

Please provide the following details on the origin of this report.

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Submission	
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

Report has been prepared by involving several groups of stakeholders. Specialists within the relevant ministries were considered as one of the most important groups of stakeholders. Meetings and consultations with authorities in the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development were organised to collect information on ongoing activities and projects. The individual discussions with specialists from the Department of Nature Protection, Department of Environmental Protection and Department of Tourism gave the necessary information for the report. Meetings, individual consultations and discussions with specialists from the Ministry of Agriculture were organised and that gave an important input to the process of preparation of this report.

Scientists and experts within the field of biodiversity have been identified as another important group of stakeholders. Research activities on biological issues are concentrated in the Institutes and departments of University of Latvia. Experts of Institute of Biology, Department of Botany and Plant Ecology, Department of Zoology and Animal Ecology are carrying out important part of taxonomic research programmes. Studies of genetical diversity are also concentrated in the University of Latvia. National Botanical Gardens and Riga's National Zoo are involved in *ex-citu* conservation programmes. Experts from all those institutions were interviewed, discussions and meetings were organised to compile the report.

The analysis of National Programme on Biological Diversity, National Tourism Strategy, Forest Policy Plan, Agriculture Development Plan, existing legal system in the field of biodiversity was carried out to evaluate the current status of implementation of CBD, to make conclusions on priorities.

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

In the Republic of Latvia a relevant political and legal system for the successful implementation of the CBD has been developed. Necessary strategic documents and legal acts have been developed to reach the main goals of the Convention.

On 5th June 1992, Latvia signed the CBG, which was ratified in 1995 by the Saeima (Parliament) of Latvia. This confirmed the willingness to adhere to the convention and to integrate it into national policy.

In 1995, the Cabinet of the Republic of Latvia accepted the "National Environmental Policy Plan for Latvia". The environmental Protection Policy goals, besides those regarding environmental quality, are to maintain the current level of biological diversity, ensure sustainable use of natural resources, and to create a basis for sustainable development. The policy envisages integration of environmental protection policy into all sectors of the economy (into economy in general as well as into sector strategic plans,

and policy) and to promote the public awareness of the issue.

To co-ordinate implementation of State interests and international commitments, the Cabinet of Ministers (10th February 1999) accepted Regulation On Implementation of the 5th June 1992 Rio de Janeiro Convention on Biological Diversity, under which an inter-Ministry Commission was formed.

The Cabinet of Ministers accepted National Programme on Biological Diversity as strategic document on 1st February 2000. The programme consists of Strategy Section and nature conservation action plan - list of Actions. This document formulates strategic goals and lists the main measures to solve the problems in the field of biological diversity.

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	
c) Limiting	x
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	
b) Medium	x
c) Low	
d) Not relevant	
4. 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	

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	
c) Limiting	
d) Severely limiting	x

Forest biological diversity

7. What is the relative priority for implementation of this work programme in your country?	
a) High	X
b) Medium	
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	
c) Limiting	
d) Severely limiting	x

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	
c) Low	
d) Not relevant	x
10. To what extent are the resources available adequate for meeting the obligations and recommendations made?	
a) Good	
b) Adequate	
c) Limiting	
d) Severely limiting	

Further comments on work programmes and priorities

Issues of the work programmes are included in the National Programme of Biological Diversity (accepted by The Cabinet of Ministers on 1st February 2000). This strategic document is the basis for implementation of work programmes in national conditions. National Programme consists on two sections: Section I. *Nature Protection* and Section II. *Sustainable use of biological resources*. Nature protection Action Plan (List of Actions of National Programme on Biological Diversity) is included in Appendix 1. of the National Programme.

Inland water ecosystems are included in the Part 3. *Rivers and lakes* (Section I.) and Part 15. *Fishery* (Section II). Accepted strategic goals are: conservation of swiftly flowing river stretches, ensure the function of ecological corridors along rivers, protect fish migratory roots, prevent the loss of sensitive species and communities, maintain species diversity and richness. Planned actions foresee to develop methods of assessment and renewal techniques of freshwater habitats. Development of databases on river hydrological and lake morphometric parameters is planned.

Main issues of programme on marine and coastal biodiversity are included in relevant parts of National Programme. Most important strategic goals of the Part 1. *Baltic Sea and the Gulf of Riga* are: prevent further decline of macrophyte beds, decline in diversity of marine communities and species and changes in natural structure of communities. The goals for the coastal biodiversity are listed in the Part 2. *Beaches and dunes*. The reduction of the degradation process of beach and dune ecosystems is the most important goal. Public awareness issues, development of monitoring programmes, establishing of marine and coastal protected areas, compilation of management plans for particular sites are planned actions within Action Plan to reach the goals. The goals for the fishery sector in the Part 15. *Fishery* are: maintain ecosystem and habitat diversity, species diversity and population productivity.

Issues of agricultural biodiversity are included in two parts of Section I. *Nature Protection*: Part 6. *Crop fields* and Part 7. *Meadows and pastures*. Strategic goals in these parts are maintenance of typical plant and animal communities of crop fields, semi-natural grasslands and pastures, protection of local crop varieties and livestock breed. Strategic goals for agricultural sector are formulated in Section II. *Sustainable use of biological resources* Part 14. *Agriculture*. Among others two goals are particularly important: to maintain the traditional rural landscape and to prevent a decrease in coverage of semi-natural grasslands. Several activities are included in 2 parts of Biodiversity Action plan. For maintenance of biodiversity in crop fields the stress is made on public awareness activities: publishing of the Code of Good Agricultural Practice and popularisation of this practice. Several planned actions are connected with research (studies of soil biodiversity) and monitoring (bird monitoring). In the field of management of semi-natural grasslands the national inventory has to be carried out, the network of biologically valuable grasslands and the management programme has to be developed.

