

出國報告（出國類別：開會）

出席「信天翁與水薙鳥保育協定
(ACAP)」第八屆締約方大會
會議報告

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摘要

信天翁與水薺鳥保育協定（Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels, ACAP）第八屆締約方大會會議（MoP8）於 114 年 5 月 19 日至 23 日在紐西蘭奧塔哥大區但尼丁市（Dunedin, New Zealand）舉行。我國代表團由海洋委員會海保署（以下簡稱海保署）羅進明組長擔任團長，率同海保署謝伯昇科員、外交部徐蔚民參事、沈以專科員、國立臺灣大學蔡季廷副教授、洪崇航博士等，以 ACAP 觀察員地位出席與會。出席締約方包括阿根廷、澳洲、巴西、智利、厄瓜多、法國、紐西蘭、挪威、秘魯、南非、西班牙、英國和烏拉圭等共 13 國；觀察員包括我國、國際鳥盟（BirdLife International, BLI）、國際自然保育聯盟（International Union for Conservation of Nature, IUCN）和紐西蘭皇家森林與鳥類保育協會（Forest & Bird）等。

本次會議重點包含：未來制度改革提案、目前各國保育行動(包括國家行動計畫(NPOA))執行進度與概況、財務效能檢討、秘書處效能審查及三年計畫、保育物種修訂、物種現況及行動方案草擬、漁業混獲及陸域野貓威脅與鼠害危機、與漁業組織溝通策略、能力建構報告、小型補助方案及人才交流實習等。

會議決議第 9 屆締約方大會（MoP9）預計由秘魯辦理，而第 15 屆諮詢委員會（AC15）的辦理方，則因納米比亞本次未出席會議，雖納國曾提出意願，惟該國尚未正式向 ACAP 秘書處提出意向書，故 AC15 主辦方尚未確定。

壹、目的

信天翁與水薺鳥保育協定（ACAP）是一項多邊國際協定，旨在透過協調國際行動，減輕對信天翁及水薺鳥等海鳥族群的生存威脅，以保護被列入 ACAP 名單中的 31 個海鳥物種。ACAP 於 2001 年 06 月 19 日在澳洲坎培拉開放簽署，並於 2004 年 02 月 01 日生效。目前協定有共有 13 個締約方－阿根廷、澳洲、巴西、智利、厄瓜多、法國、紐西蘭、挪威、秘魯、南非、西班牙、英國和烏拉圭，協定總部位於澳洲塔斯馬尼亞州霍巴特（Hobart）。

ACAP 每三年召開一次締約方大會（Meeting of Parties, MoP），由締約方參與並通過決議，此三年期間會有海鳥混獲、族群及保育狀態等工作小組會議（Working Group）針對視各項海鳥保育議題提出建議，各建議會提報至諮詢委員會（Advisory Committee, AC），通過後交由秘書處執行，如有提案則會由諮詢委員會提報至締約方大會討論。

本次第 8 屆締約方大會（MoP8）於紐西蘭奧塔哥大區但尼丁市舉行，與會者除了 13 個締約方外，我國以觀察員身分參與，國際政府組織則有國際自然保育聯盟；國際非政府組織則有國際鳥盟和紐西蘭皇家森林與鳥類保育協會出席。

本次會議討論重點包括三個層面：有關行政層面如「2026-2028 的工作計畫」、「人才交流計畫」、「小型資助計畫」、「秘書處運作經費負擔」等，至科學實務層面則如「海鳥混獲避忌措施及使用避忌措施之監測技術」、「三大洋混獲及海鳥保育情況」、「國內行動計畫執行情形（National Plan of Action, NPOA）與新增海鳥混獲釋放手冊之語種」及「與各區域漁業管理及保育組織合作」等。我國為遠洋漁業大國，公海漁業實力雄厚，漁船遍布三大洋，而 ACAP 保護之海鳥物種分布與我國漁船在高緯度漁業作業區域多所重疊，為避免混獲海鳥，接軌國際海鳥保育行動，參與 ACAP 會議，深化與各國合作交流，不僅能展現我國對國際海鳥保育的重視與承諾，更能即時掌握國際保育相關措施與作為，提前因應降低衝擊，以達兼顧海洋生態永續及漁業發展之雙贏。

貳、過程

海保署於 114 年 01 月 10 日函請外交部、農業部漁業署及本會國際事務處派員參與，後確認由海保署、外交部及學者國立臺灣大學蔡季廷副教授與洪崇航博士共 6 名人員組團參加，並於 04 月 18 日以電子郵件方式向 ACAP 秘書處完成報名。ACAP 秘書處於會議前將相關會議報告及資訊報告（information paper）公布於官網，供與會者先行下載參閱，為使代表團人員出席 MoP8 暨相關工作小組會議前，充分掌握會議各議程涉及我國之相關議題，並利與其他國家代表交流及經驗分享，於 05 月 08 日召開行前會議，由海保署、外交部、農業部漁業署、學者國立中山大學海洋政策研究中心胡念祖主任及林郁玲執行秘書、國立臺灣大學蔡季廷副教授、洪崇航博士等共同與會。針對本次議題，包括 2026-2028 的工作計畫、確定保護措施的優先計畫、涉及海鳥混獲避忌措施與使用之監測技術、三大洋海鳥混獲情形及海鳥保育等議題進行討論，會中彙整漁業署及海保署資料，並請與會人員一同協助確認細節及正確數據資料是否有需要修正或補充處，提供與會 ACAP 人員相關資訊。

一、團長會議

（一）開場與介紹

ACAP 第 8 次締約方大會正式會議時間為（紐西蘭時間）114 年 5 月 19 日至 5 月 23 日，會議前一日（114 年 5 月 18 日）傍晚 6 時 30 分舉行團長會議，我國因係以觀察員地位參與，爰當日於場外俟會員國同意後，由秘書處邀請我國進入會場內與會。團長會議由主辦國紐西蘭主持，首先對與會各方表示歡迎，並提醒大家如有需要可使用同步翻譯耳機。我國代表致詞，先向地主國致意，再向秘書處及各國致意邀請我方參與會議，並期待本次大會能作出對海鳥保育有貢獻的重要決策，並表達願一同為海鳥保育努力。

隨後由紐西蘭代表說明會議流程，並介紹開場儀式「Kia ora」，此係一種原住民族毛利人傳統歡迎儀式，由當地原住民族長者主持。此外，紐西蘭保育總署（Department of Conservation）副署長 Stephanie Rowe 也將發表歡迎演說，象

徵會議的正式開啟。整體氛圍正式而友好，展現多邊合作的誠意與重視。

(二)會議架構與成員職責分工

會議進入正式議程後，由紐西蘭提名 Ms. Danica Stent 擔任此次會議的主席，Danica Stent 係紐西蘭保育總署的國際業務部門主管，具備豐富的國際生物多樣性協定經驗，副主席由澳洲氣候變遷、能源、環境與水資源部轄下，澳洲南極小組的 Dr. Michael Double 擔任。接著介紹秘書處成員：現任執行秘書 Dr. Christine Bogle，Dr. Marco Favero 協助財務預算與紀錄整理，秘書處指定繼任執行秘書 Mr. Jonathan Barrington 觀察見習，協助國際法律觀察與支援的法國籍實習生 Ms. Axelle Compain。最後，地主國紐西蘭指派 Dr. Olivia Rowley 負責協助與當地飯店及會議場地聯繫。為使會議順利進行，並提供人力與知識支援，前述各人角色之分工，持續於會議期間運作，協助各代表瞭解秘書處成員的職責與聯繫管道。

(三)重點議題與分組討論安排

多項重要議題進入討論，首先成立「資格審查委員會 (Credentials Committee)」，由紐西蘭、英國、澳洲與西班牙自願參與，負責審核各國代表資格，為表決與會議合法性提供依據。會議建議將第 7.1 與 7.2 議程（新物種列入與列除的標準）合併討論，以提升效率並連結背景資料。針對 ACAP 協定第八條規定，會中需評估秘書處效能，因此將成立由至少三分之二締約方組成的「秘書處效能審查小組」，團長會議當晚已有五國表態參與（如阿根廷、澳洲、英國、紐西蘭等），期望在會議結束前湊足九國。針對預算討論，也規劃分組討論安排，可能成立預算小組及未來設置預算子委員會的提案，也將在理解現行預算處理流程後再行討論。各小組將配合時間與語言資源安排討論場次與報告。

(四)未來 MoP9 及 AC 會議主辦地點規劃

在安排未來會議地點方面，截至團長會議當日（2025.05.18）晚間，尚無國

家正式提出承辦第九屆締約方會議 (MoP9) 或諮詢委員會第 15 屆會議 (Advisory Commission 15th, AC15) 的申請。此前，觀察員納米比亞曾表達對承辦 AC15 的興趣，但由於政府部門異動，尚未能進一步提交正式提案。會議主席 Ms. Denica Stent 呼籲各國代表與其政府單位協商，盡快提出承辦意願，以利安排未來會議規劃與預算。

(五)規章修正與行政制度討論

多項制度改革提案被提出。巴西提議啟動對現行秘書處人員招募標準的檢討流程，認為現行語言標準（僅英語為必備，西、法語為可選）不符區域語言多樣性，尤其考量到潛在新會員多為西語國家。該提案獲得多國支持，將設立「工作小組」以蒐集其他國際組織的人事制度最佳實踐，並進行比較分析。另一個較受關注之議題為是否接受電子格式憑證，考量武漢肺炎 (Covid-19) 疫情後線上與實體混合會議常態化，多國建議修訂規則以接受電子簽章與提交電子檔案作為憑證。秘書處準備了修訂條文草案，並預計於會議中提出討論。儘管無法改變本次會議的憑證處理方式，但與會多方支持此改革，顯示整體會議對行政現代化的共識與期許。

(六)我方代表團於團長會議發言（節錄）

「謝謝主席，這是中華臺北發言，很高興代表我方參與本次 ACAP 會議，我方相信大會將會在未來幾天做出有意義的決議，並有助各國從事海鳥保育的工作，我方亦會一同盡力保育海鳥，感謝主席。」

二、會議概要

(一)05 月 19 日會議

ACAP MoP8 於 114 年 05 月 19 日開始為期 5 天，目的在於討論全球信天翁及水雉鳥族群保育面臨的挑戰、策略與合作方案。會議開場後，大會主席 Ms. Denica Stent 強調「保育工作刻不容緩，會議將審議多項決議草案，並設定下一

階段行動計畫與預算，強調各締約方需積極承擔責任與貢獻，推動國際合作保育信天翁及水薙鳥。」各國開場發言具相當之保育雄心，如紐西蘭呼籲提高 ACAP 的行動力，並設定更具企圖心的保育目標；巴西則廣邀各方參與明（2026）年所主辦之遷徙物種公約第 15 屆締約方大會（Convention of Migratory Species Conference of Parties 15th, CMS COP15），法國則通報法屬南部和南極領地阿姆斯特丹島（Île Amsterdam）的野火對生態造成之破壞；其餘如阿根廷、智利、厄瓜多、南非及英國等國，均表達對 ACAP 工作的支持，並強調各國國家之責任與國際合作重要性。

我國則發言提到感謝主辦國與秘書處，強調自 2019 年以來持續投入海鳥保育，特別是信天翁科與水薙鳥科，呼籲 ACAP 提高保育野心。有關資助研究部分，我國已於 2022 與 2024 年捐助 ACAP 小型基金，深化參與，並願持續透過經驗交流與合作貢獻保育行動，以下為發言紀錄：

「中華臺北很榮幸能再次以觀察員身分參與這個重要的會議。我們誠摯感謝紐西蘭政府與 ACAP 秘書處為籌辦第八屆締約方會議所付出的努力。中華臺北始終堅定支持 ACAP 的目標與價值。我們自 2019 年以來，積極參與國際海鳥保育工作，特別是針對信天翁與水薙鳥的保護。我方亦於 2022 年與 2024 年期間，對 ACAP 的小額補助基金提供捐助，且將持續支持。我們致力於全球海鳥保育的建設性參與，因此 ACAP 不僅為合作平台，更是共享學習的重要場域。我們也願意深化對本協定的承諾，透過參與，我們希望交流經驗、促進夥伴關係，並為海鳥及未來世代的保護作出實質貢獻。謝謝大家。」

有關行政議題，提出為簡化流程及提高效率的方法，如統一觀察員申請參與的期限、未來可接受電子形式的會議授權書，提議受各國支持，惟仍就部分細節提出建議，如「官方管道」定義、是否仍需紙本備份等。此外，有關財務議題，秘書處扼陳各國財務貢獻與欠費情況，部分國家（如智利、法國、厄瓜多等）有欠款情況，至有關非會費收入議題，秘書處表揚我國與 Abercrombie & Kent 公司（A&K 公司）對 ACAP 特別基金的資助，另外，由塔斯馬尼亞州政府審計處推

薦的外部審計公司。

秘書處針對行政與國際合作層面報告近年工作，包括與區域漁業管理組織（RFMOs）合作策略、溝通顧問人員異動等。另一相對重要議題，則提出建議未來增聘兼職溝通顧問。

因 ACAP 運作資金已逐漸出現困窘情況，鑒此，針對此議題，ACAP 秘書處依據議程項目第 7.10 及 7.11，提出包括零名目成長、零實質成長、超過實質成長等三種財務方案。

1. 方案一（零名目成長）：維持 2021 年水準，且不調整整體總預算額。此方案可能導致活動大幅縮減，包括未來會議可能轉為線上、取消小額補助、刪減顧問人員等。
2. 方案二（零實質成長）：預算依通膨指數調整（目前已累積 16.5%），可保留秘書處功能，但無法全面支持諮詢委員會（AC）的工作計畫。
3. 方案三（超過實質成長）：預算調漲 37%，可全面執行保育任務並新增溝通顧問等人力資源。

紐西蘭、澳洲、英國明確表達支持方案三，並強調各國及 ACAP 應積極回應保育危機。至法國因預算限制，僅得支持方案一，並建議透過減少會議頻率或取消法語翻譯等方式節流，接續法國提議，大會討論混合會議（Hybrid）的成本及可能性，惟混合會議因技術及財務層面具相當挑戰。最終延後討論決議，並設立工作小組由紐西蘭及巴西協調預算協商事宜。

與其他組織及國家合作（議程項目 7.8）部分，在諮詢委員會第十四次會議（AC14）的建議下，秘書處與海事前線技術委員會（Joint Technical Commission of the Maritime Front, CTMFM）討論簽署合作備忘錄（Memorandum of understanding, MOU）的可能性，對方表達支持並已加入相關內容至 MOU 範本中。如第八次締約方會議（MoP8）同意，該備忘錄即可簽署。阿根廷與烏拉圭

皆表示支持，並肯定 CTMFM 在雙邊合作中的價值。另一方面，根據在諮詢委員會第十四次會議(AC14)的建議，ACAP 已與全球漁業觀測組織(Global Fishing Watch, GFW) 探討合作可能性。智利、巴西、紐西蘭及祕魯等國，分享近年語 GFW 合作的經驗，並希望 ACAP 與 GFW 建立有效的合作關係；紐西蘭特別指出 ACAP 在取得漁業風險評估與海鳥分布重疊的相關數據方面長期面臨困難，而 GFW 提供的資訊已大幅改善此情況，對應對 ACAP 物種所面臨的主要威脅具有關鍵價值。國際鳥盟(BLI)亦呼應締約方的經驗，並鼓勵 ACAP 積極與 GFW 建立合作關係。本次締約方會議(MoP8)同意由秘書處完成與海事前線技術委員會(Joint Technical Commission of the Maritime Front, CTMFM)的簽署，並繼續推動與全球漁業觀測組織(Global Fishing Watch, GFW)的合作安排。

秘書處效能檢討部分(議程項目 4.5)，按協定第 10 條規定，應定期檢討秘書處效能，爰本屆需成立審查小組，確認評估範疇(將涵蓋兩位執行秘書任期)。英國首先表示願加入審查小組，並建議納入副主席、工作小組召集人等人員訪談，隨後澳洲、紐西蘭、阿根廷、巴西等，皆表示願意加入審查小組，而秘書處表示，依據第 6 屆締約方大會(MoP6)之第 6.3 號決議，審查小組需具地域(或語言)代表性，且至少涵蓋 9 個締約國。候任執行秘書 Mr. Jonathan BARRINGTON 則分享審查經驗，包括：(1) 13 項績效評估標準、(2) 採逐步評估(facilitative evaluation)，而非總結式評估(summative evaluation)、(3) 報告草案分會小組成員蒐集意見，修訂後再提交締約方大會。

有關科學議題，包括附件一(Annex 1)列名修訂與候選物種名單，本屆會議並未提出新增物種提案，惟討論候選名單及列名原則，現行分類學工作小組係使用國際鳥類學代表大會(International Ornithological Congress, IOC)修訂的 IOC 世界鳥類清單第 14.1 版(World Bird List, ver.14.1)作為標準，與現行 ACAP 列名原則有部分差異。此外，亦討論對候選物種進行評分，但部分分化的新物種尚未完成個別評估。有關列管物種，紐西蘭提及目前正與澳洲合作，擬向 CMS 提案將肉足水薺鳥(Flesh-footed Shearwater)列入 CMS 公約附錄 II，並提及有 25 種

的圓尾鰲（Gadfly petrels）族群。至評分基準方面，我國於會中分享發現大水薙鳥於我國與日本繁殖地遭褐鼠（溝鼠）及野貓入侵所受到之威脅，建議提高陸上威脅的評分標準。

另觀察員報告部分，由國際鳥盟（BLI）進行報告，強調即將進行 2027-2029 全球海鳥紅皮書（Red List）評估，紅色名錄更新物種狀態需要大量專家的投入，包括 ACAP 秘書處的貢獻，並強調許多早在 15-20 年前開始的全球長期合作，有其相當的價值。這些合作致力於減少漁業中，海鳥混獲，並與當地團隊和組織的合作，加強保育工作，類此合作與 ACAP 的目標高度契合。BLI 承認關鍵的海鳥族群數量仍在下降，應採取緊急的集體行動。對海鳥的保護措施不僅必須透過制定法規來規範，還必須進行有效的監測和執行，以確保落實海鳥保育，期待 ACAP 的協調合作，能夠進行更有力的宣傳，以期能夠支持公海漁業，推廣 ACAP 的最佳實踐建議以減少混獲。儘管這些挑戰依然存在，但 BLI 相信，《協定》締約方擁有應對這些挑戰所需的專業知識。BLI 向 ACAP 締約方發出兩項具體行動呼籲：（1）鼓勵其國家研究人員準備可支持紅色名錄物種評估的資訊；（2）加強與鮪魚區域漁業管理組織（t-RFMOs）的合作，以提高公海漁業緩解措施的有效實施。

此外，公海漁業（High Sea Fisheries）仍為信天翁、水薙鳥等海鳥物種之最大威脅，並提倡 ACAP 締約方在區域漁業管理組織（Regional Fisheries Management Organizations, RFMOs）等國際漁業場域，加強共同倡議，以推動落實最佳實踐（Best Practice）。後由紐西蘭、澳洲、巴西及 IUCN 等會員國及觀察員均對 BLI 表示感謝，並肯定 BLI 在物種資料、保育實務及制度建立的重大貢獻。我國亦表示願加強與 ACAP 與 RFMOs 合作，共同減緩海鳥之混獲問題。

(二)05 月 20 日會議

第二日會議主要關注：全權證書委員會（Credentials Committee）報告、議

事規則（Rules of Procedure, RoP）修正、預算與財務分攤比例小組會議。

1. 全權證書委員會（CrC）報告

本次共有 8 國提交正式認證文件，4 國提交電子版，該 4 國須於會後 28 天內提交書面正本。另厄瓜多爾與會代表並未提交全權證書（Credential），須於會期內書面確認其代表授權資格。會議一致通過接納認證報告，並確認具備表決法定人數。

2. 議事規則（RoP）第 5 條有關全權證書代表相關條文修正

議事規則（Rules of Procedure for the Meeting of the Parties, ACAP/MOP1/Doc.11 Rev 6）第 5 條（第 1 項）處理締約方代表及候補代表應受國家元首、政府首腦、外交部長、**相關**政府部門負責人或區域經濟組織執行機構負責人或其代表授予的權力，使其可代表締約方出席會議並行使表決權。（第 2 項）權證證書應於會議開始後 24 小時內提交秘書處。此後代表團組成如有任何影響表決權之變動，亦應向秘書處提交修訂後全權證書。（第 3 項）由 3 位締約方代表組成全權證書委員會應審查全權證書，並向會議報告審查結果。在委員會做出決定權，代表可參與會議。（第 4 項）倘全權證書以會議工作語言以外之語言提交，應附上其中一種工作語言之適當譯文，俾委員會有效驗證其證書。

議事規則第 5 條並未有處理電子認證文件之處理方式，因此大會關注議事規則第 5 條，並討論相關電子認證方式。新文本則允許由國家聯絡窗口傳送電子掃描文件，並保留「可要求進一步驗證」之彈性。此外，巴西代表提議刪除「**相關**（relevant）」一詞以簡化語句，獲締約方普遍支持。最終決定文本則待上網公佈後再採用。

3. 預算分攤小組會議（Budget Breakout Group）

延續前（19）日財務方案，討論重點在是否提高預算及財務分攤比

率，倘提高，調漲應行幅度，如何分攤？此外，網站系統資料庫維護費用提高，倘考慮改版升級與維護，未來需額外支出一筆最高約 10 萬澳幣費用。然而，秘書處稱現階段人手不足，行政與財務工作同時嚴重壓縮本業時間。

支持較具雄心進行保育行政作業之方案三（即預算增加 37%），如英國、紐西蘭及阿根廷，其中阿根廷說明預算雖然受限，惟仍盼支持方案三精神。支持方案一較為保守者為法國，法方稱因受國內預算限制，僅能接受方案一。至南非則傾向零實質成長（方案二）及較具保育雄心之方案三，強調通膨及必要項目須納入考量。澳洲代表則對法國採較保守方案，質疑法方是否重視 ACAP 工作成果，並表達關切。巴西代表則強調三大優先項目，包括諮詢委員會（AC）計畫之執行、小額資助及人員資助等。而後續秘書處將各國看法納入回饋中俾更新表格，並納入：各方案下之經費支出與保育損失、儲備金（Savings）的動用與配置。

4. 各國執行協定情況、進度報告及國家行動計畫（NPOA）進度回報

秘書處說明各締約方應每三年提交一次協定執行報告，智利、挪威及烏拉圭等國近期補交之資料，後續納入正式資訊文件中。執行情況報告內容將涵蓋：保育行動、法律與政策機制、重要保育區與異常事件應變等。大會呼籲各國應提升所繳交之報告品質及資訊透明度，避免內容過度簡化或報告流於形式。國家行動計畫部分，分述如下：

- (1) 南非：已完成行動計畫草案，俟環境部（環境、森林及漁業部）等部門審核後通過。
- (2) 巴西：持續推動電子監測、AI 資料應用、重新啟動觀察員制度以提升漁業透明度。
- (3) 紐西蘭：推動「零海鳥混獲」目標，正檢討其行動計畫，並強化跨部

門合作與國際倡議。

- (4) 澳洲：自 2018 年始所實施的國家行動計畫將於 2025 年檢討，並持續推動降低混獲威脅的國家行動計畫。
- (5) 大會鼓勵尚未更新行動計畫的國家儘速修訂並分享最新進展。
- (6) 我國發言：「在漁業經濟方面，我們有數種無法避免遭遇海鳥的漁業，例如延繩釣等。此外，我國有關海鳥的研究聚焦在海鳥的遷徙與行為觀察。我們感謝關於各國對其國內行動計畫的討論，並強烈支持各國海鳥保育的國內發展，尤其是對整體行動計畫的討論。另說明我國理解漁業混獲對海鳥族群的傷害程度，我國在三大洋漁業具有強大的船隊，遠洋延繩釣部分現行強制三選二的避鳥措施（夜間投繩、支繩加重、避鳥繩等，按：我國漁船亦有內臟於船頭海拋的措施）。另一方面於陸上，我國境內包括研究人員、研究機構等，對海鳥陸上威脅亦有相關研究及執行計畫，包括移除鼠害等措施。此外，2025 年 3 月在我國境內發現 2 隻黑面琵鷺身上有 H5N1（屬高病原性禽流感病毒 *Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza, HPAI*），未來將持續監測並關注。」

5. 諮詢委員會報告（Advisory Committee）

諮詢委員會報告議題包括：核心成果與進展、面臨挑戰與建議、成效評估與落實、應行擴編預算幅度及可能性、檢討原始行動計畫、精簡報告格式等部分。

- (1) 核心成果與進展議題細分為 5 部分，諮詢委員會報告設立與維運三大工作小組（混獲工作小組 Bycatch Working Group, BWG、族群與保育狀態工作小組 Population and Conservation Status Working Group, PaCSWG、分類學工作小組 Taxonomy Working Group, TWG），並更新混獲調適建議工具箱與新增多語種版本手冊及資料，支援地方與國

際決策。修訂物種評估資料與疾病（如 H5N1 等 HPAI）應變指南，並首度成立關注離岸風電（Offshore Wind Power, OWP）對海鳥影響的工作小組。執行「小額補助」與「人才交流（派遣）」方案，支援科學研究與行動計畫。

- (2) 有關海鳥保育所面對之挑戰及建議，雖然 ACAP 推動海鳥保育已多年，惟仍有多數海鳥處於保育危機，應強化成效評估與落實保育政策。
- (3) 英國及紐西蘭則回應 AC 呼籲，回應道「大會各締約方應增編預算，避免長久之保育行動計畫停滯」。澳洲針對 ACAP 所為之海鳥保育則提到，提議應全面檢討 ACAP 原始保育行動計畫，並評估是否仍符合現今需求及面對氣候變遷挑戰，建議精簡化報告格式，改採「短篇專題式」之報告，藉以提升可讀性及增加政策影響力。
- (4) 為回應 AC 報告，包括紐西蘭、英國、澳洲及南非等國，一致強調海鳥保育危機嚴峻，呼籲各國應採取更積極的財務及政策行動以維持海鳥保育行動。此外，多數代表亦支持推動延續小型補助與合作跨國研究，包括部分 NGO 的國際連結，如支持 BLI 及 GWF 等，持續提供技術支援。
- (5) 大會對諮詢委員會（AC）與各行動計劃之進展給予高度肯定，並且支持將相關建議納入後續決議草案中。另外，第一日討論，強調需要在未來預算分配與合作機制中，明確納入實際執行力與保育成效評估機制。預期將對報告格式、ACAP 組織架構與核心行動計畫等，進行長期檢視與探討改革可能性。

6. 保育物種現況與挑戰（Doc13）：

ACAP 物種保育狀況與威脅之報告指出，超過半數之 ACAP 物種呈現數量下降趨勢，16%呈現穩定，僅有 2 種上升，53%的 ACAP 族群持續

下降，至棲地監測量部分，2024 年所監測到族群數量則為 2004 年以來最低，棲地監測到之海鳥數量創歷年來新低，須強化資源投入。

7. 2026-2028 優先保育行動（Doc15）與高風險族群（Doc14）：

英國及紐西蘭則發表高優先族群之個案研究報告，聚焦之重點物種，如漂泊信天翁（*Wandering Albatross*）及安島信天翁（*Antipodean Albatross*），應發展具體保育行動草案，此外亦聚焦在海上及陸上威脅的削減，海上威脅主要係來自延繩釣（*Longing Line Fisheries*）的海鳥混獲，而陸上威脅則部分，我國代表團成員洪崇航博士則提供我國經驗（節錄）：

「部分候選保育物種，例如北太平洋的大水薙鳥（*Streaked Shearwater*），在西北太平洋至少有 3 個孵育場受野貓及褐鼠（溝鼠）入侵，在我國西北方的棉花嶼（*Mienhua islet*），自 2022 年以來，我國已針對這些入侵大水薙鳥繁殖島嶼的鼠類（*rodents*）進行強力移除。基於這些科學資訊，我方建議應調整大水薙鳥的『陸上威脅』的分數，從原本的 1 點調整為 3 或 4 點。」

後續討論就海鳥高風險族群保育議題，須擬定具體保育對象與地點。另一方面則建議應該要擴編預算及跨機關專家參與，其中包括社會科學研究人員及溝通人員。

8. 國際合作參與策略（Doc24）：

大會建議各締約方支持與 ACAP 秘書處一同主動參與區域漁業管理保育組織（*Regional Fisheries Management Conservation Organization, RFMCOs*）的會議，並加強與區域漁業管理組織（*RFMOs*）之合作，藉以提升 ACAP 所提出建議的實施率，強調加強數據追蹤，建議擴大技術層面，落實國際合作及行動計劃，提出行動策略草案與為期 3 年，每年約 7 萬澳幣的預算概估。

此外，IUCN 代表 Catherine Iorns 教授則提到，海鳥保育議題與漁業混獲及行動實踐具高度關聯，確實需要科學家向各國政府證明，裝設攝影機或設置觀察員等監測方式，確實能改變漁民行為，IUCN 擁有「教育與傳播委員會」，願意主動提供協助，並將這些專家介紹 ACAP。我國呼應並支持 IUCN 觀點，強調目前現行手冊僅有英文及中文版本，惟考量工作語言，擬增加西語、法語及葡語等，而因我國漁船船員多為印尼、越南、菲律賓及泰國等東南亞籍移工，建議大會應就目前遠洋漁船大宗移工熟悉之語言，出版海鳥混獲釋放手冊及教育資料，俾利遠洋漁業從業人員之實務操作，有效提升並落實海鳥保育措施。我國發言（節錄）如下：

「在 2024 年 10 月，我們與南方黑鮪保育委員會(*Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna, CCSBT*) 共同舉辦了一場海鳥混獲減緩工作坊，邀請了國際永續海鮮基金會(*International Seafood Sustainability Foundation, ISSF*)與國際鳥盟(*BLI*)的專家，分享在鮪延繩釣漁業中減少海鳥混獲的最佳作法。由於我國遠洋漁船上有大量外籍移工，如果這些操作指引能夠翻譯成多語版本的小冊子，將對保育海鳥更加有利。南半球的工作多著重於保育，而在西北太平洋地區，我們更著重於棲地的恢復與重建。因此，我國也非常願意在陸域棲地修復方面與 ACAP 合作。」

