

Republic of Tajikistan

**SECOND NATIONAL REPORT
ON BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION**

Dushanbe – 2005

RLNP	Research Laboratory for Nature Protection of State Committee for Environment Protection and Forestry
NBBC	National Biodiversity and Biosafety Center
	Global Environment Facility
	United Nations Development Programme

Second National Report on biodiversity conservation in Tajikistan is developed by National Biodiversity and Biosafety Center of the Republic of Tajikistan under the guidance of National Biodiversity and Biosafety Focal Point N.Safarov, within the framework of the project “Дополнительное финансирование для оценки потенциала приоритетных вопросов биоразнообразия” under Global Environment Facility (GEF) and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) support.

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List of acronyms

AS	Academy of Science
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GMO	Genetically modified organism
IHO	Institution of Higher Education
NBBC	National Biodiversity and Biosafety Center
NBSAP	National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan
NGP	Non-governmental organization
PA	Protected Area
RLNP	Research Laboratory for Nature Protection
RT	Republic of Tajikistan
SCEPF	State Committee for Environment Protection and Forestry
SRI	Science-research Institute
TAAS	Tajik Academy on Agricultural Science
TAU	Tajik Agrarian University
TSNU	Tajik State National University
TSRICB	Tajik Science-Research Institute on Cattle Breeding
TV	Television
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNO	United Nations Organization
USAID	United States Agency on International Development

WB

World Bank

WWF

World wildlife fund Всемирный фонд охраны дикой природы

Preface

Membership in UN Convention on Biological diversity and consequent actions on implementation of the National Strategy allow our country to solve a number of vital problems which are reflected in the programmes of the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan.

The most serious task that the world community, including Tajikistan, faces is poverty reduction. One of the practical ways to solve this issue is provision of real benefits of biodiversity conservation and sustainable use for the progress and well-being of the society, not breaking sustainable state of environment and the integrity of ecosystems.

Exclusively high cost assessment of wildlife objects and renewability of biodiversity and biological resources are the leading strategic resource. And this places our country in a number of leaders who possess unique bioresources. In this context it is needed to develop new management systems on wildlife conservation. This will allow to significantly expand the area of foreign-political and foreign-economic activity of the country.

One of the main tasks of biodiversity conservation strategy in Tajikistan is organization of sustainable biodiversity management system, including monitoring system, and information transfer to stakeholders and decision-makers in a more convenient form. In this regard, periodical preparation of information in the form of National Report on biodiversity conservation in Tajikistan, taking into account political, economic, legislative and international documents, and CBD requirements, is of a definite significance.

The proposed Second National Report contains valuable information on the progress of implementation of NBSAP approved by the Decree of the Government RT dated 01.09.03 №392. As soon as this document was approved Government of the Republic of Tajikistan made significant actions to improve biodiversity conservation and sustainable use.

During preparation of First National Report under the above-stated Decree of the Government there was created National Biodiversity and Biosafety Center (NBBC) to implement Convention on Biodiversity and National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan. The tasks of this Center include coordination of activities and development of a concept on implementation and introduction of CBD principles, including achievement of the main goals of this Convention – conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in Tajikistan, equitable benefit sharing from genetic resources use. Conservation of wildlife, consciousness on the role of nature of our country in supporting people's well-being, understanding of significant role of biological resources in national wealth – all this should become the basis for forming country' population mind.

On the initiative of NBBC in cooperation with other partners, particularly, with centers on implementation of UN Convention on Climate Change and Convention on Combat to desertification, and with the Center on Implementation of Aarhus Convention, in the country there is conducted broad activity covering all strata of society regarding raising public awareness on the need in conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.

Taking into account proposals and recommendations of interested ministries and authorities, the Government of the country has strengthened the institutional base of biodiversity conservation. In particular, the department on nature reserves has been transformed into State Institution on Protected Areas. On the proposal of SCEPF there was approved by the Government and adopted by the Parliament the Law "On flora".

Another important event in the life of our republic was Tajikistan joining the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to Convention on Biodiversity. In this regard, the most significant political step on biodiversity conservation became the development of the National Biosafety Framework and approval of the Law of the Republic of Tajikistan "On Biological Safety" by the Parliament in December 2005. This law will further allow to establish a system of control, risk assessment, and establish rules on importing, transporting, storing and release into environment of genetically modified organisms. This Law is targeted at stimulating scientific progress, organization of the system on biosafety monitoring to protect human health, flora, fauna, ecosystems and environment as a whole in our country.

