

 <p>Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>Fifth Meeting of the Parties</b></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Santa Cruz de Tenerife, Spain, 4 - 8 May 2015</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Advisory Committee Report to the Fifth Meeting of Parties</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><i>AC Chair, AC Vice-chair, Advisory Committee</i></b></p>
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## SUMMARY

This report to the Fifth Meeting of the Parties has been drafted for the Advisory Committee by the Chair and Vice-Chair with the assistance of the Agreement's Secretariat. The Advisory Committee and its Working Groups made excellent progress during the last triennium. Collectively, they succeeded in providing expert advice to Parties, Range States and a range of Organisations on actions that can be taken to address threats to albatrosses and petrels, both at sea and on land. A substantial proportion of this information is readily accessible through the ACAP website, including the conservation guidelines for the eradication of predators, and for biosecurity and quarantine, best practice advice for bycatch mitigation measures in longline and trawl fisheries, mitigation fact sheets developed in conjunction with BirdLife International, a de-hooking guide, and the review of diseases and pathogens, among others. Now that effective mitigation measures have been identified for the key fishing activities known to result in the incidental catch of ACAP species, the challenge ahead is to have these mitigation measures used in those fisheries where seabird bycatch is occurring. Another key challenge is to obtain the fisheries data required to improve our understanding and management of seabird bycatch. In this context we have yet to develop an appropriate methodology for the use of this data. As in the past triennium, one of the most challenging difficulties will be the increasing size and complexity of the Agreement's agenda and the asymmetry with the growth of capacity. This increased workload could be alleviated by the incorporation or engagement of new people to undertake particular actions.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

The following recommendations are provided for the consideration of the MoP5:

1. Note the progress, achievements and difficulties found during the last triennium by the Advisory Committee
2. Review and approve the Advisory Committee Work Programme proposed for the 2016-2018 triennium, as detailed in MoP5 Doc 16.

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

This report follows the structure agreed during the First Session of the Meeting of Parties (MoP1, [Resolution 1.5](#), Annex 1) and has been prepared for the Advisory Committee by the Chair and Vice-Chair with the assistance of the Agreement's Secretariat.

### **1.1 Establishment of the Committee**

The Committee was established at the First Session of the Meeting of Parties, held in Hobart, Australia, from 10 to 12 November 2004.

### **1.2 Election and appointment of Advisory Committee Officers**

AC7 constituted the end of all Committee Officers' terms, so all positions required election. Dr Marco Favero (Argentina) was re-elected as Chair, and Mark Tasker (United Kingdom) was re-elected as Vice-Chair of the Advisory Committee.

Dr Anton Wolfaardt (UK) was elected as a Convenor, and Dr Igor Debski (New Zealand) and Tatiana Neves (Brazil) were elected as Vice-Convenors of the Seabird Bycatch Working Group.

Dr Richard Phillips (UK) and Dr Rosemary Gales (Australia) were elected as Co-Convenors of the Population and Conservation Status Working Group. Dr Henri Weimerskirch (France) and Dr Flavio Quintana (Argentina) were elected as Vice-Convenors of the Population and Conservation Status Working Group.

Dr Mike Double (Australia) was re-elected as Convenor of the Taxonomy Working Group.

### **1.3 Members, Alternates, Observers and Experts**

The lists of Advisory Committee Members, Alternates, Observers and Experts in attendance at each of the meetings of the Committee in the triennium may be found in Annex 1 of [AC7](#) and [AC8](#) reports.

### **1.4 Review of rules of procedure**

The Committee established its Rules of Procedure (RoP) at AC1 and has reviewed them at subsequent meetings. The [AC's RoP](#) have not been amended since MoP4, so the latest version corresponds to those amended at AC6. However, discussions took place during AC8 regarding the amendment of Rule 20. Further intersessional work will occur and a draft text will be offered for consideration at AC9 (see Annex 4 AC8 Final Report)

At AC7 the Advisory Committee reviewed the progress of the Intersessional Committee established by MoP4 Resolution 4.8 concerning participation by APEC member economies as observers in sessions of the Meeting of the Parties (MoP) and its subsidiary bodies. Further work was undertaken during the intersessional period and in the margins of AC8 (see [AC8 Doc 10 Rev 1](#)). The AC would follow the lead of MoP in changing its RoP on this topic.

## **1.5 Meetings and other correspondence since MoP4**

After MoP4, the AC met formally for its Seventh Meeting (AC7) held in La Rochelle, France, from 6 to 10 May 2013, and its Eighth Meeting (AC8) held in Punta del Este, Uruguay, from 15 to 19 September 2014. Meetings of the Population and Conservation Status Working Group, and the Seabird Bycatch Working Group preceded both AC7 and AC8.

There has been considerable formal and informal correspondence in association with the implementation of the Advisory Committee work programme. Informal meetings of the Advisory Committee's Officials (AC Chair and Vice-Chair, Working Group Convenors and the Executive Secretary) were held on a regular basis to co-ordinate the intersessional activities of the Advisory Committee.

## **2. OVERVIEW OF ACTIVITIES AND MEETINGS OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

### **2.1 Activities of the Chair and Vice-Chair**

#### *2.1.1 Recruitment*

The recruitment process for an Executive Secretary that will start work in January 2016 was commenced shortly after AC8. The AC Vice-Chair is assisting the Secretariat in this process.

#### *2.1.2 Budgets*

The Chair has been consulted by the Secretariat on a number of occasions on issues regarding management of the Agreement's budget. In all cases, agreement was reached.

