

Please provide the following details on the origin of this report

Contracting Party	Syrian Arab Republic
National Focal Point	
Full name of the institution:	Ministry of State for Environmental Affairs
Name and title of contact officer:	Dr. Mohiddin Issa
Mailing address:	Syria, Damascus, Al Tolyani, P.O. Box:3773
Telephone:	00963-11-4447608
Fax:	00963-11-4447608
E-mail:	akramisa@scs-net.org
Contact officer for national report (if different)	
Full name of the institution:	Ministry of State for Environmental Affairs
Name and title of contact officer:	Dr. Akram Issa Darwish
Mailing address:	Syria, Damascus, Al Tolyani, P.O. Box:3773
Telephone:	00963-11-4447608
Fax:	00963-11-4447608
E-mail:	akramisa@scs-net.org
Submission	
Signature of officer responsible for submitting national report:	Dr. Akram Issa Darwish Dr. Youssef Barkouda
Date of submission:	12/4/2002

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

**Preparation of the report was one of
the national biodiversity strategy and action plan complementary activities**

The start was through communication by exchange of letters with the parties concerned with biodiversity conservation. These parties were the Ministries of, Agriculture, High Education, Irrigation, Tourism, Interior, in addition to the Ministry of State for Environmental Affairs, which is the concerned, coordinating and supervising body for the fulfillment of the biodiversity convention. It also included public organizations such as the Unions of, Women, Youth, Peasants, and Students, Arab and International organizations working in Syria (ACSAD, ICARDA), and domestic societies (the Damascus Friends Society, the Environment Friendly Society in Ar-Raqqa, the Syrian Society for the Protection of the Environment, Scientific Life Society).

The aforementioned parties were requested to nominate their representatives in the National Report Preparation Committee. Then these representatives were invited to a meeting designated for acquainting with the questions mentioned in the report and establishing the appropriate mechanism for responding. Then the questions were distributed among the representatives of the concerned parties who were asked to answer them after reverting to the standard data particular to each concerned party.

Following a period of two months of deliberation and dialogue with the concerned parties, the National Workshop convened on 17/2/2002. The meeting was attended by all concerned parties who gave their answers to all the questions listed in the second National Report Format.

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

In spite of the conservation system implemented by the Arabs for achieving sustainable growth of the pastures on which the animal wealth is dependant, and although there are many rules that regulate the investment and management of biodiversity reserves and components in Syria, modern concepts of biodiversity were not introduced in Syria until the beginning of the last decade. Since then, there has been continuous concern, on both the formal and public levels, of biodiversity and its components, laying down strategies for its conservation, and establishment of natural, forested, grazing, marine and fresh water reserves as well as wetlands.

It is worth mentioning that Syria is an agricultural and developing country and that locals in rural areas are heavily dependant on the natural resources found in forests, steppe (Badia), and around rivers, for their daily livelihood (food, medical plants, fuel, etc). This lead to increased pressure on the biodiversity components and on ecosystems and hence their nos. declined and became at the risk of deterioration and extinction, particularly at heavily populated areas.

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	
c) Low	X
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	
c) Low	X
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	X
c) Limiting	
d) Severely limiting	

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	X
d) Severely limiting	

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	X
b) Medium	
c) Low	
d) Not relevant	
10. 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 work programmes and priorities

Regarding Q1: giving priority to the biodiversity protection in the inland water was not given the required concern. There are clear interventions upon the aquatic assemblies and wetlands such as dams. There are various marshes, wetlands and rivers.

Regarding Q3: the legislations governing protectorates and protection are acceptable, yet the application of these laws remain inadequate due to the great pressures on the biological resources in aquatic resorts, and the tourist pressures on coastal areas.

Regarding Q5: the agro-biodiversity is considered a very significant issue in Syria and there are serious attempts to protect it "In-sito" and "Ex situ", yet the available resources are inadequate.

Regarding Q7: the forest biodiversity is important, therefore many protectorates and preservation areas were established, yet the financial support to meet the required technical requirements for protection, achievement of a sustainable investment, and securing replacements for exploitation of forests by the local inhabitants remain insufficient.

