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Please provide summary information on the process by which this report has been prepared, including information on the types of stakeholders who have been actively involved in its preparation and on material which was used as a basis for the report

This report was compiled by the Project Manager of the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP), while the NBSAP stocktaking process was underway during the latter half of 2003. All responses in the report refer to progress made up to the end of 2003.

Sources of information included various Annual Reports, State of the Environment Reports, strategy and policy documents, pieces of legislation and minutes of meetings. Many of these documents are available on the SA Government Web-site (www.gov.za), and the web-sites of the Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism (www.deat.gov.za), Department of Water Affairs and Forestry (www.dwaf.gov.za), South African National Parks (www.parks-sa.co.za), National Botanical Institute (www.nbi.ac.za), and other related links.

More subjective questions were completed through a process of discussion and review, between a number of officials in the Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism, particularly those responsible for Biodiversity Conservation, Sustainable Use, Access and Benefit Sharing, Biosafety, Environmental Impact Assessment, Invasive Alien Species, Wetlands and Marine and Coastal Management.

The report was distributed to a number of stakeholders for feedback and verification, including the Departments of Water Affairs and Forestry, Agriculture and Science and Technology; South African National Parks; the National Botanical Institute and non-governmental organisations such as the Endangered Wildlife Trust.

The completed report was approved by the Director General of the Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism.

Please provide information on any particular circumstances in your country that are relevant to understanding the answers to the questions in this report

South Africa, located on the southern tip of Africa, is a megadiverse country and is regarded as the third most biologically diverse country in the world, after Brazil and Indonesia. One of the world's six floral kingdoms, the Cape Floral Kingdom, is found entirely within the borders of the country. The only arid hotspot in the world, the Succulent Karoo Hotspot, is located in South Africa. Eight biomes are found in South Africa: Forest, Savanna, Grassland, Subtropical Thicket, Succulent Karoo, Nama Karoo, Fynbos and a small area of Desert.

South Africa has a population of close to 45 million (2000 census). The racially segregated system of apartheid, which dominated politics in South Africa in the 20th century, has resulted in South Africa being one of the most unequal countries in the world. South Africa has a small minority of wealthy people, while the majority is poor, with inadequate access to land and other resources.

South Africa has undergone profound socio-political changes over the past decade, with the end of apartheid and the election of the new democratic government in 1994. This process has included the development of a new Constitution, new policy and legislation covering every sphere of governance, transformed institutions, nine new provinces and provincial legislatures, and redrawn boundaries and responsibilities for local municipalities. Redress, redistribution of resources and poverty eradication are very important priorities of the government. Sustainable development is also an important consideration. Conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity is therefore

important, but must be seen in the context of the need for poverty alleviation and rights of access to water, housing, education and health services. Ensuring that all citizens have equitable access to natural resources, education and health care is a major focus of the new government.

The Constitution of South Africa (Act 108 of 1996) established three spheres of government: national, provincial and local. National parks, national botanic gardens, water, forests, and fisheries are national competencies, while nature conservation and environmental management are concurrent national and provincial competencies. The Constitution sets up a system of co-operative governance and entrenches the right of citizens to information and to participate in decisions on matters affecting their lives.

South Africa signed the Convention on Biological Diversity in 1993 and ratified it in 1995. The objectives of the CBD are implemented by a number of roleplayers, including various Directorates of the Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism, Department of Water Affairs and Forestry, National Department of Agriculture, Department of Science and Technology, South African National Parks, National Botanical Institute, provincial departments responsible for conservation and provincial agencies such as the Western Cape Nature Conservation Board, Limpopo Parks Board, Mpumalanga Parks Board and North West Parks Board. South Africa has a number of very active non governmental organisations (NGOs) which focus on biodiversity.

The process of rewriting legislation began even before 1994 and is still ongoing. Policy governing biological diversity was developed, with full public participation, in 1997. The National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Bill and National Environmental Management: Protected Areas Bill were promulgated in early 2004. The legislation is to be followed by a process to develop Regulations on matters such as Threatened Species, Invasive Alien Species and Bioprospecting.

The socio-political context of South Africa and the decade of rapid change described briefly above, therefore informs this 2nd National Report to the CBD.

The COP has established programmes of work that respond to a number of Articles. Please identify the relative priority accorded to each theme and the adequacy of resources. This will allow subsequent information on implementation of each Article to be put into context. There are other questions on implementation of the programmes of work at the end of these guidelines.

Inland water ecosystems

1. What is the relative priority for implementation of this work programme in your country?	
a) High	
b) Medium	X
c) Low	
d) Not relevant	
2. To what extent are the resources available adequate for meeting the obligations and recommendations made?	
a) Good	
b) Adequate	X
c) Limiting	
d) Severely limiting	

Marine and coastal biological diversity

3. What is the relative priority for implementation of this work programme in your country?	
a) High	X
b) Medium	
c) Low	
d) Not relevant	
4. To what extent are the resources available adequate for meeting the obligations and recommendations made?	
a) Good	X
b) Adequate	
c) Limiting	
d) Severely limiting	

Agricultural biological diversity

5. What is the relative priority for implementation of this work programme in your country?	
a) High	X
b) Medium	
c) Low	
d) Not relevant	
6. To what extent are the resources available adequate for meeting the obligations and recommendations made?	
a) Good	
b) Adequate	X
c) Limiting	

d) Severely limiting	
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Forest biological diversity

7. What is the relative priority for implementation of this work programme in your country?	
a) High	
b) Medium	X
c) Low	
d) Not relevant	
8. To what extent are the resources available adequate for meeting the obligations and recommendations made?	
a) Good	
b) Adequate	X
c) Limiting	
d) Severely limiting	

Biological diversity of dry and sub-humid lands

9. What is the relative priority for implementation of this work programme in your country?	
a) High	
b) Medium	X
c) Low	
d) Not relevant	
10. To what extent are the resources available adequate for meeting the obligations and recommendations made?	
a) Good	
b) Adequate	X
c) Limiting	
d) Severely limiting	

Further comments on work programmes and priorities

1. South Africa is mostly semi-arid, with a mean annual rainfall of 450 mm, well below the global average. Droughts are common. Freshwater is the most limiting natural resource and most inland river systems and wetlands have been transformed.
2. Inland Water Ecosystems are the responsibility of the Department of Water Affairs and Forestry. Freshwater systems are intensively managed in South Africa. The Water Act (Act 36 of 1998) requires Catchment Management Agencies to develop Catchment Management Plans. The Act also establishes the Reserve, including the Ecological Reserve, in order to meet basic human needs and the ecological requirements of freshwater ecosystems. Considerable resources are made available to research and monitoring programmes, such as the Rivers Health Programme and the Freshwater Conservation Assessment. A number of poverty relief and public works programmes have been established to rehabilitate inland water systems, such as Working for Water and Working for Wetlands. These job creation and capacity building programmes focus on the poorest sectors of society.
3. South Africa has a long (3000 km) coastline and marine and coastal biodiversity is high. The fisheries industry is a significant contributor to Gross Domestic Product and employment.
4. The Branch: Marine and Coastal Management of the Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism has introduced a revised quota system for fisheries, which sets catch limits according to scientific assessment of the resource, while ensuring more equitable access by historically disadvantaged communities. A number of fisheries-related policies have been developed, such as on abalone, octopus and recreational fishing. In December 2001 regulations were promulgated limiting vehicular access to beaches. More than 50 Marine Protected Areas have been established, in terms of section 43 of the Marine Living Resources Act (Act 18 of 1998). A programme is underway to expand the number and extent of Marine Protected Areas, with a target of 20% of the coastline by 2010. However, despite these gains, human and financial resources are limited and poaching is a problem, in terms of both deepwater fisheries and coastal species such as crayfish (rock lobster) and abalone.
5. More than 80% of the surface area of South Africa is zoned for agricultural use. Much of this is in private hands and is used for extensive ranching of cattle, sheep and goats. Although the relative contribution of Agriculture to the economy has declined in recent decades, the sector is very important for employment in rural areas as well as for subsistence livelihoods. Range and soil degradation is a serious concern across much of South Africa.
6. Agricultural biodiversity is the responsibility of the National Department of Agriculture and nine provincial departments. The LandCare programme seeks to address land degradation concerns and build capacity for adaptive land management. A reduction of certain subsidies to agriculture since 1994, which previously encouraged unsustainable stock levels and agriculture on marginal land, has led to an increase in game farming (ranching with indigenous antelope). The Agricultural Research Council conducts research and maintains collections of agriculturally important invertebrates, including pollinators, beetles, mites and spiders. However, human and financial resources are limited. Microbial and fungal genetic resources are under-researched. Additional resources are also required for extension services, capacity building and support to historically disadvantaged communities.
7. Natural forests cover less than 1% of the land surface of South Africa, or 534 000 hectares. Exotic tree plantations (mainly pine, eucalyptus and wattle species) supply much of South Africa's timber, pulp and tannin

requirements.

8. Natural forests are generally considered adequately protected. Although an estimated 30% of forests (mainly coastal forests) were lost by the end of the 20th century due to clearance for agriculture and human settlements, as well as timber extraction (mostly during the 19th century), about 60% of forest ecosystems are currently protected, including State Forests. However, forests are highly fragmented and isolated and several endangered species such as the Samango Monkey and Cape Parrot require close monitoring. Some forest types (especially scarp, coastal and mangrove forests) are still under pressure from resource use and development. The Department of Water Affairs and Forestry has drawn up a new list of trees to be protected under the National Forests Act of 1998 and initiated an assessment of national policy and legislation on woodland management. A National Forest Inventory has mapped all forest fragments larger than 5 hectares. This information will be linked to an electronic information system. A comprehensive programme for participatory forest management, encompassing both natural forest and plantations, has been initiated.
9. Most of South Africa falls within semi-arid and sub-humid zones, with extensive shrubland, grassland and savanna ecosystems. These biomes are heavily impacted on by habitat conversion for agriculture and urban development, as well as encroachment by invasive alien species. Land degradation, particularly in overcrowded communal areas is a serious concern, as loss of productivity impacts on people's livelihoods.
10. South Africa signed the Convention to Combat Desertification in 1995, ratified it in 1997 and developed a National Action Programme in 2003. Although savanna is considered adequately represented in the Protected Area system and supports a significant wildlife-based tourism industry, the South Africa grasslands biome is considered to be critically endangered. Invasive alien species is the greatest threat to biological diversity in South Africa, after habitat conversion. Considerable resources have been made available in recent years to remove invasive alien plants and one million hectares have been cleared. However, at the current rate it will take many decades to clear invasive alien plants and more resources are needed for follow up clearing and rehabilitation.

Article 5 Cooperation

11. What is the relative priority afforded to implementation of this Article and the associated decisions by your country?					
a) High	X	b) Medium		c) Low	
12. To what extent are the resources available adequate for meeting the obligations and recommendations made?					
a) Good		b) Adequate	X	c) Limiting	
Further comments on relative priority and on availability of resources					
<p>Since political transformation in 1994, South Africa has placed a high priority on re-establishing relationships with the international community and has made considerable resources available to host a number of important international meetings, such as the United Nations World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg, 2002) and the World Conservation Union World Parks Congress (Durban, 2003). South Africa played an important role in the establishment of the African Union, and is a key proponent of the New Partnership for Africa's Development, which includes an Environment programme.</p>					

13. Is your country actively cooperating with other Parties in respect of areas beyond national jurisdiction for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity?	
a) bilateral cooperation (please give details below)	X
b) international programmes (please give details below)	X
c) international agreements (please give details below)	X

Decision IV/4. Status and trends of the biological diversity of inland water ecosystems and options for conservation and sustainable use

14. Has your country developed effective cooperation for the sustainable management of transboundary watersheds, catchments, river basins and migratory species through bilateral and multilateral agreements?	
a) no	
b) yes - limited extent (please give details below)	
c) yes - significant extent (please give details below)	X
d) not applicable	

Decision IV/15. The relationship of the CBD with the CSD and biodiversity-related conventions, other international agreements, institutions and processes or relevance

15. Has your country developed management practices for transboundary protected areas?	
a) no	
b) yes - limited extent (please give details below)	
c) yes - significant extent (please give details below)	X
d) not relevant	

Decision V/21. Co-operation with other bodies

16. Has your country collaborated with the International Biodiversity Observation Year of DIVERSITAS, and ensured complementarity with the initiative foreseen to be undertaken by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity to increase scientific knowledge and public awareness of the crucial role of biodiversity for sustainable development?	
a) no	
b) to a limited extent	X
c) to a significant extent	

Decision V/27. Contribution of the Convention on Biological Diversity to the ten-year review of progress achieved since the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development

17. Is your country planning to highlight and emphasize biological diversity considerations in its contribution to the ten-year review of progress since the Earth Summit?	
a) no	
b) yes	X

Further comments on implementation of this Article

13.
<p>a. Bilateral co-operation: South Africa has established a close working relationship with all her neighbouring countries in southern Africa, namely Namibia, Botswana, Zimbabwe, Mozambique, Lesotho and Swaziland. South African National Parks and the Chief Directorate: Protected Areas and Transfrontier Parks of the Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism have established a number of Transfrontier Conservation Areas (TFCAs) with these countries. Several joint management institutions and plans have been drawn up, while others are in progress. The programme includes removal of fences to open up migratory routes, translocation of large mammals, including elephant, rhinoceros, cheetah and antelope and the establishment of tourism with community involvement. These are the Kgalagadi Transfrontier Park (South Africa/Botswana - bilateral agreement signed in 1999); the Great Limpopo Transfrontier Park (South Africa/Zimbabwe/Mozambique - joint agreement signed in 2002); the !Ai-!Ais/Richtersveld Transfrontier Conservation Park (South Africa/Namibia - treaty signed in 2003); the Maloti-Drakensberg Transfrontier Park and Development Area (South Africa/Lesotho - bilateral Memorandum of Understanding signed in 2001). Others are under negotiation: the Limpopo-Shashe Transfrontier Conservation Area (South Africa/Botswana/Zimbabwe); and the Lubombo Transfrontier Conservation Area (South Africa/Swaziland/Mozambique) for which a protocol is in place.</p> <p>b. International programmes co-operation includes the International Geosphere/Biosphere Programme; SABONET (Southern African Botanical Diversity Network) and the Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF). South Africa is a member of the Group of Like-Minded Megadiverse Countries and co-operates with other member countries.</p> <p>c. International agreements: South Africa is a member of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) and has signed Protocols on Wildlife, Water and Forests. South Africa has played an active role in UN Multilateral Agreements, including CITES, Ramsar, CMS, CBD, CCD, UNFCCC and others. South Africa played a significant role in the</p>

development of the 2002 Johannesburg Plan of Implementation and the 2003 Durban Accord.

14. Significant rivers form the boundary between South Africa and her neighbours, such as the Orange River (South Africa/Namibia) and Limpopo River (South Africa/Zimbabwe). In addition, the Limpopo River flows through Mozambique. South Africa's biggest and longest river, the Orange River has its source in Lesotho. Certain stretches of these rivers are included in the Transfrontier Parks and Conservation Areas referred to in 13a above.

15. See 13a above.

16. South Africa is an active participant in the Global Strategy on Plant Conservation and the Global Taxonomy Initiative.

Article 6 General measures for conservation and sustainable use

18. What is the relative priority afforded to implementation of this Article and the associated decisions by your country?							
a) High	X	b) Medium		c) Low			
19. To what extent are the resources available adequate for meeting the obligations and recommendations made?							
a) Good		b) Adequate		c) Limiting	X	d) Severely limiting	
Further comments on relative priority and on availability of resources							
<p>The process to develop South Africa's National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan was initiated in May 2003 and is due for completion in October 2004. The NBSAP builds on the 1997 policy, White Paper on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of South Africa's Biological Diversity. It should be noted that although the NBSAP is currently under development, the political transition and changing policy environment in South Africa has meant that, in effect, strategies and actions to conserve biodiversity and ensure its sustainable use are already far advanced in many sectors and many areas of the country. For example, South Africa has received Global Environment Facility finance, through the UNDP and the World Bank, to carry out a number of integrated strategies and action plans in priority biomes, namely the Fynbos, Succulent Karoo and Subtropical Thicket.</p> <p>Considerable efforts have been made to integrate environmental considerations into sectoral or cross-sectoral plans, programmes and policies. In terms of Section 15(1) of the National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998), all national departments whose activities impact on the environment - specifically the Departments of Environmental Affairs and Tourism, Land Affairs, Agriculture, Housing, Trade and Industry, Water Affairs and Forestry, Transport and Defence - and all provinces, are required to develop Environmental Implementation Plans, to be updated every 4 years.</p> <p>Environmental Impact Assessments are required in terms of Sections 21, 22 and 26 of the Environmental Conservation Act (Act 73 of 1989). Updated regulations are in the process of being drafted.</p> <p>Planning policies and legislation have been fundamentally revised since 1994 and require an integrated and participatory approach to spatial planning and local economic development. Local government is required to develop Integrated Development Plans that include environmental considerations. However, capacity and resources in many local municipalities, other than the larger urban metros, is severely limiting and biodiversity concerns have not been adequately addressed. Several of the larger metropolitan councils have completed State of the Environment Reports, and have developed strategies for biodiversity conservation, notably the City of Cape Town.</p> <p>The legislation noted above deals with the environment in the broad sense and does not focus on biodiversity in particular. Due to capacity limitations, the legislation has not yet been fully implemented, particularly at provincial and local spheres of government.</p> <p>The National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Bill of 2004 is focussed more specifically on biological diversity. Chapter 3 of the Bill calls for the development of a National Biodiversity Framework and a series of provincial and bioregional plans. The implementation of this legislation will greatly assist with integration of biodiversity considerations into sectoral plans, programmes and policies, especially development planning at provincial and local level.</p>							

20. What is the status of your national biodiversity strategy (6a)?	
a) none	
b) early stages of development	X
c) advanced stages of development	X
d) completed ₁	
e) completed and adopted ₂	
f) reports on implementation available	
21. What is the status of your national biodiversity action plan (6a)?	
a) none	
b) early stages of development	
c) advanced stages of development	X
d) completed ₂	
e) completed and adopted ₂	
f) reports on implementation available	
22. Do your national strategies and action plans cover all articles of the Convention (6a)?	
a) some articles only	
b) most articles	X
c) all articles	

1/ Please provide information requested at the end of these guidelines.