In Tajikistan, on the basis of flora and fauna indicators, and also considering the significance of country's biodiversity in global, regional and national scale, there are established the main problems and priority directions in biodiversity conservation at species, population and ecosystem levels.

Implementation of President's special order on annual planting of trees and bushes in the country also serves for conservation of biodiversity in urbanized and natural ecosystems. As a result every year millions of sapling of young trees are planted not only in inhabited areas but also in mountain forest ecosystems.

Conservation of biodiversity and implementation of CBD requirements as a whole are fully supported by the Government of the country, and the tendency of strengthening Government policy in this area gives positive results.

A.Karimov,
Chairman of SCEPF RT

Introduction

Second National Report on biodiversity conservation in Tajikistan has been prepared in accordance with requirements of UN Convention on Biodiversity, decision of the Conference of the Parties, and according to the decisions of the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan and other legal and programme documents dealing with country's priorities on sustainable development.

The key documents that served as the basis for developing Second National Report on biodiversity conservation were National Biosafety Strategy and Action Plan and First National Report on biodiversity conservation prepared in 2003 and approved by the Government of the country. National Biosafety Strategy and Action Plan contains results of biodiversity inventory, main identified priorities of biodiversity conservation at various biological levels, and main directions on sustainable use of biodiversity. The strategy has become the basis for developing principles and directives of the national policy in the field of biodiversity conservation in the country.

The proposed Second National Report on biodiversity conservation reflects the degree of implementation of obligations under CBD in the country, including Convention programmes and decisions of the Conference of the Parties. It is presented in 116 pages and consists of introductory part – list of acronyms, preface, introduction, and the main part – introductory tables and answers to 377 questions prepared on the articles of the Convention and decisions of the Conference of the Parties. On a number of questions it contains additional justifications and explanations. In separate sections the National report contains analysis and assessment of application of ecosystem approach in Tajikistan, protection of biological diversity of agriculture, biodiversity of forests and high-mountain deserts.

Second National Report is a document analyzing opinion of governmental authorities of the country, non-governmental organizations, responsible officials, science and nature protective institutions, specialists on biodiversity management and monitoring, and nature users of all the regions of the country regarding protection and sustainable use of biodiversity in the republic.

This document reflects the progress achieved in the field of biodiversity conservation, and unaccounted factors that negatively affect the course of CBD and NBSAP implementation.

Second National Report describes governmental directives on biodiversity conservation and sustainable use, and also it provides the survey of activities on works improvement.

In the process of preparation of Second National Report there participated representatives of all stakeholders. To ensure participation of all stakeholders and gathering adequate information National Biodiversity and Biosafety Center conducted three workshops at the national level, about 15 workshops of district and town character, 6 workshops of science-technical character, and over 20 working meetings with specialists and responsible officials. As a whole, over 1500 persons took part in the workshops.

To assist stakeholders in providing answers to the questions of the National Report there

was provided access to information resources of CBD, and prepared special instructions, which were sent to district and town Khukumats and sub-divisions of SCEPF. In parallel there were conducted explanatory works, consultations, working meetings and local workshops. As a result, we received answers to the questions and reports on implementation of National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan from a number of ministries and authorities. This information was analyzed and taken into account during preparation of the National Report.

The answers that we received during work on the Report were generalized by the specialists of scientific, educational institutions and responsible officials of ministries and authorities under methodical and consultative guidance of NBBC specialists, and are included into the Report.

It should be pointed that despite explanatory work, many of workshops participants and involved experts found it difficult to give sufficient answers to the questions. A special difficulty was faced when answering questions on alien species, ecosystem approach and access to genetic resources, that is linked with the lack of needed information and limited research works which are on the initial stage of their development.

Many answers of scientific and educational institutions, and even ministries and authorities, had contradictions regarding each other. In this context there was conducted an additional analysis, and multiple explanatory and consultative works.