Part 4. *Forests* in the Section I. and Part 13. *Forestry* in the Section II. lists forest biodiversity problems. The strategic goals are: to prevent decline in diversity of forest habitats, ensure suitable conditions for populations of forest animals, protect migration paths and reduce the rate of forest fragmentation, maintain the characteristic species composition of forest communities. Among rather wide range of goals for forestry sector, several are particularly important: promote sustainable forest management, reduce the impact of disturbance from forest management, optimise the

relative coverage of particular forest types, improve forest age structure. National inventories of protected flora and fauna species and protected habitats are planned in Nature Conservation Action Plan. Several activities included in Action Plan are connected with compiling and publishing of forest ecology textbooks and forest key habitat guidebooks.

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	
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12. To what extent are the resources available adequate for meeting the obligations and recommendations made?

a) Good		b) Adequate		c) Limiting		d) Severely limiting	2
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Further comments on relative priority and on availability of resources

River basins of country's largest rivers - Daugava, Lielupe, Gauja, Venta partly lie in the territories of neighbouring countries - Lithuania, Byelorussia, Russia and Estonia. Some vast and valuable wetland areas we shear with neighbouring countries Estonia and Russia as well. Efficient protection of biodiversity and sustainable use of resources in the Baltic Sea are common issue for all countries around the Baltic Sea. Because of relatively small total area of the country trans-boundary issues are highly important.

In National Programme on Biological Diversity the chapter on international co-operation has been included. In Part 36. *International co-operation* besides others is goals on transboundary co-operation: enter international treaties on co-operation regarding transboundary protection of protected areas and migratory species; promote co-operation between local municipalities in management of transboundary protected areas.

The Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development has actively co-operated with neighbouring countries. Co-operation agreements have been signed with environmental protection institutions of The Netherlands, Denmark, Sweden, Germany, Poland, Finland, and Byelorussia.

Particularly important has been the co-operation with Baltic countries, through the work of the Environmental Protection Committee of the Baltic Council of Ministers. A joint project has been developed, called the Baltic Environmental Forum, which aims to ensure co-operation and to realise important projects in all tree countries related to integration into EU.

In 1995, a trilateral treaty was signed "On Co-operation in the field of Environmental Protection". In 1997 agreement "On Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context" was signed with the government of Estonia. Governmental agreement "On Co-operation in the field of Environmental Protection" was signed with Lithuania in 1999. In 2000 agreement "On Management of Nature Conservation in Transboundary Context" between the Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Estonia and the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development of Latvia was signed. Similar agreement was signed with the Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Lithuania in 2001.

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

- a) established co-operation with Estonia (Agreements "On Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context", "On Management of Nature Conservation in Transboundary Context" in force; co-operation between North Vidzeme Biosphere Reserve in Latvia and adjacent Nigula Reserve in Estonia on co-ordination of management activities and development of management plans for transboundary restricted mire areas) and Lithuania (agreement "On Co-operation in the field of Environmental Protection"; initial stage of development of transboundary protected karst area in Bauska district of Latvia and adjacent part of Lithuania);
- b) co-operation with UNDP. Support for projects "*Strategy of Biodiversity, Action Plan and State Report to Conference on Convention of Biological Diversity*" (1997 - 1999), "*Management plan for Ziemeļvidzeme Biosphere Reserve*" and UNDP/GEF project LAT/01/G31/A/1G/99 on "*Priority Capacity Building for Biodiversity and Establishment of CHM Structures*" (2001 -2002);
- c) Latvia has joined the following international conventions: "Convention on Biological Diversity", "Convention on Wetlands of International Importance, Especially as Waterbird Habitat", "Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora", "Convention on Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals", "Convention on Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats".

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)	x
c) yes - significant extent (please give details below)	
d) not applicable	

- b) Co-operation is initiated in the framework of some particular projects dealing with water quality and management of The Daugava River (with Byelorussia, Russia, Lithuania), The Lielupe River and The Barta River (both with Lithuania) basins.

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)	x
c) yes - significant extent (please give details below)	
d) not relevant	

b) initial phase of the development of management plan for Ziemelvidzeme Biosphere Reserve situated on the border with Estonia, adjacent to Nigula Reserve in Estonia.

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	x
b) to a limited extent	
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	x
b) yes	

Further comments on implementation of this Article

Co-operation with different EU countries is particularly important. Financial resources from state budget are severely limited. 80% of finances for the nature conservation comes from international sources: bilateral assistance of Denmark, The Netherlands, Sweden, Norway, and support of different international organisations.

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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	b) Medium	<input type="checkbox"/>	c) Low	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
19. 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							
<p>National Programme on Biological Diversity was developed as national strategic document. It was created with the financial and organisational aid from the Global Environmental Facility (GEF) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). Strategic Section of Programme together with Nature Protection Action Plan was accepted by Cabinet of Minister of the Republic of Latvia in 2000.</p> <p>Latvian Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development has initiated and supported new project as the following step for implementation of CBD. Project <i>Implementation of Latvian Biodiversity Action Plan (2001 - 2003)</i> deals with further development and implementation of national biodiversity strategy. Project is financed by Danish Ministry's of Environment and Energy agency DANCEE and implemented by Danish consultant company Carl Bro.</p> <p>Project objectives:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Capacity building of government institutions and relevant stakeholders regarding biodiversity conservation. 2. Implementation of Latvian Biodiversity Action Plan - to develop detailed implementation plan, time schedule, activities' schedule, to determine responsible implementation institutions, to develop activity-specific budget and financial models for BDAP unit. 							

