

REPORT

Rome, Italy
28 February – 1 March
2013

**Inter Agency Liaison
Group on Invasive
Alien Species**

February 2013

Inter Agency Liaison Group on Invasive Alien Species

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1. Opening of the meeting

1.1 Welcome

Mr Brent LARSON, Secretariat of the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC), welcomed participants to the fourth meeting, explaining that this meeting was jointly hosted by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the Secretariat of the IPPC. He stated that the main objective of this meeting, as agreed at the previous meeting, was to revisit the terms of reference for the Inter Agency Liaison Group on Invasive Alien Species (IALG-IAS) in order to ensure that the mandate of the group was broad enough to cover the relevant mandates of all organizations involved.

1.2 Opening remarks

FAO: Mr Indroyono SOESILO, Director of Fisheries and Aquaculture Resources Use and Conservation Division, provided opening remarks. He stated that FAO is committed to achieving food security for all, and to achieve this agriculture and forestry practices often involve the voluntary transfer of seeds, plants (including trees), livestock or other living animals, including fish and invertebrates, or other forms of living materials between different countries. While most of these movements are controlled, some are not and could become deleterious. Therefore, managerial control is often needed and is a necessary step to help ensure production in agriculture, forestry and aquaculture systems. In looking forward to 2020, it is important that the issue of invasive alien species (IAS) is prioritized and that measures are put into place to help prevent and control them. FAO strongly believes in the importance of addressing these global issues by establishing partnerships with other organizations of high technical expertise, with clear and complementary roles and responsibilities. We are delighted to co-host this excellent group of experts representing various organizations and look forward to fruitful discussions.

IPPC: Mr Yukio YOKOI, Secretary to the IPPC, also welcomed participants. He informed the group that the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM), the governing body of the IPPC, had made a clear statement that there is an important current and potential role for the IPPC to address IAS that harm wild and cultivated plants. The IPPC has well-developed structures to guard against plant pests (including plants that are IAS). This has been established under the framework of the IPPC over several decades.

The Secretary to the IPPC also outlined several recommendations made by the Commission to National Plant Protection Organizations (NPPOs): 1) to act on IAS by enhancing plant protection laws and policies; 2) to promote the IPPC and participate in broader national strategies, enhancing linkages between ministries; 3) to reinforce efforts to apply and utilize relevant International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPMs); and 4) when carrying out pest risk analysis, give particular attention to the possibility that introduced plants could act as IAS. From the perspective of the IPPC, the IALG-IAS provides a unique opportunity for collaboration between agriculture, environment, forestry, trade and development sectors. Just last year the CPM adopted a new strategic framework, placing the environmental concerns as one of our four objectives. He wished the group a successful meeting.

1.3 Election of the Chair

Mr Matthias HALWART (FAO) was elected as Chair of the meeting. The Chair requested that participants briefly introduce themselves and provide some information on how they are involved with the matters under discussion.

1.4 Election of the Rapporteur

Mr Brent LARSON (IPPC) was elected as Rapporteur of the meeting.

1.5 Adoption of the Agenda

The Agenda was adopted without changes and is provided in Appendix 1 to this report.

2. Administrative matters

2.1 Documents list

No participants submitted additional documents prior to the meeting.

2.2 Participants list

Participants were requested to review and adjust the participants list and their contact information which was modified and is provided in Appendix 2 to this report.

2.3 Local information

Participants were updated on local information and offered assistance if needed.

3. Review meeting report from last meeting (13 July 2012)

The representative from WTO reviewed the report from the last meeting, held in July 2012, directly after the seminar by the Standards and Trade Development Facility (STDF) on Invasive Alien Species (IAS) and trade. Capacity building activities, future objectives and ways forward of the IALG-IAS had been discussed. There was also discussion about whether or not the IALG-IAS needed formal recognition and whether the purpose or status should first be clarified. The group was reminded of the five actions agreed to at the last meeting:

Each organization would check internally to ascertain its position on formalizing the IALG-IAS.

Participants would explore sending letters from heads of organizations to the heads of the World Customs Organization (WCO) and the International Maritime Organization (IMO) to encourage them to participate in the IALG-IAS.

Participants would explore the possibility of organizing a high level meeting on IAS, to raise awareness and visibility of the issue and of the IALG-IAS.

