



Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels

Second Meeting of the Parties

Christchurch, New Zealand, 13 – 17 November 2006

**Proposal to Revise Taxonomy of Albatrosses
listed in Annex 1 of ACAP**

Author: New Zealand

Proposal to revise taxonomy of albatrosses listed in Annex 1 of ACAP

New Zealand

In accordance with Article XII of the Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels, New Zealand proposes to the Second Session of the Meeting of Parties an amendment to Annex 1 (Attachment 1) of the Agreement.

The Advisory Committee, following recommendations from its Taxonomy Working Group, concluded that available data do not warrant the recognition of the Antipodean Albatross (*Diomedea antipodensis*) and Gibson's Albatross (*Diomedea gibsoni*) or Buller's Albatross (*Thalassarche bulleri*) and Pacific Albatross (*Thalassarche nov. sp. (platei)*) at the specific level. In contrast, data suggest Shy Albatross (*Thalassarche cauta*) and White-capped Albatross (*Thalassarche steadi*) are divergent and diagnosable and therefore, following the taxonomic guidelines of the Working Group, warrant recognition at the specific level (sections 4.1, 4.2 and 4.3, AC2Doc11).

Based on the conclusions of the Advisory Committee (AC2 Final Report, section 9.1) and its Taxonomy Working Group, and following rules on taxonomic precedence, New Zealand proposes that Gibson's Albatross (*Diomedea gibsoni*) and Pacific Albatross (*Thalassarche nov. sp. (platei)*) be removed from Annex 1 of the Agreement (Attachment 2).

This revision changes the number of albatross species listed in Annex 1 from 21 to 19. The list of 7 petrel species in Annex 1 remains unchanged.

Attachment 1.

Annex 1. Albatross and Petrel Species to which this Agreement applies

Albatrosses (21 species)

Diomedea exulans
Diomedea dabbenena
Diomedea antipodensis
Diomedea gibsoni
Diomedea amsterdamensis
Diomedea epomophora
Diomedea sanfordi
Phoebastria irrorata
Thalassarche cauta
Thalassarche steadi
Thalassarche salvini
Thalassarche eremita
Thalassarche bulleri
Thalassarche nov. sp. (platei)
Thalassarche chrysostoma
Thalassarche melanophrys
Thalassarche impavida
Thalassarche carteri
Thalassarche chlororhynchos
Phoebetria fusca
Phoebetria palpebrata

Petrels (7 species)

Macronectes giganteus
Macronectes halli
Procellaria aequinoctialis
Procellaria conspicillata
Procellaria parkinsoni
Procellaria westlandica
Procellaria cinerea

Attachment 2.

Proposed revised Annex 1. Albatross and Petrel Species to which the Agreement will apply*.

Albatrosses (19 species)

Diomedea exulans
Diomedea dabbenena
Diomedea antipodensis
Diomedea amsterdamensis
Diomedea epomophora
Diomedea sanfordi
Phoebastria irrorata
Thalassarche cauta
Thalassarche steadi
Thalassarche salvini
Thalassarche eremita
Thalassarche bulleri
Thalassarche chrysostoma
Thalassarche melanophrys
Thalassarche impavida
Thalassarche carteri
Thalassarche chlororhynchos
Phoebetria fusca
Phoebetria palpebrata

Petrels (7 species)

Macronectes giganteus
Macronectes halli
Procellaria aequinoctialis
Procellaria conspicillata
Procellaria parkinsoni
Procellaria westlandica
Procellaria cinerea