20. What is the status of your national biodiversity strategy (6a)?	
a) none	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) early stages of development	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) advanced stages of development	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) completed ₁	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) completed and adopted ₂	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) reports on implementation available	<input type="checkbox"/>
21. What is the status of your national biodiversity action plan (6a)?	
a) none	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) early stages of development	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) advanced stages of development	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) completed ₂	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) completed and adopted ₂	<input type="checkbox"/>

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

f) reports on implementation available	X
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	

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	X
b) bilateral/multilateral discussions under way	
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	X
b) early stages of development	
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

On 5th June 1992, Latvia signed CBG, which was ratified in 1995 by the Saeima (Parliament) of Latvia.

The Cabinet of Ministers (10th February 1999) accepted *Regulation On Implementation of the 5th June 1992 Rio de Janeiro Convention on Biological Diversity*, under which an inter-Ministry Commission was formed.

The development of the National Programme was an interactive process. A series of workshops and regional awareness campaigns were organised. More than 100 experts, national and regional authorities took part in the development of Programme. Leading scientists of universities and research institutes, representatives of governmental agencies and non-governmental organisations, and independent experts attended workshops on problems in all major ecosystems. Wide range of specialists from relevant economic sectors - sectorial ministries, governmental bodies, business associations and unions contributed to the development of Part II. *Sustainable use of biological resources*.

Simultaneously with the development of the Strategy Section of the National Programme, work has begun on development of an Action Plan. The Action Plan identifies the required set of activities, defines the priorities, lists responsible bodies and shows required finances.

Goals and solutions of particular problems of National Programme meet requirements of other nature conservation conventions, such as Ramsar, Bern, Bonn and Washington Conventions. National Program on Biological Diversity fully serves as strategic document for mentioned international conventions. Integration of requirements of other conventions in biodiversity strategy and their simultaneous implementation helps to reach the goals of those documents in most efficient way. For such a small country with it's economy in transition as Latvia is, this approach saves finances, effectively uses limited human resources, prevents duplication of activities, facilitates implementation, management and supervision of implementation process.

The co-operation with UNDP/GEF is crucial for the development and implementation of national biodiversity strategy (National Programme on Biological Diversity) and action plan.

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	x	b) Medium		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					
<p>The Latvian Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development initiated project <i>Inventories of Species and Habitats, Development of Management Plans and Capacity Building in Relation to Approximation of EU Birds and Habitats Directives</i> (1998-2000). The project was financed by Danish Environmental Protection Agency (DEPA). In 2001 new project <i>EMERALD/NATURA 2000</i> (2001 - 2003) has started as the next step. During the project the existing conservation areas will be covered by inventories of species and habitats listed in annexes of EU Habitat Directive, analyses of protected areas will be done according to EMERALD/NATURA criteria, additional site selection will be carried out on the final stage of the project.</p> <p>All 3 National Parks, Ziemeļvidzeme Biosphere Reserve and Teichi Nature Reserve have limited full time scientific staff responsible for identification and monitoring projects. Biodiversity information on those sites have been compiled on regular bases and stored in proper way. Identification and monitoring activities in universities and other scientific institutions are supported by grants of Latvian Council of Science. Relevant projects of NGOs (Latvian Fund for Nature, Latvian Ornithological Society, Latvian Entomological Society, Latvian Malacological Society) are financed by different international organisations and foundations.</p> <p>Latvian Environmental Agency (LEA) is developing National Monitoring Programme, including all aspects of biodiversity monitoring: species, ecosystems and genetical diversity. Within the UNDP/GEF project LAT/01/G31/A/1G/99 on Priority Capacity Building for Biodiversity and Establishment of CHM Structures the LEA is developing capacity building program in the areas of monitoring and establishing the CHM.</p>					

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	X
c) for major ecosystems	
d) for a comprehensive range of ecosystems	

34. Does your country have an ongoing inventory programme at genetic level (7a)?	
a) minimal activity	X
b) minor programme in some sectors	
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	X
b) for key groups (such as threatened or endemic species) or indicators	
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	X
b) minor programme in some sectors	
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	X
c) most threats known, some gaps in knowledge	
d) comprehensive understanding	
e) reports available	
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	X
c) yes	

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	X
b) yes	

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

44.b) Trilateral co-operation between Baltic states (Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia) to compile Baltic State of the Environment Report. Since 1996 environmental experts of Baltic States develop system of environmental indicators within the framework of the Baltic Environmental Forum. Among others indicators of biodiversity were developed. In 2000 the second report was published.

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	X
c) extensive co-operation on some issues	
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	X
b) providing training	
c) providing direct support	
d) sharing experience	
e) other (please describe)	

48. d) Baltic State of the Environment Report is available in the web site of BEF (Baltic Environmental Forum).

Further comments on implementation of this Article

In the National Programme on Biological Diversity several goals in the field of monitoring are included in Part 35. *Monitoring and Research*. Improvement of the monitoring of biological diversity requires development of a unified system of monitoring methods, improvement of monitoring of threatened species and communities, especially in relation to various management techniques, identification of biodiversity indicators and development of their monitoring system.

Since 1996 environmental experts of Baltic States develop system of environmental indicators within the framework of the Baltic Environmental Forum. Among others indicators of biodiversity were developed. In 2000 the second Baltic State of Environment Report Based on Environmental Indicators was published.

Latvian Environmental Agency compiled the first Latvian State of the Environmental Indicators Report in 2001. First attempt to find appropriate

biodiversity indicators was done during compiling process.