23. Do your national strategies and action plans cover integration of other sectoral activities (6b)?	
a) no	
b) some sectors	
c) all major sectors	X
d) all sectors	

Decision II/7 and Decision III/9 Consideration of Articles 6 and 8

24. Is action being taken to exchange information and share experience on the national action planning process with other Contracting Parties?	
a) little or no action	
b) sharing of strategies, plans and/or case-studies	X
c) regional meetings	X
25. Do all of your country's strategies and action plans include an international cooperation component?	
a) no	
b) yes	X
26. Are your country's strategies and action plans coordinated with those of neighbouring countries?	
a) no	
b) bilateral/multilateral discussions under way	X
c) coordinated in some areas/themes	
d) fully coordinated	
e) not applicable	
27. Has your country set measurable targets within its strategies and action plans?	
a) no	
b) early stages of development	X
c) advanced stages of development	
d) programme in place	
e) reports on implementation available	
If a developing country Party or a Party with economy in transition -	
28. Has your country received support from the financial mechanism for the preparation of its national strategy and action plan?	
a) no	
b) yes	X
If yes, which was the Implementing Agency (UNDP/UNEP/World Bank)?	UNDP

**Decisions III/21. Relationship of the Convention with the CSD and
biodiversity-related conventions**

29. Are the national focal points for the CBD and the competent authorities of the Ramsar Convention, Bonn Convention and CITES cooperating in the implementation of these conventions to avoid duplication?	
a) no	
b) yes - limited extent	
c) yes - significant extent	X

Further comments on implementation of this Article

26. A programme is underway, managed by the SADC (Southern African Development Community) office in Gaborone, Botswana, to develop a Regional Biodiversity Strategy.

29. The national focal points and/or competent authorities for the Ramsar Convention, Bonn Convention, Convention on Migratory Species and CITES are all located within the Chief Directorate: Biodiversity and Heritage of the Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism. This presents considerable opportunities for co-operation and co-ordination. The focal point for CBD is the Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism.

Article 7 Identification and monitoring

30. What is the relative priority afforded to implementation of this Article and the associated decisions by your country?					
a) High		b) Medium	X	c) Low	
31. To what extent are the resources available adequate for meeting the obligations and recommendations made?					
a) Good		b) Adequate		c) Limiting	X
d) Severely limiting					
Further comments on relative priority and on availability of resources					

South Africa has fairly well developed research programmes underway for identification and monitoring of components of biological diversity, particularly for higher order plants and vertebrates. However, the roles and responsibilities of various government departments with overlapping responsibilities have yet to be clearly defined. Most importantly, government resources are limited and funding for such research from the central fiscus has declined in recent years, due to a necessary focus on social spending. Many identification and monitoring programmes are financed by donors, the private sector and/or NGOs, including the 2003 update of the South African Mammal Red Data Book, compiled by the Endangered Wildlife Trust (www.ewt.org.za) and the Conservation Breeding Specialist Group (CBSG) South Africa. A national Red Data Book for birds was compiled by BirdLife South Africa in 2000. Programmes such as the Southern African Bird Atlas, Southern African Frog Atlas and South African Protea Atlas, involve volunteers and special interest groups and encourage the involvement of the general public. A report entitled *State of Biodiversity in South Africa 2002* was published by the Endangered Wildlife Trust together with WWF-South Africa in 2002.

Chapter 4 of the National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Bill, to be promulgated in 2004, lays the foundation for establishing a national system for assessing species' status and assigning categories of threat in order to compile a National List of Threatened Species. Whilst resources to undertake this remain limited and the methodology is not yet defined, the foundations exist in national legislation to develop these lists as the basis for identifying and monitoring species of national importance and conservation concern.

Limiting factors include the uncoordinated nature of the identification and monitoring programmes, the lack of organisation and sharing of the data collected, limited funding to undertake regular, coordinated data collection, monitoring and assessment programmes and an aging cohort of taxonomists and biosystematics experts. There is a pressing need to ensure coordination and cooperation and to train and mentor young emerging scientists. Resources are particularly limiting for identification and monitoring programmes for invertebrates, lower order plants, microbes and fungi. SAFRINET, the SADC-wide southern African subregional network of BioNET-International, the Global Network for Taxonomy (www.bionet-intl.org), was established in 1996 to help to overcome this lack of capacity. However, SAFRINET has been unable to raise the funds required to implement the necessary capacity building programmes.

Identification and monitoring programmes in South Africa are starting to move away from the limited approach which dominated conservation research and planning in recent decades, which tended to focus on larger charismatic species. Increasingly, monitoring is being carried out at the level of biomes and ecosystems, and focuses on process as well as pattern, to ensure conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in the face of risk and uncertainty due to climate change. It is anticipated that this approach will ensure more effective integration of biodiversity concerns with land use planning and will deal more effectively with the primary threat to biodiversity, namely loss of habitat through land use change. It has been found that the species monitoring programmes currently in place are inadequate for strategic conservation planning at a national and bioregional scale and such data is at too coarse a scale to be useful for local planning. Nevertheless, this does not imply that the species-based approach no longer has a place, rather that a coordinated and well-resourced national system needs to be implemented, which monitors threatened species as well as key indicator species across all biomes.

32. Does your country have an ongoing inventory programme at species level (7a)?	
a) minimal activity	
b) for key groups (such as threatened or endemic species) or indicators	X
c) for a range of major groups	
d) for a comprehensive range of species	
33. Does your country have an ongoing inventory programme at ecosystem level (7a)?	
a) minimal activity	
b) for ecosystems of particular interest only	
c) for major ecosystems	
d) for a comprehensive range of ecosystems	X
34. Does your country have an ongoing inventory programme at genetic level (7a)?	
a) minimal activity	
b) minor programme in some sectors	X
c) major programme in some sectors	
d) major programme in all relevant sectors	
35. Does your country have ongoing monitoring programmes at species level (7a)?	
a) minimal activity	
b) for key groups (such as threatened or endemic species) or indicators	X
c) for a range of major groups	
d) for a comprehensive range of species	
36. Does your country have ongoing monitoring programmes at ecosystem level (7b)?	
a) minimal activity	
b) for ecosystems of particular interest only	X
c) for major ecosystems	
d) for a comprehensive range of ecosystems	
37. Does your country have ongoing monitoring programmes at genetic level (7b)?	
a) minimal activity	
b) minor programme in some sectors	X
c) major programme in some sectors	
d) major programme in all relevant sectors	
38. Has your country identified activities with adverse affects on biodiversity (7c)?	
a) limited understanding	
b) threats well known in some areas, not in others	
c) most threats known, some gaps in knowledge	X
d) comprehensive understanding	
e) reports available	X

39. Is your country monitoring these activities and their effects (7c)?	
a) no	
b) early stages of programme development	X
c) advanced stages of programme development	
d) programme in place	
e) reports on implementation available	
40. Does your country coordinate information collection and management at the national level (7d)?	
a) no	
b) early stages of programme development	X
c) advanced stages of programme development	
d) programme in place	
e) reports on implementation available	

Decision III/10 Identification, monitoring and assessment

41. Has your country identified national indicators of biodiversity?	
a) no	
b) assessment of potential indicators underway	X
c) indicators identified (if so, please describe below)	
42. Is your country using rapid assessment and remote sensing techniques?	
a) no	
b) assessing opportunities	
c) yes, to a limited extent	
d) yes, to a major extent	X
e) reports on implementation available	
43. Has your country adopted a "step-by-step" approach to implementing Article 7 with initial emphasis on identification of biodiversity components (7a) and activities having adverse effects on them (7c)?	
a) no	
b) not appropriate to national circumstances	
c) yes	X
44. Is your country cooperating with other Contracting Parties on pilot projects to demonstrate the use of assessment and indicator methodologies?	
a) no	
b) yes (if so give details below)	X
45. Has your country prepared any reports of experience with application of assessment methodologies and made these available to other Contracting Parties?	
a) no	
b) yes	X

46. Is your country seeking to make taxonomic information held in its collections more widely available?	
a) no relevant collections	
b) no action	
c) yes (if so, please give details below)	X

Decision V/7. Identification, monitoring and assessment, and indicators

47. Is your country actively involved in co-operating with other countries in your region in the field of indicators, monitoring and assessment?	
a) no	
b) limited co-operation	
c) extensive co-operation on some issues	X
d) extensive co-operation on a wide range of issues	
48. Has your country made available case studies concerning the development and implementation of assessment, monitoring and indicator programmes?	
a) no	
b) yes - sent to the Secretariat	
c) yes - through the national CHM	
d) yes - other means (please specify)	X
49. Is your country assisting other Parties to increase their capacity to develop indicator and monitoring programmes?	
a) no	
b) providing training	X
c) providing direct support	
d) sharing experience	X
e) other (please describe)	

Further comments on implementation of this Article

32. Inventory programmes at species level: Species inventory programmes are initiated and carried out by a range of roleplayers, including national agencies such as the National Botanical Institute, national and provincial conservation authorities, universities, museums, herbaria, Agricultural Research Council gene bank and non-governmental organisations. South Africa has species lists and collections of beetles, spiders, mites, freshwater and marine fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds, mammals, and major plant orders. The plant reference collection in Pretoria is the fourth largest in the southern hemisphere. Nevertheless, many of these collections and institutions are facing financial pressures, and comprehensive, spatially referenced inventories for many taxonomic groups are either inadequate or lacking.

33. Inventory programme at ecosystem level: The South African Vegetation Map was updated by the National Botanical Institute in 2003. This map defines and maps, as a scale of 1:250 000, over 430 distinct vegetation units - which makes it probably the most detailed ecosystem inventory in the world outside of Western Europe.

Assessments have been carried out in priority areas for biomes such as Fynbos, Succulent Karoo and Subtropical Thicket during the past five years. A thorough inventory of Freshwater ecosystems and Forest and Woodland

ecosystems is currently being carried out by the Department of Water Affairs and Forestry, while an inventory and assessment of Estuarine Ecosystems has been carried out by the Marine and Coastal Management Branch of the Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism. An inventory of Grasslands, particularly high altitude moist grasslands has been carried out by the Ekangala Grassland Trust, a collaboration between non governmental organisations, scientists and several provincial government departments.

34. Inventory programme at genetic level: Several projects based at universities and non-governmental organisations have been carried out for certain species, particularly threatened species. These include among others Cheetah, Wild dog, Cape Mountain Zebra, Addo elephants, Roan antelope, certain birds (including Cape Parrot and Blue, Wattled and Crowned Cranes) and some small mammals. A comprehensive bioprospecting programme has been initiated by the Medical Research Council, involving the National Botanical Institute, the CSIR (Council for Scientific and Industrial Research), Universities of Cape Town, Western Cape, Pretoria and Natal and the Agricultural Research Council. This does not include genetic inventories, however, the Darwin Project, based at the National Botanical Institute in Kirstenbosch, in association with the Royal Botanic Gardens in Kew, is developing a DNA Bank of more than 2000 indigenous plants.

The Agricultural Research Council provides genetic analyses for the conservation and game farming industry, including genetic profiling of animals, species and populations. Of particular concern is the avoidance of hybridisation between closely related species, which are being introduced into areas outside their normal ranges. Species involved include Blue and Black Wildebeest, Burchell's and Hartman's Zebra, Bontebok and Blesbok, and Red Hartebeest and Tsessebe.

35. Monitoring programmes at species level: Due to limited resources, these focus mainly on Threatened Species and are carried out by NGOs such as the Endangered Wildlife Trust, BirdLife South Africa and the Botanical Society, research institutions such as the National Botanical Institute and university-linked research programmes such as the Avian Demography Unit based at the University of Cape Town. Species monitoring is inadequate or absent for several major faunal groups, such as reptiles and amphibians, small mammals and almost all invertebrates. Many plant groups need more attention.

National Red Data Books which have been recently updated include Southern African Plant Red Data Lists (2002 - selected plants only) and Mammals (2003 - including both terrestrial and marine species). A project is underway to update the Southern African Bird Red Data Book in 2004. The Southern African Amphibian Red List was recently updated and is in press.

Many species-specific census projects are also regularly undertaken by NGOs, for example the annual Crane, Oribi and Blue Swallow counts coordinated by the Endangered Wildlife Trust, the annual CAR counts (Coordinated Avifaunal Roadcounts) undertaken by the Avian Demography Unit, which monitors large terrestrial birds such as Cranes, Storks and Bustards on agricultural land, and the annual Cape Parrot counts undertaken by the Cape Parrot Working Group of BirdLife South Africa. A national Cheetah census project is currently being undertaken by the De Wildt Cheetah and Wildlife Trust, while the South African National Parks and various provincial conservation agencies regularly conduct censuses in their parks. Species such as Black and White Rhinoceros and Wild Dogs are carefully monitored and regularly censused.

Provincial conservation authorities are tasked with implementation of CITES and maintain monitoring programmes of species listed on CITES Appendices.

To counter poaching problems in certain areas, species such as Rhino, Cycads and Abalone have been tagged with tracing devices.

36. Monitoring programmes at ecosystem level: Ecosystem Monitoring and Research programmes underway in South Africa include the Biota project, the

Millennium Ecosystem Assessment, Desert Margins Project, SAFARI 2000, Global Terrestrial Observing System (GTOS). A South African Environmental Observatory Network (SAEON) has been established.

38. Reports on activities with adverse impacts on biodiversity have been completed as part of bioregional assessments and planning for the Fynbos (clearing for agriculture, urbanisation, coastal development, afforestation and invasive alien species), Succulent Karoo (mining, overgrazing, ostrich farming and over-harvesting by plant collectors) and Subtropical Thicket (clearing for agriculture, urbanisation and overgrazing by goats). These assessments have generated GIS-based maps at a scale of 1:250,000 and at a finer scale (1:50,000 and 1:10,000) for certain priority areas.

Reasonably accurate information has been compiled on the adverse impacts on biodiversity of invasive alien species in general, and invasive alien plants in particular. This has been done on a spatial basis and also from a systems and economic perspective.

A selection of available reports includes the following:

South African Country Study on Climate Change. Plant Biodiversity: Vulnerability and Adaptation Assessment. (1999) Climate Change Group, National Botanical Institute and Botany Department, University of Cape Town.

South African Country Study on Climate Change. Vulnerability and Adaptation Assessment of South African Animal Taxa to Climate Change. Department of Zoology and Entomology and Centre for Environmental Studies, University of Pretoria and Institute for Soil, Climate and Water, Agricultural Research Council.

Nature Divided. Land degradation in South Africa. (2001) Hoffman, M.T. and Ashwell, A. University of Cape Town Press.

39. Monitoring of activities and effects: South Africa undertook a National State of the Environment Report (SOER) in 1999, a process managed by the CSIR (Council for Scientific and Industrial Research). Whilst it was planned to update the SOER on a regular basis, a shortage of resources has delayed follow-ups. A number of provinces have conducted SOERs at provincial level, based on the national framework, while several metropolitan councils have conducted such assessments at local government level.

40. Coordination of monitoring and information collection is currently inadequate at the national level. Roleplayers include the Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism (particularly State of the Environment Reporting and Marine and Coastal Management), Department of Science and Technology, Department of Agriculture and the National Botanical Institute (NBI). The NBI is to be transformed into the South African National Biodiversity Institute, in terms of the 2004 Biodiversity Bill, which will greatly facilitate a coordinated national approach.

41. The Directorate: Environmental Monitoring and Reporting of the Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism is developing a comprehensive set of indicators for State of the Environment Reports, in partnership with the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research. The National Environmental Indicators Programme includes indicators for Inland Waters; Marine, Coastal and Estuarine; Biodiversity and Natural Heritage; Land Use; Human Well-being; Atmosphere and Climate; Waste Management and Integrated and Environmental Management.

The Department of Water Affairs and Forestry is at an advanced stage of development of Criteria Indicators and Standards for Sustainable Forest Management, with assistance from the Department for International Development (UK). Pilot testing of criteria, indicators and standards is currently underway.

42. Rapid assessment and remote sensing techniques have been used for some

time in South Africa and the technology is well advanced. The data is generally captured in Geographic Information Systems and verified through ground-truthing and sampling. Aerial photographs are also used where available to assess vegetation changes over time. National Vegetation Maps were updated in 2003, while an update of the 1996 National Land Cover Data, which indicates the extent of various activities that impact on natural vegetation, will be completed in 2005.