#### *2.1.3 Consultations with the Agreement Secretariat*

The Chair has conducted considerable correspondence with the Secretariat (via e-mail usually on a daily basis, and telephone conversations on weekly basis) and others less frequently. The Vice-Chair maintained periodic correspondence with AC Officials and the Secretariat as well.

#### *2.1.4 Other activities*

The Chair, Vice-Chair and other AC Officials have represented the Agreement at a number of meetings of Regional Fisheries Management Organisations and at relevant conferences and other international meetings.

## **2.2 Progress with Actions under Article IX of the Agreement**

### *2.2.1 Provision of scientific, technical and other advice*

A summary of progress against the Work Programme for 2013-15 (MoP4 Resolution 4.4) is provided in **ANNEX 1**. It should be noted that the Work Programme has evolved considerably in AC7 and AC8 and new tasks were added to reflect the work conducted by

the Advisory Committee during this period. The work programme in Annex 1 reflects the latest version, revised at AC8.

This document has also been used as the basis for the development of the Advisory Committee's Work Programme for the 2016-2018 triennium, which is submitted to MoP5 for its consideration and final approval (refer **MoP5 Doc 16**).

Scientific and technical advice provided by the Advisory Committee is based in large part on the work produced by its Working Groups:

- Population and Conservation Status Working Group (PaCSWG), Convenors Dr Rosemary Gales (Australia) and Dr Richard Phillips (United Kingdom); Vice-Convenors Dr Flavio Quintana (Argentina) and Dr Henri Weimerskirch (France). This Working Group addresses land-based threats and conservation status of species listed in Annex 1 of the Agreement.
- Seabird Bycatch Working Group (SBWG), Convenor Dr Anton Wolfaardt (United Kingdom); Vice-Convenors Dr Igor Debski (New Zealand) and Tatiana Neves (Brazil). This Working Group addresses at-sea threats for ACAP species.
- Taxonomy Working Group (TWG), Convenor Dr Mike Double (Australia). This Working Group reviews the taxonomic status of taxa listed on Annex 1 of the Agreement.

The Advisory Committee and its Working Groups made excellent progress during the last triennium. Key achievements since MoP4 are summarised below:

- The further development of the ACAP [database](#) to facilitate the work of the Advisory Committee and its Working Groups.
- Review of current population trends of ACAP species.
- Identification of key gaps in tracking data.
- Use and further refinement of the prioritisation framework to guide the work of the Agreement (see **MoP5 Doc 15**).
- Agreement on the identification of preliminary performance indicators for seabird bycatch and agreement to indicators for land-based threats, and progress in the development of performance indicators related to capacity building (see MoP5 Doc 20).
- Ongoing review and update of the ACAP [species assessments](#).
- Effective mitigation measures have now been identified, described and promoted to relevant fisheries managers for those fishing activities known to cause significant incidental mortality to species listed under Annex 1 of the Agreement.
- Ongoing review of [bycatch mitigation best practice](#) advice documents for pelagic and demersal longline, and trawl fisheries.
- Progress in addressing bycatch and development of best practice advice for gillnets (and other net fisheries), artisanal/ small-scale and intentional take.
- Review of the ACAP - BirdLife International [mitigation fact sheets](#) aimed at fisheries managers to assist in reducing bycatch in longline and trawl fisheries. The fact sheets are available on the ACAP website in a number of relevant languages.

- The effective implementation of a strategy to engage RFMOs and assist in the development and implementation of conservation measures relevant to ACAP species.
- Significant progress achieved with the adoption of seabird conservation measures by relevant RFMOs, based on ACAP's best practice advice.
- Development of the [de-hooking guide](#) and identification guide for dead birds
- Continued refinement of biosecurity, quarantine and eradication [guidelines](#) for ACAP seabird breeding sites.
- Update of a review of diseases and pathogens in albatrosses and petrels in collaboration with One Health Institute, School of Veterinary Medicine, UC Davis.
- Development of translocation guidelines for surface and burrow nesting species.

Other advice regarding the operation of the Agreement was developed in close collaboration with the Secretariat. This includes:

- Development of the sponsorship policy to provide guidance on the financial support of delegates and experts to attend meetings of the Agreement (see **MoP5 Doc 27**).
- Development of the triennial report on the implementation of the Agreement (see **MoP5 Doc 11**).
- Drafting of criteria for listing and de-listing species to Annex 1 of the Agreement (see **MoP5 Doc 21**).
- Implementation of the Agreement's Grant Scheme and Agreement's Secondment Programme (see section 2.2.6).
- Implementation of the Agreement's capacity building strategy according with objectives, criteria and principles defined in [MoP4 Doc 18](#) and [MoP4 Final Report](#).

#### *2.2.2 Progress with standard reference text on taxonomy of species covered by the Agreement*

There has been no change in taxonomy of species covered by the Agreement since last report to the Meeting of the Parties. Further work was tasked to the TWG to consider the need to harmonise the taxonomy with that followed by other relevant organisations.

#### *2.2.3 Recommendations concerning the Action Plan and further research*

A draft Advisory Committee Work Programme for the 2016-2018 triennium has been prepared and submitted as **MoP5 Doc 16**.