Project *Priority Capacity Building for Biodiversity and Establishment of CHM structures* financed by UNDP / GEF analyses the state of biodiversity assessment and available resources for this process.

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	X
b) yes, but this does not cover all known needs adequately	
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	X
b) some opportunities	
c) significant opportunities	
54. Is your country investing on a long-term basis in the development of appropriate infrastructure for your national taxonomic collections?	
a) no	X
b) some investment	
c) significant investment	
55. Is your country encouraging partnerships between taxonomic institutions in developed and developing countries?	
a) no	X
b) yes - stated policy	
c) yes - systematic national programme	

56. Has your country adopted any international agreed levels of collection housing?	
a) no	
b) under review	
c) being implemented by some collections	X
d) being implemented by all major collections	
57. Has your country provided training programmes in taxonomy?	
a) no	
b) some	X
c) many	
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	X
c) yes - limited extent	
d) yes - significant extent	
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	X
c) yes - limited extent	
c) yes - significant extent	
62. Has your country provided programmes for re-training of qualified professionals moving into taxonomy-related fields?	
a) no	X
b) some	
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	X
b) basic assessment	
c) thorough assessment	
64. Has your country established or consolidated taxonomic reference centres?	
a) no	X
b) yes	
65. Has your country worked to increase its capacity in the area of taxonomic research?	
a) no	X
b) yes	
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	X
b) yes	
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	X
b) yes	
If a developing country Party or Party with economy in transition -	
69. Has your country sought resources through the financial mechanism for the priority actions identified in the decision?	
a) no	X
b) applied for unsuccessfully	
c) applied for successfully	

Further comments on implementation of these decisions

National Programme on Biological diversity includes some targets in the field of taxonomical research. Part 35. *Monitoring and research* requires development of Science Council on Biological Diversity, development of long-term research programme in the field of biodiversity, strengthening the scientific potential of research institutions, ensuring the financial and technical base of institutions. Specific targets in biological research are: promote the study of all taxonomic groups and assessment of biological resources. Implementation of this part of Programme has not really started.

Leading taxonomic centres are University of Latvia (Department of Botany and Plant Ecology, Department of Zoology and Animal Ecology, Institute of Biology with Laboratory of Botany, Laboratory of Ornithology and Laboratory of

Ecology). Some taxonomic groups are covered by experts in State Forestry Research Institute "Silava" (mosses), Nature History museum (fungi, insects), University of Daugavpils (insects), National Botanical Gardens. Assessment of existing programmes and projects as well as gap analysis has not been done yet. Mainly Latvian Council of Science funds taxonomic research in these institutions. Finances for grants are limited and priorities for their use have not set.

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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	b) Medium	<input type="checkbox"/>	c) Low	<input type="checkbox"/>		
71. 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							
<p>In the National Programme on Biological Diversity <i>in-situ</i> conservation is included in Part 11. <i>Species Protection</i>. Under the target "Prevent decline in numbers and decline of distribution area of native species" most important measure is to develop network of microreserves for particularly protected species outside protected areas. Development of species management plans, promotion of studies on species ecology and biology to have scientific bases for proper management also is among planned measures. Sustainable use of commercially important wild species is another target in this part of National Programme. Particular stress is made on game animal management (Part 16.)</p>							

72. Has your country established a system of protected areas which aims to conserve biological diversity (8a)?	
a) system under development	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) national review of protected areas coverage available	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) national protected area systems plan in place	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) relatively complete system in place	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
73. Are there nationally adopted guidelines for the selection, establishment and management of protected areas (8b)?	
a) no	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) no, under development	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) yes, undergoing review and extension	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) early stages of development	<input type="checkbox"/>

c) advanced stages of development	
d) programme or policy in place	X
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	
d) reasonably comprehensive measures in place	X
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	
c) potential measures under review	
d) comprehensive measures in place	X
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	
c) advanced stages of development	
d) programme or policy in place	X

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	
d) legislation or other measures in place	X
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	
d) yes, to a significant extent	X
<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

b) short term bilateral support for inventories, research and management projects for particular species (black stork, wolf, lesser spotted eagle) or particular taxonomic groups (bats).

Project on Inventories of Species and Habitats, Development of Management Plans and Capacity Building in relation to approximation of EU Birds and Habitat Directive was undertaken from 1999-2000. The total costs of the project were 130 000 LVL.	
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

Since 1992, the legal system in Latvia has undergone rapid development.

The harmonisation of the legal system was closely associated with the 1995 agreement with the European Union.

The law "On Particularly Protected Nature Areas" regulates the development of the national system of particularly protected areas. All National Parks, Strict Nature Reserves and Biosphere Reserve are established according to particular law. Relevant regulations of the Cabinet of Ministers list established Nature Reserves, Nature Parks, Protected Landscape Areas, Nature Monuments. The development of the system of protected areas goes back to the

first part of 20th century. The network of protected sites was widened during following decades on the regular bases. At the moment protected territories cover 8,7 % from the whole territory of Latvia. To fulfil the requirements of EU Habitat Directive and to support NATURA 2000 network inventories of existing protected sites according EU criteria are started. *EMERALD/NATURA 2000* project will analyse existing sites and propose additional areas as potential EMERALD/NATURA 2000 sites till 2003.

The law "On Conservation of Species and Habitats" regulates the conservation of particularly protected species and habitats. Lists of those species and habitats are included in appendices of relevant regulations of the Cabinet of Ministers. Main conservation measure of species and habitats outside protected sites is development of microreserves. In forest habitats ongoing inventory of forest key habitats forms a basis for development of national network. The national semi-natural grassland inventory will result with network of valuable grassland areas in 2003. International support is still essential for those inventories.

