



Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels

Second Meeting of the Parties

Christchurch, New Zealand, 13 – 17 November 2006

Frequency of Meetings

Author: **Secretariat**

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Consideration is required concerning the frequency at which meetings of the Advisory Committee and sessions of the Meeting of the Parties are held, to ensure effective implementation of the Agreement and to make the most efficient use of the funds available from the Agreement budget.

Article VIII (1) of the Agreement states that ordinary sessions of the Meeting of the Parties shall be held at intervals of not more than three years, unless the Meeting of the Parties decides otherwise. The Agreement does not specify the frequency at which meetings of the Advisory Committee should be held.

The second Meeting of the Advisory Committee gave consideration to the issue of the timing of meetings in the context of developing the Agreement budget for 2007–2009. It noted that the frequency of meetings of the Advisory Committee and sessions of the Meeting of Parties, and the location where these are held, have significant budgetary implications and that, where possible, decisions on these issues should be made as far in advance as practicable.

As the Advisory Committee still has a lot of work to undertake with regard to the implementation of the Action Plan, it recommended that it continue to meet on an annual basis for the foreseeable future. In order to contain costs for the Secretariat it recommended that one meeting per intersessional period or triennium be held in Hobart, Australia.

Subject to the outcomes of discussions at MoP 2, the Advisory Committee recommended that Meetings of the Parties be held every third year, recognising that unforeseen events may necessitate more frequent meetings.