Regarding Q9: biodiversity in these areas is very important as they are major grazing areas (pastures) for the animal wealth, which is very significant on the national economic level. The mountainous areas were given special attention where many protectorates and preservation areas were established.

Additions:

The reserves mentioned in the foregoing ecosystems and listed in the format are distributed as follows:

- one reserve of wetlands
- 14 reserves of natural forests
- 30 reserves of pastures distributed over the Syrian desert (Badia)..

These locations require technical and financial support to realize the optimal criteria of protection.

There is also an agro-biodiversity project in two areas in Syria (Slenfe, Al Swaida); its objective is to conserve vegetal genetic resources.

Article 5 Cooperation

11. 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		
12. 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						

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)						

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						

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	X					
b) yes - limited extent (please give details below)						
c) yes - significant extent (please give details below)						
d) not relevant						

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	
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	
b) yes	x

Further comments on implementation of this Article

Regarding Q16: many of the activities mentioned in this question were implemented through the funded national projects without any support from the "Diverstase" society.

- There is a bilateral/trilateral cooperation with Iraq, Lebanon, Jordan and Turkey in respect to transboundary water.
- Work is has started to establish natural reserves along the border with Lebanon (Al Zab reserve).
- There are many ideas and proposed projects for the establishment of reserves along the border with both Jordan and Iraq.
- Cooperation is in place with adjacent Arab countries, Jordan, Palestine and Lebanon, to implement an agro-biodiversity project.
- Bilateral cooperation with some adjacent Arab countries is in place for the exchange of information and expertise.

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	X	b) Medium		c) Low	
19.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					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - This item is given major concern; there is a plan to support it financially, and there is a special project for the development of the NBSAP. - Resources are inadequate; only limited support was provided, therefore additional support shall be requested in the future from GEF and the parties concerned. 					

20.What is the status of your national biodiversity strategy (6a)?					
a) none					
b) early stages of development					
c) advanced stages of development					
d) completed ¹					X
e) completed and adopted ²					
f) reports on implementation available					
21.What is the status of your national biodiversity action plan (6a)?					
a) none					
b) early stages of development					
c) advanced stages of development					
d) completed ²					X
e) completed and adopted ²					
f) reports on implementation available					
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					

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

23. Do your national strategies and action plans cover integration of other sectoral activities (6b)?	
a) no	
b) some sectors	X
c) all major sectors	
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	
b) bilateral/multilateral discussions under way	
c) coordinated in some areas/themes	X
d) fully coordinated	
e) not applicable	
27. Has your country set measurable targets within its strategies and action plans?	
a) no	
b) early stages of development	
c) advanced stages of development	X
d) programme in place	
e) reports on implementation available	
<i>If a developing country Party or a Party with economy in transition -</i>	
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)?	

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	x
c) yes - significant extent	

Further comments on implementation of this Article

Regarding Q20: the preparation of the final drafting of the strategy has been achieved and the initial approval on it was obtained. The strategy was delivered to the "Higher Council for Environmental Safety" for endorsement.

Regarding Q29: Syria has recently joined the ACCOBAMS convention on the conservation of whales in the Black Sea, the Mediterranean Sea and adjacent Atlantic regions.

Syria has reached an advanced stage in its effort to join the AEWA convention on Afro-Asian and Euro-Asian birds, and it is expected to join the following conventions during the current year:

- The (CMS)convention on the types of migratory animals.
- The (CITES)convention on the trafficking of animal and plant species threatened with extinction.
- The (Cartagena) convention on Biosafety.

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		b) Medium	X	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					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Many studies have been conducted, particularly at the level of high education at the faculties of science and agriculture at Syrian Universities, to observe the biological diversity in different ecosystems, noting increased concern in this domain. - There has been a noticeable progress in agro-biodiversity. 					