The CBD would provide detailed information on how to access relevant documents by the Conference of the Parties (COP) and the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA).

The WTO would prepare and circulate a summary report on the Liaison Group meeting for comments.

Members also agreed that mechanisms of communication between meetings are needed to help ensure that the action points agreed to at each meeting are undertaken and that progress is shared amongst all members.

4. Review of the purpose and mandate

Background

The IALG-IAS was established by the CBD to emphasize the importance of global communication amongst the international organizations involved in the control of IAS. A group to liaise between these organizations was necessary to facilitate this communication. The scope and intent were reflected in the original Terms of Reference (TORs) and Modus Operandi (TOR). The IALG-IAS has met three times before.

General discussion on the TORs

Participants agreed that mandate and purpose of the IALG-IAS should be broadened, allowing all organizations in the group to share roles and responsibilities in the issues of IAS. It was suggested that the IALG-IAS try to develop the TORs at the United Nations (UN) level and consider linking to the United Nations Decade of Biodiversity and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets agreed to at the 10th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP10) to the Convention of Biological Diversity (CBD). In this way, all member organizations of the IALG-IAS could advance their own relevant mandates, as well as contribute collectively to the UN targets (esp. Aichi Biodiversity Target 9).

The IALG-IAS reviewed the original TOR and noted they have not changed since they were established, with the exception that they were once adjusted to make sure that FAO was listed in such a manner as to include all divisions of FAO. There was a general consensus in favor of making sure that goals set in the TORs are interim targets, and should not limit the life of the group. Participants also agreed that activities should be coordinated as necessary to optimize efficiency and avoid unnecessary duplication.

It was suggested that the IALG-IAS be bold and brave in setting and achieving goals and that the main goals of this group should be to establish an information sharing platform, create synergies and help avoid duplication.

Awareness-raising in the IAS context was repeatedly identified as a need and it was felt this should also be included in the remit of this group.

Communications

Communication was a very important issue for all members. Members specified that efforts should be particularly focused in developing countries where communication on IAS issues is insufficient. Furthermore, in some cases one organization is trying to prevent the introduction of IAS, while another is promoting the same species for use. IAS cannot be effectively addressed unless all parties are promoting the same policies and actions. This is critical and all stakeholders need to communicate with each other at the highest levels while also working together on the ground in order to avoid confusion.

Members recognized the importance of representatives from different organizations being able to meet and then report back to their own organizations on IAS issues. This should help ensure that work on IAS is progressing in an organized and coordinated fashion. It was agreed that the TORs should reflect the strong role the IALG-IAS plays in this regard.

The participant from the WTO expressed hope that other members of the IALG-IAS would alert each other when issues that could impact another organization come on the agenda in various international fora.

Most of organizations in the IALG-IAS do capacity building. At the first few IALG-IAS meetings organizations exchanged calendars and information, and then continued to do so during the intercessional period. This was useful and should be an ongoing process. The representatives from CABI, working primarily in developing countries, also emphasize the need for better communication with donor agencies. Without it, a good idea, poorly communicated, receives no support and thus no funding to support it. Yet on the other hand, a bad idea, properly communicated, could receive a lot of support and thus, a lot of money. So donor organizations need to be involved in a much more effective way to help ensure limited funds are allocated in the best way possible.

Better communication and awareness-raising will allow implementation to be a lot more efficient.

It was also noted that all IALG-IAS members must make a more concerted effort to ensure their governing bodies are informed and to transmit relevant decisions back to this group.

Members reinforced the reality that a better communications framework will require more resources, but agreed the investment would be worth it. It was noted that information exchange on a website or blog is now quite effective given the global access to modern technology.

Membership

Emails from representatives of the WCO, IMO, IATA, who were unable to attend the meeting were shared with the group. All emails stated their interest in continuing to be part of the discussions of the IALG-IAS, recognized the role this group could play, and wished to be included in the IALG-IAS's activities. The group was also informed that an e-mail from the Ramsar Secretariat had been sent requesting that they be considered for membership.