The Department of Water Affairs and Forestry has made use of remote sensing and other technology to develop a national inventory (spatial GIS and database of forests) called the National Forest Inventory. This could be used to some extent to assess change over time due to impacts.

44. The Southern African Botanical Diversity Network (SABONET) led the development of the Southern African Red Data Book for Plants, which includes all the countries of southern Africa. South African scientists are also collaborating with other Contracting Parties on projects such as the Biota project and the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment.

45. See for example: *Southern African Plant Red Data Lists* (2002). J Golding (Ed). Southern African Botanical Diversity Network Report No. 14, SABONET, Pretoria; and *The State of South Africa's Species. Conference Proceedings* (2001). G H Verdoorn and J Le Roux (Eds). Endangered Wildlife Trust and WWF/Green Trust, Johannesburg.

46. A Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF) node has been established at the National Research Foundation. Programmes focus on the establishment of an internet compatible biodiversity database, electronic cataloguing of known species, digitisation of data and specimens, outreach, training and ensuring accessibility of data.

49. South African taxonomists have been actively engaged with capacity building initiatives in Southern Africa. The Southern African Botanical Diversity Network (SABONET) has participated in capacity building initiatives such as the Networking and Capacity Building Initiative for Southern Africa (NETCAB) Programme, implemented by the IUCN Regional Office for Southern Africa, based in Zimbabwe.

Decisions on Taxonomy

**Decision IV/1 Report and recommendations of the third meeting of SBSTTA
[part]**

50. Has your country carried out a national taxonomic needs assessment, and/or held workshops to determine national taxonomic priorities?	
a) no	X
b) early stages of assessment	
c) advanced stages of assessment	
d) assessment completed	
51. Has your country developed a national taxonomic action plan?	
a) no	X
b) early stages of development	
c) advanced stages of development	
d) action plan in place	
e) reports on implementation available	
52. Is your country making available appropriate resources to enhance the availability of taxonomic information?	
a) no	
b) yes, but this does not cover all known needs adequately	X
c) yes, covering all known needs	
53. Is your country encouraging bilateral and multilateral training and employment opportunities for taxonomists, particularly those dealing with poorly known organisms?	
a) no	
b) some opportunities	
c) significant opportunities	X
54. Is your country investing on a long-term basis in the development of appropriate infrastructure for your national taxonomic collections?	
a) no	
b) some investment	X
c) significant investment	
55. Is your country encouraging partnerships between taxonomic institutions in developed and developing countries?	
a) no	
b) yes - stated policy	X
c) yes - systematic national programme	
56. Has your country adopted any international agreed levels of collection housing?	
a) no	
b) under review	X
c) being implemented by some collections	
d) being implemented by all major collections	

57. Has your country provided training programmes in taxonomy?	
a) no	
b) some	
c) many	X
58. Has your country reported on measures adopted to strengthen national capacity in taxonomy, to designate national reference centres, and to make information housed in collections available to countries of origin?	
a) no	X
b) yes - in the previous national report	
c) yes - via the clearing-house mechanism	
d) yes - other means (please give details below)	
59. Has your country taken steps to ensure that institutions responsible for biological diversity inventories and taxonomic activities are financially and administratively stable?	
a) no	
b) under review	X
c) yes for some institutions	
d) yes for all major institutions	
60. Has your country assisted taxonomic institutions to establish consortia to conduct regional projects?	
a) no	
b) under review	
c) yes - limited extent	
d) yes - significant extent	X
61. Has your country given special attention to international funding of fellowships for specialist training abroad or for attracting international experts to national or regional courses?	
a) no	
b) under review	
c) yes - limited extent	
c) yes - significant extent	X
62. Has your country provided programmes for re-training of qualified professionals moving into taxonomy-related fields?	
a) no	
b) some	X
c) many	

**Decision V/9. Global Taxonomy Initiative: Implementation and further
advance of the Suggestions for Action**

63. Has your country identified its information requirements in the area of taxonomy, and assessed its national capacity to meet these requirements?	
a) no	
b) basic assessment	
c) thorough assessment (<i>in the case of plants</i>)	X
64. Has your country established or consolidated taxonomic reference centres?	
a) no	
b) yes	X
65. Has your country worked to increase its capacity in the area of taxonomic research?	
a) no	
b) yes	X
66. Has your country communicated information on programmes, projects and initiatives for consideration as pilot projects under the Global Taxonomy Initiative to the Executive Secretary?	
a) no	
b) yes	X
67. Has your country designated a national Global Taxonomy Initiative focal point linked to other national focal points?	
a) no	X
b) yes	
68. Has your country participated in the development of regional networks to facilitate information-sharing for the Global Taxonomy Initiative?	
a) no	
b) yes	X
<i>If a developing country Party or Party with economy in transition -</i>	
69. Has your country sought resources through the financial mechanism for the priority actions identified in the decision?	
a) no	
b) applied for unsuccessfully	X
c) applied for successfully	

Further comments on implementation of these decisions

53/57: Taxonomic Training Programmes: South African plant taxonomists have developed a strong network with Southern African countries and several training programmes have been held. However, taxonomic training programmes for other taxa are less active.

54. Infrastructure for national taxonomic collections: There is significant investment in certain sectors, e.g. the plant herbaria of the National Botanical Institute (such as at Kirstenbosch and Pretoria) are well resourced, and initiatives are underway to build a new state of the art facility for the fish collections (wet collections) of the South African Institute of Aquatic Biodiversity in Grahamstown. However, many collections are currently under-resourced, especially those of the various museums and the Agricultural Research Council.

57. Training programmes in taxonomy have been provided by SABONET and BIONET, and several universities offer M.SC courses.

59. The 2004 National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Bill establishes the South African National Biodiversity Institute; and a review of financial and administrative matters is underway as part of the process of implementing the Bill.

60. SABONET - the Southern African Botanical Diversity Network - is a good example of such a regional network.

61. This has been done mainly for plants, through SABONET, the Millennium Seedbank Project and the DNA Bank.

62. SABONET has provided such training programmes.

67. National Global Taxonomy Initiative Focal Point is unclear at the moment (both the National Botanical Institute and the Department of Science and Technology play important roles). It is possible that the new South African National Biodiversity Institute (SANBI) will be the focal point, but this has yet to be finalised.

69. A National Botanical Institute application to GEF/UNDP for funding for the Global Taxonomy Initiative was not successful, as it was not submitted by the Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism.

Article 8 In situ conservation [excluding Articles 8h and 8j]

70. What is the relative priority afforded to implementation of this Article and the associated decisions by your country?							
a) High	X	b) Medium		c) Low			
71. To what extent are the resources available adequate for meeting the obligations and recommendations made?							
a) Good		b) Adequate	X	c) Limiting		d) Severely limiting	
Further comments on relative priority and on availability of resources							
<p>South Africa has a fairly well-developed system of Protected Areas, covering about 6,6 million ha or 5,5% of the land area. About 53% of this area falls within a total of 20 national parks, while the rest falls within provincial parks and other categories of protected areas, such as State Forests. The South African government has a stated target of increasing the terrestrial surface area under formal conservation from the current 5,5% to 8% by 2010 and later to 10%; and marine protected areas from 17% to 20% by 2010.</p> <p>This commitment is demonstrated by the fact that, since 1994, the Protected Area estate has been expanded by over 300,000 hectares. Five new National Parks have been proclaimed and five more sites have been listed on the Ramsar List of Wetlands of International Importance. Five sites of outstanding cultural and natural heritage have been inscribed on UNESCO's World Heritage List and more are being prepared for consideration.</p> <p><u>New National Parks:</u> Marakele National Park (1993); Cape Peninsula National Park (1998); Vhembe Dongola National Park (1998); Agulhas National Park (1999); Namaqua National Park (1999)</p> <p><u>New Ramsar sites:</u> Natal Drakensberg Park (1997); Ndumo Game Reserve (1997); Seekoeivlei (1997); Nylsvley Nature Reserve (1998); Verloren Valei (2003)</p> <p><u>New World Heritage sites:</u> Greater St. Lucia Wetland Park (1999); Robben Island (1999); Cradle of Humankind (1999); Ukhahlamba-Drakensberg (2000); Mapungubwe (2003)</p> <p>Although financial resources and available land are limited, the expansion of the Protected Area estate has been achieved through an innovative programme of consolidation and partnerships. Since 1995, R193 million has been invested in land purchase to expand protected areas, with 20% of funds coming from the Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism, 25% from donors and 55% from the conservation efforts of South African National Parks. This expansion programme has been linked to poverty-relief and job creation programmes.</p>							
72. Has your country established a system of protected areas which aims to conserve biological diversity (8a)?							
a) system under development						X	
b) national review of protected areas coverage available							
c) national protected area systems plan in place							
d) relatively complete system in place							

73. Are there nationally adopted guidelines for the selection, establishment and management of protected areas (8b)?	
a) no	
b) no, under development	X
c) yes	
d) yes, undergoing review and extension	
74. Does your country regulate or manage biological resources important for the conservation of biological diversity with a view to ensuring their conservation and sustainable use (8c)?	
a) no	
b) early stages of development	
c) advanced stages of development	X
d) programme or policy in place	
e) reports on implementation available	
75. Has your country undertaken measures that promote the protection of ecosystems, natural habitats and the maintenance of viable populations of species in natural surroundings (8d)?	
a) no measures	
b) some measures in place	
c) potential measures under review	X
d) reasonably comprehensive measures in place	
76. Has your country undertaken measures that promote environmentally sound and sustainable development in areas adjacent to protected areas (8e)?	
a) no measures	
b) some measures in place	X
c) potential measures under review	
d) reasonably comprehensive measures in place	
77. Has your country undertaken measures to rehabilitate and restore degraded ecosystems (8f)?	
a) no measures	
b) some measures in place	X
c) potential measures under review	
d) comprehensive measures in place	
78. Has your country undertaken measures to promote the recovery of threatened species (8f)?	
a) no measures	
b) some measures in place	X
c) potential measures under review	
d) comprehensive measures in place	

79. Has your country undertaken measures to regulate, manage or control the risks associated with the use and release of living modified organisms resulting from biotechnology (8g)?	
a) no measures	
b) some measures in place	X
c) potential measures under review	
d) comprehensive measures in place	
80. Has your country made attempts to provide the conditions needed for compatibility between present uses and the conservation of biological diversity and sustainable use of its components (8i)?	
a) no	
b) early stages of development	X
c) advanced stages of development	
d) programme or policy in place	
e) reports on implementation available	
81. Has your country developed and maintained the necessary legislation and/or other regulatory provisions for the protection of threatened species and populations (8k)?	
a) no	
b) early stages of development	
c) advanced stages of development	X
d) legislation or other measures in place	
82. Does your country regulate or manage processes and categories of activities identified under Article 7 as having significant adverse effects on biological diversity (8l)?	
a) no	
b) under review	
c) yes, to a limited extent	X
d) yes, to a significant extent	
<i>If a developed country Party -</i>	
83. Does your country cooperate in providing financial and other support for <i>in situ</i> conservation particularly to developing countries (8m)?	
<i>If a developing country Party or Party with economy in transition -</i>	
84. Does your country receive financial and other support for <i>in situ</i> conservation (8m)?	
a) no	
b) yes (if so, please give details below)	X

Decision II/7 Consideration of Articles 6 and 8 of the Convention

85. Is action being taken to share information and experience on implementation of this Article with other Contracting Parties?	
a) little or no action	
b) sharing of written materials and/or case-studies	X
c) regional meetings	X

Further comments on implementation of this Article

72. Although South Africa has a protected area system in place that conserves the majority of threatened species in the country, this has come about over the past century more by luck than design. However, the post-1994 democratic government recognises the need for systematic identification of components of biodiversity important for conservation and sustainable use. A National Conservation Assessment (1:250,000 scale) is being carried out by the National Botanical Institute, in collaboration with the Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism. This will assess the status of conservation of ecosystems and species and identify gaps in the system. Where possible, these areas important for biodiversity conservation will be included in the Protected Area system, or agreements and partnerships with landowners will be developed in order to ensure conservation management and sustainable use of biodiversity. The assessment includes and integrates terrestrial, freshwater and marine ecosystems.

A comprehensive assessment of Freshwater ecosystems already underway by the Department of Water Affairs and Forestry, and the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research is being aligned with the National Conservation Assessment currently underway.

In addition, the Chief Directorate: Forestry of the Department of Water Affairs and Forestry is currently engaged in a comprehensive review of the system of forest protected areas and the identification of high conservation value forests, with the aim of developing a forest protected area system for natural forests that will maximise biodiversity conservation.

73. Nationally adopted guidelines for the selection, establishment and management of Protected Areas are under review. New national legislation governing Protected Areas was promulgated in early 2004. The National Environmental Management Protected Areas Act provides for the establishment of a national register of all national, provincial and local protected areas and the management of protected areas in accordance with national norms and standards. Norms, standards and indicators for the management and development of protected areas are under consideration.

74 - 75. For Threatened Species, a comprehensive programme is in place, which requires permits to be granted for the collection, sale and transboundary transport of species listed on CITES appendices. For other important components of biological diversity, regulation and management to date has been somewhat ad hoc. This system is currently being assessed as part of the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan, due for completion in October 2004 and new national legislation governing biodiversity is due to be promulgated in 2004. Chapter 3 of the National Environmental Management Biodiversity Bill calls for a National Biodiversity Framework and guidelines for provincial and ecosystem management plans.

76. Environmentally sound development adjacent to Protected Areas: Although no specific legislation governs development adjacent to protected areas, the trend in South Africa is for protected areas to form the nucleus of much larger areas under conservation management. In some areas, the fences between

national parks and adjacent private game lodges have been removed, such as along the western boundary of the Kruger National Park. Several Biosphere Reserves have been established in South Africa, namely the 100,000 hectare Kogelberg Biosphere Reserve (1998), 377,000 hectare Cape West Coast Biosphere Reserve (2000), 1,400,000 hectare Waterberg Biosphere Reserve (2001) and 3,300,000 hectare Kruger-to-Canyons Biosphere Reserve (2001). However, the involvement of private landowners in Biosphere Reserves and Conservancies has been voluntary to date. Despite limited formal incentives, many private landowners manage their land very effectively along conservation principles, as wildlife becomes private property when fenced and the game farming and tourism industry provides sufficient economic incentives. Section 28 of the National Environmental Management: Protected Areas Bill, to be enacted in 2004, does make provision for the establishment of Protected Environments, to establish buffer zones around protected areas.

77. Rehabilitation and restoration of degraded ecosystems: Several innovative public-works and poverty-relief programmes have been developed which focus on restoration, such as the Working for Water Programme which clears invasive alien trees; Working for Wetlands; CoastCare and LandCare. The budget for these programmes, R650 million in 2004/5, is one of the highest in the world, relative to Gross Domestic Product.

78. Recovery of threatened species: National Zoological Gardens, National Botanical Gardens, South African National Parks, private landowners and non-governmental organisations such as the Endangered Wildlife Trust, Botanical Society, De Wildt Cheetah and Wildlife Trust and others have various breeding and/or reintroduction programmes in place.

Species specific conservation action plans have been drafted by various NGOs and provincial authorities, and exist for, amongst others, Blue and Wattled Crane, Blue Swallow, Wild Dog, African Penguin and Riverine Rabbit. The 2003 South African Mammal Red Data Book incorporates a very basic mammal conservation plan.

79. Fairly comprehensive measures in the form of policy, legislation and regulations are in place, but some stakeholders such as the NGOs, Biowatch and the African Biosafety Centre, argue that these are inadequate and/or are not adequately enforced. The GMO Act of 1997 and its regulations regulate all activities relating to Living Modified Organisms, while Environmental Impact Assessment regulations require impact assessments for LMO development.

81. The National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Bill (2004) includes a chapter on Threatened Species and provides for Regulations for the protection of threatened species and populations.

82. Threat categories used in the assessment of Red Data Lists for South African plants include both threatening processes and activities, including Afforestation (exotic plantations); Agriculture; Alien Plant Infestation; Collection; Damming; Deforestation; Desiccation (drying of wetlands); Fire; Forestry exploitation; Grazing or Browsing; Habitat degradation; Harvesting; Mining; Pests and Pathogens; Road networks; Salinisation; Siltation; Soil erosion and Urban expansion.

Some, but not all, of these threatening processes are effectively regulated or managed. Examples of threatening processes for which regulations have been promulgated include the removal of invasive alien plants. Regulations under the Conservation of Agricultural Resources Act (Act 43 of 1983) provide for three categories of invasive alien plants: those that must be removed (category 1), those that may only be grown in demarcated areas, such as forestry plantations (category 2) and those that may be retained on land, but that may not be propagated or sold (category 3).

The National Veld and Forest Fire Act requires that land owners put certain measures in place to combat fires, inter alia, through firebreaks and the formation of fire protection associations. Such associations must develop and

implement veld (rangeland) fire management strategies, which also have to take the conservation of ecosystems into account.

Management of threatening activities, such as Afforestation, Damming, Mining and Urbanisation require Environmental Impact Assessments before such developments are approved. EIA Regulations are in the process of being updated.

Wild collection or harvesting of species such as Medicinal Plants is regulated through the use of permits in certain provinces.