The prepared National Report allowed and will allow to conduct further multilateral analysis on the Convention implementation in the country and to define issues that require primary attention, and to settle the issues on investments to the projects and programs on biodiversity conservation. In particular, there are required investments to organization and implementation of the issues on monitoring, inventory, taxonomy initiatives, invasive species, creation and introduction of incentive measures, application of ecosystem approach, and organization of activities on public awareness and education on these issues, because there is misunderstanding on these issues among higher scientific circles.

Those research works that were conducted and information gathered during preparation of Second National Report will make the basis for preparation of Third National Report on biodiversity conservation in Tajikistan.

Please provide the following details on the origin of this report

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Date of submission:	December 2005

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

The Report was prepared by a group of national experts from the National Biodiversity and Biosafety Center (NBBC), from the Academy of Science and other research institutions in the area of botany, zoology, geography and agriculture. Most of them carry out researches on the issues of biological diversity for many years and possess sufficient information and understanding of the problems, needs and priority in this domain. The background information has been collected partially during the preparatory work on the First National Report on Biological Diversity, as well as of the Biodiversity Conservation National Strategy and Action Plan of the Republic of Tajikistan. Among most important sources of information were widely used various papers of the national workshops and conferences in the area of Biodiversity, research findings from scientific reports, annual reports on environmental protection of the State Committee for Environmental Protection and Forestry, the results of individual interviews with about 30 national biodiversity conservation experts. In the final stage of preparing the Report, NBBC has organized a workshop in order to present the process and its results to about 60 stakeholders including representatives from government, scientific and academic institutions and NGOs. After the workshop, the report was then finally reviewed and submitted to the CBD Secretariat.

The collected information was presented in the format presented by the Secretariat of the CBD, with the assistance of the international consultant. The report provides a realistic picture regarding the status of implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity and NBSAP in the Republic of Tajikistan.

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

The Republic of Tajikistan is a newly independent country with economy in the transition. The country is rich in natural resources, most importantly water and hydropower, and also some minerals - gold, silver, precious stones and uranium. The mountain landscapes of Tajikistan contain 0.66% of the world animal and 1.8% - plant diversity, including wild relatives of domestic animals and cultivated plants. Tajikistan has rich genetic resources of species which are a potential source of raising high-productive and resistant cultivated varieties, adornment plants, and medicinal, aromatic, and industrial raw material. One of the world centers of cultivated plant origin is located here. The richness of biodiversity is observed at the genetic, species, population, biocoenosis, and ecosystem levels; there are many relict and endemic species. Most of the components are vulnerable to anthropogenic impacts. The area of contemporary Tajikistan contains more than 9 thousand species of sporebearing and flowering plants and over 13 thousand of animal species. The terrain is mainly mountainous and arable land is scarce.

Starting from its independence (1991) the country promoted systemic reforms in all sectors of national economy, based on privatization, liberalization of economic activity. Tajikistan is a low income country and, with a Gross National Income (GNI) per capita of US\$300, is one of the poorest in the world, - significant part of the population lives below the poverty line. The agricultural sector accounts for about 60 percent of employment and 20 percent of GDP -- with cotton contributing about half of total agricultural production. Industrial production contributes a little over 20 percent to GDP, of which the aluminum smelter and textiles account for the lion's share. Aluminum and cotton comprise the bulk of the country's output and exports.

After the end of the civil war, the economy recovered, - GDP growth in the 2000-2004 was almost 30 percent. However, despite implementation of the country's action plan on development the poverty remains widespread and deep. The education and healthcare systems continue to deteriorate. The country's large external debt complicates economic management and affects the country's ability to reduce poverty. Weak institutions and poor governance are serious constraints for development. Deficiencies in the legal framework and the judicial system, as well as weak public administration and an undeveloped financial sector, hamper the growth of an investment climate necessary for private sector development.

In spite of all economic difficulties the Government of the country makes maximum efforts on conservation of biodiversity, - in such a way before finalizing the Second National Report there were developed and affirmed the National Strategy and Action Plan on Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity.

Also in Tajikistan:

- strengthened the governmental body institution on protected areas;
- developed the Law "On flora";
- developed and approved the Program on protected areas development.

In the Governmental level structure while developing plans the programs on

biodiversity conservation are included. Government took an initiative of supporting the civil society.

In development process of Second National Report there was held a significant quantity of working conferences and meetings, the key experts and consultants were defined. Practically all the questions were included in the Report; they were discussed during thematic workshops and agreed with relevant ministries and authorities.

