

**Proposed indicators to measure the success of ACAP: discussion paper for the Seabird Bycatch Working Group**

**Purpose**

The purpose of this paper is to:

- provide a short summary of the proposed approach to developing indicators to measure the success of ACAP; and
- facilitate discussion on the role and interactions with the Seabird Bycatch Working Group in this process

**Summary of the proposed approach to developing indicators**

At MOP2, Parties:

- Adopted the BirdLife Red List Index as an interim indicator to measure favourable conservation status for albatrosses and petrels
- Noted that a set of dynamic indicators measuring both pressure (threatening processes) and response (conservation action) were being developed
- noted that these indicators would be developed in close collaboration with relevant Advisory Committee Working Groups

In order to align the development of indicators with the responsibilities of the current ACAP Breeding Sites, Status and Trends and Bycatch Working Groups, it was proposed to group indicators into either site-based or fishing-related.

**Fishing-related indicators of pressure and response**

As noted above, indicators of pressure and response from fishing should be developed based as far as possible on the outputs of the Seabird Bycatch Working Group (BWG).

It may, therefore, be premature to discuss indicators in any great detail at this stage as the BWG is still in its infancy.

However, the Working Group may wish to consider some broad areas of their draft work programme that could lead to the development of fishing-related indicators of pressure and response in the future.

Some initial thoughts were that the BWG may develop processes or protocols for the collection of bycatch data that may form the basis of a useful indicator to measure threats from fishing.

Similarly, and in line with ACAP obligations to encourage the implementation by Parties of a National Plan of Action (NPOA) for Seabirds, the BWG may also

consider how best to record steps taken by Parties (or RFMOs) to put into place mitigation or management measures in response to threats from fishing. Such data may form the basis of an indicator to measure responses to fishing-related threats.

One further approach may be to use information stemming from the prioritisation, or risk-assessment, process that could be used to classify the severity of threats stemming from fishing by each fishery, country or RFMO.

### **Key questions for discussion by the Seabird Bycatch Working Group**

1. Any general comments on the proposed approach
2. Whether/how the proposed approach might fit with the strategy and broad work programme of the Working Group
3. Next steps