32. Does your country have an ongoing inventory programme 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					
33. Does your country have an ongoing inventory programme at ecosystem level (7a)?					
a) minimal activity					X
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					
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					X

36. Does your country have ongoing monitoring programmes at ecosystem level (7b)?	
a) minimal activity	
b) for ecosystems of particular interest only	
c) for major ecosystems	
d) for a comprehensive range of ecosystems	X
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	
c) indicators identified (if so, please describe below)	X

42. Is your country using rapid assessment and remote sensing techniques?	
a) no	
b) assessing opportunities	X
c) yes, to a limited extent	
d) yes, to a major extent	
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	
c) yes	X
44. Is your country cooperating with other Contracting Parties on pilot projects to demonstrate the use of assessment and indicator methodologies?	
a) no	X
b) yes (if so give details below)	
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	
c) yes (if so, please give details below)	X

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	X
b) yes - sent to the Secretariat	
c) yes - through the national CHM	
d) yes - other means (please specify)	

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)	

Further comments on implementation of this Article

Regarding Q32-33: few attempts were made to form lists containing the species and their status quo, yet these attempts require organization, development and further support. In fact, there is much concern to form these lists.

Regarding Q35 & 36: there are few programmes laid in cooperation with the concerned parties aiming to make an inventory of the existing species and the national ecosystems.

Regarding Q38: currently in place.

Regarding Q40: it is being implemented, and there are also some studies regarding the impacts of overgrazing, over-cutting, land degradation, urban expansion, and quarries on biodiversity components and ecosystems.

Regarding Q41: yes, but its application was incomplete.

Regarding Q43: currently underway.

Regarding Q46: through publication by the usual various means.

Regarding Q47: there is cooperation with the "Near East Forrest Society" to determine the indicators, and with the international organizations that are concerned with the protection of biological diversity.

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	
b) early stages of development	X
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	
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	
b) some opportunities	X
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	X
b) under review	
c) being implemented by some collections	
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	
c) yes for some institutions	X
d) yes for all major institutions	
60. Has your country assisted taxonomic institutions to establish consortia to conduct regional projects?	
a) no	X
b) under review	
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	
c) yes - limited extent	X
c) yes - significant extent	
62. Has your country provided programmes for re-training of qualified professionals moving into taxonomy-related fields?	
a) no	
b) some	X
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	
b) basic assessment	X
c) thorough assessment	
64. Has your country established or consolidated taxonomic reference centres?	
a) no	
b) yes	X
65. Has your country worked to increase its capacity in the area of taxonomic research?	
a) no	
b) yes	X
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	
b) yes	X
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	
<i>If a developing country Party or Party with economy in transition -</i>	
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

Regarding Q52: relatively.

Regarding Q57: the ongoing programmes that are laid to meet the classification needs are simply insufficient.

Regarding Q59: to a limited extent, procedures are taken by some institutions (Ministry of High Education, Ministry of Agriculture & Agrarian Reform, Ministry of State for Environmental Affairs).

Regarding Q61: it is being implemented to a limited extent at some Ministries such as the Ministry of High Education.

Regarding Q62: it is being implemented to a relative extent at the Ministry of Agriculture & Agrarian Reform.

Regarding Q63-64: currently, enforcement is provided to these centers particularly to the ones associated with the Ministries of, High Education, Agriculture and Environment.

Regarding Q65: some of the concerned sides are inclined to support this approach by enhancing the national capability in the field of classification research.

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	X	b) Medium		c) Low	
71. 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					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Priority is given to conserve agro-biodiversity, but there is a trend now towards giving priorities to other biodiversity components. 					

