

 <p>Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Seventh Meeting of the Parties <i>Virtual meeting, 9 - 13 May 2022 (UTC+10)</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Advisory Committee Report to the Seventh Meeting of Parties</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Advisory Committee, Secretariat</i></p>
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SUMMARY

This report to the Seventh Meeting of the Parties has been prepared by the Advisory Committee Chair and Vice-chair with the assistance of the Agreement's Secretariat under Article IX 6 (e). The Advisory Committee and its Working Groups made good progress against the 2019-2022 Work Programme during the past quadrennium, despite the problems caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. The Agreement continued to provide expert advice to Parties, Range States and several organisations and entities on actions to address threats to albatrosses and petrels, both at sea and on land. A substantial proportion of this information is readily accessible through the ACAP website, including conservation guidelines, best practice advice for bycatch mitigation measures, and mitigation fact sheets, among others. The Agreement took advantage of the availability of funds from the FAO/GEF through the ABNJ project, to produce updates of some of these documents.

Now that effective mitigation measures have been identified for the key fishing activities known to result in the incidental catch of ACAP species, the challenge ahead is to have these mitigation measures used in those fisheries where seabird bycatch is occurring. Another key challenge is to obtain the fisheries data required to improve our understanding and management of seabird bycatch. The process of developing an appropriate methodology for the use of this data has continued in the past quadrennium.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Advisory Committee recommends that the Meeting of the Parties:

1. Notes the progress, achievements and difficulties during the past quadrennium; and
2. Takes them into consideration when reviewing the proposed Advisory Committee Work Programme 2023 - 2025 (MoP7 Doc 11).

1. INTRODUCTION

This report follows the structure agreed during the First Session of the Meeting of Parties (MoP1, [Resolution 1.5](#), Annex 1) and has been prepared by the Advisory Committee Chair and Vice-chair with the assistance of the Agreement's Secretariat.

1.1 Establishment of the Advisory Committee

The Committee was established at MoP1, held in Hobart, Australia, from 10 to 12 November 2004.

1.2 Election and appointment of Advisory Committee Officers

Since AC11 marked the end of all Committee Officials' terms, all positions required election or re-election. Nathan Walker (New Zealand) was re-elected as Chair, and Tatiana Neves (Brazil) was re-elected as Vice-chair of the Advisory Committee.

Anton Wolfaardt (United Kingdom) and Igor Debski (New Zealand) were re-elected as Co-Convenors, and Sebastián Jiménez (Uruguay) and Juan Pablo Seco Pon (Argentina) were re-elected as joint Vice-convenors of the Seabird Bycatch Working Group.

Patricia Serafini (Brazil) and Marco Favero (Argentina) were elected as Co-convenors and Richard Phillips (United Kingdom) was elected as Vice-convenor of the Population and Conservation Status Working Group.

Mark Tasker (United Kingdom) was re-elected as Convenor and Mike Double (Australia) was re-elected as Vice-convenor of the Taxonomy Working Group.

At AC12 further elections were required as Nathan Walker resigned as Chair and Anton Wolfaardt resigned as Co-Convenor of the Seabird Bycatch Working Group, both due to other commitments.

Mike Double was elected as Chair and therefore stepped down as Vice-convenor of the Taxonomy Working Group. The position of Taxonomy Working Group Vice-convenor remains open.

Sebastián Jiménez was elected as Co-Convenor of the Seabird Bycatch Working Group. This created a vacancy for Co-vice Convenor of the Seabird Bycatch Working Group. Dimas Gianuca (BirdLife International) was elected to that role.

1.3 Members, Alternates, Observers and Experts

Lists of Advisory Committee Members, Alternates, Observers and Experts attending each of the Committee meetings in the quadrennium are in Annex 1 of the [AC11](#) and [AC12](#) reports.

1.4 Review of rules of procedure

The Committee established its [Rules of Procedure](#) (RoP) at AC1 and has reviewed them at subsequent meetings. The Advisory Committee's RoP were last amended at AC6 (Guayaquil, Ecuador, 29 August to 2 September 2011). At AC11 discussions continued about amending

Rule 20. No agreement was reached on amendments to the RoP and so the current RoP were adopted for that meeting.

AC12 adopted the current RoP as well as ad hoc guidelines that had been developed specifically for the online format of that meeting.

