Description                       | <input type="text"/> |
| Jurisdiction                      | Pick from ....       |
| Agency responsible for management | <input type="text"/> |
| Contacts                          | <input type="text"/> |
| Organisation                      | <input type="text"/> |
| Email                             | <input type="text"/> |
| Telephone                         | <input type="text"/> |

**Section D: Other Annual Reporting Requirements**

Please summarise any funding activity since the last reporting period.

**1. Since the last report, has the Party funded any ACAP-related research?**

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Funded?   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Total Amount and currency<br>OR   | <input type="text"/>  |
| Total Amount \$AUD  | <input type="text"/>  |
| Recipient(s) of funding   | <input type="text"/>  |
| Provider(s) of funding  | <input type="text"/>  |
| Purpose of the activities<br>funded (e.g. breeding site<br>management, bycatch<br>monitoring etc) | <input type="text"/>  |
| Link to relevant report (or<br>please attach)   | <input type="text"/>  |

**2. Since the last report has the Party received any funding for ACAP-related research?**

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Funded?   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Total Amount and currency<br>OR   | <input type="text"/>  |
| Total Amount \$AUD  | <input type="text"/>  |
| Recipient(s) of funding   | <input type="text"/>  |
| Provider(s) of funding  | <input type="text"/>  |
| Purpose of the activities<br>funded (e.g. breeding site<br>management, bycatch<br>monitoring etc) | <input type="text"/>  |
| Link to relevant report (or<br>please attach)   | <input type="text"/>  |

**3. Since the last report has the Party undertaken or funded any capacity building activities relevant to ACAP?**

Funded?  Yes  No

Total Amount and currency OR

Total Amount \$AUD

Recipient(s) of funding

Provider(s) of funding

Purpose of the activities funded (e.g. breeding site management, bycatch monitoring etc)

Link to relevant report (or please attach)

Please list and provide any publications not already mentioned, including scientific articles, videos, websites, pamphlets, manuals, identification guides, etc. created since the last reporting period

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**Final Submission**

Check if all existing data has been checked and there are no substantive changes from prior years

Are there any final comments before final submission.

Check if this is the final submission of this report

## ANNEX 2

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### Report template - Report for the Meeting of Parties

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#### 1. Overview of implementation of Agreement and Action Plan

1.1 Has action been taken to implement the decisions of previous MoPs?

Yes  No  Not answered

1.2 Is action for national implementation planned to occur in the next three years?

Yes  No  Not answered

#### 2. Species conservation

2.1 Has the Party provided any exemptions to prohibitions on the taking or harmful interference with albatrosses and petrels?

Yes  No  Not answered

2.2 Has any use or trade in albatrosses or petrels occurred?

Yes  No  Not answered

2.3 Has the Party implemented any new single or multi-species conservation strategies / Action Plans?

Yes  No  Not answered

2.4 Has the Party taken any emergency measures involving albatrosses or petrels?

Yes  No  Not answered

2.5 Has the Party conducted any re-establishment schemes?

Yes  No  Not answered

2.6 Has the Party introduced any new legal or policy instruments for species protection of albatrosses and petrels?

Yes  No  Not answered

2.7 Has the Party implemented any legal or policy instruments for environmental impact assessments?  Yes  No  Not answered



2.8 Does the Party have any species it would like to submit for addition to Annex 1?  Yes  No  Not answered



2.9 Are there any other conservation projects for ACAP species not already mentioned?  Yes  No  Not answered



**3. Habitat conservation**

3.1 Has the Party introduced any legal or policy instruments or actions to implement protection and management of breeding sites, including habitat restoration?  Yes  No  Not answered



3.2 Has the Party implemented any sustainable management measures for marine living resources which provide food for albatrosses and petrels?  Yes  No  Not answered

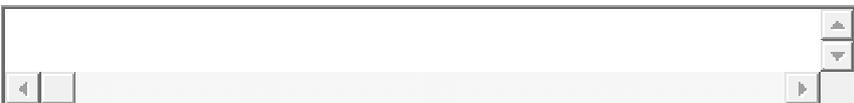


3.3 Has the Party implemented any management or protection of important marine areas for albatrosses and petrels?  Yes  No  Not answered

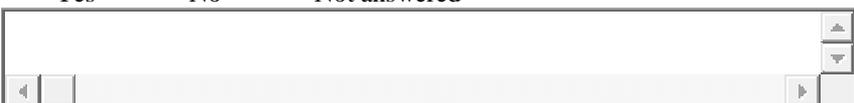


**4. Management of human activities**

4.1 Has the Party completed any new environmental impact assessments related to albatrosses and petrels?  Yes  No  Not answered



4.2 Has the Party implemented any new measures to minimise discharge of pollutants and marine debris (MARPOL)?  Yes  No  Not answered

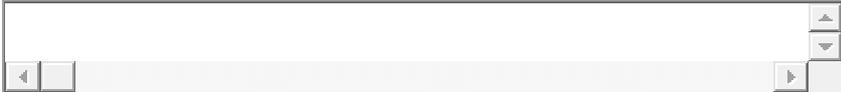


4.3 Has the Party introduced any new measures to minimise the disturbance to albatrosses and petrels in marine and terrestrial habitats?  Yes  No  Not answered



**5. Research programmes**

5.1 Does the Party have any ongoing research programmes relating to the conservation of albatrosses and petrels not already reported on?  Yes  No  Not answered

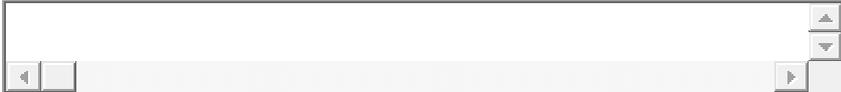


5.2 Does the Party have any additional national institutions (authorities or research centres), or NGOs involved in albatross and petrel conservation?  Yes  No  Not answered

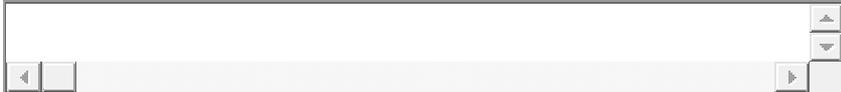


**6. Education and public awareness**

6.1 Has the Party conducted training or provided information for user audiences (eg scientists, fishers, etc)?  Yes  No  Not answered



6.2 Has the Party conducted training or provided information to the general public?  Yes  No  Not answered



**7. Other**

Does the Party have any new information to report on research into observed impacts, or mitigation of, climate change on albatrosses and petrels?  Yes  No  Not answered



**8. Additional Comments**

