CONVENTION ON
BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

Distr.
GENERAL

UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/1/6
17 July 1995

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

SUBSIDIARY BODY ON SCIENTIFIC, TECHNICAL
AND TECHNOLOGICAL ADVICE
First meeting
Paris, 4-8 September 1995
Item 5.5.1 of the provisional agenda

SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL INFORMATION TO BE INCLUDED IN NATIONAL REPORTS

Note by the Secretariat

1. Introduction

1. Article 26 of the Convention on Biological Diversity provides that "Each Contracting Party shall, at intervals to be determined by the Conference of the Parties, present to the Conference of the Parties (COP) reports on measures which it has taken for the implementation of the provisions of this Convention and their effectiveness in meeting the objectives of this Convention".

2. Article 23.4 (a) of the Convention calls upon the COP to "establish the form and the intervals for transmitting the information to be submitted in accordance with Article 26 and consider such information as well as reports submitted by any subsidiary body". Accordingly, at its first meeting held in Nassau, The Bahamas, the COP agreed to consider the form and intervals of national reports at its second meeting (see decision I/9, item 5.8, UNEP/CBD/COP/1/17).

3. In decision I/7 concerning the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA), the COP at its first meeting requested the SBSTTA at its first meeting to consider as a matter of priority "What kind of scientific and technical information should be contained in national reports on measures taken for the implementation of the provisions of the Convention and their effectiveness in meeting the objectives of the Convention".

4. The present note has been prepared by the Secretariat of the Convention to assist the first meeting of the SBSTTA in preparing its recommendations on the type of technical and scientific

/...

United Nations
Environment
Programme

information that needs to be contained in national reports. The note first recalls the options to be considered by the second meeting of the COP on the form and intervals of reporting and their possible implications for the kind of scientific and technical information to be contained in national reports. It then identifies a number of documents that might be helpful in deciding what kind of data could be most usefully included in national reports. Finally, it underscores the importance of the biological diversity data-gathering process and in doing so, discusses methodological issues relevant to national reports. The note's orientation is to put forward basic principles which could guide the SBSTTA in addressing these various issues.

2. Relevance of form and intervals of reporting

5. The scientific and technical information to be contained in national reports will depend to a certain extent on the expected decisions of the second meeting of the COP on the form and intervals of reporting. This means that some of the recommendations of the SBSTTA to the second meeting of the COP may have to be re-evaluated after the requisite form and intervals for reporting have been established.

6. To assist the second meeting of the COP in deciding on the form and intervals of reporting, the SBSTTA may advise, from a technical and scientific perspective, on the advantages and disadvantages of the two following options: (i) focused and subject-oriented reports related to the items identified in the medium-term programme of work of the COP or (ii) reports containing an overall assessment of the measures taken by Parties on the implementation of the Convention. The most appropriate and feasible intervals for reporting will depend on which option the COP chooses to adopt. For example, the comprehensive scope of the Convention means that national reports which concern the implementation of the Convention's provisions in general will require extensive information covering a wide variety of disciplines. Such information could not be realistically provided in a short time frame.

7. The success of the reporting system decided upon by the COP will in large part depend on the national capacity to fulfill reporting obligations. The gathering of scientific and technical information about biological diversity is a complex, costly, and time-consuming process. The human, technical and financial needs will vary according to the socio-economic situation of each Party. Countries that have already undertaken national country studies or prepared national strategies, plans or programmes related to biological diversity may be in a better position to prepare national reports. The possible constraints facing developing country Parties and Parties with economies in transition may warrant the development of a simplified form of reporting which could be used by all Parties, regardless of socio-economic levels of development. In addition, the SBSTTA may wish to reflect on the technical and financial assistance to be provided to assist developing country Parties and Parties with economies in transition in the preparation of their national reports. The development of capacity building at an early stage of the preparation of national reports also needs to be addressed, as well as the financial implications of such activities on the Budget of the Convention for 1996 and 1997.

3. Possible technical and scientific content of national reports

8. In order to determine what kind of scientific and technical information should be included in national reports, the SBSTTA may find it useful to consult the articles of the Convention that relate most directly to scientific and technical matters. A possible list of areas of activities under the Convention for which scientific and technical information may be required is contained in Annex I. This list was prepared on the basis of: (i) the measures identified by experts from Panel I, established by UNEP in 1992, on priorities for action for the conservation and sustainable use of biological

diversity (UNEP/Bio.Div./Panels/Inf.1) and (ii) the Agenda for scientific and technological research recommended by the Open-ended Intergovernmental Meeting of Scientific Experts on Biological Diversity held in Mexico City, from 11 to 15 April 1995 (UNEP/CBD/COP/1/16). It may be important to note that unless otherwise indicated by Parties, all the scientific and technical information provided by Parties is assumed to be public.