1.5 Meetings and other activities since MoP6

After MoP6, the AC met formally for its Eleventh Meeting (AC11) at Florianópolis, Brazil, from 13 to 17 May 2019, and for its Twelfth Meeting (AC12), held virtually from 31 August to 2 September 2021. Meetings of the Population and Conservation Status Working Group (PaCSWG5 and PaCSWG6), and the Seabird Bycatch Working Group (SBWG9 and SBWG10) preceded AC11 and AC12, respectively.

There has been considerable formal and informal correspondence in association with the implementation of the Advisory Committee Work Programme. Informal meetings of the Advisory Committee's Officials (AC Chair and Vice-chair, Working Group Convenors) and the Secretariat have been held on a regular basis to coordinate the Advisory Committee's intersessional activities. In addition, because of the postponement of AC12 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, an intersessional Advisory Committee consultation process took place by internal correspondence in late 2020. Through this intersessional process the Advisory Committee reviewed its Work Programme (2019-2021) and an additional year of activities, creating a Work Programme for the quadrennium 2019-2022 that was subsequently approved intersessionally by the Meeting of the Parties (see [Record of Decisions](#)).

2. OVERVIEW OF ACTIVITIES AND MEETINGS OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

2.1 Activities of the Chair

Mike Double replaced Nathan Walker as Chair of the Advisory Committee at the conclusion of AC12 (2 September 2021).

2.1.1 Recruitment

The Chair and Vice-chair conducted a performance evaluation at the end of the first year of the appointment of Dr Christine Bogle as Executive Secretary pursuant to Regulation 6.1 of the Staff Regulations.

2.1.2 Budgets

The Chair has been consulted regularly by the Secretariat on issues related to management of the Agreement's budget.

2.1.3 Consultations with the Agreement Secretariat

The Chair has maintained regular correspondence with the Secretariat and AC Officials.

2.1.4 Other activities

The Chair and AC Officials have represented the Agreement at a number of meetings of Regional Fisheries Management Organisations (RFMOs) and other international meetings.

2.2 Progress with Actions under Article IX of the Agreement

2.2.1 Provision of scientific, technical, and other advice

A summary of progress against the Work Programme for 2019-2022 is provided in **ANNEX 1**. It should be noted that the Work Programme evolved considerably during discussions at AC11 and during subsequent intersessional review. New tasks were added to reflect the work conducted by the Advisory Committee during this period. The quadrennial Work Programme was further reviewed at AC12.

This document has also been used as the basis for the development of the Advisory Committee's Work Programme for the 2023 - 2025 triennium (**MoP7 Doc 11**).

Scientific and technical advice provided by the Advisory Committee is based on the work produced by its Working Groups:

- The Population and Conservation Status Working Group (PaCSWG) addresses land-based threats and conservation status of species listed in Annex 1 of the Agreement (ACAP species).
- The Seabird Bycatch Working Group (SBWG) addresses at-sea threats for ACAP species.
- The Taxonomy Working Group (TWG) reviews the taxonomic status of taxa listed on Annex 1 of the Agreement.

The Advisory Committee and its Working Groups made good progress during the last quadrennium, especially in view of the constraints caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. Key achievements since MoP6 are summarised below. Financial assistance received from the FAO/GEF-funded ABNJ Common Oceans Tuna Project was used to update ACAP Best Practice Advice, guidelines and fact sheets and translate them into several languages.

- Ongoing development of the ACAP [database](#) to facilitate the work of the Advisory Committee and its Working Groups.
- Ongoing review of population trends of ACAP species.
- Identification of key gaps in tracking and breeding site monitoring data.
- Use of the prioritisation framework to guide the work of the Agreement for land based and at-sea actions.
- Progress towards review and update of the ACAP [species assessments](#).
- The effective implementation of a strategy to engage RFMOs and to assist in the development, adoption and implementation of conservation measures relevant to ACAP species.
- Progress achieved with the adoption of seabird conservation measures by relevant RFMOs that are based on ACAP's best practice advice.
- The ongoing review of [bycatch mitigation best practice](#) advice documents for pelagic and demersal longline and trawl fisheries, including recommendations for standalone mitigation measures in pelagic longline fisheries.
- Updated advice on improving safety when hauling branch lines during pelagic longline fishing operations.