There was further discussion on expanding membership, including which organizations should be members and which should be observers, and how strict these policies should be. It was noted that criteria should be established to help determine the level of commitment from members and observers. It was felt there should be a formal process that establishes membership with some limits and regulations. Current members agreed that the issue is one of inclusiveness versus having a manageable group, and for the latter there is some need to control the size of the IALG-IAS. Some participants felt that there should be some type of review of the purpose and mandate of an organization before inviting it to become a member. The IALG-IAS, in general, felt that if an agenda item was of specific interest to another organization or if it was related to the mandate of another organization, that the identified organization should be invited to that specific meeting.

Several members suggested the addition of the following groups: the World Bank; the World Heritage Organization (WHO); the Centre for Agricultural Biosciences International (CABI) (to replace

the Global Invasive Species Programme, GISP); the World Customs Organization (WCO); the International Air Transport Association (IATA); United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP); Ramsar Convention; the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS); and The Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources.

The CBD Secretariat noted that there was already another group involving all the biodiversity related conventions and it was not the intent to duplicate this work. Others felt that the membership should be limited to the original members and revisited if there was increased work in capacity building. It was finally decided to limit the group, for the time being, to the original members, plus CABI to replace GISP.

It was also decided that each organization designate a single contact point for ease of communication but other individuals could be added to e-mail exchanges.

Secretariat support

The Secretariat services for the IALG-IAS was discussed. Although there were some reservations that a rotating Secretariat might not be ideal, it was also noted that the CBD had limited resources and that sharing the workload would be the best way forward. It was also agreed that the official website for this group would be provided by the CBD Secretariat (<http://www.cbd.int/invasive/ig/>), and that this would include documents such as TORs, reports of meeting and other officially agreed documents. Efforts would be made to ensure the CBD Secretariat posted these documents immediately after receiving with no further adjustments or editing. In addition, each organization providing Secretarial services inter-sessionally and for a future meeting would provide a website for these types of documents.

Summary of discussion on revision to TOR's

There should be a reference to the UN and the Aichi Biodiversity Target 9, which is to be achieved by 2020, but stated in such a way that it serves as an interim target and not the end of collaboration by the IALG-IAS.

The IALG-IAS will work by exchanging information on relevant policies and activities to ensure that they are complementary, optimize efficiency, build synergies, and avoid any unnecessary duplications. Specifically, it will have five main aims: to 1) address gaps; 2) promote inter-sectoral cooperation; 3) raise awareness; 4) promote national and regional cooperation; and 5) promote information sharing.

Efforts will be made to enhance communications among the members.

Membership will be limited to the original core organizations (with the exception that CABI will replace GISP) to keep numbers manageable and when specific issues arise, other organizations will be invited.

All decisions made by the group would be in the typical UN fashion, by consensus.

It was agreed that the Secretariat services would be provided on a rotational basis and be decided well in advance of the meeting, with the transfer of this role to the next organization(s) at the end of each meeting.

The IALG-IAS revised the TORs to reflect the discussion. A revised version was presented to the group. This revised TOR was further modified and agreed to as presented in Appendix 3 to this report.

5. Brief update and exchange of information

Each participant gave a brief update on the IAS activities their organization has been involved with. In addition, organizations were invited to submit information to be appended to this report. The brief updates given during the meeting and information submitted after the meeting are presented in Appendix 4 to this report.

6. Other business

The group discussed and listed the following ideas for making the IALG-IAS work together in a more active and productive fashion:

- Provide a focus on work in developing countries.
- Provide simple concrete outputs.
- Develop simple non binding guidance.
- Tackle problems together, specifically prevent conflicting guidance.
- Help reduce food shortages by preventing the spread of IAS.
- Continue to raise awareness of the IAS issue and impacts.
- Promote better communication within the IALG-IAS - share current and planned projects in order to help ensure that synergies can be developed and duplication of effort is avoided.
- Focus on practical training of risk analysis based on international standards.

Next Secretariat and next meeting

Proposals for providing Secretariat support to the next IALG-IAS meeting was discussed. CABI and IUCN proposed to take the Secretariat role jointly and co-host the next meeting in Nairobi on 13-14 January 2014, with an attached field trip. IUCN need to confirm the feasibility of this offer and get back to the group. As a backup, the CBD offered to take the Secretariat role and jointly host the next meeting in Montreal with ICAO on the same dates. There was also some discussion on approaching IMO to jointly host with the CBD, with the next meeting proposed to be held in London. However it was decided that efforts should be made to engage IMO before requesting them to provide the Secretariat and host a meeting. Possible dates for the subsequent meeting were also discussed and members were requested to consider 12-13 January 2015 as possible dates.