84. Since political transformation, South Africa has received substantial financial support for *in situ* conservation, from a number of sources, including the Global Environment Facility, DANCED, GTZ, NORAD, USAID, WWF, IUCN, Fauna and Flora International, Conservation International, International Fund for Animal Welfare, etc. as well as many private and corporate donors within South Africa.

Article 8h Alien species

86. What is the relative priority afforded to implementation of this Article and the associated decisions by your country?					
a) High	X	b) Medium		c) Low	
87. To what extent are the resources available adequate for meeting the obligations and recommendations made?					
a) Good		b) Adequate		c) Limiting	X
d) Severely limiting					
Further comments on relative priority and on availability of resources					
<p>Invasive alien species are probably the greatest single threat to ecosystems, habitats and species in South Africa. Invasive alien species threaten freshwater ecosystems, coastal and marine ecosystems and mountain ecosystems and are a threat to biological diversity of all biomes in South Africa. Invasive alien plants reduce soil rangeland productivity and increase soil erosion. This threat is recognised by the South African government as indicated by the increased funding made available to the Working for Water Programme over the past several years. The budget for the Working for Water Programme increased steadily from R25 million in 1995/6 to R442 million in 2003/4. Of this, more than R250 million has been invested in national parks and more than 1 million hectares of land has been cleared of invasive alien plants.</p> <p>Despite these considerable efforts and resource allocations, invasive species are spreading faster than they can be controlled and much more needs to be done. While initial efforts have focussed on invasive alien plants, especially woody trees and shrubs, it is recognised that efforts need to be extended to other taxa, such as invasive grasses and fishes. Part of the problem is the lack of effective cooperation between various departments, leading to ineffective use of controls. A national strategy for invasive alien species is under development, and will be closely aligned to the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan. The National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Bill (2004) provides a key opportunity to develop a comprehensive response to the threat of invasive alien species.</p>					
88. Has your country identified alien species introduced?					
a) no					
b) only major species of concern					X
c) only new or recent introductions					
d) a comprehensive system tracks new introductions					
e) a comprehensive system tracks all known introductions					
89. Has your country assessed the risks posed to ecosystems, habitats or species by the introduction of these alien species?					
a) no					
b) only some alien species of concern have been assessed					X
c) most alien species have been assessed					
90. Has your country undertaken measures to prevent the introduction of, control or eradicate those alien species which threaten ecosystems, habitats or species?					
a) no measures					
b) some measures in place					X
c) potential measures under review					
d) comprehensive measures in place					

Decision IV/1 Report and recommendations of the third meeting of SBSTTA

91. Is your country collaborating in the development of projects at national, regional, sub-regional and international levels to address the issue of alien species?	
a) little or no action	
b) discussion on potential projects under way	
c) active development of new projects	X
92. Does your national strategy and action plan address the issue of alien species?	
a) no	
b) yes - limited extent	
c) yes - significant extent	X

Decision V/8. Alien species that threaten ecosystems, habitats or species

93. Is your country applying the interim guiding principles for prevention, introduction and mitigation of impacts of alien species in the context of activities aimed at implementing article 8(h) of the Convention, and in the various sectors?	
a) no	
b) under consideration	
c) limited implementation in some sectors	X
d) extensive implementation in some sectors	
e) extensive implementation in most sectors	
94. Has your country submitted case-studies to the Executive Secretary focusing on thematic assessments?	
a) no	X
b) in preparation	
c) yes	
95. Has your country submitted written comments on the interim guiding principles to the Executive Secretary?	
a) no	X
b) yes	
96. Has your country given priority to the development and implementation of alien invasive species strategies and action plans?	
a) no	
b) yes	X

97. In dealing with the issue of invasive species, has your country developed or involved itself in mechanisms for international co-operation, including the exchange of best practices?	
a) no	
b) trans-boundary co-operation	X
c) regional co-operation	X
d) multilateral co-operation	X
98. Is your country giving priority attention to geographically and evolutionarily isolated ecosystems in its work on alien invasive species?	
a) no	
b) yes	X
99. Is your country using the ecosystem approach and precautionary and bio-geographical approaches as appropriate in its work on alien invasive species?	
a) no	
b) yes	X
100. Has your country developed effective education, training and public-awareness measures concerning the issue of alien species?	
a) no	
b) some initiatives	
c) many initiatives	X
101. Is your country making available the information which it holds on alien species through the CHM?	
a) no	
b) some information	
c) all available information	
d) information available through other channels (please specify)	X
102. Is your country providing support to enable the Global Invasive Species Programme to fulfil the tasks outlined in the decision and its annexes?	
a) no	
b) limited support	
c) substantial support	X

Further comments on implementation of this Article

88/89. Given the extent of the problem and the limited resources available, South Africa has focussed attention on certain priority invasive alien plants, and in particular woody alien species that are known to threaten freshwater ecosystems and water supply. South Africa's capacity to identify all invasive species brought into the country is very limited.

90. Measures include the Working for Water Programme which focuses on invasive alien plants, especially a priority list of 27 woody species. In addition to mechanical removal and chemical control, South Africa is conducting research into biocontrol methods.

91. South Africa is an active partner of the Global Invasive Species Programme. The secretariat for GISP is located at Kirstenbosch National

Botanic Gardens, Cape Town.

92. The National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan is being developed. A Thematic Task Team on Invasive Alien Species has been established to focus on Invasive Alien Species as a priority area.

98. A primary focus of invasive alien clearing programmes has been the Cape Floristic Region.

101. Information on Invasive Alien Species is made available through a number of channels, including the Global Invasive Species Programme.

102. South Africa is regarded as a leader in efforts to control invasive alien species, and the Global Invasive Species Programme Secretariat established an office in South Africa in 2003. South Africa is also the focal point for the Invasive Alien Species programme of NEPAD (the New Partnership for Africa's Development).

Article 8j Traditional knowledge and related provisions

103. What is the relative priority afforded to implementation of this Article and the associated decisions by your country?							
a) High	X	b) Medium		c) Low			
104. To what extent are the resources available adequate for meeting the obligations and recommendations made?							
a) Good		b) Adequate	X	c) Limiting		d) Severely limiting	
Further comments on relative priority and on availability of resources							
<p>The cross-sectoral nature of traditional knowledge (Indigenous Knowledge Systems) is recognised in South Africa and an inter-governmental committee has been established, including Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism, Department of Science and Technology, Department of Agriculture, Department of Health and Department of Trade and Industry.</p> <p>The Department of Science and Technology has established a Directorate: Indigenous Knowledge Systems to focus exclusively on traditional knowledge and benefit sharing.</p> <p>Traditional healers have considerable influence and status in South Africa.</p>							
105. Has your country undertaken measures to ensure that the knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities embodying traditional lifestyles relevant for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity are respected, preserved and maintained?							
a) no measures							
b) some measures in place							
c) potential measures under review						X	
d) comprehensive measures in place							
106. Is your country working to encourage the equitable sharing of benefits arising from the utilization of such knowledge, innovations and practices?							
a) no							
b) early stages of development						X	
c) advanced stages of development							
d) programme or policy in place							

Decision III/4 and Decision IV/9. Implementation of Article 8(j)

107. Has your country developed national legislation and corresponding strategies for the implementation of Article 8(j)?	
a) no	
b) early stages of development	X
c) advanced stages of development	
d) legislation or other measures in place	

108. Has your country supplied information on the implementation of Article 8(j) to other Contracting Parties through media such as the national report?	
a) no	X
b) yes - previous national report	
c) yes - CHM	
d) yes - other means (please give details below)	
109. Has your country submitted case-studies to the Executive Secretary on measures taken to develop and implement the Convention's provisions relating to indigenous and local communities?	
a) no	X
b) yes	
110. Is your country participating in appropriate working groups and meetings?	
a) none	
b) some	X
c) all	
111. Is your country facilitating the active participation of representatives of indigenous and local communities in these working groups and meetings?	
a) no	X
b) yes	

Decision V/16. Article 8(j) and related provisions

112. Has your country reviewed the programme of work specified in the annex to the decision, and identified how to implement those tasks appropriate to national circumstances?	
a) no	
b) under review	X
c) yes (please provide details)	
113. Is your country integrating such tasks into its ongoing programmes, taking into account the identified collaboration opportunities?	
a) no	
b) not appropriate to national circumstances	
c) yes - to a limited extent	X
d) yes - to a significant extent	
114. Is your country taking full account of existing instruments, guidelines, codes and other relevant activities in the implementation of the programme of work?	
a) no	
b) not appropriate to national circumstances	
c) yes - to a limited extent	X
d) yes - to a significant extent	

115. Has your country provided appropriate financial support for the implementation of the programme of work?	
a) no	
b) not appropriate to national circumstances	
c) yes - to a limited extent	X
d) yes - to a significant extent	
116. Has your country fully incorporated women and women's organizations in the activities undertaken to implement the programme of work contained in the annex to the decision and other relevant activities under the Convention?	
a) no	X
b) yes	
117. Has your country taken measures to facilitate the full and effective participation of indigenous and local communities in the implementation of the Convention?	
a) no	
b) not appropriate to national circumstances	
c) yes - to a limited extent	X
d) yes - to a significant extent	
118. Has your country provided case studies on methods and approaches concerning the preservation and sharing of traditional knowledge, and the control of that information by indigenous and local communities?	
a) no	X
b) not relevant	
c) yes - sent to the Secretariat	
d) yes - through the national CHM	
e) yes - available through other means (please specify)	
119. Does your country exchange information and share experiences regarding national legislation and other measures for the protection of the knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities?	
a) no	
b) not relevant	
c) yes - through the CHM	
d) yes - with specific countries	X
e) yes - available through other means (please specify)	
120. Has your country taken measures to promote the conservation and maintenance of knowledge, innovations, and practices of indigenous and local communities?	
a) no	
b) not relevant	
c) some measures	X
d) extensive measures	
121. Has your country supported the development of registers of traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities, in collaboration with these communities?	
a) no	

b) not relevant	
c) development in progress	X
d) register fully developed	
122. Have representatives of indigenous and local community organizations participated in your official delegation to meetings held under the Convention on Biological Diversity?	
a) not relevant	X
b) not appropriate	
c) yes	
123. Is your country assisting the Secretariat to fully utilize the clearing-house mechanism to co-operate closely with indigenous and local communities to explore ways that enable them to make informed decisions concerning release of their traditional knowledge?	
a) no	
b) awaiting information on how to proceed	X
c) yes	
124. Has your country identified resources for funding the activities identified in the decision?	
a) no	
b) not relevant	
c) partly	X
d) fully	

Further comments on implementation of this Article

105/106/107. Several policies and pieces of legislation are in various stages of development, such as:

- The National Environmental Management Biodiversity Bill (2004) includes a Chapter on Bioprospecting, Access and Benefit Sharing and makes provision for the establishment of a Bioprospecting Trust Fund. Regulations will follow in 2004.
- The Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism has developed Community Based Natural Resource Management Guidelines (2003), which include principles such as benefit sharing, giving a voice to women and respect for local knowledge and experience.
- The Department of Science and Technology has developed policy on Indigenous Knowledge Systems, to be followed by legislation in 2004.
- The Department of Health is developing the Traditional Healers Bill (2003).

121. Considerable ethnobotanical research has been carried out and documented in South Africa, particularly on the uses and values of medicinal plants. However, this has not always been done in full collaboration and partnership with local communities. New policies and regulations in the pipeline aim to rectify this situation.

Article 9 Ex situ conservation

125. What is the relative priority afforded to implementation of this Article and the associated decisions by your country?					
a) High		b) Medium	X	c) Low	
126. To what extent are the resources available adequate for meeting the obligations and recommendations made?					
a) Good		b) Adequate		c) Limiting	X
d) Severely limiting					
Further comments on relative priority and on availability of resources					
127. Has your country adopted measures for the <i>ex situ</i> conservation of components of biological diversity <i>native</i> to your country (9a)?					
a) no measures					
b) some measures in place					X
c) potential measures under review					
d) comprehensive measures in place					
128. Has your country adopted measures for the <i>ex situ</i> conservation of components of biological diversity <i>originating outside</i> your country (9a)?					
a) no measures					
b) some measures in place					X
c) potential measures under review					
d) comprehensive measures in place					
129. If the answer to the previous question was yes, is this being done in active collaboration with organizations in the other countries (9a)?					
a) no					
b) yes					X
130. Has your country established and maintained facilities for the <i>ex situ</i> conservation of and research on plants, animals and micro-organisms that represent genetic resources <i>native</i> to your country (9b)?					
a) no					
b) yes - limited extent					X
c) yes - significant extent					
131. Has your country established and maintained facilities for the <i>ex situ</i> conservation of and research on plants, animals and micro-organisms that represent genetic resources <i>originating elsewhere</i> (9b)?					
a) no					
b) yes - limited extent					X
c) yes - significant extent					
132. If the answer to the previous question was yes, is this being done in active collaboration with organizations in the other countries (9a)?					
a) no					
b) yes					X

133. Has your country adopted measures for the reintroduction of threatened species into their natural habitats under appropriate conditions (9c)?	
a) no measures	
b) some measures in place	X
c) potential measures under review	
d) comprehensive measures in place	
134. Has your country taken measures to regulate and manage the collection of biological resources from natural habitats for <u>ex situ</u> conservation purposes so as not to threaten ecosystems and <u>in situ</u> populations of species (9d)?	
a) no measures	
b) some measures in place	X
c) potential measures under review	
d) comprehensive measures in place	
<i>If a developed country Party -</i>	
135. Has your country cooperated in providing financial and other support for <u>ex situ</u> conservation and in the establishment and maintenance of <u>ex situ</u> conservation facilities in developing countries (9e)?	
<i>If a developing country Party or Party with economy in transition -</i>	
136. Has your country received financial and other support for <u>ex situ</u> conservation and in the establishment and maintenance of <u>ex situ</u> conservation facilities (9e)?	
a) no	
b) yes	X

Further comments on implementation of this Article

127. The National Zoological Gardens in Pretoria conserves certain species of fauna native to South Africa. Breeding programmes for endangered species, such as those run by the De Wildt Cheetah Breeding Centre and the Endangered Wildlife Trust's Crane Working Group have succeeded in successfully reintroducing such species back into the wild. Eight National Botanical Gardens have been established specifically for the purposes of research, public awareness and *ex situ* conservation of native floral species. These are Kirstenbosch National Botanical Garden, Karoo National Botanical Garden, Harold Porter National Botanical Garden, KwaZulu-Natal National Botanical Garden, Free State National Botanical Garden, Witwatersrand National Botanical Garden, Pretoria National Botanical Garden and the Lowveld National Botanical Garden.

128. Several Zoological Gardens maintain collections and breeding programmes for exotic fauna, such as lemurs and pandas. The Agricultural Research Council and the Plant Protection Research Institute maintain *ex situ* facilities for agriculturally important species and their related pests and pathogens.

129. There is active collaboration with organisations in countries of origin of certain species. Examples include a partnership between a private conservation agency in South Africa and authorities in China to breed endangered Asian tigers. Government agencies in South Africa are collaborating with agencies in Australia on biocontrol agents for invasive alien plants.

130. In partnership with the Kew Royal Botanic Gardens, the National Botanical Institute (NBI) manages the Millennium Seedbank Project, which will ensure the conservation of South Africa's flora, by establishing verified and well documented seed collections of wild species native to South Africa. Together with the Kew Royal Botanic Gardens, the NBI has established a DNA Bank in South Africa. It will represent a unique archive of plant genetic diversity in South Africa, holding over 2 200 genomes from all genera. It will also serve as a resource to facilitate the discovery of novel genes and for the identification of areas of high priority for conservation.

133. Some measures are in place for certain species. South Africa is regarded as a world leader in the translocation and re-introduction of large mammals into their natural habitat, such as elephant, rhinoceros, various antelope species, zebra, giraffe and predators including lion, cheetah and wild dog. Provincial conservation agencies such as Ezemvelo KwaZulu-Natal Wildlife, hold annual game auctions, enabling private land owners, tourism facilities and game farmers to restock their land with these species.

Certain guidelines have been developed for such re-introductions. However, further work is needed to monitor the growing wildlife industry and discourage private landowners from introducing species to areas outside their traditional ranges.

136. The National Botanical Institute has received financial and other support for establishment and maintenance of *ex situ* facilities at National Botanic Gardens from various sources, including the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew.