- Progress in developing bycatch mitigation advice for other fisheries, including artisanal and small-scale fisheries, using a toolbox approach.
- New bycatch mitigation advice toolbox for purse seine fisheries.
- The ongoing review of the BirdLife International - ACAP [mitigation fact sheets](#) aimed at fisheries managers to assist in reducing bycatch in longline and trawl fisheries in several relevant languages.
- Development of data collection guidelines and electronic monitoring guidelines for observer programmes to improve knowledge of fishery impacts on ACAP species.
- Continued refinement of biosecurity, census, eradication, and translocation [guidelines](#) for ACAP seabird breeding sites, field collection protocols for DNA dietary analysis of seabird scats and the guides for hook-removal and seabird bycatch identification.
- Review of all ACAP guidelines to ensure that they adequately cover gadfly petrels and smaller Procellariiformes.
- Development of guidelines for sampling ACAP species to assess plastic ingestion (macro and microplastics), as well as chemical contaminants.
- Endorsement of National Light Pollution Guidelines for Wildlife including Marine Turtles, Seabirds and Migratory Shorebirds developed by Australia.

2.2.2 Progress with standard reference text on taxonomy of species covered by the Agreement

The International Ornithological Congress (IOC) standard taxonomy continues to be the reference list for any new proposals for Annex 1 of ACAP (**MoP7 Inf 02**). There has been no change in taxonomy of species covered by the Agreement since the last report to the Meeting of the Parties.

2.2.3 Recommendations concerning the Action Plan and further research

A draft Advisory Committee Work Programme for the 2023 - 2025 triennium has been prepared and submitted as **MoP7 Doc 11**.

2.2.4 Development of indicators to assess progress towards achieving and maintaining a favourable conservation status for albatrosses and petrels

The progress of breeding sites and status and trend indicators, as well as indicators on tracking data availability and seabird bycatch since MoP6 is presented in **MoP7 Doc 16**. The lack of timely submission of bycatch data by Parties has hindered the population and analysis of that suite of indicators. Capacity building indicators, as endorsed by MoP6, are also presented for the first time.

2.2.5 Progress with collation of information under Section 5 of the Action Plan and identification of gaps in knowledge

A summary report on progress with implementation of the Agreement which has been produced using the web-based reporting system is provided as **MoP7 Doc 10**. This information underpins many of the resources produced by the Agreement, including those listed above in 2.2.1.

2.2.6 Other Activities

AC11 declared a conservation crisis for albatrosses and petrels and decided that ACAP should develop a communications strategy to highlight this crisis and the urgent need for mitigation measures. AC11 also decided that ACAP should engage with certification schemes, and that our interaction with RFMOs should expand to include engagement with compliance bodies. AC11 also supported the establishment of a World Albatross Day. In response:

- Following advice received from a consultant contracted by the Secretariat, AC officials, experts and the Secretariat began interacting with certification schemes (see **AC12 Inf 02**).
- The Secretariat completed a review of current ACAP communication platforms. This review was distributed intersessionally during 2020 as a first step towards development of a communications strategy and any additional products (see **AC12 Inf 03**). The review highlighted the need for support for the Secretariat concerning communications and identified the importance of considering employing a part time communications advisor. The Secretariat, together with AC officials, experts, NGOs, and other bodies, successfully celebrated World Albatross Day on 19 June 2020 (Eradicating Island Pests) and 2021 (Ensuring Albatross-friendly Fisheries), leading to worldwide activities focused on albatross conservation.
- ACAP representatives attending RFMO meetings have made focused statements about the conservation crisis facing albatrosses and petrels and the availability of solutions. ACAP has begun to participate in RFMO Compliance Committee meetings.

Two rounds of the Advisory Committee Small Grants and Secondments Programmes were implemented since MoP6, following AC11 in 2019, and in 2020 (see **AC12 Inf 01**). Both these schemes play an important role in supporting the successful delivery of the AC Work Programme.

2.3 Meetings of the Advisory Committee

Reports from the [Eleventh](#) and [Twelfth](#) Meetings of the Advisory Committee can be found on the Agreement's website.