Ways forward

- Consider sending letters to heads of organizations we need to involve more, e.g. WCO, IMO.
- Develop a communication strategy.
- Attempt to provide advance notifications to each other when your organizations activities or decisions could have a potential impact on another organization (e.g. proposals for decisions to governing bodies that may be related to or impact another organization).
- Consider the possibility of organizing a high level meeting.

- Set realist goals that can we achieved between now and the next session.
- Raise awareness of the IAS issue and impacts.
- Encourage key donor support by explaining our goals, approach them strategically and consider holding a donor day at our next meeting.
- Consider communication tools for the IALG-IAS, such as setting up a web space (e.g. ONE SPACE) where members can post information on important issues, email list serve, creating a blog or a restricted work area to post documents. These should help speed up communication, as there is a need to quickly alert the whole group of important events and news. The IALG-IAS considered using other tools such as <http://www.tematea.org>, the resource that is available to help find information on decisions/obligations under the biodiversity-related conventions. Concerns were expressed on the maintenance involved and the fact the participants are overloaded with information already.
- Encourage participation from outside members by inviting specific organizations to participate in meetings as appropriate.
- Action points should be led by a volunteer and the Secretariat would simply follow up to help ensure the action s is carried out as it is too much for the Secretariat to be responsible for all the actions.
- Develop a concept note to list ideas of potential joint work.
- List projects to try to avoid overlap and allow for more collaboration.

Actions

- Mr Arnie WITT (CABI) agreed to draft a discussion paper on the best ways of improving coordination and communication among all the participating agencies including ways to collect and share information on IAS activities and projects. Ultimately, the purpose of the paper is to identify means to eliminate conflicting agendas regarding IAS, i.e. situations in which one organization is trying to prevent/control an IAS and other is promoting its use.
- All agreed to discuss within their own organizations the concept of a high level meeting as it was felt to be important but not the top priority. Results of internal discussions would be shared at the next meeting.
- All organizations agreed to try to identify activities that might have a potential impact on another organization and try to provide advance notifications, at least three months prior if possible.
- All agreed to raise awareness of the IAS issue and impacts both within the IALG-IAS and to outside organizations and donors and report back to the next meeting.
- Ms Jamie REASER to work with IALG-IAS members over the next 2-3 months to help identify how each organization could benefit from/contribute to the Global Invasive Alien Species Information Partnership, especially in the context of the new Information Gateway that is being developed as a web-based portal for information access and exchange in the context of invasive alien species.
- Mr Arnie WITT (CABI) agreed to develop a concept note on hosting a Donor Day in conjunction with the next meeting and circulate to the group.

- All members agreed to submit information such as a calendar of projects/events or other activities to be attached to this report (see Appendix 4).
- Mr Brent LARSON (IPPC) and Mr. Matthias HALWART (FAO) will respond to RAMSAR's request and invite them to participate in the next meeting.
- Mr Geoffrey W. HOWARD (IUCN) will confirm they can take the next rotation as the Secretariat and host the next meeting jointly with CABI. If this is not possible the second option will be pursued.
- Mr Piero GENOVESI (IUCN) will continue working with FAO and explore ideas regarding codes of conducts and the use of existing standards for the management of IAS.

7. Close of the meeting

The Chair thanked everyone for their active participation and felt the IALG-IAS accomplished the main goal of the meeting: the revised TORs are much more inclusive and each organization can use them to promote their continued involvement in the IALG-IAS.

The meeting was closed.

Appendix 1: Agenda**INTER AGENCY LIAISON GROUP ON INVASIVE ALIEN SPECIES**

Fourth meeting, 28 February to 1 March 2013

Canada Room A357, FAO Headquarters, Rome, Italy

Thursday: 13:00 hrs -18:00 hrs, Friday: 09:00-12:00 and 13:30-18:00

Breaks 10:30 and 15:30

(Updated: 2013-02-26)