72. Has your country established a system of protected areas which aims to conserve biological diversity (8a)?					
a) system under development	X				
b) national review of protected areas coverage available					
c) national protected area systems plan in place					
d) relatively complete system in place					
73. Are there nationally adopted guidelines for the selection, establishment and management of protected areas (8b)?					
a) no					
b) no, under development	X				
c) yes					
d) yes, undergoing review and extension					
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					
b) early stages of development	X				
c) advanced stages of development					
d) programme or policy in place					
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	X
c) potential measures under review	
d) reasonably comprehensive measures in place	
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	X
c) potential measures under review	
d) comprehensive measures in place	
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	X
c) advanced stages of development	
d) programme or policy in place	
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	X
c) advanced stages of development	
d) legislation or other measures in place	
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	X
c) yes, to a limited extent	
d) yes, to a significant extent	
<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

Decision II/7 Consideration of Articles 6 and 8 of the Convention

85. Is action being taken to share information and experience on implementation of this Article with other Contracting Parties?	
a) little or no action	X
b) sharing of written materials and/or case-studies	
c) regional meetings	

Further comments on implementation of this Article

Regarding Q72: yes, there is a regulation governing protected areas (reserves), and this regulation has progressed with acceptable steps; there are 14 declared reserves, whose administrative and scientific plans are under completion, yet further support is required to achieve such completion.

Regarding Q73: there are certain general principles associated with the rules that support the establishment of reserves; currently, efforts are in place to develop and improve these principles and rules.

Regarding Q77: yes, through re-afforestation; there is a special Directorate in charge of re-afforestation works.

Regarding Q78: yes, some species are under proliferation; there is a special bank for the seeds of plants and trees, and there is also a vegetation compound to serve this bank.

Regarding Q79: yes, there are specific measures taken at the national level to keep living modified species under surveillance; currently, there is an ongoing work that aims at developing a comprehensive legislation to control the in/out movement of living organisms, some of which are genetically modified.

Regarding Q84: financial aid is still confined to technical studies, and support is provided only to one natural reserve which is the "*Cedar & Fir Protected Area*", which is financed by the WB (World Bank).

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
Further comments on relative priority and on availability of resources					
<p>There are no specific measures against foreign species, on the contrary there were proliferation of foreign types.</p>					

88. Has your country identified alien species introduced?					
a) no					
b) only major species of concern	X				
c) only new or recent introductions					
d) a comprehensive system tracks new introductions					
e) a comprehensive system tracks all known introductions					
89. Has your country assessed the risks posed to ecosystems, habitats or species by the introduction of these alien species?					
a) no	X				
b) only some alien species of concern have been assessed					
c) most alien species have been assessed					
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	X				
b) some measures in place					
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	X
b) discussion on potential projects under way	
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	X
b) yes	
100. Has your country developed effective education, training and public-awareness measures concerning the issue of alien species?	
a) no	X
b) some initiatives	
c) many initiatives	
101. Is your country making available the information which it holds on alien species through the CHM?	
a) no	X
b) some information	
c) all available information	
d) information available through other channels (please specify)	
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

Regarding Q93: there is a clear trend towards stopping the proliferation of foreign species and subjecting their entrance to continuous surveillance.

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	X	b) Medium		c) Low			
104. 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>- there is an increased concern towards the traditional knowledge of the local inhabitants, and towards encouraging the practices and activities exploited by the local inhabitants, and which help for the sustainable use of the natural resources.</p>							

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					
b) some measures in place					X
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					
b) early stages of development					X
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	
b) yes	X

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

Further comments on implementation of this Article

Regarding Q116: there is partial incorporation.

Regarding Q117: incorporation is partial, particularly at places close to the forests.

Regarding Q121: yes, partially. There are special services for wiping out illiteracy and provide support to women activities in forest areas (ecosystems).

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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	b) Medium		c) Low	
126. To what extent are the resources available adequate for meeting the obligations and recommendations made?					
a) Good		b) Adequate		c) Limiting	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Further comments on relative priority and on availability of resources					
<p>- There is a great and special concern about agro-biodiversity; for instance, many genetic banks have been developed recently in addition to special banks for plant seeds in the forests.</p>					

127. Has your country adopted measures for the <i>ex situ</i> conservation of components of biological diversity native to your country (9a)?					
a) no measures					
b) some measures in place	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
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 originating outside your country (9a)?					
a) no measures					
b) some measures in place	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
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 native to your country (9b)?					
a) no					
b) yes - limited extent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
c) yes - significant extent					

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

Further comments on implementation of this Article

Regarding Q127: Partially, through the agro-biodiversity project and the center of genetic banks at the Ministry of Agriculture.