3. CONCLUSIONS

3.1 Achievements

A large proportion of the actions planned for the 2019 - 2022 quadrennium have been accomplished. The Advisory Committee (with the help of its Working Groups) provided expert advice to Parties and a range of organisations on actions to address threats to albatrosses and petrels, both at sea and on land. A substantial proportion of this information is readily accessible through the ACAP website, including conservation guidelines, best practice advice for bycatch mitigation measures, mitigation fact sheets developed in conjunction with BirdLife International, and a seabird bycatch ID guide, among others.

The ACAP database and electronic reporting system provides Parties and other users access to essential information for the effective implementation of the Agreement's Action Plan. Ongoing reporting will allow the Agreement to conduct an analysis of its performance, identify

the progress achieved and the challenges remaining in different regions, and for individual Parties.

The Small Grants and Secondments Programmes continue to deliver conservation benefits to albatrosses and petrels as well as capacity building for Parties.

Key outcomes expected for the next triennium include:

1. access to better data from Parties and other fisheries managers on their fisheries and on levels of seabird bycatch, that will allow improved evaluation of bycatch numbers for ACAP listed species;
2. ongoing use of a suite of indicators to measure the success of the Agreement;
3. improved understanding of uptake of best practice seabird bycatch mitigation measures in domestic and high seas fisheries.

3.2 Difficulties encountered and challenges for the next triennium

Now that effective mitigation measures have been identified for the key fishing activities known to result in the incidental catch of ACAP species, the challenge ahead is to have these mitigation measures used in those fisheries where seabird bycatch is occurring. AC11 commented on the key role of compliance and monitoring in this regard.

Another ongoing key challenge is to obtain the fisheries data required to assess the level of implementation and effectiveness, as well as improving our understanding and management of seabird bycatch. These data gaps limit our progress in reporting on seabird bycatch indicators. A workshop on fisheries data submission by Parties is planned prior to SBWG11 (May 2023) to help address this challenge.

Furthermore, it will be a significant challenge for ACAP to maintain its public profile and timely support to seabird scientists about recent developments concerning the conservation of albatrosses and petrels without ensuring support for communications activities within the Secretariat.

One of the main challenges of the past quadrennium has been, as for all organisations and countries, the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. As well as requiring the postponement of ACAP meetings, the pandemic has led to delays in or suspension of work by RFMOs and others on conservation-related activities (for example, some RFMOs suspended or reduced the requirement for on-board observers). RFMO reviews of conservation measures (including those related to seabird bycatch) have been delayed, and the opportunities for fruitful engagement have been reduced. This has, accordingly, been a difficult period in which to launch and advance the ideas stemming from AC11 and working group discussions.

ACAP's secondment and small grants programmes have also been affected. Secondments approved in 2019 have not yet been carried out, while no secondment applications were received in the 2020 round, despite the criteria being adjusted to suit the prevailing circumstances. Some projects for which grants were awarded in 2019 have also suffered delays.

ANNEX 1. ADVISORY COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME 2019 – 2022

This Work Programme provides indicative costs (in AUD) and time required to complete the tasks. Significant levels of financial and staffing resources will be required from other sources to undertake the work programme, primarily from the Secretariat and the Advisory Committee Officials, but also from Parties, Range States and NGOs. Note that these staffing resources are in most cases provided pro-bono. The hours shown do not include time spent by the Parties or other organisations but is a reflection of the amount of time that AC Officials and the Secretariat will spend on these tasks. The Work Programme was adopted by MoP6 and amended by AC11. Actions that have been completed or are no longer relevant are crossed out. New actions or timeframes identified during AC12 are in blue text.

Topic/ Task	Responsible group	Time frame	Resources		Action detail/ comments	
			Time	Funds (AUD)		
1. Taxonomy and Annex 1 review						
1.1	Keep the Taxonomy Working Group's bibliographic database updated	TWG led by Convenor	Ongoing	0.5 week per annum (p.a.)	0	Ensure that ACAP's bibliographic database is kept updated
1.2	Continue the establishment of a morphometric and plumage database	TWG led by Convenor, Science Officer	2019- 2021 2022	2 weeks	0	This will facilitate the taxonomic process, the identification of bycatch specimens, and the long-term storage of valuable data. Possibly a catalogue of taxa that are difficult to separate visually instead.
1.3	Maintain a database of site-specific information on the availability of samples relevant to studies of population genetics of ACAP species	TWG	2019- 2021 2022	2 months	?	In co-operation with PaCSWG a database of researchers holding site specific samples was developed initially.
1.4	Consider taxonomic issues relating to species proposed for addition to Annex 1 of the Agreement	Parties and AC	Ongoing	0.5-week p.a.	0	Development of papers as required, using species assessment template.
1.5	Respond to queries on taxonomic issues relating to ACAP species	TWG led by Convenor	Ongoing	1-2 weeks p.a.	0	Encourage ongoing harmonisation with CMS and IUCN. Maintain species reference table with scientific and common names across multiple languages.