9. In considering the kind of scientific and technical information to be included in national reports, the first meeting of the SBSTTA may also wish to draw upon the following documents adopted by intergovernmental meetings convened during the preparatory process of the first meeting of the COP:

(a) the reports of the Intergovernmental Committee on the Convention on Biological Diversity on the work of its first and second session (UNEP/CBD/COP/1/3 and UNEP/CBD/COP/1/4);

(b) the report of the Open-ended Intergovernmental Meeting of Scientific Experts on Biological Diversity, including the agenda for scientific and technological research (UNEP/CBD/COP/1/16);

(c) the reports of the four Experts Panels established by UNEP to follow-up on the Convention on Biological Diversity and in particular:

- Panel I: Priorities for action for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity and agenda for scientific and technical research (UNEP/Bio.Div/Panels/Inf.1);

- Panel II: Evaluation of potential economic implications of conservation of biological diversity and its sustainable use and evaluation of biological and genetic resources (UNEP/Bio.Div/Panels/Inf.2);

- Panel III: Technology transfer and financial issues: Issues and options from Panel III (UNEP/Bio.Div/Panels/Inf.3).

10. As noted in paragraph 6 above, the data of relevance to the Convention is potentially vast. Some data, however, may be more valuable than others. In order to make the reporting procedures manageable, certain areas or types of information may therefore be prioritized from a scientific perspective. The UNEP Guidelines for Country Studies for Biological Diversity (hereinafter "UNEP Guidelines", UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/Inf.3) identified a range of measures required by the Convention for which data are necessary. The SBSTTA may wish to refer to the following rather comprehensive list in considering what types of scientific and technical information could be focussed on initially:

- biological surveying and monitoring;
- biodiversity research and evaluation;
- data management and analysis;
- monitoring and assessment;
- education and training;
- public awareness and participation;
- *in situ* management;
- restoration and rehabilitation;
- *ex situ* conservation measures;
- capacity building of institutions;

- networking and information exchange;
- environment impact assessment;
- policy coordination and development;
- assessing economic benefits;
- estimating conservation costs;
- institutional collaboration; legal instruments;
- technology transfer;
- socio-economic studies and surveys.

11. With respect to prioritizing information, the SBSTTA might, for example, recommend to the COP that the first report of Parties could concentrate on presenting the measures taken for the implementation of Article 6 of the Convention. Article 6 would be particularly relevant to a first national report because it covers national plans and programmes for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity and, as such, forms the basis for the implementation of the Convention.

12. Prioritizing types of information requires data gathering priorities which generate the relevant information. Among the twenty guiding principles recommended by the UNEP Guidelines, the following are directly relevant for biological data gathering and may therefore be useful to the SBSTTA in discussing data gathering:

(a) The first iteration should aim at including only those data that can be readily compiled from existing in-country and external sources;

(b) Data gathering is a tool for decision-making and not an end in itself. The agenda for data acquisition must be constituent-driven and issue-based;

(c) Data-gathering must focus on the interaction of social factors, economic sectors and biological systems;

(d) Data on processes or activities that are likely to have an adverse impact on biological diversity must be compiled;

(e) The process of gathering and managing the data must contribute to building capacity for national biodiversity planning;

(f) Priorities aimed at filling gaps in data coverage must be based on the needs of senior decision-makers to improve their management of biological diversity;

(g) Biodiversity data gathering must not be confined to national parks and protected areas but must cover the whole landscape; data on protected areas should seek to emphasize their relationship with other components of the landscape;

(h) Data gathering should include an assessment of the current capacity of the country to conserve, study and sustainably use its biological diversity.

13. The following list of priorities, also suggested by the UNEP Guidelines, could serve as a starting point for the SBSTTA in formulating its advice to the COP on data gathering priorities:

(a) data that will provide a practical baseline for monitoring the effectiveness of action;

(b) data identified by biodiversity managers as being important for decision-making;

(c) species of actual or potential economic value;

(d) plant and animal genetic resources, including medicinal plants, land races and wild ancestors of domestic breeds and cultivars;

(e) species that could serve as indicators of ecosystem health, particularly predators at the top of the food-chain or invasive colonizing species that may indicate ecosystem disturbance;

(f) "flagship" species, the conservation of which will also protect the diversity of other species and habitats;

(g) alien or exotic species, the spread of which could threaten indigenous biological diversity;

(h) threatened species at the national and regional level;

(i) species already protected within conservation areas;

(g) data on threats to species and habitats;

(k) time-interval data on rates of loss or endangerment of species and habitats;

(l) geographical information, particularly data that can be mapped on species and habitat distributions;

(m) data on biodiversity function and benefits, particularly the service functions of ecosystems and protected areas;

(n) data on species and sites of special significance for the conservation of biological diversity outside existing protected areas;

(o) status and distribution of protected areas, including the species and habitats they contain;

(p) data on the socio-economic values of protected areas;

(q) policy, conservation programmes, legislative and institution-related information.

