



*Interim Secretariat provided by the Australian Government*

## **First Meeting of the Parties**

*Hobart, Australia, 10-12 November 2004*

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*Agenda Item No. 6.2*  
ACAP/MOP1/Doc.13  
**Interim Secretariat**

## **Scale of Contributions**



## **Purpose**

The purpose of this paper is to present a number of options for a scale of contributions for Parties to the Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels (ACAP).

## **Background**

Following the meeting to negotiate the text of an Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels held in Cape Town, South Africa from 29 January to 2 February 2001, Parties agreed that the interim Secretariat would present a number of options for a scale of contributions for ACAP to be determined by consensus at the first Meeting of the Parties.

This paper should be read in conjunction with ACAP/MOP1/Doc.12 - Indicative Budget for ACAP – which outlines in more detail how the interim Secretariat estimated the expenses related to setting up the Agreement Secretariat and funding the Meetings of the Parties and related expenses.

## **Proposed scale of contributions**

Four options are proposed for the scale of contributions from Parties to the Agreement:

### **Option 1: 100% related to Gross Domestic Product (GDP) percentage**

This option is based on the Gross Domestic Product of each Party on the basis that Parties will contribute to the budget according to their ability to pay.

### **Option 2: 50% related to Gross Domestic Product percentage, 50% fixed contribution**

This option would follow the guidelines of option one but will only apply to 50% of the Secretariat budget. The remaining 50% would be divided equally among the Parties.

### **Option 3: 75% related to Gross Domestic Product percentage, 25% fixed contribution**

This option would allow for 25% of the budget to be distributed equally amongst all Parties, while the remaining 75% will relate directly to the GDP of the Party.

### **Option 4: 100% related to Gross Domestic Product percentage, with no Party contributing more than 22% of the budget**

This option is based on that used in other CMS Agreements. Parties with a percentage contribution, based on GDP, in excess of 22%, pay a fixed amount of 22% of the budget. The remainder of the budget is then distributed amongst Parties with GDP scale contributions of less than 22%. Re-distributed funds are apportioned according to the relative GDPs of the Parties involved.

Attachment A provides a summary of each Party's contribution based on a budget which includes a Meeting of Parties held every two years, while Attachment B bases contributions on a budget with Meetings of Parties held every three years.

The budget for the Meetings of the Parties to be held every two years would be US \$441,500 per annum; the budget for Meetings of the Parties held every three years would be US \$427,000 per annum (Further details in the indicative budget paper ACAP/MOP1/Doc.12).

## Calculation of contributions based on GDP

Relative contributions based on GDP have been based on the 89th plenary session (January 2001) of the United Nations (55/5 Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations). As shown in the table below, the current six Parties to ACAP contribute 10.36% of the total UN budget. For options 1-3, contributions from each Party have been apportioned based on the adjusted percentages for ACAP.

Country	UN % contribution based on GDP	Adjusted % for ACAP
Australia	1.627	15.71
Ecuador	0.025	0.24
New Zealand	0.241	2.33
South Africa	0.408	3.94
Spain	2.51875	24.32
United Kingdom	5.536	53.46
	10.35575	100

Under Option 4, Australia, Spain and the United Kingdom pay a fixed amount of 22% of the budget. The remainder has been distributed amongst Ecuador, New Zealand and South Africa based on their relative contributions to the UN. (Note that although Australia's adjusted ACAP contribution based on GDP is less than 22% of the budget, if funds are re-distributed among 4 Parties according to GDP after 22% has been allocated to Spain and the UK, Australia's contribution rises above 22%. Australia has therefore also been allocated a fixed payment of 22%).

Contributions based on GDPs will, obviously, need to be recalculated when other States ratify the Agreement.

## Required Action

Parties are invited to:

1. note the options for the proposed scale of contributions outlined and provide any comments to the interim Secretariat;
2. agree to implement one of the options, or a combination of options, to determine the scale of contributions.

Contributions summary of budget options when a Meeting of the Parties takes place once every two years

Party	Option one (100% GDP):		Option two (50% GDP, 50% fixed):		Option two (50% GDP, 50% fixed):		Option 4 (100% GDP, no Party paying more than 22%):	
	% of budget based on GDP	Annual contribution	% of budget based on GDP	Annual contribution	% of budget based on GDP	Annual contribution	% of budget based on GDP	Annual contribution
Australia	15.71	\$69,364	15.71	\$71,474	15.71	\$70,419	22.00	\$97,130
Ecuador	0.24	\$1,066	0.24	\$37,325	0.24	\$19,195	1.26	\$5,568
New Zealand	2.33	\$10,275	2.33	\$41,929	2.33	\$26,102	12.16	\$53,674
South Africa	3.94	\$17,394	3.94	\$45,489	3.94	\$31,442	20.58	\$90,868
Spain	24.32	\$107,383	24.32	\$90,483	24.32	\$98,933	22.00	\$97,130
United Kingdom	53.46	\$236,018	53.46	\$154,801	53.46	\$195,409	22.00	\$97,130
		US \$441,500		US \$441,500		US \$441,500		US \$441,500

Contributions summary of budget options when a Meeting of the Parties takes place once every three years

Party	Option one (100% GDP):		Option two (50% GDP, 50% fixed):		Option two (50% GDP, 50% fixed):		Option 4 (100% GDP, no Party paying more than 22%):	
	% of budget based on GDP	Annual contribution	% of budget based on GDP	Annual contribution	% of budget based on GDP	Annual contribution	% of budget based on GDP	Annual contribution
Australia	15.71	\$67,086	15.71	\$69,126	15.71	\$768,106	22.00	\$93,940
Ecuador	0.24	\$1,031	0.24	\$36,099	0.24	\$18,565	1.26	\$5,385
New Zealand	2.33	\$9,937	2.33	\$40,552	2.33	\$25,245	12.16	\$51,912
South Africa	3.94	\$16,823	3.94	\$43,995	3.94	\$30,409	20.58	\$87,883
Spain	24.32	\$103,856	24.32	\$87,511	24.32	\$95,684	22.00	\$93,940
United Kingdom	53.46	\$228,267	53.46	\$149,717	53.46	\$188,992	22.00	\$93,940
		US \$427,000		US \$427,000		US \$427,000		US \$427,000