AGENDA ITEM	DOCUMENT NO.	PRESENTER
1. Opening of the meeting		
1.1 Welcome	-	LARSON
1.2 Opening remarks FAO IPPC	-	SOESILO YOKOI
1.3 Election of the Chair	-	LARSON
1.4 Election of the Rapporteur	-	CHAIR
1.5 Adoption of the Agenda	IALG_IAS_2013_Feb_01	CHAIR
2. Administrative Matters		
2.1 Participants List	IALG_IAS_2013_Feb_02	LARSON
2.2 Local Information (https://www.ippc.int/index.php?id=1110798&frompage=1110514&tx_publication_pi1[showUId]=2184224&type=publication&L=0)		LARSON
3. Review meeting report from last meeting		
3.1 Report of last meeting 13 July 2012	Past reports http://www.cbd.int/invasive/ig/	CHAIR of Last meeting
4. Review of the purpose and mandate of this group		
Presentation of proposals and discussion papers Background on the formation of group Review original terms of reference Discussion on membership and other participants and observers Roles and responsibilities of members How to encourage full participation of all relevant organizations Discussion on how we should be organized Summary of conclusions	IALG-IAS_2013_Feb_03	PARTICIPANTS

AGENDA ITEM	DOCUMENT NO.	PRESENTER
5. Brief update and exchange of information		
Updates from each organization	-	PARTICIPANTS
6. Other business		CHAIR
7. Close of the meeting		CHAIR

Appendix 2: Participants List**PARTICIPANTS LIST****MEETING OF THE INTER AGENCY LIAISON GROUP
ON INVASIVE ALIEN SPECIES**

2013-02-28 – 2013-03-01, Rome, Italy

A check (✓) in column 1 indicates confirmed attendance at the meeting.

Participant role	Name, mailing, address, telephone	Email address
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CBD	Ms Junko SHIMURA Programme Officer for invasive alien species and the Global Taxonomy Initiative, CBD, Montreal, Canada Tel.: +1 514 287 8706 Fax: +1 514 288 6588	junko.shimura@cbd.int
CBD technical expert	Ms Jamie K. REASER Congruence, LLC 1207 Bull Yearling Road Stanardsville, VA 22973 United States of America Tel: +1-434-990-9494	ecos@nelsoncable.com

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Participant role	Name, mailing, address, telephone	Email address
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IUCN-ISSG	<p>Mr Piero GENOVESI IUCN SSC, Chair Invasive Species Specialist Group Institute for Environmental Protection and Research (ISPRA) Via Vitaliano Brancati 48 00144 Rome, Italy Tel. +39 06 50072645 Fax +39 051 796628 www.issg.org</p>	<p>piero.genovesi@isprambiente.it</p>

Participant role	Name, mailing, address, telephone	Email address
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Appendix 3: Terms of reference and modus operandi

INTER-AGENCY LIAISON GROUP ON INVASIVE ALIEN SPECIES

TERMS OF REFERENCE AND MODUS OPERANDI

(Modified: 2013-02-28, Rome, Italy)

- (1) The United Nations General Assembly declared 2011 – 2020 the United Nations-Decade of Biodiversity (Bonn, Germany, January 2011). By doing so, the United Nations emphasized the ecological, economic, cultural, social and aesthetic dimension of biodiversity and its overall significance for sustainable development. The UN Decade aims to make a contribution to achieving the revised and updated global biodiversity targets agreed at the 10th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP10) to the Convention of Biological Diversity (CBD). The biodiversity targets and a new strategy take into consideration the ongoing biodiversity loss on a global scale.
- (2) Invasive alien species are a major and growing driver of biodiversity loss, also causing severe impacts on many aspects of human wellbeing as well as affecting multiple sectors such as agriculture, aquaculture, fisheries, forestry, transport and trade.
- (3) The Executive Secretary of the CBD invited several international organizations to form an Inter-Agency Liaison Group on Invasive Alien Species (IALG-IAS).¹
- (4) The Terms of Reference & Modus Operandi were revised by agreement among the liaison group at its fourth meeting in Rome on 28 February – 1 March 2013. The general purpose of the Liaison Group is to facilitate cooperation among relevant organizations to support measures to prevent the introduction and mitigate the impacts of invasive alien species. In the period up to 2020 the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, and in particular Aichi Target 9, will provide the main focus of the work of this group.
- (5) The Liaison Group will work by exchanging information on relevant policies and activities to ensure that they are complementary so as to optimize efficiency, build synergies and avoid any unnecessary duplications;
- (6) Specifically the Liaison Group will aim:
 1. To address the gaps and inconsistencies in the international regulatory frameworks for the prevention, control and eradication of invasive alien species;
 2. To promote inter-sectoral cooperation and capacity-development activities for the prevention, control and mitigation of invasive alien species;
 3. To raise awareness across the multiple sectors on the impacts of invasive alien species and on the best practices for addressing the issue;
 4. To promote cooperation at all levels, and specifically at the national level, through each organization's national and regional focal points or the equivalents;