14. In view of the heavy demand on Governments for the submission of reports and information in the field of environment, the SBSTTA may consider how the scientific and technical information to be provided by Parties under Article 26 of the Convention can be used for other reporting purposes such as the report of Member States to the Commission on Sustainable Development on the implementation of Chapter 15 on Biological Diversity of Agenda 21. In addition, the SBSTTA may also wish to examine how to avoid duplication of efforts and overlapping scientific and technical information with the reporting requirements of other biological diversity- related conventions and legal instruments.

4. The need for agreed methodologies for data gathering

15. Up-to-date quantitative data underpin most activities related to the implementation of the

Convention. The development of an agreed methodology for gathering data on the conservation, sustainable use of biological diversity and the fair and equitable sharing of its benefits will assist both the Parties in preparing their national reports and the COP in considering these reports. Such an agreed methodology for data gathering will also help the SBSTTA in making best use of the available scientific and technical information to fulfill its mandate. Therefore, in addition to determining the substantive areas that will require scientific and technical inputs into the national reports, the SBSTTA may wish to advise the Conference of the Parties on what needs to be done to develop an agreed methodology for data gathering and presentation.

16. In addressing these methodological issues, the SBSTTA may wish to refer to the methodology for data gathering suggested in the UNEP Guidelines. The SBSTTA may also wish to draw upon the illustrative table of contents of a National Biodiversity Action Plan Report contained in *National Biodiversity Planning. Guidelines based on early country experience around the world* prepared in 1995 by the World Resources Institute in collaboration with UNEP and IUCN (see Annex II). Focusing on its implications for scientific and technical input, this document may help the SBSTTA draw up suggestions for the presentation of national reports. A standard format would greatly facilitate consideration of national reports by the COP and the SBSTTA.

17. Comparability will also be enhanced by the identification and documentation of the sources of information on the status and trends in biological diversity. The SBSTTA may wish to consider advising the COP that the information contained in national reports should note:

(a) the source;

(b) the method of collection;

(c) the date of collection;

(d) the quality/reliability of the data;

(e) the scale of collection (for mapped data).

18. Finally, the reliability of data will be critical to the value of the information contained in national reports. The SBSTTA may therefore wish to consider the desirability of recommending a reliability classification system to the COP. The UNEP Guidelines suggest a simple four-category reliability classification which could form the basis for the consideration of this issue. The categories defined include:

- Category A: high reliability -- data derived from systematic scientific survey or sampling;

- Category B: medium reliability -- data derived from extrapolation, approximation or other imprecise methods;

- Category C: low reliability -- anecdotal data or "guesstimates";

- Category D: unknown reliability -- derivation of unknown data.

5. The national preparatory process

19. The effective preparation of national reports implies an open, participatory process involving all relevant actors, including industry, non-governmental organizations and indigenous communities. The gathering of scientific and technical information to be contained in national reports would also benefit from an open, participatory approach. Accordingly, the scientific community as a whole, including the non-governmental sector and holders of traditional knowledge, would need to be adequately represented in whatever national institutional mechanism is established by Parties for the preparation of national reports. In addition, scientific and technical information will need to be reviewed, assessed and updated on a regular basis in the light of changing circumstances and processes.

20. The comprehensive scope of the Convention requires a multi-sectoral and multi-disciplinary approach to the preparation of national reports and the gathering of scientific and technical information. In this regard, the SBSTTA may wish to refer to the disciplines required for the implementation of the provisions of the Convention as identified by the Open-ended Intergovernmental Meeting of Scientific Experts on Biological Diversity (see document UNEP/CBD/COP/1/16, Annexes II to IX).

6. Conclusion

21. The COP will consider the form for reports and intervals for reporting at its second meeting in November 1995. In preparation for that meeting, the COP requested the SBSTTA to provide advice on the kind of scientific and technical information that should be contained in national reports. This note raises some of the critical considerations surrounding the question of what scientific and technical information should be contained in national reports. More specifically, the note highlights the issues that the SBSTTA should consider in drawing up its recommendations for the COP on the desirable scientific and technical content of national reports. These issues fall into four principal categories: form and interval, scientific and technical content, data gathering and reporting methodologies, and the process of preparing national reports.