Development of pilot management plans for species and habitat was a part of project *Inventories of Species and Habitats, Development of Management Plans and Capacity Building in Relation to Approximation of EU Birds and Habitats Directives* (1998-2000). The project was financed by the Danish Environmental Protection Agency (DEPA). Project resulted also with proposals on structure of management plans and with guidelines of it's development

Set of laws regulates the use of most important biological resources: Forest Law, Fishery Law.

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		b) Medium		c) Low		X	
87. To what extent are the resources available adequate for meeting the obligations and recommendations made?							
a) Good		b) Adequate		c) Limiting		d) Severely limiting	X
Further comments on relative priority and on availability of resources							
<p>Alien species are not considered as real problem for biodiversity in Latvia. Proper legal bases for introduction of species has been developed. Law "On Conservation of Species and Habitats" has a chapter, which regulates introduction and reintroduction of species. Introduction of alien species in wild habitats is prohibited. After positive EIA, introduction of certain species for particular economic or social use is possible. Relevant regulations of Cabinet of Ministers set a procedure of introduction and reintroduction.</p> <p>Control of expansive alien species as strategic measure is mentioned in several parts of National Programme on Biological Diversity (to prevent expansion of alien species in marine environment, to monitor distribution of aliens in forests and urban habitats)</p> <p>Only few alien species are considered to be expansive and causes real damage for natural species and habitats.</p> <p>Ministry of Agriculture has initiated collection of available scientific information on techniques to control expansive plant species Giant Hogweed <i>Heracleum sosnowskyi</i> (agg. <i>Mantegazzi</i>). Distribution of species has been surveyed and expenses of particular control measures have been calculated in co-operation with experts from the University of Agriculture. Pilot projects are going to be started to select best control techniques of Hogweed.</p>							

88. Has your country identified alien species introduced?	
a) no	
b) only major species of concern	
c) only new or recent introductions	
d) a comprehensive system tracks new introductions	
e) a comprehensive system tracks all known introductions	X
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	X
c) active development of new projects	
92. Does your national strategy and action plan address the issue of alien species?	
a) no	
b) yes - limited extent	X
c) yes - significant extent	

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	X
b) yes	
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	X

b) trans-boundary co-operation	
c) regional co-operation	
d) multilateral co-operation	
98. Is your country giving priority attention to geographically and evolutionarily isolated ecosystems in its work on alien invasive species?	
a) no	X
b) yes	
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	X
c) many initiatives	
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	X
b) limited support	
c) substantial support	

Further comments on implementation of this Article

Interim guiding principles are integrated in the National Programme on Biological Diversity (in relevant chapters on marine, forest, agricultural and urban ecosystems and fishery, forestry and agriculture sectors) and in the national legislation (Law "On Conservation of Species and Habitats", Law "On Environmental Impact Assessment", relevant regulations of the Cabinet of Ministers). Annex to the Law "On Environmental Impact Assessment" among developments, which require Impact Assessment, introduction projects of alien species are listed.

Few invasive alien plant species colonise secondary habitats and are not considered as threat for natural habitats. Monitoring of those species and habitats is included in the National Programme on Biological Diversity and in the draft Monitoring Programme.

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		b) Medium		c) Low	X
104. 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					
Due to history of national economic development this part of article is not appropriate for national circumstances					

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	X
b) some measures in place	
c) potential measures under review	
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	X
b) early stages of development	
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	X
b) early stages of development	
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	X
b) some	
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	X
b) under review	
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	X
c) yes - to a limited extent	
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	X
c) yes - to a limited extent	
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	X
c) yes - to a limited extent	
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	

b) yes	X
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	X
c) yes - to a limited extent	
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	
b) not relevant	X
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	X
c) yes - through the CHM	
d) yes - with specific countries	
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	X
c) some measures	
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	X
c) development in progress	
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	X
b) awaiting information on how to proceed	
c) yes	
124. Has your country identified resources for funding the activities identified in the decision?	
a) no	
b) not relevant	X
c) partly	
d) fully	

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		c) Low	X
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					
<p><i>Ex-situ</i> conservation targets are included in the Part 11. <i>Species protection</i> of the National Programme on Biological Diversity. <i>In-situ</i> conservation measures have a priority. Not any native species or group of species has reached critical size of populations or critical loss of habitats to give priority to <i>ex-situ</i> measures.</p> <p>Zoos and Botanical gardens have limited finances to maintain and widen in some extent their collections.</p>					

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 <i>ex situ</i> conservation purposes so as not to threaten ecosystems and <i>in situ</i> populations of species (9d)?	
a) no measures	
b) some measures in place	
c) potential measures under review	
d) comprehensive measures in place	X
<i>If a developed country Party -</i>	
135. Has your country cooperated in providing financial and other support for <i>ex situ</i> conservation and in the establishment and maintenance of <i>ex situ</i> 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 <i>ex situ</i> conservation and in the establishment and maintenance of <i>ex situ</i> conservation facilities (9e)?	
a) no	
b) yes	X

Further comments on implementation of this Article

National Riga's Zoo is a member of European Association of Aquariums and Zoos. Within the framework of this association Riga's Zoo takes part in 28 programmes of threatened animal species. Some of those species are native to Latvia (reintroduction of European Mink, breeding of White Tailed Sea Eagle). Through those programmes technical and scientific assistance was received, training and education of specialists were carried out. Successful reintroduction project of Common Tree Frog has been realised. Breeding programme of native birds of prey has started. Riga's Zoo has a collection of all native amphibians and reptiles of Latvia.

