



Agreement on the Conservation  
of Albatrosses and Petrels

# *Third Session of the Meeting of the Parties (MoP 3) Circular No.1*

To: ACAP National Contact Points/MoP3 Meeting Participants

## **MoP3 Meeting Circular No. 1 – Key Dates and Accommodation Arrangements**

The Third Session of the Meeting of the Parties (MoP3) will be held in Bergen, Norway from 27 April – 1 May 2009. The meeting will be held at the Clarion Hotel Admiral.

### **Key dates for MoP3:**

- 24 December:      The Advisory Committee's report on progress with implementation of the Agreement circulated to Parties
- The Advisory Committee's report on its activities circulated to Parties
- 26 January:        Submission date for meeting documents requiring translation
- Submission date for applications from observers representing international organisations
- 25 February:      Parties' comments on proposals to amend the Agreement or its Annexes submitted to Secretariat
- Meeting working documents distributed in the three official languages
- Provisional agenda circulated
- Submission date for applications from observers representing non-international organisations
- 28 April:            Official credentials submitted by Parties' Representatives to the Secretariat

As noted above, written applications for observer status from the international scientific, environmental, cultural or technical bodies should be submitted to the Secretariat at least 90 days prior to the MoP3 (26 January 2009). Requests for observer status from any other scientific, environmental, cultural or technical bodies should be submitted to the Secretariat at least 60 days prior to the meeting (25 February 2009).

## Accommodation

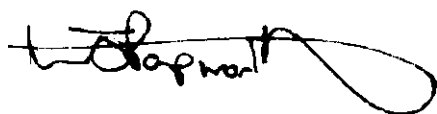
A block reservation of rooms has been made for delegates at the Clarion Hotel Admiral and also at the Best Western Hotel Hordaheimen (just opposite the conference venue). Delegates should register at <http://www.choicehotels.no/hotels/hotel?hotel=NO037> for the Admiral or at <http://hordaheimen.no/> for the Hordaheimen before 1 March if they wish to make use of these reservations.

Room costs are:

Clarion Hotel Admiral:	Single room	NOK 1125
	Double room	NOK 1305
	Harbour view room	NOK 1540
Hotel Hordaheimen	Single room	NOK 750
	Double room	NOK 950

Details of these and other hotels close to the venue can be obtained from <http://www.bergen-guide.com/hotels.asp>. Practical information about Bergen is attached.

A draft agenda and list of papers for the meeting will be circulated shortly.



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*The ACAP MoP3 Guide to Bergen, Norway*  
*Monday, 27 April – Friday, 1 May 2009*

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*Bergen is the second largest city in Norway, located on the south-west coast in the county of Hordaland. “The City Between Seven Mountains” was founded in 1070 and had an important maritime history in shipping and finance. Bergen is currently an important cultural centre and tourist destination as well as a gateway to the fjords.*

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*Visa:* A valid passport is required but no visa is needed for stays up to three months.

*Currency:* The Norwegian krone (NOK) is the official currency. Euros may be accepted at some locations but may have a poor exchange rate. Visa, Eurocard, MasterCard and travelers checks are accepted at most locations except grocery stores and petrol stations. American Express, JCB and Diner’s Club are also generally well accepted. ATMs are available at the airport and in all areas.

*Exchange Rate:* <http://wpp.greenwichmeantime.com/time-zone/europe/norway/currency.htm>

*Time Zone:* Winter UTC+1 (between the last Sunday in March and the Saturday before the last Sunday in October); Summer (DST) UTC+2

*Electricity:* 220 volts, 50 Hz

*Average costs:* A typical meal for one, including a soft drink, will cost up to 130 kr (budget), 130-210 kr (mid-range) and over 210 kr for a high-end meal. Although a service charge of 10-15% is added to most hotel and restaurant bills, additional tipping is not required but is appreciated for good service. A standard double room costs up to 800 kr (budget), 800-1500 kr (mid-range) and over 1500 kr for a high-end room.

*Sightseeing and getting around:* Bergen has many attractions in the city and surrounding areas, including museums, galleries, markets, historical structures, tours, concerts, events, shopping and hiking. Please see <http://wikitravel.org/en/Bergen> for practical and interesting information.

*Weather:* Because of the consistent and plentiful rainfall, Bergen is known as ‘The City of Rain’ with annual rainfall about 2250 mm, although May has the least precipitation. The Gulf Stream moderates the temperature and 10°C may occur in either January or July. The locals say there is no such thing as bad weather, only bad clothing, so don’t forget your raingear!

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Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Avg high °C	3.6	4.0	5.9	9.1	14.0	16.8	17.6	17.4	14.2	11.2	6.9	4.7
Avg low temperature °C	-0.4	-0.5	0.9	3.0	7.2	10.2	11.5	11.6	9.1	9.6	2.8	0.6
Mean Total Precipitation (mm)	190	152	170	114	106	132	148	190	283	271	259	235
Mean Number of Precipitation Days	21	17	19	17	17	16	18	19	23	24	22	22

*Source: World Weather Information Service*

*Accommodation:*

**Clarion Hotel Admiral** (conference venue) is on the waterside and elegantly renovated from a storehouse. It is located in the centre of Bergen and walking distance to the Aquarium and public transportation. A single room is 1125 kr/night; a double room is 1305 kr/night; a harbor view room is 1540 kr/night. All prices include breakfast.

Address: C. Sundtsgate 9, Bergen, Norway 5004

Telephone: +47 55 23 64 00

Fax: +47 55 23 64 64

Email: [cl.admiral@choice.no](mailto:cl.admiral@choice.no)

Web: <http://www.choicehotels.no/hotels/hotel?hotel=NO037>

**Best Western Hotel Hordaheimen** is located in the center of Bergen and close to the Aquarium and public transportation (next door to the conference venue). A single bed room is 750 kr/night; a double room is 950 kr/night. All prices include breakfast.

Address: C. Sundtsgate 18, Bergen

Telephone: +47 55 33 50 00

Fax: +47 55 23 49 50

Web: <http://www.hordaheimen.no/>

**MoP 3 Official Reception:** This will be held Monday, 27 April at 19:00 at the Bergen Aquarium (*Akvariat i Bergen*), which features Norwegian fish as well as penguins, monkeys, crocodiles, snakes and turtles.

**Meeting Excursion:** On Thursday, the plan is to go on a day trip to the mountains and the fjords. First we will go to the Myrdal railway station on Hardangervidda, a high mountain area with lots of snow. From there, we plan to take one of the most spectacular train rides in the world, the Flåmsbanen (<http://www.flaamsbana.no/eng/Index.html>). After that, we will go by boat on the fjord into Nærøyfjorden UNESCO World Heritage Site, one of the most beautiful fjords in the world.

**Twitching:** An overview can be viewed at <http://www.birdingnorway.no/tours/trip01.html>. Local excursions for birders will be arranged at request, assisted by the County Governor and the local birdwatching club.

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*Additional information:*

- Quick and easy general information about Bergen: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bergen>
  - Official tourist website with current weather: [http://www.visitbergen.com/default.asp?sp=GB&layout=2&intro=1538\\_1&bhcp=1](http://www.visitbergen.com/default.asp?sp=GB&layout=2&intro=1538_1&bhcp=1)
  - General tourist information and maps: <http://www.bergen-guide.com/>
  - Trip planning, virtual sightseeing, resources and events: <http://www.virtualbergen.com/>
  - Bergen Aquarium: <http://www.akvariet.no/engelsk/info/info.html>
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