


Please provide to following details on the origin of this report

Contracting Party	Israel
<i>National Focal Point</i>	
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<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

Information from different stakeholders was compiled during the process of preparing this report. They included experts from the Ministry of the Environment, Nature and National Parks Protection Authority, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Health and the Jewish National Fund. Interviews were conducted with members of these organizations and supplementary material was examined.

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	X	c) Low			
2. 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	

3. Has your country identified alien species introduced?	
a) no	
b) only major species of concern	X
c) a comprehensive system tracks introductions	
4. Has your country developed national policies for addressing issues related to alien invasive species?	
a) no	X
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	X
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	X
c) potential measures under review	
d) comprehensive measures in place	

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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	X
c) active development of new projects	

8. Does your national strategy and action plan address the issue of alien species?	
a) no	X
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	X
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	X
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	X
b) none	
c) a few – but in general alien invasive species problems are specific	
c) 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	X
c) development of collaborative approaches for a limited number of species	
d) consistent approach and strategy used for all common problems	

Further comments

A 1990 publication presents a complete list of adventive species in Israel with basic information on every species including geographical origin, first record from Israel, habitat, distribution and expansion, status as a weed, presence in the Middle East and world distribution. Species are divided into four groups according to their population dynamics in Israel: accidental species, species with limited distribution, colonizing species in human-impacted habitats, colonizing species of natural habitats.

No systematic study has been undertaken recently, largely as a result of lack of adequate funds. There is some information concerning the most problematic alien plant species – *Acacia saligna*. Mechanical and chemical methods have been used for eradication of this alien plant species, but these efforts have largely proved unsuccessful.

Although Israel has not submitted detailed case studies on the prevention of introduction, control and eradication of alien species that threaten ecosystems, habitats or species (due to lack of available case studies), it has submitted a general survey of alien invasive plant species in Israel to the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity. The information was included in the material submitted to the sixth meeting of SBSTTA in Montreal (March 2001).