Topic/ Task	Responsible group	Time frame	Resources		Action detail/ comments	
			Time	Funds (AUD)		
2. Information on status, trends and breeding sites						
2.1	Consider gaps in population, tracking, breeding site management, threats and regulatory protection data submitted to ACAP; request any outstanding data and incorporate changes.	PaCSWG, Science Officer	Ongoing	8 weeks p.a.	0	Parties to provide new or outstanding data each year. Science Officer to issue reminders in June each year. Maximise use of existing data (could be suitable for secondments).
2.2	Review and refine standardised queries and outputs for analysis and interpretation. Continue to improve data portal structure and queries.	Science Officer, Convenors, Vice Convenors, PaCSWG	Ongoing	12 weeks p.a.	0	
2.3	Accurately assess and update global population trends	PaCSWG Convenors, Science Officer and BirdLife International with other experts as required	Ongoing	3 weeks	5,000 (core)	May require further data portal updates. Consider alternative approaches as required. Review at AC12.
2.4	Update ACAP Species Assessments	Science Officer, PaCSWG leads	Ongoing	6 weeks p.a.	4,000 (core)	Costs for BirdLife to update maps. Prioritise a small group of species for urgent completion (starting with Priority Populations), followed by all remaining species .
2.5	Translate updates to Species Assessments and ACAP guidelines into Spanish and French	Science Officer	Ongoing		10,000 13,000 (core)	
2.6	Identify priorities for monitoring of numbers, trends and demography	PaCSWG, Science Officer	Ongoing	2 weeks p.a.	0	Review and update priorities and reflect on progress against priorities and provide reports to each AC Meeting.
2.7	Review availability of albatross and petrel tracking/distribution data to ensure representativeness of species/age classes. Prioritise gaps and encourage studies to fill gaps.	PaCSWG, AC, Science Officer and BirdLife International	2020 2021	1 week p.a.	1,000 (core)	Review at AC12

Topic/ Task		Responsible group	Time frame	Resources		Action detail/ comments
				Time	Funds (AUD)	
2.8	Identify and review Priority Populations for conservation actions.	PaCSWG, Science Officer	Ongoing	1 week p.a.	0	Review at each AC Meeting
2.9	Review and prioritise the threats to breeding sites and identify gaps in knowledge.	PaCSWG, Science Officer	Ongoing	1 week p.a.	0	Annual updating of priorities by Parties, re-run prioritisation for AC12.
2.10	Review and update best-practice guidelines	PaCSWG, Science Officer	Ongoing	3 weeks p.a.	0	
2.11	Provide reports on activities to AC meetings	PaCSWG, Science Officer	As needed	12 weeks	0	
3. Seabird Bycatch						
3.1	<p>Continue to implement the RFMO and CCAMLR engagement strategy for ACAP (SBWG8 Doc 13) (SBWG9 Doc 07 Rev 1) (SBWG10 Doc 07 Rev 1) and review at each SBWG meeting. Relevant Parties to engage and assist RFMOs and other relevant international bodies in assessing and minimising bycatch of albatrosses and petrels.</p> <p>Develop ACAP specific products on best practice bycatch data collection and reporting for presentation to RFMOs.</p> <p>Reformat ACAP RFMO Engagement Strategy document. Convert Table 1 into a more efficient format for reporting, with clearer actions.</p>	<p>Individual RFMO co-ordinators, Secretariat, SBWG and AC</p> <p>Anton Wolfaardt, Igor Debski, Sebastián Jiménez, Secretariat, SBWG</p>	Ongoing	<p>a) 18 weeks p.a.</p> <p>b) 18 weeks p.a.</p> <p>c) 2 weeks p.a.</p>	<p>(a+b) 30,000 p.a. (core)</p> <p>3,000 (core)</p>	<p>a) Travel etc costs for attendance at selected RFMO meetings (less if Party can contribute directly)</p> <p>b) RFMO co-ordinator activities</p> <p>c) Review of process and recommend changes (SBWG)</p> <p>Includes development and dissemination of resources</p> <p>Translation costs. These guidelines will also be relevant for national (Party) observer programmes</p>

