



Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels

Fourth Meeting of Advisory Committee

Cape Town, South Africa, 22 – 25 August 2008

Advisory Committee Work Programme

Author: Chair, Advisory Committee

ADVISORY COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME

Author: AC Chair

The following work programme was approved during the Second Meeting of Parties (MoP2, Res. 2.6) and subsequently amended by the Advisory Committee at its third meeting in Valdivia, Chile. The final column in this table shows progress made against each task as at 19 June 2008.

The Advisory Committee's Work Programme will be amended at the fourth meeting of the Advisory Committee (AC4) to reflect the revised work programmes of the Working Group, as well as to reflect any decisions taken during the course of AC4.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME Progress Report – 1st Quarter 2008

	Topic/Task	Responsible group	Timeframe	Action Taken
1.	Taxonomy and Annex 1 review			
1.1	Review the evidence supporting the specific status of the following taxa: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Black Petrels and Westland Petrels • Tristan and Wandering Albatross • Amsterdam and Wandering Albatross • Campbell and Black-browed Albatross • 	TWG led by convenor	AC4	TWG has undertaken additional discussion on taxonomy issues surrounding wandering albatrosses. Draft reviews circulated within Working Group for 5 species.
1.2	Migrate the WG's web site to ACAP Secretariat	TWG led by convenor	AC4	TWG Convenor is member of steering group overseeing development of the new database. 2 meetings held in quarter
1.3	Assess the utility of the subspecies rank for ACAP purposes and if appropriate develop guidelines for the recognition of subspecific status	TWG convenor	AC4	No progress in this quarter

	Topic/Task	Responsible group	Timeframe	Action Taken
1.4	Construct a morphological and plumage database, then canvas for, collate, archive and summarise available data	TWG led by convenor	AC4	Consultation undertaken with other WG Convenors on construction of database and data sharing agreements (see 7.1) TWG Moodle website containing bibliography and WG correspondence transferred to ACAP website.
1.5	Maintain the WG's bibliographic database of published scientific papers relevant to the taxonomic status of ACAP listed taxa	TWG led by convenor	AC4	New entries added as information becomes available (see 7.2)
1.6	Develop and provide advice to AC on the construction and maintenance of species lists as appropriate	TWG led by convenor	ongoing	No progress this quarter
1.7	Provide annual reports to AC on WG activities	TWG led by convenor	AC4	Draft report prepared for consideration at AC4.
1.8	Draft resolutions (when necessary) for amendments to the species list in Annex 1 of the Agreement	Party with assistance from TWG convenor		N/A
2. Status and Trends				
2.1	Continue population data collection	Parties and Range States with breeding populations	2007 and ongoing	Emails sent to Parties with request to provide outstanding and new population information.
2.2	Progress development of an ACAP database to be held within, and managed by, the Secretariat	Australia assisting Secretariat and WG Convenors	July 2007	Convenor is member of steering group overseeing development of the new database
2.3	Progress IT framework for web-based Species Assessments	Australia	July 2007	Meetings/discussions held with other WG Convenors and with database developer concerning framework.
2.4	Establish Species Assessments Coordination Group	Secretariat and STWG Convenor	July 2007	Completed.
2.5	Engage contracted employee for development of Species Assessments	Secretariat and STWG Convenor	July-August 2007	Wavee Misiak has been engaged to coordinate development of the species assessments and has drafted...??..
2.6	Seek information from the Secretariat on the progression of the ACAP database	STWG Convenor	December 2007	Ongoing – regular meetings are being held with the Secretariat

