
AGREEMENT ON THE CONSERVATION OF ALBATROSSES AND PETRELS

Resolution 2.6

Advisory Committee Work Programme

Adopted by the Second Session of the Meeting of the Parties, Christchurch, 13 – 17 November 2006

Recalling Article VIII(11)(d) of the Agreement, which required that the first Session of the Meeting of the Parties establish the Advisory Committee provided for in Article IX of the Agreement;

Reminded that the first Session of the Meeting of the Parties agreed to the establishment of an Advisory Committee and a work programme for this Committee;

Noting that the second meeting of the Advisory Committee developed a work programme for the period 2007-2009 (AC2 Doc 16) taking into consideration the outcomes of its meetings and the workshop preceding the first Session of the Meeting of the Parties; and

Aware that the tasks relating to seabird bycatch issues would need to be reviewed by the newly formed Seabird Bycatch Working Group and amended, if necessary;

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

Agrees:

1. to the Advisory Committee work programme in Appendix A.

Appendix A
DRAFT ADVISORY COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME 2007-2009

	Topic/Task	Responsible group	Timeframe	Detail (where relevant, an indicative cost in Australian dollars is given)
1	Taxonomy and Annex 1 Review			
1.1	Review the evidence supporting the specific status of selected ACAP taxa.	Taxonomy WG, and AC	By AC3 (2007)	Review the evidence supporting the specific status of the following taxa: Buller's and Pacific albatrosses Northern and southern royal albatrosses Indian and Atlantic yellow-nosed albatrosses Chatham and Salvin's albatrosses Northern and southern giant-petrels Black and Westland petrels White-chinned and spectacled petrels
1.2	Construct a morphological and plumage database	Taxonomy WG	By AC3 (2007)	Construct a morphological and plumage database, then canvas for, collate, archive and summarise available data (AU\$ 2500)
1.3	Assess the utility of the subspecies rank for ACAP purposes	Taxonomy WG and AC	By AC3 (2007)	Assess the utility of the subspecies rank for ACAP purposes and if appropriate develop guidelines for the recognition of subspecific status
1.4	Maintain the Taxonomy WG's bibliographic database	Taxonomy WG	Ongoing	Maintain the Taxonomy WG's bibliographic database (AU\$ 500)
1.5	Provide annual reports to AC on WG activities	Taxonomy WG	AC3, AC4, AC5	Provide annual reports to AC on Taxonomy WG activities
1.6	Draft amendments to Annex 1 of the Agreement	Taxonomy WG	AC5 (2009)	Only if needed
1.7	Move the Taxonomy WG website to the ACAP Secretariat	Chair of Taxonomy WG	AC3 (2007)	A website only accessible by WG members has been created elsewhere; this would be appropriately managed by the Secretariat (AU\$ 700)
1.8	Develop a framework to guide the listing of further species in Annex 1	South Africa & Australia	AC3, AC4	First draft was considered at AC2

	Topic/Task	Responsible group	Timeframe	Detail (where relevant, an indicative cost in Australian dollars is given)
2	Review of Status and Trends			
2.1	Identify national coordinators to compile and submit data.	Chair of STWG (with Secretariat)	As soon as possible	Remaining Parties to notify (Interim) Secretariat of national coordinators/ STWG members
2.2	Annual data collation and submission	STWG	Ongoing	Compiled data from Parties, SCAR etc. to be submitted annually to (Interim) Secretariat.
2.3	Further develop and enter data to database	STWG	Ongoing	(AU\$ 7500)
2.4	Undertake gap analysis	STWG and AC	AC3, AC4, AC5	Review data and provide recommendations to Parties
2.5	Encourage Parties to fill gaps in data	STWG and AC	AC3, AC4, AC5	
2.6	Establish agreed process for analyses of trends	STWG	By end February 2007	Continue assessment of relevant and appropriate statistical approaches to analyses of trend data
2.7	Further develop proforma for ACAP species assessments	STWG	By end March 2007	Refine draft of species assessment (AU\$ 5000)
2.8	Coordinate synthesis based on species conservation assessments	STWG	By AC3 (2007)	Prepare first assessments and develop executive summary of species assessments (AU\$ 36,800)
2.9	Complete series of species assessments	STWG	By end October 2007	(AU\$ 45,600)
2.10	Develop strategy of publication of species assessments in public domain – web, print, electronic	STWG	By end November 2007	Finalise and implement communication strategy for species assessments. (AU\$ 27,200)
2.11	Provide and consider annual reports to AC on WG activities	STWG and AC	AC4, AC5, AC6	
2.12	Maintenance of database, data quality assurance, review and input	STWG	AC4, AC5, AC6	(AU\$ 5000 per year)
3	Protection of Breeding Sites and Status of Non-Native Species			
3.1	Identify national coordinators to compile and submit data.	Chair of BSWG	Ongoing	Remaining Parties to notify (Interim) Secretariat of national coordinators/ BSWG members
3.2	Data submission from Parties 2 nd tranche (remaining data) 3 rd tranche (newly collected data)	BSWG	By Dec. 2006 Annually	Seek detail on any outstanding breeding site not already covered by submissions