Topic/ Task		Responsible group	Time frame	Resources		Action detail/ comments
				Time	Funds (AUD)	
3.2	Intersessional review of ACAP Best Practice Advice and Review documents for pelagic and demersal longline and trawl fishing gear	SBWG via leads – Pelagic LL: Jonathon Barrington, Sebastián Jiménez Demersal LL: Oli Yates, Anton Wolfaardt, Ed Melvin to help Trawl: Amanda Kuepfer, Igor Debski	Ongoing			
3.3	Further development of mitigation advice for purse seine fisheries Formalisation of ACAP Advice document for the purse seine mitigation advice. This advice document will include introductory and explanatory text, and will be made available on the ACAP website Finalise ACAP guidelines for removing entangled seabirds from nets (purse-seine and trawl)	SBWG, via leads: Cristian Suazo, Barry Baker Joanna Alfaro (Jonathon Barrington to help) Jonathon Barrington, Cristián Suazo, JP Seco Pon, Secretariat	Ongoing 2020-2022	4 weeks	3,000 (core)	Using the toolbox approach. Costs for translation of advice document and guidelines, plus guidelines design.
3.4	Continue to update Mitigation Fact Sheets using new simplified format in a phased approach: 1) complete fact sheets for pelagic LL line weighting and hook shielding devices, 2) line weighting safety practices 3) updated advice on bird scaring lines for pelagic and demersal LL, and 4) fact sheets dealing with ACAP Best Practice measures.	SBWG, BirdLife, Secretariat	2019-2024 2022	1 week per fact sheet	40,000 13,000 (core, for translation, and for new factsheets)	New fact sheet on improving crew safety when using branch line weighting (either as separate fact sheet or as part of line weighting fact sheet). Opportunity of FAO funding with timeline.

Topic/ Task	Responsible group	Time frame	Resources		Action detail/ comments	
			Time	Funds (AUD)		
3.5	<p>Further investigate the barriers and drivers in the and pursue approaches to improve uptake of best practice seabird bycatch mitigation measures (e.g. produce report on lessons from mitigation success stories in commercial fisheries, develop the flagship species approach to raise the profile of seabird bycatch, bycatch mitigation and other conservation measures in fisheries in high risk areas/ for high priority populations). Develop communication strategy and products to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reinvigorate advice ▪ Communicate with different audiences (e.g. presentations, videos, other multi-media) to include success stories and information aimed at overcoming impediments to implementation <p>Model bycatch threat to seabird populations to communicate the extinction risk to ACAP species.</p> <p>Engage with certification schemes, by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Contributing to reviews of standards on bycatch considerations to encourage these to be informed by ACAP advice. ▪ Providing information to Parties and others to enable comment on individual fisheries assessments 	SBWG, PaCSWG Secretariat	2019-2024 2022		<p>5,000 (core) for a seconded/contractee to lead the process</p> <p>5,000? (core) for a seconded/contractee to lead the process</p>	<p>Aimed to help inform the development of future strategies for engagement with fishing fleets. Scope of work dependent on outputs of investigation into drivers and barriers.</p> <p>Media secondment Note cross-over with PaCSWG, communication is important for these matters as well</p> <p>How to make advice more user-friendly to fisheries managers and policy makers to enhance use.</p> <p>Will require resources (possible secondment/small grant opportunity)</p> <p>ACAP should respond to relevant opportunities. Secretariat to find a suitable seconded or place a contract to lead the process, working with known experts in this area. A sub-group of SBWG would also be consulted/provide guidance to the lead person. ACAP Secretariat to ask fishery certification schemes to notify it of new applications and to then pass on notifications as information to relevant ACAP Parties and/or SBWG members.</p>

