

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

Contracting Party:	Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
<b><i>National Focal Point</i></b>	
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<b><i>Submission</i></b>	
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***

#### Process

1. Draft report completed by National Commission for Wildlife Conservation and Development.
2. Draft circulated amongst interested and affected parties for comment.
3. Comments incorporated in second draft report.
4. Second draft commented upon by members of the National Biodiversity Committee.

#### Stakeholders Involved

- Ministry of Agriculture
- Presidency for Meteorology and the Environment
- Ministry of Fisheries
- King Abdulaziz City for Science and Technology
- Ministry of Municipalities and Rural Affairs
- Academics from the universities

#### Sources of Information

1. First National Report of Saudi Arabia
2. National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan for Saudi Arabia.
3. System Plan for Protected Areas and the draft revised System Plan.
4. Management plans and annual reports for the protected areas.
5. Published and unpublished reports of the organisations in the Kingdom that deal with matters relating to CBD.
6. Information obtained directly from members of the National Biodiversity Committee and from other biodiversity-related focal points in the Kingdom.

**Article 8h Alien species**

1. What is the relative priority afforded to implementation of this Article and the associated decisions by your country?							
a) High		b) Medium		X		c) Low	
2. To what extent are the resources available adequate for meeting the obligations and recommendations made?							
a) Good		b) Adequate		c) Limiting	X	d) Severely limiting	
3. Has your country identified alien species introduced?							
a) no							
b) only major species of concern						X	
c) a comprehensive system tracks introductions							
4. Has your country developed national policies for addressing issues related to alien invasive species?							
a) no						X	
b) yes – as part of a national biodiversity strategy (please give details below)							
c) yes – as a separate strategy (please give details below)							
5. Has your country assessed the risks posed to ecosystems, habitats or species by the introduction of these alien species?							
a) no							
b) only some alien species of concern have been assessed						X	
c) most alien species have been assessed							
6. Has your country undertaken measures to prevent the introduction of, control or eradicate those alien species which threaten ecosystems, habitats or species?							
a) no measures							
b) some measures in place						X	
c) potential measures under review							
d) comprehensive measures in place							

**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	
b) discussion on potential projects under way	X
c) active development of new projects	

8. Does your national strategy and action plan address the issue of alien species?	
a) no	
b) yes – limited extent	X
c) yes – significant extent	

*Case-studies*

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

*Transboundary issues*

11. Are known alien invasive species in your country also a problem in neighbouring or biogeographically-similar countries?	
a) not known	
b) none	
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	
b) discussion on potential collaboration underway	X
c) development of collaborative approaches for a limited number of species	
d) consistent approach and strategy used for all common problems	

### *Further comments*

1. Case studies have not been used because there are no specific case studies available for our area as yet.
2. Insufficient co-ordination between different agencies has been a limiting factor. For example, introduction of certain exotic species was encouraged by some agencies as part of vegetative recovery programs, and many of these (such as *Prosopis juliflora*) have become invasives beyond the areas of cultivation.

Accidental or deliberate introductions of marine species (e.g. species of seaweeds via tanker ballast water, or species associated with aquaculture) may become a serious threat in both the Red Sea and the Arabian Gulf.