	Topic/Task	Responsible group	Timeframe	Detail (where relevant, an indicative cost in Australian dollars is given)
3.3	Revise the database lists and structures following the recommendations made at AC2	BSWG	By end December 2006	Including revision of the list of threats
3.4	Develop a list of alien species	BSWG	December 2006	A list of alien species of relevance to the conservation of ACAP species to replace the need for 'potential' threats to be identified for each alien species at each breeding site
3.5	Develop analyses as set out in the report of the BSWG of June 2006	BSWG	By end March 2007	Refine and implement analyses to enable priority sites / threat management actions and data gathering priorities to be identified (AU\$ 22,500)
3.6	Review analyses of data and gaps. Recommend priority sites / threat management actions. Recommend data-gathering priorities	BSWG and AC	At meeting prior to AC3 and at AC3	Review the range of analyses conducted under 3.12 at the BSWG meeting in 2007, and recommend for the AC
3.7	Work with other ACAP WGs to report on analyses of threats to ACAP species	BSWG	By AC3 (2007) and ongoing	Development of ACAP species conservation assessments
3.8	Produce best-practice conservation guidelines for ACAP Species breeding sites			Identify and access information from current and planned programmes that address land-based threats. Information currently derived via national reports. Encourage and support adoption of existing and appropriate mitigation measures and/or eradication programmes (AU\$ 30,000)
3.9	Identification of Internationally Important Breeding Sites	IASOS on behalf of AC	By AC3 (2007)	Preparation of discussion paper based on review of existing criteria that may assist in development of new criteria to identify Internationally Important Breeding Sites critical for Annex 1 species
3.10	Provide and consider annual reports to AC on WG activities	BSWG and AC	AC4, AC5, AC6	
4.	Fisheries interaction			
4.1	Analysing existing remote tracking data and complete initial reports on overlaps with fisheries	BirdLife under contract to ACAP	By December 2006	Analyse the distribution data for all ACAP species within areas managed by key RFMOs (This text is as was in original AC work plan and overlaps heavily with Item 1 of SBWG indicative work plan) (AU\$ 25,000)
4.2	Establish Seabird Bycatch Working Group	Chair of SBWG (with Secretariat)	AC3 (2007)	Chair to seek nominations from all Parties/interested Range States and to further develop Terms of Reference

	Topic/Task	Responsible group	Timeframe	Detail (where relevant, an indicative cost in Australian dollars is given)
4.3	Develop a strategy for ACAP and Parties to engage and assist RFMOs and other relevant international and national bodies to assess and minimise bycatch of albatrosses and petrels	SBWG	MoP2, AC3	
4.4	Review and utilise available information on foraging distribution and seabird bycatch to assess the risk of fishing operations on ACAP species in fishing regions (e.g. RFMO areas of competence, national EEZs)	SBWG	AC3	Note overlap with 4.1, use output from BirdLife contract (AU\$ 30,000)
4.5	Review information on mitigation measures for fishing methods known to impact albatrosses and petrels	SBWG	AC3	Initial work should focus on pelagic longline methods
4.6	Develop products to assist RFMOs and other relevant international and national bodies in reducing seabird bycatch.	SBWG	AC3, AC4	These could include: observer programme designs including protocols for the collection of seabird bycatch data, analytical methods for assessing seabird bycatch, best-practice mitigation measures (AU\$ 30,000)
4.7	Assist in the preparation, adoption and implementation of FAO NPOA-Seabirds	SBWG (and Parties)	AC3, AC4, AC5	This may include development of best practice guidelines.
4.8	Develop materials and guidelines to assist ACAP representatives attending RFMO and other relevant meetings to maximise effective participation and consideration of issues relevant to ACAP	SBWG	AC3, AC4, AC5	These materials would be above and beyond those outlined above (AU\$ 30,000)
4.9	Provide and consider annual reports to AC on WG activities	SBWG and AC	AC4, AC5, AC6	
5.	Capacity building			
5.1	Develop strategy for capacity building	AC	AC3	
5.1	Identify needs for capacity building	AC	AC3	Seek advice from Parties and Range States on obstacles preventing implementation of ACAP.

	Topic/Task	Responsible group	Timeframe	Detail (where relevant, an indicative cost in Australian dollars is given)
5.2	Identify sources of funding for capacity building	AC	2006/09	
5.3	Support applications for funding from e.g. GEF	AC	2006/09	
5.4	Technical Cooperation	AC	2006/09	Identify opportunities for assisting Parties and Range States through exchange of skills, knowledge, training, and other resources.
6.	Indicators			
6.1	Develop a system of indicators for the success of the ACAP Agreement	BirdLife, South Africa and New Zealand	AC4, AC5	Develop a system of indicators to measure the collective success of the Parties to the Agreement
7.	Collation of information on research, legislation and organisations/individuals concerned with albatrosses and petrels			
7.1	Develop a database of relevant scientific literature	AC with Parties, [volunteer]	AC3, AC4	Once developed, this would be passed to Secretariat for maintenance. There are many existing individual initiatives. (AUD 2000)
7.2	Develop a directory of relevant legislation	AC with Parties, [volunteer]	AC5	This will help Parties/AC in reducing their reporting needs and could potentially also be useful to any Party wishing to develop further legislation. Once assembled, this would be passed to Secretariat for maintenance. (AUD 500)
7.3	Develop a list of authorities, research centres, scientists and non-government organisations relevant to ACAP	AC with Parties, [volunteer]	AC3, AC4, AC5	This will help Parties/AC in reducing their reporting needs. Once assembled, this would be passed to Secretariat for maintenance. (AUD 500)
8.	Secretariat oversight			
8.1	Budget matters	AC	Ongoing	Process matters that arise as a result of the Financial Regulations and consider a report on these matters prepared by the Executive Secretary
8.2	Staff matters	AC	Ongoing	Process matters that arise as a result of the Staff Regulations and consider a report on these matters prepared by the Executive Secretary