MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

between

THE SECRETARIAT OF THE SOUTH PACIFIC REGIONAL FISHERIES MANAGEMENT ORGANISATION

and

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

The Secretariat of the South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organisation (hereafter SPRFMO secretariat) 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, 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 objective of SPRFMO is Article 2;

RECOGNISING that the achievement of the objectives of SPRFMO and ACAP will benefit from cooperation, with a view to strengthening the conservation 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 Secretariat of SPRFMO 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 within the SPRFMO Convention Area.

2. AREAS OF COOPERATION

The SPRFMO Secretariat and the ACAP Secretariat may 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 SPRFMO Convention Area;
- 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 of albatross and petrel bycatch mitigation measures relevant to fishing operations in the SPRFMO Convention 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 SPRFMO Convention Area and
- g) reciprocal participation with observer status at the relevant meetings of ACAP and SPRFMO.

3. REVIEW AND AMENDMENT

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

4. LEGAL STATUS

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

5. COMING INTO EFFECT AND TERMINATION

- (c) This MoU will come into effect on signature.
- (b) Either Participant may terminate this MoU by giving written notice to the other Participant.

SIGNATURE

Wellington, 28/10/2014

Tasmania, 28/10/2014

Executive Secretary SPRFMO

Executive Secretary ACAP Secretariat