

Agreement on the Conservation
of Albatrosses and Petrels

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

between

THE INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL TUNA COMMISSION

and

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

The Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (hereafter IATTC) and the Secretariat for the Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels (hereafter the ACAP Secretariat);

ACKNOWLEDGING that the 2001 *Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels* (hereafter ACAP), developed under the auspices of the 1979 *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 IATTC is to ensure the long-term conservation and sustainable use of the fish stocks covered by this Convention, in accordance with the relevant rules of international law;

ACKNOWLEDGING FURTHER that one of the functions of IATTC is to adopt appropriate measures to avoid, reduce and minimize catch of non-target species (both fish and non-fish species)

NOTING that Article XXIV of the 2003 Antigua Convention calls upon the IATTC to cooperate with subregional, regional, and global fishery organizations and arrangements and, as appropriate, to establish relevant institutional arrangements such as consultative committees, in agreement with such organizations or arrangements, with the goal of promoting the achievement of the objective of this Convention, obtaining the best available scientific information;

DESIROUS to extend such cooperation *mutatis mutandis* to organizations and arrangements such as ACAP;

NOTING FURTHER that some members of IATTC are also Parties to ACAP;

RECOGNISING that both IATTC and ACAP will benefit from cooperation with regards to the achievement of their respective objectives, in particular in relation to measures directly or indirectly relevant to the conservation of albatrosses and petrels;

DESIRING to put into place appropriate cooperative arrangements and procedures to enhance the conservation of albatrosses and petrels and, to this end, to renew the previous 2017 Memorandum of Understanding;

JOINTLY DECIDE as follows:

1. OBJECTIVE

The objective of this Memorandum of Understanding ('MoU') is to facilitate cooperation between the IATTC 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 IATTC Convention Area.

2. AREAS OF COOPERATION

The IATTC 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 IATTC Convention Area;
- b) exchange of information regarding management approaches directly or indirectly 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 IATTC Convention Area;
- e) development of training programmes on conservation techniques and measures to mitigate threats affecting albatrosses and petrels;
- f) exchange of expertise, techniques and knowledge relevant to the conservation of albatrosses and petrels in the IATTC Convention Area; and
- g) reciprocal participation with observer status at the relevant meetings of ACAP and IATTC.

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 successive periods of 6 years, and will be renewed automatically, unless the Participants decide otherwise.

(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 the date of its signature.

SIGNATURE



Dr Arnulfo Franco
Director
IATTC

May 15, 2023
Date

 16 May 2023

Dr Christine Bogle
Executive Secretary
ACAP Secretariat