Regarding Q128: in fruit trees; ACSAD (*Arab Centre for the Studies of Arid Zones and Dry Lands*) is in charge of this.

Regarding Q133: there are attempts to re-grow some of the threatened species in their natural habitat, and the "ARABIAN ORYX, Arabian Gazella" was returned to some natural reserves.

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		b) Medium	X	c) Low	
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
Further comments on relative priority and on availability of resources					
<p>- the priority is relatively small and it is related to medical, fragrant, and ornamenting plants and forest trees.</p>					

139. Has your country integrated consideration of the conservation and sustainable use of biological resources into national decision making (10a)?					
a) no					
b) early stages of development					X
c) advanced stages of development					
d) programme or policy in place					
e) review of implementation available					
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					X
c) potential measures under review					
d) comprehensive measures in place					
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					X
c) potential measures under review					
d) comprehensive measures in place					

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

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	X
b) yes - previous national report	
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	X
b) yes - previous national report	
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

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	X
c) mechanisms in place (please describe)	
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	

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	X
b) to a limited extent	
c) to a significant extent	
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 Eco-tourism?	
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	
b) yes	X
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	x
b) to a limited extent	
c) to a significant extent (please describe)	

Further comments on implementation of this Article

Regarding Q140: there are few rules and regulations that support this direction; among these are the "afforestation law" and the "aquatic plant and animal protection law".

Regarding Q146: save small projects that secure income for women living in forested areas and improve the economic and social standard for the inhabitants of forests.

Regarding Q152: awareness campaigns and training sessions.

Regarding Q153: awareness campaigns and tools, and national workshops.

Regarding Q155: there is a tendency to execute this item.

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	X
d) Severely limiting					
Further comments on relative priority and on availability of resources					
The resources allocated for this item require further study and support in the future.					

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	X				
b) early stages of development					
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	X				
b) some sectors					
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	
b) planned	X
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	
b) processes being identified	X
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	X
c) identified but not all neutralized	
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	
b) yes	X
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	
b) under consideration	X
c) early stages of development	
d) advanced stages of development	
e) further information available	

Further comments on implementation of this Article

Regarding Q160: there is an ongoing work to prepare the legislations required in this respect.

Regarding Q166: Yes, yet insufficient.

Regarding Q171: Yes, at the Ministry of State for Environmental Affairs.

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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	b) Medium		<input type="checkbox"/>	c) Low
174. 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					
Further comments on relative priority and on availability of resources					
<p>- It has good priority and it is one of the major programmes of the "Directorate of Forests".</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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) advanced stages of development	
d) programmes in place	
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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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	X

Further comments on implementation of this Article

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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	b) Medium		c) Low	
181. To what extent are the resources available adequate for meeting the obligations and recommendations made?					
a) Good		b) Adequate		c) Limiting	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Severely limiting					
Further comments on relative priority and on availability of resources					

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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
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					
c) yes - significant extent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				

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	
b) still to be done	
c) under development	
d) yes	X
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	X
b) yes	

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

Further comments on implementation of this Article

Regarding Q189: there are some studies associated with environmental issues in general, including biodiversity.

Regarding Q192: there are some projects being prepared for seeking finance from the international organizations concerned with environmental issues.

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		c) Limiting	X
d) Severely limiting					
Further comments on relative priority and on availability of resources					

Regarding Q194: of little significance; still in the phase of defining the risks and their causes, and assessing environmental impacts.

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					X
c) yes - significant extent					
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					X
c) advanced stages of development					
d) fully compliant with current scientific knowledge					

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	x
b) yes - limited extent	
c) yes - significant extent	
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	x
b) no, assessment of options in progress	
c) some completed, others in progress	
b) yes	
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	x
b) early stages of development	
c) advanced stages of development	
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	x
b) early stages of development	
c) advanced stages of development	
d) fully compliant with current scientific knowledge	
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	x
b) yes	
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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> X
b) information provided to the Secretariat	
c) information provided to other Parties	
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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> X
b) partly	
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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 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	
b) yes (please provide further details)	X
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	
b) to a limited extent	X
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	X
c) to a significant extent	
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)	

Further comments on implementation of this Article

Regarding Q203: firefighting mechanism.