Regional Zoo in Daugavpils has started breeding programme of threatened and protected reptile species Pond Turtle - native species of Latvia.

National Botanical Gardens has a collection of Latvian Red List plant species. All specimens have native origin from *in-situ* localities. All native tree and scrub species grow in arboretum of National Botanical Gardens. Special effort has been made to collect all species, apomorphic species and hybrids of Rosa, Crataegus, Sorbus and Cotoneaster *in-situ* and to plant them in the arboretum. As a part of genetic diversity, wide range of different native ornamental forms of native coniferous trees has been collected *in-situ*, bred and planted in arboretum.

National Collection of Micro-organisms stores wide range of microbial strains including commercially important strains of bacteria and fungi. Spores of fungi species listed on the national Red List have been collected *in-situ* and stored in National Collection.

Law "On Conservation of Species and Habitats" and related regulations of the Cabinet of Ministers form a legal bases and regulate collection of protected species in wild and species reintroduction.

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	
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138. 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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Further comments on relative priority and on availability of resources

Sustainable use of all traditional biological resources in forests and aquatic environment had been an integrated part of national legislation for decades. Strict limits on yearly amounts of forest cutting and harvest of commercial marine and fresh water fish species have been introduced. Limits on harvest of Roman snails have been introduced.

139. Has your country integrated consideration of the conservation and sustainable use of biological resources into national decision making (10a)?

a) no	
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b) early stages of development	
c) advanced stages of development	
d) programme or policy in place	X
e) review of implementation available	X
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	
c) potential measures under review	
d) comprehensive measures in place	X
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	
c) potential measures under review	
d) comprehensive measures in place	X
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	
c) potential measures under review	
d) comprehensive measures in place	X
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	
c) advanced stages of development	
d) programme or policy in place	
e) review of implementation available	X

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	X
c) yes - case-studies	
d) yes - other means (please give details below)	

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	
b) yes - previous national report	X
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	
c) indicators identified (if so, please describe below)	X

C) indicators identified and published in the *Latvian State of Environmental Indicators Report 2001*. Set of indicators for timber, game and fish resources have developed. Similar system of indicators for timber, game and fish resources has been developed by Baltic Environmental Forum and published in *Baltic State of the Environment Report Based on Environmental Indicators*. The 2nd Report was published in 2000.

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	X
b) not relevant	
c) to a limited extent	
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	
c) mechanisms in place (please describe)	X
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	

148. c) System of licences for limited harvest of marine and freshwater fish species, lampreys, Roman snails are in force. Similar system exists to limit hunting of wild game. Annual total felling is limited in both state and private forests. The Hunting Law, the Fishery Law and

Forest Law and related Regulations of the Cabinet of Ministers are legal bases for regulated use of biological resources.

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. Has your country submitted case-studies on tourism as an example of the sustainable use of biological diversity to the Executive Secretary?	
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	X
b) yes	
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	X
c) to a significant extent (please describe)	

Further comments on implementation of this Article

In the National Programme on Biological Diversity there is a chapter on tourism as a sector of economy. The main target in the Part 17. *Tourism, recreation and sports* is following: Maintain valuable habitats, as well as natural community structure at popular tourism and recreation sites. Several measures are listed which stress the control of tourism flow in sensitive areas, the determination limits for tourism and recreation intensity in conservation and other sensitive areas, environmental impact assessment of tourism projects.

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		c) Low	X
157. To what extent are the resources available adequate for meeting the obligations and recommendations made?					
a) Good		b) Adequate		c) Limiting	d) Severely limiting X
Further comments on relative priority and on availability of resources					
Restrictions and limits of different kind still are dominant in nature conservation practice in Latvia. Incentive measures are not traditional and only first attempts have been done to analyse the current situation.					

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	
b) early stages of development	X
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	X
b) early stages of identifying mechanisms	
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	X
b) planned	
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	
b) early stages of development	X
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	
b) partially reviewed	X
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	
b) yes - limited extent	X
c) yes - significant extent	
168. Has your country developed legal and policy frameworks for the design and implementation of incentive measures?	

a) no	
b) early stages of development	X
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	
c) identified but not all neutralized	X
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	X
b) yes	
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	X
b) under consideration	
c) early stages of development	
d) advanced stages of development	
e) further information available	

Further comments on implementation of this Article

Report "Incentive measures in the field of protection of biological diversity. Survey of current situation" has been prepared. This is the first attempt to analyse existing mechanisms, resources, to find gaps. Report has been prepared within the project *Priority Capacity Building for Biodiversity and Establishment of CHM structures*, financed by UNDP / GEF.

The next step will follow in January - march 2002. Suggestions for improvement of existing incentive measures, implementation of new measures will be developed during this period. Possibilities to rise available resources will be studied.

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		b) Medium	X	c) Low	
174. To what extent are the resources available adequate for meeting the obligations and recommendations made?					
a) Good		b) Adequate		c) Limiting	d) Severely limiting X
Further comments on relative priority and on availability of resources					
<p>Training in measures for the identification, conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity and its components is a traditional and integrated part of curriculum in grammar schools, secondary schools and universities.</p> <p>Ongoing process of improvement of educational system beside others includes development of new forms and methods of the training in biodiversity issues.</p>					

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	
b) early stages of development	
c) advanced stages of development	
d) programmes in place	X
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	X
b) yes	
177. Does your country promote and encourage research which contributes to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity (12b)?	
a) no	
b) yes - limited extent	X
c) yes - significant extent	
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	
b) yes - limited extent	X
c) yes - significant extent	
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

Several new original textbooks in the field of botany and zoology have been published in recent years for grammar schools. This selection allows choosing the most appropriate.