¹ Group formed pursuant to decision IX/4 A of the Conference of the Parties to the CBD

5. To promote cooperation in the gathering, access and use of relevant and reliable information.
- (7) The secretariats of the following international organizations participate in the liaison group as core members:
- The Centre for Agricultural Biosciences International (CABI)
 - The Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)
 - The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)
 - The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
 - The International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)
 - The International Maritime Organization (IMO)
 - The International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC)
 - The International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN)
 - The World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE)
 - The World Trade Organization (WTO)
- (8) Further membership may be decided by the Liaison Group and additional organizations may be invited to participate in the meetings and work of the Group.
- (9) Each organization shall identify one or more representatives to participate in the meetings of the Liaison Group and each organization shall determine a focal point to ensure communication between meetings.
- (10) Meetings of the Liaison Group may be held using modern technologies or face-to face meetings, as needed and will be convened by the member organizations, preferably on a rotational basis. The convening organization will act as the secretariat of the Liaison Group during the inter-sessional period, supported by other members as needed. The convening organization can arrange teleconferences or e-mail exchanges, will prepare a draft agenda at least one month in advance of the meeting, chair the meeting and prepare and finalize the report, within one month after the end of the meeting. The responsibility of the convening organization will be transferred at the end of each meeting.
- (11) The CBD Secretariat will provide a public web site² where updated terms of reference, final reports and other official documentation as finalized by the Liaison Group will be posted.

² <http://www.cbd.int/invasive/lg/>

Appendix 4: Updates from members

CABI

- Focusing on Inter-sectoral work and dedicated to clarifying and spreading knowledge base on IAS and fact databases.
- Involved in regional workshops to identify the gaps.
- Best management practices on IAS are being developed.
- Plantwise is an initiative that helps countries to manage IAS and collect data in developing countries.
- Also involved in GEF projects: developing policy and strengthening policy, best management processes for IAS.
- Working with NPPOs on bio control of IAS.
- Building capacity and creating awareness on IAS in Cambodia, Malawi, Yemen as well as a reforestation project in India.
- Working on a project (Tradewise) that is focused on facilitating trade and opening markets for agricultural projects between Africa and markets in Europe and elsewhere.

CBD

- Cooperation agreement with OIE signed.
- Collaboration with IPPC Secretariat / CABI in CBD capacity building workshop: Subregional Capacity building Workshop to Address IAS and to Achieve Aichi Biodiversity Target 9 in the Arab region: 11 - 14 February 2013 in Dubai, United Arab Emirates. Regional and NPPOs and CBD national focal points participated together and produced elements of national action plans on invasive alien species to be considered as a part of National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans.
- Subject to funding such capacity building workshop will continue to support Parties to develop National Invasive Species Strategies and Action Plans as a part of National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans.
- COP11 took place in Hyderabad, India, from 8 to 19 October 2012 (decisions are accessible at <http://cbd.int/decisions>. Go to COP11 decisions.

Important paragraphs in COP11 decision (XI/28) to which the Group can contribute:

- Assess progress in implementing decisions of the Conference of the Parties on invasive alien species, including decisions that address gaps and inconsistencies in the international regulatory framework as identified in decision VIII/27.
- Prepare a preliminary list of the most common pathways for the introduction of invasive alien species, propose criteria for use at regional and subregional levels or other ways by which they may be prioritized, and identify a range of tools.

Pets

- Prepare proposals for more detailed guidance for Parties on devising and implementing national measures on the introduction of alien species as pets, aquarium and terrarium species, and as live bait and live food.

Trade

- Compile and disseminate methodologies and instruments in use by law-enforcement, customs and inspection agencies to monitor and control related trade and cross-border movements of alien species introduced as pets, aquarium and terrarium species, and as live bait and live food; and
- collect information on best practices in order to raise public awareness and disseminate guidance to web-based traders.

