

 <p>Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Fifth Meeting of the Parties <i>Santa Cruz de Tenerife, Spain, 4 - 8 May 2015</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Amendment to the format of implementation reports</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Secretariat</p>
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SUMMARY

The ACAP online reporting system has been in place for over four years with minor modifications being made as requested by Parties during that time. Some further amendments are required to clarify the intent of some questions and streamline the reporting process for Parties.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Meeting of the Parties:

1. clarifies what is intended by “decisions” in question 1.1 of the online implementation report; and
2. approves the online implementation reports as the avenue through which Parties report progress against conservation actions identified in the prioritization process.

1. BACKGROUND

The ACAP web-based implementation reporting system has been in place since December 2010, when it was first introduced for AC6 and MoP4 (see [MoP4 Inf 05](#)). The reporting template consists of 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; 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 (so that the reports can be compiled by the Secretariat for presentation to the AC, and subsequently, to the MoP). Based on the initial experience and two subsequent rounds of reporting (in 2013 and 2014), the Secretariat has applied minor modifications to the reporting format and process in response to requests from Parties.

The system is working well but remains flexible to any further improvements that might be identified in the future.

2. PROPOSED AMENDMENTS

In light of the experience during the most recent round of reporting, two amendments are proposed to further improve the online system.

2.1 Clarifying intent of “decisions” in question 1.1 of the online implementation report

Clarification was sought by one Party on the definition of “decisions” in question 1.1 of the MoP Report: “*Has action been taken to implement the **decisions** of previous MoPs?*” Does this question refer to Resolutions adopted by the MoP, or does this question (also) refer to decisions taken by the MoP elsewhere, as recorded in meeting reports or taken intersessionally? If the latter, then a list of “decisions” taken by Parties at meetings and intersessionally may be required for Parties to report against.

2.2 Reporting against conservation priorities

The fourth session of the Meeting of Parties (MoP4) endorsed the use of the prioritisation framework and requested Parties to report back to MoP5 on progress made towards addressing the conservation priorities identified ([MoP4 Report](#), para 7.4.6). Prior to AC8, the AC Chair and the Secretariat recommended to Parties that this information be incorporated into Parties’ reports on implementation of the Agreement (**MoP5 Doc 11**).

Recalling Article IX (6)(d)(i) of the Agreement which specifies that MoP will determine the format of the implementation reports, it is recommended that this process be continued for future implementation reports in order to streamline Parties’ reporting requirements. The Secretariat will make the necessary amendments in the online system to facilitate this.