#### *2.2.4 Development of indicators to assess progress towards achieving and maintaining a favourable conservation status for albatrosses and petrels*

The development of performance indicators to measure the effectiveness of the Agreement was considered at MoP4 (see [MoP4 Doc 23](#)), and subsequently considered through the last triennium by the AC. In addition to those developed for land-based threats ([AC8 Doc 11](#)) and bycatch in fisheries ([AC8 Doc 12 Rev 1](#)), the AC progressed the work towards the

identification of performance indicators related to capacity building ([AC8 Doc 23 Rev 1](#)). The Advisory Committee recommends that MoP5 endorse the use of the performance indicators as detailed in **MoP5 Doc 20**.

#### *2.2.5 Progress with collation of information under Section 5 of the Action Plan and identification of gaps in knowledge*

A report on progress with implementation of the Agreement, which has been produced using the new web-based reporting system, is provided as **MoP5 Doc 11**. The information that Parties are required to provide is being progressively included in the products produced by the Agreement, such as species assessments and reports on fisheries bycatch and will significantly support the work of the Advisory Committee in future years.

#### *2.2.6 Other Activities*

The reports mentioned above and in the Advisory Committee Work Programme (**ANNEX 1**) describe other activities of the Advisory Committee.

Regarding the implementation of the Agreement Grant Scheme, the procedure adopted during MoP3 for allocating funding to the AC Work Programme ([MoP3 Final Report](#)) was successfully applied and refined in successive years. At AC7, the Advisory Committee adopted the strategy for calling for grant applications twice in every three-year period, hence the 2013-2014 call for applications was opened in late August 2013 and final decisions were communicated early in 2014 to applicants ([AC8 Doc 21](#)). The 2014-2015 call for applications opened in late 2014 and final decisions were communicated just prior to the Meeting of the Parties (MoP5). The Advisory Committee has identified the possible existence of conflict of interest issues, and other concerns related to use of lethal experimentation in at-sea trials. These matters are presented in detail for the consideration of the Parties in separate documents (see **MoP5 Doc 25** and **MoP5 Doc 26**, respectively).

With regards to the Agreement Secondment Programme, the new strategy for the Agreement's secondment programme (adopted at MoP4) was implemented, allowing secondments to occur either in the Agreement's Headquarters in Hobart or at institutions in other countries. This approach also implies that the secondment programme would be coordinated between the Secretariat and the Advisory Committee. The first call for applications under this new scheme is described in [AC8 Doc 25](#). In line with previous considerations, AC8 agreed that the aim of the secondments should be to support work that responds to ACAP's objectives and priority actions, and facilitates capacity building (also in line with the implementation of the Agreement's capacity building strategy); hence applications should demonstrate how they address these requirements. To assist in the future identification and selection of projects, some specific areas and/or potential secondment projects were identified by the Advisory Committee in the AC Work Programme for the 2016-2018 triennium.

### **2.3 Meetings of the Advisory Committee**

Reports from the [Seventh](#) and [Eighth](#) Meetings of the Advisory Committee can be found on the Agreement's website.

### **3. CONCLUSIONS**

#### **3.1 Achievements**

A very large proportion of the actions planned for the 2013-2015 triennium were accomplished. Clear examples of the significant progress achieved include: the implementation of the data reporting system and development of the Agreement's database, the development and refinement of conservation guidelines, and the implementation of the strategy to engage RFMOs, among others.

The Agreement succeeded in providing expert advice to Parties and a range of Organisations on actions that can be taken to address threats to albatrosses and petrels. A substantial proportion of this information is readily accessible through the ACAP website, including conservation guidelines (for the eradication of predators, biosecurity, census of ACAP species, hook removal, and design and implementation of ecological risk assessments); best practice advice for bycatch mitigation measures in longline and trawl fisheries; mitigation fact sheets (developed in conjunction with BirdLife International); and the ACAP species assessments; among others.

The further development of the ACAP database and implementation of the electronic reporting system will provide Parties and other users access with essential information for the effective implementation of the Agreement's Action Plan. As data is progressively added to this database it will allow the Agreement to conduct an analysis of its performance, and most importantly, identify the progress achieved and the needs required in different regions, and for individual Parties.

It is expected that the Advisory Committee and its Working Groups will continue to make good progress. Some outcomes expected for the next triennium should include: (1) access to better data from Parties and other fisheries managers on their fisheries and on levels of seabird bycatch, that will allow improved evaluation of bycatch numbers for each ACAP listed species; (2) a suite of indicators of the success of the Agreement is in use, (3) the refinement of the Agreement's best practice mitigation advice, including the consideration of some fisheries and fishing gear not previously addressed, as well as safety issues; (4) the development of a strategy to raise the profile of seabird bycatch, bycatch mitigation and other conservation measures in fisheries in high-risk areas, and (5) the development of a strategy, and mechanisms, for directly engaging with fishing fleets on the need for and effective use of seabird bycatch mitigation measures; among others.

#### **3.2 Difficulties found and challenges for the next triennium**

Now that effective mitigation measures have been identified for the key fishing activities known to result in the incidental catch of ACAP species, the challenge ahead is to ensure that these mitigation measures used in those fisheries where seabird bycatch is occurring. Another key challenge is to obtain the fisheries data required to improve our understanding and management of seabird bycatch. In this context we have yet to agree on the level of detail of data submitted and develop an appropriate methodology for the use of such data.

As noted previously, one of the most challenging difficulties found in the past triennium and which will continue to be a challenge for the next one, is the increasing size and complexity of the Agreement's agenda and the asymmetry with the growth of capacity (both in terms of

funds and human resources). Although, in view of the current global economic situation, monetary resources are likely to be restricted during the next triennium, the workload could be alleviated by the incorporation or engagement of new people to undertake particular actions.