後續多國支持將相關保育建議、合作策略與物種評估納入後續行動。執行秘書 Dr. Christine Bogle 則回應道，感謝我國對語言隔閡議題的提醒，並認同其重要性，雖礙於翻譯預算之現實限制，惟我國所提確值得重視之實務議題，並高度肯定我國代表團國立臺灣大學蔡季廷副教授所提出之觀點。

BLI 代表 Mr. Oliver Yates 回應提到，對我國所提出東南亞語種翻譯給予正面評價，認為我方所提出之建議非常實用，並給予高度肯定，支持該建議納入執行策略中。而 IUCN 代表 Catharine Iorns 教授則提到，願意

與我國合作，向 IUCN 委員會成員提出可提供之教育與溝通專家資源，支持我國建議之手冊多語種化與協力合作議題（節錄）：

「我們應該肯定國際鳥盟的努力，也應該肯定中華台北的貢獻。我非常認同中華台北代表對於翻譯工作的建議，他們的表達非常清楚，我完全支持這個提議。」

英國代表 Mr. Mark Tasker 則點名 BLI 與我國在推動海鳥保育行動策略中扮演重要角色，並強調：「推動海鳥保育不一定需要耗費大筆經費，而是需要實體投入行動。只要能說服你的漁業產業夥伴一同來協助，我們（指海鳥保育）就能持續走得更長遠。」

9. 紐西蘭提案《減少漁業混獲對信天翁與水薙鳥危機的行動決議》草案 （Resolution on Fisheries Bycatch Crisis）

紐西蘭於會中提案，為針對漁業混獲導致信天翁及水薙鳥之保育危機，提出呼籲應集體行動，並強調此決議並非新承諾，而是重申既有承諾並實際落實有關 ACAP 最佳實踐（Best Practice）、溝通策略（Communication Strategy）、及與非締約方合作等。

以紐西蘭、英國及澳洲等國家支持此提案，紐西蘭重申使用「ACAP 最佳實踐」為一致性表述，並主張保留對未受區域漁業管理組織（RFMOs）涵蓋區域的行動訴求；英國則提出語句增補加強對「完整（full）適用最佳實踐」的表述，並且與澳洲皆反對刪除有關「非 RFMOs 涵蓋區域」之語句。

就文字部分稍有疑義之國家，以南美洲國家為主。如阿根廷就紐西蘭所提出之提案則表示，支持提案精神，但建議語句修正，重申倘提案通過後之決議，不應該視為新增義務。巴西則希望語句更具彈性，將「strongly urge」改為「encourage」，並強調不支持使用「fully apply」等字眼，擔

心國家無法完全遵守及協定通過淪為紙上協定而無法落實，建議新增條文鼓勵具較多資源的國家協助缺乏監測能力的國家。另一方面，智利抱持保留態度，認為語句過於保守可能削弱訊號，不利國內推動。

10. 溝通策略（Communication Strategy）與溝通顧問職缺

ACAP 自 2019 年起開始執行《溝通策略》，但現階段秘書處缺乏專責溝通人員，建議增設一名「兼職溝通顧問」常設職位，以持續推動社群宣傳、與非締約方交流及國際倡議。

澳洲、紐西蘭及法國強烈支持增設該職位，並認為確有其必要性。至巴西亦支持此提案策略，惟提醒考量預算尚未有明確結論，應待預算編列有具體結論後再行確認。

我國就此議題，分享我國推動公私協作、社群平臺參與、旅遊業者教育經驗，並建議將「觀光產業」納入策略受眾分類，提出應發展青年教育模組與工具包，藉以提高一般民眾及基層認知。

11. 能力建構（Capacity Building）問題報告

現行 ACAP 年度報告中，要求各國填報「國內能力建構活動」，但礙於各國難以量化數據回報，因此所提供之數據資料並不具參考價值。後續大會則建議停止收集「國內能力建構」的回報資料，並同意未來僅聚焦於透過 ACAP 的小型補助計畫（Small Grants）與實習交流計畫（Secondments）所進行的「國際能力建構」。就此議題，各國一致同意並無異議。

12. 報告回顧「小型補助計畫」與「實習交流計畫」之亮點

自 2007 年起以來，小型補助計畫已支持 66 件研究與保育項目，並實施 20 項實習交流計畫。小型補助與實習交流雖投入金額相對有限，

卻產出廣泛，惟相關計畫提升研究能量、擴展國際合作、轉化為學術論文與政策建議之產出能力高。秘書處以某學生為例，其因取得小型補助計畫經費，再藉實習交流計畫走向國際學術舞臺，並於實習期間持續發表研究，回國後影響國家政策，反映實習交流計畫對人才培育的深遠效益，建議此二計畫持續編入預算優先項目中。

締約國如澳洲、巴西、厄瓜多、紐西蘭等，觀察員如我國、BLI 等皆表達對此二計畫之肯定，並呼籲建立成果共享平臺，例如建置知識資料庫，藉以提升成果再利用率。

(三) 05 月 21 日會議

第二天會議，通過議事規則（RoP）第 5 條修正案、決議通過 2 項合作備忘錄、成立秘書處效能檢討小組、預算小組會議結論、行動成果報告與監測執行制度、預算小組機制改革、諮詢委員會計畫修正、保育決議草案更新、MoP 9 會議地點、宣布新任執行秘書等。

1. 議事規則（RoP）修正案

透過修改議事規則第 5 條規定，包括第 5.2 條「可提交實體或墊子版本」及第 5.5 條「指定由國家聯絡窗口提交認證，並保留質疑機制」等 2 部分規範，藉以允許締約國與會時允許遞交電子認證文件，並放寬作業流程。

2. 決議通過合作備忘錄（MOU）

延續首日所提出之與阿根廷－烏拉圭海事前緣聯合技術委員會（CTMFM）及全球漁業觀察（GFW）等二組織之資料共享與合作監測。對此，多國表示歡迎，並稱應將儘速進行簽署程序。

3. 成立秘書處效能檢討小組 (Doc 10)

首先針對秘書處職責範圍 (Terms of Reference) 進行修訂，原檢討小組要求訪談主席、副主席、召集人等角色，後續改由小組自主決定訪談對象。原預定成立 9 人組成效能檢討小組，最終由 8 個國家組成，並由英國擔任主席。後續則決議，考量會議時間有限，允許以 8 人編制啟動審查作業。

4. 諮詢委員會 (AC) 工作計畫審議 (Doc 17)

AC 計畫涵蓋六大項目，包括分類學、族群保育狀況、混獲、能力建構、指標設定、管理機制等。AC 強調須依賴小型補助計畫與人才交流計畫支持計畫執行，因此二項計畫係執行重點，倘無足夠經費支持，嚴重則可能影響海鳥保育行動之進展。後續因預算金額尚未有明確指標，當下尚未有定案。

5. 預算小組會議結論 (Doc 09)

預算小組主席 (紐西蘭代表團提案) 提出以方案二 (零實質成長) 作為基本方案為共識，即應調整預算以反映通貨膨脹，惟前提是需控制在可接受範圍內。法國原由反對後轉為支持方案二，藉以促進廣泛共識。

惟預算決議共識以方案二為方案基礎，仍約有 15 萬澳幣的資金缺口，爰討論是否動用儲備金 (savings) 與爭取自願性捐款 (voluntary contributions)，後續則建議由 AC 自行分配資源與小型補助計畫與人才交流計畫。

另一方面，因仍面臨資金缺口，討論是否保留溝通顧問 (communications advisor) 一職。英國、澳洲及紐西蘭，強烈支持保留此職務，並認為溝通顧問對於推動公海保育與政策傳遞至關重要。至巴西及阿根廷等國，則建議裁撤此職務或調整該職務資金預算，藉以優先支持保

育行動。正反雙方則共識將此職務原編列於 AC 預算編列科目項次 1（Appropriation 1）之秘書處薪資項下，調整轉入 AC 預算編列科目項次 4（Appropriation 4）－工作計畫（Working Programme）項下，作為執行具體項目，避免編制問題產生，實際上則由 AC 視實際情況需求，各國普遍同意此提案，以提升聘用彈性及有效分配資源。

後續決議方向為：預算選擇方案二，資金短缺部分則以儲備金撥補，並強調不宜過度消耗儲備金，並且保留原溝通顧問預算，惟調整執行方式。此外，多國強調應持續透過捐款與自願提供資源撥補弭平資金差額，並強調應保留會議頻率與實體會議模式，以維持協定行動效率。至溝通策略之第 2 項，於文字修正通過後，納入 2026-2028 年 AC 工作計畫中。

6. 報告制度（Doc12）與執行監測

與會多方呼籲強調「行動成果報告」之連貫性與明確性，並提議修改報告語句，強調活動必須連結保育行動之目標與成效，不僅要蒐集締約方報告，也必須涵蓋整體協定下的執行活動。

7. 預算小組與機制改革之提議

紐西蘭與澳洲提議成立預算次委員會（Budget Subcommittee），並須於召開會議前 30 天舉行線上或小型會議，俾協助審查預算案，提高透明度與效率。考量經費、行政等情況，此次級委員會則建議保持為非正式性質（non-official），俾減少組織負擔。

部分國家，例如阿根廷、澳洲、紐西蘭及英國等國家，加入制度檢討小組（institutional-looking group），溝通顧問薪資移至項次 4 科目支出，並增加 AC 工作計畫資金（AC Work Programme），2026-2028 年期間，一次性撥款約 30 萬澳幣，用於資料庫重建與搬遷、秘書處車輛、AC 工作計畫等。修正後之新版預算方案，獲得與會各國一致通過。

8. AC 工作計畫 (Doc17) 修正與 ACAP 執行溝通策略 (Doc26)

為了改進報告格式，以便更有效地衡量保育成果，由 AC 及秘書處負責審查執行報告格式。巴西代表則提議加入「簡化報告流程」，並獲廣泛支持。

為有效執行溝通策略，強調須利用現有資源並持續推動保育議題，並修正原訂設置的溝通顧問，秘書處建議未來可能需聘用兼職溝通顧問，並在 2026-2028 年預算資源許可安排，俾彈性調整經費。

9. 啟動秘書處工作計畫 (Annex 2) 審查報告

工作計畫審查的初步報告，將送到來年召開的 AC15，未來則可能請締約方提供協助，所有的工作計畫將於修正後通過。

10. 保育決議草案更新

延續紐西蘭提案，大會宣布通過《信天翁與水薺鳥保育危機》決議聲明，宣示已有 31 種海鳥受漁業混獲嚴重影響，原決議草案語意強烈部分，如「強烈呼籲」調整較為中性且鼓勵字眼，例如「鼓勵締約方落實 ACAP 的最佳實踐建議」、物種名稱一致化（刪除重複的「水薺鳥」等）、文法部分亦一併提出改善，例如「成千上萬 (tens of thousands)」修正為「數十萬 (with hundreds of thousands)」，並增加支持扶植缺乏能力締約方之技術協助條文，各國同意加入針對各國情況的彈性條款。

我國發言（詳見後第 13 段－我國完整發言紀錄）則提及，建議為保持前後文一致，並反映不同法律體系之實務需求，加入依據各自情況 (...according to their respective circumstances...)，此建議獲紐西蘭及澳洲支持，並最終納入決議內容。

11. 下一屆締約方大會舉辦地點及新任執行秘書宣布

祕魯提出申辦下一屆（MoP，2028 年）締約方大會，並獲得與會多方支持。而本屆（MoP 8）締約方大會係現任執行秘書 Dr. Christine Bogle 最後一次籌畫會議，其於 2025 年 6 月退休離任。由阿根廷擔任遴選委員會主席，阿根廷代表外交部經濟辦公室組長 Ms. Carmen Rivero 宣布，經語言熟稔度、行政經驗等多方考量，決議由 Mr. Jonathan Barrington 接任新任 ACAP 執行秘書。

12. 我國完整發言紀錄（節錄）

謝謝主席，我們也希望對這份決議草案再提出一項修正。對於中華臺北及一些其他經濟體來說，在使用本段落中像「implementations（實施／執行）」這類字眼時，因為各自擁有不同的法律體系，這個詞通常會表示或暗示具有法律拘束力的規定。但我們也明白，這裡（的執行）指的是 ACAP 的最佳實務建議。然而，在我們的國內法律體系中，「implementations」這個字眼代表著我們現在就必須有強制執行的法規意涵。

所以，對我們的海洋保育機構來說，若要真正與漁業主管機關合作或深入參與，我們需要一些彈性，才能讓海洋保育單位能與漁業主管機關以及產業有更好的配合與協調。

因此，我們希望能在第 4 行的「agreement（協定）」這個詞之後，加入以下字句：「，依各自情況（according to their respective circumstances）...」，這樣的文字也和第 2 段中使用的「根據其國情（according to their national circumstances）」是一致的。

我認為這樣的修正能與第 1 段和第 3 段保持一致性，也能對應第 3 段第一行所用的「適當（appropriate）」一詞。但最重要的是，這樣可以讓我們在國內和漁業主管機關合作時，保有某種程度的彈性。

(四) 05 月 22 日－休會，毛利人集會所 Ōtākou Marae 及皇家信天翁中心 Royal Albatross Centre 參訪摘要

1. 毛利人集會所 Ōtākou Marae

毛利人集會所係當地原住民神聖中心，位於奧塔哥半島的 Ōtākou 地區一個小山丘上(Tamatea Rd.)，入口處有一個紅色原住民族風格的大門。依毛利民族的傳統，進入大門後，由女士先行，男士跟著女士後方前進。進入集會所建築物內後，座椅雖不分區，但男士坐於前區，女士則坐於後區。入座完畢後，由紐西蘭代表團成員 Johannes Fischer 以毛利語向毛利人代表致敬（詞），並交付禮物贈予集會所，交付方式為以信封放置於地上，再交由毛利人代表 Mr. Hoani Langsbury 拾取。後毛利人代表 Mr. Hoani Langsbury 向代表團各成員以毛利語打招呼，並唱毛利人歡迎曲，唱完歡迎曲 Mr. Hoani Langsbury 教導代表團打招呼方式，男性對男性及女性打招呼為以鼻子碰鼻子，女性對女性則為擁抱。後 Johannes Fischer 為回報毛利人熱情接待，以毛利語向各耆老致敬，並請代表團各成員唱毛利人歡迎曲 Pōwhiri 回贈。因集會所內部為尊重傳統文化，不鼓勵攝影，此部分僅得文字敘述。

2. 皇家信天翁中心 Royal Albatross Centre

皇家信天翁中心位於奧塔哥半島端點（Taiaroa Head），舊時為軍事要塞據點－奧塔哥砲臺（Fort Taiaroa），起初係為抵禦俄國侵略而建設。作為前軍事要塞，皇家信天翁中心仍保留當時單人監獄 2 座、6 英吋隱沒式後裝炮、軍事瞭望臺（Taiaroa Viewing Platform）等。按導覽員解說，單人監獄的門下有一個小洞被封起來，因為小藍企鵝會鑽進去，因此為避免企鵝誤入即封閉該孔洞。進入砲臺前，外牆放大的 Lancelot Eric Richdale（L.E. Richdale, 1900-1983）照片，寫著「一個人也可以帶來不同。（One person can make difference.）」，L.E. Richdale 為將奧塔哥砲臺，從軍事要

塞爭取轉為信天翁保育中心的重要功臣。

砲臺裡分為地下室、砲塔與瞭望臺三個部分，三處皆具意義深遠的歷史痕跡，惟現行使用做觀察信天翁部分為瞭望臺。因瞭望臺受人數限制，一次至多 25 名參觀，因此代表團分為 2 部分到瞭望臺參觀。皇家信天翁中心提供 10 多架手拿式望遠鏡供觀察，因此行適逢雛鳥進入「獨立留巢期」(post-guard stage)，只見每隻小鳥安靜守在巢中，等待親鳥返巢餵食（按：部分人看到一隻在海上飛行的皇家信天翁成鳥）。

(五) 05 月 23 日－最終報告與閉幕式

會議最終日為逐段朗讀與核准報告文字，針對特定段落的用字及與會代表意見進行採納或修正，確認報告中各國及各國際組織發言的忠實呈現，並視實際需求調整。其中涉我國條文內容與我國代表團發言如下：

1. 決議段落 1.4

原文「亞太經合會論壇 (APEC forum)經濟體成員－中華臺北，以觀察員地位出席。中華臺北的觀察員聲明，提供於附件 12。」我方代表團蔡季廷副教授則指出，APEC 本身即是一個會談組織，加上 forum 乙字，似無必要性，建議移除。惟秘書處執行秘書 Dr. Christine Bogle 及科學事務官 Dr. Wieslawa Misiak 則說明，自過去長久以來，ACAP 範疇之協定及決議，皆載明《APEC forum》，提出刪除 forum 乙字似無必要性；至與會代表建議可將 forum 乙字向後調整至 APEC 縮寫後，後再經我國代表團檢視後，尚可符合語意，爰整段語句調整為「亞太經合會(APEC)論壇經濟體成員－中華臺北，以觀察員地位出席。中華臺北的觀察員聲明，提供於附件 12。」

2. 決議段落 7.4.6

我國做為國際上主要之遠洋漁業經濟體（distant-water fishing economy），多數於我國漁船工作之移工，多為非母語使用英語或中文（Mandarin Chinese）的移工，因此建議相關教育與指引資料應具備多語言版本，提升實質執行能力。此外，我國亦特別重視太平洋地區的陸域生態修復工作，並強調願與 ACAP 合作，於此區域強化陸域棲地保護行動。最終文字呈現如下：

「中華臺北感謝參與策略的準備及完全支持其建議案。作為主要的遠洋漁捕經濟體(distant-water fishing economy)，中華臺北特別重視多語材料的重要性。許多中華臺北海上移工多非英語母語或中文(madarin)使用者，因此倘有多語翻譯的指南及工具包，會大大地加強減緩海鳥混獲。我國也希望強調西北太平洋海鳥陸上威脅的重要性，較海上減緩，中華臺北更重視陸上棲地復原。中華臺北說明已準備好與 ACAP 雙方合作，對多語工具及陸上保育做出努力。」

3. 決議段落 7.4.8

我國代表團蔡季廷副教授指出，implementation 一詞於部分法政體系中可能帶有法律拘束性的含義。為利溝通及實際執行，建議於決議文中補充語句，釐清此處 ACAP 之建議為非強制性質，以協助其更順利與漁業部門接軌與溝通。英國代表團 Mr. Mark Tasher 則稱此段應無保留必要，畢竟各國代表聚集於但尼丁，即係期望 ACAP 可為海鳥保育做出貢獻，且此協定亦係向強制目標前進。與會代表建議，將我國原寫道之「…回應到…」一詞，修正為「…表示道…(…stated that…)」，並刪除 under legal systems、另外則建議刪 “However, in this context” 乙節，並調整語句，增加 “paragraph 5 of the resolution 8.5.”。此外，建議 “To reflect this distinction…”、“Chinese Taipei suggested that caveat word to be added to the Resolution.” 等節刪除。再經我方代表團重新檢視後，尚可同意文字內容，最終文字呈現如下：

「中華臺北表示(*stated that*)『執行*implementation*』乙詞通常暗示著法律強制約束，ACAP 的最佳實踐建議(*Best Practice Advice*)並非強制，在決議案 8.5 的第 4 段，已容許(*allowed*)其與漁業部門更加有效地參與。」

4. 決議段落 7.6.9

我方代表團指出，我國極為重視透過小額補助方案所推動的科學研究與能力建構，並建議建立一個研究成果分享資料庫或平台，使得這些成果不僅對研究者，也能對政策制定者與漁業管理者提供實用參考。此外，英方代表團 Mr. Mark Tasker 建議，相較於單一的「*impact*（**影響**）」，其更希望強調這些計畫的「*value*（**價值**）」與長遠貢獻。與會代表亦建議文句始的「我國表示小型補助機制所提出的貢獻表示有『價值』…」*value* 價值乙詞，改為**感謝**乙詞 *appreciate*。後整段全文再經我方代表團檢視後，尚可作為我方決議文字，最終文字呈現如下：

「我國對小額補助計畫所提供的實務貢獻表達**感謝**，並指出，若能透過一個有組織的知識分享機制，其**價值**將可進一步提升。並觀察到，許多小額補助資助的是科學研究，而這些研究成果除了對研究人員具參考價值外，也可能對漁業管理者與政策制定者有所助益。為促進這些成果的更廣泛使用並鼓勵合作，我國建議建立一個資訊共享平台或線上資料庫，用以彙整並公開未來受資助專案的研究成果。此舉將有助於推動最佳實務的發展與傳播。」

5 月 23 日上午 11 時，ACAP MoP8 會議經各締約方、觀察員等與會各方審議，並通過各項議題，包括決議內容、財務報告、各國家行動計畫及下屆（MoP9）舉辦地點，各國代表亦於會上致詞，表達對 ACAP 成果的認同與持續合作之承諾。由於現任執行秘書 Dr. Christine Bogle 即將於今（2025）年 6 月離任，各國代表發言對其高度致敬長久以來於 ACAP 事務及對海鳥保育之貢獻。會議以毛利民族代表 Mr. Hoani Langsbury 的祝詞與文化故事結尾，最終為 ACAP MoP8 會

議，在莊嚴的毛利祝禱詞及感性的儀式中結束。

有關對 Dr. Christine Bogle 離任，我方代表團發言強調其對 ACAP 行政事務及長久以來海鳥保育的致謝及回顧合作，摘述如後：

「謹代表中華台北，特別是未能出席的海洋委員會副主任委員黃向文博士等同仁，表達對 Dr. Christine Bogle 的誠摯感謝，並高度肯定她多年來對 ACAP 的貢獻，尤其在協助我國參與各項 ACAP 各種會議與活動方面的支持，感謝她對海鳥保育工作的承諾與專業精神，特別指出她對於支持我國有意義地參與 ACAP 會議的開放態度與積極互動，並強調 Dr. Christine Bogle 的鼓勵與支持，使我國能更有意義地參與信天翁與水薙鳥等海鳥保育事務，期盼未來仍有機會再度合作，並祝福 Dr. Christine Bogle 在退休生活與未來冒險中一切順利。」

參、會議期間交流情形

參加本次實體會議係一項重要國際交流機會，本署從實體參與並觀察 ACAP 之海鳥保育工作等相關議題，於 ACAP 締約方大會帶回第一手資訊，另一方面與 ACAP 與會之 13 個會員國及其他觀察員團體進行意見交流，對於我國實質參與 ACAP 及海鳥保育工作，乃至相關會議之籌辦等議題，期望有機會能夠進一步深化合作。會議期間亦有部分意見交流時，提及邀請農業部漁業署及本署，一同合作就漁業作業時，執行海鳥保育措施等相關減緩海鳥混獲的調查計畫。此外，於意見交流時，我方代表團為凸顯我國及本署之海洋保育特色，攜帶本署英語版簡介、燕鷗紙膠帶、海鳥貼紙、海洋生物標誌鐵尺、海洋保育類生物手帕方巾、海底意象束口袋等禮品，贈予與會人員，所攜禮品廣受好評，其中又以小燕鷗紙膠帶尤受外賓喜愛，另，與各國討論時，無論是否有向外賓表達我方代表團來自臺灣，對談者事實多知悉我方代表團國籍。

肆、心得與建議

信天翁與水薙鳥保育協定（Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels, ACAP）是一項多邊協定，於 2001 年 06 月 19 日在澳洲坎培拉開放簽署，並於 2004 年 02 月 01 日生效，目前協定共計有 13 個締約方，包括：阿根廷、澳洲、巴西、智利、厄瓜多、法國、紐西蘭、挪威、秘魯、南非、西班牙、英國和烏拉圭，協定總部位於澳洲塔斯馬尼亞州霍巴特（Hobart）。其宗旨在透過協調國際行動，減輕對信天翁（Albatrosses）及水薙鳥（Petrel and Shearwater）等海鳥族群的生存威脅，以保護被列入 ACAP 名單中的 31 個海鳥物種，締約國家除紐、澳、英、法等國為關鍵外，其他多數為屬中南美洲國家，主要關注南半球信天翁及水薙鳥等海鳥物種遷徙路徑之涵蓋海陸域範圍，相關棲地、漁業或生存威脅課題。

ACAP 每三年召開一次會員大會（Meeting of Parties, MoP），由締約方參與並通過決議，此三年期間會有海鳥混獲、族群及保育狀態等工作小組會議（Working Group）針對視各項海鳥保育議題提出建議，各建議會提報至諮詢委員會（Advisory Committee, AC），通過後交由秘書處執行，如有提案則會由諮詢委員會提報至會員大會討論，雖然只是 13 個會員國及幾個觀察員組成的小型國際組織，但整體運作制度完善，大會章程及議事規則，均依循國際組織之慣例，相關決議須經所有會員國無異議才得通過。

2019 年我國首次受邀以觀察員（observer）身分參與在巴西召開之 ACAP 第 11 屆諮詢委員會（AC11），展現我國積極參與國際保育之決心。而第 8 屆締約方大會（MoP8）於 5 月 19 至 5 月 23 日於紐西蘭但尼丁舉行，由紐西蘭保育總署國際業務主管 Denica Stent 女士擔任主席，本次共有 13 個締約國及 4 個觀察員出席會議。本次會議重點包含未來 AC 主辦國問題、制度改革提案、目前各國保育行動（包括國家行動計畫(NPOA)）執行進度與概況、財務效能檢討、秘書處效能審查及三年計畫、物種修訂、物種現況及行動方案草擬、漁業混獲危機、與漁業組織溝通策略、能力建構報告、小型補助方案及人才交流實習等。

我國以觀察員身分參與本次 ACAP 締約方大會，透過實質參與會議過程充

分表達，我國積極掌握國際趨勢從事有關海鳥保育議題之合作意願與展現我國願以具體作為做出貢獻，包括自願捐款贊助本組織之經費、海鳥保育相關行動及投入之科研調查成果等資訊的分享等，謹就此次參與會議的心得及建議分點整理說明如下。

一、 努力實績 獲得認同

有關資助研究部分，我國已於 2022 與 2024 年捐助 ACAP 小型基金，並願意深化參與，持續透過經驗交流與合作貢獻保育行動。ACAP 大會及秘書處於會議期間，也獲得肯定我國對於 ACAP 特別基金的捐助。

2022 年，我國自願捐款（voluntary contribution）2 萬澳元，用於支持 ACAP 執行降低海鳥混獲之忌避措施（Seabird bycatch mitigation）相關小型補助計畫（Small Grants Programme），該款項由 ACAP 秘書處統籌並用於支持 Nigel Brothers 進行重型魚鉤(Heavy Hook)研發，以減少遠洋漁業(distant-water fisheries)中海鳥混獲的影響。2024 年，我國亦捐款 2 萬澳元支持 ACAP 推動海鳥保育工作。此外，我國中華鳥會與 CCSBT 共同主辦「減緩海鳥混獲工作坊」，邀請國際永續海鮮基金會（ISSF）及國際鳥盟（BLI）專家分享鮪延繩釣漁業中的減緩海鳥混獲措施與最佳實踐，獲得執行秘書及與會各方的好評肯定，充分展現我國願意為 ACAP 提供實質貢獻。

二、 漁業混獲 依舊關注

我國於會議中表示願加強與 ACAP 及 RFMOs 合作，共同減緩海鳥混獲問題。也分享臺灣推動公私協作、社群平台參與、教育宣導的經驗，提高基層認知。

而海保署作為海鳥保育業務的窗口，綜觀本次締約方大會中所提及之議題，仍不斷強調「海鳥保育之威脅，主要仍來自於漁業混獲所致」。本次會議期間於討論「信天翁與水薺鳥面臨保育危機」的保育決議草案時，所出現會議決議文書涉及漁業混獲議題，有可能實質影響後續我國遠洋漁業管理相關之規範文

字，當下雖經即時與農業部漁業署相關人員聯繫確認後，我方發言建議調整文字增加“依各自情況”，以反應國內漁業實務狀況，該建議獲得紐西蘭與澳洲的支持，最終納入決議內容。本事例雖經由代表團積極向大會提出文字修正之調整建議，避免造成我國現階段漁業管理相關困擾，但基於保育措施與產業管理仍係一體兩面之議題，為確保兼顧產業及保育措施進行有效作為，爰強烈建議爾後 ACAP 會議仍請農業部漁業署評估派員參與。

三、 跨域治理 國際趨勢

我國表達支持 ACAP 對區域漁業管理組織（RFMOs）的參與策略，並指出其遠洋漁業船隊中多數船員為非英語或中文母語者，建議製作多語言版本的小冊子與教育資料，以利保育措施落實。也特別指出北太平洋區域的保育重點除了海上威脅，亦須重視繁殖地的陸地復育與棲地管理，願意與 ACAP 合作相關工作，強調自 2019 年以來我國持續投入海鳥保育，特別是信天翁科與水薙鳥科，會中並提出四項缺口呼籲 ACAP 提高保育野心。

另綜觀其他與會之國家所派出之代表，除外交體系人員外，如澳洲（氣候變遷、能源、環境與水資源部門）、巴西（環境與氣候變遷部－漁業共同管理部門）、智利（經濟、發展與旅遊部－漁業及養殖次秘書處）、紐西蘭（保育部門）、南非（森林、漁業與環境部門）、西班牙（生態轉型與人口挑戰部）、英國（環境、食物與農村發展部門）、烏拉圭（環境部），顯見許多國家在看待海鳥保育工作，已是從跨部門、跨領域的能源、氣候變遷、漁業、環境等不同專業領域，以整合資源觀念參與海鳥保育有關之各項議題討論及尋求因應，值得國內在面對海鳥保育議題，諸如漁業混獲、離岸風場的影響時，如何與經濟發展需求取得平衡，更有賴跨部會、跨部門、跨專業，共同來合作尋求更佳解決方案，未來並得藉以於 ACAP 締約方或專家諮詢會議中，與各國分享及提供海鳥保育貢獻。

