
AGREEMENT ON THE CONSERVATION OF ALBATROSSES AND PETRELS

Resolution 8.3

Terms of Reference for the Review of the Effectiveness of the Secretariat in Facilitating the Achievement of the Objective of the Agreement

Adopted by the Eighth Session of the Meeting of the Parties, Dunedin, New Zealand,
19 - 23 May 2025

Recalling Article VIII(14) of the Agreement, which requires the Meeting of the Parties to review the effectiveness of the Secretariat in facilitating the achievement of the objective of the Agreement at every third Session of the Meeting of the Parties;

Noting that Article VIII(14) requires that terms of reference for this review be agreed to at the previous Meeting of the Parties;

The Meeting of the Parties to the Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels

Decides:

1. to establish a Review Body composed of Representatives of no fewer than two-thirds of the Parties;
2. that the Review Body should seek to ensure regional representation from:
 - a. Europe/Africa;
 - b. Asia/Australasia; and
 - c. North/South America;
3. that Parties participating in the review are not bound by the findings of the Review Body;
4. that the Terms of Reference of the Review Body will be to:
 - a. undertake a review of the effectiveness of the Secretariat in facilitating the achievement of the Agreement's objectives;
 - b. seek the views of all Parties and interview any Chair of the Advisory Committee, and any Executive Secretary, who have held the positions during the period 2017 - 2027;
 - c. prepare a report for the Ninth Session of the Meeting of the Parties with recommendations as appropriate for enhancing the effectiveness of the Secretariat in achieving the Agreement's objective; and

- d. prepare, as necessary, revised performance indicators to allow for quantifiable assessment of the Secretariat's performance;
5. that the Review Body may also decide to seek the views of the Advisory Committee Vice-chairs and Convenors of the Working Groups in post during the period of the review; and
6. that the Performance Indicators set out in Appendix A will be used in the review.

RESOLUTION 8.3 APPENDIX A

PERFORMANCE INDICATORS FOR MEASURING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE SECRETARIAT OF THE AGREEMENT ON THE CONSERVATION OF ALBATROSSES AND PETRELS

1. All relevant information and meeting documents will be provided to the Parties within the timeframes specified by the Agreement.
2. All necessary staffing, logistics, interpretation, and other administrative arrangements required by the Parties will be carried out in coordination and consultation with the host governments of meetings.
3. All decisions will be executed, as required, in such a manner that is consistent with the Meeting of the Parties' intent, prioritising as appropriate within the limited available resources.
4. Facilitation and coordination activities, in accordance with the directions of the Meeting of the Parties or the Advisory Committee, will be carried out, as required, to fulfil the objectives of the Agreement.
5. Other international and national organisations and institutions are contacted, as appropriate, on matters related to achieving the objectives of the Agreement.
6. Other organisations are informed of the activities of the Agreement in order to facilitate information and technology exchange about approaches that contribute to achieving and maintaining a favourable conservation status for albatrosses and petrels.
7. A report on the status of the budget for the implementation of the Agreement is prepared and provided in accordance with timescales set by the Meeting of the Parties.
8. The Agreement's budget is executed in a responsible, efficient, and accountable manner and in accordance with the financial regulations for the Agreement.
9. Assistance is provided to Parties, through the website, in their efforts to educate the general public about the Agreement and its objectives.
10. A system of performance indicators is provided to measure the effectiveness and efficiency of the Secretariat in facilitating the achievement of the objectives of the Agreement.
11. The Secretariat will supply to Parties all information identified by the Meeting of the Parties as relevant to the effective functioning of the Agreement.
12. A report is provided to each Meeting of the Parties and meetings of the Advisory Committee identifying activities that the Secretariat has been unable to carry out, providing reasons for any inaction, for example limitations in resources, and options for rectification.
13. The staff of the Secretariat follows the directions of the Executive Secretary, as required by the Meeting of the Parties.