We hope that the information in this paper and that contained in the report on the implementation of the Agreement (**MoP5 Doc 11**) will assist Parties in assessing the progress made by the Agreement over the past three years and we look forward to serving ACAP/the Parties in the next triennium.

#### **4. RECOMMENDATIONS**

The following recommendations are provided for the consideration of the Meeting of the Parties:

- Note the progress, achievements and difficulties found during the last triennium by the Advisory Committee.
- Review and approve the work programme proposed for the Advisory Committee for the next triennium (**MoP5 Doc 16**).



**ANNEX 1. Advisory Committee Work Programme 2013 - 2015 approved at MoP4 and amended at AC7 and AC8.**

Actions that have been completed or are no longer relevant are crossed out; new actions identified at SBWG6, PaCSWG2 and AC8 are highlighted in bold/ underlined). Light blue cells highlight new tasks identified at AC8.

	Topic/Task	Responsible group	Timeframe	Resources			Action detail
				Time	Funds for AC	Grant/ core	
<b>1. Taxonomy and Annex 1 review</b>							
1.1	Keep the Taxonomy Working Group's bibliographic database updated	TWG led by Convenor	2013-2015	0.5 week pa (per annum)	AUD 0		
1.2	Continue the establishment of a morphometric and plumage database	TWG led by Convenor, Science Officer	2013-2015	2 weeks	AUD 0		This will facilitate the taxonomic process, the identification of bycatch specimens, and the long-term storage of valuable data
1.a1	Develop a database of site-specific information on the availability of samples relevant to studies of population genetics of ACAP species	TWG	2013-2015	2 months	?	Core	This will require input from PaCSWG (for a list of ACAP populations) and once developed, the output should be of use to SBWG in understanding the origins of bycaught birds. The initial database will be useful in identifying gaps in knowledge. Possible student project
1.3	Consider taxonomic issues relating to species proposed for addition to Annex 1 of the Agreement	Parties and AC	2013-2015	0.5 week p.a.	AUD 0		Development of papers as required, using species assessment template. <del>Spain to develop document on Balearic shearwater for AC5</del>

	Topic/Task	Responsible group	Timeframe	Resources			Action detail
				Time	Funds for AC	Grant/core	
1.4	Respond to queries on taxonomic issues relating to ACAP species	TWG led by Convenor	2013-2015	1-2 weeks p.a.	AUD 0		<del>In 2011-2012, consider status of possible Black-footed albatross sub-species</del> <b><u>Advise regarding a taxonomic list to use for candidate species and encourage harmonising with CMS and IUCN</u></b>
<b>2. Information on status, trends and breeding sites</b>							
<del>2.1</del>	<del>Establish Population and Conservation Status Working Group membership</del>	<del>Parties with assistance of Convenors</del>	<del>Ongoing</del>				Completed. Provide further considerations of the role and participation of members.
2.2	Consider gaps in population, tracking, breeding site management, threats and regulatory protection data submitted to ACAP; request any outstanding data and incorporate changes	PaCSWG, Science Officer	2013-2015	8 weeks p.a.	AUD 0	-	Parties to provide new or outstanding data each year. Science officer to issue reminders in June each year. <b><u>Review threat criteria.</u></b>
2.3	Improve data portal structure and queries.	Science Officer, Convenors	2013-2015	12 weeks p.a.	AUD 0	-	Science Officer to facilitate modification and improvements of database as required
2.4	Review and refine standardised queries and outputs for analysis and interpretation	Science Officer, Convenors, Vice Convenors, PaCSWG	2013-2015	3 weeks p.a.	AUD 0	-	

	Topic/Task	Responsible group	Timeframe	Resources			Action detail
				Time	Funds for AC	Grant/core	
2.5	Accurately assess and update global population trends	PaCSWG Convenors, data holders, Science Officer and BirdLife International, other experts as required	By end 2015	3 weeks	AUD 5,000	Core	May require further data portal updates. Consider alternative approaches as required.
2.6	Update ACAP Species Assessments	PaCSWG Convenors, members, Science Officer, experts, BirdLife International (maps)	2013-2015	6 weeks p.a.	AUD 4,000	Core	Costs for Birdlife to update maps.
2.7	Translate updates to Species Assessments and ACAP guidelines into Spanish and French.	Science Officer, Spanish and French speaking Parties	2013-2015		AUD 7,500	Core	No costs if translation can be undertaken in kind by Spanish and French speaking Parties. Minimal costs (AUD 250 per assessment) budgeted to assist in translation
2.8	Identify priority species or populations for monitoring of numbers, trends and demography	PaCSWG, Science Officer	2013-2015	2 weeks p.a.	AUD 0	-	Review and update priorities and reflect on progress against priorities and provide reports to each AC.