Article 10 Sustainable use of components of biological diversity

137. What is the relative priority afforded to implementation of this Article and the associated decisions by your country?					
a) High	X	b) Medium		c) Low	
138. To what extent are the resources available adequate for meeting the obligations and recommendations made?					
a) Good		b) Adequate		c) Limiting	X
d) Severely limiting					
Further comments on relative priority and on availability of resources					
<p>South Africa strongly supports sustainable use policies and practices, and links these to poverty alleviation and equity principles. It is recognised that sustainable use of biodiversity is essential for sustaining people's livelihoods. Given South Africa's past history of racially discriminatory policies, it is important to broaden access to natural resources.</p> <p>However, although these principles are clearly articulated in policy, resources available for implementation are limited. Considerable work needs to be done in terms of research, training and capacity building, monitoring and assessment, and integration and coordination between the various roleplayers and stakeholders. These include all three spheres of government, the private sector, communities, the general public and private landowners.</p>					
139. Has your country integrated consideration of the conservation and sustainable use of biological resources into national decision making (10a)?					
a) no					
b) early stages of development				X	
c) advanced stages of development					
d) programme or policy in place					
e) review of implementation available					
140. Has your country adopted measures relating to the use of biological resources that avoid or minimize adverse impacts on biological diversity (10b)?					
a) no measures					
b) some measures in place				X	
c) potential measures under review					
d) comprehensive measures in place					
141. Has your country put in place measures that protect and encourage customary use of biological resources that is compatible with conservation or sustainable use requirements (10c)?					
a) no measures					
b) some measures in place				X	
c) potential measures under review					
d) comprehensive measures in place					

142. Has your country put in place measures that help local populations develop and implement remedial action in degraded areas where biological diversity has been reduced (10d)?	
a) no measures	
b) some measures in place	X
c) potential measures under review	
d) comprehensive measures in place	
143. Does your country actively encourage cooperation between government authorities and the private sector in developing methods for sustainable use of biological diversity (10e)?	
a) no	
b) early stages of development	X
c) advanced stages of development	
d) programme or policy in place	
e) review of implementation available	

Decisions IV/15. Relationship of the Convention with the Commission on Sustainable Development and biodiversity-related conventions

144. Has your country submitted to the Secretariat information on tourism and its impacts on biological diversity, and efforts to effectively plan and manage tourism?	
a) no	
b) yes - previous national report	
c) yes - case-studies	
d) yes - other means (please give details below)	X
145. Has your country submitted to the Secretariat information on biodiversity-related activities of the CSD (such as SIDS, oceans, seas and freshwater resources, consumption and production patterns)?	
a) no	X
b) yes - previous national report	
c) yes - correspondence	
d) yes - other means (please give details below)	

Decision V/24. Sustainable use as a cross-cutting issue

146. Has your country identified indicators and incentive measures for sectors relevant to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity?	
a) no	
b) assessment of potential indicators underway	X
c) indicators identified (if so, please describe below)	

147. Has your country assisted other Parties to increase their capacity to implement sustainable-use practices, programmes and policies at regional, national and local levels, especially in pursuit of poverty alleviation?	
a) no	
b) not relevant	
c) to a limited extent	X
d) to a significant extent (please provide details)	
148. Has your country developed mechanisms to involve the private sector and indigenous and local communities in initiatives on sustainable use, and in mechanisms to ensure that indigenous and local communities benefit from such sustainable use?	
a) no	
b) mechanisms under development	X
c) mechanisms in place (please describe)	
149. Has your country identified areas for conservation that would benefit through the sustainable use of biological diversity and communicated this information to the Executive Secretary?	
a) no	X
b) yes	

Decision V/25. Biological diversity and tourism

150. Has your country based its policies, programmes and activities in the field of sustainable tourism on an assessment of the inter-linkages between tourism and biological diversity?	
a) no	
b) to a limited extent	
c) to a significant extent	X
151. <i>Has your country submitted case-studies on tourism as an example of the sustainable use of biological diversity to the Executive Secretary?</i>	
a) no	X
b) yes	
152. Has your country undertaken activities relevant to biodiversity and tourism in support of the International Year of Ecotourism?	
a) no	
b) yes	X
153. Has your country undertaken activities relevant to biodiversity and tourism in support of the International Year of Mountains?	
a) no	
b) yes	X
154. Has your country undertaken activities relevant to biodiversity and tourism in support of the International Coral Reef Initiative?	
a) no	X
b) yes	

155. Has your country established enabling policies and legal frameworks to complement voluntary efforts for the effective implementation of sustainable tourism?	
a) no	
b) to a limited extent	
c) to a significant extent (please describe)	X

Further comments on implementation of this Article

139. Integration of biodiversity considerations into national decision making is very well integrated at a policy level, and increasingly in terms of legislation, but implementation does take time and is an on going process.

140. The above applies here too. Although adverse impacts should be avoided or minimised, these measures are not always implemented, largely due to capacity constraints at local level. However, efforts are underway to fully integrate biodiversity considerations into Provincial Growth and Development Plans and municipal Integrated Development Plans and Spatial Development Plans.

141. South Africa has made considerable progress towards broadening access to natural resources and ensuring that this is done in a sustainable manner. The Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism developed Community-Based Natural Resources Management guidelines in 2003 to further encourage sustainable use of resources. Practical examples include:

- a. Under the country's land reform programme, a number of land claims involving land in protected areas have been settled. In several cases involving National Parks, the communities regaining title to their land have opted to enter into partnerships with the parks authorities and to manage the land for conservation and tourism. Examples include the Makuleke area of the Kruger National Park, the Richtersveld Contractual National Park and the Greater St Lucia World Heritage Site.
- b. Fisheries policies have been completely overhauled to set quotas within sustainable limits and increase fines and penalties for overfishing and poaching of marine species. At the same time, the permit system has been revised, to ensure that there is more equitable access to the resource by those people and communities previously discriminated against by apartheid legislation.
- c. Many protected areas, which in the past allowed no resource use, have revised these policies to enable neighbouring communities, especially women, to harvest resources such as thatching grass, reeds and medicinal plants. The South African National Parks' Social Ecology Programmes encourage greater access to the parks by neighbouring communities, while Park Management Plans are also being developed in consultation with neighbours.
- d. In the Western Cape fynbos region, innovative sustainable use projects have been initiated under the Cape Action for People and Environment, including Rooibos Tea cultivation, Flower Harvesting, Mariculture and Ecotourism, which largely benefit local communities.
- e. The White Paper on Sustainable Forest Development (1996) provides for a new approach to forest management, which allows for controlled non-consumptive and consumptive access to forest resources by communities. This approach has been strengthened through the creation of a Directorate: Participatory Forest Management in department of Water Affairs and Forestry, to develop a national programme for community-based forest management, which includes the creation of Participatory Forest Management Forums in various forest areas, and to promote the

initiation of forest-based projects that will benefit local communities.

142. Some programmes are in place, namely Working for Water, Working for Wetlands, Coastcare, LandCare and Working on Fire. However, given the extent of degradation in many areas of the country, substantially more needs to be done.

143. Programmes such as the Cape Action for People and Environment, the Subtropical Thicket Ecosystem Planning and the Succulent Karoo Ecosystem Programme are strongly focussed on partnerships. South Africa has a strong private sector, and many Corporate Social Responsibility programmes support conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, for example through financial support to non governmental organisations. Economic sectors such as tourism, game farming, forestry and even mining are cooperating well with government authorities.

144. South Africa participated from the outset at global level in activities promoting sustainability. During early CSD sessions, South Africa immediately began formulating guidelines for sustainable tourism. These guidelines were subsequently formulated and launched by the Minister of Environmental Affairs and Tourism. They are currently being popularised with the subsectors of tourism in the country.

145. South Africa has prepared CSD reports as required, noting biodiversity-related activities and actions, since 1996.

148. A Directorate: Participatory Forest Management has been established in the Department of Water Affairs and Forestry, to develop a national programme for community-based forest management, which includes the creation of Participatory Forest Management Forums in various forest areas, and to promote the initiation of forest-based projects that will benefit communities.

155. Tourism in South Africa is largely based on the country's scenic landscapes, beaches, wildlife and culture. Sustainability through Responsible Tourism is the basis of South Africa's tourism policy. In addition, South African National Parks and several provincial parks agencies have initiated and implemented commercialisation and outsourcing policies, which have placed tourism in parks on a financially sustainable footing. The Fair Trade in Tourism initiative in South Africa is also gaining momentum and several community-based tourism projects have been initiated, such as at Riemvasmaak near Augrabies Falls National Park, and Matatiele near the Maloti-Drakensberg Transfrontier Park.

Article 11 Incentive measures

156. What is the relative priority afforded to implementation of this Article and the associated decisions by your country?							
a) High		b) Medium	X	c) Low			
157. To what extent are the resources available adequate for meeting the obligations and recommendations made?							
a) Good		b) Adequate		c) Limiting	X	d) Severely limiting	X
Further comments on relative priority and on availability of resources							
Very few incentives currently exist for biodiversity conservation and sustainable use, but the National Treasury is conducting initial research into the feasibility of such incentives.							
158. Are programmes in place to identify and ensure the adoption of economically and socially sound measures that act as incentives for the conservation and sustainable use of components of biological diversity?							
a) no						X	
b) early stages of development							
c) advanced stages of development							
d) programmes in place							
e) review of implementation available							
159. Do these incentives, and the programmes to identify them and ensure their adoption, cover the full range of sectoral activities?							
a) no							
b) some sectors						X	
c) all major sectors							
d) all sectors							

Decision III/18. Incentive measures

160. Has your country reviewed legislation and economic policies to identify and promote incentives for the conservation and sustainable use of components of biological diversity?	
a) no	
b) reviews in progress	X
c) some reviews complete	
d) as far as practically possible	
161. Has your country ensured the development of mechanisms or approaches to ensure adequate incorporation of both market and non-market values of biological diversity into plans, policies and programmes and other relevant areas, <i>inter alia</i> , national accounting systems and investment strategies?	
a) no	
b) early stages of identifying mechanisms	X
c) advanced stages of identifying mechanisms	
d) mechanisms in place	
e) review of impact of mechanisms available	

162. Has your country developed training and capacity building programmes to implement incentive measures and promote private-sector initiatives?	
a) no	
b) planned	X
c) some	
d) many	
163. Has your country incorporated biological diversity considerations into impact assessments as a step in the design and implementation of incentive measures?	
a) no	X
b) yes	
164. Has your country shared experience on incentive measures with other Contracting Parties, including making relevant case-studies available to the Secretariat?	
a) no	X
b) yes - previous national report	
c) yes - case-studies	
d) yes - other means (please give details below)	

Decision IV/10. Measures for implementing the Convention [part]

165. Is your country actively designing and implementing incentive measures?	
a) no	X
b) early stages of development	
c) advanced stages of development	
d) measures in place	
e) review of implementation available	
166. Has your country identified threats to biological diversity and underlying causes of biodiversity loss, including the relevant actors, as a stage in designing incentive measures?	
a) no	X
b) partially reviewed	
c) thoroughly reviewed	
d) measures designed based on the reviews	
e) review of implementation available	
167. Do the existing incentive measures take account of economic, social, cultural and ethical valuation of biological diversity?	
a) no	X
b) yes - limited extent	
c) yes - significant extent	

168. Has your country developed legal and policy frameworks for the design and implementation of incentive measures?	
a) no	X
b) early stages of development	
c) advanced stages of development	
d) frameworks in place	
e) review of implementation available	
169. Does your country carry out consultative processes to define clear target-oriented incentive measures to address the underlying causes of biodiversity loss?	
a) no	X
b) processes being identified	
c) processes identified but not implemented	
d) processes in place	
170. Has your country identified and considered neutralizing perverse incentives?	
a) no	
b) identification programme under way	X
c) identified but not all neutralized	
d) identified and neutralized	

Decision V/15. Incentive measures

171. Has your country reviewed the incentive measures promoted through the Kyoto Protocol to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change?	
a) no	
b) yes	X
172. Has your country explored possible ways and means by which these incentive measures can support the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity in your country?	
a) no	
b) under consideration	X
c) early stages of development	
d) advanced stages of development	
e) further information available	

Further comments on implementation of this Article

158/159. Measures in some sectors are quite well advanced e.g. in the Water sector. These include tiered pricing systems, and implementation of user pays and polluter pays principles. For the most part, incentives are still under consideration, such as rates rebates for private land under conservation stewardship.

160. Some preliminary reviews of legislation and economic policies have been carried out. The National Treasury is investigating a system of environmental taxes, in association with the British Department for International Development.

161. A System of National Accounts is under development by Statistics South Africa. It links environmental values to economic activities and shows how these activities utilise natural resources. National Accounts are being developed for water, forests, minerals, land use, air quality and biodiversity.

162. The National Research Foundation initiated a training programme for post-graduate research into resource economics in 1995/1997. Several university-based training programmes focus strongly on resource and environmental economics, such as at University of Pretoria and University of Cape Town.

The Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism initiated a resource economics programme in the mid- to late 1990s and several information documents were published.

164. South Africa has shared experiences regarding incentive measures in various international forums, including SADC and Commonwealth meetings and international conferences.

170. Perverse subsidies to agriculture, which previously encouraged overgrazing and cultivation of marginal soils, were stopped after the change in government in 1994. Many farmers have since combined livestock enterprises with game farming or have switched completely to game ranches and ecotourism. However, perverse incentives remain, such as cheap water for irrigation.

Article 12 Research and training

173. What is the relative priority afforded to implementation of this Article and the associated decisions by your country?					
a) High	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	b) Medium	<input type="checkbox"/>	c) Low	<input type="checkbox"/>
174. To what extent are the resources available adequate for meeting the obligations and recommendations made?					
a) Good	<input type="checkbox"/>	b) Adequate	<input type="checkbox"/>	c) Limiting	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Severely limiting <input type="checkbox"/>					
Further comments on relative priority and on availability of resources					
South Africa has an excellent system of tertiary education institutions, with several world-renowned universities. However, these were racially segregated in the past, and served only a minority of the population. Training and capacity building are recognised as being critically important to the future growth and development of the country, but the needs are enormous, particularly in the fields of science and mathematics.					
175. Has your country established programmes for scientific and technical education and training in measures for the identification, conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity and its components (12a)?					
a) no					<input type="checkbox"/>
b) early stages of development					<input type="checkbox"/>
c) advanced stages of development					<input type="checkbox"/>
d) programmes in place					<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
176. Has your country provided support to other Parties for education and training in measures for the identification, conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity and its components (12a)?					
a) no					<input type="checkbox"/>
b) yes					<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
177. Does your country promote and encourage research which contributes to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity (12b)?					
a) no					<input type="checkbox"/>
b) yes - limited extent					<input type="checkbox"/>
c) yes - significant extent					<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
178. Does your country promote and cooperate in the use of scientific advances in biological diversity research in developing methods for conservation and sustainable use of biological resources (12c)?					
a) no					<input type="checkbox"/>
b) yes - limited extent					<input type="checkbox"/>
c) yes - significant extent					<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

If a developed country Party -

179. Does your country's implementation of the above activities take into account the special needs of developing countries?

a) no

b) yes, where relevant

Further comments on implementation of this Article

175. Scientific and technical education and training programmes are well established in South Africa, and are offered by most universities and universities of technology. The Southern African Wildlife College provides training programmes for conservation managers. The Department of Science and Technology and the National Research Foundation identify priority needs and provide finance, including bursaries to students. A Biodiversity Foresight programme in 1998 identified priority areas for biodiversity conservation and sustainable use. Subsequently, in 2001 a National Biotechnology Strategy was developed to highlight priority research and training programmes in biotechnology.

The Department of Labour has established a comprehensive system of Sector Education and Training Authorities, financed through a mandatory Skills Levy. The Tourism and Hospitality Education and Training Authority (THETA) provides skills training in game reserve and game lodge management.

176. South Africa, through the Branch: Marine and Coastal Management of the Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism, has adopted the Benguela Fisheries Interaction Training (BENEFIT) Programme and the Benguela Current Large Marine Ecosystem (BCLME) Programme, as integral parts of the New Partnership for Africa's Development. Involving South Africa, Namibia and Angola, and funded by Norwegian and Canadian governments, BENEFIT aims to train staff and conduct fisheries and other marine scientific investigations.

178. South Africa is considered a world leader in many aspects of biodiversity research, such as translocation of large mammals, breeding programmes for threatened species, systematic conservation planning and biocontrol. The South African contribution to fields such as ornithology, marine ecosystems functioning, wildlife management, climate change and taxonomy are well recognised. South African scientists and academics co-operate widely with their colleagues in countries such as Australia, America, Britain and elsewhere, including in Africa.

Article 13 Public education and awareness

180. What is the relative priority afforded to implementation of this Article and the associated decisions by your country?			
a) High		b) Medium	X
181. To what extent are the resources available adequate for meeting the obligations and recommendations made?			
a) Good		b) Adequate	X
Further comments on relative priority and on availability of resources			
182. Does your country promote and encourage understanding of the importance of, and the measures required for, the conservation of biodiversity (13a) through media?			
a) no			
b) yes - limited extent			X
c) yes - significant extent			
183. Does your country promote and encourage understanding of the importance of, and the measures required for, the conservation of biodiversity (13a) through the inclusion of this topic in education programmes?			
a) no			
b) yes - limited extent			
c) yes - significant extent			X
184. Does your country cooperate with other States and international organizations in developing relevant educational and public awareness programmes (13b)?			
a) no			
b) yes - limited extent			X
c) yes - significant extent			

Decision IV/10. Measures for implementing the Convention [part]

185. Are public education and awareness needs covered in the national strategy and action plan?	
a) no	
b) yes - limited extent	
c) yes - significant extent	X

186. Has your country allocated appropriate resources for the strategic use of education and communication instruments at each phase of policy formulation, implementation and evaluation?	
a) limited resources	
b) significant but not adequate resources	X
c) adequate resources	
187. Does your country support initiatives by major groups that foster stakeholder participation and that integrate biological diversity conservation matters in their practice and education programmes?	
a) no	
b) yes	X
188. Has your country integrated biodiversity concerns into education strategies?	
a) no	
b) early stages of development	
c) advanced stages of development	X
d) yes	
189. Has your country made available any case-studies on public education and awareness and public participation, or otherwise sought to share experiences?	
a) no	X
b) yes	
190. Has your country illustrated and translated the provisions of the Convention into any local languages to promote public education and awareness raising of relevant sectors?	
a) not relevant	
b) still to be done	X
c) under development	
d) yes	
191. Is your country supporting local, national, sub-regional and regional education and awareness programmes?	
a) no	
b) yes - limited extent	X
c) yes - significant extent	
<i>If a developing country Party or Party with economy in transition -</i>	
192. When requesting assistance through the GEF, has your country proposed projects that promote measures for implementing Article 13 of the Convention?	
a) no	
b) yes	X

Decision V/17. Education and public awareness

193. Does your country support capacity-building for education and communication in biological diversity as part of the national biodiversity strategy and action plans?	
a) no	
b) limited support	
c) yes (please give details)	X

Further comments on implementation of this Article

182. Several of the larger-circulation newspapers and television channels run regular articles or programmes on biodiversity-related issues. This is particularly the case before or during National Days, such as National Wetlands Day, National Marine Week, National Biodiversity Day, Arbor Week, etc. or during periods such as the World Summit on Sustainable Development or the World Parks Congress. The national broadcaster produces a weekly TV programme with a strong focus on biodiversity, called 50/50.