Regarding Q 213-214-215: a National Strategy for Environment Protection has been prepared and certain criteria have been put to assess the environmental impact.

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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	b) Medium		<input type="checkbox"/>	c) Low
217. 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					
Further comments on relative priority and on availability of resources					
<p>Regarding Q216: very significant for generating improved breed and stock and conserving genetic resources.</p>					

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	
b) yes - limited extent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) yes - limited extent	
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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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	
b) some measures in place	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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	
b) analysis in progress	X
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	
b) yes - limited extent	X
c) yes - significant extent	

227. Has your country identified national authorities responsible for granting access to genetic resources?	
a) no	
b) yes	X
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	
b) yes	X
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	X
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	X
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 | X |

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 | X |

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, *sui generis* systems and "intermediaries"?

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| a) no | X |
| 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 | X |
| 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 | X |
| c) yes to a significant extent | |

Further comments on implementation of this Article

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	X	c) Low	
239. 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					
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					
b) some measures in place	X				
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					
b) yes (please give brief details below)	X				
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					
b) relevant, but no measures					
c) some measures in place	X				
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

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		c) Low	X
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	X				
d) potential measures under review					
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	X				
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	X				
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	X	b) Medium		c) Low	
---------	---	-----------	--	--------	--

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

a) Good		b) Adequate		c) Limiting	30%	d) Severely limiting	
---------	--	-------------	--	-------------	-----	----------------------	--

Further comments on relative priority and on availability of resources

Regarding Q252: there are good attempts particularly in the agriculture of fiber producing crops and in the plant and animal production.

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	X
c) yes - significant extent	

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	
b) early stages of development	X
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	X
c) yes - significant extent	
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	X
c) yes - significant extent	

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	X
b) yes	
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	X
c) yes - significant extent	
261. Has your country designated a national focal point for the Clearing-House Mechanism?	
a) no	X
b) yes	
262. Is your country providing resources for the development and implementation of the Clearing-House Mechanism?	
a) no	X
b) yes, at the national level	
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	X
b) under development	
c) yes (please give details below)	
265. Is your CHM linked to the Internet	
a) no	X
b) yes	
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

Regarding Q247: currently, work is in place to establish a mechanical unit for the exchange of information.

Regarding Q252: there good attempts particularly in the culture of fiber producing crops, and in the plant and animal production.

Regarding Q260: training of national personnel on the mechanism of exchange of information has started; also, initial actions are in place to establish a national unit for the exchange of information about biodiversity.

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					
<p>On 7/3/ 2002, the legislative Decree No. /33/ was issued by the President of the Republic ordaining the formation of the "General Committee for Biotechnology".</p>					

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					
b) some measures in place	X				
c) potential measures under review	X				
d) comprehensive measures in place					
If so, are these measures:					
a) Legislation	X				
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					
b) some measures in place	X				
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

- Currently, the Ministry of State for Environmental Affairs is working towards becoming a contracting party to the "Cartagena Protocol" on Biosafety; also, the Ministry is preparing to participate in the National Frameworks Development Project in relation to Biosafety.

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
d) Severely limiting					
Further comments on relative priority and on availability of resources					
<p>- Syria has fulfilled all its financial obligations set by the convention.</p>					

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	X				
d) yes - financial support and incentives					
<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				

If a developed country Party -

278. Has your country provided financial resources related to implementation of the Convention through bilateral, regional and other multilateral channels (20(3))?

If a developing country Party or Party with economy in transition -

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	x
b) procedures being established	
c) yes (please provide details)	

283. Are details available of your country's financial support to national biodiversity activities?

a) no	x
b) not in a standardized format	
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	X
b) yes	

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	X
d) exemptions in place	

Further comments on implementation of this Article

Regarding Q288: tax exemption is enforced on the projects financed by international institutions concerned with environmental issues, and by other concerned organizations individually, such as (the Biodiversity Conservation and Natural Reserves Management Project).

