

 <p>Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels</p>	<p>Seventh Meeting of the Seabird Bycatch Working Group</p> <p><i>La Serena, Chile, 2 - 4 May 2016</i></p> <p>Update on ACAP's intersessional group on RFMO seabird measure monitoring</p> <p><i>Cleo Small, Anton Wolfaardt, Geoff Tuck, Igor Debski, Warren Papworth, Mi Ae Kim, Richard Phillips</i></p>
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SUMMARY

At SBWG5/AC7, an ACAP intersessional group was formed to identify methods appropriate to review the effectiveness of tuna RFMO seabird bycatch conservation and management measures. This group developed a paper that was submitted to CCSBT, leading to a CCSBT workshop in November 2014. This paper reports on how the outcomes of the November 2014 CCSBT workshop are being progressed in 2016 and onwards, including through:

1. The BirdLife South Africa element of the FAO-GEF Common Oceans Tuna, which has a programme of outreach work aimed at building national scientist capacity, particularly in the Atlantic and Indian Oceans
2. The ICCAT and IOTC seabird bycatch reviews, which are starting in 2016.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That ACAP continues to support a two-tier approach to RFMO review of the effectiveness of RFMO seabird conservation and management measures, combining regular monitoring by RFMOs with periodic, more detailed, joint RFMO assessment.
2. That ACAP parties input into the ICCAT, IOTC and WCPFC seabird reviews in 2016

Actualización sobre la labor del grupo intersesional del ACAP en la revisión de las reglamentaciones sobre captura secundaria de aves marinas en las OROP

RESUMEN

En la reunión GdTCS5/CA7, se formó un grupo intersesional del ACAP a fin de identificar métodos apropiados para evaluar la efectividad de las medidas de ordenación y conservación para mitigar la captura secundaria de aves marinas en las OROP atuneras. Este grupo elaboró un informe que fue presentado a la CCSBT, antesala de un taller de la CCSBT celebrado en noviembre de 2014. El presente documento informa sobre la manera en que se está avanzando, en 2016 y de cara al futuro, sobre las conclusiones arrojadas por el taller de la CCSBT en noviembre de 2014, entre otros, a través de:

1. La organización BirdLife South Africa, integrante del Proyecto Atún del Programa Common Oceans de la FAO y el FMAM, que cuenta con un programa de concientización destinado a la formación de capacidades de científicos en el ámbito nacional, sobre todo en los océanos Atlántico e Índico.
2. Las evaluaciones sobre captura secundaria de aves marinas a cargo de la ICCAT y de la IOTC, que comienzan en 2016.

RECOMENDACIONES

1. Que el ACAP continúe respaldando una estrategia bipartita para revisar la efectividad de las medidas para la conservación y ordenación de las aves marinas en las OROP, combinando acciones regulares de monitoreo a cargo de las OROP con una evaluación periódica y más detallada llevada a cabo junto con dichas organizaciones pesqueras.
2. Que las Partes del ACAP realicen aportes a las revisiones sobre las reglamentaciones relativas a las aves marinas elaboradas durante 2016 por la ICCAT, la IOTC y la WCPFC.

Actualisation du groupe intersessions de l'ACAP sur le suivi des mesures des ORGP relatives aux oiseaux marins

RÉSUMÉ

Lors du GTCA5/CC7, un groupe intersessions a été mis sur pied afin d'identifier les méthodes appropriées pour l'examen de l'efficacité des mesures de conservation et de gestion des ORGP thonières contre les captures accessoires d'oiseaux marins. Ce groupe a élaboré un document qui a été soumis à la CCSBT ; celle-ci a ensuite proposé un atelier en novembre 2014. Ce document rend compte de la manière dont les conclusions de l'atelier de la CCSBT de novembre 2014 sont mises en œuvre à partir de 2016, notamment au moyen :

1. du programme de sensibilisation de BirdLife South Africa, au sein du projet « Common Oceans Tuna » de la FAO-FEM, destiné à la création d'une capacité nationale de scientifiques, notamment dans les océans Atlantique et Indien
2. des examens des captures accessoires d'oiseaux marins par la CICTA et la CTOI à partir de 2016.

RECOMMANDATIONS

1. Il est recommandé que l'ACAP continue de soutenir une approche en deux temps de l'examen de l'efficacité des mesures de gestion et de conservation des oiseaux marins mises en place par les ORGP, qui combine le suivi régulier assuré par les ORGP et une évaluation périodique conjointe plus détaillée effectuée par les organisations.
2. Il est recommandé que les Parties à l'ACAP contribuent aux examens 2016 de la CICTA, de la CTOI et de la CPPOC relatifs aux oiseaux marins.

1. BACKGROUND TO THE ACAP INTERSESSIONAL GROUP WORK

At SBWG5/AC7 in April 2013, an ACAP intersessional group was formed to identify methods appropriate to review the effectiveness of tuna RFMO seabird bycatch conservation and management measures. An additional aim was to consider the value of harmonising such reviews across the tuna and other RFMOs so that cumulative impacts on albatrosses and petrels can be assessed and monitored. The intersessional group developed a paper that was submitted to CCSBT's Ecologically Related Species Working Group (ERSWG) in August 2013, leading to a CCSBT meeting planned for November 2014. Progress up to September 2014 was described in a paper submitted to AC8 ([SBWG6 Doc 20](#)).