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	c) Low			
181. 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							
Public education and awareness activities as integrated part are included in all nature conservation projects, management plans, scientific surveys financed or supported by the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development. The issue is included in National Programme for Biological Diversity. International organisations or other governments finance larger part of the projects. Limited number of management plans and surveys has national financial support (Environmental Protection Fund or state budget).							
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	X
c) yes - significant extent	
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	X
b) significant but not adequate resources	
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	X
c) advanced stages of development	
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	X
b) still to be done	
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

C) Capacity building activities are included in Chapter 31. *Education and public information* of the National Programme for Biological Diversity. Public awareness campaigns, publishing of leaflets, pamphlets and other informative materials, organising of exhibitions and displays are among the measures listed in the Biodiversity Action Plan.

Further comments on implementation of this Article

Capacity building as integrated part is included in several large scale projects: <i>Priority Capacity Building for Biodiversity and Establishment of CHM structures</i> <i>Inventories of Species and Habitats, Development of Management Plans and Capacity Building in Relation to Approximation of EU Birds and Habitats Directives</i> EMERALD / NATURA 2000 project Biodiversity Awareness Strategy (BAS) and Action Plan

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		b) Medium	X	c) Low	
195. 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					
Assessment of impact on biological diversity and its resources is included in the EIA process as integrated part. Law on Environmental Impact Assessment states it.					

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	
c) advanced stages of development	
d) fully compliant with current scientific knowledge	X
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	
c) yes - significant extent	X
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	
b) yes	X
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	X
d) mechanisms in place	
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	
c) advanced stages of development	
d) fully compliant with current scientific knowledge	X
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	X
c) advanced stages of development	
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	X
b) partly integrated	
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	X
c) yes - in all cases	
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	X
c) many programmes in place	
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	X
b) to a limited extent	
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	
c) to a significant extent	X
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)	

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		c) Low	X
217. To what extent are the resources available adequate for meeting the obligations and recommendations made?					
a) Good		b) Adequate		c) Limiting	d) Severely limiting
Further comments on relative priority and on availability of resources					
Implementation of the article is on early stages of development					

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	X
b) yes - limited extent	
c) yes - significant extent	
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	X
b) some measures in place	
c) potential measures under review	
d) comprehensive measures in place	
If so, are these measures	
a) Legislation	
b) Statutory policy or subsidiary legislation	
c) Policy and administrative measures	

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	X
b) analysis in progress	
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	X
b) yes - limited extent	
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	
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	
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	
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	
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	
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	
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	
c) yes to a significant extent	

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		b) Medium		c) Low	X
239. To what extent are the resources available adequate for meeting the obligations and recommendations made?					
a) Good		b) Adequate		c) Limiting	d) Severely limiting X
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	X
b) some measures in place	
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	X
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	X
b) relevant, but no measures	
c) some measures in place	
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	
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	X
b) some measures in place	
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?	
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

There are not specific statements on biological resources in existing legal acts on intellectual property. Biological resources are an integrated part within the national legislation on intellectual property and are covered in the same extent as other types.

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		b) Medium	X	c) Low	
248. 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					

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	
d) potential measures under review	X
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		b) Medium	x	c) Low	
253. 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					

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	x
b) early stages of development	
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	
c) yes - significant extent	x
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	
b) yes	x
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	
c) yes - significant extent	x
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	
b) yes, at the national level	x
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	
b) participation only	x
c) supporting some meetings and participating	
264. Is your CHM operational	
a) no	
b) under development	x
c) yes (please give details below)	
265. Is your CHM linked to the Internet	
a) no	
b) yes	x

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

Under the UNDP/GEF project LAT/01/G31/A/1G/99 on Priority Capacity Building for Biodiversity and Establishment of CHM Structures the LEA is responsible for establishing of CHM. The LEA will be responsible for CHM structures also after the completion of the UNDP/GEF project.
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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		c) Limiting	x
d) Severely limiting					
Further comments on relative priority and on availability of resources					

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	x
b) some measures in place	
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	

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	x
b) some measures in place	
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	x
b) signed, ratification in progress	
c) instrument of ratification deposited	

Further comments on implementation of this Article

Low on ratification of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety is in preparation and will be submitted to the Government 1 of March 2002.

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		b) Medium	X	c) Low	
274. To what extent are the resources available adequate for meeting the obligations and recommendations made?					
a) Good		b) Adequate		c) Limiting	X
Further comments on relative priority and on availability of resources					
National financial support forms 20% of finances used for implementation of CBD.80% of financial resources are money provided by international sources (governments, organisations).					

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	
b) yes - incentives only	
c) yes - financial support only	
d) yes - financial support and incentives	x

<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	
b) yes	
<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	
b) yes	x
<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	
b) yes	x

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	x
c) yes - significant extent	
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	
b) procedures being established	x
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	x
b) no	
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	
d) exemptions in place	x

Further comments on implementation of this Article

All bilateral projects have been considered as VAT tax free according to the Regulation on the Cabinet of Ministers. There are also tax allowances for enterprises, which support activities of NGOs.

However involvement of private sector is at very early stage, mainly based on economic considerations and interests.