	Topic/Task	Responsible group	Timeframe	Resources			Action detail
				Time	Funds for AC	Grant/core	
2.9	<del>Review availability of albatross and petrel tracking/distribution data to ensure representativeness of species/age classes. Prioritise gaps and encourage studies to fill gaps.</del>	PaCSWG, AC, Science Officer and BirdLife International	2013-2015	1 week p.a.	AUD 5,000	Grant	<del>Review status at AC8-Completed</del>
2.10	Identify priority species or populations for conservation actions	PaCSWG, Science Officer	2013-2015	2 week p.a.	AUD 0	-	Review at AC8.
2.11	Review progress and prioritise the threats to breeding sites and identify gaps in knowledge	PaCSWG, Science Officer	2013-2015	1 week p.a.	AUD 0	-	Annual updating of priorities by Parties, re-run prioritisation as required.
2.12	Review and update existing best-practice guidelines	PaCSWG members, Science Officer, experts	2013-2015	3 weeks p.a.	AUD 500	Core	Update eradication guidelines. Update biosecurity guidelines to ensure adequate for disease issues.
2.a1	Develop a translocation best practice guidelines for ACAP species	PaCSWG, Lead NZ and US	2013-2015		AUD 1,000	Core	Document presented at AC8. Costs for translation. <b>Update to ensure adequate for disease issues.</b>
2.13	<del>Develop best-practice guidelines for monitoring of numbers and trends</del>	<del>PaCSWG, Lead UK, Science Officer</del>	<del>By MoP4, AC7</del>	<del>4 weeks</del>	<del>AUD 1000</del>	<del>Core</del>	<del>Production complete. Costs for translation.</del>
2.13a	Develop best-practice guidelines for monitoring of numbers and trends of sooty and light-mantled albatrosses and white-chinned petrels	PaCSWG, Lead UK, Science Officer	2015	4 weeks	AUD 1,000	Core	Costs for translation.

	Topic/Task	Responsible group	Timeframe	Resources			Action detail
				Time	Funds for AC	Grant/core	
2.14	<i>Review evidence for impacts of pathogens and parasites on ACAP species and effectiveness of mitigation measures</i>	<i>PaCSWG, Science Officer, Lead Argentina and France</i>	<i>By AC8</i>	<i>4 weeks</i>	<i>AUD 0</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>Update review of pathogens and parasites. Gain input from pathologists and wildlife vets. Effectiveness of mitigation measures unable to be considered.</i>
2.a2	Develop/update database of biosecurity plans for ACAP breeding sites	Members, PaCSWG, Science Officer	Ongoing	1 week	AUD 0	-	Parties may also need to develop/implement biosecurity plans at breeding sites
2.15	Post web links on biological sampling guidelines following disease outbreaks	Science Officer, PaCSWG, experts	2013-2015	1 day	AUD 0	-	PaCSWG members to provide links/material.
2.16	Produce centralised catalogue of plastic rings used on ACAP species and contact list, and addresses of ringing authorities	Science Officer, PaCSWG, Lead France?	By end 2014	1 week	AUD 0	-	A summary table will be provided by the Science Officer. Parties will check gaps and update.
2.17	Provide reports on activities to AC meetings	PaCSWG, Science Officer	As needed	12 weeks	AUD 0	-	
<b>3. Seabird Bycatch</b>							
3.1	Continue to implement the RFMO interaction plan for ACAP (AC5 Doc 29) and relevant Parties to engage and assist RFMOs and other relevant international bodies in assessing and minimising bycatch of albatrosses and petrels	Individual RFMO co-ordinators, Secretariat, SBWG and AC	2013-2015	a) 18 weeks p.a. b) 18 week p.a. c) 2 week p.a.	a+b) AUD 30,000 each pa  c) AUD 0	Core	a) Travel etc costs for attendance at selected RFMO meetings (less if Party can contribute directly) b) RFMO co-ordinator activities c) Review of process and recommend changes (SBWG)

	Topic/Task	Responsible group	Timeframe	Resources			Action detail
				Time	Funds for AC	Grant/core	
<del>3.2</del>	<del>Update analysis of overlaps of distributions and albatrosses and petrels with fisheries managed by RFMOs</del>	<del>BirdLife / ACAP</del>	<del>2013</del>	<del>4 weeks</del>	<del>AUD 20,000</del>	<del>Grant</del>	<del>Complete</del>
3.3	Continue to develop materials (both generic and specific) to assist RFMOs and other relevant international and national bodies in reducing seabird bycatch and to maximise effective participation and consideration of issues relevant to ACAP	SBWG Convenor with other SBWG consultation to review needs (Secretariat)	2013-2015		AUD 0		
3.a1	Provide guidance to RFMOs for the identification of minimum elements and appropriate methods and indicators to review the effectiveness of seabird bycatch mitigation measures	SBWG	2014-2015				Work will be advanced by a small intersessional WG

	Topic/Task	Responsible group	Timeframe	Resources			Action detail
				Time	Funds for AC	Grant/core	
3.4	Continue to review and utilise available information on foraging distribution, fisheries and seabird bycatch to aid prioritisation of actions to reduce the risk of fishing operations to ACAP species in waters subject to national jurisdiction.	SBWG and Parties	2013-2015		AUD 10,000	Grant	<p>1) <del>Commission initial report on knowledge of fisheries, status of any bycatch mitigation, knowledge of relevant seabird distribution for AC5. Note overlap with 4.4. NPOA seabirds also can be used. (AUD 0)</del></p> <p>2) Assess needs for waters subject to national jurisdiction and any capacity building requirements</p> <p><b><u>To facilitate regional coordination to better assess bycatch.</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Consider possible link to conservation priorities, such as Wandering Albatross.</u></b></p>
3.5	Maintain bibliography of relevant bycatch information	BirdLife/SBWG Science Officer	2013-2015	1 week pa	AUD 0	-	<p><b><u>Based on Endnote library</u></b></p> <p>Includes both published and unpublished literature</p> <p><b><u>Replace working papers with published papers where possible.</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Submission of information from Parties and others encouraged.</u></b></p>