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

Marine and coastal biological diversity

3. What is the relative priority for implementation of this work programme in your country?	
a) High	
b) Medium	
c) Low	
d) Not relevant	x
4. To what extent are the resources available adequate for meeting the obligations and recommendations made?	
a) Good	
b) Adequate	
c) Limiting	
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

Questions 1-10.

The priority activities on Biodiversity Conservation for the most important ecosystems (outside the marine and coastal ecosystems which are not relevant to Tajikistan) are specified in the National Biodiversity Conservation Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP), approved by the Government in 2003. Furthermore, at the initial stage of preparing this report, following the process of gathering the necessary information for the report, a special pool of interviews among most knowledgeable national biodiversity experts was held in order to determine the priority problems. While the most difficult problem was acknowledged by practically all experts the lack of financial resources for biodiversity conservation, there also was a different opinions over what are the most important biodiversity conservation activities should first of all to be carried out.

According to the provisions of the NBSAP (point 2.5) the following activities are considered as high priority needs:

- establishing inter-institutional coordination bodies for biological diversity management;
- improving the science-research base;
- improving management system of available protected areas and establishing new areas;
- *in situ* and *ex situ* biodiversity conservation;
- organizing a biological monitoring system and creating an electronic database and databank on biodiversity;
- restoring the degraded ecosystems;
- providing sustainable use of biological resources, and reducing human negative impact on ecosystems;
- using indigenous traditional methods on biodiversity conservation and sustainable management;
- developing regulations and standards for biodiversity conservation and sustainable management.

It is necessary to mention also the fact that due to the fact that the country is primary an agricultural country, agricultural biodiversity is also one of the highest priorities for Tajikistan. Cultivation of cotton, cereals, various fruits and grapes growing is well developed in the country, and needs further protection and development of new species, based on the local genetic resources. Besides, cattle breeding is also well developed in agrarian sector. Some of the local species of plants and animal are cultured and well adapted to local conditions of their habitats and constitute invaluable genetic resources for both national and international communities.

All interviewed experts have mentioned that currently the country has very limited resources to implement biodiversity conservation activities. Practically the whole Governmental Investment Program is implemented based on the international assistance.

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

c) Low

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

a) Good

b) Adequate

c) Limiting

d) Severely limiting

Further comments on relative priority and on availability of resources

Quashes 11 - 12.

The country's major objectives on international environmental co-operation are determined by its geographical location, the priority of environmental problems, and the need to co-ordinate efforts with other and first of all with the neighboring countries in solving environmental common and transboundary ecological problems. In this regard, Tajikistan since the second half of 90s participates actively in global environmental processes and has signed a number of multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs). At the same time the country is actively involved in regional co-operation, and first of all in cooperation with other former USSR Central Asia countries.

The high priority of implementation the Article could be explained by the following reasons:

- geographical situation of Tajikistan demands carrying out additional assessment of transboundary nature habitats (areals), species and ecosystems and methods of their biodiversity conservation as well;
- the largest Central Asia rivers (Vakhsh, Pyanj, Kafirnigan, Surkhob) form regional basins of rivers Amu-Darya and Syr-Darya that have resemblance in flora and fauna with neighboring countries;
- due to the prevalence of the South winds, especially sand storms, which formats in desert zone territories of Central Asian countries, the transboundary pollution factor is very important;
- on the country's territory are placed most important habitats for several rare and endangered species of mammals and birds such as *Ovis ammon Polii* Blyth., *Uncia Uncia Schreber*, *Capra falconeri heptneri* Zalkin, *Auser indicus bath.*, etc., which migrate through the territory of the neighboring countries or are wintering on other national territories;
- several rare and endangered fauna species such as *Uncia Uncia Schreber*, *Gazella subgutturosa Guldenstaedt*, *Auser indicus bath.*, *Ursus arctos*, *Marmota menzbieri kaschkarov*, *Canis auerus*, *Ovis vignei bochariensis* Nasonov have their habitats on transboundary territories and need the coordination of protection activities among different countries;
- unique areas for reproduction of migrating birds and mammals not only from neighboring but oversea countries.