6.1 Form and interval

22. The SBSTTA may first wish to consider and advise the COP on how the decision on the form and intervals for reports potentially affects the quality and quantity of information that can be realistically provided. In addition, the SBSTTA may wish to consider informing the COP in general terms about the process of gathering and presenting scientific and technical data in order to lend an appreciation of its implications for human and financial resources. Any decision on form and intervals for reports must take into account the need for adequate capacity to follow-through.

6.2 Scientific and technical content

23. The scientific and technical information of relevance to the Convention is potentially vast. Prioritizing the types of information and hence data gathering needs will therefore be critical. It is difficult to provide conclusive advice on the kinds of scientific and technical information that should be contained in national reports prior to a COP decision on the forms those reports will take and the time available between reports. Using relevant work and documents, the note attempts to provide the necessary background for SBSTTA to begin formulating its advice on the types of scientific and technical information that should be in national reports.

6.3 Data gathering and reporting methodologies

24. Article 25, paragraph 2(b) of the Convention calls upon SBSTTA to prepare scientific and

technical assessments of the effects of the types of measures taken in accordance with the provisions of the Convention. Any assessment of the effectiveness of types of measures in general will require the ability to compare experiences. Improving implementation of the Convention will therefore depend upon an agreed methodology for data gathering and presentation. This note highlights the issues and principles which may guide the SBSTTA's discussion of possible methodologies for data gathering and reporting.

6.4 The national preparatory process

25. Finally, the SBSTTA may wish to note that the scientific and technical content desirable in national reports is multi-disciplinary. The implications of such a conclusion in the process of preparing national reports must also be multi-disciplinary and cross-sectoral. The most effective means of achieving a meaningful national report will benefit from a participatory process open to all relevant actors.

ANNEX I

LIST OF POSSIBLE TECHNICAL AND SCIENTIFIC INFORMATION TO BE CONTAINED IN NATIONAL REPORTS

Provisions of the Convention	Possible technical and scientific information to be contained in national reports
Article 6 (a) Develop national strategies plans or programmes for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity or adapt for this purpose existing strategies, plans or programmes which shall reflect, *inter alia*, the measures set out in this Convention relevant to the Contracting Party concerned.	(a) adequacy and gaps of strategies, plans and programmes and policies existing before the ratification of the Convention; (b) summary of national strategies, plans or programmes adopted after the ratification of the Convention; (c) activities of the institutional mechanisms established or designated for the implementation of the strategy (ies), plans and programmes at the national and local level and promote the strategy (ies) throughout all constituencies to foster cooperation and commitment to its or their implementation; (d) presentation of the review mechanism for the strategy (ies), plans and programmes at the policy level including monitoring and reporting on implementation of the strategy (ies), plans and programmes.
Article 6 (b) Integrate, as far as possible and as appropriate, the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity into relevant sectoral or cross-sectoral plans, programmes and policies.	(a) review of sectoral or cross-sectoral plans, programmes and policies to determine the extent to which conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity are incorporated; (b) identification of gaps and measures taken to address them through additional or revised instruments at the national and regional level; (c) presentation of the incentives taken for key sectors to promote the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity; (d) measures taken to strengthen or establish institutional mechanisms and build capacity in relevant sectors for the integration of the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity in sectoral policies and programmes.

Provisions of the Convention	Possible technical and scientific information to be contained in national reports
Article 7 (a) Identify components of biological diversity important for its conservation and sustainable use having regard to the indicative list of categories set down in Annex I;	(a) all relevant available data on components of biological diversity; (b) review of all available information and data on components of biological diversity with due regard to Annex I and having a particular emphasis on those requiring urgent conservation, which are inadequately understood, or of potential economic, ecological and social importance; (c) initial list of components of biological diversity important for its conservation and sustainable use; (d) identification of gaps in knowledge; (e) priority setting for further surveying and inventory work to be undertaken; (f) techniques and procedures to be employed in further work, including rapid biodiversity assessment; (g) manpower needs and funds necessary for monitoring and inventories.
Article 7 (b) Monitor, through sampling and other techniques, the components of biological diversity identified pursuant to subparagraph (a) above, paying particular attention to those requiring urgent conservation measures and those which offer the greatest potential for such use;	(a) existing monitoring activities with regard to their relevance to components of biological diversity important for its conservation; (b) monitoring requirements and priorities from the local to the national level; (c) criteria used in the selection of monitoring sites; (d) standardized monitoring methods and techniques; (e) integration of the monitoring process in relevant sectors; (f) activities of the reporting mechanism selected or established to provide the results of monitoring activities.