四、 實質參與 分享成就

我國代表團因僅以觀察員身分與會，因此在會議過程重要議題分組均僅限

會員國代表參與，較為可惜，惟透過實際參與會議過程，除向與會各國說明我國理解漁業混獲對海鳥族群的傷害程度，並對於遠洋延繩釣作業強制三選二的忌避措施（夜間投繩、支繩加重、避鳥繩）等，另外，境內對海鳥陸上威脅亦已有相關研究及心得，包括我國在海鳥保育工作上，有劃設保護區及移除鼠害等措施。

有關國際合作及參與層面，我國自 2022 年以來首次自願捐獻 2 萬元澳幣，以支持 ACAP 漁業混獲相關研究之小型計畫，截至今（2025）年為止，皆持續為海鳥保育工作，捐助 ACAP 經費進行研究，秘書處亦在會議期間對我國貢獻表示感謝，愛我國除以實質上提供經費給 ACAP 及新銳科學家進行海鳥保育相關研究，倘我國參與實質參與並提供具體研究數據，應可能相對較具有實際意義，建議未來應持續捐助並支持 ACAP，俾提升我國在 ACAP 架構中，有關研究的重要性與影響力。

五、 研究成果 具體貢獻

本屆會議有關科學議題並未提出新增物種，惟紐、澳合作擬向 CMS 提案將肉足水薺鳥（Flesh-footed Shearwater）列入 CMS 公約附錄 II，而我國代表團洪博士於會中分享發現我國與日本繁殖地遭褐鼠（溝鼠）及野貓入侵所受到之威脅，也在會中建議提高陸上威脅的評分標準。

未來針對提升海洋保育之科學研究量能與人才培育方面，建議持續鼓勵、支持國內專家學者參與 ACAP 之諮詢委員會(AC)會議及相關工作小組(Working groups)工作坊(Workshop)，包括有志於從事海鳥保育之大專院校博士候選人及博士後研究員，本次締約方大會中多次提及人才交流及培育計畫，我國亦可考慮建立人才庫、支持培養科學研究（包括自然科學與社會科學、法學等）及跨領域研究人才實質參與相關保育會議，並協助爭取相關研究經費及計畫。此類作為不僅能有效建立並豐富我國人才庫，更能貢獻臺灣的相關研究資料，亦能加強國際間合作交流，提升我國在海鳥保育議題上的能見度與影響力。

六、 培育人才 國際交流

ACAP 每三年召開一次會員大會（Meeting of Parties, MoP），此三年期間會有海鳥混獲、族群及保育狀態等工作小組會議（Working Group）針對視各項海鳥保育議題提出建議，各建議會提報至諮詢委員會（AC），雖然只是 13 個會員國及幾個觀察員包括美國、臺灣、納米比亞等國及 IUCN、國際鳥盟（BLI）等 IGO 及 NGO 所組成的小型國際組織，但整體運作依循國際組織慣例，大會章程及議事規則完整。我國雖僅得以觀察員身分參加，但仍舊是相當好的學習及參與國際組織正式會議的機會。

此外會議中間休息期間，我方代表團成員與其他 13 個會員國及觀察員之團體等代表皆有直接互動交流，也表達我們來自臺灣，我方在海鳥保育工作上希望與 ACAP 相關會員國有更多合作機會。

而海洋保育相關國際組織的參與，除有利於相關海洋保育政策掌握國際趨勢及制定合宜之政策外，透過參與實體會議的過程，更有助於同仁提高國際視野，培養更進階的國際觀，我國自 2019 年首次以觀察員身分參與 ACAP 會議以來，已參與四次 AC 會議，而本次係第二次參與 MoP 會議，藉此展現我國對國際海鳥保育議題的重視，促進實質合作的可能性，也可提供海保署同仁參與國際事務的場合，相信透過會議籌辦過程及實際經驗，可增加同仁對於國際組織相關會議運作及程序的理解；此外，對於國際間重要國際組織除了目前已有派員參加之 CBD、CITES、APEC 等組織及其年度重要會議外，應再廣泛蒐集尋求擴大其他諸如 CMS 等保育相關重要組織會議參與之機會，培養國際合作人才及透過專家學者協助牽線，擴展與相關國家進一步互動交流合作之機會。



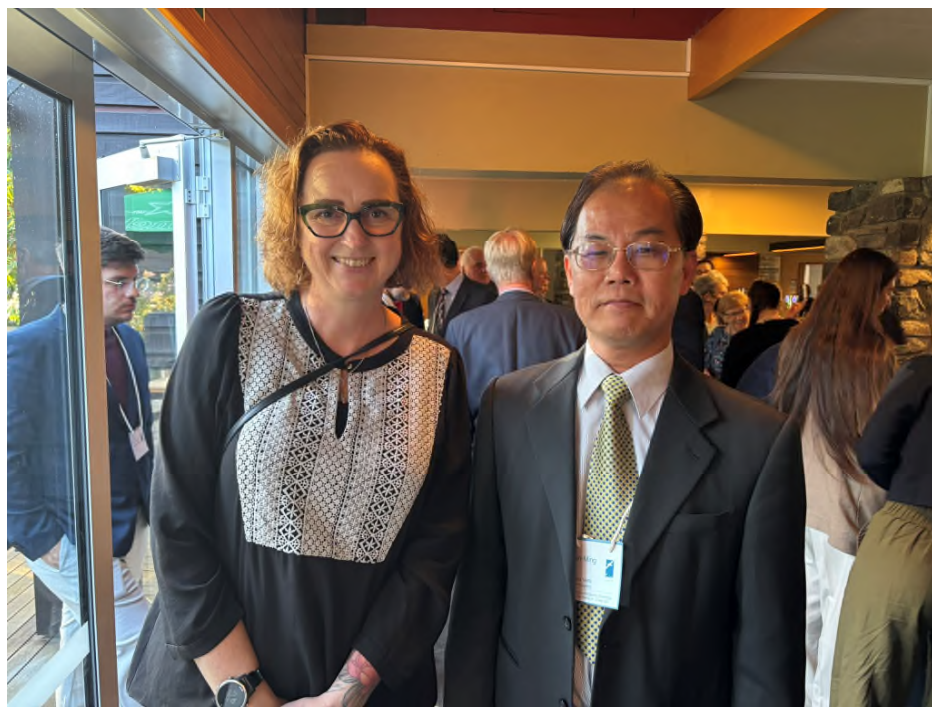
圖一、MoP8 與會人員合照



圖二、會場一隅信天翁意象



圖三、ACAP MoP8 會議現場討論與交流情形



圖四、我方代表與紐西蘭保育總署（Department of Conservation, DOC）副署長
Stephanie Rowe 合影



圖五、我方代表與大會主席 Ms. Denica Srent 合影



圖六、我方代表與大會副主席 Dr. Michael Double 及執行秘書 Dr. Christine Bogle 合影



圖七、我方代表與候任執行秘書 Mr. Jonathon Barrington 合影



圖八、皇家信天翁中心入口




圖九、進入奧塔哥砲臺（觀測塔）入口處



圖十、休會期間參訪皇家信天翁中心之北方皇家信天翁幼鳥


附錄

- 一、 **MoP8 會議日程表**
- 二、 **MoP8 與會名單**
- 三、 **MoP8 會議結論報告**

 <p>Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Eighth Meeting of the Parties <i>Dunedin, New Zealand, 19 - 23 May 2025</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Provisional Agenda</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Secretariat, Advisory Committee Chair, MoP7 Chair, Advisory Committee</i></p>
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<p style="text-align: center;">Provisional Agenda Eighth Session of the Meeting of the Parties to ACAP</p>	
<p>1. Official Opening</p> <p>1.1 Official Opening and Opening Statements</p>	<p>2. Procedural Issues</p> <p>2.1 Adoption of Agenda</p> <p>2.2 Amendments to the MoP Rules of Procedure</p> <p>2.3 Establishment of Credentials Committee</p>
<p>3. Reports</p> <p>3.1 Report of Credentials Committee</p> <p>3.2 Report of the Depositary</p> <p>3.3 Reports of Observers</p>	<p>4. Operation of the Secretariat</p> <p>4.1 Report of the Secretariat</p> <p>4.2 Secretariat Work Programme 2026 - 2028</p> <p>4.3 Review of Staff Regulations</p> <p>4.4 Review of Financial Regulations</p> <p>4.5 Review of Effectiveness of the Secretariat</p> <p>4.6 Recruitment of the Agreement's Executive Secretary</p>
<p>5. Operation of the Meeting of the Parties</p>	<p>6. Operation of the Advisory Committee</p> <p>6.1 Report of the Advisory Committee</p> <p>6.1.1 Advisory Committee reporting framework</p> <p>6.2 Advisory Committee Work Programme 2026 - 2028</p>

7.	Operation of the Agreement
7.1	Proposed Amendment to Annex 1 - listing of new species
7.2	Criteria for listing and de-listing species in Annex 1
7.3	Report on Implementation of the Agreement
7.4	Identification of Priority Actions for Conservation Measures
7.5	Indicators to Measure the Success of the Agreement
7.6	Capacity Building
7.7	Communication Strategy
7.8	Arrangements with Other Organisations
7.9	Financial Report
7.10	Agreement Budget 2026 - 2028
7.11	Scale of Contributions
7.12	National Plans of Action
7.13	Accession of non-Party Range States to the Agreement
8.	Provisional Date and Venue of the Ninth Meeting
9.	Other Business
9.1	Media Release
9.2	Participation at future Conferences
10.	Adoption of MoP8 Report
11.	Closing Remarks

 <p>Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Eighth Meeting of the Parties <i>Dunedin, New Zealand, 19 - 23 May 2025</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Annotated Provisional Agenda</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Secretariat, MoP8 Vice-chair</p>
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Agenda Item	Documents
<p>1. Official opening</p> <p>1.1. Official opening and opening statements</p> <p><i>An opening speech will be provided by New Zealand. Election of Chair of MoP8. The Secretariat will inform delegates of administrative and organisational matters. Parties will be provided with an opportunity to give a brief opening statement.</i></p>	
<p>2. Procedural issues</p> <p>2.1. Adoption of Agenda</p> <p><i>The Meeting will be invited to review the Provisional Agenda, and to make any proposals for a Supplementary Agenda prior to the formal adoption of a meeting agenda.</i></p> <p>Outcome: Adoption of the meeting agenda and Supplementary Agenda if required.</p> <p>2.2. Amendments to the MoP Rules of Procedure</p> <p><i>A proposal to amend Rule 4 of the Rules of Procedure will be presented by the Secretariat.</i></p> <p>Action/expected outcome: Adoption or rejection of the proposed amendment to the MoP Rules of Procedure. <u>Resolution 8.x</u>.</p> <p>2.3. Establishment of Credentials Committee</p> <p><i>Parties will be invited to nominate Members for a Credentials Committee consisting of three Representatives of the Parties.</i></p> <p>Outcome: Establishment of a Credentials Committee to review the credentials submitted by Parties in accordance with Rule 5(3) of the</p>	<p>MoP8 Doc 01 MoP8 Doc 02 MoP8 Doc 03 MoP8 Doc 04 MoP8 Doc 05</p> <p>MoP8 Doc 06</p>


<p>MoP Rules of Procedure; (also see ACAP – ANCP Circular 2025-02 for guidelines on submission of Credentials to the MoP)</p>	
<p>3. Reports</p> <p>3.1. Report of Credentials Committee</p> <p><i>The Chair of the Credentials Committee will present a report on the outcome of the Committee's considerations.</i></p> <p>Outcome: Endorsement of the findings of the Credentials Committee.</p> <p>3.2. Report of the Depositary</p> <p><i>Australia, as the Depositary for the Agreement, will provide an update on the status of the Agreement since MoP7.</i></p> <p>3.3. Reports of Observers</p> <p><i>Observers to the Meeting will be provided with an opportunity to give a brief report on activities relevant to the MoP8 agenda.</i></p>	<p>MoP8 Doc 07</p> <p>MoP8 Inf 03</p>
<p>4. Operation of the Secretariat</p> <p>4.1. Report of the Secretariat</p> <p><i>The Secretariat will report on its activities over the past triennium.</i></p> <p>Outcome: Parties note progress on the activities undertaken</p> <p>4.2. Secretariat Work Programme 2026 - 2028</p> <p><i>Consideration by Parties of the proposed Secretariat Work Programme for 2026 - 2028.</i></p> <p>Outcome: Adoption of the Secretariat Work Programme for the 2026 – 2028 triennium. <u>Resolution 8.x</u></p> <p>4.3. Review of Staff Regulations</p> <p><i>Any items arising from the Report of the Secretariat relevant to the Staff Regulations will be considered, as required.</i></p> <p>Outcome: Parties to give consideration to any issues relating to the Staff Regulations arising from the Secretariat Report</p> <p>4.4. Review of Financial Regulations</p> <p><i>Items arising from the Report of the Secretariat and the Interim 2025 Financial Report relevant to the Financial Regulations will be considered, as required. A proposal to establish a Budget Sub-committee will be considered.</i></p> <p>Outcome: Parties to identify and propose follow up on any issues relating to the Financial Regulations arising from the Secretariat Report and the Financial Report. Adoption or rejection of the</p>	<p>MoP8 Doc 08</p> <p>MoP8 Doc 18</p> <p>MoP8 Doc 08</p> <p>MoP8 Doc 08 MoP8 Doc 09 MoP8 Doc 23</p>

<p>proposed amendment to the Financial Regulations to establish a Budget Sub-committee. <u>Resolution 8.x.</u></p> <p>4.5. Review of the Effectiveness of the Secretariat</p> <p><i>Parties to consider Terms of Reference for the MoP9 review of effectiveness of the Secretariat and appoint a Review Body with regional representation.</i></p> <p>Outcome: Terms of Reference agreed, and Review Body appointed; <u>Resolution 8.x</u></p> <p>4.6 Recruitment of the Agreement's Executive Secretary</p> <p><i>The Secretariat will brief Parties on the appointment of a new Executive Secretary (see also ACAP- ANCP Circular 2024-05) and timetable for handover.</i></p> <p>Outcome: Parties welcome Executive Secretary appointment.</p>	<p>MoP8 Doc 10</p>
<p>5. Operation of the Meeting of the Parties</p> <p><i>No papers have been submitted for consideration under this agenda item.</i></p>	
<p>6. Operation of the Advisory Committee</p> <p>6.1. Report of the Advisory Committee</p> <p><i>The Advisory Committee Chair will present a report on its activities and outcomes of meetings of the Advisory Committee held since MoP7, with particular reference to progress under Article IX of the Agreement. This is a key item for discussion during the meeting</i></p> <p>6.1.1 Advisory Committee reporting framework</p> <p>Outcome: Parties to consider any matters arising from the report on the work of the Advisory Committee in 2023 – 2025.</p> <p>6.2. Advisory Committee Work Programme 2026 - 2028</p> <p><i>The Advisory Committee at its Fourteenth Meeting discussed and endorsed a 2026 – 2028 Work Programme for the Advisory Committee and its Working Groups. Parties are requested to examine the proposed AC Work Programme.</i></p> <p>Outcome: Adoption of the Advisory Committee Work Programme for 2026 - 2028. <u>Resolution 8.x</u></p>	<p>MoP8 Doc 11</p> <p>MoP8 Doc 17</p>
<p>7. Operation of the Agreement</p> <p>7.1. Proposed amendment to Annex 1 - listing of new species</p> <p><i>No proposals have been submitted by Parties for the listing of new species on Annex 1.</i></p>	

<p>7.2. Criteria for listing and de-listing species in Annex 1</p> <p><i>MoP8 Inf 01 provides a list of candidate species according to agreed taxonomy, sorted by suitability of species for inclusion on Annex 1 of the Agreement.</i></p>	<p>MoP8 Inf 01</p>
<p>7.3. Report on Implementation of the Agreement</p> <p><i>The Secretariat will present a summary document, compiled from implementation reports provided to the Secretariat by Parties to the Agreement. This is a key item for discussion at the meeting.</i></p> <p>Outcome: A discussion among Parties on the progress and challenges of implementing the Agreement.</p>	<p>MoP8 Doc 12 MoP8 Doc 13 MoP8 Doc 14 MoP8 Inf 02</p>
<p>7.4. Identification of priority actions for conservation measures</p> <p><i>The Advisory Committee Chair will report on the update of the conservation priorities following the framework developed by the Agreement to address land-based and at-sea threats.</i></p> <p><i>The updated RFMCO Strategy will be presented for endorsement.</i></p> <p><i>New Zealand will propose a Resolution on Actions to address the conservation crisis faced by albatrosses and petrels due to the threat of fisheries bycatch.</i></p> <p>Outcome: Endorsement of the list of priority actions to address at-sea and land-based threats impacting ACAP-listed species. RFMCO Strategy is endorsed. Adoption or rejection of the proposed Resolution. <u>Resolution 8.x.</u></p>	<p>MoP8 Doc 15 MoP8 Doc 22 MoP8 Doc 24</p>
<p>7.5. Indicators to measure the success of the Agreement</p> <p><i>The Advisory Committee Chair will report on ACAP indicators that assess the current status of breeding sites, population sizes, population trends, and the availability of tracking data.</i></p> <p>Outcome: Discussion on the status of ACAP species and the success of the Agreement to date based on ACAP's suite of indicators. Identification of further actions required to develop and report on ACAP indicators.</p>	<p>MoP8 Doc 13 MoP8 Doc 14</p>
<p>7.6. Capacity building</p> <p><i>The Secretariat will introduce MoP8 Doc 16 on capacity building indicators and activities. Parties to consider the utility of continuing to present all current capacity building indicators.</i></p> <p>Outcome: Note capacity building initiatives undertaken in the last triennium and identify new initiatives for 2026 – 2028. Agree to discontinue capacity building indicator relevant to domestic activities.</p>	<p>MoP8 Doc 16 MoP8 Doc 25</p>

<p>7.7. Communications Strategy</p> <p><i>An update is provided on the implementation of ACAP's Communications Strategy. A proposal is made for the establishment for a permanent part-time Communications Adviser position.</i></p> <p>Outcome: Proposal for new staff position is accepted or rejected.</p>	<p>MoP8 Doc 26</p>
<p>7.8. Arrangements with other organisations</p> <p><i>The Secretariat will present a report on existing arrangements plus two proposals for new arrangements one of which is ready for signature and the other under development.</i></p> <p>Outcome: Parties welcome progress with arrangements with other organisations. MoP agrees (or rejects) proposals to conclude an arrangement with the CTMFM and develop one with GFW.</p> <p><u>Resolution 8.x</u></p>	<p>MoP8 Doc 21</p>
<p>7.9. Financial Report</p> <p><i>The interim financial report for the 2025 financial year provides provisional information on progress to date. A final report is sent to Parties at the end of the financial year. Financial Regulation 11 requires that an external auditor be appointed at each ordinary Session of the Meeting of the Parties.</i></p> <p>Outcome: Interim Financial Report noted. Meeting agrees to appoint an audit company designated by the Tasmanian Audit Office as the Agreement's external auditor in accordance with Financial Regulation 11.1.</p>	<p>MoP8 Doc 09</p>
<p>7.10 Agreement Budget 2026 - 2028</p> <p><i>The Secretariat has prepared three scenarios for a Draft 2026 - 2028 Budget for the Agreement. Parties are requested to consider these scenarios and adopt a budget for the 2026 - 2028 triennium. This is a key item for discussion.</i></p> <p>Outcome: Adoption of the Agreement Budget for 2026 - 2028.</p> <p><u>Resolution 8.x</u></p>	<p>MoP8 Doc 19</p>
<p>7.11. Scale of Contributions</p> <p><i>A draft of three scenarios for the scale of contributions for the 2026 - 2028 triennium is provided for the consideration of Parties. These have been developed in accordance with the principles agreed to by Parties at MoP3 and is based on the formula adopted by Parties at MoP4. This is a key item for discussion and a decision is essential.</i></p> <p>Outcome: Adoption of a Scale of Contributions for the 2026 - 2028 triennium. <u>Resolution 8.x</u></p>	<p>MoP8 Doc 20</p>

<p>7.12. National Plans of Action</p> <p><i>No papers have been submitted for consideration under this agenda item. Parties will have the opportunity to refer briefly to progress and actions taken relative to their National Plans of Action – Seabirds.</i></p> <p>7.13. Accession of non-Party Range States to the Agreement</p> <p><i>The Secretariat Report contains information on the implementation of the Secretariat Work Programme, including liaison with potential Parties to the Agreement.</i></p> <p>Outcome: Note progress with engagement on accession of non-Party Range States to the Agreement made during the triennium.</p>	<p>MoP8 Doc 08</p>
<p>8. Provisional date and venue of the Ninth Meeting of the Parties</p> <p><i>Offers are sought from Parties to host the Ninth Session of the Meeting of the Parties (MoP9).</i></p>	
<p>9. Other business</p> <p>9.1. Media release</p> <p><i>The Secretariat (together with New Zealand) will prepare a media release at the conclusion of the meeting.</i></p> <p>9.2 Participation at future Conferences</p> <p><i>The Chair of the Advisory Committee will refer to the possible participation of ACAP in conferences during the 2026 – 2028 triennium.</i></p>	
<p>10. Adoption of MoP8 Report</p> <p><i>The Report of the meeting is to be drafted and adopted in plenary by the Parties.</i></p> <p>Outcome: Adoption of MoP8 Report.</p>	
<p>11. Closing remarks</p> <p><i>The Chair will sum up the agreed outcomes of the meeting. Parties will have the opportunity to make closing remarks.</i></p>	

 <p>Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Eighth Meeting of the Parties <i>Dunedin, New Zealand, 19 - 23 May 2025</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Meeting Schedule</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Secretariat, MoP8 Vice-chair</i></p>
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Provisional Schedule, Eighth Meeting of the Parties (MoP8)		
Time	Agenda item / Activity	Venue
SUNDAY 18 MAY		
18.00 – 19.30	Heads of Delegation Meeting	Plenary Room
MONDAY 19 MAY		
08.30 – 09.00	Registration	Foyer
09.00	<i>Traditional Māori welcome (“Mihi Whakatau”)</i>	
09.15	1.1 Official opening and opening statements	
09.45 – 10.15	Coffee break	Foyer
10.15	2.1 Adoption of the Agenda	
10.30	2.3 Establishment of Credentials Committee	
10.40	3.2 Report of the Depositary	
10.50	2.2 Amendments to MoP Rules of Procedure	
11.00	4.1 Report of the Secretariat	
11.30	4.3 Review of Staff Regulations	
11.40	7.13 Accession of non-Party Range States	
12.00	7.9 Financial Report	
12.30 – 14.00	Lunch	Restaurant
14.00	4.4 Review of Financial Regulations	
14.30	7.10 Agreement Budget 2026 - 2028	
15.00	7.11 Scale of Contributions	
15.30 – 16.00	Coffee break	Foyer

Provisional Schedule, Eighth Meeting of the Parties (MoP8)		
Time	Agenda item / Activity	Venue
16.00	7.8 Arrangements with other organisations	
16.30	4.5 Review of the effectiveness of the Secretariat	
16.50	4.2 Secretariat Work Programme 2026 – 2028	
17.05	7.1 Proposed amendment to Annex 1 – listing of new species	
17.15	7.2 Criteria for listing and de-listing species in Annex 1	
17.30	Adjourn	
18.00 - 19.30	<i>New Zealand Welcome Reception</i>	<i>TBC</i>
TUESDAY 20 MAY		
09.00	3.1 Report of Credentials Committee	
09.15	7.3 Report on Implementation of the Agreement	
09.45	7.12 National Plans of Action	
10.00	6.1 Report of the Advisory Committee	
10.30 – 11.00	Coffee break	Foyer
11.00	7.5 Indicators to measure the success of the Agreement	
11.30	7.4 Identification of priority actions for conservation measures	
12.30 – 14.00	Lunch	Restaurant
14.00	7.7 Communications Strategy	
14.30	7.6 Capacity building	
15.00	6.2 Advisory Committee Work Programme 2026 – 2028	
15.15	3.3 Reports of Observers attending MoP8	
15.30 – 16.00	Coffee Break	Foyer
16.00	5. Operation of the Meeting of the Parties	
16.30	7.10 Agreement Budget 2026 – 2028 (continued)	
17.00	7.11 Scale of Contributions (continued)	
17.30	Adjourn	
WEDNESDAY 21 MAY		
09.00	4.4 Review of Financial Regulations (continued)	
09.30	7.10 Agreement Budget 2026 – 2028 (continued)	
10.00	7.11 Scale of Contributions (continued)	
10.30 – 11.00	Coffee break	Foyer

Provisional Schedule, Eighth Meeting of the Parties (MoP8)		
Time	Agenda item / Activity	Venue
11.00	2.2 Amendments to MoP Rules of Procedure (continued)	
11.15	4.5 Review of the effectiveness of the Secretariat (continued)	
11.30	7.8 Arrangements with other organisations (continued)	
11.45	7.4 Identification of priority actions for conservation measures (continued)	
12.30 – 14.00	Lunch	Restaurant
14.00	4.6 Recruitment of the Agreement's Executive Secretary	
14.15	8. Provisional Date and Venue for MoP9	
14.25	9.2 Participation at future Conferences	
14.35	9.1 Media release	
14.45	7.10 Agreement Budget 2026 - 2028 (continued)	
15.30 – 16.00	Coffee Break	Foyer
16.00	7.11 Scale of Contributions (continued)	
16.30	6.2 Advisory Committee Work Programme 2026 – 2028 (continued)	
16.45	4.2 Secretariat Work Programme 2026 – 2028 (continued)	
17.00	9. Any Other Business	
17.30	Adjourn	
18.00 - 19.30	<i>Forest and Bird Reception</i>	TBC
THURSDAY 22 MAY		
	<i>Report drafting</i>	
10.00 – 14.00	<i>Excursion</i>	TBC
FRIDAY 23 MAY		
09.00	10. Adoption of Report	
10.30 – 11.00	Coffee break	Foyer
11.00	10. Adoption of Report (continued)	
12.30 – 14.00	Lunch	Restaurant
14.00	10. Adoption of Report (continued)	
15.30 – 16.00	Coffee break	Foyer
16.00	10. Adoption of Report (continued)	
17.15	11. Closing remarks	
17.30 – 17.45	<i>Close of Meeting - Traditional Māori farewell and blessing</i>	

 <p>Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Eighth Meeting of the Parties <i>Dunedin, New Zealand, 19 - 23 May 2025</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">List of Meeting Documents</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Secretariat</p>
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WORKING DOCUMENTS			
Paper	Title	Agenda Item	Submitted by
MoP8 Doc 01	Provisional Agenda	2.1	Secretariat, Advisory Committee Chair, MoP7 Chair, Advisory Committee
MoP8 Doc 02	Annotated Provisional Agenda	2.1	Secretariat, MoP8 Vice-chair
MoP8 Doc 03	Meeting Schedule	2.1	Secretariat, MoP8 Vice-chair
MoP8 Doc 04	List of Meeting Documents	2.1	Secretariat
MoP8 Doc 05	List of Meeting Participants	2	Secretariat
MoP8 Doc 06	Amendment to Rule 4 of the Rules of Procedure for the Meeting of the Parties	2.2	Secretariat
MoP8 Doc 07	Report of Depositary Government on the Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels (Canberra, 19 June 2001)	3.2	Australia
MoP8 Doc 08	Secretariat Report	4.1, 4.3, 4.4, 7.13	Secretariat
MoP8 Doc 09	Interim 2025 Financial Report	4.4, 7.9	Secretariat
MoP8 Doc 10	Review of the effectiveness of the Secretariat	4.5	Secretariat
MoP8 Doc 11	Advisory Committee Report to the Eighth Meeting of Parties	6.1	Advisory Committee
MoP8 Doc 12	Summary Report on Progress with the Implementation of the Agreement 2022 - 2024	7.3	Secretariat

WORKING DOCUMENTS			
Paper	Title	Agenda Item	Submitted by
MoP8 Doc 13	Status of ACAP species, populations and breeding sites	7.3, 7.5	Advisory Committee, Secretariat
MoP8 Doc 14	Threats to ACAP species and mitigation actions	7.3, 7.5	Advisory Committee, Secretariat
MoP8 Doc 15	ACAP Priority Conservation Actions for 2026 - 2028	7.4	Advisory Committee, Secretariat
MoP8 Doc 16	Capacity building and outreach	7.6	Secretariat, Advisory Committee Chair
MoP8 Doc 17	Draft Advisory Committee Work Programme 2026 - 2028	6.2	Advisory Committee
MoP8 Doc 18	Draft Secretariat Work Programme 2026 - 2028	4.2	Secretariat
MoP8 Doc 19	Draft Agreement Budget 2026 - 2028	7.10	Secretariat
MoP8 Doc 20	Draft Scale of Contributions 2026 - 2028	7.11	Secretariat
MoP8 Doc 21	Arrangements with other organisations	7.8	Secretariat
MoP8 Doc 22	Actions to address the conservation crisis faced by albatrosses and petrels due to the threat of fisheries bycatch	7.4	New Zealand
MoP8 Doc 23	Establishing a Budget Sub-committee	4.4	Australia, New Zealand
MoP8 Doc 24	ACAP Engagement Strategy with Regional Fisheries Management and Conservation Organisations	7.4	AC Intersessional Correspondence Group, Secretariat
MoP8 Doc 25	ACAP Small Grants and Secondment Programmes: Resources Allocated by the Agreement and their Conservation Value	7.6	Advisory Committee Intersessional Group, Advisory Committee Chair
MoP8 Doc 26	Implementation of ACAP Communications Strategy	7.7	Secretariat

INFORMATION DOCUMENTS			
Paper	Title	Agenda Item	Submitted by
MoP8 Inf 01	Considering nominations to Annex 1 of the Agreement - list of candidate species	7.2	Secretariat
MoP8 Inf 02	Parties' 2024 Implementation Reports submitted late	7.3	Secretariat
MoP8 Inf 03	Observer Report	3.3	BirdLife International

 <p>Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels</p>	<p>Eighth Meeting of the Parties <i>Dunedin, New Zealand, 19 - 23 May 2025</i></p> <p>List of Meeting Participants</p> <p><i>Secretariat</i></p>
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**Agreement on the Conservation of
Albatrosses and Petrels**

**REPORT OF
THE EIGHTH SESSION OF
THE MEETING OF THE PARTIES**

*Dunedin, New Zealand
19 – 23 May 2025*

LIST OF ACRONYMS

AC	Advisory Committee (AC1, AC2 etc refer to the first, second, etc meetings of the Advisory Committee)
ACAP	Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels
ACWP	Advisory Committee Work Programme
APEC	Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation
BLI	BirdLife International
CCAMLR	Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources
CMS	Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals
CTMFM	Comisión Técnica Mixta del Frente Marítimo
CCSBT	Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna
DOC	Department of Conservation (New Zealand)
EM	Electronic Monitoring
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GFW	Global Fishing Watch
HPAI	Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (H5N1)
ICCAT	International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas
ICG	Intersessional Correspondence Group
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature
MoP	Meeting of the Parties (MoP1, MoP2 etc refer to the first, second etc Sessions of the Meeting of Parties)
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
NPOA-S	National Plan of Action – Seabirds
PaCSWG	Population and Conservation Status Working Group
RCB	Regional Conservation Body
RFMO	Regional Fisheries Management Organisation
RFMCO	Regional Fisheries Management and Conservation Organisation
t-RFMO	tuna Regional Fisheries Management Organisation
SBWG	Seabird Bycatch Working Group
TWG	Taxonomy Working Group
UK	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
USA	United States of America
\$	Australian Dollars (AUD)

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1 OFFICIAL OPENING AND OPENING STATEMENTS

- 1.1 The Eighth Session of the Meeting of the Parties (MoP8) to the Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels (ACAP) was held at Dunedin, New Zealand, from 19 to 23 May 2025. The meeting was officially opened by Dr Michael Double, Chair of the Advisory Committee, as Acting Chair of the Session in accordance with Rule 12(2) of the Rules of Procedure for the MoP.
- 1.2 All thirteen Parties to the Agreement were represented at the Session: Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Chile, Ecuador, France, New Zealand, Norway, Peru, South Africa, Spain, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (UK) and Uruguay.
- 1.3 Three non-Party Range States: Canada, Namibia and the United States of America (USA), sent their apologies.
- 1.4 An Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum member economy, Chinese Taipei, attended the meeting in an observer capacity. Chinese Taipei's opening statement is provided in **ANNEX 12**.
- 1.5 The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), BirdLife International (BLI) and Royal Forest & Bird Protection Society of New Zealand also attended the meeting in an observer capacity. Humane World for Animals Australia sent their apologies.
- 1.6 The List of Participants is provided in **ANNEX 9**. The List of Documents is provided in **ANNEX 11**.
- 1.7 As is customary in New Zealand, delegates were given a traditional welcome. This welcome was given by Hoani Langsbury, an elder of the local indigenous people. His welcome acknowledged those who have come before us, and ensured that we are firmly rooted in the present and formulate wise decisions for the future.
- 1.8 Ms Stephanie Rowe, Deputy Director-General Biodiversity Heritage and Visitors of New Zealand's Department of Conservation (DOC), formally welcomed all delegates and observers to MoP8 on behalf of the Government of New Zealand, and acknowledged the local tribe (iwi) and the significance of the welcome.
- 1.9 Ms Rowe recalled New Zealand's longstanding involvement in ACAP, having first hosted a Meeting of the Parties in 2006, and reaffirmed its commitment to seabird conservation, noting that the country is home to breeding populations of over half of ACAP's listed species. Expressing concern over the continued decline of albatross and petrel populations, she highlighted the urgent need for stronger protection, particularly against threats at sea such as fisheries bycatch. While New Zealand invests in habitat protection and predator control, she

stressed that these birds' wide-ranging movements demand international cooperation.