International Guidance

- A practical, non-prescriptive toolkit for Parties on applying existing international standards, guidelines and recommendations, and to disseminate it, *inter alia*, through the clearing-house mechanism of the Convention, no later than the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

Other matters

- Explore methodologies for fostering awareness, promoting education and generating information on IAS for a broad audience, including indigenous and local communities, the public and other stakeholders.

CBD Decision text related to the relevant international organizationsWTO-SPS

Invites the Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures of the World Trade Organization to consider the application made by the Convention on Biological Diversity for observer status in the Committee and *requests* the Executive Secretary to actively pursue the application with a view to enhancing the exchange of information on deliberations and recent developments in bodies relevant to invasive alien species, in light of the increasing importance of the ecosystem level when establishing adequate standards.

IPPC

Welcomes the publication by the International Plant Protection Convention of “Aquatic Plants Their Uses and Risks”, which provides information on the protection of plants, including bryophyte and algal species, in marine and aquatic environments.

OIE

Welcomes with appreciation the Guidelines for Assessing the Risk of Non-native Animals Becoming Invasive, published by the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE), and encourages Parties and other Governments to make use of these guidelines in addressing the risks of invasive alien animal species.

CITES

Recalling Resolution Conf. 13.10 (Rev. CoP14) of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, on trade in alien invasive species,

paragraph (a) of which recommends that Parties “consider the problems of invasive species when developing national legislation and regulations that deal with the trade in live animals or plants”, and paragraph (b) of which recommends that Parties “consult with the Management Authority of a proposed country of import, when possible and when applicable, when considering exports of potentially invasive species, to determine whether there are domestic measures regulating such imports”, *acknowledges* that implementation of this Resolution by Parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species will contribute to the implementation of Article 8(h) of the Convention on Biological Diversity.

Other decisions relevant to IAS can be found in:

- XI/3. Monitoring progress in implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets Island Biodiversity
- XI/5. The financial mechanism
- XI/15. Review of the programme of work on island biodiversity

Global Invasive Alien Species Information Partnership (GIASIPartnership)

- Project for making information accessible on IAS to help enable timely and accurate response to CBD decisions and Aichi Biodiversity Targets.
- Working Groups are guided by an interim steering committee with a program coordinator, currently contracted by the CBD secretariat.
- Setting up a portal (Information Gateway) for access to relevant web-based information.
- Will also help to synthesis and assess relevant information (e.g., identifying and prioritizing pathways).
- Strong links to the CBD’s the Global Taxonomy Initiative.
- Also promoting best practices for non-web based information, recognize that the web has a utility but there are many people without access to internet that need to have access to this information in the field.
- Partnership is open to organizations that share information and technologies relevant to invasive alien species.
- Opportunities for IALG IAS members: join the working groups and/or assist with development of the Information Gateway.

FAO Animal Health and Production

- FAO leading the CBD program organizing all genetic resources and biodiversity.
- Particularly in livestock but also in crop resources, both of which are the basis of food security
- Gathering information on feral species.
- Genetic Resources treaty is legally binding framework and provides countries with guidelines implementation.
- Provides information on locally adapted breeds, local diversity, and imported diversity.
- Expect Commission will ask FAO to initiate a cross-sector assessment of ecosystems and IAS.

- Collaborating with OIE and WHO, looking at ecosystem issues and wildlife, livestock interface and on the annual health side.

FAO Fisheries

- Fish are among the most traded commodity worldwide, so aquaculture is very important and worthy of careful attention and mitigation.
- 600 species being traded, 17 % of world aquaculture is derived from alien species.
- Working toward a more responsible use of information and policy making.
- Regulating introduction of new species.
- Collaborating with IAS and IFAC.
- Working on the Code of conduct.
- ICES.
- Publish technical guidelines on precautionary approach to capture IAS.
- Currently information is available online including a powerful identification tool. Seeks to define from which country species are introduced, when and who made introduction, reason for introduction, and if species are established in the wild, if there are socio economic and ecological effects of the introduction. Assessment of if these effects were beneficial, or adverse is given (including the reference).

FAO Forestry

- Developed interactive guide (Software), which was a global exercise.
- Guide to implementation to phytosanitary measures.
- Establishes the who-what-why-how of phytosanitary measures.
- This guide was tested, evaluated by experts around the world, it is not a supplement to ISPMs.
- Available in 6 languages.
- Established to initiate a relationship between forestry and NPPOs.
- Supplemented with an e-learning course.