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	X	b) Medium		c) Low	
290. 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					

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					
b) yes	X				

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

Further comments on implementation of this Article

Regarding Q292: we can not respond to this question because it is not clear enough.

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)	
b) COP 2 (Jakarta)	1
c) COP 3 (Buenos Aires)	1
d) COP 4 (Bratislava)	1
e) COP 5 (Nairobi)	0

***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

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	x
b) yes (please specify which)	

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)	

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

Regarding Q293: the participant in the CoP (Convention of Parties) is the National Coordinator for Biodiversity.

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	

Further comments on implementation of this Article

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)	1
c) SBSTTA III (Montreal)	1
d) SBSTTA IV (Montreal)	1
e) SBSTTA V (Montreal)	1

Further comments on implementation of this Article

- | |
|---|
| - The participant in the SBSTTA is the National Coordinator for Biodiversity. |
|---|

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)?	
by the extended deadline of 31.12.98 (Decision IV/14)?	
Later (please specify date)	Feb. 2000

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	X
b) yes	

If yes, was this by:

a) informal distribution?	
---------------------------	--

b) publishing the report?	
c) making the report available on request?	
d) posting the report on the Internet?	

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	

Further comments on implementation of this Article

--

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	X
c) some aspects are being applied	
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	
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	X
b) informal co-operation	
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	
b) under review	X
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	X
b) yes	
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	
b) yes - national plans only	X
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

Regarding Q307 & 308: currently, some activities related to the second part of Q307 are being implemented, and there is, to some extent, an endeavor to execute Q308.

Regarding Q312: the documents for new projects are being prepared, and finance for these projects shall be sought from international environmental institutions. These projects focus on the protection of the "Aquatic Biodiversity Components" and on laying down "integrated management plans" for the water slanting lines.

Regarding Q317: through the strategy and the National Action Plan for Biodiversity.

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

Further comments on implementation of these decisions and the associated programme of work

--

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	X
d) assessment completed	
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	
d) mechanisms in place	X
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	
c) advanced stages of development	
d) mechanisms in place	X

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	
b) yes - limited extent	X
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	
c) yes - significant extent	X
339. Is your country helping to implement the Global Plan of Action for the Conservation and Sustainable Utilization of Plant Genetic Resources?	
a) no	
b) yes	X
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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
342. Is your country promoting regional and thematic co-operation within this framework of the programme of work on agricultural biological diversity?	
a) no	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) some co-operation	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) widespread co-operation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) full co-operation in all areas	<input type="checkbox"/>
343. Has your country provided financial support for implementation of the programme of work on agricultural biological diversity?	
a) no	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) limited additional funds	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) significant additional funds	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) yes within existing cooperation programme(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) yes, including limited additional funds	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) yes, with significant additional funds	<input type="checkbox"/>
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	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) yes, to a limited extent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) yes, to a significant extent	<input type="checkbox"/>
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	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) taking steps to do so	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) signed - ratification in process	<input type="checkbox"/>

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	X
b) yes	
349. Is your country collaborating with other Parties on the conservation and sustainable use of pollinators?	
a) no	
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	
b) no	X
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	X
b) yes - under consideration	
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	
c) potential measures under review	X
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	X
b) yes - regulation needed	
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)	

Further comments on implementation of these decisions and the associated programme of work

- we don't have the programme of work associated with the mentioned decision 5/5.
- **Regarding Q354:** efforts are in place to implement the content of the question.

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	
b) yes	X
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	X
c) yes - significant extent	
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
<i>For developing country Parties and Parties with economies in transition -</i>	
363. When requesting assistance through the GEF, Is your country proposing projects which promote the implementation of the programme of work?	
a) no	
b) yes	X

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	X
c) yes - significant extent	
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	X
c) yes - all stakeholders	
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	X
c) many programmes covering some needs	
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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) under review	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) yes	<input type="checkbox"/>

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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) to a limited extent	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) to a significant extent	<input type="checkbox"/>

374. Is your country fostering cooperation for the regional or subregional implementation of the programme among countries sharing similar biomes?

a) no	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) to a limited extent	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) to a significant extent	<input type="checkbox"/>

Further comments on implementation of these Decisions and the associated programme of work

Regarding Q361: through the studies provided by the concerned international organizations in relation to the establishment of natural reserves.