- 1.10 Ms Rowe praised ACAP's scientific leadership, but reminded delegates that "advice needs action". She called on Parties to work with determination and unity to reverse declines and protect these treasured species. She closed by thanking the Secretariat and wishing all delegates a successful and productive meeting.
- 1.11 The Acting Chair, on behalf of all delegations, thanked Ms Rowe for her welcoming remarks.
- 1.12 The Acting Chair then called for nominations for the position of Chair of the Meeting. New Zealand proposed the election of Ms Danica Stent (Alternate Representative for New Zealand) as Chair of the Eighth Session of the Meeting of the Parties. This was accepted by acclamation of the Meeting. The acting Chair of the Session, Dr Michael Double, became the Vice-chair of the Meeting, in accordance with Rule 12(2) of the MoP Rules of Procedure.

2 PROCEDURAL ISSUES

2.1 Adoption of Agenda

- 2.1.1 The provisional agenda (**MoP8 Doc 01**), was adopted by the MoP and is provided in **ANNEX 10**.

2.2 Amendments to the MoP Rules of Procedure

- 2.2.1 The Executive Secretary introduced [MoP8 Doc 06](#) which proposed amendments to Rule 4 of the Rules of Procedure for the MoP. Rule 4(3) sets out a procedure to be followed by international bodies for requesting admittance as observers to MoP Sessions, while Rule 4(5) sets out a procedure for non-international bodies. The Executive Secretary indicated that the proposal would align the timeline in Rule 4(5) with that in Rule 4(3), and would be complementary with recent changes made to the Rules of Procedure for the Advisory Committee (AC) agreed at AC14.
- 2.2.2 The Executive Secretary introduced proposed amendments to Rule 5 of the Rules of Procedure for the MoP. Rule 5 sets out a procedure to be followed when submitting the credentials of the Representative and any Alternative Representative of a Party attending Sessions of the MoP. The Executive Secretary indicated that the proposed changes to Rule 5 would allow a Party to submit credentials either as originals or electronically.
- 2.2.3 The MoP agreed to the amendments proposed in paragraphs 2.2.1 and 2.2.2 above and adopted **Resolution 8.1 on** the Rules of Procedure (**ANNEX 1**).

2.3 Establishment of Credentials Committee

- 2.3.1 A Credentials Committee was established in accordance with Rule 5(3) of the Rules of Procedure, consisting of representatives from Australia, New Zealand, Spain and the United Kingdom (Chair).

3 REPORTS

3.1 Report of Credentials Committee

- 3.1.1 The Credentials Committee reported that, the credentials of 13 Parties had been received. Of the credentials received, nine were in order. Eight of these were received by the deadline set out in Rule 5(2) of the Rules of Procedure. Four were received not in the form required by the Rules of Procedure.
- 3.1.2 While the Rules of Procedure require that credentials be submitted no later than 24 hours after the commencement of the Session of the MoP, the Credentials Committee proposed an inclusive approach to enable the Parties that had not yet provided sufficient credentials to participate in the Session. The Credentials Committee proposed that the four Parties whose credentials were not in order provide an assurance that their credentials would be sent to the ACAP Secretariat within 28 days of the closure of the Session.
- 3.1.3 The Parties whose credentials were not in order provided assurances in accordance with paragraph 3.1.2 above.
- 3.1.4 The Credentials Committee's report was accepted by the Parties.

3.2 Report of the Depositary

- 3.2.1 Australia, in its role as Depositary, presented its report ([MoP8 Doc 07](#)). The report noted there had been no new accessions to the Agreement since the most recent Depositary Report of 1 June 2024 to the 14th meeting of the Advisory Committee (AC14), which took place in Lima, Peru, 12-16 August 2024 (**AC14 Doc 06**).
- 3.2.2 Australia reported that the ACAP website now includes information on procedures for accession to the Agreement (www.acap.aq/about-acap/joining-acap), developed by the Secretariat and Australia.

3.3 Reports of Observers

- 3.3.1 A report from BirdLife International was provided prior to the meeting ([MoP8 Inf 03](#)).

- 3.3.2 BLI thanked the Secretariat and reaffirmed BLI's ongoing commitment to collaborate toward achieving the objectives of the Agreement, noting its regular participation in ACAP's technical and working group meetings.
- 3.3.3 BLI highlighted the upcoming IUCN Red List updates for seabird species due to take place between 2027 and 2029. The successful update of the status of species on the Red List will require significant input from experts, including contributions from the ACAP Secretariat. The value of long-standing global collaborations, many initiated 15–20 years ago, was also emphasised. These partnerships with local teams and organisations working on reducing seabird bycatch in fisheries have strengthened conservation efforts and aligned well with ACAP's objectives.
- 3.3.4 Despite progress, BLI acknowledged that critical populations remain in decline, calling for urgent and collective action. Conservation measures must not only be adopted in regulations but also effectively monitored and enforced to ensure implementation.
- 3.3.5 BLI expressed confidence that coordinated ACAP collaboration can support stronger advocacy with fisheries operating on the high seas, promoting ACAP Best Practice Advice to reduce bycatch. While challenges remain, BLI believes the necessary expertise exists within the Parties of the Agreement to meet them.
- 3.3.6 BLI issued two specific calls to action for ACAP Parties: (1) to encourage their national researchers to prepare information that can support Red List species assessments, and (2) to strengthen engagement at tuna Regional Fisheries Management Organisations (t-RFMOs) to improve the effective implementation of mitigation measures in high seas fisheries.
- 3.3.7 Parties congratulated BLI on the quality of its report and acknowledged the organisation's significant and ongoing collaboration with ACAP, noting its substantial contributions to ACAP's objectives.
- 3.3.8 The Vice-chair congratulated BLI on its outstanding contribution to the work of the Advisory Committee and its Working Groups. He noted the breadth of BLI's involvement, ranging from the provision of seabird tracking data and species distribution maps to leading roles in Working Groups and intersessional activities. He expressed his deep appreciation for this multi-faceted engagement.
- 3.3.9 Chinese Taipei welcomed the cooperation with BLI and reiterated its commitment to supporting all efforts aimed at generating reliable data on the fishing industry. Chinese Taipei reaffirmed its willingness to work with the ACAP Secretariat on the conservation of albatrosses and petrels, and expressed interest in contributing to conservation efforts in other ecosystems as well.
- 3.3.10 The IUCN welcomed the continued use of the Red List as a conservation tool and expressed hope that this important work would be maintained in the future.

- 3.3.11 The Chair, on behalf of the MoP, thanked BLI for its report and for its commitment to working with ACAP to achieve the objectives of the Agreement.
- 3.3.12 The IUCN provided information about its activities which is presented in **ANNEX 13**.

4 OPERATION OF THE SECRETARIAT

4.1 Report of the Secretariat

- 4.1.1 The Executive Secretary presented the Secretariat Report ([MoP8 Doc 08](#)). She noted that the main activities for the Secretariat over the triennium included organising two meetings of the Advisory Committee and Working Groups in Edinburgh in 2023 and in Lima in 2024, followed by organising MoP8. The Secretariat and ACAP officials continued representing the Agreement at various meetings, as detailed in the report and in accordance with the Regional Fisheries Management and Conservation Organisations Engagement Strategy ([MoP8 Doc 24](#)). The Executive Secretary also assisted (administratively) the Recruitment Subcommittee in the process for appointing a new Executive Secretary.
- 4.1.2 The MoP expressed appreciation for the work undertaken by the Secretariat.
- 4.1.3 The MoP thanked the Tasmanian Department of State Growth for supporting the Agreement by providing ongoing invaluable financial and administrative assistance to the Secretariat.
- 4.1.4 France noted that it was very helpful to have a French version of the ACAP website and thanked the Secretariat for maintaining this resource.

4.2 Secretariat Work Programme 2026 - 2028

- 4.2.1 The Executive Secretary introduced **MoP8 Doc 18** which sets out the proposed Work Programme for the Secretariat for the 2026 – 2028 triennium.
- 4.2.2 The MoP adopted **Resolution 8.2** on the Secretariat Work Programme (provided in **ANNEX 2**).

4.3 Review of Staff Regulations

- 4.3.1 Brazil proposed the creation of an Intersessional Group to review the criteria for recruitment of the Executive Secretary, contained in Annex A of the current Staff Regulations, in [Resolution 7.3](#).

- 4.3.2 The MoP supported this initiative. Argentina, Australia, Chile, New Zealand, and the UK expressed interest in participating in the Intersessional Group to be led by Brazil. The Secretariat offered to assist in the process.
- 4.3.3 The MoP endorsed Terms of Reference for the Intersessional Group (**ANNEX 8**).

4.4 Review of Financial Regulations

- 4.4.1 [MoP8 Doc 23](#) outlining a proposal to amend the Financial Regulations was discussed under Agenda Item 5, following consideration of Budget options ([MoP8 Doc 19 Rev 2](#)).

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4.5 Review of Effectiveness of the Secretariat

- 4.5.1 The Executive Secretary introduced [MoP8 Doc 10](#) that proposed the terms of reference for the review of the effectiveness of the Secretariat, which is required to be undertaken at MoP9 in accordance with the requirements of Article VIII(14) of the Agreement.
- 4.5.2 The MoP approved the Terms of Reference for reviewing the effectiveness of the Secretariat and adopted **Resolution 8.3 (ANNEX 3)**.
- 4.5.3 The MoP established the Review Body that included regional representation from: (i) Europe/Africa – South Africa and the United Kingdom (Chair); (ii) Asia/Australasia – Australia and New Zealand; and (iii) North/South America: Argentina, Brazil, Ecuador, Peru, and Uruguay.

4.6 Recruitment of the Agreement's Executive Secretary

- 4.6.1 The Chair of the Recruitment Subcommittee, Ms Carmen Rivero, provided a summary of the process followed for the recruitment of the new Executive Secretary. This process is detailed in Annex A of the Staff Regulations for the ACAP Secretariat (**Resolution 7.3**). The Recruitment Subcommittee reported that one candidate from the Americas, one candidate from continental Europe, five candidates from the rest of Europe, one candidate from Africa, and five candidates from Australasia applied for the position. Of the nine candidates, some applicants had dual nationality. All candidates were fluent in English. In addition, one candidate was fluent in, and two candidates had basic knowledge of French, one candidate was fluent in and two candidates had basic knowledge of Spanish, and one candidate spoke basic French and Spanish. Following a rigorous selection process, Mr Jonathon Barrington (Australia) was identified as the most suitable candidate for the position. The Recruitment Subcommittee congratulated him on his appointment.

- 4.6.2 The Executive Secretary, Dr Christine Bogle, thanked the Chair of the Recruitment Subcommittee for providing information on the recruitment process. She warmly congratulated Mr Barrington on his appointment, noting their long-standing professional relationship and his valuable support when she began her own position as the ACAP Executive Secretary.
- 4.6.3 Mr Barrington stated he feels honoured to be appointed Executive Secretary and affirmed his commitment to working with, and for, all Parties.
- 4.6.4 The Meeting of the Parties thanked the Recruitment Subcommittee for its work.
- 4.6.5 The Chair expressed her sincere thanks to both the current Executive Secretary, and the Executive Secretary-elect, paying tribute to Dr Bogle's unwavering support. She said it had been a pleasure to work alongside her.

5 OPERATION OF THE MEETING OF THE PARTIES

- 5.1 Australia introduced a proposal, developed by Australia and New Zealand, to amend the Financial Regulations in order to establish a Budget Subcommittee ([MoP8 Doc 23](#)).
- 5.2 Parties instead committed to convene Representatives of interested Parties informally online no later than 30 days ahead of future sessions of the Meeting of the Parties to discuss the draft Agreement Budget and Parties' assessed contributions in order to streamline these deliberations in the Plenary. The Secretariat will be responsible for convening the online meeting.

6 OPERATION OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

6.1 Report of the Advisory Committee

- 6.1.1 The Vice-chair (in his role as Chair of the Advisory Committee) presented the Advisory Committee Report to the Eighth Meeting of the Parties ([MoP8 Doc 11](#)).
- 6.1.2 He noted that, over the past three years, the Advisory Committee had held two meetings, one (AC13) in Edinburgh, UK, in May 2023 and one (AC14) in Lima, Peru, August 2024, preceded by meetings of the Seabird Bycatch Working Group (SBWG), Population and Conservation Status Working Group (PaCSWG), and joint meetings of both groups.
- 6.1.3 Progress achieved by the Advisory Committee included the continued development of seabird bycatch mitigation Best Practice Advice, guidelines and factsheets, a review of priority conservation actions, funding of Small Grants and Secondments Programmes, development and implementation of ACAP's RFMCO Engagement Strategy, provision of advice on High Pathogenicity Avian

Influenza (HPAI), and continued review of taxonomy-related publications relevant to ACAP species. The AC Chair also noted the Advisory Committee had established 10 intersessional groups to progress its work.

- 6.1.4 The AC Chair reminded MoP8 that, despite all the work by ACAP (and others), the conservation crisis highlighted in 2019 by AC11 was continuing: many populations continued to decline and ACAP was not achieving its stated objective to “achieve and maintain a favourable conservation status for albatrosses and petrels”.
- 6.1.5 The AC Chair nevertheless highlighted achievements of ACAP which are well summarised in the booklet published in 2024 to celebrate 20 years since the entry into force of the Agreement.
- 6.1.6 The AC Chair explained that AC13 had reviewed its reporting to the Meeting of the Parties and decided on a revised format, consisting of more, but shorter, reports, targeted at specific areas.
- 6.1.7 The MoP welcomed the new reporting structure, and recognised the contributions made to ACAP by the Advisory Committee’s Working Groups, Convenors, Vice-convenors and technical experts.
- 6.1.8 New Zealand welcomed the progress achieved by the Advisory Committee but stressed that significant challenges remained, requiring a joint effort by ACAP Parties (and others) to reduce the decline in ACAP species. The collation of data on seabird bycatch and mitigation was a challenge.
- 6.1.9 The UK shared New Zealand’s concern about the ongoing conservation crisis for albatrosses and petrels and called on all Parties to commit to fully implementing the Agreement, and to give their support to the most favourable budget scenario that will enable the Advisory Committee to undertake all aspects of its Work Programme.
- 6.1.10 Australia welcomed the reporting from the AC Chair and highlighted the large number of activities undertaken by the Advisory Committee, especially its officials. Australia saw the 20 year booklet as an excellent summary of achievements and challenges.
- 6.1.11 Australia, New Zealand, and the UK stressed the importance of continuing to provide sufficient funds in the budget for the Advisory Committee Work Programme.
- 6.1.12 BLI congratulated all involved in the Advisory Committee and its Working Groups, welcoming the large amount of technical knowledge available. The SBWG had provided excellent Best Practice Advice, based on available evidence, but there was a need for Parties to provide more comprehensive data to ACAP so that it could be considered collectively and used to provide stronger evidence to influence decisions at RFMOs. BLI also recalled the excellent

support that ACAP had provided for it to hold a workshop (with Global Fishing Watch) in the margins of AC14.

6.1.13 Australia suggested that it would be timely, after 20 years, to conduct a review of the Action Plan before the next Meeting of the Parties.

6.1.14 The MoP requested that a task be added to the Advisory Committee Work Programme to carry out a Review of Annex 2 (Action Plan) to the Agreement and endorsed the recommendations in **MoP8 Doc 11**:

1. Note the progress and achievements made by the Advisory Committee during the past triennium.
2. Recognise the contributions made to the Agreement by the Advisory Committee's Working Groups and continue to support engagement by Convenors, Vice-convenors and technical experts in order to progress the Advisory Committee's Work Programme.
3. Allocate adequate resources to support the continued work of the Advisory Committee, its Working Groups and its Work Programme to ensure timely and reliable advice on the status of ACAP species and their breeding sites; the assessment and mitigation of threats and on priority conservation actions.
4. Provide feedback to the Advisory Committee on its reporting to the MoP and identify further opportunities to improve the delivery of information and advice.

6.2 Advisory Committee Work Programme

6.2.1 The Vice-chair, in his role as Advisory Committee Chair, presented the Advisory Committee's Draft 2026 - 2028 Work Programme (MoP8 Doc 17). The Work Programme was prepared by the Advisory Committee at its Fourteenth Meeting. The AC Work Programme identifies the key actions and outputs required to implement the Agreement's Action Plan over the next triennium, and provides indicative costs for each task to facilitate discussion on the allocation of funding in Appropriation 4 of the Agreement's Budget.

6.2.2 The MoP amended the 2026 – 2028 Advisory Committee Work Programme following discussions under Agenda Items 6.1, 7.3, 7.7, and 7.10 and adopted **Resolution 8.4** (provided in **ANNEX 4**).

7 OPERATION OF THE AGREEMENT

7.1 Proposed amendment to Annex 1 – listing of new species

- 7.1.1 There were no proposals to amend Annex 1 of the Agreement.
- 7.1.2 New Zealand provided an update on the development of a joint proposal with Australia to list the Flesh-footed Shearwater *Ardenna carneipes* on Annex II of the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS). The listing proposal intends to highlight further conservation benefits to be achieved if the species were to be also listed on Annex 1 of ACAP, given it shares threats and characteristics with closely related species already on Annex 1, such as the Pink-footed Shearwater *Ardenna creatopus*.
- 7.1.3 New Zealand also informed MoP8 about a second proposal to be presented to CMS relating to 25 species of gadfly (*Pterodroma* and *Pseudobulweria*) petrels, which face threats at their breeding sites, but also from human activities at sea. New Zealand explained that it is engaging with several ACAP Parties on this proposal, and that it is planned to be presented to the CMS Conference of the Parties in March 2026. Some ACAP resources and activities will be of benefit to the conservation of these petrels. New Zealand noted that there may be merit in giving consideration to listing the small number of species within the gadfly group that face similar threats to ACAP species on Annex 1 in the future.

7.2 Criteria for listing and de-listing species in Annex 1

- 7.2.1 Mark Tasker, in his role as the Convenor of the Taxonomy Working Group, introduced [MoP8 Inf 01 Rev 1](#), which sets out a recently updated list of all procellariiform species following IOC World Bird List, sorted by suitability of species for inclusion on Annex 1 of the Agreement. He noted that papers supporting any nominations to Annex 1 should be presented to the Advisory Committee meeting immediately following a Meeting of Parties, to allow timely assessment of the nomination prior to the next MoP.
- 7.2.2 Chinese Taipei provided some information about one of the candidate species, the Streaked Shearwater *Calonectris leucomelas* in the North Pacific. At least three breeding colonies had been invaded by cats and brown rats, and work on invasive rodent eradication at the breeding colony on Mienhua islet has been ongoing since 2022. Based on this information, Chinese Taipei suggested adjusting the score for “Land-based threats” for this species from 1 to 3 or 4 in Table 1 of **MoP8 Inf 01 Rev 1**.

7.3 Report on Implementation of the Agreement

- 7.3.1 The Secretariat presented the Summary Report on Progress with the Implementation of the Agreement 2022 – 2024 ([MoP8 Doc 12](#)). Not all Parties submitted their implementation reports in time to be included in the Summary Report. Four Parties submitted their implementation reports after the due date ([MoP8 Inf 02 Rev 3](#)). The detail provided in Parties’ implementation reports varied greatly. Some broad themes identified in the current triennium included

the adoption, review or update of National Plans of Action, development of new management plans for breeding sites or foraging areas of ACAP species, expansion or declaration of Marine Protected Areas, review of potential impacts on birds from offshore wind farms, and the impact of HPAI.

- 7.3.2 New Zealand thanked the Secretariat for the report, while expressing concern at the increasing level of late reporting (noting Article VI of the Agreement requires all Parties to report on progress in implementing the Action Plan). New Zealand welcomed the information provided, but noted that the reporting lacked the ability to measure progress on implementing the priority conservation actions set by the Advisory Committee.
- 7.3.3 The Vice-chair commented that compiling the information for implementation reports is challenging, but there was an opportunity to provide more clarity on progress, rather than just listing actions taken.
- 7.3.4 Australia, New Zealand, and the UK agreed that it was important to find a way to monitor both the activities of Parties and also the outcomes of those activities. The UK commented that, while the land-based conservation actions did have some helpful explanatory notes (in the reports), the sea-based conservation actions did not.
- 7.3.5 The Secretariat clarified that there was opportunity on the reporting forms for more detailed comments to be provided, but not all Parties did so.
- 7.3.6 BLI agreed on the need to better capture information about activities undertaken to address at-sea threats. It was important for Parties to report on successful conservation actions to show what was possible and share lessons learnt.
- 7.3.7 In light of the limitations identified in the current implementation reporting process, the MoP requested the AC to review the format of reporting on the implementation of the Agreement, with a focus on priority conservation actions, on land, at-sea and for High Priority Populations. This should capture activities undertaken under the Agreement, including those reported by Parties, and an assessment of the effectiveness of these activities in addressing the conservation priorities.
- 7.3.8 The MoP endorsed the recommendations in **MoP8 Doc 12**:
1. Recognise the progress made by Parties in addressing the Conservation Priorities identified in the 2022-2024 triennium.
 2. Provide their Implementation Reports to the Secretariat in a timely manner as per Article VII(1)(c) of the Agreement so that the information can be used to determine progress with implementation of the Agreement.
 3. Continue to take actions to implement the Agreement.

7.4 Identification of Priority Actions for Conservation Measures

- 7.4.1 The Vice-chair, in his role as Advisory Committee Chair, introduced [MoP8 Doc 15](#), which provided an update on priority conservation actions, identified by prioritisation frameworks developed by the Advisory Committee to address both land-based and at-sea threats.
- 7.4.2 The conservation actions are based on information compiled from ACAP Parties, cooperating non-Party Range States, the Seabird Bycatch Working Group, and the Population and Conservation Status Working Group. The report supports the Advisory Committee in fulfilling its obligations to the Meeting of the Parties under Article IX(6)(c) of the Agreement.
- 7.4.3 The MoP endorsed the recommendations as set out in **MoP8 Doc 15**:
1. Endorse the priority conservation actions identified by the Advisory Committee for the 2026 - 2028 triennium.
 2. Implement ACAP's Best Practice Advice on seabird bycatch mitigation in all domestic and high-seas fisheries that impact ACAP species and especially those identified as priorities for conservation action.
 3. Fully support and implement ACAP's RFMCO Engagement Strategy.
 4. Address priority land-based threats through alien species eradications and other management actions.
 5. Support all conservation actions that reduce the threats to ACAP's High Priority Populations.
- 7.4.4 The Executive Secretary, on behalf of the Advisory Committee's Interessional Correspondence Group (ICG), presented [MoP8 Doc 24](#): ACAP Engagement Strategy with Regional Fisheries Management and Conservation Organisations (RFMCO). She explained that AC13 had set up an interessional correspondence group to review and update the Strategy, and AC14 decided that the revised Strategy should also be completed by the ICG and provided to MoP8 for its endorsement. She noted that the updated version set out individualised approaches for engagement with each RFMCO (grouped by three categories) and a list of Priority Actions. These would be updated regularly and reviewed by the Advisory Committee at least every three years to account for developments in the respective organisations. She stressed the importance of ACAP Parties in supporting the objectives of the Strategy and advocating for relevant proposals in the RFMCOs of which they were members. She also noted the importance of the MoP agreeing to adequate funding for ACAP's RFMCO engagement (within the budget allocation for the AC Work Programme).
- 7.4.5 The MoP endorsed the revised ACAP RFMCO Engagement Strategy, agreed to allocate sufficient funding in the 2026 – 2028 Advisory Committee Work Programme to fully implement the priority actions outlined in the Strategy, and

acknowledged the pivotal role engagement with these bodies plays in advocating for the implementation of ACAP's Best Practice Advice in conservation and management measures.

- 7.4.6 Chinese Taipei appreciated the preparation of the Engagement Strategy and fully supported its recommendations. As a major distant-water fishing economy, Chinese Taipei highlighted the importance of multilingual outreach materials. Many of their vessel crew members are foreign migrant workers who do not speak English or Mandarin, so having translated guidelines or toolkits would greatly enhance seabird bycatch mitigation efforts. Chinese Taipei also wished to emphasize the importance of land-based restoration in the Northwest Pacific, where the focus is more on restoring breeding habitats than at-sea mitigation. Chinese Taipei stated that it stands ready to cooperate with ACAP on both, multilingual communication tools, and on land-based conservation efforts.
- 7.4.7 New Zealand tabled a draft resolution: *Actions to address the conservation crisis faced by albatrosses and petrels due to the threat of fisheries bycatch* ([MoP8 Doc 22](#)). New Zealand noted that, at AC11, the Advisory Committee agreed that there is a conservation crisis facing albatrosses and petrels. The primary threat to these birds is fisheries bycatch. Hundreds of thousands of albatrosses and petrels are incidentally caught and killed in fisheries each year. ACAP's High Priority Populations remain in steep decline. This negative trajectory will not reverse without intervention. The draft resolution reiterates key actions ACAP and its Parties have agreed to undertake to address the conservation crisis, in line with Parties' commitments under Article VI of the Agreement to implement the Action Plan for achieving a favourable conservation status for albatrosses and petrels.
- 7.4.8 New Zealand noted that the ongoing guidance provided by the Advisory Committee would be essential to focus and inform the Agreement's efforts to address the conservation crisis.
- 7.4.9 Chinese Taipei stated that the term "implementation" often implies a legally binding obligation, and recalled that ACAP's Best Practice Advice is not legally binding. The wording in the operational paragraph 4 of Resolution 8.5 allowed them to better engage with the fisheries sector.
- 7.4.10 The MoP adopted **Resolution 8.5 (ANNEX 5)**.

7.5 Indicators to Measure the Success of the Agreement

- 7.5.1 The Vice-chair (in his role as Chair of the Advisory Committee) introduced [MoP8 Doc 13](#) which describes the status of ACAP species, populations, and breeding sites. The report is based on input from ACAP Parties, cooperating Range States, and BLI. Most ACAP species continue to decline, with their IUCN Red List status worsening since 2004. Over the past 20 years, 52% of species have declined, 16% remained stable, 27% increased, and 6% have unknown trends. Population

monitoring has decreased since 2014, reaching its lowest levels since 2004. Tracking studies have been conducted for all ACAP species, but comprehensive tracking across all life stages remains limited.

