

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

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<i>National Focal Point</i>	
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Date of submission:	

**Article 8h Alien species**

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

3. Has your country identified alien species introduced?	
a) no	
b) only major species of concern	X - golden snail, toad <i>chromolaena odorata</i>
c) a comprehensive system tracks introductions	
4. Has your country developed national policies for addressing issues related to alien invasive species?	
a) no	
b) yes – as part of a national biodiversity strategy (please give details below)	X - included in R&D, agenda, restricted entry, biosafety guidelines
c) yes – as a separate strategy (please give details below)	
5. Has your country assessed the risks posed to ecosystems, habitats or species by the introduction of these alien species?	
a) no	
b) only some alien species of concern have been assessed	X - in R&D agenda X - contro programs
c) most alien species have been assessed	
6. Has your country undertaken measures to prevent the introduction of, control or eradicate those alien species which threaten ecosystems, habitats or species?	
a) no measures	
b) some measures in place	X - biosafety guidelines X - regulatory entry-import permits

c) potential measures under review	X - included in control programs
d) comprehensive measures in place	

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

7. Is your country collaborating in the development of projects at national, regional, sub-regional and international levels to address the issue of alien species?	
a) little or no action	X
b) discussion on potential projects under way	X - recognized issue/problem
c) active development of new projects	X - in R&D agenda
8. Does your national strategy and action plan address the issue of alien species?	
a) no	
b) yes – limited extent	
c) yes – significant extent	X - policies-laws, rules and regulation on introduction of alien species X - R&D agenda

*Case-studies*

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

*Transboundary issues*

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

## Further Comments

The issue and problem on alien (invasive and non-invasive) species have always been recognized by scientists, technical experts and farmers who are directly affected at the farm level. Strategies on prevention and control of introduced invasive alien species are incorporated in development production programs on agriculture and forestry; and also in research and development (R & D) agenda at the national level. Specific alien invasive species are tackled in special projects to control, eradicate and mitigate negative impacts on production systems.

The issue of introducing exotic species for trial production, in agriculture and forestry are coupled with the threat to introducing microorganisms, especially pathogenic ones which affect indigenous species. Genetic dilution and displacement of native species are also recognized as threats/risks.

Regulation on alien species, especially on introduction/importation are based on existing – laws, rules and regulations implemented by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources and Department of Agriculture. The National Committee on Biosafety (based at the Department of Science and Technology-DOST) has formulated the biosafety guidelines in May 1998.