The Government Communication and Information Service also plays an important role. Government departments are increasingly using the internet to distribute information.

However, given the fact that large numbers of the population do not have access to the media, or are functionally illiterate, much more needs to be done to raise awareness - such as through the use of picture and comic books or theatre.

183. South Africa has a strong tradition in environmental awareness and outreach, particularly in South African National Parks, National Botanical Institute, Museums, National Zoological Gardens and Aquaria. Many national departments are involved in communication, education and awareness efforts such as press releases, posters, pamphlets, etc. especially around National Days. Some conservation authorities, NGOs and departments manage environmental education facilities and interpretive trails.

Several very successful education programmes are focussed on schools, since the youth represent the future of the country, and provide an effective means of also raising awareness amongst their families and the broader community. An example is Eduplant/Junior Land Care, a partnership between government (particularly the Department of Education) and an NGO, Food and Trees for Africa, which encourages tree planting and clean up campaigns, while planting food gardens in school grounds. NGOs such as Wilderness Leadership Foundation focus on taking young leaders into wilderness areas to experience nature and promote a strong conservation ethic in future leaders.

185. The NBSAP is currently under development, and will include public awareness and education needs.

186. Full public participation in all stages of policy development is an important principle in South Africa. In the case of environmental and biodiversity policy development, South Africa has been greatly assisted by donor funding, but such communication is often focussed on the larger urban centres.

187. Many non governmental organisations play a critical role in raising awareness. Although supported in principle by government, this work is largely funded by donors and the business sector.

188. The National Department of Education is developing curricula that include environmental education as part of the school syllabus.

190. Under the Southern African Biodiversity Support Programme, a document on biodiversity prospecting and Access and Benefit Sharing, produced by the IUCN-South Africa, has been reprinted and translated into two additional

South African languages (South Africa has eleven official languages).

192. The Southern African Biodiversity Support Programme includes the focus areas of Access and Benefit Sharing and Invasive Alien Species.

Article 14 Impact assessment and minimizing adverse impacts

194. What is the relative priority afforded to implementation of this Article and the associated decisions by your country?					
a) High	X	b) Medium		c) Low	
195. To what extent are the resources available adequate for meeting the obligations and recommendations made?					
a) Good		b) Adequate		c) Limiting	X
d) Severely limiting					
Further comments on relative priority and on availability of resources					
Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs) are mandatory in South Africa for specific listed activities. However, there are capacity constraints, for example, insufficient staff tasked with reviewing and making decisions based on EIA reports. In addition, such EIAs are not specifically required to focus on biodiversity, and must take into account a range of objectives, including social and economic imperatives.					
196. Is legislation in place requiring an environmental impact assessment of proposed projects likely to have adverse effects on biological diversity (14 (1a))?					
a) no					
b) early stages of development					
c) advanced stages of development					
d) legislation in place					X
e) review of implementation available					
197. Do such environmental impact assessment procedures allow for public participation (14(1a))?					
a) no					
b) yes - limited extent					
c) yes - significant extent					X
198. Does your country have mechanisms in place to ensure that the environmental consequences of national programmes and policies that are likely to have significant adverse impacts on biological diversity are duly taken into account (14(1b))?					
a) no					
b) early stages of development					X
c) advanced stages of development					
d) fully compliant with current scientific knowledge					

199. Is your country involved in bilateral, regional and/or multilateral discussion on activities likely to significantly affect biological diversity outside your country's jurisdiction (14(1c))?	
a) no	
b) yes - limited extent	X
c) yes - significant extent	
200. Is your country implementing bilateral, regional and/or multilateral agreements on activities likely to significantly affect biological diversity outside your country's jurisdiction (14(1c))?	
a) no	
b) no, assessment of options in progress	
c) some completed, others in progress	X
b) yes	
201. Has your country mechanisms in place to notify other States of cases of imminent or grave danger or damage to biological diversity originating in your country and potentially affecting those States (14(1d))?	
a) no	
b) early stages of development	
c) advanced stages of development	
d) mechanisms in place	X
e) no need identified	
202. Has your country mechanisms in place to prevent or minimize danger or damage originating in your State to biological diversity in other States or in areas beyond the limits of national jurisdiction (14(1d))?	
a) no	
b) early stages of development	X
c) advanced stages of development	
d) fully compliant with current scientific knowledge	
e) no need identified	
203. Has your country national mechanisms in place for emergency response to activities or events which present a grave and imminent danger to biological diversity (14(1e))?	
a) no	
b) early stages of development	
c) advanced stages of development	X
d) mechanisms in place	
204. Has your country encouraged international cooperation to establish joint contingency plans for emergency responses to activities or events which present a grave and imminent danger to biological diversity (14(1e))?	
a) no	
b) yes	X
c) no need identified	

Decision IV/10. Measures for implementing the Convention [part]

205. Has your country exchanged with other Contracting Parties information and experience relating to environmental impact assessment and resulting mitigating measures and incentive schemes?	
a) no	
b) information provided to the Secretariat	
c) information provided to other Parties	X
d) information provided on the national CHM	
206. Has your country exchanged with other Contracting Parties information on measures and agreements on liability and redress applicable to damage to biological diversity?	
a) no	X
b) information provided to the Secretariat	
c) information provided to other Parties	
d) information provided on the national CHM	

Decision V/18. Impact assessment, liability and redress

207. Has your country integrated environmental impact assessment into programmes on thematic areas and on alien species and tourism?	
a) no	
b) partly integrated	X
c) fully integrated	
208. When carrying out environmental impact assessments does your country address loss of biological diversity and the interrelated socio-economic, cultural and human-health aspects relevant to biological diversity?	
a) no	
b) partly	X
c) fully	
209. When developing new legislative and regulatory frameworks, does your country have in place mechanisms to ensure the consideration of biological diversity concerns from the early stages of the drafting process?	
a) no	
b) in some circumstances	X
c) in all circumstances	
210. Does your country ensure the involvement of all interested and affected stakeholders in a participatory approach to all stages of the assessment process?	
a) no	
b) yes - in certain circumstances	
c) yes - in all cases	X

211. Has your country organised expert meetings, workshops and seminars, and/or training, educational and public awareness programmes and exchange programmes in order to promote the development of local expertise in methodologies, techniques and procedures for impact assessment?	
a) no	
b) some programmes in place	
c) many programmes in place	X
d) integrated approach to building expertise	
212. Has your country carried out pilot environmental impact assessment projects, in order to promote the development of local expertise in methodologies, techniques and procedures?	
a) no	X
b) yes (please provide further details)	
213. Does your country use strategic environmental assessments to assess not only the impact of individual projects, but also their cumulative and global effects, and ensure the results are applied in the decision making and planning processes?	
a) no	
b) to a limited extent	X
c) to a significant extent	
214. Does your country require the inclusion of development of alternatives, mitigation measures and consideration of the elaboration of compensation measures in environmental impact assessment?	
a) no	
b) to a limited extent	X
c) to a significant extent	
215. Is national information available on the practices, systems, mechanisms and experiences in the area of strategic environmental assessment and impact assessment?	
a) no	X
b) yes (please append or summarise)	

Further comments on implementation of this Article

196. Environmental Impact Assessments are called for in terms of sections 21, 22 and 26 of the Environment Conservation Act (1989). These requirements are under review and updated EIA Regulations are expected in 2004.

In addition, section 52 of the National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Bill (2004) makes provision for the listing of threatening processes or activities in threatened or protected ecosystems, which may not be undertaken without the appropriate authorisation.

201/202. South Africa is in the process of developing a National Disaster and Risk Management Strategy. This will be fully integrated with regional considerations.

203. Severe flooding in the Limpopo Province of South Africa and in Mozambique in 2000, highlighted the need to be fully prepared for disaster management. South Africa is establishing a National Disaster Management Centre.

Article 15 Access to genetic resources

216. What is the relative priority afforded to implementation of this Article and the associated decisions by your country?							
a) High		b) Medium	X	c) Low			
217. To what extent are the resources available adequate for meeting the obligations and recommendations made?							
a) Good		b) Adequate	X	c) Limiting		d) Severely limiting	
Further comments on relative priority and on availability of resources							
218. Has your country endeavoured to create conditions to facilitate access to genetic resources for environmentally sound uses by other Contracting Parties (15(2))?							
a) no							
b) yes - limited extent							
c) yes - significant extent						X	
219. Is there any mutual understanding or agreement in place between different interest groups and the State on access to genetic resources (15(4))?							
a) no							
b) yes - limited extent						X	
c) yes - significant extent							
220. Has your country an open participation planning process, or any other process in place, to ensure that access to resources is subject to prior informed consent (15(5))?							
a) no							
b) early stages of development						X	
c) advanced stages of development							
d) processes in place							
221. Has your country taken measures to ensure that any scientific research based on genetic resources provided by other Contracting Parties is developed and carried out with the full participation of such Contracting Parties (15(6))?							
a) no measures						X	
b) some measures in place							
c) potential measures under review							
d) comprehensive measures in place							

222. Has your country taken measures to ensure the fair and equitable sharing of the results of research and development and the benefits arising from the commercial and other use of genetic resources with any Contracting Party providing such resources (15(7))?	
a) no measures	
b) some measures in place	
c) potential measures under review	X
d) comprehensive measures in place	
If so, are these measures	
a) Legislation	
b) Statutory policy or subsidiary legislation	
c) Policy and administrative measures	X

Decision II/11 and Decision III/15. Access to genetic resources

223. Has your country provided the secretariat with information on relevant legislation, administrative and policy measures, participatory processes and research programmes?	
a) no	X
b) yes, within the previous national report	
c) yes, through case-studies	
d) yes, through other means (please give details below)	
224. Has your country implemented capacity-building programmes to promote successful development and implementation of legislative, administrative and policy measures and guidelines on access, including scientific, technical, business, legal and management skills and capacities?	
a) no	
b) some programmes covering some needs	X
c) many programmes covering some needs	
d) programmes cover all perceived needs	
e) no perceived need	
225. Has your country analysed experiences of legislative, administrative and policy measures and guidelines on access, including regional efforts and initiatives, for use in further development and implementation of measures and guidelines?	
a) no	
b) analysis in progress	X
c) analysis completed	
226. Is your country collaborating with all relevant stakeholders to explore, develop and implement guidelines and practices that ensure mutual benefits to providers and users of access measures?	
a) no	
b) yes - limited extent	X
c) yes - significant extent	

227. Has your country identified national authorities responsible for granting access to genetic resources?	
a) no	X
b) yes	
228. Is your country taking an active role in negotiations associated with the adaptation of the International Undertaking on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture?	
a) no	
b) yes	X

Decision V/26. Access to genetic resources

229. Has your country designated a national focal point and one or more competent national authorities to be responsible for access and benefit-sharing arrangements or to provide information on such arrangements?	
a) no	X
b) yes	
c) yes, and Executive Secretary notified	
230. Do your country's national biodiversity strategy, and legislative, administrative or policy measures on access and benefit-sharing, contribute to conservation and sustainable use objectives?	
a) no	
b) to a limited extent	X
c) to a significant extent	
Parties that are recipients of genetic resources	
231. Has your country adopted administrative or policy measures that are supportive of efforts made by provider countries to ensure that access to their genetic resources is subject to Articles 15, 16 and 19 of the Convention?	
a) no	
b) other arrangements made	X
c) yes	
232. Does your country co-operate with other Parties in order to find practical and equitable solutions supportive of efforts made by provider countries to ensure that access to their genetic resources is subject to Articles 15, 16 and 19 of the Convention, recognizing the complexity of the issue, with particular consideration of the multiplicity of prior informed consent considerations?	
a) no	X
b) yes (please provide details)	

233. In developing its legislation on access, has your country taken into account and allowed for the development of a multilateral system to facilitate access and benefit-sharing in the context of the International Undertaking on Plant Genetic Resources?	
a) no	
b) legislation under development	X
c) yes	
234. Is your country co-ordinating its positions in both the Convention on Biological Diversity and the International Undertaking on Plant Genetic Resources?	
a) no	
b) taking steps to do so	X
c) yes	
235. Has your country provided information to the Executive Secretary on user institutions, the market for genetic resources, non-monetary benefits, new and emerging mechanisms for benefit sharing, incentive measures, clarification of definitions, <i>sui generis</i> systems and "intermediaries"?	
a) no	X
b) some information provided	
c) substantial information provided	
236. Has your country submitted information on specific issues related to the role of intellectual property rights in the implementation of access and benefit-sharing arrangements to the Executive Secretary?	
a) no	X
b) yes	
237. Has your country provided capacity-building and technology development and transfer for the maintenance and utilization of ex situ collections?	
a) no	
b) yes to a limited extent	X
c) yes to a significant extent	

Further comments on implementation of this Article

218. Several agreements have been signed to enable access to South Africa's genetic resources by other Contracting Parties. It should be noted, however, that there is concern within South Africa, particularly non governmental organisations and community organisations, that such agreements may not adequately protect the rights of indigenous peoples and communities. Since South Africa has not yet established a National Focal Point, it is difficult to state the extent of agreements that have been entered into by various stakeholders. Such agreements have been signed by institutions.

This situation will probably improve when the new Biodiversity Bill is implemented in 2004, but until then the process of access has been difficult for many because there are no clear procedures and harmonised regulations in place.

221. This only comes about if separate parties agree in a benefit-sharing contract, however, South Africa has not included this as a statutory requirement in the chapter on Bioprospecting, Access and Benefit Sharing in the 2004 Biodiversity Bill. Nevertheless, the Biodiversity Bill makes provision for the establishment of a centralised Bioprospecting Trust.

The partners of the Bioprospecting Consortium, working on medicinal plants (Medical Research Council, National Botanical Institute, Council for Scientific and Industrial Research, Agricultural Research Council and several universities) have established a Trust, to ensure that there is fair and equitable sharing of financial benefits with indigenous peoples and communities and other stakeholders.

224. The Southern African Biodiversity Support Programme has a focus on Access and Benefit Sharing.

228. National Department of Agriculture and the National Plant Genetic Resources Committee were involved.

227/229. South Africa has not designated a National Focal Point, although discussions are underway between Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism, National Department of Agriculture and Department of Science and Technology. The nine provinces do operate as Competent Authorities (with varying degrees of competence).

233. The plant genetic resources for food and agriculture, as covered in the treaty, was not included in South Africa's legislation.

Article 16 Access to and transfer of technology

238. What is the relative priority afforded to implementation of this Article and the associated decisions by your country?							
a) High	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	b) Medium	<input type="checkbox"/>	c) Low	<input type="checkbox"/>		
239. To what extent are the resources available adequate for meeting the obligations and recommendations made?							
a) Good	<input type="checkbox"/>	b) Adequate	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	c) Limiting	<input type="checkbox"/>	d) Severely limiting	<input type="checkbox"/>
Further comments on relative priority and on availability of resources							
240. Has your country taken measures to provide or facilitate access for and transfer to other Contracting Parties of technologies that are relevant to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity or make use of genetic resources and do not cause significant damage to the environment (16(1))?							
a) no measures							
b) some measures in place						<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
c) potential measures under review							
d) comprehensive measures in place							
241. Is your country aware of any initiatives under which relevant technology is transferred to your country on concessional or preferential terms (16(2))?							
a) no						<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
b) yes (please give brief details below)							
242. Has your country taken measures so that Contracting Parties which provide genetic resources are provided access to and transfer of technology which make use of those resources, on mutually agreed terms (16(3))?							
a) not relevant							
b) relevant, but no measures							
c) some measures in place						<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
d) potential measures under review							
e) comprehensive measures in place							
If so, are these measures							
a) Legislation							
b) Statutory policy or subsidiary legislation							
c) Policy and administrative arrangements						<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
243. Has your country taken measures so that the private sector facilitates access to joint development and transfer of relevant technology for the benefit of government institutions and the private sector of developing countries (16(4))?							
a) no measures							
b) some measures in place						<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
c) potential measures under review							
d) comprehensive measures in place							
If so, are these measures							
a) Legislation?							

b) Statutory policy and subsidiary legislation?	
c) Policy and administrative arrangements?	X
244. Does your country have a national system for intellectual property right protection (16(5))?	
a) no	
b) yes	X
245. If yes, does it cover biological resources (for example, plant species) in any way?	
a) no	
b) yes - limited extent	X
c) yes - significant extent	

Decision III/17. Intellectual property rights

246. Has your country conducted and provided to the secretariat case-studies of the impacts of intellectual property rights on the achievement of the Conventions objectives?	
a) no	X
b) some	
c) many	

Further comments on implementation of this Article

240. Technology transfer in the collection, curation and databasing of botanical diversity material and information has been led by South Africa through the SABONET (Southern African Botanical Diversity Network) Regional Capacity Building Project, supported by donor funding.