- 7.5.2 The Vice-chair emphasised the establishment and ongoing work of the Species Status and Trends Intersessional Group, which is developing advanced analytical methods to progress the assessment of population trends — historical, current, and future. He stated that the message was clear: with more than 50% of ACAP-listed species in decline, current conservation efforts are insufficient to maintain a favourable status for these populations.
- 7.5.3 New Zealand expressed deep concern over the declining conservation status of albatrosses and petrels, emphasising the urgent need for action to address critical threats. New Zealand fully endorsed the proposed recommendations and reaffirmed its commitment to active monitoring and tracking studies. Furthermore, New Zealand highlighted that increased research continues to reveal new challenges, underscoring the vital importance of ongoing monitoring programmes in safeguarding seabird populations.
- 7.5.4 Australia expressed appreciation to the Advisory Committee Chair for the report and affirmed its support for the recommendations. Australia announced plans for a management visit to Heard Island and McDonald Islands to assess breeding populations, identify data gaps, and collect new data, marking the first such survey since 2004. Findings from the visit would be provided upon completion.
- 7.5.5 The United Kingdom acknowledged the ongoing decline of ACAP species and expressed support for the recommendations outlined in the report. The UK reaffirmed its commitment to addressing data gaps and encouraged other Parties to actively contribute to improving research and conservation efforts.
- 7.5.6 The MoP endorsed the recommendations in **MoP8 Doc 13**:
1. Acknowledge the continuing decline in the conservation status of ACAP-listed species and the urgent need to implement ACAP's Priority Conservation Actions in the next triennium (see MoP8 Doc 15).
 2. Implement best practice monitoring that includes censuses of breeding sites conducted at a minimum of 10-year intervals, and annual monitoring of population trend and demography at a minimum of one representative site for each island group;
 3. Continue to submit all breeding site monitoring data to the ACAP Database to maintain the currency of information underpinning analyses.
 4. Conduct priority tracking and other research programmes to describe the at-sea distribution of albatrosses and petrels, and submit any new tracking data to BirdLife International's Seabird Tracking Database.

- 7.5.7 The Vice-chair, in his role as Advisory Committee Chair, introduced [MoP8 Doc 14](#), which provides a comprehensive summary of known and suspected threats to ACAP species, both at sea and at their breeding sites. It outlines mitigation strategies and best practices to reduce these risks. The report is based on consolidated information from ACAP Parties, cooperating Range States, the Seabird Bycatch Working Group, and the Population and Conservation Status Working Group.
- 7.5.8 The United Kingdom reaffirmed its strong support for the recommendations outlined in the report and reiterated its commitment to their implementation.
- 7.5.9 New Zealand welcomed the report and likewise expressed full support for its recommendations. New Zealand highlighted progress in pest eradication, and positive trends seen in the availability of tracking data, but noted challenges in collecting at-sea data for long-term analysis. New Zealand emphasised the value of data-sharing initiatives, such as those of Global Fishing Watch (GFW), to improve automated monitoring. It stressed the need for sufficient resourcing of the Advisory Committee Work Programme to maintain momentum and underscored the importance of a strong communication strategy to ensure expert advice is adopted and translates into effective implementation.
- 7.5.10 Australia expressed its support for the recommendations and emphasised that ACAP does not currently assess threats posed by offshore wind farms, including collision risks, and barrier and displacement effects. Efforts are underway to develop ACAP guidelines on offshore windfarm developments. Additionally, Australia highlighted the need for appropriate t-RFMO conservation and management measures that align with ACAP Best Practice Advice.
- 7.5.11 BLI supported the recommendations in **MoP8 Doc 14**, noting the need for social science skills and education, but stressed the critical importance of effective monitoring and enforcement. It acknowledged the success of electronic monitoring in enhancing compliance, noting these priorities in Recommendation 5.
- 7.5.12 The IUCN emphasised the impact of observing fishing activities, noting that such monitoring influences behavioural changes within the industry. The IUCN highlighted the need for a broader range of expertise to support these efforts and suggested it may be able to find volunteers for the Advisory Committee Working Group to strengthen collaborative initiatives.
- 7.5.13 Chinese Taipei echoed the IUCN's concerns regarding seabird conservation and highlighted its recent bycatch mitigation workshop with the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna (CCSBT). The workshop focused on implementing ACAP Best Practice Advice to reduce seabird bycatch, reinforcing collaborative efforts to enhance mitigation strategies.
- 7.5.14 The Executive Secretary noted that the CCSBT workshop mentioned by Chinese Taipei was part of a project under the auspices of the second phase of a

programme organised by the FAO and funded by the GEF. Both ACAP and BLI are supporting partners of the CCSBT project.

7.5.15 The MoP endorsed the recommendations in **MoP8 Doc 14**:

1. Eradicate feral species from the breeding sites that impact on ACAP species.
2. Mitigate other threats at breeding sites through the development of policy and practices that follow ACAP advice and guidelines.
3. Invest in, and implement, comprehensive management plans for breeding sites of ACAP species.
4. Use ACAP guidelines and Best Practice Advice for seabird bycatch mitigation to guide the development of policy and practice within the fisheries under their jurisdiction or management, and the RFMOs of which they are members.
5. Establish and maintain programmes to determine the magnitude and species composition of seabird bycatch in relevant national and high seas fisheries and to monitor the implementation of effective bycatch mitigation strategies.
6. Assess the efficacy of seabird bycatch mitigation measures used in the fisheries they manage, and in RFMOs they are members of, and explore the performance of new mitigation techniques and technologies, as well as related safety and other operational issues.
7. Monitor and provide information on the fisheries they manage, and the associated seabird bycatch, as part of annual reporting to the Advisory Committee, to enable the assessment and reporting of performance indicators on seabird bycatch.
8. Support the collection and provision of seabird bycatch data by Regional Fisheries Management Organisations (RFMOs) and Regional Conservation Bodies (RCBs).

7.6 Capacity Building

- 7.6.1 The Secretariat presented [MoP8 Doc 16](#) on capacity building indicators and activities. The document highlighted capacity building through international collaboration facilitated by the Agreement's Small Grants Scheme and Secondment Programme. The paper also noted the difficulties encountered with the collection and analysis of the capacity building indicator related to Parties' domestic activities, which is collated from annual reports to the Advisory Committee.
- 7.6.2 The MoP reiterated its commitment to capacity building activities supported by the Agreement's Small Grants Scheme and Secondment Programme, noting the

role of these programmes in the sharing of knowledge and strengthening international cooperation.

- 7.6.3 The MoP acknowledged that capacity building indicators addressing domestic activities may not be well suited as a monitoring tool and agreed to remove Indicator 2 on domestic capacity building activities from the annual reporting obligations to the Advisory Committee.
- 7.6.4 The MoP also agreed to advise the Secretariat of any updates to the list of authorities, research centres, scientists and non-government organisations concerned with albatrosses and petrels provided on the ACAP website.
- 7.6.5 The Secretariat introduced [MoP8 Doc 25](#) describing the resources allocated and the conservation value of the Agreement's Small Grants Scheme and Secondment Programme, analysing the evolution of resources allocated, the impact of both programmes in conservation and capacity building, and the way both programmes improved international collaboration.
- 7.6.6 The MoP highlighted that the Small Grants and Secondments have clearly enhanced the research capacity of the Agreement, promoting knowledge exchange, and integrated scientific findings into ACAP's decision-making processes, providing an efficient and effective way for the Agreement to progress the Advisory Committee's Work Programme and build capacity within Parties.
- 7.6.7 The MoP acknowledged the substantial amount of human resources allocated in-kind to the implementation of Small Grants and Secondments.
- 7.6.8 All Parties agreed on the very high value of both programmes in progressing actions in the Advisory Committee Work Programme, stressing the crucial importance of securing the funds to keep these programmes operating into the future.
- 7.6.9 Chinese Taipei stated that it appreciates the in-kind contributions along with the Small Grants Scheme and believes their value can be further enhanced through a knowledge-sharing mechanism. Many small grants fund scientific research, and their findings could be valuable not only to researchers, but also to fisheries managers and policymakers. Chinese Taipei suggested creating a clearinghouse or online database where research outputs from funded projects can be shared in the future. This would allow broader access to results, facilitate collaboration, and support the development of best practices.
- 7.6.10 The Vice-chair noted that the reports of many small grants projects are tabled in meetings of ACAP's Working Groups.

7.7 Communications Strategy

- 7.7.1 The Executive Secretary presented [MoP8 Doc 26](#) on the implementation of the ACAP Communications Strategy, noting that the strategy had been developed, implemented and updated since AC11 in 2019. The document contained the latest update of the Communications Strategy as presented to AC14.
- 7.7.2 The Communications Strategy was designed to be drawn on not only by the Secretariat but also by ACAP Parties and cooperating non-Parties in their own efforts to communicate the conservation crisis facing albatrosses and petrels and the solutions available. The latest update of the Strategy had been developed by a Communications Adviser (contracted as a consultant), together with an Intersessional Group established by AC14.
- 7.7.3 The Executive Secretary reminded Parties that ACAP was currently without a Communications Adviser, and encouraged support of the proposal (in **MoP8 Doc 19 Rev 2**) for the establishment of a permanent part-time Communications Adviser position in the Secretariat.
- 7.7.4 The MoP appreciated the importance of improving communication with relevant entities not currently reached, and agreed to allocate funding in the Advisory Committee Work Programme to implement the Communications Strategy, as described under Agenda Item 7.10.

7.8 Arrangements with Other Organisations

- 7.8.1 The Executive Secretary presented [MoP8 Doc 21](#), about arrangements with other organisations. She noted that in intersessional [Resolution 6.11](#) the Parties (in May 2021) authorised the Secretariat to renew or amend existing arrangements if there were no significant changes in the text. She advised that over the past triennium, several such arrangements had been renewed. The arrangement with the Tasmanian Department of State Growth had been changed to a new format (a legally binding Grant Agreement).
- 7.8.2 The last meeting of the Advisory Committee (AC14) had recommended that a MoU be developed with the Comisión Técnica Mixta del Frente Marítimo (CTMFM). The Executive Secretary had discussed this possibility with the CTMFM Secretariat, who welcomed this initiative and had added relevant text (about CTMFM) to the MoU template. The text was ready for the two organisations to sign, if MoP8 agreed.
- 7.8.3 Argentina and Uruguay highlighted the usefulness of the CTMFM for binational cooperation and stated they would welcome this MoU.
- 7.8.4 AC14 also requested the Secretariat to “develop a cooperation arrangement with Global Fishing Watch, for presentation to the Meeting of the Parties.” The Secretariat had approached Global Fishing Watch about the possibility. GFW

had expressed interest in exploring possible areas of cooperation with ACAP, but a draft MoU remained to be developed.

- 7.8.5 Brazil, Chile, New Zealand and Peru described their very positive experience of collaborating with GFW over the past few years. All four Parties stated that they would like ACAP to establish a productive relationship with the organisation. New Zealand noted that ACAP has struggled to access data for risk assessments and fisheries overlap with seabird distribution, and that the availability of information from GFW has revolutionised this work by providing key information on one of the biggest threats to ACAP species. GFW has also been developing tools to assess compliance with some mitigation methods.
- 7.8.6 BLI echoed the experience of Parties with GFW, and encouraged ACAP's engagement with the organisation.
- 7.8.7 The MoP agreed to the Secretariat concluding the arrangement with the CTMFM and developing an arrangement with GFW, and adopted **Resolution 8.6 (ANNEX 6)**.

7.9 Financial Report

- 7.9.1 The Executive Secretary presented the interim financial report for the 2025 financial year up to 31 December 2024, which included updated information about the status of Parties' contributions as at 6 March 2025 ([MoP8 Doc 9 Rev 1](#)). No further funds had been received since that date. The Executive Secretary highlighted that while the Agreement's financial year was from 1 July to 30 June in the following calendar year, Party contributions were only requested by 1 January, meaning that contributions would not be received from Parties until six months after the relevant financial year had commenced.
- 7.9.2 The MoP noted the interim financial report and the total outstanding contributions of \$354,176.
- 7.9.3 Parties whose contributions were in arrears indicated that efforts were being made to ensure their contributions were up to date.
- 7.9.4 Chile thanked the Secretariat for the preparation of the financial report and explained that due to Chile's internal regulations, the institutional responsibility for the payment of international contributions has fallen on different institutions of the Chilean Government. These changes and the corresponding transfer of information from one institution to another have produced some carryover debts. There are currently teams working on identifying them and looking for a prompt administrative way to resolve this issue as quickly as possible.
- 7.9.5 Ecuador stated that it will do everything possible to resolve its debt to the Agreement.

- 7.9.6 The MoP welcomed the voluntary contributions to the Special Fund over the triennium made by New Zealand, the UK, Chinese Taipei, and Abercrombie and Kent Philanthropy.
- 7.9.7 The MoP noted that Financial Regulation 11.1 requires the Parties to appoint an external auditor at each ordinary session of the MoP. The Executive Secretary noted that the Tasmanian Audit Office has offered to continue designating an audit company to provide the external audit services.
- 7.9.8 The MoP agreed to appoint an audit company designated by the Tasmanian Audit Office as the Agreement's external auditor for the 2026 – 2028 triennium.

7.10 Agreement Budget 2026 – 2028

- 7.10.1 The Executive Secretary introduced the draft ACAP Budget for 2026 - 2028 ([MoP8 Doc 19 Rev 2](#)), noting that, as requested by MoP7, three budget scenarios had been prepared: zero nominal growth, zero real growth, and better than zero real growth.
- 7.10.2 **MoP8 Doc 19 Rev 2** described the costs associated with replacing one in-person meeting with a virtual meeting, as a possible option to save funds under a zero nominal growth scenario. The paper also provided an assessment of the costs of holding hybrid meetings (whether Active or Passive), noting the considerable increased costs over in-person meetings. The paper conveyed generally negative comments from most of the organisations consulted that had experience of holding hybrid meetings.
- 7.10.3 The Executive Secretary stressed that the budget agreed by MoP7 for the triennium 2023 - 2025 followed a zero nominal growth scenario (based on the 2021 costings), as did the Scale of Contributions, requiring the use of one-off savings from the General Fund.
- 7.10.4 Following ACAP principles agreed at MoP3, which state that the budget should be based on zero real growth or preferably better, the Executive Secretary explained that a zero nominal growth budget would mean a significant reduction in ACAP's activities, even if some funds from savings were drawn on.
- 7.10.5 The Executive Secretary also explained that the adoption of a zero real growth Budget would require the use of funds from savings to enable the adequate continuation of several ACAP activities, while a better than zero real growth budget would enable an increase in ACAP's conservation activities and enhance the Agreement's profile.
- 7.10.6 There was a divergence in initial views expressed by Parties on the preferred option for the 2026 – 2028 ACAP Budget. Some Parties expressed interest in adopting a better than zero real growth budget. The majority of Parties

expressed concern that the capacity of the Agreement would be seriously compromised with a budget based on a zero nominal growth scenario, and appreciated the fact that even the adoption of a budget under a zero real growth scenario would need to be supplemented by one-off allocations from General Fund savings to meet any shortfalls.

- 7.10.7 New Zealand expressed concern that the overall conservation status of ACAP species is in decline, and without sufficient resources it is would be unlikely that ACAP could address the drivers behind the worsening conservation status of ACAP species. It is therefore essential that Parties continue to fully and sustainably fund the AC Work Programme and ensure adequate funding to implement ACAP's Communications Strategy and RFMCO Engagement Strategy.
- 7.10.8 Parties decided to allocate ongoing funding in the Advisory Committee Work Programme for the implementation of the Communications Strategy.
- 7.10.9 Brazil and Spain encouraged the Secretariat to explore ways to reduce operational costs where possible.
- 7.10.10 The MoP agreed to adopt a zero real growth budget, supported by a one-off draw down of \$306,842 in estimated savings from the General Fund to support the work of the Agreement in the 2026 - 2028 triennium, and adopted **Resolution 8.7 (ANNEX 7)**.

7.11 Scale of Contributions

- 7.11.1 The Executive Secretary presented the Draft 2026 - 2028 Scale of Contributions ([MoP8 Doc 20 Rev 1](#)) for the consideration of Parties. Following a request from MoP7 the document presented three contribution scenarios: zero nominal growth, zero real growth and better than zero real growth.
- 7.11.2 Under Scenario 1 (zero nominal growth), the total contributions for each year of the triennium would be the same as for 2021 to 2025, with individual shares of these contributions differing slightly due to changes in the relative economic status of Parties, in accordance with the agreed formula. Scenario 2 (zero real growth) was based on accumulated inflation of 16.5% used to estimate the 2026 budget (from 2021), and with 1.5% per year applied to the 2026 figures for 2027 and 2028. Finally, Scenario 3 (better than zero real growth) was developed by applying an inflation increase of 37% on the 2021 budget to estimate 2026 figures, and subsequently an increase of 1.5% per year applied to 2027 and 2028.
- 7.11.3 In association with discussions relevant to the Agreement Budget (Agenda Item 7.10), Parties expressed concerns about the potential adoption of a Scale of Contributions under a zero nominal growth scenario, which would negatively impact the effectiveness of the Agreement.

- 7.11.4 The MoP agreed to adopt a zero real growth Scale of Contributions for the 2026 - 2028 triennium as set out in **Resolution 8.7 Appendix C (ANNEX 7)**.

7.12 National Plans of Action

- 7.12.1 The Chair invited Parties to report on actions relevant to their National Plans of Action – Seabirds (NPOA–S).
- 7.12.2 South Africa reported that its National Plan of Action is in its final draft stage and is awaiting approval.
- 7.12.3 Brazil reported that it continues to lead in seabird conservation through its National Action Plan for the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels (PLANACAP), a strategic initiative launched in 2006 to mitigate incidental captures. Brazil stated that the Plan's third cycle (2018–2023) targeted multiple threatened species, while a planning workshop in May 2024 set the stage for the fourth cycle, expected by late 2025. Complementary measures include modernising the Onboard MAP System for electronic data entry and taking steps to reactivate the National Fisheries Observer Program (PROBORDO), suspended since 2012, to improve monitoring of fishing activities. The "Partners Program," spearheaded by ICMBio, has piloted electronic monitoring to develop AI-based mitigation protocols. Brazil advised that it also implements internationally recognised strategies, such as tori lines, night hook setting, and weighted lines, in line with ACAP and ICCAT recommendations.
- 7.12.4 New Zealand reported continued implementation of the third iteration of its National Plan of Action to Reduce the Incidental Mortality of Seabirds in Fisheries (NPOA Seabirds), established in 2020. The Plan sets a goal of achieving zero fishing-related seabird mortalities. A key development in the third iteration was the introduction of Mitigation Standards, closely aligned with ACAP Best Practice Advice, which were implemented through vessel-specific management plans. This led to the widespread adoption of the "three out of three" approach or hook shielding devices across the pelagic longline fleet and the mandatory requirement for their use from 2024. New Zealand has also greatly improved fisheries monitoring, with the roll out of on-board cameras across inshore fisheries. The Plan also includes sections related to recreational fisheries, international collaboration, research, and monitoring. As it is now five years since the NPOA's establishment, a review is planned, and an update will be reported to ACAP.
- 7.12.5 Australia advised the review of 'National Plan of Action for minimising the incidental catch of seabirds in Australian capture fisheries (2018)' will be undertaken during 2025. The NPOA–Seabirds is a voluntary measure that provides a comprehensive and nationally consistent approach to reducing the impact of fishing on seabirds. It draws together existing regulatory and voluntary management arrangements into one document and provides additional guidance for future management decisions around seabird mitigation measures. Australia

indicated that it continues to implement the 'Threat Abatement Plan for the incidental catch (or bycatch) of seabirds during oceanic longline fishing operations (2018)' and that a variation of this plan will be carried out during 2025.

- 7.12.6 Chinese Taipei acknowledged the impact of its fisheries on seabird populations and the considerable size of its national fleet. It reported the implementation of the "two out of three" approach, incorporating bird-scaring lines and weighted branch lines to mitigate incidental captures. In addition to ongoing efforts in land-based seabird surveys and pest eradication initiatives, Chinese Taipei confirmed its active monitoring for H5N1. These measures will continue as part of its long-term conservation strategy.
- 7.12.7 BLI commended Parties on their progress in updating and advancing their National Plans of Action (NPOAs) and reaffirmed its continued support for the regular review of these plans. They emphasized the need for urgent updates to several NPOAs that have lapsed and are significantly overdue for revision. Additionally, BLI highlighted the efforts of Namibia and Kenya in developing and revising their NPOAs, recognizing their commitment to strengthening seabird conservation measures.
- 7.12.8 The Vice-chair, in his capacity as Advisory Committee Chair, commended Parties on their progress in updating their National Plans of Action. He specifically highlighted New Zealand's full implementation of ACAP Best Practice Advice, including the "three out of three" approach or hook shielding devices, acknowledging the substantial effort required to achieve this milestone.
- 7.12.9 MoP8 welcomed the progress reported by Parties.

7.13 Accession of Non-Party Range States to the Agreement

- 7.13.1 The Executive Secretary's report of the Secretariat ([MoP8 Doc 08](#)) included a summary of actions taken with regard to the accession of new Parties.
- 7.13.2 The Chair noted that there had been no new accessions since MoP7.
- 7.13.3 New Zealand highlighted the efforts undertaken by the Secretariat to reach out to other parties in order to promote ACAP and emphasised the importance of continuing such outreach efforts. It also encouraged all Parties to actively promote the Agreement.
- 7.13.4 Australia expressed support for New Zealand's statement and indicated that it would be pleased as Depositary to assist any non-Party Range State, and the Secretariat, concerning any queries about accession to the Agreement.
- 7.13.5 The MoP commended the work of the Secretariat in engaging with Range States and supported the continuation of efforts in this respect.

8 PROVISIONAL DATE AND VENUE OF THE NINTH MEETING OF THE PARTIES

- 8.1 Peru reaffirmed its confidence in the Agreement and formally offered to host the Ninth Session of the Meeting of the Parties in 2028, at a date and location to be decided.
- 8.2 MoP8 warmly welcomed the offer and congratulated Peru on this important initiative.
- 8.3 Brazil underlined the significance of holding such events in South America, noting that this would help reinforce the region's role as a key actor in environmental matters.

9 OTHER BUSINESS

9.1 Media Release

- 9.1.1 The Secretariat advised that it would prepare a media release in conjunction with the host nation and publish it on the ACAP website.

9.2 Participation at future conferences

- 9.2.1 Australia informed MoP8 that the World Seabird Conference will be held in Hobart, Tasmania, from 7 to 11 September 2026.
- 9.2.2 Brazil informed MoP8 that it will host the 15th Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (COP15), which will take place in Campo Grande, from 23 to 29 March 2026.
- 9.2.3 The IUCN informed MoP8 that [IUCN's World Conservation Congress](#) is scheduled to be held in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, from 9 to 15 October 2025. There are two parts to the meeting: the Forum, which is for all participants, members and non-members alike, October 9-12, and the Members' assembly, October 13-15.

10 ADOPTION OF MOP8 REPORT

- 10.1 The Chair was not able to attend the final day of the meeting. The Vice-chair became the Acting Chair.
- 10.2 The Meeting adopted the report of the Eighth Session of the Meeting of the Parties.

11 CLOSING REMARKS

- 11.1 The Acting Chair extended his warm thanks to the Executive Secretary, Dr Christine Bogle, for her excellent guidance at this meeting. Noting this would be Dr Bogle's last meeting of the Agreement in this role before relinquishing the position at the end of June 2025, the Meeting joined in warmly thanking her for her dedicated involvement with the Agreement over the last six and a half years, including her leadership through the COVID-19 pandemic, and wished her all the best for her future.
- 11.2 The Executive Secretary thanked all her colleagues within the ACAP family for their kind words, support and friendship. She enjoyed her time in the role and hoped to be able to contribute to ACAP in the future. She encouraged ACAP in its endeavours, including seeking new Parties to further the reach of the Agreement.
- 11.3 On behalf of the Meeting, the Acting Chair thanked the Chair for steering the meeting through some difficult discussions. He also thanked the interpreters, technical staff, Secretariat team, and staff at Dunedin Leisure Lodge for their effort in ensuring a seamlessly run event. He extended his sincere thanks to the Government of New Zealand for hosting the meeting, the memorable excursion, and the welcome reception organised during the week. He also thanked the Royal Forest & Bird Protection Society of New Zealand for their evening event.
- 11.4 The Acting Chair acknowledged the valuable contributions of delegates to a successful meeting and noted the achievements of the session, including a strong Resolution which recognises the work needed to address the conservation crisis faced by albatrosses and petrels, the adoption of priority conservation actions for the next triennium and full financial support for the RFMCO Engagement and the Communications strategies. He also acknowledged the flexibility shown by Parties in adopting the 2026 - 2028 Budget and he encouraged Parties to use the information presented to, and the decisions made at this MoP to deliver conservation actions for ACAP species.
- 11.5 The Meeting thanked the Acting Chair for his work in the lead up to and during MoP8.
- 11.6 A traditional Maori farewell was given by Hoani Langsbury, who acknowledged the good work of ACAP despite the challenges.
- 11.7 The Acting Chair closed the Eighth Session of the Meeting of the Parties.

ANNEX 1. RESOLUTION 8.1 RULES OF PROCEDURE

AGREEMENT ON THE CONSERVATION OF ALBATROSSES AND PETRELS**Resolution 8.1****Rules of Procedure**

Adopted by the Eighth Session of the Meeting of the Parties, Dunedin, New Zealand,
19 - 23 May 2025

Recalling that, in accordance with Article VIII(11)(a) of the Agreement, the first Session of the Meeting of the Parties adopted its rules of procedure, set out in Annex 4 of the report of that Session;

Recalling also that Article VIII(13)(a) provides that the Meeting of the Parties may amend the Rules of Procedure at any session;

Further recalling that the Rules of Procedure were amended at the Seventh Session of the Meeting of the Parties, set out in Annex 1 of the report of that Session;

Recognising the benefit of harmonising the application timelines for the attendance of non-voting observers at Sessions of the Meeting of the Parties for international and non-international bodies provided for in Rule 4(3) and 4(5) of the Rules of Procedure;

Recognising also the benefit of allowing for electronic credentials for the Representative and any Alternative Representative of a Party at Sessions of the Meeting of the Parties under Rule 5;

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

to adopt the Rules of Procedure set out in Appendix A.

RESOLUTION 8.1 APPENDIX A**RULES OF PROCEDURE FOR THE MEETING OF THE
PARTIES TO THE AGREEMENT ON THE CONSERVATION OF ALBATROSSES
AND PETRELS****PART I
ADMINISTRATION****Rule 1 – Purpose**

(1) Unless otherwise stated, these rules of procedure shall apply to any Session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels, convened in accordance with Article VIII of the Agreement.

(2) Unless specified to the contrary in a relevant instrument, these rules shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to any other meeting held within the framework of the Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels, except for the Advisory Committee, which has established its own rules of procedure.

(3) Where any inconsistency between these Rules and the Agreement arises, the Agreement shall prevail.

Rule 2 – Date and Place of Sessions

(1) Ordinary Sessions of the Meeting of the Parties shall be at intervals of not more than three years, unless the Meeting of the Parties decides otherwise.

(2) In accordance with Article VIII (9) and (12)(g), each ordinary Session of the Meeting of the Parties shall decide on the time and venue of the next Session by consensus, or if consensus cannot be achieved, by a two-thirds majority of the Parties present and voting. Such a vote shall take place by a secret ballot.

(3) Any extraordinary Session of the Meeting of the Parties shall be convened not more than 90 days after the date at which the request is made to the Secretariat. The Secretariat shall notify Parties of the date, location and duration of the Session not more than 30 days after such a request.

Rule 3 – Representation

(1) A Party to the Agreement (hereafter referred to as a "Party") shall be entitled to be represented at the Session by a delegation consisting of a Representative and such other accredited Alternative Representatives and Advisers as the Party may deem necessary.

(2) Subject to the provisions of Rule 20 paragraph 2, the Representative of a Party shall exercise the voting rights of that Party. In the Representative's absence, an Alternative Representative of that Party shall act in the Representative's place over the full range of functions.

Rule 4 – Observers

(1) All signatories to the Agreement, other States which are not Parties, any member economy of the Asia Pacific Economic Co-operation Forum in respect of Article VIII, paragraph 15 of the Agreement, the United Nations, any specialised agency of the United Nations, any regional economic integration organisation, any Secretariat of a relevant international convention, particularly regional fisheries management organisations, may send observers to the Sessions of the Meeting of the Parties, who shall have the right to participate but not vote.

- (2) Any international scientific, environmental, cultural or technical body concerned with the conservation and management of marine living resources or the conservation of albatrosses and petrels may request admittance to Sessions of the Meeting of the Parties and its subsidiary bodies. Such participation may include submitting documents to the Secretariat for distribution to the Parties as information documents and addressing the Sessions of the Meeting of the Parties.
- (3) Written applications for attendance from such international bodies (described in paragraph 2) should be received by the Secretariat at least 90 days before the relevant Session, and circulated forthwith by the Secretariat to Parties. Parties shall inform the Secretariat of their acceptance or rejection of all applications no less than 60 days before the Session. An applicant shall be permitted to attend as a non-voting observer unless one third of the Parties object to their application.
- (4) Any other scientific, environmental, cultural or technical body concerned with the conservation and management of marine living resources or the conservation of albatrosses and petrels may request admittance to Sessions of the Meeting of the Parties and its subsidiary bodies. Such participation may include submitting documents to the Secretariat for distribution to the Parties as information documents and addressing the Sessions of the Meeting of the Parties.
- (5) Written applications for attendance from such other bodies (described in para 4) should be received by the Secretariat at least 90 days before the relevant Session, and circulated forthwith by the Secretariat to Parties. Parties shall inform the Secretariat of their acceptance or rejection of all applications no less than 60 days before the Session. An applicant shall be permitted to attend as a non-voting observer provided no objection is received.
- (6) Prior to the Session, the names of Representatives of observers shall be submitted to the Secretariat by the State, agency, organisation or body invited to attend.
- (7) In relation to Article XI of the Agreement, the Secretariat shall be bound by the above procedures.

