

---

**AGREEMENT ON THE CONSERVATION OF ALBATROSSES AND PETRELS**

**Resolution 3.4**

**Advisory Committee Work Programme**

Adopted by the Third Session of the Meeting of the Parties, Bergen, 27 April – 1 May 2009

---

*Recalling* Article VIII(11)(d) of the Agreement, which required the first Session of the Meeting of the Parties to establish the Advisory Committee provided for in Article IX of the Agreement;

*Further recalling* Resolution 1.5 of the Meeting of the Parties on the establishment of the Advisory Committee which included a work programme for this Committee;

*Noting* that the fourth meeting of the Advisory Committee developed a work programme for the period 2010-2012 (AC4 Final Report – Annex 8) taking into consideration the outcomes of its meeting and the preceding meetings of the Breeding Sites, Seabird Bycatch and Status and Trends Working Groups;

**The Meeting of the Parties to the Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels**

**Decides:**

1. to endorse the Advisory Committee work programme in Appendix A.

### Appendix A: Advisory Committee Work Programme 2010-2012

	Topic/Task	Responsible group	Timeframe	Action detail
1.1	Review the evidence supporting the specific status of the Wandering Albatross complex	TWG led by Convenor	2010	This will conclude the assessment process for all closely related sister taxa listed currently on Annex 1 of the Agreement
1.2	Keep the Taxonomy Working Group's bibliographic database updated	TWG led by Convenor	2010-2012	
1.3	Continue the establishment of a morphometric and plumage database	TWG led by Convenor (Secretariat)	2010-2012	This will facilitate the taxonomic process, the identification of bycatch specimens, and the long-term storage of valuable data
1.4	Consider preparing a paper for peer-reviewed publication on albatross taxonomy	TWG led by Convenor	2010	A scientifically accepted paper would state ACAP's position in the clearest possible way to the scientific community, but other ways might be easier
1.5	Consider additional species for addition to Annex 1 of the Agreement	Parties and AC	2010-2012	Development of papers as required, using species assessment template. Spain to develop document on Balearic shearwater.
2.1	Consider gaps in status and trends data submitted to ACAP and request any outstanding data (including from SCAR). Continue to update population data	STWG (Secretariat)	a) End 2009 b) 2010-2012	a) All outstanding existing data to be incorporated into database. b) Parties to provide new population data
2.2	Incorporate all feedback received into the draft species assessments, and incorporate missing data	STWG Convenor (with species authors) (Secretariat)	2010-2012	Feedback from AC4 and incorporate data that are currently missing
2.3	Provide advice to CEP regarding census methods for Antarctic southern giant petrels	STWG, (Secretariat)	End 2008	CEP requested review and advice on census methods prior to their 2009 meeting
2.4	Supply data and validate ACAP database	STWG Convenor and members (with data holders) (Secretariat)	2010-2012	Liaise with Secretariat
2.5	Finalise Species Assessments for all ACAP species	Species Assessment Coordinating Group, STWG Convenor, (Secretariat)	End 2009	This to include updating population trends with 2008 data and any new species added to Annex 1
2.6	Translation of Species Assessments into Spanish and French	STWG (Secretariat)	2010	Includes contributions in kind from Spanish and French speaking Parties

2.7	Reconsider selection of RFMOs whose boundaries are included on distribution maps in Species Assessments	SBWG STWG	2010	Further maps, if required, would need to be commissioned from BirdLife
2.8	Provide and consider annual reports to AC on STWG activities	STWG and AC	2010-2012	
3.1	Revise the database lists and structures	BSWG (Secretariat)	2010-2012	This needed to ensure compatibility with other databases and enable update of Species Assessments
3.2	Complete, review and update data submission from Parties	BSWG	2010-2012	
3.3	Compile and help maintain list of introduced mammals and eradications from ACAP breeding sites	BSWG (Secretariat)	2010-2012	This will inform analysis of past and current risks
3.4	Compile and maintain list of former (recent) breeding sites of ACAP species and their characteristics	BSWG (Secretariat)	2010-2012	This will enable consideration of further mitigation of land-based pressures and potentially restoration of range
3.5	Assess the threats to breeding sites and identify gaps in knowledge	BSWG (Secretariat)	2010-2012	
3.6	Develop, review and update best-practice guidelines to mitigate selected threats to breeding sites, including biosecurity	BSWG Biosecurity lead UK	2010-2012	
3.7	Review evidence for impacts of pathogens and parasites on ACAP species and effectiveness of mitigation measures	BSWG, lead France, Ecuador, Argentina	2010	Initial colony threats analysis indicates this to be an issue at some colonies
3.8	Consider criteria for prioritisation of internationally important breeding sites	BSWG	2010-2012	BirdLife International to progress analysis of IBAs for later consideration by WG
3.9	Provide and consider annual reports to AC on BSWG activities	BSWG and AC	2010-2012	N/A
4.1	To consolidate Seabird Bycatch Working Group	Parties with assistance of Convenor of SBWG	End of September 2008	Brazil, Ecuador, France, Norway, Peru, Spain, Uruguay and further interested Range States to nominate working group members