	Topic/Task	Responsible group	Timeframe	Resources			Action detail
				Time	Funds for AC	Grant/core	
3.6	Based on new information, update ACAP/BirdLife fact sheets on mitigation measures for fishing methods known to impact albatrosses and petrels (trawl, pelagic longline, demersal longline)	SBWG/BirdLife	2013-2015	1 week per fact sheet	AUD 5,000	Core	Costs are for translation. Leads - Trawl: New Zealand Pelagic longline: Australia Demersal longline: UK General: BirdLife
3.7	Produce report on lessons from mitigation success stories in commercial fisheries	BirdLife/ Australia/ Convener SBWG/WWF	2013-2015	3 weeks	AUD 0	-	Target audience is fisheries managers <b><u>Moved to next triennium</u></b>
3.8	Prepare review of knowledge on deliberate take/killing of ACAP species at sea	<b><u>SBWG</u></b>	2015 <b><u>(expansion in next triennium)</u></b>	4 weeks	AUD 0	-	Review to describe current knowledge (much from unpublished literature) and causes of any deliberate take and to consider possible take reduction strategies. Could use secondment [to Secretariat]  <b><u>Note: there is some existing data for South-west Atlantic jig fishery and could form the initial focus, with expansion in the next triennium</u></b>
3.9	Review results of any research on seabird bycatch issues, particularly that funded by ACAP	SBWG	2013-2015	2 weeks pa	AUD 0	-	Draw conclusions and make recommendations to AC as appropriate



	Topic/Task	Responsible group	Timeframe	Resources			Action detail
				Time	Funds for AC	Grant/core	
3.10	Maintain review of research needs and priorities for bycatch research and mitigation development	SBWG	2013-2015	2 weeks	AUD 0	-	
3.a2	Assemble and review all evidence on line-weighting in pelagic long-line fisheries	SBWG	2013-14	3 months		Grant	Would be suitable for a secondee <b><u>Refer to new related items</u></b>
3.a3	Recommend priority actions to advance implementation of line-weighting in pelagic longline fisheries	SBWG	2014 – ideally immediately prior to AC8	1 day			<b><u>Refer to new related items</u></b>
3.a4	Undertake further research on necessary practical actions relating to line-weighting in key pelagic longline fisheries	SBWG	2013-2015		AUD 10,000	Grant	<b><u>Refer to new related items</u></b>
3.a5	Improve estimates of bycatch of ACAP species in trawl fisheries through research	SBWG	2014-15		(Party funding)		Recent studies have indicated higher rates of trawl warp collision than previously thought; further studies would help understanding of the scale (and variability) of trawl bycatch. <b><u>Could progress through proposed SPRFMO research (EU)</u></b>
3.11	Provide recommendations to the AC on measures to address at-sea threats identified as conservation priorities	SBWG	2013-2015	1 week	AUD 0	-	<b><u>Further actions identified in SBWG6 report recommendations</u></b>

	Topic/Task	Responsible group	Timeframe	Resources			Action detail
				Time	Funds for AC	Grant/core	
3.12	Review and update the prioritisation framework for at-sea threats	SBWG	2014  Ideally immediately prior to AC8	1 week	AUD 10,000	Core	One workshop and some analysis and update of data relating to threats and mitigation  Substantially complete
3.13	Review and consider seabird bycatch issues as they relate to smaller vessels (including issues of defining “smaller vessels”)	SBWG	at SBWG6	1 week	AUD 0	-	<b><u>Actions identified at SBWG6 – refer to new related items</u></b>
3.a6	Review the definition of, and legislation pertinent to, artisanal, small-scale and artisanal fisheries	SBWG	2014-15	3 months	?	Grant	Might be suitable for a secondment  <b><u>Definitions agreed and actions identified at SBWG6</u></b>
3.a7	Assemble and review evidence of injuries sustained by fishers in the course of using weighted lines in pelagic longline fisheries	SBWG	2014/2015			Grant	Possible secondment  <b><u>Review presented to SBWG6</u></b>
3.14	Consider which data would be appropriate as baselines for assessing trends in bycatch levels and rates and formulate suitable indicators	SBWG, BirdLife	2012-2015	1 week	AUD 0	-	Data is described in the global review of seabird bycatch in longline fisheries (AC6 Doc 30)  <b><u>Note: actions for bycatch indicators were identified at SBWG6 and are being progressed by an intersessional group</u></b>

	Topic/Task	Responsible group	Timeframe	Resources			Action detail
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3.15	<i>Estimate mortality in previously unobserved fisheries in range of Waved albatross</i>	<i>Ecuador and Peru, BirdLife, AC, American Bird Conservancy</i>	<i>2013-2015</i>	<i>4 weeks</i>	<i>AUD 20,000 over triennium</i>	<i>Grant</i>	<i>Part of implementation from Waved Albatross Action Plan (for net fisheries)  Completed</i>
3.a8	Engage in processes that are developing electronic monitoring of catch/bycatch to ensure that the needs to monitor seabird bycatch are taken into account	SBWG	2013-14		AUD 10,000	Grant	Contribution to ISSF research proposal for testing of e-monitoring in tuna pelagic longline fisheries. Possible further funding after AC8  <b><u>New actions relevant to EM identified at SBWG6</u></b>
3.16	Improve access to relevant data (e.g. from observers) held by others	SBWG	2013-2015			Grant	Need compilation of meta-data e.g. observer data. Will be included in the bycatch data reporting process  <b><u>New approach to bycatch data proposed at SBWG6</u></b>
3.17	Analyse bycatch data in collaboration with Japanese researchers	SBWG, <b><u>Birdlife</u></b>	2013-2015	6 months	AUD 50,000	Grant	Might be best done by an appropriate experienced secondee. Costings difficult to estimate accurately. Needs further discussion  <b><u>Some collaboration with working group members is underway to estimate bycatch at zero cost</u></b>  <b><u>This approach could be expanded to other range states</u></b>