Rule 5 – Credentials

- (1) The Representative and any Alternative Representative of a Party shall have been granted powers by, or on behalf of, the Head of State, the Head of Government or the Minister of Foreign Affairs, the head of a relevant government department or the head of an executive body of any regional economic organisation, enabling them to represent the Party at the Session and to vote.
- (2) Such credentials shall be submitted as originals or electronically to the Secretariat no later than 24 hours after the Session commences. Any later change in the composition of the delegation affecting voting rights shall also be contingent on submission of revised credentials to the Secretariat.
- (3) A Credentials Committee of three Representatives of Parties shall examine the credentials and shall report thereon to the Session. Pending a decision by the Parties on their credentials, Representatives may participate in the Session.
- (4) If credentials are submitted in a language other than one of the working languages of the Session, they shall be accompanied by a suitable translation into one of these languages to permit efficient validations of the credentials by the Credentials Committee.
- (5) Credentials may be submitted electronically in the form of a scanned letter duly signed by an authority competent under Rule 5(1). Electronic submission shall be considered valid provided that it identifies the Representative and any Alternative Representative of the Party, meets the substantive requirements of Rule 5, and is transmitted to the Secretariat

by the ACAP National Contact Point of the Party. The Credentials Committee may request further validation where necessary to confirm the authenticity of a Party's credentials.

PART II

LANGUAGES, DOCUMENTS AND RECORDS

Rule 6 – Official and Working Languages

(1) English, French and Spanish shall be the official and working languages of the Sessions.

(2) Speeches made in any of the working languages shall be interpreted into the other working languages.

(3) The official documents of the Sessions shall be distributed in the working languages. Information papers will not normally be translated, with the exception of information papers commissioned by either the Advisory Committee or the Meeting of the Parties.

Rule 7 – Other Languages

(1) A speech may be made in a language other than a working language if the speaker provides for interpretation into a working language. Interpretation by the Secretariat into the other working languages may be based upon the first interpretation.

(2) Any document submitted to the Secretariat in any language other than a working language shall be accompanied by an accurate translation into one of the working languages.

Rule 8 – Documents

(1) The documents for each ordinary Session of the Meeting of the Parties, and proposals received from the Parties, subject to Rule 18 of the Rules of Procedure, shall be distributed to the Parties in the working languages by the Secretariat at least 60 days before the opening of the Session.

(2) At the discretion of the Chairperson, and only under exceptional circumstances, documents may be accepted after this deadline but shall be submitted by the Party in all working languages.

(3) Wherever practicable, documents shall be circulated electronically.

Rule 9 – Records

(1) Summary records of the Sessions of the Meeting of the Parties shall be circulated to all Parties in the official languages of the Session within 60 days.

(2) Committees and working groups shall decide upon the form in which their records shall be prepared.

(3) Sound recordings of the Sessions of the Meetings of the Parties, and whenever possible its subsidiary bodies, shall be kept by the Secretariat. Such recordings shall be kept by the Secretariat for the purposes of verification and shall not be retained beyond the end of the next Session. Access to recordings shall be limited to the Secretariat and the Representatives of those delegations present at the Session, and shall be subject to a written request.

PART III

OFFICERS

Rule 10 – Secretariat

(1) The Head of the Agreement Secretariat (the Executive Secretary) shall be the Secretary at the Sessions of the Meeting of the Parties.

(2) At such Sessions, the Executive Secretary shall provide and direct the staff of the Secretariat as required by the Meeting of the Parties.

Rule 11 – Responsibilities of Secretariat

(1) In addition to the functions specified in Article X of the Agreement, the Secretariat shall:

- a) arrange for interpretation at the Sessions of the Meeting of the Parties;
- b) prepare, receive, translate, reproduce and distribute the documents of the Meeting of the Parties;
- c) draft the report of the Session, for consideration by the Meeting of the Parties;
- d) arrange for the custody and preservation of the documents of the Meeting of the Parties; and
- e) perform such other duties as the Meeting of the Parties may require.

Rule 12 – Chairpersons

(1) This Rule applies at all times, including between Sessions of the Meeting of the Parties.

(2) At the beginning of each ordinary Session, the Meeting of the Parties shall elect a Chairperson from among the Representatives of the Parties. The Chairperson of the Advisory Committee shall serve as Vice-Chairperson of the Meeting of the Parties, and shall fulfil the role of the Chairperson should the Chairperson not be available. The term of office of the Chairperson shall commence straight away.

(3) The Chairperson shall remain in office until a new Chairperson is elected.

Rule 13 – Presiding Officer

(1) The Chairperson shall preside at all Sessions of the Meeting of the Parties.

(2) If the Chairperson is absent or is unable to discharge the duties of Presiding Officer, the Vice-Chairperson shall deputise.

(3) In the absence of both the Chairperson and the Vice-Chairperson, a Representative of the Party providing the Chairperson shall deputise in their temporary absence.

(4) The Presiding Officer shall not vote but may designate an Alternative Representative from their delegation.

(5) The terms of the Chairperson shall be limited to a maximum of two ordinary Sessions.

PART IV

AGENDA, COMMITTEES AND WORKING GROUPS

Rule 14 – Agenda

(1) The Secretariat shall prepare the provisional agenda for each Session, in consultation with the Chairperson of the Meeting of the Parties and the Chairperson of the Advisory Committee.

(2) The provisional agenda of each ordinary Session of the Meeting of the Parties shall include, as appropriate:

- (a) items arising from the articles or the Annexes of the Agreement;
- (b) items, the inclusion of which has been decided at a previous Session or which emanate from decisions taken at a previous Session;
- (c) items referred to in paragraph 6 of this Rule; and

d) any item proposed by a Party, the Advisory Committee or the Secretariat. Requests for additional items shall be made in writing, giving the rationale for the request.

(3) The Secretariat shall, in consultation with the Chairperson of the Meeting of the Parties and the Chairperson of the Advisory Committee, include any item that has been proposed by a Party and has been received by the Secretariat after the provisional agenda has been produced, but before the opening of the Session, in a supplementary provisional agenda.

(4) The Meeting of the Parties shall examine the provisional agenda together with any supplementary provisional agenda. When adopting the agenda, it may add, delete, defer or amend items. Only items which are considered by the Meeting of the Parties to be urgent and important may be added to the agenda at this stage.

(5) The provisional Agenda for an extraordinary Session of the Meeting of the Parties shall consist only of those items proposed for consideration in the request for this Session. The provisional agenda and any necessary supporting documents shall be distributed to the Parties at the same time as the invitation to the extraordinary Session, at least 60 days before the Session.

(6) Any item of the agenda of an extraordinary Session of the Meeting of the Parties, consideration of which has not been completed at the Session, shall be included automatically in the agenda of the next Session, unless otherwise decided by the Meeting of the Parties.

Rule 15 – Establishment of Committees and Working Groups

(1) The Meeting of the Parties may establish such committees and working groups as may be necessary for it to carry out its functions. The Meeting of the Parties shall define the terms of reference and composition of each committee and working group. The Meeting of the Parties may decide that any such committee and working group may meet in the period between ordinary Sessions.

(2) Each committee and working group shall elect its own officers.

PART V

RULES OF ORDER AND DEBATE

Rule 16 – Powers of Presiding Officer

(1) In addition to exercising powers conferred elsewhere in these Rules, the Presiding Officer shall at each Session of the Meeting of the Parties:

- (a) open and close the Session;
- (b) direct the discussions;
- (c) ensure the observance of these Rules;
- (d) accord the right to speak;
- (e) put questions to the vote and announce decisions;
- (f) rule on points of order; and
- (g) subject to these Rules, have complete control of the proceedings of the Session and the maintenance of order.

(2) The Presiding Officer may, in the course of discussion at each Session of the Meeting of the Parties, propose to the Session:

- (a) time limits for speakers;
- (b) limitation of the number of times the members of a delegation or an observer may speak on any question;

- (c) the closure of the list of speakers;
- (d) the adjournment or the closure of the debate on the particular subject or question under discussion; and
- (e) the suspension or adjournment of the Session.

(3) The Presiding Officer shall exercise their powers of office in accordance with customary practice and, in the exercise of that office, remain under the authority of the Meeting of the Parties.

Rule 17 – Seating, Quorum

(1) Delegations shall be seated in accordance with the alphabetical order of the names of the Parties in the language of the meeting host.

(2) No Session of the Meeting of the Parties shall take place in the absence of a quorum. A quorum for Sessions of the Meeting of the Parties shall consist of four Parties or one-half of the Parties having delegations at the Session, whichever is the greater.

Rule 18 – Submission of Proposals for Amendment of the Agreement and its Appendices

(1) In accordance with Article XII of the Agreement:

- (a) proposed amendments shall be communicated to the Secretariat at least 150 days before the opening of a Session of the Meeting of the Parties, which shall transmit them forthwith to all Parties in the working languages of the Session;
- (b) any comments on a proposed amendment by the Parties shall be communicated to the Secretariat no less than 60 days before the opening of the Session. The Secretariat shall, as soon as possible after the last day for submission of comments, communicate to the Parties all comments submitted by that day.

(2) In exceptional circumstances, the Presiding Officer may also permit the discussion and consideration of proposals arising after the period prescribed in subparagraph 1b) of Rule 18 provided that they relate to proposed amendments which have been circulated in accordance with paragraph 1a) of Rule 18 and that their consideration will not unduly inhibit the proceedings of the Session. The Presiding Officer may also permit the discussion of motions as to procedures, even though such motions have not been circulated previously.

(3) After a proposal has been adopted or rejected by the Meeting of the Parties in accordance with Article XII of the Agreement, it shall not be reconsidered unless a two-thirds majority of the Parties participating in the Session so decides.

Rule 19 – Procedural Motions

(1) During the discussion of any matter, a Representative may rise to a point of order, and the Presiding Officer, in accordance with these Rules, shall immediately decide the point of order. A Representative may appeal against any ruling of the Presiding Officer. The appeal shall immediately be put to the vote, and the Presiding Officer's ruling shall stand unless a simple majority of the Parties present and voting otherwise decides. A Representative rising to a point of order may not speak on the substance of the matter under discussion.

(2) Any motion calling for a decision on the competence of the Meeting of the Parties to discuss any matter or adopt a proposal or an amendment to a proposal submitted to it shall be put to the vote before the matter is discussed or a vote is taken on the proposal or amendment in question.

(3) In cases where the votes are equal, a second vote shall be taken. If the second vote is also equal, the motion, or amendment shall not be carried.

(4) The following motions shall have precedence in the following order over all other proposals or motions before the Session:

- (a) to suspend the Session;
- (b) to adjourn the Session;
- (c) to consider a motion in accordance with Rule 19(2) above;
- (d) to adjourn the debate on the particular subject or question under discussion; and
- (e) to close the debate on the particular subject or question under discussion.

PART VI

VOTING

Rule 20 – Voting

(1) Without prejudice to the provisions of Rule 3, paragraph 2, each accredited Party shall have one vote.

(2) Parties which are more than one year behind in paying their budget contributions on the date of the opening of any Session of the Meeting of the Parties shall not be eligible to vote at that Session. However, the Meeting of the Parties may allow such Parties to continue to exercise their right to vote if it is satisfied that the delay in payment arises from exceptional and unavoidable circumstances. The Meeting of the Parties shall receive advice in this regard from the Secretariat.

(3) The Meeting of the Parties shall normally vote by a roll-call vote. The first voter shall be drawn by lot; voting will then proceed as determined by the alphabetical order set forth in Rule 17(1). A Party may request voting to be conducted by secret ballot. Such a request shall require support from at least one-third of Parties present and voting.

(4) Voting by roll-call shall be expressed by "Yes", "No" or "Abstain". Only affirmative and negative votes shall be counted in calculating the number of votes cast.

(5) The Presiding Officer shall be responsible for the counting of the votes and shall announce the result. Tellers appointed by the Secretariat may assist the Presiding Officer.

(6) After the Presiding Officer has announced the beginning of the vote, it shall not be interrupted except by a Representative on a point of order in connection with the actual conduct of the voting. The Presiding Officer may permit Representatives to explain their votes either before or after the voting, and may limit the time to be allowed for such explanations.

Rule 21 – Taking of Decisions

(1) The Chairperson shall put to the Parties, all questions, proposals and actions requiring decisions. In accordance with Article VIII (9), unless provided otherwise in the Agreement or in Rules 4(5), 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25 and 26, decisions of Parties shall be adopted by consensus or, if consensus cannot be achieved, by a two-thirds majority of the Parties present and voting.

(2) In accordance with Article VIII(11)(a), (11)(b), (12)(d) and (15), decisions about rules of procedure, financial matters, and provisions for the relationship to the Agreement by any member economy of the Asia Pacific Economic Co-operation forum whose vessels fish within the range of albatrosses and petrels, shall be adopted by consensus.

Rule 22 – Procedure for Voting on Motions and Amendments

(1) A Representative may move that parts of a proposal or of an amendment be voted on separately. If objection is made to the request for such division, the motion for division shall

be voted upon first. Permission to speak on the motion for division shall be accorded only to a Representative from each of two Parties wishing to speak in favour of and a Representative from each of two Parties wishing to speak against the motion. If the motion for division is carried, those parts of the proposal or amendment, which are subsequently approved, shall be put to the vote as a whole. If all operative parts of the proposal of the amendment have been rejected, the proposal or the amendment shall be considered to have been rejected as a whole.

(2) When an amendment is moved to a proposal, the amendment shall be voted on first. When two or more amendments are moved to a proposal, the Meeting of the Parties shall vote first on the amendment furthest removed in substance from the original proposal and then on the amendment next furthest removed, and so on until all amendments have been put to the vote. When, however, the adoption of one amendment necessarily implies the rejection of another amendment, the latter amendment shall not be put to the vote. If one or more amendments are adopted, the amended proposal shall then be voted upon. A motion is considered an amendment to a proposal if it merely adds to, deletes or revises part of that proposal.

(3) If two or more proposals relate to the same question, the Meeting of the Parties shall, unless it decides otherwise, vote on the proposals in the order in which they have been submitted. The Meeting of the Parties may, after voting on a proposal, decide whether to vote on the next proposal.

Rule 23 – Elections

(1) Elections to office shall be by secret ballot. If, when one person or one delegation is to be elected to a position, no candidate obtains the required majority in the first ballot, a second ballot shall be taken between the two candidates obtaining the largest number of votes. If in the second ballot the votes are equally divided, the Presiding Officer shall decide between the candidates by drawing lots.

(2) If in the first ballot there is a tie amongst candidates obtaining the second largest number of votes, a special ballot shall be held amongst them to reduce the number of candidates to two.

(3) In the case of a tie amongst three or more candidates obtaining the largest number of votes in the first ballot, a special ballot shall be held amongst them to reduce the number of candidates to two. If a tie then results amongst two or more candidates, the Presiding Officer shall reduce the number to two by drawing lots, and a further ballot shall be held in accordance with paragraph 1 of this Rule.

Rule 24 – Intersessional Voting

(1) This Rule applies between Sessions of the Meeting of the Parties.

(2) Where, in the view of any Party, the Executive Secretary or the Chair of the Advisory Committee there are exceptional circumstances that require a decision to be taken in advance of the next ordinary Session of the Meeting of the Parties, any one of them may submit a proposal for such a decision to the Executive Secretary. This proposal for decision may be submitted electronically. Within 7 days, the Executive Secretary shall communicate the proposal to all Parties, together with any additional information that may assist Parties.

(3) Parties shall respond to the Secretariat's communication as soon as possible, but within 30 days of the date of distribution of the proposal, indicating whether they wish to support it, reject it, abstain on it, require additional time to consider it, or whether they consider it is not necessary for the vote to be taken during the period between Sessions of the Meeting of the Parties.

(4) If more than two-thirds of Parties consider it is not necessary for the vote to be taken during the period between Sessions, the Secretariat shall inform all Parties and shall include the proposal on the agenda of the next Session.

(5) Notwithstanding Rule 20, the adoption of any decision between Sessions of the Meeting of the Parties shall be by consensus. For the purposes of this Rule, consensus shall mean that all the responses received by the Secretariat within the time frame specified in paragraph 3 of this Rule either support the decision or abstain. The result shall be promptly communicated by the Secretariat to all Parties. If consensus is not obtained, the matter will be placed on the agenda of the next Session of the Meeting of the Parties.

(6) In so far as they are applicable, these Rules of Procedure shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to any intersessional voting held within the framework of the Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels.

PART VII

PUBLICITY OF DEBATES

Rule 25 – Public Access

(1) All parts of a Session of the Meeting of the Parties held in plenary shall be open to the public unless two-thirds of the Parties present and voting at the Session decide otherwise.

(2) All committees and working groups shall, in the absence of separate rules for those bodies, be open to the public unless two-thirds of the Parties present and voting at the Session decide otherwise.

PART VIII

AMENDMENT

Rule 26 – Amendment

As provided in Article VIII(13)(a), these rules may be amended by the Meeting of the Parties.

ANNEX 2. RESOLUTION 8.2 SECRETARIAT WORK PROGRAMME 2026 - 2028

AGREEMENT ON THE CONSERVATION OF ALBATROSSES AND PETRELS**Resolution 8.2****Secretariat Work Programme 2026 - 2028**

Adopted by the Eighth Session of the Meeting of the Parties, Dunedin, New Zealand,
19 – 23 May 2025

Recalling Article VIII(11)(c) of the Agreement, which required that the first Session of the Meeting of the Parties establish the Secretariat to perform the functions set out in Article X of the Agreement;

Recalling also Article X(b) of the Agreement that a function of the Secretariat shall be to execute the decisions addressed to it by the Meeting of the Parties;

Further recalling Resolution 1.1 adopted at the first Session of the Meeting of the Parties established an Interim Secretariat for the Agreement pending the negotiation of a Headquarters Agreement with the Government of Australia;

Noting that the Headquarters Agreement entered into force on 2 December 2008 and that the Secretariat is thereby established;

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

to adopt the Secretariat Work Programme 2026 – 2028 set out in Appendix A.

RESOLUTION 8.2 APPENDIX A - SECRETARIAT WORK PROGRAMME 2026 – 2028

Task No.	Topic/Task	Mandate	Officer	2026		2027		2028		Action/Details
				Time (days)	Funds (AUD)	Time (days)	Funds (AUD)	Time (days)	Funds (AUD)	
1	SUPPORT FOR MoP, AC & WG MEETINGS			AC15 + WGs		AC16 + WGs		MoP9		
1.1	Undertake meeting arrangements.	Article X(a)								
	▪ selection of venue		Exec Secretary	3	3,682	3	3,778	3	3,876	Travel costs
	▪ organise contracts, venue/equipment		Exec Secretary	5		5		5		
	▪ liaison with host government		Exec Secretary	2		2		2		
1.2	Preparation of meeting papers	Article X(a)								
	▪ writing of meeting documents		Exec Secretary, Sci Officer, Contract	35		35	1,500	35	1,500	Cost for assistance with Budget preparations
	▪ co-ordination of meeting documents		Sci Officer, Exec Secretary,	10		10		5		
	▪ drafting of implementation report		Sci Officer, Exec Secretary			20		10		
1.3	Support the attendance of sponsored experts and delegates	Article VII(5)	Exec Secretary	10		10		5		Correspondence, organise travel, acquittal of accounts
1.4	Organise the translation and posting of meeting documents and provision of interpretation services	AC RoP 17 (1)								Within 30 days of meeting
	▪ coordination with service provider		Exec Secretary, Sci Officer	5		5		5		
	▪ posting of documents		Sci Officer	7		7		3		
1.5	Support & operation of meetings	Article X(a)								

Task No.	Topic/Task	Mandate	Officer	2026		2027		2028		Action/Details
				Time (days)	Funds (AUD)	Time (days)	Funds (AUD)	Time (days)	Funds (AUD)	
	▪ travel for meetings		Exec Secretary, Sci Officer	8	6,312	8	6,476	8	6,644	4 days per meeting, airfares
	▪ travel for meetings		Contract	4	3,156	4	3,394	4	3,482	Airfares
	▪ attendance at meeting		Exec Secretary, Sci Officer	32	7,890	32	8,095	16	4,416	Accommodation and allowances
	▪ attendance at meeting		Contract	12	7,364	12	7,555	6	4,416	Contract costs, accommodation
1.6	Prepare meeting report and distribute to all Parties	Article X(a)	Exec Secretary, Sci Officer	10		10		10		
2	MANAGEMENT OF SECRETARIAT									
2.1	Administer the budget for the Agreement and the Special Fund provided for in Article VII (3) in accordance with the Agreement's Financial Regulations;	Article X(g)								
	▪ payment of accounts		Exec Secretary	15		15		15		
	▪ preparation of invoices and receipts		Exec Secretary	4		4		4		
	▪ preparation of financial statements		Exec Secretary	4		4		4		
	▪ maintain advance & assets registers		Exec Secretary	1		1		1		
2.2	Prepare biannual financial reports for the information of the Parties and the Chair of the Advisory Committee	AC2, MoP2	Exec Secretary	4		4		4		
2.3	Provide information to the general public concerning the Agreement and its objectives, and promote the objectives of this Agreement	Article X(h)								

Task No.	Topic/Task	Mandate	Officer	2026		2027		2028		Action/Details
				Time (days)	Funds (AUD)	Time (days)	Funds (AUD)	Time (days)	Funds (AUD)	
	▪ preparation of ACAP Latest News for website		Comms Contract	90		90		90		
	▪ maintain/update website links and publications		Sci Officer, Comms Contract	10		10		10		
	▪ management of ACAP social media		Comms Contract	20		20		20		
	▪ preparation of scientific material		Sci Officer, Comms Contract	10		10		10		
2.4	Update and maintain the ACAP website	Article X(h)	Sci Officer & Contracts	20	8,416	20	8,635	20	8,860	
2.5	Collate as appropriate synthesized information provided by Parties on the implementation and effective functioning of the Agreement with particular reference to the conservation measures undertaken	Article X(j)								
	▪ review data, liaise with stakeholders, amend database, collate information and draft consolidated reports	Article VII(1) (c); Article VIII (10)	Sci Officer, Exec Secretary			25				
2.6	Prepare a report on Secretariat activities for AC and MoP meetings	Article X(f)	Exec Secretary	2		2		2		
2.7	Recruit and manage the Secretariat's staff in accordance with the Staff Regulations and the directions of the Meeting of the Parties	Staff Regs	Exec Secretary	5		5		5		

Task No.	Topic/Task	Mandate	Officer	2026		2027		2028		Action/Details
				Time (days)	Funds (AUD)	Time (days)	Funds (AUD)	Time (days)	Funds (AUD)	
3	FACILITATE THE WORK OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE									
3.1	Assist the Chair of the Advisory Committee as required to facilitate the work of the Advisory Committee	Article X(k)	Exec Secretary, Sci Officer	25		25		25		
3.2	Assist the Chair of the Advisory Committee in preparing a report to the MoP on the activities of the Advisory Committee	Article IX(6)(e)	Exec Secretary, Sci Officer			4		2		
3.3	Assist the Convenors of the Population and Conservation Status Working Group as required to facilitate the work of the Group	Article X(k)								
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Update gaps in population, tracking, breeding site management, threats and regulatory protection data submitted to ACAP; request any outstanding data and incorporate changes	AC WP Task 2.1	Sci Officer	25		25		25		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Review and refine standardised queries and outputs for analysis and interpretation. Continue to improve data portal structure and queries	AC WP Task 2.2	Sci Officer & Contract	25	5,260	25	5,397	25	5,537	Consultant database programmer/developer
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Assess and update global population trends	AC WP Task 2.3	Sci Officer	10		10	5,000	10		May require data portal updates
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Update ACAP Species Assessments	AC WP Task 2.4	Sci Officer	62	12,000	62		62		Cost for map updates

Task No.	Topic/Task	Mandate	Officer	2026		2027		2028		Action/Details
				Time (days)	Funds (AUD)	Time (days)	Funds (AUD)	Time (days)	Funds (AUD)	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Translate updates to Species Assessments and ACAP guidelines into Spanish and French 	AC WP Task 2.5	Sci Officer & Contract	10	5,000	10	5,000	10	5,000	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify priorities for monitoring of numbers, trends and demography 	AC WP Task 2.6	Sci Officer	5		5		5		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify and review Priority Populations for conservation actions 	AC WP Task 2.7	Sci Officer	5		5		5		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review and prioritise the threats to breeding sites and identify gaps in knowledge 	AC WP Task 2.8	Sci Officer	5		5		5		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review and update best-practice guidelines 	AC WP Task 2.9, 2.11	Sci Officer	10		10		10		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop new guidelines for priority issues 	AC WP Task 2.12	Sci Officer	2		2		2		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide reports on activities to AC meetings 	AC WP Task 2.14	Sci Officer	30		30				
3.4	Assist the Convenor of the Seabird Bycatch Working Group as required to facilitate the work of the Group	Article X(k)								
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to implement the RFMO and CCAMLR engagement strategy for ACAP (AC14 Doc 20). Relevant Parties to engage and assist RFMOs and other relevant international bodies in assessing and minimising bycatch of albatrosses and petrels. 	AC WP Task 3.1	Exec Secretary, Sci Officer, Contracts	70	37,500	70	37,500	70	37,500	Attend all relevant meetings as per RFMO Interaction Plan.

Task No.	Topic/Task	Mandate	Officer	2026		2027		2028		Action/Details
				Time (days)	Funds (AUD)	Time (days)	Funds (AUD)	Time (days)	Funds (AUD)	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to develop and refine ACAP specific products on best practice bycatch data collection and reporting and present to RFMOs. 	AC WP Task 3.1 a	Exec Secretary, Sci Officer, Comms contract		1,000		1,000		1,000	Translation costs.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engage with other international bodies concerned with the conservation of species affected by fishing (e.g. IAC, CMS) 	AC WP Task 3.2	Exec Secretary							
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify and pursue new approaches to improve the uptake of best practice seabird bycatch mitigation measures 	AC WP Task 3.4	Exec Secretary, Contracts	10		10		10		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reporting of bycatch indicators and associated data, refine methodological approaches and reporting as required 	AC WP Task 3.9	Sci Officer, Contract	20	10,000	20	10,000	20	10,000	Need for contract support as this is a key element of work (0.25 FTE?)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to engage with certification schemes, by providing information to sub-group to enable comment on individual fisheries assessments 	AC WP Task 3.14	Sci Officer, Contract						5,000	Secretariat continue to engage as required consultant who has already provided advice on this process. Secretariat will continue to receive notifications from fishery certification schemes and will share these as relevant with the SBWG sub-group.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to update Mitigation Fact Sheets using new simplified format in a phased approach: 1) on bird scaring lines for pelagic and demersal LL, and 2) fact sheets dealing with ACAP Best Practice measures. 	AC WP Task 3.16	Sci Officer	5		5	15,000	5		Design and translation costs.