	<b>Topic/Task</b>	<b>Responsible group</b>	<b>Timeframe</b>	<b>Action detail</b>
4.2	Continue to develop and implement the 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 and AC	1) End Aug 2008 2) End Mar 2009  3) 4) and 5) 2010-2012	1) Agree initial plan and nominate first RFMO coordinators (AC) 2) Analysis of needs, coordination of work and report back on initial RFMOs (RFMO coordinators intersessionally with SBWG, AC and Parties, as described in AC4 Doc 56) 3) Attendance at selected RFMO meetings (may be less if Party can contribute directly) 4) Review of process and suggest any changes (SBWG) 5) RFMO by RFMO development of strategies for engagement (commenced by AC5)
4.3	Continue to review availability of albatross and petrel tracking/distribution data to ensure representativeness of species/age classes. Prioritise gaps and encourage studies to fill gaps.	SBWG, AC, Parties and BirdLife International	2010-2012	Review status at AC5, AC7, AC9
4.4	Complete reports on analysis of overlaps of distributions and albatrosses and petrels with fisheries managed by RFMOs	BirdLife / ACAP	1) Oct 2008  2) 2011  3) 2011	1) Complete last of initial five reports (already funded) 2) Analysis of information for remaining RFMOs including those managing trawl fisheries (by AC6) 3) Review if updated overlap analyses required (AC6)
4.5	Develop materials (both generic and specific) to assist RFMOs and other relevant international and national bodies in reducing seabird bycatch and to maximise effective participation and consideration of issues relevant to ACAP	NZ / SBWG Convenor with other SBWG consultation to review needs (Secretariat)	1) 2010  2) 2010-2012	1) Observer programme designs including protocols for the collection of seabird bycatch data, with consideration of analytical methods for assessing seabird bycatch to be examined first. 2) Summary of risk assessment methods and key contacts in this area. Priority decided inside the RFMO interaction plan.

	<b>Topic/Task</b>	<b>Responsible group</b>	<b>Timeframe</b>	<b>Action detail</b>
4.6	Review and utilise available information on foraging distribution, fisheries and seabird bycatch to assess and prioritise the risk of fishing operations on ACAP species in waters subject to national jurisdiction.  Link to broader prioritisation process	SBWG and Parties	1) 2010  2) 2011	1) Commission initial report on knowledge of fisheries, status of any bycatch mitigation, knowledge of relevant seabird distribution for AC5. Note overlap with 4.4. NPOA seabirds also can be used. (AUD \$0) 2) Assess needs for waters subject to national jurisdiction and any capacity building requirements
4.7	Define bycatch data requirements from Parties	SBWG (lead USA)	2009-10	Requires a clear objective statement of purpose, terms of reference and timeline for the collection of bycatch data
4.8	Collate information (metadata) on bycatch monitoring schemes and data held by each Party	SBWG (lead USA)	2009	Requires development of a metadata survey form
4.9	Develop a prototype bycatch data collection form with comprehensive instructions for completing the form.	SBWG (lead USA)	2009-10	
4.10	Test and develop bycatch data collection form	SBWG (lead USA)	2009-2010	A sample of Parties to test and evaluate the utility of the form and appropriateness of its questions based on the sample completed forms and revise as necessary
4.11	Incorporate bycatch data collection form into standard Party reports	AC	2009-2010	
4.12	Create and maintain a bibliography of relevant bycatch information	BirdLife/SBWG (Secretariat)	2010-2012	BirdLife producing report /database. To include both published and unpublished literature
4.13	Maintain information fact sheets on mitigation measures for fishing methods known to impact albatrosses and petrels (demersal longline, pelagic longline, trawl).  Maintain individual mitigation fact sheets (BirdLife/ACAP)	Leads: New Zealand (trawl), Australia (Pelagic LL), UK (Demersal LL), BirdLife (individual)	2010-2012	Initial versions of each gear review completed by AC5  Individual mitigation fact sheets by AC5)
4.14	Produce report on lessons from mitigation success stories in commercial fisheries	BirdLife/ Australia/ Convenor SBWG	2010-2012	