	Topic/Task	Responsible group	Timeframe	Action Taken
2.7	Progress translations of Species Assessments	Secretariat, STWG Convenor, Assessment Contractor and Parties	December 2008 and ongoing	Assessments are progressively being translated as they are completed, subject to the availability of funds.
2.8	Complete draft Species Assessments – publication on CD ROM and as pdf files on ACAP web site	STWG / Parties / Assessment Contractor	AC4 August 2008	Substantial progress has been made with drafting and reviewing of species assessments.
2.9	Provide and consider annual reports to AC on STWG activities	STWG	AC4, AC5	N/A
2.10	Maintenance of database and updating Species Assessments	STWG, Secretariat and AC	December 2008 and ongoing	N/A
3 Protection of Breeding Sites and Status of Non-Native Species				
3.1	Identify national coordinators	BSWG Convenor	Ongoing	Completed
3.2	Revise the database lists and structures following the recommendations made at AC3	BSWG	By Dec. 2007	Completed. WG Convenor has consulted with developer of web portal to ensure appropriate structure of online database.
3.3	Complete, review and update data submission from Parties	BSWG	By Dec. 2007 and ongoing	Management and threats data from breeding sites in Chile, Ecuador and Tristan da Cunha added to database. Threats updated at all listed sites according to revised criteria. Data now outstanding only for some Southern Giant Petrel sites in Antarctica.
3.4	Develop analyses of threats to breeding sites	BSWG	By AC4 and ongoing	To be undertaken following completion of 3.2 and 3.3
3.5	Review analyses and identify data gaps	BSWG and AC	By AC4 and ongoing	To be undertaken following completion of 3.2 and 3.3
3.6	Work with other ACAP WGs to report on analyses of threats	BSWG	By AC4 and ongoing	WG Convenor has contributed to work being undertaken on ACAP species assessments, including reviewing of drafts
3.7	Transfer breeding sites database to Secretariat and link with population status and trends data	BSWG and Secretariat	By AC4	A copy of the breeding sites database has been provided to the Secretariat and work is underway to incorporate this into the new database
3.8	Develop or review best-practice guidelines to mitigate selected threats to breeding sites	BSWG and AC	AC4	Completed

	Topic/Task	Responsible group	Timeframe	Action Taken
3..9	Consider criteria for prioritisation of important bird areas	BSWG	AC4	BirdLife has provided a document listing existing IBAs for all ACAP species with suggestions on potential approaches to prioritization
3.10	Provide and consider annual reports to AC on BSWG activities	BSWG and AC	AC4	N/A
4. Seabird Bycatch				
4.1, old 4.2	To consolidate Seabird Bycatch Working Group	Parties with assistance of Convenor of SBWG and Secretariat	End of August 2007	France, Spain, Peru, Ecuador and Norway and further interested Range States to nominate working group members
4.2, old 4.3	Develop a strategy for ACAP and Parties to engage and assist RFMOs and other relevant international and national bodies to assess and minimise bycatch of albatrosses and petrels	SBWG	MoP2, AC3	Completed. Key persons designated by the AC to represent ACAP in RFMOs of interest. Further development of strategy to be undertaken at AC4.
4.3, new	Develop a interaction plan for ACAP and relevant Parties to engage and assist RFMOs and other relevant international bodies to assess and minimise bycatch of albatrosses and petrels	SBWG	1) End Sept 2007 2) End Nov 2007 3) End Jan 2008 4) Final product for AC4	1) Work commenced on development of draft interaction plan for consideration of SBWG and AC4.
4.4, old 4.1	Analysing existing remote tracking data and complete initial reports on overlaps with fisheries	BirdLife under contract to ACAP	AC4	Three reports have been provided with three remaining to be presented during the course of this year.
4.5, old 4.4	Review and utilise available information on foraging distribution and seabird bycatch to assess the risk of fishing operations on ACAP species in fishing regions (e.g. RFMO areas of competence, national EEZs)	SBWG	AC4 to review progress	SBWG Convenor attended Working Party on Ecosystems and Bycatch of the IOTC, and a workshop on Ecological Risk Assessment held by the WCPFC to assist these RFMOs in the development of risk assessment processes. Information also provided for use at CCAMLR and WCPFC Commission meetings. BSWG Convenor presented seabird threat assessment at ICCAT Sub-committee meeting on Ecosystems.

