

GUIDELINES FOR DETAILED THEMATIC REPORTS ON ALIEN SPECIES

The following format for preparation of a thematic report on alien species is a series of relatively simple questions based on those elements of article 8(h) of the Convention, decision IV/1 of the Conference of the Parties and Recommendations IV/4 and V/4 of SBSTTA which are addressed to Contracting Parties. Responses to these questions will help Contracting Parties to review the extent to which they are successfully implementing the provisions of the Convention and will assist the Conference of the Parties to assess the overall status of implementation of the Convention. The wording of questions follows the wording of the Articles and decisions as closely as possible.

The questions are simple in nature in order to facilitate completion of the review. In most cases they require only a tick in one or more boxes.^{1/} Following the questions there is a box for further comments. Contracting Parties are invited to provide a more detailed response to the preceding questions at this point.^{2/} This is an opportunity to identify particular successes or constraints. In particular this box could be used to identify cases where the reporting of no action or of a partial fulfillment of the obligation is the result of inadequate resources or a need for assistance, rather than a decision not to take action on a particular obligation.

The information provided by Contracting Parties will not be used to rank performance or to otherwise compare implementation between individual Contracting Parties.

In order to assist with the review and synthesis of the information in the reports, respondents are asked to ensure that the further information provided in this box is closely related to the preceding questions and is as succinct as possible. There is no set limit on length, but it is anticipated that Parties will be able to provide adequate and useful information in a few pages.

Contracting Parties are also invited to communicate any issues relevant to implementation of these provisions of the Convention that have not been addressed by the questions below. The Executive Secretary would also welcome any comments on the adequacy of the questions, and difficulties in completing the questions, and any further recommendations on how these reporting guidelines could be improved.

It is recommended that Contracting Parties involve a wide range of stakeholders in the preparation of the report, in order to ensure a participatory and transparent approach to its development. A box is provided in which to identify those groups who have been involved.

Contracting Parties are requested to submit their thematic report on alien species in this format to the Executive Secretary by 30 September 2000. Parties are requested to submit an original signed copy by post and an electronic copy on diskette or by electronic mail. An electronic version of this document will be sent to all national focal points and this will also be available from the Convention's website at:

<http://www.biodiv.org>.

^{1/} If you feel that, in order to properly reflect the circumstances, it is necessary to tick more than one box, please do so. In this case, you are encouraged to provide further information in the box at the end of the set of questions.

^{2/} Please feel free to append to the report further information on any of the questions.

Completed national reports and any comments should be sent to:

The Executive Secretary
Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity
World Trade Centre
393 St. Jacques Street West, suite 300
Montreal, Quebec
H2Y 1N9 Canada

Fax: (+1 514) 288 6588
e-mail: secretariat@biodiv.org

Please provide the following details on the origin of this report

Contracting Party	
<i>National Focal Point</i>	
Full name of the institution:	
Name and title of contact officer:	
Mailing address:	
Telephone:	
Fax:	
E-mail:	
<i>Contact officer for national report (if different)</i>	
Name and title of contact officer:	
Mailing address:	
Telephone:	
Fax:	
E-mail:	
<i>Submission</i>	
Signature of officer responsible for submitting national report:	
Date of submission:	

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

Article 8h Alien species

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

3. Has your country identified alien species introduced?	
a) no	
b) only major species of concern	
c) a comprehensive system tracks introductions	
4. Has your country developed national policies for addressing issues related to alien invasive species?	
a) no	
b) yes – as part of a national biodiversity strategy (please give details below)	
c) yes – as a separate strategy (please give details below)	
5. 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	
c) most alien species have been assessed	
6. 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	
c) potential measures under review	
d) comprehensive measures in place	

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

7. 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	

8. Does your national strategy and action plan address the issue of alien species?	
a) no	
b) yes – limited extent	
c) yes – significant extent	

Case-studies

9. Has your country submitted case-studies on the prevention of introduction, control, and eradication of alien species that threaten ecosystems, habitats or species, in response to the call by the fourth meeting of SBSTTA?	
a) no – please indicate below whether this is due to a lack of available case-studies or for other reasons	
b) yes – please give below any views you may have on the usefulness of the preparation of case-studies for developing a better biological understanding of the problem and/or better management responses.	
10. How many case-studies are available that could be used to gain a better understanding of the issues surrounding alien species in your country?	
a) none	
b) 1-2 – limited understanding	
c) >2 – significant information available	

Transboundary issues

11. Are known alien invasive species in your country also a problem in neighbouring or biogeographically-similar countries?	
a) not known	
b) none	
c) a few – but in general alien invasive species problems are specific	
d) more than a few - in general we share common problems with other countries	
12. Is your country collaborating in the development of policies and programmes at regional, sub-regional or international levels to harmonise measures for prevention and control of alien invasive species?	
a) little or no action	
b) discussion on potential collaboration underway	
c) development of collaborative approaches for a limited number of species	
d) consistent approach and strategy used for all common problems	

Further comments

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, occupying most of the page below the 'Further comments' header. It is intended for the user to provide additional remarks or feedback.