

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

An amendment is proposed to Finance Regulation 7.2 to allow the Secretariat to accept voluntary contributions from members of the public. It is proposed that these contributions would be accepted without first seeking the approval of the Meeting of the Parties, as long as the contribution is consistent with the policies, aims and activities of the Agreement.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

That the Meeting of the Parties agree to amend Finance Regulation 7.2, to include the following text, to be inserted after the second sentence of the current Regulation 7.2:

1. Voluntary contributions offered by individuals may be accepted by the Executive Secretary, provided that the purposes of the contribution are consistent with the policies, aims and activities of the Agreement.

## **1. BACKGROUND**

### **1.1. Offers of voluntary contributions**

In January this year the Secretariat received correspondence from a member of ACAP's Seabird Bycatch Working Group, acting as a guide on a tourist vessel in the Antarctica, who enquired how passengers on the vessel might make a voluntary contribution to the Agreement.

At present, Finance Regulation 7.2 makes no provision for the acceptance of voluntary contributions from individuals. The Regulations only make provision for the acceptance of voluntary contributions from Parties and from other bodies. In the case of other bodies, the Executive Secretary may only accept voluntary contributions with the agreement of the Meeting of the Parties.

## **2. PROPOSED AMENDMENT**

### **2.1. Amendment to Finance Regulation 7.2**

It is proposed to amend Finance Regulation 7.2 to allow the Secretariat to accept voluntary contributions from members of the public. It is proposed that these contributions would be accepted without first seeking the approval of the Meeting of the Parties, as long as the contribution is consistent with the policies, aims and activities of the Agreement. If approved by MoP5, a facility would be established on the ACAP website to permit direct donations to be made by the public/individuals to the Agreement's bank account.

It is proposed to amend Finance Regulation 7.2, to include the following text, to be inserted after the second sentence of the current Regulation 7.2:

1. Voluntary contributions offered by individuals may be accepted by the Executive Secretary, provided that the purposes of the contribution are consistent with the policies, aims and activities of the Agreement.