Task No.	Topic/Task	Mandate	Officer	2026		2027		2028		Action/Details
				Time (days)	Funds (AUD)	Time (days)	Funds (AUD)	Time (days)	Funds (AUD)	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop guidelines for the safe removal of seabirds entangled in nets (purse-seine, trawl, gillnet) 	AC WP Task 3.17	Sci Officer	5			8,000			Design and translation costs.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain bibliography of relevant bycatch information 	AC WP Task 3.19	Sci Officer	5		5		5		
3.5	Assist the Convenor of the Taxonomy WG as required to facilitate the work of the Group	Article X k)	Sci Officer							
3.6	Review and update any publications not already specified in the Work Programme	AC WP Task 5.4	Sci Officer	5		5		5		
3.7	Implement system of indicators for the success of the ACAP Agreement	AC WP Task 5.5	Sci Officer	5		2		2		
3.8	Review ACAP performance indicators	AC WP Task 5.6	Sci Officer			5		5		
3.9	Review availability of albatross and petrel tracking/distribution data to ensure representativeness of species/age classes. Prioritise gaps and encourage studies to fill gaps.	AC WP Task 5.9	Sci Officer, Contract			5	24,000			BLI contract
3.10	Increase understanding of the effects of climate change on albatrosses and petrels	AC WP Task 5.11	Sci Officer							
3.11	Manage database of relevant scientific literature	AC WP Task 5.14	Sci Officer	10		10		10		
3.12	Manage directory of relevant legislation	AC WP Task 5.15	Sci Officer	1		1		1		Parties to supply further information as available

Task No.	Topic/Task	Mandate	Officer	2026		2027		2028		Action/Details
				Time (days)	Funds (AUD)	Time (days)	Funds (AUD)	Time (days)	Funds (AUD)	
3.13	Manage a list of authorities, research centres, scientists and non-government organisations relevant to ACAP	AC WP Task 5.16	Sci Officer, Comms Contract	2		2		2		Parties to supply further information as available
3.14	Support for World Albatross Day	AC WP Task 5.12	Comms Contract	20	3,000	20	3,000	20	3,000	Funds for developing, producing and distributing WAD material
3.15	Implement ACAP's Communications Strategy	AC WP Task 5.13	Exec Secretary, Comms Contract		5,000					Review, develop and implement ACAP's Communication Strategy
3.16	Review the format of reporting on the implementation of the Agreement, with a focus on priority conservation actions, on land, at-sea and for high priority populations.	AC WP Task 5.2	Sci Officer,							
3.17	Review Annex 2 (Action Plan) of the Agreement	AC WP Task 5.17								
4	IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AGREEMENT									
4.1	Assist Parties in providing training, technical and financial support to other Parties on a multilateral or bilateral basis to facilitate implementation of the Agreement.	Article VIII(14)	Exec Secretary, Sci Officer	5		5		5		
4.2	Promote and coordinate activities under the Agreement, including the Action Plan, in accordance with decisions of the Meeting of the Parties	Article X(c)	Exec Secretary	15		15		15		
4.3	Liaise with non-Party Range States and regional economic integration organisations to facilitate coordination between Parties and non-Party	Article X(d)	Exec Secretary	15	10,520	15	10,704	15	11,075	Airfares, accommodation, allowances

Task No.	Topic/Task	Mandate	Officer	2026		2027		2028		Action/Details
				Time (days)	Funds (AUD)	Time (days)	Funds (AUD)	Time (days)	Funds (AUD)	
	Range States, and international and national organisations and institutions whose activities are directly or indirectly relevant to the conservation of albatrosses and petrels.									
4.4	Consult with and enter into arrangements, with the approval of the Meeting of Parties, with other organisations and institutions, and as appropriate exchange information and data.	Article XI 2(c), 3 & 4	Exec Secretary	10	15,780	10	16,190	10	16,611	Airfares, accommodation, allowances
4.5	Facilitate the accession of non-Party Range States to the Agreement	Article X(d), (k), AC WP 4.2	Exec Secretary	5		5		5		Work with lead Parties and other Parties as needed.
4.6	Compilation of the triennial implementation report.	Article IX(6)(d), AC WP Task 5.7	Sci Officer, Exec Secretary			10		10		
5	CAPACITY BUILDING									
5.1	Assist the Advisory Committee and Parties with technical cooperation and capacity building	Article IV(2)	Exec Secretary, Sci Officer	20		20		20		
5.2	Support secondments programme to aid capacity building	MoP2	Exec Secretary, Sci Officer	10		10		10		
5.3	Populate and measure capacity building indicators	AC WP Task 4.4	Exec Secretary, Sci Officer							

ANNEX 3. RESOLUTION 8.3 TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR REVIEWING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE SECRETARIAT

AGREEMENT ON THE CONSERVATION OF ALBATROSSES AND PETRELS**Resolution 8.3****Terms of Reference for the Review of the Effectiveness of the Secretariat in Facilitating the Achievement of the Objective of the Agreement**

Adopted by the Eighth Session of the Meeting of the Parties, Dunedin, New Zealand,
19 - 23 May 2025

Recalling Article VIII(14) of the Agreement, which requires the Meeting of the Parties to review the effectiveness of the Secretariat in facilitating the achievement of the objective of the Agreement at every third Session of the Meeting of the Parties;

Noting that Article VIII(14) requires that terms of reference for this review be agreed to at the previous Meeting of the Parties;

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

1. to establish a Review Body composed of Representatives of no fewer than two-thirds of the Parties;
2. that the Review Body should seek to ensure regional representation from:
 - a. Europe/Africa;
 - b. Asia/Australasia; and
 - c. North/South America;
3. that Parties participating in the review are not bound by the findings of the Review Body;
4. that the Terms of Reference of the Review Body will be to:
 - a. undertake a review of the effectiveness of the Secretariat in facilitating the achievement of the Agreement's objectives;
 - b. seek the views of all Parties and interview any Chair of the Advisory Committee, and any Executive Secretary, who have held the positions during the period 2017 - 2027;

- c. prepare a report for the Ninth Session of the Meeting of the Parties with recommendations as appropriate for enhancing the effectiveness of the Secretariat in achieving the Agreement's objective; and
 - d. prepare, as necessary, revised performance indicators to allow for quantifiable assessment of the Secretariat's performance;
5. that the Review Body may also decide to seek the views of the Advisory Committee Vice-chairs and Convenors of the Working Groups in post during the period of the review; and
6. that the Performance Indicators set out in Appendix A will be used in the review.

RESOLUTION 8.3 APPENDIX A**PERFORMANCE INDICATORS FOR MEASURING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE SECRETARIAT OF THE AGREEMENT ON THE CONSERVATION OF ALBATROSSES AND PETRELS**

1. All relevant information and meeting documents will be provided to the Parties within the timeframes specified by the Agreement.
2. All necessary staffing, logistics, interpretation, and other administrative arrangements required by the Parties will be carried out in coordination and consultation with the host governments of meetings.
3. All decisions will be executed, as required, in such a manner that is consistent with the Meeting of the Parties' intent, prioritising as appropriate within the limited available resources.
4. Facilitation and coordination activities, in accordance with the directions of the Meeting of the Parties or the Advisory Committee, will be carried out, as required, to fulfil the objectives of the Agreement.
5. Other international and national organisations and institutions are contacted, as appropriate, on matters related to achieving the objectives of the Agreement.
6. Other organisations are informed of the activities of the Agreement in order to facilitate information and technology exchange about approaches that contribute to achieving and maintaining a favourable conservation status for albatrosses and petrels.
7. A report on the status of the budget for the implementation of the Agreement is prepared and provided in accordance with timescales set by the Meeting of the Parties.
8. The Agreement's budget is executed in a responsible, efficient, and accountable manner and in accordance with the financial regulations for the Agreement.
9. Assistance is provided to Parties, through the website, in their efforts to educate the general public about the Agreement and its objectives.
10. A system of performance indicators is provided to measure the effectiveness and efficiency of the Secretariat in facilitating the achievement of the objectives of the Agreement.
11. The Secretariat will supply to Parties all information identified by the Meeting of the Parties as relevant to the effective functioning of the Agreement.
12. A report is provided to each Meeting of the Parties and meetings of the Advisory Committee identifying activities that the Secretariat has been unable to carry out, providing reasons for any inaction, for example limitations in resources, and options for rectification.
13. The staff of the Secretariat follows the directions of the Executive Secretary, as required by the Meeting of the Parties.

**ANNEX 4. RESOLUTION 8.4 ADVISORY COMMITTEE WORK
PROGRAMME 2026 - 2028**

AGREEMENT ON THE CONSERVATION OF ALBATROSSES AND PETRELS**Resolution 8.4****Advisory Committee Work Programme 2026 – 2028**

Adopted by the Eighth Session of the Meeting of the Parties, Dunedin, New Zealand,
19 – 23 May 2025

Recalling Article VIII(11)(d) of the Agreement, which required that the first Session of the Meeting of the Parties 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 Fourteenth Meeting of the Advisory Committee developed a work programme for the period 2026 - 2028 (AC14 Report, Annex 6) taking into account the outcomes of its own meeting and those of the preceding meetings of the Population and Conservation Status, and Seabird Bycatch Working Groups, and recommendations provided by the Taxonomy Working Group;

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

to adopt the Advisory Committee Work Programme 2026 – 2028 set out in Appendix A.

RESOLUTION 8.4 APPENDIX A - ADVISORY COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME 2026 – 2028

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, in particular BirdLife International (BLI). 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 reflect the amount of time that AC Officials and the Secretariat will spend on these tasks.

Topic/ Task		Responsible group	Time frame	Resources		Action detail/ comments
				Time	Funds (AUD)	
1. Taxonomy and Annex 1 review						
1.1	Keep the bibliographic database updated with relevant taxonomy documents	TWG led by Convenor	Ongoing	0.5 week p.a.		Ensure relevant taxonomy papers are added to ACAP's bibliographic database
1.2	Continue to work on ways of visually separating similar ACAP taxa	TWG	2026-2028	2 weeks		This will facilitate the taxonomic process and the identification of bycatch specimens
1.3	Continue the establishment of a morphometric database	TWG led by Convenor	2026-2028	2 weeks		This will facilitate the taxonomic process, the identification of bycatch specimens, and the long-term storage of valuable data
1.4	Maintain a database of site-specific information on the availability of samples relevant to studies of population genetics of ACAP species	TWG	2026-2028	1 month	5,000 (for database development)	Conduct a gap analysis of colonies/sites where there is insufficient genetic information
1.5	Consider taxonomic issues relating to species proposed for addition to Annex 1 of the Agreement	Parties and AC	Ongoing	Variable, depending if there are proposals		Respond to proposals (using species assessment template) submitted by Parties.
1.6	Respond to queries on taxonomic issues relating to ACAP species and keep AC updated on relevant taxonomic issues	TWG led by Convenor	Ongoing	1-2 weeks p.a.		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)	
1.7	Maintain list of candidate species	TWG led by Convenor, AC	Ongoing	1-2 weeks p.a.		Attempt to resolve issues with prioritisation. Maintain in line with ACAP/IOC taxonomy.
2. Information on status, trends and breeding sites						
2.1	Update gaps in population, 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.		Parties to provide new or outstanding data each year. Science Officer to issue reminders 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.		
2.3	Assess and update global population trends	PaCSWG Convenors, Science Officer and BLI with other experts as required. Intersessional Group established at AC14.	Ongoing	3 weeks	5,000	May require further data portal updates. Consider alternative approaches as required. Review at AC16.
2.4	Update ACAP Species Assessments	Species Assessments Coordinating Group to oversee updates	Ongoing	6 weeks p.a.	12,000	Costs for BirdLife to update maps. Reports on progress provided to each PaCSWG meeting. Working with Lead editors
2.5	Translate updates to Species Assessments and ACAP guidelines into Spanish and French	Science Officer	Ongoing	2 weeks p.a.	15,000	Opportunity for secondments or in-kind support

Topic/ Task		Responsible group	Time frame	Resources		Action detail/ comments
				Time	Funds (AUD)	
2.6	Identify priorities for monitoring of numbers, trends and demography	PaCSWG, Science Officer	Ongoing	2 weeks p.a.		Review and update priorities and reflect on progress against priorities and provide reports to each AC Meeting.
2.7	Identify and review High Priority Populations for conservation actions.	PaCSWG, Science Officer	Ongoing	1 week p.a.		Review at each AC Meeting
2.8	Review and prioritise the threats to breeding sites and identify gaps in knowledge.	PaCSWG, Science Officer	Ongoing	1 week p.a.		Annual updating of priorities by Parties, re-run prioritisation for AC16.
2.9	Update eradication guidelines	PaCSWG, Science Officer, UK, South Africa, USA, Mark Tasker	2026	3 weeks		Required in light of new insights gained from recent attempts to eradicate house mice from islands
2.10	Review and update Guidelines for working with albatrosses and petrels during the high pathogenicity avian influenza (HPAI) H5Nx panzootic	External experts, Lead Patricia Serafini	Ongoing			Guidelines for ACAP species offering broad recommendations to supplement local or regional risk management and biosecurity regarding the high-pathogenicity (HPAI) H5Nx avian influenza panzootic. Disease risk assessment for HPAI H5Nx for ACAP species to be carried out by the intersessional group.
2.11	Review and update other best-practice guidelines	PaCSWG, Science Officer	Ongoing	3 weeks p.a.		Opportunity for secondments and small grants .
2.12	Develop new guidelines	PaCSWG, Secretariat and experts as required (identify leads)	Ongoing	?	?	Opportunity for secondments and small grants . E.g colony management, acoustic monitoring. Review at each AC.

Topic/ Task		Responsible group	Time frame	Resources		Action detail/ comments
				Time	Funds (AUD)	
2.13	Consider emerging threats to albatrosses and petrels i) Offshore Wind Farm Infrastructure ii) chemical pollutants iii) marine plastic	PaCSWG, Intersessional Group established at AC14	Ongoing	2026-2028		Opportunity for secondments and small grants . Develop ways to assess, model, monitor, and mitigate impacts including cumulative impacts on seabirds. Provide relevant information to the bibliographic database. i) Review availability of albatross and petrel flight height data. ii) Develop guidelines for offshore wind farm risk assessments (Intersessional Group established at aC14)
2.14	Provide reports on intersessional activities and working group meetings to AC meetings	PaCSWG, Science Officer	2026 and 2027	12 weeks		
3. Seabird Bycatch						
3.1	Continue to implement the RFMCO Engagement Strategy (AC14 Doc 20) with relevant bodies that manage international fisheries (RFMOs and others) . Relevant Parties to engage and assist RFMOs and other relevant international bodies in assessing and minimising bycatch of albatrosses and petrels.	Parties, Individual RFMO leads, Secretariat, SBWG and AC	Ongoing	18 weeks p.a.	70,000 p.a. (subject to review)	Travel etc costs for attendance at selected RFMCO meetings (less if Party can contribute directly). Several RFMOs are engaging in the review of seabird measures during the early part of the triennium. Reflects cost of attending two meetings per RFMO for six RFMOs, based on 2024 costs. Figure will be kept under review to reflect changing priorities based on progress in RFMO CMM reviews.

Topic/ Task		Responsible group	Time frame	Resources		Action detail/ comments
				Time	Funds (AUD)	
3.1.a	Continue to develop and refine ACAP specific products on best practice bycatch data collection and reporting, and present to RFMOs.	Individual RFMO leads, Secretariat, SBWG	Ongoing	2 weeks p.a.	3,000 (for translation)	These guidelines will also be relevant for national (Party) observer programmes. Includes development and dissemination of resources
3.1.b	Continue the review, and update the RFMCO Engagement Strategy at each Joint WG meeting.	Leads: Dimas Gianuca and Sebastián Jiménez.	Ongoing			
3.2	Engage with other international bodies concerned with the conservation of species affected by fishing (e.g. IAC, CMS)	SBWG, Secretariat	Ongoing			In order to ensure as far possible any mitigation measures proposed for ACAP species do not adversely affect other species and to pursue mutual gains in species conservation.
3.3	Intersessional review of ACAP Best Practice Advice and Review documents for pelagic and demersal longline, trawl, and purse seine fishing gear	SBWG via leads – Pelagic LL: Sebastián Jiménez Demersal LL: Megan Tierney, Ed Melvin, Juan Pablo Seco Pon Trawl: Igor Debski, Verónica Iriarte, Leandro Tamini Purse seine: Cristian Suazo, Joanna Alfaro	Ongoing		3,000 (for translation of purse seine document)	Complete review and restructure of advice documents to improve readability and consistency between documents; version control; and documenting changes made between versions. Present to SBWG13. Review evidence on the relative effectiveness, noting regional differences of different combinations of measures to support Best Practice Advice.
3.3.a	Sink rate testing advice	Intersessional group established at AC14. Lead: Sebastián Jiménez	2026			Complete guidance on adequate testing methodologies to demonstrate compliance with ACAP sink rate criterion. Present to SBWG13.

Topic/ Task		Responsible group	Time frame	Resources		Action detail/ comments
				Time	Funds (AUD)	
3.4	Identify and pursue new approaches to improve uptake of best practice seabird bycatch mitigation measures.	SBWG, PaCSWG Secretariat	Ongoing			Aimed to help inform the development of future strategies for engagement with fishing fleets. Scope of work dependent on ongoing investigation into enhancing implementation of mitigation measures.
3.5	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: Dimas Gianuca, Javier Quiñones, Gabriel Canani	Ongoing		2,000 (for translation)	Continued development of the toolbox to provide advice on mitigation options available for artisanal and small-scale fisheries. Good opportunity for secondment .
3.5.a	Understand and mitigate the effects on seabirds of small-scale pelagic fisheries, in particular where the mainline is attached directly to surface floats	SBWG				Opportunity for secondments and small grants
3.6	Further development of best practice advice for mitigation in gillnet fisheries.	SBWG	Ongoing	2 weeks		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 SBWG11, and that ACAP Parties contribute towards this work, as appropriate.
3.7	Further understand and mitigate seabird bycatch of floated demersal longlines, including ways to increase the sink rate of this gear.	SBWG Intersessional Group	2026-2028			Opportunity for secondment and small grant

Topic/ Task		Responsible group	Time frame	Resources		Action detail/ comments
				Time	Funds (AUD)	
3.8	Further development and assessment of pelagic longline branch line weighting or other priority research areas	SBWG				Opportunity for secondments and small grants Includes assessment of the effectiveness of weighted hook designs, and use of non-toxic alternatives to lead when adding weight to the hook.
3.9	Reporting on bycatch indicators and associated data, methodological approaches and reporting format refined as required. Intersessional review to refine indicators	Parties, SBWG, Secretariat, Intersessional Group established at AC14	Ongoing	20 weeks	10,000 p.a.	Need for contract support as this is a key element of work (0.25 FTE?). To support the reporting of response indicators. Possible secondment . Provide input into data workshops held by Parties if feasible. Complete refinement of simple Response Indicators (SBWG13) Implement plan to support Parties and Range States to complete reporting requirements
3.10	Review and update the prioritisation framework data for at-sea threats	Parties and SBWG	MoP9	4 weeks	10,000 (contract to collate information from RFMOs and other States)	Use a staged approach to update the fisheries: 1) Parties and Range State and APEC Member Economy Observers to update information on their fisheries; 2) information on fisheries managed by RFMOs updated using publicly available materials and via MoUs; and 3) a further process would be needed for other States not presently interacting with ACAP. Opportunity for secondment or small grant .

Topic/ Task		Responsible group	Time frame	Resources		Action detail/ comments
				Time	Funds (AUD)	
3.11	Review of best practice guidelines for data collection by observer programmes and the use of Electronic Monitoring for the assessment and monitoring of seabird bycatch	SBWG, Intersessional Group established at AC14. Lead: Igor Debski	Ongoing			Complete initial review at SBWG13, including provision of advice on seabird bycatch estimation methods. Task 3.1 (RFMCO Engagement) will be an important mechanism for dissemination.
3.12	Model bycatch threat to seabird populations to communicate the extinction risk to ACAP Species.					Will require resources (possible secondment/small grant opportunity). ACAP should respond to relevant opportunities. Further investigate the human dimension of bycatch and mitigation as a relevant approach to increase the uptake of conservation measures.
3.13	Help facilitate and support collaborative seabird impact and risk assessments at various scales.	SBWG	Ongoing			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.
3.14	Continue to engage with certification schemes by providing information to sub-group to enable comment on individual fisheries assessments	Secretariat, SBWG	Ongoing		5,000 (for secondees/ contractee to continue to advise on the process)	Secretariat continue to engage, as required, consultant who has already provided advice on this process. A sub-group of SBWG will continue to pursue opportunities to engage with relevant schemes and will indicate when further input from the consultant would be helpful. Secretariat will continue to receive notifications from fishery certification schemes and will share these as relevant with the sub-group.

Topic/ Task		Responsible group	Time frame	Resources		Action detail/ comments
				Time	Funds (AUD)	
3.15	Further development of technologies and techniques for monitoring compliance with seabird mitigation measures.	SBWG	Ongoing			Opportunity for secondments and small grants . Review current status of monitoring across key fisheries and undertake research on the development of technologies and techniques for monitoring compliance, including EM.
3.16	Continue to update Mitigation Fact Sheets using new simplified format in a phased approach: 1) line weighting safety practices 2) updated advice on bird scaring lines for pelagic and demersal LL, and 3) fact sheets dealing with ACAP Best Practice measures.	SBWG, BLI, Secretariat. Leads: Bird scaring lines: Sebastián Jiménez Demersal longline line weighting: Barry Baker Trawl cable, including net monitoring, mitigation: Marcelo Garcia Safe handling of seabirds entangled in nets: Verónica Iriarte	Ongoing	1 week per fact sheet	15,000 (for translation, and for new factsheets)	
3.17	Develop guidelines for the safe removal of birds entangled in nets (purse seine, trawl, gillnet).	SBWG, Verónica Iriarte, Cristián Suazo, Juan Pablo Seco Pon, Secretariat, Yann Rouxel	SBWG13	12 weeks	8,000	Standardise procedures and develop infographic guidelines. Costs for development of graphic images, guidelines design, and translation.
3.18	Disseminate Seabird-Safe Toolkit for the tuna supply chain by Southern Seabirds Trust	SBWG, BLI	Ongoing			Share resources and provide expert advice.

Topic/ Task		Responsible group	Time frame	Resources		Action detail/ comments
				Time	Funds (AUD)	
3.19	Maintain bibliography of relevant bycatch information (Also see Task 5.7)	SBWG, Science Officer	Ongoing	1 week p.a.		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.
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 BLI	Ongoing	10 weeks		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 States not Party to ACAP	AC, Parties, Secretariat	Ongoing			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	PaCSWG, SBWG, TWG, AC	Ongoing			
4.4	Populate and measure capacity building indicators.	AC, Parties, Secretariat	Ongoing			Focus on capacity building between Parties, not on domestic activities. Reconsider capacity building indicators in light of discussions at MoP8.
4.5	Identify opportunities to build capacity when considering Small Grant and Secondment applications	PaCSWG, SBWG, TWG, Small Grants sub-committee.	Ongoing			Small Grants and Secondments are a key way that ACAP advances capacity building between Parties and with others.

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	2027	4 weeks		Report to MoP9. See also Task 2.8 and 3.10.
5.2	Review the format of reporting on the implementation of the Agreement, with a focus on priority conservation actions, on land, at-sea and for high priority populations.	AC Chair, WG Convenors, Secretariat	2026-2028	4 weeks p.a.		The reporting format should capture activities undertaken under the Agreement, including those reported by Parties, and an assessment of the effectiveness of these activities in addressing the conservation priorities. The review will also identify opportunities to simplify the report.
5.3	Review existing Action Plans (for National Plans, when asked by relevant Party), and advise on new Action Plans for ACAP species and High Priority Populations	PaCSWG, SBWG, TWG, AC, Parties	Ongoing	16 weeks		Intersessional group on High Priority Populations to respond to requests by Parties e.g. the implementation of the Waved Albatross <i>P. irrorata</i> Action Plan.
5.4	Review and update any publications not already specified in the Work Programme	PaCSWG, SBWG, TWG, Secretariat	Ongoing	4 weeks		
5.5	Implement system of indicators for the success of the ACAP Agreement	Parties, Secretariat, BLI and AC	Ongoing	1 week p.a.		Requires reporting by Parties, collation of information by Secretariat
5.6	Review ACAP performance indicators	PaCSWG, SBWG Convenors, Science Officer and BLI	2027	3 weeks		Examine ways to improve reporting of implementation of best practice mitigation measures by Parties.
5.7	Review information and drafts of triennial implementation report and other reporting to MoP.	Advisory Committee, Secretariat	2027			In accordance with Article IX 6 (d) of the Agreement.

Topic/ Task		Responsible group	Time frame	Resources		Action detail/ comments
				Time	Funds (AUD)	
5.8	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 and CCAMLR.	SBWG, PaCSWG and Parties, BLI	Ongoing	16 weeks	10,000	Opportunities for small grants . Assess any capacity building requirements to facilitate regional coordination to better assess bycatch. Increase focus on ACAP High Priority Populations and high-risk bycatch areas.
5.9	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	2026-2027	6 months	24,000 (BLI contract)	Review tracking indicators at AC16. Support a BLI contract to identify gaps in tracking data coverage; to contact holders of tracking data that are not in the Tracking Database; and encourage them to submit their data, and to assist data holders with data submission. Any contract with BLI would include significant in-kind contribution.
5.10	Develop ACAP guidelines for seabird-fisheries overlap and risk assessment analyses	SBWG and PaCSWG (Intersessional Group established at AC14)	AC15			See ToRs developed at AC14.
5.11	Increase understanding of the effects of climate change on albatrosses and petrels.	PaCSWG, SBWG, TWG, Parties, Science Officer	Ongoing			Possible small grant opportunity. Support research and monitoring into the effects of climate change on life history, breeding behaviour and success, breeding habitat condition, and disease prevalence, etc. Identify ways to increase the resilience of albatrosses and petrels to these effects. Cooperative and coordinated international responses are required to address critical research needs.

Topic/ Task		Responsible group	Time frame	Resources		Action detail/ comments
				Time	Funds (AUD)	
5.12	Support for World Albatross Day	Secretariat, PaCSWG, SBWG, Parties	Ongoing		3,000 p.a.	Developing, producing and distributing WAD materials e.g. logo, posters, brochure. Support other means of promoting WAD, e.g. competitions etc.
5.13	Implement ACAP's Communications Strategy.	WG Convenors, AC Chairs, and Secretariat	Ongoing		65, 000 p.a. (including contracting of additional expertise)	Opportunities for secondments . Enhance the communication of the conservation crisis facing albatrosses and petrels and of ACAP's effective solutions.
5.14	Manage database of relevant scientific literature	Secretariat	Ongoing	2 weeks p.a.		
5.15	Manage directory of relevant legislation	Secretariat	Ongoing	1 week p.a.		Parties to supply further information, as available
5.16	Manage a list of authorities, research centres, scientists and non-governmental organisations relevant to ACAP	Secretariat	Ongoing	2 days p.a.		Parties and AC to supply further information, as available
5.17	Review Annex 2 (Action Plan) of the Agreement	AC, Parties, Secretariat	2026-2027			AC officials to draft report to AC. Report to MoP.
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.		Short-term advice provided by the AC Chair
6.2	Consider and advise on Staff matters as needed	AC	Ongoing	1 week p.a.		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.		
6.4	Manage work of Advisory Committee	Chair, Vice-chair and Convenors	Ongoing	18 weeks p.a.		

ANNEX 5. RESOLUTION 8.5 RESOLUTION TO ADDRESS THE CONSERVATION CRISIS FACED BY ALBATROSSES AND PETRELS DUE TO THE THREAT OF FISHERIES BYCATCH

AGREEMENT ON THE CONSERVATION OF ALBATROSSES AND PETRELS**Resolution 8.5****Resolution to address the conservation crisis faced by albatrosses and petrels due to the threat of fisheries bycatch**

Adopted by the Eighth Session of the Meeting of the Parties, Dunedin, New Zealand,
19 – 23 May 2025

Recalling that the Advisory Committee to the Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels (the Agreement, or ACAP) highlighted at its eleventh meeting in 2019 that albatrosses and petrels face an ongoing conservation crisis;

Recognising that the conservation status of albatrosses and petrels continues to be threatened by incidental mortality associated with commercial fishing activities, including those of non-Party and distant water fishing fleets, both within and beyond areas of national jurisdiction;

Further recognising the importance of ensuring that the threats posed to albatrosses and petrels are effectively mitigated throughout their range;

Recalling Article II (1) of the Agreement that the objective of this Agreement is to achieve and maintain a favourable conservation status for albatrosses and petrels;

Further recalling Annex 2 (3.2.1) of the Agreement that Parties shall take appropriate operational, management, and other measures to reduce or eliminate the mortality of albatrosses and petrels resulting incidentally from fishing activities. Where possible, the measures applied should follow best current practice;

Further recalling Article XI (1) of the Agreement that Parties shall promote the objectives of this Agreement and develop and maintain coordinated and complementary working relationships with all relevant international, regional, and sub-regional bodies, including those concerned with the conservation and management of seabirds and their habitats and other marine living resources;

Welcoming the adoption of the Agreement under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Marine Biological Diversity of Areas beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ Agreement), which may constitute an opportunity under the BBNJ Agreement to support the objectives of the Agreement;

Aware that achieving adequate protection could be enhanced through cooperation with other Range States whose vessels fish within the range of albatrosses and petrels listed in Annex 1 to the Agreement, particularly those areas with a high incidence of bycatch of albatross and petrels;

Conscious of the benefit to the Agreement of wider cooperation of Range States in the management of fisheries to minimise the bycatch of albatrosses and petrels;

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

1. *Declares* that, based on new evidence on the continued decline in population status, a conservation crisis continues to face the species listed on Annex 1 of the Agreement with hundreds of thousands of albatrosses and petrels dying every year as a result of fisheries operations;
2. *Strongly urges* Parties, according to their national circumstances, to make renewed efforts to review and where necessary improve their operational, management, and other measures to reduce or eliminate the incidental mortality of albatrosses and petrels from fishing activities, in particular through the adoption and implementation of ACAP's Best Practice Advice, and through the collection and monitoring of bycatch and mitigation use data;
3. *Encourages* Parties who are Contracting Parties or Cooperating non-Contracting Parties to regional fisheries management and conservation organisations whose fisheries pose bycatch risks to albatrosses and petrels to promote the adoption and implementation of ACAP's Best Practice Advice to minimise seabird bycatch. These actions should align with ACAP's engagement strategy with regional fisheries management and conservation organisations and include coordinated engagement with relevant Range States;
4. *Further encourages* Parties, as appropriate, to seek avenues to engage with Range States and member economies of Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation forum whose vessels fish within the range of albatrosses and petrels to promote the objectives of the Agreement, according to their respective circumstances, for example in areas not covered by regional fisheries management and conservation organisations, in particular through promoting the adoption and implementation of ACAP's Best Practice Advice to reduce or eliminate the incidental mortality of albatrosses and petrels resulting from fishing activities;
5. *Further encourages* Parties to focus their communication and promotion actions related to the conservation crisis faced by albatrosses and petrels to align with, and support, ACAP's Communication Strategy;
6. *Requests* Parties provide to the Secretariat, in a timely manner, all available information, according to their national circumstances, on their actions taken to reduce or eliminate the incidental mortality of albatrosses and petrels resulting from fishing activities, in particular through the application of ACAP's Best Practice Advice; and

7. *Encourages* Parties to cooperate in the provision of technical assistance that supports Parties with limited capacity to progressively enhance their ability to reduce or eliminate bycatch of albatrosses and petrels.

ANNEX 6. RESOLUTION 8.6 ARRANGEMENT WITH THE JOINT TECHNICAL COMMISSION OF THE MARITIME FRONT AND WITH GLOBAL FISHING WATCH

AGREEMENT ON THE CONSERVATION OF ALBATROSSES AND PETRELS**Resolution 8.6****Arrangement with the Joint Technical Commission of the Maritime Front and with Global Fishing Watch**

Adopted by the Eighth Session of the Meeting of the Parties, Dunedin, New Zealand,
19 - 23 May 2025

Recalling that Article X(d) of the Agreement calls upon the Secretariat to, *inter alia*, liaise with international organisations and institutions whose activities are directly or indirectly relevant to the conservation, including the protection and management, of albatrosses and petrels;

Recalling also Article XI(1) that calls upon Parties to, *inter alia*, promote the objectives of this Agreement and develop and maintain coordinated and complementary working relationships with all relevant international, regional and sub-regional bodies, including those concerned with the conservation and management of seabirds and their habitats and other marine living resources;

Further recalling Article XI(3) that authorises the Secretariat to enter into arrangements, with the approval of the Meeting of Parties, with other organisations and institutions as may be appropriate;

Further recalling Resolution 6.11 of the Sixth Session of the Meeting of the Parties on the Authority of the Secretariat to Enter into Arrangements with Relevant International Organisations, which includes a template and modalities for such arrangements;

Noting that Resolution 6.11 states that any substantive derogation from the template that is more than merely editorial must be approved by the Parties;

Noting also that Resolution 6.11 states that any proposed amendments of a substantive nature must be approved by the Parties.