	<b>Topic/Task</b>	<b>Responsible group</b>	<b>Timeframe</b>	<b>Action detail</b>
4.15	Assist in the preparation, adoption and implementation of FAO NPOA-Seabirds or equivalent	SBWG and Parties/ Range States	2010	FAO expert consultation including ACAP input scheduled for September 2008
4.16	Prepare review of knowledge on deliberate take/killing of ACAP species at sea	Australia/ Brazil/ New Zealand/ Peru/ UK/ WWF/ SBWG	2010	Review to describe current knowledge (much from unpublished literature) and causes of any deliberate take and to consider possible take reduction strategies
4.17	Review results of any research funded by ACAP on seabird bycatch issues	SBWG	2010-2012	Draw conclusions and make recommendations to AC as appropriate
4.18	Maintain review of research needs and priorities for bycatch research and mitigation development	SBWG	2010-2012	
4.19	Provide and consider annual reports to AC on WG activities	SBWG and AC	2010-2012	
4.20	Estimate mortality in previously unobserved fisheries in range of Waved albatross	Ecuador and Peru, BirdLife, AC, American Bird Conservancy	2010	Part of implementation from Waved Albatross Action Plan
5.1	Develop strategy for capacity building	AC Chair, New Zealand, Brazil, Argentina, Ecuador, Chile	2010	Utilising work on potential projects by Brazil and AC and including potential sources of funding
5.2	Improve seabird data collection from observer programmes in South America	All South American Parties	2010-2012	Development of a South American seabird observers course, development of standard methodology (see also 4.5) and exchange of observers between Parties
5.3	2 <sup>nd</sup> South American Fishers Forum	All South American Parties, Southern Seabird Solutions, WWF	December 2009	Some support would be welcome
5.4	Provide assistance and capacity building to ensure drafting and implementation of NPOA-Seabirds	AC and Parties to consider	2010-2012	Capacity building in accordance with the needs identified by interested Parties in order to encourage implementation, particularly in Argentina, Ecuador France, Peru, South Africa, (Mozambique, Madagascar), Tristan da Cunha (UK), and EC external fisheries

	<b>Topic/Task</b>	<b>Responsible group</b>	<b>Timeframe</b>	<b>Action detail</b>
5.5	Technical Cooperation to train observers and develop an observers programme in Ecuador	Argentina, Ecuador, BirdLife International, American Bird Conservancy	2008 - 09	Part of Waved Albatross Action Plan implementation
5.6	Development of an observers programme in Peru	Peru, BirdLife International, American Bird Conservancy	2009	Part of Waved Albatross Action Plan implementation
6.1	Identify and prioritise conservation measures required for each species and by each Party to the Agreement	WG Convenors and <i>ad-hoc</i> group, lead New Zealand	2010-2012	An analysis of threats, data/knowledge gaps and population trends will be reported
6.2	Develop and harmonise conservation strategies for particular species or groups of species of albatrosses and petrels	WGs, AC (Secretariat)	2010-2012	Precise definition of what is needed difficult at this range
6.3	Implement conservation strategies for particular species or groups of species of albatrosses and petrels	Parties, AC	2010-2012	Precise definition of what needed is difficult at this range
6.4	Develop a system of indicators for the success of the ACAP Agreement	New Zealand, UK	2010	Drawing on the prioritisation exercise information, considerations within Working Groups and earlier work for the AC, these are required to assess the effectiveness of the Agreement
6.5	Review the effects of climate change on ACAP species	France, UK	2011	This may need updating at regular intervals
6.6	Improve, in association with the Secretariat, guidance for the provision of information by Parties on the implementation of the Agreement	AC	Initial work by 2010 for agreement in 2011	Information on implementation provided by Parties is currently difficult to assemble and assess, and can prove onerous to Parties to provide.
6.7	Review information provided by Parties on implementation of the Agreement and provide a report to MoP	AC	2011	This to carry out responsibilities under Article IX 6 d) of the Agreement
6.8	Support database of relevant scientific literature	AC, lead: Argentina, UK (Secretariat)	2010-2012	Much exists already in various places. Also relevant for several other actions e.g. 4.12, 4.13.
6.9	Develop a directory of relevant legislation	Argentina, UK (Secretariat)	2010-2012	Parties will need to supply information

	<b>Topic/Task</b>	<b>Responsible group</b>	<b>Timeframe</b>	<b>Action detail</b>
6.10	Develop a list of authorities, research centres, scientists and non-governmental organisations relevant to ACAP	Argentina, UK (Secretariat)	2010-2012	Requires input from AC and Parties
7.1	Budget matters	AC	2010-2012	Shorter-term advice provided by the AC Chair
7.2	Staff matters	AC	2010-2012	Shorter-term advice provided by the AC Chair
7.4	Oversight, advice and guidance of Secretariat in relation to database, web portal.	Convenors, chair and vice-chair	2010-2012	
7.5	Management of Advisory Committee work	Chair, Vice-chair and Convenors	2010-2012	Regular teleconferences and email conversations

Grey entries are those that should be completed during 2009

- (a) Requires secretariat support and funding as part of Data Portal development
- (b) Indicates role to be achieved by secretariat science officer