It is necessary to mention that most of the action plans on Biodiversity Conservation presented in the NBSAP contain special activities in this regard, mostly on harmonization of national legislation with the provisions of the international Biodiversity Conventions, as well as with the cooperation with other countries in preserving transboundary natural habitats, river basins. The importance of international cooperation in the area of Biodiversity Conservation was recently reconfirmed by the Government of the country. In its Decision on the State Program for protected areas development for the period of 2005-2015 (# 79 dated March 4, 2005), it is stipulated the need for international cooperation in this regard and for creation of transboundary national parks, in particular on the border areas with Kyrgyzstan, China, Afghanistan and Pakistan.

13. Is your country actively cooperating with other Parties in respect of areas beyond national jurisdiction for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity?

a) bilateral cooperation (please give details below)	x
b) international programmes (please give details below)	x
c) international agreements (please give details below)	x

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)	
c) yes - significant extent (please give details below)	x
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	x
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

Questions

13. a) The bilateral cooperation on Biodiversity Conservation is supported by the several international agreements, among which are the agreements with the following countries:

- Turkey - 1995;
- India - 1995;
- China - 1996;
- Kyrgyzstan - 2004;
- Armenia - 2003
- Iran - 2003

13. b). Tajikistan is actively involved in many activities on regional level, and in particular with other Former Soviet Union Central Asia countries. Last decade these countries have developed a series on common environmental protection activities, including in the area of biodiversity and in particular:

- Regional Environmental Action Plan;
- Regional Agreement on cooperation on common management, usage and protection of waters resources, signed by Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan in 1994;
- Agreement on cooperation between Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan and Tajikistan on cooperation in the area of environmental protection and rational use of natural resources, signed in 1998;
- Declaration on Sustainable Development;
- Strategy for Sustainable Mountain Development;
- Agreement on creation of the Regional Environment Center for five Central Asian countries, which addresses important interstate (regional) environment issues partially including the program on biodiversity conservation;

13. c) Tajikistan adhered to the following international treaties and conventions:

A. Biodiversity-related treaties and conventions:

1. Convention on Wetlands of International Importance Especially as Waterfowl Habitat (Ramsar, 1971)
2. Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (Bonn, 1979)

B. "Horizontal" treaties which refer to various environmental aspects, including biodiversity:

3. United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (Rio de Janeiro, 1992);
4. Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-Making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters (Aarhus, 1998);

C. Treaties and documents at ministerial level related to biodiversity conservation:

5. Action Programme on Sustainable Development "Agenda XXI" (Rio de Janeiro, June 3-14, 1992); (Report from UN Conference on environmental problems, Stockholm, June 5-16, 1972 (UN publication, #R.73. II. A. 14), chapter 1. <http://www.un.org/russian/document/declarat/riodecl.htm>);
6. The United Nations Convention on Combat to Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Droughts and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa (Paris, 1994);
7. Intergovernmental Commission on Sustainable Development (ICSD) is established in accordance to article 2 "Agreement on joint activities for solving the problem of Aral sea and Neararal, ecological health and providing the socio-economic development of Aral region" which was signed by the Head of the countries of the Central Asia, Kyzyl-Orda, March 26, 1993;
8. In accordance to regulate the issues on water and river basin Sir-Daria and Amu-Daria February 18, 1992 in Alma-Ati was signed Intergovernmental Agreement among the Republics Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan "About the cooperation in area of joint management of use and conservation of water resources of intergovernmental resources".
9. Bilateral Agreement between Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan that was signed on May 25, 2004, #219 "Memorandum on cooperation development between the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan and the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic in ecological safety area" on biodiversity conservation (including the transboundary biodiversity);

From the second half of 90s Tajikistan has been actively involved in the "Environment for Europe" process. The country supported the establishment of the Central Asia REC in Alma-Ati and signed the agreement on that with other Central Asian countries.

Tajikistan also was actively involved in cooperation on environmental protection, including Biodiversity Conservation with other CIS countries. In 1999 Tajikistan signed the Agreement on Co-operation in the Field of Environmental Protection, which is being coordinated by the Interstate Ecological Council for the CIS Region. It participated in all activities undertaken in the framework of this Agreement in the second half of 90s, including various working groups and has signed a few sub-agreements, and in particular: (a) "Agreement on co-operation in the field of information exchange for ecology and environment protection" (1998); (b) "Agreement on co-operation in the field of forestry and forest industry" (1998); and (c) "Agreement on co-operation in the field of ecological monitoring" (1999).