Article 17 Exchange of information

247. What is the relative priority afforded to implementation of this Article and the associated decisions by your country?							
a) High	X	b) Medium		c) Low			
248. To what extent are the resources available adequate for meeting the obligations and recommendations made?							
a) Good		b) Adequate	X	c) Limiting		d) Severely limiting	
Further comments on relative priority and on availability of resources							
South Africa (particularly research institutions) publishes and distributes a vast literature on the biodiversity of southern Africa, much of this supported by websites as their means of access. National, regional and international symposia, workshops and training seminars support networking and information exchange. Newsletters and journals are distributed to thousands of biodiversity professionals throughout the region and globally.							

249. Has your country taken measures to facilitate the exchange of information from publicly available sources (17(1))?	
a) no measures	
b) restricted by lack of resources	
c) some measures in place	X
d) potential measures under review	
e) comprehensive measures in place	
If a developed country Party -	
250. Do these measures take into account the special needs of developing countries (17(1))?	
a) no	
b) yes - limited extent	
c) yes - significant extent	
251. If so, do these measures include all the categories of information listed in Article 17(2), including technical, scientific and socio-economic research, training and surveying programmes, specialized knowledge, repatriation of information and so on?	
a) no	
b) yes - limited extent	
c) yes - significant extent	

Article 18 Technical and scientific cooperation

252. What is the relative priority afforded to implementation of this Article and the associated decisions by your country?							
a) High	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	b) Medium	<input type="checkbox"/>	c) Low	<input type="checkbox"/>		
253. To what extent are the resources available adequate for meeting the obligations and recommendations made?							
a) Good	<input type="checkbox"/>	b) Adequate	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	c) Limiting	<input type="checkbox"/>	d) Severely limiting	<input type="checkbox"/>
Further comments on relative priority and on availability of resources							
254. Has your country taken measures to promote international technical and scientific cooperation in the field of conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity (18(1))?							
a) no measures							
b) some measures in place						X	
c) potential measures under review							
d) comprehensive measures in place							
255. Do the measures taken to promote cooperation with other Contracting Parties in the implementation of the Convention pay special attention to the development and strengthening of national capabilities by means of human resources development and institution building (18(2))?							
a) no							
b) yes - limited extent							
c) yes - significant extent						X	
256. Has your country encouraged and developed methods of cooperation for the development and use of technologies, including indigenous and traditional technologies, in pursuance of the objectives of this Convention (18(4))?							
a) no							
b) early stages of development						X	
c) advanced stages of development							
d) methods in place							

257. Does such cooperation include the training of personnel and exchange of experts (18(4))?	
a) no	
b) yes - limited extent	X
c) yes - significant extent	
258. Has your country promoted the establishment of joint research programmes and joint ventures for the development of technologies relevant to the objectives of the Convention (18(5))?	
a) no	
b) yes - limited extent	
c) yes - significant extent	X

Decision II/3, Decision III/4 and Decision IV/2. Clearing House Mechanism

259. Is your country cooperating in the development and operation of the Clearing House Mechanism?	
a) no	X
b) yes	
260. Is your country helping to develop national capabilities through exchanging and disseminating information on experiences and lessons learned in implementing the Convention?	
a) no	
b) yes - limited extent	X
c) yes - significant extent	
261. Has your country designated a national focal point for the Clearing-House Mechanism?	
a) no	
b) yes	X
262. Is your country providing resources for the development and implementation of the Clearing-House Mechanism?	
a) no	X
b) yes, at the national level	
c) yes, at national and international levels	
263. Is your country facilitating and participating in workshops and other expert meetings to further the development of the CHM at international levels?	
a) no	X
b) participation only	
c) supporting some meetings and participating	

264. Is your CHM operational	
a) no	X
b) under development	
c) yes (please give details below)	
265. Is your CHM linked to the Internet	
a) no	X
b) yes	
266. Has your country established a multi-sectoral and multi-disciplinary CHM steering committee or working group at the national level?	
a) no	X
b) yes	

Decision V/14. Scientific and technical co-operation and the clearinghouse mechanisms (Article 18)

267. Has your country reviewed the priorities identified in Annex I to the decision, and sought to implement them?	
a) not reviewed	
b) reviewed but not implemented	X
c) reviewed and implemented as appropriate	

Further comments on implementation of these Articles

259 - 267. South Africa established an internet-based CHM several years ago, and designated an official in the Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism as the National Focal Point. But in 2001 the CHM experienced serious technical problems. The CHM is currently non-existent and needs to be re-established. Several other internet-based data clearing houses either exist or are in the process of being established. For example, a Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF) node has been established in the Department of Science and Technology (National Research Foundation). Together with the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research, an audit is underway to assess the nature and extent of biodiversity data in South Africa. There is a need to develop a metadatabase, standardise database formats and establish links between these sites. A national mechanism for information sharing and exchange and the identification of the appropriate focal point will be dealt with during consultative processes to develop the NBSAP.

262. South Africa is supporting the Global Invasive Species Programme (GISP) secretariat, which has an international CHM function.

Article 19 Handling of biotechnology and distribution of its benefits

268. What is the relative priority afforded to implementation of this Article and the associated decisions by your country?							
a) High		b) Medium	X	c) Low			
269. To what extent are the resources available adequate for meeting the obligations and recommendations made?							
a) Good		b) Adequate	X	c) Limiting		d) Severely limiting	
Further comments on relative priority and on availability of resources							
South Africa has relatively good technology and infrastructure. The Department of Science and Technology has identified biotechnology as a priority focus area and the Biotechnology Strategy is currently being implemented. This includes establishing small, medium and micro-enterprises in the sector.							

270. Has your country taken measures to provide for the effective participation in biotechnological research activities by those Contracting Parties which provide the genetic resources for such research (19(1))?	
a) no measures	
b) some measures in place	X
c) potential measures under review	
d) comprehensive measures in place	
If so, are these measures:	
a) Legislation	
b) Statutory policy and subsidiary legislation	
c) Policy and administrative measures	X
271. Has your country taken all practicable measures to promote and advance priority access on a fair and equitable basis by Contracting Parties to the results and benefits arising from biotechnologies based upon genetic resources provided by those Contracting Parties (19(2))?	
a) no measures	
b) some measures in place	X
c) potential measures under review	
d) comprehensive measures in place	

**Decision IV/3. Issues related to biosafety and Decision V/1. Work Plan
of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Cartagena Protocol on
Biosafety**

272. Is your country a Contracting Party to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety?	
a) not a signatory	
b) signed, ratification in progress	
c) instrument of ratification deposited	X

Further comments on implementation of this Article

South Africa acceded to the Cartagena Protocol in August 2003. Discussions have taken place between the Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism and the National Department of Agriculture regarding the location of the Competent Authority and it has been agreed that this should be the National Department of Agriculture.

Article 20 Financial resources

273. What is the relative priority afforded to implementation of this Article and the associated decisions by your country?					
a) High	<input type="checkbox"/>	b) Medium	<input type="checkbox"/>	c) Low	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
274. To what extent are the resources available adequate for meeting the obligations and recommendations made?					
a) Good	<input type="checkbox"/>	b) Adequate	<input type="checkbox"/>	c) Limiting	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Severely limiting <input type="checkbox"/>					
Further comments on relative priority and on availability of resources					

275. Has your country provided financial support and incentives in respect of those national activities which are intended to achieve the objectives of the Convention (20(1))?	
a) no	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) yes - incentives only	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) yes - financial support only	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) yes - financial support and incentives	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>If a developed country Party -</i>	
276. Has your country provided new and additional financial resources to enable developing country Parties to meet the agreed incremental costs to them of implementing measures which fulfil the obligations of the Convention, as agreed between you and the interim financial mechanism (20(2))?	
a) no	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>If a developing country Party or Party with economy in transition -</i>	
277. Has your country received new and additional financial resources to enable you to meet the agreed full incremental costs of implementing measures which fulfil the obligations of the Convention (20(2))?	
a) no	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<i>If a developed country Party -</i>	
278. Has your country provided financial resources related to implementation of the Convention through bilateral, regional and other multilateral channels (20(3))?	
<i>If a developing country Party or Party with economy in transition -</i>	
279. Has your country used financial resources related to implementation of the Convention from bilateral, regional and other multilateral channels (20(3))?	
a) no	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Decision III/6. Additional financial resources

280. Is your country working to ensure that all funding institutions (including bilateral assistance agencies) are striving to make their activities more supportive of the Convention?	
a) no	
b) yes - limited extent	
c) yes - significant extent	X
281. Is your country cooperating in any efforts to develop standardized information on financial support for the objectives of the Convention?	
a) no	X
b) yes (please attach information)	

Decision V/11. Additional financial resources

282. Has your country established a process to monitor financial support to biodiversity?	
a) no	X
b) procedures being established	
c) yes (please provide details)	
283. Are details available of your country's financial support to national biodiversity activities?	
a) no	
b) not in a standardized format	X
c) yes (please provide details)	
284. Are details available of your country's financial support to biodiversity activities in other countries?	
a) not applicable	
b) no	X
c) not in a standardized format	
d) yes (please provide details)	
Developed country Parties -	
285. Does your country promote support for the implementation of the objectives of the Convention in the funding policy of its bilateral funding institutions and those of regional and multilateral funding institutions?	
a) no	
b) yes	
Developing country Parties -	
286. Does your country discuss ways and means to support implementation of the objectives of the Convention in its dialogue with funding institutions?	
a) no	
b) yes	X

287. Has your country compiled information on the additional financial support provided by the private sector?	
a) no	X
b) yes (please provide details)	
288. Has your country considered tax exemptions in national taxation systems for biodiversity-related donations?	
a) no	
b) not appropriate to national conditions	
c) exemptions under development	X
d) exemptions in place	

Further comments on implementation of this Article

South Africa has received substantial levels of funding from the Global Environment Facility and other international donors, including bilateral agreements. This has funded projects and programmes relating to biodiversity in government departments, agencies and non-governmental organisations. However, exact figures are difficult to come by as no central register is kept.

Article 21 Financial mechanism

289. What is the relative priority afforded to implementation of this Article and the associated decisions by your country?							
a) High		b) Medium	X	c) Low			
290. To what extent are the resources available adequate for meeting the obligations and recommendations made?							
a) Good		b) Adequate	X	c) Limiting		d) Severely limiting	
Further comments on relative priority and on availability of resources							

291. Has your country worked to strengthen existing financial institutions to provide financial resources for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity?	
a) no	
b) yes	X

Decision III/7. Guidelines for the review of the effectiveness of the financial mechanism

292. Has your country provided information on experiences gained through activities funded by the financial mechanism?	
a) no activities	
b) no, although there are activities	
c) yes, within the previous national report	
d) yes, through case-studies	X
e) yes, through other means (please give details below)	

Further comments on implementation of this Article

292. See the publication: Mainstreaming Biodiversity in Development. Case Studies from South Africa. (2002) Pierce, S. M., Cowling, R. M., Sandwith, T. and MacKinnon, K. (Eds) World Bank Environment Department.
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Article 23 Conference of the Parties

293. How many people from your country participated in each of the meetings of the Conference of the Parties?	
a) COP 1 (Nassau)	3
b) COP 2 (Jakarta)	7
c) COP 3 (Buenos Aires)	3
d) COP 4 (Bratislava)	7
e) COP 5 (Nairobi)	6

**Decision I/6, Decision II/10, Decision III/24 and Decision IV/17.
Finance and budget**

294. Has your country paid all of its contributions to the Trust Fund?	
a) no	
b) yes	X

Decision IV/16 (part) Preparation for meetings of the Conference of the Parties

295. Has your country participated in regional meetings focused on discussing implementation of the Convention before any meetings of the Conference of the Parties?	
a) no	
b) yes (please specify which)	X
If a developed country Party -	
296. Has your country funded regional and sub-regional meetings to prepare for the COP, and facilitated the participation of developing countries in such meetings?	
a) no	X
b) yes (please provide details below)	

Decision V/22. Budget for the programme of work for the biennium 2001-2002

297. Did your country pay its contribution to the core budget (BY Trust Fund) for 2001 by 1 st January 2001?	
a) yes in advance	
b) yes on time	
c) no but subsequently paid	X
d) not yet paid	

298. Has your country made additional voluntary contributions to the trust funds of the Convention?	
a) yes in the 1999-2000 biennium	
b) yes for the 2001-2002 biennium	
c) expect to do so for the 2001-2002 biennium	
d) no	X

Further comments on implementation of this Article

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Article 24 Secretariat

299. Has your country provided direct support to the Secretariat in terms of seconded staff, financial contribution for Secretariat activities, etc?	
a) no	X
b) yes	

Further comments on implementation of this Article

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Article 25 Subsidiary body on scientific, technical and technological advice

300. How many people from your country participated in each of the meetings of SBSTTA?	
a) SBSTTA I (Paris)	1
b) SBSTTA II (Montreal)	2
c) SBSTTA III (Montreal)	2
d) SBSTTA IV (Montreal)	1
e) SBSTTA V (Montreal)	1

Further comments on implementation of this Article

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Article 26 Reports

301. What is the status of your first national report?	
a) Not submitted	
b) Summary report submitted	
c) Interim/draft report submitted	
d) Final report submitted	X
If b), c) or d), was your report submitted:	
by the original deadline of 1.1.98 (Decision III/9)?	
by the extended deadline of 31.12.98 (Decision IV/14)?	X
Later (please specify date)	

Decision IV/14 National reports

302. Did all relevant stakeholders participate in the preparation of this national report, or in the compilation of information used in the report?	
a) no	X
b) yes	
303. Has your country taken steps to ensure that its first and/or second national report(s) is/are available for use by relevant stakeholders?	
a) no	
b) yes	X
If yes, was this by:	
a) informal distribution?	X
b) publishing the report?	
c) making the report available on request?	X
d) posting the report on the Internet?	X

Decision V/19. National reporting

304. Has your country prepared voluntary detailed thematic reports on one or more of the items for in-depth consideration at an ordinary meeting of the parties, following the guidelines provided?	
a) no	X
b) yes - forest ecosystems	
c) yes - alien species	
d) yes - benefit sharing	

Further comments on implementation of this Article

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Decision V/6. Ecosystem approach

305. Is your country applying the ecosystem approach, taking into account the principles and guidance contained in the annex to decision V/6?	
a) no	
b) under consideration	
c) some aspects are being applied	X
d) substantially implemented	
306. Is your country developing practical expressions of the ecosystem approach for national policies and legislation and for implementation activities, with adaptation to local, national, and regional conditions, in particular in the context of activities developed within the thematic areas of the Convention?	
a) no	
b) under consideration	
c) some aspects are being applied	X
d) substantially implemented	
307. Is your country identifying case studies and implementing pilot projects that demonstrate the ecosystem approach, and using workshops and other mechanisms to enhance awareness and share experience?	
a) no	
b) case-studies identified	X
c) pilot projects underway	X
d) workshops planned/held	X
e) information available through CHM	
308. Is your country strengthening capacities for implementation of the ecosystem approach, and providing technical and financial support for capacity-building to implement the ecosystem approach?	
a) no	
b) yes within the country	X
c) yes including support to other Parties	
309. Has your country promoted regional co-operation in applying the ecosystem approach across national borders?	
a) no	
b) informal co-operation	
c) formal co-operation (please give details)	X

Inland water ecosystems

Decision IV/4. Status and trends of the biological diversity of inland water ecosystems and options for conservation and sustainable use

310. Has your country included information on biological diversity in wetlands when providing information and reports to the CSD, and considered including inland water biological diversity issues at meetings to further the recommendations of the CSD?	
a) no	
b) yes	X
311. Has your country included inland water biological diversity considerations in its work with organizations, institutions and conventions affecting or working with inland water?	
a) no	
b) yes	X
If a developing country Party or Party with economy in transition -	
312. When requesting support for projects relating to inland water ecosystems from the GEF, has your country given priority to identifying important areas for conservation, preparing and implementing integrated watershed, catchment and river basin management plans, and investigating processes contributing to biodiversity loss?	
a) no	
b) yes	X
313. Has your country reviewed the programme of work specified in annex 1 to the decision, and identified priorities for national action in implementing the programme?	
a) no	
b) under review	X
c) yes	

**Decision V/2. Progress report on the implementation of the programme of work on the biological diversity of inland water ecosystems
(implementation of decision IV/4)**

314. Is your country supporting and/or participating in the River Basin Initiative?	
a) no	
b) yes	X
315. Is your country gathering information on the status of inland water biological diversity?	
a) no	
b) assessments ongoing	X
c) assessments completed	
316. Is this information available to other Parties?	
a) no	
b) yes - national report	
c) yes - through the CHM	
d) yes - other means (please give details below)	X

317. Has your country developed national and/or sectoral plans for the conservation and sustainable use of inland water ecosystems?	
a) no	
b) yes - national plans only	X
c) yes - national plans and major sectors	
d) yes - national plans and all sectors	
318. Has your country implemented capacity-building measures for developing and implementing these plans?	
a) no	X
b) yes	

Decision III/21. Relationship of the Convention with the CSD and biodiversity-related conventions

319. Is the conservation and sustainable use of wetlands, and of migratory species and their habitats, fully incorporated into your national strategies, plans and programmes for conserving biological diversity?	
a) no	
b) yes	X

Further comments on implementation of these decisions and the associated programme of work

309. Several joint management institutions and plans have been drawn up, for a number of Transfrontier Conservation Areas, which apply the ecosystem approach. (The programme includes removal of fences to open up migratory routes, translocation of large mammals, including elephant, rhinoceros, cheetah and antelope and the establishment of tourism with community involvement.) These are the Kgalagadi Transfrontier Park (South Africa/Botswana - bilateral agreement signed in 1999); the Great Limpopo Transfrontier Park and Resource Area (South Africa/Zimbabwe/Mozambique - joint agreement signed in 2002); the !Ai-!Ais/Richtersveld Transfrontier Conservation Park (South Africa/Namibia - treaty signed in 2003); the Maloti-Drakensberg Transfrontier Park and Development Area (South Africa/Lesotho - bilateral Memorandum of Understanding signed in 2001).