Provisions of the Convention	Possible technical and scientific information to be contained in national reports
Article 7 (c) Identify processes and categories of activities which have or are likely to have significant adverse impacts on the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, and monitor their effects through sampling and other techniques;	(a) all available information and data on threats to biological diversity and identification of those processes and categories of activities which have or are likely to have a significant adverse effect on the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity; (b) processes and categories of activities which require further investigation; (c) methodologies for future identification and monitoring; (d) activities of the reporting mechanism which can also act as an early warning network selected or established on the status of significant threats to biological diversity.
Article 7 (d) Maintain and organize, by any mechanism data derived from identification and monitoring activities...;	(a) adequacy of existing mechanisms for the maintenance and integration of data on identification and monitoring; (b) directories of natural resource and environmental spatial datasets; (c) compatibility of existing data and activities of the established integrated network; (d) means to improve access to and active dissemination of data sets; (e) activities of the mechanisms for exchange and integration of data at the international level.

Provisions of the Convention	Possible technical and scientific information to be contained in national reports
Article 8 (a) Establish a system of protected areas or areas where special measures need to be taken to conserve biological diversity; **(b)** Develop, where necessary, guidelines for the selection, establishment and management of protected areas or areas where special measures need to be taken to conserve biological diversity;	(a) existing protected areas systems; (b) elements of biological diversity which are not adequately represented; (c) deficiencies and gaps in the existing protected areas system, with particular emphasis to threatened components of biological diversity; (d) research to improve knowledge of appropriate configuration and design of protected areas; (e) public involvement, including local and indigenous people in the planning and management of protected areas; (f) national guidelines and policies for the selection, establishment, and management of protected areas;
Article 8 (c) Regulate or manage biological resources important for the conservation of biological diversity whether within or outside protected areas, with a view to ensuring their conservation and sustainable use;	(a) scientific research to address the management of the resources; (b) management plans involving local communities; (c) natural or synthetic substitutes for products resulting from sustainable use; (d) policy or legislative measures for the regulation and management of biological resources;
Article 8 (d) Promote the protection of ecosystems, natural habitats and the maintenance of viable populations of species in natural surroundings;	measures taken in this regard on both public and private land;

Provisions of the Convention	Possible technical and scientific information to be contained in national reports
Article 8 (e) Promote environmentally sound and sustainable development in areas adjacent to protected areas with a view to furthering protection of these areas;	(a) the sociological and ecological relationship between protected areas and their adjacent areas; (b) demand and use of the resource base in adjacent areas; (c) potential economic activities sympathetic to furthering the protection of protected areas and incentives offered to promote such activities; (d) information and education campaigns to promote the sound use of areas adjacent to protected areas;
Article 8 (f) Rehabilitate and restore degraded ecosystems and promote the recovery of threatened species, *inter alia*, through the development and implementation of plans or other management strategies;	(a) conservation status of degraded areas and threatened species; (b) causes of degradation and threats including human-induced direct threats; (c) action plans and strategies for rehabilitation and management of areas and recovery and threat abatement plans for threatened species; (d) legislative measures; (e) incentive measures;
Article 8 (g) Establish or maintain means to regulate, manage or control the risks associated with the use and release of living modified organisms resulting from biotechnology which are likely to have adverse environmental impacts that could affect the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, taking also into account the risks to human health;	(a) existing regulatory mechanisms for use and release of organisms in general; (b) gaps in the regulation and control of use and release of living modified organisms (LMO's) ; (c) institutional capabilities and regulatory mechanisms for dealing with risks associated with the release of living modified organisms; (d) risk assessment procedures and monitoring of releases of LMO's; (e) procedures for advanced informed agreement before transfer of and release of living modified organisms;