	Topic/Task	Responsible group	Timeframe	Action Taken
4.6	Develop generic products to assist RFMOs and other relevant international and national bodies in reducing seabird bycatch	SBWG Convenor /Secretariat, with other SBWG consultation to review needs	Discuss at AC4	Tables 1 & 2 of the SBWG Report have been provided to relevant RFMO meetings.
4.7, old 4.8	Develop specific materials and guidelines to assist ACAP representatives attending RFMO and other relevant meetings to maximise effective participation and consideration of issues relevant to ACAP	SBWG and others as defined	after AC4	The Secretariat has provided relevant briefing material to CCAMLR Observers attending ICCAT and WCPFC meetings and to ACAP Observers at other RFMO meetings..
4.8, old 4.5	Review information on mitigation measures for fishing methods known to impact albatrosses and petrels	SBWG (New Zealand/UK lead for trawl; Chile/UK/ Argentina lead for demersal longline)	AC4 initial review, final product MoP3	Review of impact of trawl fisheries commenced. Draft paper commenced on seabird mitigation in demersal longline fisheries.
4.9, old 4.7	Assist in the preparation, adoption and implementation of FAO NPOA-Seabirds or equivalent	SBWG and Parties/ Range States	Review progress by AC4	No progress this quarter
4.10, old 4.9	Provide and consider annual reports to AC on WG activities	SBWG and AC	AC4, AC5	Draft agenda for SBWG meeting circulated.
4.11	Points from pelagic longline research strategy			No progress this quarter
4.12	Points from waved albatross action plan			Plan of action redrafted with inputs from stakeholders. It is expected to be consolidated by early 2008
5. Capacity building				
5.1	Develop strategy for capacity building	AC	AC3	No progress this quarter
5.1	Identify needs for capacity building	AC	AC3	Ecuador and Argentina identified by the AC as potential targets for the development of a capacity building program.
5.2	Identify sources of funding for capacity building	AC	2006/09	BirdLife International identified as potential donor of funds (and expertise) for the implementation of a capacity building program with the participation of Argentina and Ecuador

	Topic/Task	Responsible group	Timeframe	Action Taken
5.3	Support applications for funding from e.g. GEF	AC	2006/09	No progress this quarter
5.4	Technical Cooperation	AC	2006/09	AC Chair has facilitated technical cooperation between Argentina and Ecuador on the development of observer programs.
5.5	Waved Albatross Workshop - Ecuador		2007 - 2008	The AC Chair visited Ecuador as part of preparations for the workshop to be held in April 2008. A Workshop Coordinator is being sought from within Ecuador to facilitate the organisation and running of the workshop.
5.6	Secondment to Secretariat from Brazil			this During this quarter Ms Neves was seconded to the Secretariat to identify potential capacity building initiatives in South America. A number of papers were prepared to aid discussions on this issue at AC4.
6.	Indicators			
6.1	Develop a system of indicators for the success of the ACAP Agreement	BirdLife, South Africa and New Zealand	AC4, AC5	No progress
7.	Collation of information on research, legislation and organisations/individuals concerned with albatrosses and petrels			
7.1	Develop relational database to centralise and curate data from ACAP WGs	Secretariat and WG Convenors	AC4	A contractor was appointed to develop the ACAP database. A coordination group consisting of AC Officials and members of the Secretariat was established to guide the development of the database. Substantial progress was made during the quarter with the first phase of development completed in the next quarter.
7.2	Develop a database of relevant scientific literature	AC with Parties, [volunteer]	AC3, AC4	Completed – new material to be added as it becomes available.

	Topic/Task	Responsible group	Timeframe	Action Taken
7.3	Develop a directory of relevant legislation	AC with Parties, [volunteer]	AC5	Completed – reports to be provided to Parties to verify accuracy of information collated.
7.4	Develop a list of authorities, research centres, scientists and non-government organisations relevant to ACAP	AC with Parties, [volunteer]	AC3, AC4, AC5	To be referred to MoP3 for advice.
8.	Secretariat oversight			
8.1	Budget matters	AC	Ongoing	Advice provided on an ongoing basis by the AC Chair.
8.2	Staff matters	AC	Ongoing	Advice provided on an ongoing basis by the AC Chair.