	Topic/Task	Responsible group	Timeframe	Resources			Action detail
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3.18	Analyse bycatch data from other fishing nations as information becomes available	SBWG	2013-2015	6 months	AUD 50,000	Grant	This is a contingency cost; we are not yet sure how much and when data might become available. Needs further discussion  <b><u>Investigate collaboration opportunities with priority fleets. Funds may not be required or hard to estimate.</u></b>
3.19	Identify hot spots for temporal/spatial management	RFMO coordinators/ Canada/ BirdLife/ SBWG	2013-2014	Post-doctorate for 2 years	AUD 10,000 + AUD 50,000 Needs further discussion	Grant	AUD 10,000 is a contribution to a potential Canadian/BirdLife/ACAP project in the North Pacific that could be done in the 2010-12 triennium. A total global cost might be in the order of AUD 50,000 (Deleted as project has gone ahead without ACAP funding)
3.20	Provide draft advice on suitable analyses of bycatch data and further develop the bycatch data reporting and assessment framework	SBWG	2013-2015	3 months	AUD 20,000	Grant	Statistical advice provided at SBWG5. Further work needed to progress the development of the bycatch data and assessment framework.  <b><u>See new items related to bycatch data approach identified at SBWG6</u></b>
3.21	Provide reports on activities to AC meetings	SBWG and AC	2013-2015	1 week	AUD 0		

	Topic/Task	Responsible group	Timeframe	Resources			Action detail
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3.22	Review and update advice documents on bycatch mitigation methods for industrial fisheries	SBWG/ Secretariat	SBWG7		AUD 1,000 (translation costs)	Core	Further refinement of best practice advice documents.  Intersessional work (Anton Wolfaardt, Jonathon Barrington, Warren Papworth, Ken Morgan, Marco Favero)
3.23	Further research on sink rates of different line weighting regimes	SBWG			AUD 10,000 (desktop components)  AUD 100,000 (field work)	Core (desktop)  Grant (field work)	Related to further consideration of revised line weighting regimes in best practice advice  See research priorities for pelagic longline in SBWG6 Report for details of the proposed 3 step plan  Need to identify a Party or Parties to locate at-sea trials
3.24	Develop best practice advice for haul mitigation in pelagic and demersal longline fisheries	SBWG  Lead: Anton Wolfaardt, ATF	2015				Update the relevant sections of the best practice advice document  Note relation to item below
3.25	Investigate the existence of haul seabird bycatch outside the Hawaiian fishery	SBWG	SBWG7		5,000?	Grant	Suitable for secondment
3.26	Develop a review of risks posed by net fisheries other than gillnet and trawl	SBWG	SBWG7				Igor Debski, Oli Yates et al.

	Topic/Task	Responsible group	Timeframe	Resources			Action detail
				Time	Funds for AC	Grant/core	
3.27	Draft mitigation review for gillnets and entangling nets, and develop research priorities	SBWG/ BirdLife International (Rory Crawford)	SBWG7		5,000?	Grant	Synthesis of existing reviews Possible workshop to ID research priorities
3.28	Development of a template for providing a “toolbox approach for mitigation advice in smaller scale fisheries	SBWG Jeff Mangel, Joanna Alfaro-Shigueto , Igor Debski, Chile, Brazil	SBWG7				Use current mitigation methods as examples to populate the toolbox
3.29	Investigate safety issues related to the use of different line weighting options	Secretariat/ SBWG	2015		15,000	Core	Third party conducting trials including sliding weights and double weighting system
3.30	Investigate benefits and limitations of e-monitoring in relation to seabird bycatch and mitigation	Secretariat/ Australia/ Canada/ USA/ Projeto Albatross/ Nathan Walker/Jorge Azócar	SBWG7				
3.31	Conduct a comprehensive review of NPOA-Seabirds for Parties and Range States	SBWG, Ben Sullivan, Marco Favero, Anton Wolfaardt	SBWG7		10,000	Grant	Check with Barry Baker regarding status of his review paper Suitable for secondment

	Topic/Task	Responsible group	Timeframe	Resources			Action detail
				Time	Funds for AC	Grant/core	
3.32	Development of bycatch indicators and associated data, methodological approaches and reporting required	SBWG/ Anton Wolfaardt, Igor Debski et al	2015		10,000	Grant	Intersessional group established at SBWG6. Suitable for secondments
3.33	Review of at sea threats scoring for listing criteria	SBWG/ Ken Morgan, Jorge Azócar, Ben Sullivan, Anton Wolfaardt, Marco Favero, NZ	2015				
3.34	Develop the flagship species approach to raise the profile of seabird bycatch, bycatch mitigation and other conservation measures in fisheries in high-risk areas.	SBWG	2015				To be continued in next triennium
3.35	Develop a strategy, and mechanisms, for directly engaging with fishing fleets on the need for and effective use of seabird bycatch mitigation measures	SBWG	2015				To be continued in next triennium
3.36	Develop a research strategy for artisanal, small-scale and recreational fisheries	SBWG	2015				Based on research priorities identified at SBWG6 Intent is to inform research actions in the next triennium