The Cape Action for People and Environment (CAPE), Subtropical Thicket Ecosystem Planning (STEP) and Succulent Karoo Ecosystem Programme are all based on the ecosystem approach.

The Succulent Karoo Ecosystem Programme applied the ecosystem approach across the whole biome, including in Namibia.

314. South Africa is actively participating in the sub-regional programme for southern Africa.

315. River Health Programme; DWAF/CSIR Freshwater Conservation Plan

Coordinated Waterbird Counts monitors all waterbird species on freshwater bodies and estuaries. South Africa is committed to implementing the Convention on Migratory Species and the African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbird Agreement (AEWA).

319. South Africa's National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan will be completed in 2004 and will include considerations on sustainable use of wetlands and of migratory species and their habitats.

Marine and coastal biological diversity

Decision II/10 and Decision IV/5. Conservation and sustainable use of marine and coastal biological diversity

320. Does your national strategy and action plan promote the conservation and sustainable use of marine and coastal biological diversity?	
a) no	
b) yes - limited extent	
c) yes - significant extent	X
321. Has your country established and/or strengthened institutional, administrative and legislative arrangements for the development of integrated management of marine and coastal ecosystems?	
a) no	
b) early stages of development	
c) advanced stages of development	X
d) arrangements in place	
322. Has your country provided the Executive Secretary with advice and information on future options concerning the conservation and sustainable use of marine and coastal biological diversity?	
a) no	X
b) yes	
323. Has your country undertaken and/or exchanged information on demonstration projects as practical examples of integrated marine and coastal area management?	
a) no	X
b) yes - previous national report	
c) yes - case-studies	
d) yes - other means (please give details below)	
324. Has your country programmes in place to enhance and improve knowledge on the genetic structure of local populations of marine species subjected to stock enhancement and/or sea-ranching activities?	
a) no	X
b) programmes are being developed	
c) programmes are being implemented for some species	
d) programmes are being implemented for many species	
e) not a perceived problem	
325. Has your country reviewed the programme of work specified in an annex to the decision, and identified priorities for national action in implementing the programme?	
a) no	X
b) under review	
c) yes	

Decision V/3. Progress report on the implementation of the programme of work on marine and coastal biological diversity (implementation of decision IV/5)

326. Is your country contributing to the implementation of the work plan on coral bleaching?	
a) no	X
b) yes	
c) not relevant	
327. Is your country implementing other measures in response to coral bleaching?	
a) no	X
b) yes (please provide details below)	
c) not relevant	
328. Has your country submitted case-studies on the coral bleaching phenomenon to the Executive Secretary?	
a) no	X
b) yes	
c) not relevant	

Further comments on implementation of these decisions and the associated programme of work

320. South Africa's National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan will be completed in 2004 and will include considerations on conservation and sustainable use of marine and coastal environments.

321. Measures include the Coastal Zone Management Plan and the GloBallast Programme.

Agricultural biological diversity

Decision III/11 and Decision IV/6. Conservation and sustainable use of agricultural biological diversity

329. Has your country identified and assessed relevant ongoing activities and existing instruments at the national level?	
a) no	
b) early stages of review and assessment	X
c) advanced stages of review and assessment	
d) assessment completed	
330. Has your country identified issues and priorities that need to be addressed at the national level?	
a) no	
b) in progress	X
c) yes	
331. Is your country using any methods and indicators to monitor the impacts of agricultural development projects, including the intensification and extensification of production systems, on biological diversity?	
a) no	
b) early stages of development	X
c) advanced stages of development	
d) mechanisms in place	
332. Is your country taking steps to share experiences addressing the conservation and sustainable use of agricultural biological diversity?	
a) no	X
b) yes - case-studies	
c) yes - other mechanisms (please specify)	
333. Has your country conducted case-studies on the issues identified by SBSTTA: i) pollinators, ii) soil biota, and iii) integrated landscape management and farming systems?	
a) no	X
b) yes - pollinators	
c) yes - soil biota	
d) yes - integrated landscape management and farming systems	
334. Is your country establishing or enhancing mechanisms for increasing public awareness and understanding of the importance of the sustainable use of agrobiodiversity components?	
a) no	
b) early stages of development	X
c) advanced stages of development	
d) mechanisms in place	

335. Does your country have national strategies, programmes and plans which ensure the development and successful implementation of policies and actions that lead to sustainable use of agrobiodiversity components?	
a) no	
b) early stages of development	X
c) advanced stages of development	
d) mechanisms in place	
336. Is your country promoting the transformation of unsustainable agricultural practices into sustainable production practices adapted to local biotic and abiotic conditions?	
a) no	
b) yes - limited extent	X
c) yes - significant extent	
337. Is your country promoting the use of farming practices that not only increase productivity, but also arrest degradation as well as reclaim, rehabilitate, restore and enhance biological diversity?	
a) no	
b) yes - limited extent	X
c) yes - significant extent	
338. Is your country promoting mobilization of farming communities for the development, maintenance and use of their knowledge and practices in the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity?	
a) no	
b) yes - limited extent	X
c) yes - significant extent	
339. Is your country helping to implement the Global Plan of Action for the Conservation and Sustainable Utilization of Plant Genetic Resources?	
a) no	
b) yes	X
340. Is your country collaborating with other Contracting Parties to identify and promote sustainable agricultural practices and integrated landscape management?	
a) no	
b) yes	X

Decision V/5. Agricultural biological diversity: review of phase I of the programme of work and adoption of a multi-year work programme

341. Has your country reviewed the programme of work annexed to the decision and identified how you can collaborate in its implementation?	
a) no	X
b) yes	

342. Is your country promoting regional and thematic co-operation within this framework of the programme of work on agricultural biological diversity?	
a) no	
b) some co-operation	X
c) widespread co-operation	
d) full co-operation in all areas	
343. Has your country provided financial support for implementation of the programme of work on agricultural biological diversity?	
a) no	X
b) limited additional funds	
c) significant additional funds	
<i>If a developed country Party -</i>	
344. Has your country provided financial support for implementation of the programme of work on agricultural biological diversity, in particular for capacity building and case-studies, in developing countries and countries with economies in transition?	
a) no	
b) yes within existing cooperation programme(s)	
b) yes, including limited additional funds	
c) yes, with significant additional funds	
345. Has your country supported actions to raise public awareness in support of sustainable farming and food production systems that maintain agricultural biological diversity?	
a) no	
b) yes, to a limited extent	
c) yes, to a significant extent	
346. Is your country co-ordinating its position in both the Convention on Biological Diversity and the International Undertaking on Plant Genetic Resources?	
a) no	
b) taking steps to do so	
c) yes	
347. Is your country a Contracting Party to the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade?	
a) not a signatory	
b) signed - ratification in process	
c) instrument of ratification deposited	
348. Is your country supporting the application of the Executive Secretary for observer status in the Committee on Agriculture of the World Trade Organisation?	
a) no	
b) yes	

349. Is your country collaborating with other Parties on the conservation and sustainable use of pollinators?	
a) no	
b) yes	X
350. Is your country compiling case-studies and implementing pilot projects relevant to the conservation and sustainable use of pollinators?	
a) no	X
b) yes (please provide details)	
351. Has information on scientific assessments relevant to genetic use restriction technologies been supplied to other Contracting Parties through media such as the Clearing-House Mechanism?	
a) not applicable	
b) no	X
c) yes - national report	
d) yes - through the CHM	
e) yes - other means (please give details below)	
352. Has your country considered how to address generic concerns regarding such technologies as genetic use restriction technologies under international and national approaches to the safe and sustainable use of germplasm?	
a) no	
b) yes - under consideration	X
c) yes - measures under development	
353. Has your country carried out scientific assessments on <u>inter alia</u> ecological, social and economic effects of genetic use restriction technologies?	
a) no	
b) some assessments	X
c) major programme of assessments	
354. Has your country disseminated the results of scientific assessments on <u>inter alia</u> ecological, social and economic effects of genetic use restriction technologies?	
a) no	X
b) yes - through the CHM	
c) yes - other means (please give details below)	
355. Has your country identified the ways and means to address the potential impacts of genetic use restriction technologies on the <u>in situ</u> and <u>ex situ</u> conservation and sustainable use, including food security, of agricultural biological diversity?	
a) no	
b) some measures identified	X
c) potential measures under review	
d) comprehensive review completed	

356. Has your country assessed whether there is a need for effective regulations at the national level with respect to genetic use restriction technologies to ensure the safety of human health, the environment, food security and the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity?	
a) no	
b) yes - regulation needed	X
c) yes - regulation not needed (please give more details)	
357. Has your country developed and applied such regulations taking into account, inter alia, the specific nature of variety-specific and trait-specific genetic use restriction technologies?	
a) no	X
b) yes - developed but not yet applied	
c) yes - developed and applied	
358. Has information about these regulations been made available to other Contracting Parties?	
a) no	X
b) yes - through the CHM	
c) yes - other means (please give details below)	

Further comments on implementation of these decisions and the associated programme of work

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Forest biological diversity

Decision II/9 and Decision IV/7. Forest biological diversity

359. Has your country included expertise on forest biodiversity in its delegations to the Intergovernmental Panel on Forests?	
a) no	
b) yes	X
c) not relevant	
360. Has your country reviewed the programme of work annexed to the decision and identified how you can collaborate in its implementation?	
a) no	
b) under review	X
c) yes	
361. Has your country integrated forest biological diversity considerations in its participation and collaboration with organizations, institutions and conventions affecting or working with forest biological diversity?	
a) no	
b) yes - limited extent	X
c) yes - significant extent	
362. Does your country give high priority to allocation of resources to activities that advance the objectives of the Convention in respect of forest biological diversity?	
a) no	
b) yes	X
For developing country Parties and Parties with economies in transition -	
363. When requesting assistance through the GEF, Is your country proposing projects which promote the implementation of the programme of work?	
a) no	X
b) yes	

Decision V/4. Progress report on the implementation of the programme of work for forest biological diversity

364. Do the actions that your country is taking to address the conservation and sustainable use of forest biological diversity conform with the ecosystem approach?	
a) no	
b) yes	X
365. Do the actions that your country is taking to address the conservation and sustainable use of forest biological diversity take into consideration the outcome of the fourth session of the Intergovernmental Forum on Forests?	
a) no	
b) yes	X

366. Will your country contribute to the future work of the UN Forum on Forests?	
a) no	
b) yes	X
367. Has your country provided relevant information on the implementation of this work programme?	
a) no	X
b) yes - submission of case-studies	
c) yes - thematic national report submitted	
d) yes - other means (please give details below)	
368. Has your country integrated national forest programmes into its national biodiversity strategies and action plans applying the ecosystem approach and sustainable forest management?	
a) no	
b) yes - limited extent	X
c) yes - significant extent	
369. Has your country undertaken measures to ensure participation by the forest sector, private sector, indigenous and local communities and non-governmental organisations in the implementation of the programme of work?	
a) no	
b) yes - some stakeholders	X
c) yes - all stakeholders	
370. Has your country taken measures to strengthen national capacities including local capacities, to enhance the effectiveness and functions of forest protected area networks, as well as national and local capacities for implementation of sustainable forest management, including restoration?	
a) no	
b) some programmes covering some needs	X
c) many programmes covering some needs	
d) programmes cover all perceived needs	
e) no perceived need	
371. Has your country taken measures to implement the proposals for action of the Intergovernmental Forum on Forests and the Intergovernmental Panel on Forests on valuation of forest goods and services?	
a) no	
b) under consideration	X
c) measures taken	

Biological diversity of dry and sub-humid lands

Decision V/23. Consideration of options for conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity in dryland, Mediterranean, arid, semi-arid, grassland and savannah ecosystems

372. Has your country reviewed the programme of work annexed to the decision and identified how you will implement it?	
a) no	
b) under review	X
c) yes	
373. Is your country supporting scientifically, technically and financially, at the national and regional levels, the activities identified in the programme of work?	
a) no	
b) to a limited extent	X
c) to a significant extent	
374. Is your country fostering cooperation for the regional or subregional implementation of the programme among countries sharing similar biomes?	
a) no	
b) to a limited extent	X
c) to a significant extent	

Further comments on implementation of these Decisions and the associated programme of work

362. Allocation of resources to achieve the objectives of the Convention receive high priority in terms of budget and staff resources, through research programmes (including the recently completed national forest classification), national forest protected area system planning, operational planning and management of State Forests and protected areas, participatory management initiatives, international certification of forests, and development and implementation of criteria, indicators and standards.

368. Policy, legislation and programmes on natural forests and woodlands were developed in South Africa some time before the development of the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan. The National Forests Act (Act 84 of 1998) notes that forests must be managed so as to conserve biodiversity, ecosystems and habitats, ensure sustainable yields of benefits and promote fair distribution of such benefits. A National Forests Action Programme was developed by the Department of Water Affairs and Forestry in 1998. The NBSAP, to be completed in 2004 will build on this policy.

371. The Department of Water Affairs and Forestry (DWAF), although the national department responsible for forest management, has not to date been notified or involved in the events or inputs regarding the UN Forum on Forests. This has now been noted, and a DWAF official will be assigned as international contact and coordinator regarding this programme of work. Despite the lack of international involvement on the part of DWAF, much of the work programmes of the Chief Directorate: Forestry, coincides with the objectives of the UN Forum on Forests and its work programmes. The planning and management of State Forests, for example, generally conforms with the ecosystem approach.

Decision V/20. Operations of the Convention

375. Does your country take into consideration gender balance, involvement of indigenous people and members of local communities, and the range of relevant disciplines and expertise, when nominating experts for inclusion in the roster?	
a) no	X
b) yes	
376. Has your country actively participated in subregional and regional activities in order to prepare for Convention meetings and enhance implementation of the Convention?	
a) no	
b) to a limited extent	
c) to a significant extent	X
377. Has your country undertaken a review of national programmes and needs related to the implementation of the Convention and, if appropriate, informed the Executive Secretary?	
a) no	X
b) under way	
c) yes	

Please use this box to identify what specific activities your country has carried out as a DIRECT RESULT of becoming a Contracting Party to the Convention, referring back to previous questions as appropriate:

As noted in the introductory boxes, South Africa has undergone profound political and socio-economic changes since 1993, and much of the new policy and legislation, starting with the Constitution, is heavily influenced by sustainable development principles and post-UNCED agreements. The White Paper on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of South Africa's Biological Diversity, the National Environmental Management Biodiversity Bill and Protected Areas Bill all follow closely the requirements of the Convention on Biological Diversity and subscribe to the same principles.

Please use this box to identify joint initiatives with other Parties, referring back to previous questions as appropriate:

Please use this box to provide any further comments on matters related to national implementation of the Convention:

The wording of these questions is based on the Articles of the Convention and the decisions of the Conference of the Parties. Please provide information on any difficulties that you have encountered in interpreting the wording of these questions

If your country has completed its national biodiversity strategy and action plan (NBSAP), please give the following information:

Date of completion:	
If the NBSAP has been adopted by the Government	
By which authority?	
On what date?	
If the NBSAP has been published please give	
Title:	
Name and address of publisher:	
ISBN:	
Price (if applicable):	
Other information on ordering:	
If the NBSAP has not been published	
Please give full details of how copies can be obtained:	
If the NBSAP has been posted on a national website	
Please give full URL:	
If the NBSAP has been lodged with an Implementing Agency of the GEF	
Please indicate which agency:	
Has a copy of the NBSAP been lodged with the Convention Secretariat?	
Yes	No

Please provide similar details if you have completed a Biodiversity Country Study or another report or action plan relevant to the objectives of this Convention

Please provide details of any national body (e.g. national audit office) that has or will review the implementation of the Convention in your country

The National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Bill, to be enacted in 2004, calls for the establishment of the South African National Biodiversity Institute, which is likely to be the key institution to monitor implementation progress.