



Agreement on the Conservation  
of Albatrosses and Petrels

## MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

between

**THE MEETING OF THE PARTIES TO THE SOUTHERN INDIAN OCEAN FISHERIES AGREEMENT**

and

**THE SECRETARIAT FOR THE AGREEMENT ON THE CONSERVATION OF ALBATROSSES AND  
PETRELS**

The Meeting of the Parties to the Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement (hereafter SIOFA MoP) and the Secretariat for the Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels (hereafter the ACAP Secretariat);

**ACKNOWLEDGING** that the *Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels* (hereafter ACAP), developed under the auspices of the *Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals*, is a multilateral agreement which seeks to achieve and maintain a favourable conservation status for albatrosses and petrels by coordinating international activity to mitigate known threats to albatross and petrel populations;

**NOTING** that Article X(d) of ACAP authorises the ACAP Secretariat to liaise with non-Party Range States and regional economic integration organisations and to facilitate coordination between Parties and non-Party Range States, and international and national organisations and institutions whose activities are directly or indirectly relevant to the conservation, including the protection and management, of albatrosses and petrels;

**NOTING FURTHER** that Article XI of ACAP authorises the ACAP Secretariat to consult and cooperate, where appropriate, with the secretariats of other relevant conventions and international instruments in respect of matters of common interest, and to enter into arrangements, with the approval of the Meeting of Parties to ACAP, with other organisations and institutions as may be appropriate, and to consult and cooperate with such organisations and institutions in exchanging information and data;

**ACKNOWLEDGING** that the objectives of Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement (SIOFA) are to ensure the long-term conservation and sustainable use of the fishery resources in the Area through cooperation among the Contracting Parties, and to promote the sustainable development of fisheries in the Area, taking into account the needs of developing States bordering the Area that are Contracting Parties to SIOFA, and in particular the least developed among them and small-island developing States;

**CONSCIOUS** that some Contracting Parties to SIOFA are Parties to ACAP;

**NOTING** that Article 16 of SIOFA requires Contracting Parties acting jointly under that Agreement to cooperate closely with other international fisheries and related organizations in matters of mutual interest

**RECOGNISING** that the achievement of the objectives of SIOFA and ACAP will benefit from cooperation, with a view to strengthening the conservation and management measures adopted in respect of albatrosses and petrels;

**DESIRING** to put into place arrangements and procedures to promote cooperation in order to enhance the conservation of albatrosses and petrels;

**JOINTLY DECIDE** as follows:

## **1. OBJECTIVE OF THIS MEMORANDUM**

The objective of this Memorandum of Understanding ('MoU') is to facilitate cooperation between the SIOFA MoP and the ACAP Secretariat ('the Participants') with a view to supporting efforts to minimise the incidental by-catch of albatrosses and petrels listed in Annex 1 of ACAP occurring within the area to which SIOFA applies ('Area').

## **2. AREAS OF COOPERATION**

The SIOFA MoP, including its subsidiary bodies and Secretariat, and the ACAP Secretariat should consult, cooperate and collaborate with each other on areas of common interest that are directly or indirectly relevant to the conservation, including the protection and management, of albatrosses and petrels, including:

- a) development of systems for collecting and analysing data, and exchanging information concerning the bycatch of albatrosses and petrels in the Area consistent with the information sharing policies of each Participant;
- b) exchange of information regarding management approaches relevant to the conservation of albatrosses and petrels;
- c) implementation of education and awareness programmes for fishers who operate in areas where albatrosses and petrels may be encountered;

d) design, testing and implementation of albatross and petrel bycatch mitigation measures relevant to fishing operations in the Area;

e) development of training programmes on conservation techniques and measures to mitigate threats affecting albatrosses and petrels; and

f) exchange of expertise, techniques and knowledge relevant to the conservation of albatrosses and petrels in the Area and

g) reciprocal participation with observer status at the relevant meetings of ACAP and the SIOFA MoP, including its subsidiary bodies.

### **3. REVIEW AND AMENDMENT**

This MoU may be reviewed or amended at any time by the mutual written consent of both Participants.

### **4. LEGAL STATUS**

The Participants acknowledge that this MoU is not legally binding between them.

### **5. COMING INTO EFFECT AND TERMINATION**

(a) This MoU will remain in effect for six years. At that stage the Participants will review the operation of the MoU and decide whether it will be renewed or amended.

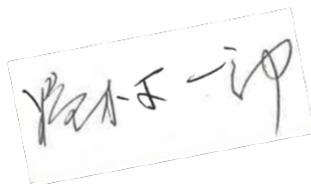
(b) Either Participant may terminate this MoU by giving six months written notice to the other Participant.

(c) This MoU will come into effect on signature.

### **SIGNATURE**

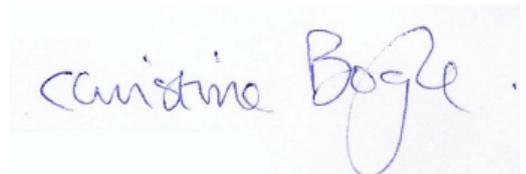
Signed at La Réunion and Hobart, on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> November 2024

Mr. Ichiro Nomura

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nomura Ichiro', enclosed in a thin black rectangular border.

Chairperson of SIOFA

Dr Christine Bogle

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading 'Christine Bogle', on a light blue background.

Executive Secretary of ACAP

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