Provisions of the Convention	Possible technical and scientific information to be contained in national reports
Article 8 (h) Prevent the introduction of, control or eradicate those alien species which threaten ecosystems, habitats or species;	(a) list of alien species which threaten biological diversity; (b) research on the effects alien species have on ecosystems, species and population; (c) legislation, regulations or control of alien species which threaten ecosystems, habitats, species and population; (d) species-specific control plans and biologically sound eradication systems; (e) systems of control of alien species across borders;
Article 8 (j) Subject to its national legislation, respect, preserve and maintain knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities embodying traditional lifestyles relevant for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity and promote their wider applications with the approval and involvement of holders of such knowledge, innovations and practices and encourage the equitable sharing of benefits arising from utilization of such knowledge, innovations and practices;	**Information regarding this article may be provided in relation with article 10(c) and 10 (d)** (a) respect, preserve and maintain the knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities embodying traditional lifestyles relevant to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity; (b) promote the wider application of traditional knowledge, innovations and practices with the approval and involvement of their holders; and (c) encourage the equitable sharing of benefits arising from the use of traditional knowledge, innovations and practices;
Article 8 (k) Develop or maintain necessary legislation and/or other regulatory provisions for the protection of threatened species and population;	(a) gaps in existing legislation; (b) measures taken to address these gaps;

Provisions of the Convention	Possible technical and scientific information to be contained in national reports
Article 8 (l) Where a significant adverse effect on biological diversity has been determined pursuant to Article 7, regulate or manage the relevant processes and categories of activities;	(a) actions taken to regulate and manage relevant processes and categories of activities identified, pursuant to article 7, as having a significant adverse effect on biological diversity; (b) institutional arrangements and instruments to regulate and manage threatening processes and activities;
Article 8 (m) Cooperate in providing financial and other support for *in-situ* conservation outlined in subparagraph (a) to (l) above, particularly to developing countries.	Information related to the implementation of this article may be incorporated under the implementation of Article 20 on financial resources.
Article 9 (a) Adopt measures for the *ex-situ* conservation of components of biological diversity, preferably in the country of origin of such components; **(b)** Establish and maintain facilities for *ex-situ* conservation of and research on plants, animals and micro-organisms, preferably in the country of origin of genetic resources;	(a) existing measures, facilities and equipments for *ex situ* conservation ; (b) priorities for *ex situ* conservation and research; (c) policies, means and facility needed to optimize conservation of biological diversity at the national and regional level; (e) standards used in comparison with accepted standards; (f) activities of established or designated national *ex situ* networks to facilitate cooperative relationships; (g) measures taken to strengthen capacity and the role of *ex situ* facilities in conservation activities and research, with a view to complementing *in situ* conservation; in addition to methodologies and techniques for recovery, rehabilitation and reintroduction; (h) measures taken to integrate national, regional and global priorities into national action;

Provisions of the Convention	Possible technical and scientific information to be contained in national reports
Article 9 (c) Adopt measures for the recovery and rehabilitation of threatened species and for their re-introduction into their natural habitats under appropriate conditions;	(a) measures taken for *ex-situ* conservation of threatened species and populations as an integrated part of overall programmes to ensure their *in situ* conservation; (b) measures taken for the reintroduction of threatened species into their natural habitats ; (c) research to develop methodologies and techniques for recovery, rehabilitation and reintroduction; (d) strategies for recovery, rehabilitation and reintroduction; (e) legislative measures to regulate and manage the collection of biological diversity;
Article 9 (d) Regulate and manage collection of biological resources from natural habitats for *ex-situ* conservation purposes so as not to threaten ecosystems and *in-situ* populations of species, except where special temporary *ex-situ* measures are required under subparagraph (c) above;	(a) review collection activities and the effectiveness of existing regulatory and management arrangements; (b) measures taken to address gaps identified in the effectiveness of existing regulatory and management arrangements;
Article 9 (e) Cooperate in providing financial and other support for *ex-situ* conservation outlined in subparagraphs (a) to (d) above and in the establishment and maintenance of *ex-situ* conservation facilities in developing countries;	Information related to the implementation of this article may be incorporated under the implementation of article 20 on financial resources.

Provisions of the Convention	Possible technical and scientific information to be contained in national reports
Article 10 (a) Integrate consideration of the conservation and sustainable use of biological resources into national decision making;	(a) the manner in which consideration of the conservation and sustainable use of biological resources has been integrated into national strategies, action plans and programmes developed under article 6; (b) the manner in which the consideration of the conservation and sustainable use of biological resources has been integrated in sectoral and cross-sectoral policies, plans and programmes; (c) national accounting methods that promote conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity;
Article 10 (b) Adopt measures relating to the use of biological resources to avoid minimize adverse impacts on biological diversity;	The following information may also be included under article 10 (e) (a) research and monitoring of the impacts on biological diversity resulting from resource utilization; (b) appropriateness of current policies and management strategies and techniques; (c) practical guidelines for the sustainable use of biological resources; (d) evaluation of costs and benefits of resource use; (e) environmental impact assessment procedures which take into account the potential impacts on biological diversity.