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		c) Limiting	
				d) Severely limiting	x
Further comments on relative priority and on availability of resources					
Latvia is a country eligible for support from GEF					

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	x
b) yes	

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	x
c) yes, within the previous national report	
d) yes, through case-studies	
e) yes, through other means (please give details below)	

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)	0
b) COP 2 (Jakarta)	0
c) COP 3 (Buenos Aires)	0
d) COP 4 (Bratislava)	3
e) COP 5 (Nairobi)	2

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
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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	
b) yes (please provide details below)	X

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

Latvia has been taking part in the CEE Regional meeting before COP 4 in Bratislava and Almaaty (Kazakhstan). The Pan European Conference on "Biodiversity in Europe" was organised in Riga, Latvia in 1999. Latvia has been co financing this activity as well. Next International Conference will take place on 2002 in Budapest and Latvia will support financially this conference.

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	

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)	-
b) SBSTTA II (Montreal)	-
c) SBSTTA III (Montreal)	-
d) SBSTTA IV (Montreal)	1
e) SBSTTA V (Montreal)	1

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)?	x
by the extended deadline of 31.12.98 (Decision IV/14)?	
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	
b) yes	x
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?	
b) publishing the report?	x

c) making the report available on request?	
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	

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	x
b) case-studies identified	
c) pilot projects underway	
d) workshops planned/held	
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	x
c) formal co-operation (please give details)	

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
<i>If a developing country Party or Party with economy in transition -</i>	
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	x
b) yes	
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	x
b) under review	
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	x
b) yes - national report	
c) yes - through the CHM	
d) yes - other means (please give details below)	
317. Has your country developed national and/or sectoral plans for the conservation and sustainable use of inland water ecosystems?	
a) no	x
b) yes - national plans only	
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

It has been decided that for Latvia will be prepared only one biodiversity related strategy, which will incorporate also strategic goals of Ramsar convention, Bonn convention, CITES convention and regional conventions like Bern and HELCOM. It is approved as the National Programme for Biodiversity. Sectors like forestry, Agriculture, Fisheries, transport, Energy have to integrate provisions from the National Programme in their strategies and programmes.

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	
b) yes - previous national report	
c) yes - case-studies	x
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	
b) programmes are being developed	
c) programmes are being implemented for some species	x
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	
b) yes	
c) not relevant	x
327. Is your country implementing other measures in response to coral bleaching?	
a) no	
b) yes (please provide details below)	
c) not relevant	x

328. Has your country submitted case-studies on the coral bleaching phenomenon to the Executive Secretary?	
a) no	
b) yes	
c) not relevant	x

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	
c) advanced stages of review and assessment	
d) assessment completed	x
330. Has your country identified issues and priorities that need to be addressed at the national level?	
a) no	
b) in progress	
c) yes	x
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	
c) advanced stages of development	x
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	
b) yes - case-studies	x
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	
c) advanced stages of development	
d) mechanisms in place	x
336. Is your country promoting the transformation of unsustainable agricultural practices into sustainable production practices adapted to local biotic and abiotic conditions?	
a) no	x
b) yes - limited extent	
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	x
b) yes	
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	
If a developed country Party -	
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	x
349. Is your country collaborating with other Parties on the conservation and sustainable use of pollinators?	
a) no	x
b) yes	
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	x
b) no	
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, <i>inter alia</i> , 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)	

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	x
b) yes	
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	
c) yes - significant extent	x
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	
c) yes - significant extent	x
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	
c) yes - all stakeholders	x
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	
c) many programmes covering some needs	x

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	x
b) under consideration	
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	x
b) under review	
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	x
b) to a limited extent	
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	x
b) to a limited extent	
c) to a significant extent	

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	
b) under way	x
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:

Latvia joined the Convention on 1995.

Intergovernmental Committee was established under the chairmanship of State Secretary of the Ministry for Environmental Protection and Regional Development.

In spite of statement of the Ministry of Finance that the national Program on Biodiversity must be implemented with the funding available for nature protection, it helped to attract more resources and make institutional restructuring. In 2000 was established the Nature Protection department under the Ministry for Environmental Protection and Regional Development. In 2002 will be established the Nature Protection Agency - implementing agency under Ministry for Environmental Protection and Regional Development.

GEF grants facilitated to prepare the first National Report and the National Strategy and Action Plan also this Report. In preparation now is the Revue of Incentive measure in Latvia and also preparation of proposals how to improve them.

Latvia has served the Bureau of the COP 5 and COP 4. This has given the opportunity to work closely with other countries for better operation of the Convention.

Ratification of the Convention has helped to rise a political profile for the Nature protection and sustainable use of biodiversity.

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

On Regional level in 1999 was started the "Biodiversity for Europe" process. The goal of this Process is to integrate biological-diversity-related activities at regional and sub-regional level. In order to gain synergies and more efficiently use limited resources for biodiversity. Latvia is among those countries that started this initiative and are driving it also to the second meeting in Budapest (Hungary) in 2002.

On sub-regional level is established good co-operation with countries in the Baltic sea region particularly with Lithuania and Estonia.

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

The Government on 2000 accepted the National Programme for Biodiversity. The first review showed that it is operational and implementation is going according to plans.

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

Date of completion:	1999.
If the NBSAP has been adopted by the Government	
By which authority?	Cabinet of Ministers
On what date?	1st February 2000
If the NBSAP has been published please give	
Title:	National Programme on Biological Diversity
Name and address of publisher:	Vides filmu studija
ISBN:	9984-9388-2-4
Price (if applicable):	-
Other information on ordering:	Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development Peldu iela 25. Riga, Latvia
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:	www.varam.gov.lv

If the NBSAP has been lodged with an Implementing Agency of the GEF			
Please indicate which agency:		UNDP Latvia office	
Has a copy of the NBSAP been lodged with the Convention Secretariat?			
Yes	X	No	