Regarding Q363: through the preparation of the "natural reserves document" and through supporting the "Cedar & Fir" reserve.

Regarding Q369: through supporting the inhabitants of afforested villages but to a limited extent.

Regarding Q371: because in our country forests have no clear productive role.

Regarding Q372: the programme of work related to this annex is not available.

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	
b) yes	X

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	X
c) to a significant extent	

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	X
b) under way	
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:

- 1- preparation of the "National Study for Biodiversity" in Arabic, 1998.
- 2- Preparation of the "National Study for Biodiversity" in English, 2000.
- 3- Preparation of the "National Strategy and Action Plan" for Biodiversity protection in both Arabic and English; it needs the approval of the "Higher Council for Environmental Safety".
- 4- Getting started with the implementation of the agro-biodiversity conservation project at two important areas in Syria.
- 5- Declaration of many natural reserves in various ecosystem (15 reserves).
- 6- Starting to prepare the required legislations that regulate the in/out processes of plant and animal genetic resources.
- 7- Establishment of the "General Committee for Biotechnology".
- 8- Getting started with "Biodiversity Conservation and Natural Reserves Management Project" (The Cedar & Fir Reserve).
- 9- Joining some sub-conventions related to biodiversity (ACCOBAMS).
- 10- Working towards becoming a contracting party to other conventions (agreements) related to biodiversity such as (CMS, AEWA, CITES, Cartagena).
- 11- Public awareness campaign about biodiversity, its importance, and the necessity to protect it.

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

- 1- Cooperation is in place with the regional programme "UNESCO-Man and Biosphere", which is sponsored by UNESCO and is concerned with the establishment of Man and Biosphere reserves.
- 2- There is cooperation with the "Regional Center for the Activities of Protected Areas", which is associated with the Barcelona convention. This cooperation focuses on the establishment of Coastal & Marine reserves.

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

The wording of these questions is based on the Articles of the Convention and the decisions of the Conference of the Parties. Please provide information on any difficulties that you have encountered in interpreting the wording of these questions

- there is difficulty in understanding some questions possibly due to the translation from English to Arabic (e.g., the terms related to compensation, whitening of coral, ..etc.)
- There are cases where the options mentioned in the answer do not cover some situations of the parties.

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

Date of completion:	Feb. 2000	
If the NBSAP has been adopted by the Government		
By which authority?		
On what date?		
If the NBSAP has been published please give		
Title:		
Name and address of publisher:		
ISBN:		
Price (if applicable):		
Other information on ordering:		
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:		
If the NBSAP has been lodged with an Implementing Agency of the GEF		
Please indicate which agency:		
Has a copy of the NBSAP been lodged with the Convention Secretariat?		
Yes	No	

Please provide similar details if you have completed a Biodiversity Country Study or another report or action plan relevant to the objectives of this Convention

- The "National Study for Biodiversity" in Arabic and English.
- The "National Strategy and Action Plan" for Biodiversity; when this plan is approved by the government it shall be delivered to the general secretary of the agreement immediately.

Please provide details of any national body (e.g. national audit office) that has or will review the implementation of the Convention in your country

The Ministry of State for Environmental Affairs is the coordinating side that is in charge of the following-up procedures for the implementation of international agreement on biodiversity. This national side is also coordinating with other national authorities concerned with biodiversity protection. This coordination involves all aspects related to biodiversity in terms of the agreement implementation, the required procedures, or the preparation of the required report (Ministries of, Agriculture, High Education, Irrigation, Tourism, Interior, and Planning; in addition to popular organizations, non-governmental societies, national, Arab, regional and international scientific centers).