Topic/ Task		Responsible group	Time frame	Resources		Action detail/ comments
				Time	Funds (AUD)	
3.6	Recommend priority actions to advance implementation of line weighting in pelagic longline fisheries. Extend fly back safety studies to consider hook tear outs and 80 g weight if practicable. Make available and disseminate ACAP advice on improving safety when hauling branch lines during pelagic longline operations. [BPA doc completed, now being picked up in Task 3.4 (Mitigation Facts Sheets)].	SBWG	Ongoing			Will be informed by output of research underway in 2017, the results of which will be reported to SBWG9. Note studies done with 40, 45 and 60g, not presently feasible to test 80g.
3.7	Development of bycatch indicators and associated data, methodological approaches and reporting required	SBWG, Secretariat	2019-2024 2022	20 weeks	10,000 (core)	Possibility for continued secondments to build capacity. Need for contract support as this is a key element of work (0.25 FTE?)
3.8	Review and update the prioritisation framework for at-sea threats	SBWG	2020 2021 (for MoP7)	1 week	5,000 (core)	Analysis and update of data relating to threats and mitigation. Possible workshop. This might be best as a two step-approach: i) update for MoP7 and ii) revise the framework for future use, taking account of risk assessment initiatives recently completed or currently underway.
3.9	Further development/update of best practice advice for mitigation in artisanal, small scale and recreational fisheries, including research for these fisheries. Make advice (toolboxes) available on ACAP website and facilitate dissemination of advice.	SBWG, Lead: Jeff Mangel	Ongoing		Ø 2,000 (core, for translation)	Continued development of the toolbox to provide advice on mitigation options available for artisanal and small-scale fisheries. Good opportunity for secondment . Before posting on website, include introductory text explaining the context, purpose and use of the advice.

Topic/ Task		Responsible group	Time frame	Resources		Action detail/ comments
				Time	Funds (AUD)	
3.10	Further development of best practice advice for mitigation in gillnet fisheries.	SBWG	Ongoing	2 weeks	0	Through liaison with external initiatives. It is anticipated that the first step of this process will be a comprehensive literature review of all gillnet mitigation research across taxa to be compiled for the next meeting, and that ACAP Parties contribute towards this work, as appropriate.
3.11	Further development of best practice guidelines in the use of Electronic Monitoring for the assessment and monitoring of seabird bycatch	SBWG Leads: Nathan Walker and Jonathon Barrington-Eric Gilman	-2019-2021 2022			Will hopefully Planned to commence prior to in the triennium ending 2018 in 2020. Will be a useful input to Task 3.1 (RFMO Engagement).
3.12	Evaluate the factors that drive or limit success of NPOA-Seabirds in reducing the bycatch of seabirds	SBWG	2019-2021 2022	20 weeks	0	Will be taken forward by the work being undertaken by Barry Baker and BirdLife. Outcomes should be presented to SBWG9 and will inform future actions for this triennium.
3.13	Help facilitate and support collaborative seabird impact and risk assessments at various scales	SBWG	2019-2021 2022			Encourage and help facilitate and support collaborative efforts to undertake seabird bycatch risk and impact assessments, including building capacity to undertake assessments – secondment opportunity. A number of initiatives currently underway. Progress will be reported at SBWG9, and will inform further actions.
3.14	Maintain bibliography of relevant bycatch information.	BirdLife/SBWG Science Officer	Ongoing	1 week p.a.	0	Includes both published and unpublished literature. Replace working papers with published papers where possible. Submission of information from Parties and others encouraged. Refer and link to BMIS and other online bycatch databases.
3.15	Prepare review of knowledge on deliberate take/killing of ACAP species at sea	SBWG Leads: Barry Baker and Joanna Alfaro	-2019-2021			Possible actions dependent on outcome of investigation planned for 2017-2018.

Topic/ Task		Responsible group	Time frame	Resources		Action detail/ comments
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3.16	Prepare a review of available information on the nature and extent of seabird bycatch associated with floated demersal longlines, and ways to increase the sink rate of this gear	SBWG intersessional group. Lead: Anton Wolfaardt	2019-2020 2021			Possible secondment
3.17	CMS intersessional group on intentional take and mutilation of bills	SBWG. Lead: Igor Debski and Sebastian Jimenez	2021-2022			Report to AC13 about progress
4. Capacity building, New Parties, Organisation of Work						
4.1	Provide assistance and capacity building to facilitate drafting and implementation of NPOA-Seabirds	AC, Parties and BirdLife to consider	Ongoing	10 weeks	0	Capacity building in accordance with the needs identified by interested Parties in order to encourage implementation, particularly in Ecuador, France, Peru, South Africa, (Angola, Namibia, Mozambique, Madagascar), Tristan da Cunha (UK), and EC external fisheries
4.2	Continue to develop and implement the strategy for adding further Parties, and engaging with Range States not Party to ACAP	AC, Parties	Ongoing		0	Initial work carried out at AC7, further work intersessionally, work with lead Parties and Secretariat as needed.
4.3	Consider Working Group structure and function, including role and participation of members and experts	WGs, AC	Ongoing		0	
4.4	Populate and measure capacity building indicators	Argentina, Australia, Brazil, New Zealand, UK	Ongoing		0	