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

Decides:

1. that the Secretariat may sign a Memorandum of Understanding with the Joint Technical Commission of the Maritime Front as set out in Appendix A;
2. that the Secretariat may develop and conclude a Memorandum of Understanding with Global Fishing Watch;
3. that the template set out in Resolution 6.11 will be used in respect of the arrangement referred to in paragraph 2 above.

RESOLUTION 8.6 APPENDIX A

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

between

THE PRESIDENCY OF THE JOINT TECHNICAL COMMISSION OF THE MARITIME
FRONT

and

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

The Presidency of the Joint Technical Commission of the Maritime Front (hereafter the **CTMFM**), represented herein by *Pro Tempore* President Navy Captain (R) Zapicán Bonino Cola, and the Secretariat of the Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels (hereafter the ACAP Secretariat), represented herein by Dr Christine Bogle; hereafter 'the Participants';

ACKNOWLEDGING that the *Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels* (hereafter ACAP), developed under the auspices of the *Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals*, is a multilateral agreement that 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 concerning 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 Article 80 of the Treaty of the Río de la Plata and its Maritime Front provides that the **CTMFM** shall seek to conduct studies and adopt and coordinate plans and measures for the conservation, preservation, and rational exploitation of living resources, and the protection of the marine environment in the area of mutual interest established in Article 73 of said Treaty;

ACKNOWLEDGING FURTHER that Article 82(b), assigns to the **CTMFM** the role of promoting joint studies and scientific research, particularly within the area of mutual interest, relevant to the prevention and elimination of potentially harmful effects from the use, exploration, and exploitation of the marine environment;

CONSCIOUS that both Member States of the **CTMFM** are Parties to ACAP;

NOTING that Chapter II (Article 2) of the **CTMFM** Statute provides that the Commission is an International Body with the required legal capacity to perform its specific functions;

RECOGNISING that the achievement of the goals of the **CTMFM** and ACAP will benefit from cooperation, with a view to harmonising the conservation measures adopted in respect of albatrosses and petrels;

DESIRING to put into place arrangements and procedures to promote cooperation to enhance the conservation of albatrosses and petrels;

Have reached the following understandings:

1. OBJECTIVE OF THIS MOU

The objective of this Memorandum of Understanding (“MoU”) is to facilitate cooperation between the CTMFM and the ACAP Secretariat (“the Participants”) with a view to supporting efforts to minimise the bycatch of albatrosses and petrels listed in Annex 1 of ACAP in the area managed by the CTMFM, the Argentine-Uruguayan Common Fishing Zone (ZCPAU).

2. AREAS OF COOPERATION

The **CTMFM** and the ACAP Secretariat may consult, cooperate and collaborate with each other in 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 ZCPAU;
- b) exchange of information regarding management approaches 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 ZCPAU;
- 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 ZCPAU; and
- a) reciprocal participation with observer status at the relevant meetings of ACAP and the **CTMFM**.

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 for them.

5. COMING INTO EFFECT AND TERMINATION

This MoU will come into effect on the date of signature.

A Participant may unilaterally terminate this MoU by providing six (6) months written notice to the other Participant.

Signed by:

For the [Secretariat of Organisation] ([Organisation])	For the Secretariat for the Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels (ACAP Secretariat)
Date: / /20...	Date: / /20...
(signature) [Name] Chair/Executive Secretary [Organisation]	(signature) [Name] Executive Secretary ACAP Secretariat

ANNEX 7. RESOLUTION 8.7 AGREEMENT BUDGET 2026 - 2028

AGREEMENT ON THE CONSERVATION OF ALBATROSSES AND PETRELS

Resolution 8.7

Agreement Budget 2026 - 2028

Adopted by the Eighth Session of the Meeting of the Parties, Dunedin, New Zealand,
19 - 23 May 2025

Recalling that Article VIII(8) of the Agreement requires the Meeting of the Parties, at each of its ordinary Sessions, to adopt a budget for the next financial period;

Recalling also that Article VII(2)(a) of the Agreement requires decisions relating to the budget and any scale of contributions to be adopted by the Meeting of the Parties by consensus, having regard to the differing resources of the Parties;

Noting that Resolution 1.3 adopted at the first Session of the Meeting of the Parties agreed to give consideration to amending the Scale of Contributions;

Further recalling that Resolution 7.5 adopted at the Seventh Session of the Meeting of the Parties adopted a scale of contributions formula and Budget for 2023 - 2025;

Bearing in mind Resolution 8.2 Secretariat Work Programme 2026 - 2028, and Resolution 8.4, Advisory Committee Work Programme 2026 - 2028;

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

Decides:

1. to adopt the 2026 - 2028 Budget set out in Appendix A;
2. to adopt the scale of contributions formula set out in Appendix B to calculate the contributions for existing Parties;
3. that in the financial years 2026, 2027 and 2028, the core budget shall be based on fixed annual payments from the Parties, as set out in Appendix C;
4. that the accession of any Party to the Agreement during an intersessional period will not result in the recalculation of the fixed annual payments for any other Party prior to the next Session of the Meeting of the Parties;

5. that the budget is to be allocated on a functional basis into four appropriations as follows:
 - Appropriation 1 – Operation of the Secretariat
 - Appropriation 2 – Meetings of the Parties
 - Appropriation 3 – Meetings of the Advisory Committee
 - Appropriation 4 – Advisory Committee Work Programme;
6. that Parties should pay any outstanding contributions as soon as possible;
7. that all contributions shall be paid in Australian dollars (AUD);
8. that a working capital shall be maintained at a constant level of AUD 100,000;
9. that the Advisory Committee shall keep the status of the General Fund and other funds drawn up in accordance with the Agreement under regular review; and
10. that additional funds which become available should other States accede to the Agreement during the 2026 - 2028 triennium will be allocated toward the Special Fund, consistent with Financial Regulation 5.4.

Urges:

all Parties consider making voluntary contributions to the Special Fund to support the activities of the Agreement.

Invites:

non-Party Range States, governmental, inter-governmental and non-governmental organisations and other agencies to consider contributing to the Special Fund or to specific activities.

Requests:

the Secretariat to make best endeavours to seek external funding and to identify innovative mechanisms to reduce costs.

RESOLUTION 8.7 APPENDIX A

Agreement Budget 2026 – 2028

Ref. No	Description	2026 Budget	2027 Budget	2028 Budget
1. INCOME				
	Contributions from Parties	926,230	940,123	954,225
	Interest on funds	20,000	20,300	20,605
	Tax refunds	15,889	16,127	16,369
	MoU - Tasmanian Government	28,659	29,089	29,525
	Total Income	990,778	1,005,639	1,020,724

2. EXPENDITURE**APPROPRIATION 1 - SECRETARIAT****Employee salaries**

1.1.1	Salaries – Executive Secretary	173,328	175,928	178,567
1.1.2	Superannuation	20,799	21,111	21,428
1.1.3	Recruitment Costs	0	0	0
1.1.4	Salaries - Science Officer	125,246	127,125	129,032
1.1.5	Superannuation	15,030	15,255	15,484
1.1.6	Workers Compensation	4,500	4,568	4,637
	Total Salaries	338,903	343,987	349,148

Employee expenses

1.2.1	Accommodation	14,408	14,624	14,843
1.2.2	Airfares	36,021	36,561	37,109
1.2.3	Travel Allowances	15,358	15,588	15,822
1.2.4	Travel Insurance	1,405	1,426	1,447
1.2.5	Consultants	50,000	50,000	50,000
1.2.6	Relocation expense (staff)	0	0	0
1.2.8	General insurance	2,033	2,063	2,094
1.2.9	Representation expenses	1,903	1,903	1,903
1.2.10	Other travel costs - visas	1,189	1,207	1,225
	Total Employee expenses	122,317	123,372	124,443

Operational costs

1.3.1	Office equipment /furniture	5,000	5,075	5,151
1.3.2	Office equipment maintenance	995	1,010	1,025
1.3.3	Office requisites - stationery	2,000	2,030	2,060
1.3.4	Publications /books	289	293	297
1.3.6	Printing and copying (PR material)	2,442	2,479	2,516
1.3.7	Telephones - telecommunications	3,108	3,155	3,202

Ref. No	Description	2026 Budget	2027 Budget	2028 Budget
1.3.8	Translations - correspondence	13,755	13,961	14,170
1.3.9	Postage	200	203	206
1.3.10	Freight/couriers	200	203	206
1.3.11	Light and power	3,336	3,386	3,437
1.3.12	Insurance property	1,865	1,893	1,921
1.3.14	Vehicle running costs	4,351	4,416	4,483
1.3.15	Cab charge - taxis	647	657	667
1.3.16	Parking	7,474	7,586	7,700
1.3.18	Staff training	2,041	2,072	2,103
1.3.19	Staff conferences / seminars	1,500	1,523	1,546
1.3.20	Bank charges	362	367	373
1.3.21	Bad and doubtful debts	395	401	407
1.3.22	Software purchase	3,232	3,280	3,329
1.3.23	Server lease	800	812	824
1.3.24	Outsourced IT services	2,509	2,547	2,585
1.3.25	Modifications to database	25,000	25,375	25,756
1.3.26	WAN Wireless network	1,467	1,489	1,511
1.3.27	Rent - ACAP office	37,855	38,423	38,999
1.3.28	Rates and water	0	0	0
1.3.29	Preventative maintenance	0	0	0
1.3.30	Office cleaning	300	305	310
	Total Office operational costs	121,123	122,941	124,783
TOTAL APPROPRIATION 1 - SECRETARIAT		582,343	590,300	598,374
APPROPRIATION 2 - MEETINGS OF THE PARTIES				
Interpretation / Translation Costs				
2.1.1	Simultaneous interpretation	0	0	57,024
2.1.2	Hire of interpretation equipment	0	0	41,479
2.1.3	Translation of documents	0	0	46,990
	Total Interpretation/Translation	0	0	145,493
Meeting support costs				
2.2.1	Hire of venue (including catering)	0	0	20,737
2.2.2	Hire/purchase of equipment	0	0	13,824
2.2.3	Support staff	0	0	39,946
2.2.4	Printing of documents/report	0	0	9,504
	Total Meeting support costs	0	0	84,011
Sponsorship				
2.3.1	Sponsorship - experts	0	0	31,628
	Total Sponsorship costs	0	0	31,628
TOTAL APPROPRIATION 2 - MOP		0	0	261,132

Ref. No	Description	2026 Budget	2027 Budget	2028 Budget
APPROPRIATION 3 - ADVISORY COMMITTEE				
Interpretation / Translation Costs				
3.1.1	Simultaneous interpretation	59,705	60,601	0
3.1.2	Hire of interpretation equipment	53,300	49,440	0
3.1.3	Translation of meeting documents	33,385	33,886	0
	Total Interpretation	146,390	143,927	0
Venue and meeting support costs				
3.2.1	Hire of venue (including catering)	31,601	32,075	0
3.2.2	Hire/purchase of equipment	2,872	2,915	0
3.2.3	Support staff	31,104	31,570	0
	Total Venue and meeting costs	65,577	66,560	0
Sponsorship				
3.3.1	Sponsorship of experts	22,390	22,726	0
	Sponsorship non-Party Range States	0	0	0
	Total sponsorship	22,390	22,726	0
Support for Advisory Committee Officials				
3.4.1	Support for AC Officials	34,050	34,561	0
	Total support	34,050	34,561	0
TOTAL APPROPRIATION 3 - AC		268,407	267,775	0
APPROPRIATION 4 - AC WORK PROGRAMME				
	Support for Secondments	20,000	20,000	20,000
	Advisory Committee Work Programme	120,028	127,564	141,218
TOTAL APPROPRIATION 4 - AC WP		140,028	147,564	161,218
TOTAL AGREEMENT BUDGET		990,778	1,005,639	1,020,724

In addition, **\$306,842** from savings will be drawn on to support the budget as follows:

One-off allocations from savings in General Fund	2026 - 2028
1.3.25 Database migration/rebuild	75,000
Secretariat vehicle	35,000
Advisory Committee Work Programme	196,842

RESOLUTION 8.7 APPENDIX B

Scale of Contributions Formulae

1. For Parties whose scale of assessment under the United Nations Scale of Assessment for the UN Budget (currently [Resolution A/RES/79/249](#), issued on 31 December 2024) is less than or equal to 0.15%, annual contributions shall be calculated on the UN Scale of Assessment.

$$Contribution1 = \frac{UN\%}{\sum UN\% ACAP} * ACAPBudget$$

(Equation 1)

where: UN % is the calculated UN Scale of Assessment for a Party outlined in the United Nations Scale of Assessment for payment of annual contributions to the UN Budget (currently Resolution 79/249, 31 December 2024).

$\sum UN\% ACAP$ is the sum of the UN Scale of Assessment for all ACAP Parties outlined in UN Resolution 79/249; and

$ACAPBudget$ is the annual budget approved by the Meeting of the Parties.

2. For Parties whose scale of assessment under the United Nations Scale of Assessment for the UN Budget (Resolution 79/249, 31 December 2024) is greater than 0.15%, annual contributions shall be calculated based on 50% GNI, and 50% GNI per capita, with no party paying more than 20% of the total ACAP Budget. It is calculated using the following equations:

$$Contribution2 = \left[\sum \left(\frac{GNI\%}{\sum GNI\% ACAP} \cdot 0.5 \right), \left(\frac{GNIpc\%}{\sum GNIpc\% ACAP} \cdot 0.5 \right) \right] \cdot (1 - \sum \% Contribution1) \\ * ACAP Budget$$

(Equation 2)

where: GNI % is the Gross National Income for a Party that has a Scale of Assessment under the United Nations Scale of Assessment that is greater than 0.15%.

$\sum GNI\% ACAP$ is the sum of the Gross National Incomes for all ACAP Parties that have a Scale of Assessment under the United Nations Scale of Assessment that is greater than 0.15%.

GNIpc% is the Gross National Income per capita for a Party that has a Scale of Assessment under the United Nations Scale of Assessment that is greater than 0.15%.

$\sum GNIpc\% ACAP$ is the sum of the Gross National Incomes per capita for all ACAP Parties that have a Scale of Assessment under the United Nations Scale of Assessment that is greater than 0.15%; and

$\sum \% Contribution1$ is the total assessed contributions for Parties whose scale of assessment under the United Nations Scale of Assessment for the UN Budget is less than or equal to 0.15%: it is expressed as a percentage of the ACAP budget.

3. If the calculated percentage contribution for one or more parties resulting from Equation 2 exceeds 20%, the contribution for the Party/Parties is set at 20% of the annual budget, and the contribution for the residual Parties recalculated in one or more subsequent iterations of the following formula:

$$Contribution = \left[\sum \left(\frac{GNI\%}{\sum GNI\% ACAP < 20\%} \cdot 0.5 \right), \left(\frac{GNIpc\%}{\sum GNIpc\% ACAP < 20\%} \cdot 0.5 \right) \right] \\ \bullet \left(1 - [(0.20 \bullet Parties > 20\%) + (\sum \% Contribution1)] \right) \bullet ACAPBudget$$

(Equation 3)

where: $\sum GNI\% ACAP Parties < 20\%$ is the sum of the Gross National Incomes for all ACAP Parties that have an assessed annual ACAP contribution < 20% in Equation 2.

$\sum GNIpc\% ACAP Parties < 20\%$ is the sum of the Gross National Incomes per capita for all ACAP Parties that have an assessed annual ACAP contribution < 20% in Equation 2.

$Parties > 20\%$ is the number of Parties that have an assessed contribution from Equation 2 or subsequent iterations of this equation that is >20% of the ACAP Budget.

RESOLUTION 8.7 APPENDIX C

Parties' Contributions 2026 - 2028

Party	2026 Contributions (AUD)	2027 Contributions (AUD)	2028 Contributions (AUD)
Argentina	57,332	58,192	59,065
Australia	102,825	104,367	105,933
Brazil	115,571	117,304	119,064
Chile	42,580	43,219	43,867
Ecuador	3,871	3,929	3,988
France	144,977	147,152	149,359
New Zealand	54,080	54,891	55,714
Norway	111,087	112,753	114,444
Peru	8,635	8,764	8,896
South Africa	35,088	35,615	36,149
Spain	106,049	107,639	109,254
United Kingdom	139,432	141,524	143,646
Uruguay	4,704	4,775	4,847
TOTALS	926,230	940,123	954,225

ANNEX 8. TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR INTERSESSIONAL GROUP**Terms of Reference****Intersessional Group (IG) to review the current criteria for recruitment of the Executive Secretary, outlined in Resolution 7.3, Annex A.**

Recognizing the expectation stated in Article VIII(13)(c) of the Agreement, related to measures to improve its effectiveness, the Eighth Session of the Meeting of the Parties (MoP8) agreed to create an Intersessional Group (IG) to review the current process for recruitment of the Executive Secretary, outlined in Resolution 7.3, Annex A.

The IG will:

1. In the intersessional period, assess the current process outlined in sections “Executive Secretary” and “Suggested Selection Criteria for the Appointment of the Executive Secretary to ACAP”, to identify possible areas where improvements to the current recruitment procedure, related to, *inter alia*, efficiency, transparency, inclusive and balanced geographical representation, can be made, taking into account the current official working languages of the Agreement;
2. Report back to the next Meeting of the Parties with possible suggestions for improvement of the current process for recruitment.

To fulfil its mandate, the IG may, among other matters, identify good practices and criteria from other international organisations of similar size and scope to the Agreement. It may also request the support of the Secretariat in consulting with other organizations that have agreements or established relations with ACAP.

ANNEX 9. LIST OF MEETING PARTICIPANTS

CHAIR	
	Ms Danica STENT dtsent@doc.govt.nz
VICE-CHAIR	
	Dr Michael DOUBLE mike.double@aad.gov.au

PARTIES	
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Alternate Representative	Ms Annette DUNKLEY Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (Australian Antarctic Division) annette.dunkley@aad.gov.au
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Alternate Representative	Mr Pedro ALEXANDRE DE ALBUQUERQUE Fisheries co-Management Department (DPES), Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change pedro.albuquerque@mma.gov.br
Advisor	Mrs Tatiana NEVES Projeto Albatroz

CHILE	
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Advisor	Dr Johannes FISCHER Department of Conservation
Advisor	Mr Mark GEYTENBEEK Ministry of Primary Industries
Advisor	Ms Mandy LEATHERS Department of Conservation
Advisor	Miss Vivita MATANIMEKE Ministry of Primary Industries
Advisor	Miss Sally ZHANG Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade

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Alternate Representative	Ms Helena MORENO COLERA Ministry for the Ecological Transition and the Demographic Challenge hmoreno@miteco.es
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URUGUAY	
Representative	Ms Gabriela JORGE Ministerio de Ambiente gabriela.jorge@ambiente.gub.uy

OBSERVERS: APEC MEMBER ECONOMIES**CHINESE TAIPEI**

Head of Delegation	Mr Chin-Ming LO Ocean Conservation Administration, Ocean Affairs Council oca999@oca.gov.tw
	Mr Po-Sheng HSIEH Ocean Conservation Administration, Ocean Affairs Council
	Mr Herbert W. M. HSU Department of International Organizations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
	Mr Chung Hang HUNG National Taiwan University
	Mr Ansel SHEN Department of International Organizations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
	Associate Professor Chi-Ting (Robert) TSAI Department of Political Science, National Taiwan University

OBSERVERS: INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS**IUCN**

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OBSERVERS: NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS**BIRDLIFE INTERNATIONAL**

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Miss Axelle COMPAIN
Dr Marco FAVERO
Dr Olivia ROWLEY

INTERPRETERS

French ↔ English: Dr Marc ORLANDO
Mr Philippe TANGUY

Spanish ↔ English: Mrs Cecilia ALAL
Dr Sandra HALE

ANNEX 10. MEETING AGENDA

Agenda Eighth Session of the Meeting of the Parties to ACAP	
1. Official Opening	
1.1	Official Opening and Opening Statements
2. Procedural Issues	
2.1	Adoption of Agenda
2.2	Amendments to the MoP Rules of Procedure
2.3	Establishment of Credentials Committee
3. Reports	
3.1	Report of Credentials Committee
3.2	Report of the Depositary
3.3	Reports of Observers
4. Operation of the Secretariat	
4.1	Report of the Secretariat
4.2	Secretariat Work Programme 2026 - 2028
4.3	Review of Staff Regulations
4.4	Review of Financial Regulations
4.5	Review of Effectiveness of the Secretariat
4.6	Recruitment of the Agreement's Executive Secretary
5. Operation of the Meeting of the Parties	
6. Operation of the Advisory Committee	
6.1	Report of the Advisory Committee
6.1.1	Advisory Committee reporting framework
6.2	Advisory Committee Work Programme 2026 - 2028
7. Operation of the Agreement	
7.1	Proposed Amendment to Annex 1 - listing of new species
7.2	Criteria for listing and de-listing species in Annex 1
7.3	Report on Implementation of the Agreement
7.4	Identification of Priority Actions for Conservation Measures
7.5	Indicators to Measure the Success of the Agreement
7.6	Capacity Building
7.7	Communication Strategy
7.8	Arrangements with Other Organisations
7.9	Financial Report

7.10	Agreement Budget 2026 - 2028
7.11	Scale of Contributions
7.12	National Plans of Action
7.13	Accession of non-Party Range States to the Agreement
8.	Provisional Date and Venue of the Ninth Meeting
9.	Other Business
9.1	Media Release
9.2	Participation at future Conferences
10.	Adoption of MoP8 Report
11.	Closing Remarks

ANNEX 11. LIST OF MEETING DOCUMENTS

WORKING DOCUMENTS			
Paper	Title	Agenda Item	Submitted by
MoP8 Doc 01	Provisional Agenda	2.1	Secretariat, Advisory Committee Chair, MoP7 Chair, Advisory Committee
MoP8 Doc 02	Annotated Provisional Agenda	2.1	Secretariat, MoP8 Vice-chair
MoP8 Doc 03	Meeting Schedule	2.1	Secretariat, MoP8 Vice-chair
MoP8 Doc 04	List of Meeting Documents	2.1	Secretariat
MoP8 Doc 05 Rev 3	List of Meeting Participants	2	Secretariat
MoP8 Doc 06	Amendment to Rule 4 of the Rules of Procedure for the Meeting of the Parties	2.2	Secretariat
MoP8 Doc 07	Report of Depositary Government on the Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels (Canberra, 19 June 2001)	3.2	Australia
MoP8 Doc 08	Secretariat Report	4.1, 4.3, 4.4, 7.13	Secretariat
MoP8 Doc 09 Rev 1	Interim 2025 Financial Report	4.4, 7.9	Secretariat
MoP8 Doc 10	Review of the effectiveness of the Secretariat	4.5	Secretariat
MoP8 Doc 11	Advisory Committee Report to the Eighth Meeting of Parties	6.1	Advisory Committee
MoP8 Doc 12	Summary Report on Progress with the Implementation of the Agreement 2022 - 2024	7.3	Secretariat
MoP8 Doc 13	Status of ACAP species, populations and breeding sites	7.3, 7.5	Advisory Committee, Secretariat
MoP8 Doc 14	Threats to ACAP species and mitigation actions	7.3, 7.5	Advisory Committee, Secretariat
MoP8 Doc 15	ACAP Priority Conservation Actions for 2026 - 2028	7.4	Advisory Committee, Secretariat

WORKING DOCUMENTS			
Paper	Title	Agenda Item	Submitted by
MoP8 Doc 16	Capacity building and outreach	7.6	Secretariat, Advisory Committee Chair
MoP8 Doc 17	Draft Advisory Committee Work Programme 2026 - 2028	6.2	Advisory Committee
MoP8 Doc 18	Draft Secretariat Work Programme 2026 - 2028	4.2	Secretariat
MoP8 Doc 19 Rev 2	Draft Agreement Budget 2026 - 2028	7.10	Secretariat
MoP8 Doc 20 Rev 1	Draft Scale of Contributions 2026 - 2028	7.11	Secretariat
MoP8 Doc 21	Arrangements with other organisations	7.8	Secretariat
MoP8 Doc 22	Actions to address the conservation crisis faced by albatrosses and petrels due to the threat of fisheries bycatch	7.4	New Zealand
MoP8 Doc 23	Establishing a Budget Sub-committee	4.4	Australia, New Zealand
MoP8 Doc 24	ACAP Engagement Strategy with Regional Fisheries Management and Conservation Organisations	7.4	AC Intersessional Correspondence Group, Secretariat
MoP8 Doc 25	ACAP Small Grants and Secondment Programmes: Resources Allocated by the Agreement and their Conservation Value	7.6	Advisory Committee Intersessional Group, Advisory Committee Chair
MoP8 Doc 26	Implementation of ACAP Communications Strategy	7.7	Secretariat

INFORMATION DOCUMENTS			
Paper	Title	Agenda Item	Submitted by
MoP8 Inf 01 Rev 1	Considering nominations to Annex 1 of the Agreement - list of candidate species	7.2	Secretariat
MoP8 Inf 02 Rev 3	Parties' 2024 Implementation Reports submitted late	7.3	Secretariat
MoP8 Inf 03	Observer Report	3.3	BirdLife International

ANNEX 12. OBSERVER STATEMENT - CHINESE TAIPEI

“It is a pleasure for Chinese Taipei to participate once again as an observer in this important forum. We extend our sincere appreciation to the Government of New Zealand and the ACAP Secretariat for their outstanding efforts in organizing and hosting the Eighth Meeting of the Parties.

Chinese Taipei remains firmly committed to the goals and values of ACAP. Since 2019, we have actively engaged in international efforts to conserve seabirds, with a particular focus on albatrosses and petrels. Our participation in various Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (RFMOs) has deepened our understanding of global fisheries governance and underscored the importance of robust conservation frameworks.

Reducing seabird bycatch is a national priority. Chinese Taipei has progressively incorporated RFMO-adopted mitigation measures into domestic regulations, requiring our longline fleets to implement techniques such as bird-scaring lines, weighted branch lines, and night setting. In 2024, we co-hosted a seabird bycatch mitigation workshop with the CCSBT, bringing together experts from the International Seafood Sustainability Foundation (ISSF) and BirdLife International to share best practices.

Our efforts extend beyond fisheries. In 2025, National Taiwan University launched the country’s first satellite tracking project on black-footed and short-tailed albatrosses off the eastern coast of Taiwan. We also continue to monitor the nesting of Streaked Shearwaters and support invasive species removal on Mien-hua and Huaping Isles. In parallel, we have established the Tern Conservation Platform to support local NGO-led restoration of little tern breeding populations.

Chinese Taipei believes that ACAP should continue to demonstrate greater conservation ambition for albatrosses and other seabirds, geographically, scientifically, and biologically. In terms of geographic coverage, we see room for more attention not only to areas beyond national jurisdiction, but also to coastal zones and “range areas” as defined under the Agreement. While ACAP has made important strides in the Southern Hemisphere, research and data collection in the Northern Hemisphere remain in the early stages. This gap is also reflected in the species list, which does not yet include several seabird species that now regularly appear in Northern Hemisphere ecosystems and merit formal inclusion. Finally, ACAP could broaden its engagement to include more habitats and jurisdictions where albatrosses and petrels inhabit, stay, cross, or fly over, beyond its existing coordination with RFMOs.

At present, we note four key governance gaps across geographic scope, scientific data, species coverage, and participating actors. Bridging these gaps will require the active effort and solidarity of all ACAP participants. In terms of these gaps, Chinese Taipei urge all ACAP participants to look beyond the horizon, broaden the scope, and fill the gaps. A more inclusive ACAP with full and equal participation will definitely contribute to the positive development of ACAP.

Supporting international initiatives remains a top priority. Chinese Taipei contributed to ACAP’s Small Grants Fund in 2022 and 2024, and we look forward to continuing this support in the years ahead.

Chinese Taipei is committed to constructive engagement in global seabird conservation. We view ACAP not only as a platform for cooperation but also as a vital space for shared learning. We are also willing to hold Advisory Committee meeting to deepen our commitment to this Agreement. Through our participation, we hope to exchange experiences, foster partnerships, and contribute meaningfully to the protection of albatrosses, petrels, and all seabirds for generations to come”.

ANNEX 13. OBSERVER STATEMENT - IUCN

“IUCN is very appreciative of the opportunity to attend this year’s Meeting of the Parties. We did not submit a report of our activities, such as Birdlife International did. So I am taking this opportunity to offer a brief mention of some relevant work.

The Union carries out a good number of activities in relation to the birds covered by this Agreement, ranging from expert assessment of the conservation status of albatrosses and petrels, to on-the-ground projects in collaboration with many partners.

We have already heard about the partnership we have with Birdlife International to undertake assessments for the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species.

Another example is the work carried out by the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas and its Specialist Group on Connectivity Conservation, which addresses ecological connectivity and corridors, highly relevant to seabirds.

IUCN Members have adopted numerous resolutions linked to the conservation of seabirds, their habitats and their threats including climate change, marine pollution, and others.

Finally, I would like to note that IUCN’s Council recently approved a new Strategy on Antarctica and the Southern Ocean, and we are in the process of preparing an Action Plan to further conservation work in the region.

We know that several ACAP species are threatened with extinction and are vulnerable, so we appreciate the collective action of the ACAP Parties, and look forward to assisting where we can in the future. I welcome suggestions from the Parties on how we can best assist”.