



NOTIFICATION

Peer-review of a document entitled: “Invasive Alien Species: the ecological and socio-economic impact of invasive alien species on island ecosystems”

In paragraph 24 of its decision VI/23⁺ on Alien Species that Threaten Ecosystems, Habitats or Species, the Conference of the Parties (COP) urged Parties, Governments and relevant organizations to promote and carry out research and assessments on *inter alia*, the impact of invasive alien species on biological diversity and the socio-economic implications of invasive alien species particularly the implications for indigenous and local communities. This should be done recognizing that invasive alien species represent one of the primary threats to biodiversity, especially in geographically and evolutionary isolated ecosystems, such as small island developing States (paragraph 1 of the same decision).

In response to this decision, the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) commissioned the Global Invasive Species Programme (GISP) to assess the ecological and socio-economic impacts of invasive alien species on island ecosystems. GISP organized an expert consultation, held in Honolulu, Hawaii from 18 to 19 October 2002, and prepared a report of this consultation. This activity was carried out in the context of a pilot assessment in response to SBSTTA recommendation VII/2 on the evaluation of the impacts of invasive alien species.

I have the pleasure to invite you to take part in the peer review of the document “Invasive Alien Species: the ecological and socio-economic impact of invasive alien species on island ecosystems”, which will be submitted to the ninth meeting of SBSTTA, to be held in Montreal, Canada, from 10 to 14 November 2003. The purpose of this peer review is to get your comments on the overall balance and soundness of the scientific, technical and socio-economic aspects as well as the identification of specific gaps in the document.

I kindly request that your comments be received by the Secretariat no later than **15 September 2003**.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Yours sincerely,

Hamdallah Zedan
Executive Secretary

¹ One representative entered a formal objection during the process leading to the adoption of this decision and underlined that he did not believe that the Conference of the Parties could legitimately adopt a motion or a text with a formal objection in place. A few representatives expressed reservations regarding the procedure leading to the adoption of this decision (see UNEP/CBD/COP/2/20, paras. 294-324).

To: Participants of the Liaison Group Meeting on Alien Invasive Species, Cape Town, South Africa, 17 September 2000; SBSTTA Bureau Members



Annex

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