	Topic/Task	Responsible group	Timeframe	Resources			Action detail
				Time	Funds for AC	Grant/core	
3.37	Consider outcomes of 3.23 and 3.24 in relation to Best Practice Advice	SBWG	SBWG7		0	-	
<b>4. Capacity building, New Parties, Organisation of Work</b>							
4.1	Provide assistance and capacity building to assist with drafting and implementation of NPOA-Seabirds	AC ,Parties and BirdLife to consider	2013-2015	10 weeks	AUD 0		Capacity building in accordance with the needs identified by interested Parties in order to encourage implementation, particularly in Ecuador, France, Peru, South Africa, (Mozambique, Madagascar), Tristan da Cunha (UK), and EC external fisheries
4.a1	Develop and implement a strategy for adding further Parties, and engaging with States not Party to ACAP	AC, Parties <b>(Australia)</b>	2013-2015		AUD 0	-	Initial work carried out at AC7, further work intersessionally
4.a2	Consider Working Group structure and function, including role and participation of members and experts	WGs, AC	2013-2015		AUD 0	-	Ongoing
4.a3	<del>Develop and implement a strategy for secondments</del>	AC	2013-2014		AUD 0	-	Ongoing. Completed
4.2	Further develop capacity indicators	Argentina, Brazil, New Zealand, Australia, UK	2014-2015		AUD 0	-	



	Topic/Task	Responsible group	Timeframe	Resources			Action detail
				Time	Funds for AC	Grant/core	
<b>5. Indicators, priorities, reviews and collective conservation action</b>							
5.1	Review data inputs to breeding sites and at-sea prioritisation frameworks agreed at MoP4, revise conservation priorities and identify actions required to address these priority threats.	WG Convenors and ad-hoc group, lead New Zealand	2013-2015	4 weeks 2013	AUD 10,000	Grant	Report outcomes at AC8. Funds are for any intersessional workshops required for such revision.
5.2	Develop and harmonise conservation strategies or plans for particular species or groups of species of albatrosses and petrels	WGs, AC (Secretariat)	2013-2015	2 weeks p.a.	AUD 0	-	Precise definition of what is needed difficult at this stage. Action paused as definition not clear
5.a1	Review existing Action Plans (for National Plans, when asked by relevant Party), and advise on new Action Plans for ACAP species	WGs, AC, Parties	2013-2015		AUD 0	-	Existing plans: Waved Albatross (Peru/Ecuador), Amsterdam Albatross (France), Southern Giant Petrel (Argentina), Balearic Shearwater (Spain)
5.3	Implement conservation strategies for particular species or groups of species of albatrosses and petrels	Parties, AC	2013-2015	unknown weeks	AUD 0	-	Precise definition of what needed is difficult at this stage
5.a2	Review, refine and standardise criteria to include new species on Annex 1.	WGs, Science Officer	2014	1 week p.a.	AUD 0	-	
5.a3	Complete ID guide for bycaught seabirds	PaCSWG, SBWG. TWG, Secretariat,	2014-15	3 weeks	AUD 15,000	Core	Draft document for AC8, complete by MoP5

	Topic/Task	Responsible group	Timeframe	Resources			Action detail
				Time	Funds for AC	Grant/core	
5.a4	<del>Further develop best practice de-hooking guide</del>	<del>SBWG, PaCSWG, Secretariat</del>	<del>2014</del>		<del>AUD 1000</del>	<del>Core</del>	<del>Funds required for graphic design and translation. Completed</del>
5.a5	Develop best practice guidelines for acquisition and use of biological samples for genetic analyses	PaCSWG, TWG, Secretariat, experts	2014-2015		AUD 0	-	
5.4	Implement system of indicators for the success of the ACAP Agreement	Parties, Secretariat, BirdLife and AC	2013-2015	1 week pa	AUD 0	-	Review in time for MoP5
5.a6	Review ACAP performance indicators	PaCSWG, SBWG Convenors, Science Officer and BirdLife International	2013-2015	3 weeks	AUD 0	-	<del>Date stamp input parameters as far as practicable, hindcast to 2004, and assess indicators at AC8. Consider tracking data indicators, consider composite Red List Indicator index options. <b>PaCSWG indicators selected.</b></del>
5.5	Manage database of relevant scientific literature	Secretariat	2013-2015	4 weeks	AUD 0		<del>Secretariat will examine option of making database available on-line, Further scientific literature from all.</del>
5.6	Manage directory of relevant legislation	Secretariat	2013-2015		AUD 0	-	Parties to supply further information, as available
5.7	Develop a list of authorities, research centres, scientists and non-governmental organisations relevant to ACAP	Secretariat	2013-2015		AUD 0	-	Parties and AC to supply further information, as available

	Topic/Task	Responsible group	Timeframe	Resources			Action detail
				Time	Funds for AC	Grant/core	
<b>6. Management of AC work, secretariat oversight and liaison, and interaction of ACAP bodies</b>							
6.1	Consider and advise on budget matters as needed	AC	2013-2015	2 weeks pa	AUD 0		Shorter-term advice provided by the AC Chair
6.2	Consider and advise on Staff matters as needed	AC	2013-2015	1 week pa	AUD 0		Shorter-term advice provided by the AC Chair
6.3	Oversee, advise and guide Secretariat in relation to database, web portal	Convenors, Chair and Vice-chair	2013-2015	6 weeks pa	AUD 0		
6.4	Manage work of Advisory Committee	Chair, Vice-chair and Convenors	2013-2015	18 weeks pa	AUD 0		Regular teleconferences and email conversations