Provisions of the Convention	Possible technical and scientific information to be contained in national reports
Article 10 (c) Protect and encourage customary use of biological resources in accordance with traditional cultural practices that are compatible with conservation or sustainable use requirements;	In addition to the information related to the implementation of article 8 (j), the information regarding the implementation of article 10 (c) may include: (a) survey of the knowledge and relevant innovations and practices of indigenous people and local communities relevant for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity; (b) potential value of traditional knowledge and relevant innovations and practices for conservation and management purposes; (c) integration of traditional knowledge into national and sectoral plans and policies; (e) elimination of "perverse" incentives which encourage the over-exploitation of resources and the displacement of communities and traditional practices; (f) creation of a system of incentives which encourages traditional practices and innovations as well as their use; (g) ethno-biological research programmes; (h) raising public awareness on the value of traditional knowledge, innovations and practices;
Article 10 (d) Support local populations to develop and implement remedial action in degraded areas where biological diversity has been reduced;	Information related to the implementation of this article may be incorporated in the section of the report pertaining to the implementation of article 8 (j);
Article 10 (e) Encourage cooperation between its governmental authorities and its private sector in developing methods for sustainable use of biological resources.	See 10 (b).

Provisions of the Convention	Possible technical and scientific information to be contained in national reports
Article 11 Each Contracting Party shall, as far as possible and as appropriate, adopt economically and socially sound measures that act as incentives for the conservation and sustainable use of components of biological diversity;	(a) impact of existing incentives and disincentive measures on the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity; (b) modification to existing disincentive measures; (c) new incentive measures adopted since the ratification of the Convention; (d) processes for the monitoring and evaluation of the impact of incentive measures on biological diversity.
Article 12 (a) Establish and maintain programmes for scientific and technical education and training in measures for the identification, conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity and its components and provide support for such education and training for the specific needs of developing countries;	(a) institutions responsible for scientific and technical education and training related to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity; (b) education and training programmes pertaining to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity; (c) activities of the institution responsible for the coordination of training and education; (d) programmes for taxonomic education; (e) programmes for the sustainable use of biological diversity; (f) areas that require the strengthening of training and education programmes; (g) measures taken to encourage participatory learning and training;

Provisions of the Convention	Possible technical and scientific information to be contained in national reports
Article 12 (b) Promote and encourage research which contributes to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, particularly in developing countries, *inter alia*, in accordance with decisions of the Conference of the Parties taken in consequence of recommendations of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice;	(a) research undertaken to contribute to the goals and objectives of the Convention; (b) research undertaken pursuant to the decisions of the Conference of the Parties and its subsidiary bodies; (c) identification of needs and requirements;
Article 12 (c) In keeping with the provisions of Articles 16, 18 and 20, promote and cooperate in the use of scientific advances in biological diversity research in developing methods for conservation and sustainable use of biological resources.	Information related to the implementation of this article may be incorporated under the implementation of article 18 on technical and scientific cooperation.
Article 13 (a) Promote and encourage understanding of the importance of, and the measures required for, the conservation of biological diversity... and the inclusion of these topics in educational programmes; educational programmes.	(a) evaluation of existing formal public education and awareness programmes; (b) evaluation of existing informal public education ; (c) gaps of existing formal and informal educational programmes in conveying the goals and objectives of the Convention; (d) participatory methodologies to improve public awareness on biological diversity; (e) identification of the needs and requirements;
Article 13 (b) Cooperate, as appropriate, with other States and international organizations in developing educational and public awareness programmes, with respect to conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity	information on activities undertaken in cooperation with other States and international organizations.

Provisions of the Convention	Possible technical and scientific information to be contained in national reports
Article 14 **Impact assessment and minimizing adverse impacts**	(a) existing environmental impact assessment procedures with regard to biological diversity; (b) notification procedures; (c) projects that are likely to have an adverse effect on biological diversity; (d) guidelines adopted for the evaluation of the impact assessment to cover the full range of biological diversity; (e) activities of the mechanism (s) responsible for conducting environmental impact assessment related to the implementation of the Convention; (f) national emergency response systems for major threats to biological diversity, including early warning systems; (g) cooperation at the regional , sub-regional and international levels.
Article 15 **Access to genetic resources**	(a) conditions created to facilitate access to genetic resources for environmentally sound uses ; (b) measures taken to eliminate restrictions that run counter to the objectives of the Convention; (c) cooperation with other Parties; (d) legislative, administrative or policy measures taken on the implementation of article 15, paragraph 7.