Topic/ Task	Responsible group	Time frame	Resources		Action detail/ comments	
			Time	Funds (AUD)		
5. Indicators, priorities, reviews and collective conservation action						
5.1	Review data inputs to breeding sites and at-sea prioritisation frameworks agreed at MoP4, revise conservation priorities and identify actions required to address these priority threats.	WG Convenors and WGs	2020 2021	4 weeks	?	
5.2	Review existing Action Plans (for National Plans, when asked by relevant Party), and advise on new Action Plans for ACAP species and Priority Populations	PaCSWG, SBWG, TWG, AC, Parties	Ongoing	16 weeks	0	Intersessional group on Priority Populations to respond to requests by Parties e.g. the implementation of the Waved Albatross <i>P. irrorata</i> Action Plan.
5.3	Review, refine and standardise criteria to include new species on Annex 1.	PaCSWG, SBWG, TWG, Science Officer	Ongoing	1 week	0	Develop delisting criteria. Update scores as needed.
5.4	Review and update any publications not already specified in the Work Programme	PaCSWG, SBWG, TWG, Secretariat	Ongoing	4 weeks	0	If Seabird Bycatch ID guide not updated by the end of 2018, it will be a high priority for this triennium. Core funds of 20,000 AUD proposed (see 5.15 of 2016-2018 WP).
5.5	Implement system of indicators for the success of the ACAP Agreement	Parties, Secretariat, BirdLife and AC	Ongoing	1 week p.a.	0	
5.6	Review ACAP performance indicators	PaCSWG, SBWG Convenors, Science Officer and BirdLife International	2020 2021	3 weeks	0	
5.7	Manage database of relevant scientific literature	Secretariat	Ongoing	2 weeks p.a.	0	
5.8	Manage directory of relevant legislation	Secretariat	Ongoing	1 week p.a.	0	Parties to supply further information, as available

Topic/ Task		Responsible group	Time frame	Resources		Action detail/ comments
				Time	Funds (AUD)	
5.9	Manage a list of authorities, research centres, scientists and non-governmental organisations relevant to ACAP	Secretariat	Ongoing	2 days p.a.	0	Parties and AC to supply further information, as available
5.10	Review information and drafts of triennial implementation report.	AC, Secretariat	2020 2021		0	In accordance with Article IX 6 (d) of the Agreement
5.11	Continue to update analysis of overlaps of distributions, and interactions, of albatrosses and petrels with fisheries and bycatch information to aid prioritisation and targeting of actions to reduce the risk of fishing operations to ACAP species in waters subject to national jurisdiction and those managed by RFMOs.	SBWG, PaCSWG and Parties	Ongoing	16 weeks	10,000 (core) 10,000 (grant)	Assess any capacity building requirements to facilitate regional coordination to better assess bycatch. Increase focus on ACAP Priority Populations and high-risk bycatch areas.
5.12	Support for World Albatross Day	Secretariat, PaCSWG, SBWG	2021-2022		3,000 p.a. (core)	Developing, producing and distributing WAD2024 materials e.g. logo, posters, brochure
6. Management of AC work, secretariat oversight and liaison, and interaction of ACAP bodies						
6.1	Consider and advise on budget matters as needed	AC	Ongoing	2 weeks p.a.	0	Short-term advice provided by the AC Chair
6.2	Consider and advise on Staff matters as needed	AC	Ongoing	1 week p.a.	0	Short-term advice provided by the AC Chair
6.3	Oversee, advise and guide Secretariat in relation to database, web portal	Convenors, Chair and Vice-chair	Ongoing	6 weeks p.a.	0	
6.4	Manage work of Advisory Committee	Chair, Vice-chair and Convenors	Ongoing	18 weeks p.a.	0	