2. UPDATE SINCE SBWG6/AC8

2.1. CCBST Seabird Mitigation Measures Technical Group (SMMTG) meeting

CCSBT held its “*Effectiveness of Seabird Mitigation Measures Technical Group*” meeting in Tokyo, 4-6 November 2014. This was co-chaired by the ERSWG Chair and Cleo Small; participating experts included representatives from ACAP, Brazil, Uruguay and USA; and there were observers from the WCPFC and Humane Society International. Representatives from ICCAT and IOTC were invited but could not attend. See SBWG7 Inf 16 for a full report of the meeting, which is also available on the [CCSBT website](#).

A key recommendation from the CCSBT workshop was that reviews of RFMO seabird measure effectiveness should be a combination of (i) RFMOs conducting regular monitoring of seabird bycatch in their fisheries (bycatch rates and total number of birds killed per year), and (ii) periodic, more detailed, joint tuna RFMO impact assessment. A second key recommendation was that building the capacity of national scientists to analyse and report on bycatch data would make a valuable contribution to ensuring long term progress in RFMOs.

2.2. Incorporating outcomes into RFMO seabird assessments

In 2015-16, ICCAT and IOTC will begin a review of the effectiveness of their seabird conservation and management measures. The ICCAT Sub-Committee on Ecosystems (ICCAT SC-ECO) has developed a work plan for this purpose (Annex 1).

The ICCAT approach is consistent with the recommendations that came out of the ACAP intersessional discussion and CCSBT process. The ICCAT SC-ECO agreed that “*a two-tiered approach to seabird bycatch monitoring, in which each tuna RFMOs conducts basic monitoring on a regular basis, complemented by more detailed assessments conducted collaboratively by all the tuna RFMOs less frequently (every three to five years), is sensible.*” ([ICCAT SC-ECO 2015 meeting report](#) p.16).

The IOTC Secretariat is currently in discussion with the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Working Party on Ecosystems and Bycatch in relation to planning for the IOTC seabird review in 2016.

In 2016, the WCPFC Technical and Compliance Committee will also review compliance with WCPFC’s seabird Conservation and Management Measure (CMM 2012-07), focused on whether member states have been reporting the data, requested in CMM 2012-07, on bycatch rates, total number of birds killed per year, and use of mitigation measures.

2.3. Following up through via the GEF Common Oceans Project

As described in SBWG7 Inf 14., the outcomes from the CCSBT SMMTG meeting are also being progressed through the FAO-GEF Common Oceans Project. In particular, this includes support for national scientist capacity-building in relation to analysis of seabird bycatch data; and support for workshops to progress a joint tuna RFMO seabird bycatch impact analysis.

3. CONCLUSION

The outcomes of the ACAP intersessional group, which was established in 2013, have been progressed via a CCSBT process, and the planned ICCAT seabird assessment is consistent with ACAP and CCSBT recommendations. The FAO-GEF Common Oceans Project is also aiming to progress outcomes from CCSBT. This year, 2016, is an important year for ensuring that the ICCAT seabird review has the data it needs for its review to be effective, and for supporting the planned IOTC and WCPFC reviews.

ANNEX 1: ICCAT SEABIRD ASSESSMENT WORK PLAN 2016

Extract from the report of the ICCAT Sub-Committee on Ecosystems, June 2015

SUB-COMMITTEE ON ECOSYSTEMS INTER-SESSIONAL MEETING – MADRID 2015

Appendix 5

Workplan pertaining to seabirds in 2016

The Sub-Committee agreed to examine the trend of annual bycatch number and bycatch rate of seabirds as a first step in the evaluation of the effect of new mitigation measures. For this purpose, the Sub-Committee recommended that all CPCs submit the following information to the 2016 meeting relative to their longline effort in the area south of 25°S latitude after July 2013.

Requested data/analyses for ICCAT SC-ECO 2016	Lead
As required by Rec. 11-09: CPCs will continue to report “ <i>on how they are implementing these measures, and on the status of their National Plans of Action</i> ” (Rec. 11-09)	CPCs – data to be collated by Secretariat
Seabird bycatch indicator 1 (bycatch rate) CPCs with current and historic longline fishing effort south of 25°S to report the following to the SC-ECO meeting 2016: 1) Using a revised version of the ST09 forms; number of seabirds observed caught, number of hooks observed hauled, amount of effort by logbook in the area south of 25°S for the period 2010-2014, to compare pre and post implementation of Rec. 11-09. 2) Distribution map for (1). 3) General description of longline operation in the area south of 25°S (target species, shallow night/deep day sets, etc.). 4) Description of mitigation measures adopted by fishers pre and post implementation of Rec. 11-09 (2010-2015) in the area south of 25°S.	CPCs
Seabird bycatch indicator 2 (total number of birds caught) CPCs to report the following to the SC-ECO meeting 2016: As far as possible, estimations of total number of seabirds caught by species (or lowest taxonomic group possible) per fishery per year in area south of 25°S, for years in which observer data is available (period 2010-2014), with explanation of methods used for calculation (form discussion on methodologies for most effectively making these estimations).	CPCs
Use EFFDIS data to: 1) Identify CPCs fishing in area of Rec. 11-09, Rec. 07-07. 2) Summarise longline fishing effort by 5x5 grid by year, including an interpretation of how longline fishing effort has changed in area relevant to Rec. 11-09 and Rec. 07-07.	Secretariat
Updated analysis of seabird distribution tracking data within ICCAT area (species vulnerable to bycatch in pelagic longline fisheries) and overlap with ICCAT fishing effort (from EFFDIS) by year and quarter. If possible, consider overlap between albatross and petrel groups.	BirdLife
ACAP paper on guidelines for seabird bycatch rate estimation and extrapolation to total number of birds killed (can be circulated after ACAP SBWG meeting April/May 2016).	ACAP
Birdlife to report the activities of seabird mitigations in the Mediterranean in relation to GFCM.	BirdLife