Provisions of the Convention	Possible technical and scientific information to be contained in national reports
Article 16 **Access to and transfer of technology**	National reports may also include details of activities carried out pursuant to the provisions of article 16 on access to and transfer of technology, and in particular: (a) measures taken to facilitate access to and transfer of technology; (b) measures taken so as to enable the private sector to facilitate access to joint development and transfer of technology; (c) list of technology accessed to or transferred in relation to the Convention; (d) relationship with the clearing-house mechanism for technical and scientific cooperation to be established under the Convention in accordance with article 18, paragraph 3.
Article 17 **Exchange of information**	Information to be contained in national reports regarding the exchange of information under article 17 of the Convention may include details of the activities undertaken under the Convention to promote or benefit from the exchange of information related to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity. Activities carried out in relation to the clearing-house mechanism for technical and scientific cooperation may also be indicated.
Article 18 **Technical and scientific cooperation**	(a) activities of national institutions in charge of technical and scientific cooperation under the Convention; (b) areas of research and technology requirements where cooperation is needed; (c) implementation of plans for institutional capacity building; (d) relationship with national or international institutions outside national jurisdiction.

Provisions of the Convention	Possible technical and scientific information to be contained in national reports
Article 19 **Handling of biotechnology and distribution of its benefits**	In addition to the information related to the implementation of article 8(g), the information regarding the implementation of article 19 may include : (a) legislative, administrative or policy measures taken to provide for the participation in biotechnological research activities by those Contracting Parties which provide genetic resources; (b) measures to promote access by Contracting Parties to the results and benefits arising from biotechnologies based upon genetic resources provided by those Contracting Parties; (c) information related to the implementation of article 18, paragraph 4.
Article 20 **Financial resources**	In addition to the information related to the implementation of articles 8 (j) and 9 (e), the information regarding the implementation of article 20 may include: (a) national resources allocated to the activities undertaken under the Convention; (b) additional financial resources required for the implementation of the commitments arising from the Convention; (c) measures taken or action provided for under the Convention at the bilateral and multilateral level as well as measures taken under the financial mechanism established pursuant to article 21.

ANNEX II

FORMAT OF NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY ACTION PLAN REPORT SUGGESTED BY THE WORLD RESOURCES INSTITUTE

(a) **Executive summary**: A brief summary of the action plan report, stating succinctly the importance of biodiversity, the commitment to the Convention, the mandate, the participants list, the biotic wealth and national capacity, the goals and gaps, strategic recommendations and characteristics of the action (who will do what, when, where, with what means and funding).

(b) **Introduction**: describe why biodiversity is important to the country and its local communities. Explain the Convention and the nation's commitment to its provisions. Present the aim of the national biodiversity action plan and specify to whom it is directed.

(c) **Background**: describe the legal and policy framework that provides the mandate and instructions for preparing the action plan report. Provide a short summary of the nation's biotic assets, capacity (human resources, institutions, facilities, and funding) and ongoing programmes. Explain the institutional arrangements and responsibilities with a view to informing people of the manner in which the strategic recommendations will be implemented.

(d) **Goals and objectives**: state the vision for biodiversity and its place in the society, focusing on its protection, scientific understanding, sustainable use, and on the equitable sharing of its benefits and costs. The specific targets to meet the local, national, and international goals in terms of protecting, assessing, utilizing, and benefiting from biodiversity and its components need to be determined.

(e) **Strategy**: summarize the gaps between the current situation in the country and the stated vision, goals and objectives. Summarize the strategic recommendations, including the activities, policies, and tasks that have been selected for implementation to cover the gaps. Assign relative priorities to each.

(f) **Partners**: describe the public and private entities, communities and industries that have participated in the process and have agreed to be responsible for particular activities and investments.

(g) **Action**: present the detailed activities, tasks and policies to be implemented. Explain which partner (ministry, industry, indigenous group, NGO, or university) will implement each item, where, and what measures the partners will employ.

(h) **Schedule**: present a timetable for the implementation of the various tasks, reflecting the priorities that have been assigned. Note signposts to help signal progress or delay.

(i) **Budget**: provide the budget for the plan of action, showing funding requirements for operating expenses, capital purchases, transport, field costs, etc. List the personnel needed by category of skill or background, the facilities and services required, and possible international technical and financial cooperation.

(j) **Monitoring and evaluation**: explain the measures to be used for tracking the results of the action plan and for monitoring changes in the economy, environment and society. Give the indicators that will be used. Present the individuals and organizations who will carry these responsibilities and how they were selected. Note the audience for the reports, along with the document's content and timing of implementation.