IPPC

- Governing body, the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM) at its last meeting adopted a new IPPC Strategic Framework that includes a new mission statement and includes the following four new Strategic Objectives:
 - A. Protect sustainable agriculture and enhance global food security through the prevention of pest spread;
 - B. Protect the environment, forests and biodiversity from plant pests;
 - C. Facilitate economic and trade development through the promotion of harmonized scientifically based phytosanitary measures; and
 - D. Develop phytosanitary capacity for members to accomplish A, B and C

- A newly created Capacity Development Committee has just recently been established.
- Two Standards, two Diagnostic Protocols and amendments to the Glossary were recently adopted by CPM-7 (2012).
- The IPPC Secretariat has created a Phytosanitary Resources page (<http://www.phytosanitary.info/>) which contains many resources to help with the management of IAS.
- This summer, there will be seven regional workshops held to discuss issues of interest to the Phytosanitary community including IAS.
- We continue to improve the Online Comment System (OCS) for gathering comments on draft standards, this is a very useful tool for collecting comments and could be used by other organizations.

IUCN

- Plays a role in supporting CBD to achieve Aichi target 9.
- Coordination of IUCN activities in planning and how to manage IAS.
- Main responsibility is to developing countries, in particular in Africa with countries struggling to initiate IAS processes, prevention, identification processes. This is particularly a challenge when local government officials have a strong link with their own ministries and may feel threatened when other ministries take a lead or need to have a shared responsibility.
- Projects are initiated working with certain sectors of government (forestry, plant health, etc.) as a technical support system, trying to deal with transboundary situations for invasive alien species, as governments are often unable to spend money outside their country and there are many situations where IAS cross boundaries.
- At a subregional, COMESA activities have created a challenge for IUCN as common markets try to ensuring that contact, travel and trade are easier across boundaries, but this is allowing IAS to travel more easily throughout the common countries.

IUCN-ISSG

- Objectives are to strengthen cooperation with CBD and improving processes for minimizing the spread of the IAS.
- CBD and IUCN have signed an MOU on IAS.
- ISSG has pursued the non-regulatory approach to the management of IAS and is developing codes of conduct with stakeholders and guidelines for invasive species.
- ISSG supports voluntary approaches (finding resources to support and fill gaps/inconsistencies in the approach to prevent IAS).
- ISSG seeks to link to the plant health sector and other environmental sectors.

OIE

- The OIE has recently signed an agreement with CBD (last week) which helps clarify the scope of collaborative activities between the two organizations.

- OIE is developing and disseminating information on animal health issues, focusing on animal pathogens.
- There have been several activities in capacity building: revised OIE PVS tool, the 2013 version to be published (fundamental element of OIE's capacity building strategy, i.e. the OIE PVS Pathway), this tool will help experts evaluate veterinary services (also considering some IAS issues).
- Terrestrial Animal Health Code, one of OIE's international standards which also addresses wildlife issues on a disease by disease basis was updated.

STDF

- Outcomes from the July 2012 STDF IAS workshop will soon be posted on the STDF website
- This is the Year of Trade Facilitation.

WTO

- The WTO reported that the SPS Committee had not yet taken a decision on the CBD's request for observer status and repeated that the WTO Secretariat would be happy to include training materials and/or speakers on the issue of IAS in its SPS-related technical assistance activities, and was willing to provide training materials on the SPS Agreement as it relates to IAS for other agencies to use in their training activities.
- The SPS-related technical assistance calendar for 2013 included a sub-regional seminar for francophone Africa in Gabon on 17-20 September, and one for Arab countries in Abu Dhabi on 4-7 November.
- In addition, several national seminars would be held in response to requests. An Advanced Course on the SPS Agreement would be held in Geneva on 7-25 October, and a Workshop on SPS-related Market Access Challenges and Opportunities was planned for 14-18 October.
- More information was available in document G/SPS/GEN/997/Rev.3, or from the WTO Secretariat. Regarding the STDF seminar on trade and IAS held in July 2012, a briefing note and the presentations were available on the STDF website (www.standardsfacility.org), and a background study was about to be finalized.