Questions 14.

Tajikistan has signed several multilateral agreements on cooperation in particular on sustainable management of transboundary watersheds as well as bilateral agreements on cooperation on environmental protections practically with all its neighbours (see above).

Questions 15.

Until now the country doesn't have practice on management of international protected areas.

Questions 16.

Tajikistan didn't cooperate until now with DIVERSITAS.

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	
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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	
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Further comments on relative priority and on availability of resources

18-19. The National Strategy and Action Plan on Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity was developed by the Science Laboratory for Nature Protection (SLNP) and approved in 2003 by the Government of Tajikistan (#392 dated September 1, 2003). Based on the document the National Biodiversity and Biosafety Center was established as the coordination body for the Convention on Biological Diversity and National Strategy implementation. The National Strategy and Action Plan on Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity has been prepared with the financial support of the GEF and with the UNDP assistance. This document stipulates the main goals and objectives of Biodiversity Conservation in the country, as well as the activities that should be carried out by all involved parties, - state institutions, scientific centers, local authorities, NGOs, etc. The proposed activities are oriented to minimizing the negative impact of the anthropogenic activities on environment and ecosystems, and especially on natural habitats, to strengthen the institutional capacity, to promote scientific research, biodiversity monitoring, to conduct ecological restoration of the most important ecosystems, etc. It is also proposed to create new and to increase the surface of the existing protected areas.

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	
e) completed and adopted ₂	x
f) reports on implementation available	

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

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	
e) completed and adopted ₂	x
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	

23. Do your national strategies and action plans cover integration of other sectoral activities (6b)?	
a) no	
b) some sectors	
c) all major sectors	x
d) all sectors	

Decision II/7 and Decision III/9 Consideration of Articles 6 and 9

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	
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	
d) programme in place	
e) reports on implementation available	x
<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)?	UNDP

Decisions III/21. Relationship of the Convention with the CSD and biodiversity-related conventions

29. Are the national focal points for the CBD and the competent authorities of the Ramsar Convention, Bonn Convention and CITES cooperating in the implementation of these conventions to avoid duplication?	
a) no	
b) yes - limited extent	
c) yes - significant extent	x

Further comments on implementation of this Article

Quashes 20 - 23.

The National Strategy and Action Plan on Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity was approved in 2003 by the Government of Tajikistan. The document was prepared with the financial support of GEF and with UNDP assistance. The documents were widely discussed and agreed at various national workshop and conferences on Biodiversity Conservation with the participation of all sectors of economy, scientific institutions, NGO community, Government and Parliament of Tajikistan. In preparing these documents from September 2001 till June 2003 there were conducted over 50 workshops and conferences.

NBSAP contains 4 sections: Current state and main trends of biodiversity development; National Strategy; the Action Plan; and Implementation of Action Plan. The Strategy section contains the main goal and objectives of Biodiversity Conservation in the country. The detailed Action Plan in the part 3 of the document includes a series of activities and projects aimed at conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in

Tajikistan. Currently the Government is implementing this Plan. For that purpose, according to the NBSAP, there were prepared and approved sectoral action plans for all economy sectors, but their implementation face difficulties, mostly due to lack of resources. Partially the implementation of the document is supported by international donors, through a series of concrete projects. Currently the following projects are being under implementation:

- *GEF Medium Size Project "Dashtidzhum Biodiversity Conservation"* was approved in August 2004. The development objective of the project is that local communities adopt community-based natural resources management practices. The global objective is to support in-situ conservation of globally significant biodiversity of the Dashtidzhumskiy Zakaznik. The project will assist in: (a) strengthening local capacity to protect and management biodiversity and natural resources; (b) supporting small-scale based sustainable livelihood activities; (c) piloting community-based forestry management; (d) building public awareness on conservation issues; and (e) promoting participation of local communities and NGOs in decision making and conservation activities. The project is being implemented by a local NGO, Tajikistan Republican Scientific Environmental Association "Noosfera".
- *Lake Sarez Risk Mitigation Project.* The project consists of four components: (a) Design and install a monitoring system and an early warning system that will alert vulnerable communities and authorities before the occurrence of life-threatening conditions. (b) Make the early warning system community-based and help communities to prepare not only for a potential outburst flood from Sarez but also for smaller-scale natural disasters that tend to occur frequently in the project area. (c) Analyze long-term solutions to make Lake Sarez environmentally sustainable for future generations; and, (d) Strengthen units within the Ministry of Emergency Situations and Civil Defense (MESCD) that will be responsible for operating and maintaining the monitoring and early warning systems. In association to this project, a grant in an amount of USD 1.6 million has recently been approved by JSDF to support poor and vulnerable communities of the valleys of Bartang and Panj to undergo a livelihood change from reliance on external aid to sustainable development by promoting village-level social and economic development. The grant will be implemented by an international NGO "FOCUS Humanitarian Assistance". It will support various types of activities, including afforestation works, planting of fast growing tresses, pastures improvements, creating new orchards, - other environmentally friendly agricultural activities It is expected the project will be finished by the end of 2005.
- *Community Agriculture & Watershed Management Project.* (USD TBD) The project has been prepared and it is expected to be approved and signed in 2005. The main objectives of the Project is to help reduce poverty and improve livelihoods of communities in selected watersheds by supporting productive activities aimed at increasing incomes in a sustainable manner while reducing the pressure on the environment and ensure the preservation of fragile mountain lands and ecosystems. The specific project development objectives are to: (i) increase the capacity of the people to use their resources and the services available from various (government and other) sources to support their initiatives and priorities for economic, social, and environmental development in the project area; (ii) help the communities to

sustainably increase their production and incomes from improvements in their on-farm and off-farm activities along with other income-generating opportunities in the project watershed area; and, (iii) prevent land degradation and ensure sustainable ecosystem management by introducing conservation measures while supporting the development of a sustainable livelihood for the mountain population of the project areas. The project is expected to consist of the following inter-related components: a) Participatory community development; b) Support for implementation of community action plans; c) Institutional capacity building. The following project areas have been proposed by government: (i) Surkhob watershed in Karategin valley - Rasht (Garm), Tajikibad, Jirgital and part of Darband raions; (ii) Zarafshan valley - Pendjikent, Aini and Matcha rayons in Sogd oblast; and (iii) Obi Toirsou valley - Danghara rayon in Khatlon oblast. A special USD 4.5million grant is associated to the project, that would support activities that would provide global environmental benefits, mostly in the area of biodiversity conservation and land degradation.

Questions 24.

The information with regard to Biodiversity Conservation planning process was disseminated widely among various international organization, in particular: UNDP, UNEP, GEF, WWF, Asian Development Bank, World Bank, USAID, Swiss Agency, etc. Also the results were considered in Regional and Sub-regional workshops (2003-2004).

Questions 25.

The NBSAP has a special section on international cooperation, as well as stipulates many activities in this regard. In particular in the section devoted to the general activities on biodiversity conservation there is a special part (subsection G) which stipulates concrete international cooperation activities, mostly on harmonizing national legislation with the international ones, cooperation on transboundary biodiversity conservation issues.

Questions 26.

The developed NBSAP was partially coordinated with the neighboring countries. In the process of its preparation there was used the experience of several countries, such as Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Armenia, Moldova, Belgium and France.

Questions 27.

The NBSAP includes detailed indicators of territorially and thematically level. It stipulates only the areas to be afforested or restored existing forests in the next 5-10 years within various forest ecosystems. For example in the point 3.10 of the NBCSAP it is stipulated that in 10 years within the mid mountain conifer forest ecosystems should be increased the area of this forest by 10 %. The document contains also a large variety of concrete actions like creation of various new protected areas, scientific centers, preparing concrete maps, reports, but no general indicators that would allow monitoring its implementation.

Questions 28.

The NBSAP was prepared under GEF financial assistance.

Questions 29.

The National Biodiversity and Biosafety Center is the responsible authority for implementation of international Conventions related to Biodiversity to what Tajikistan is a Party, and thus there is no duplication in this area. The Center cooperates with the National Focal Point for Ramsar Convention, in particular on harmonizing the reporting and activities on wetland areas. National Biodiversity and Biosafety Center has developed the National Environment Action Plan in accordance with the decree of the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan № 96 (1997). Neimatullo Safarov has been appointed the Chairman of the Working Group.

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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	b) Medium	<input type="checkbox"/>	c) Low	<input type="checkbox"/>
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31. To what extent are the resources available adequate for meeting the obligations and recommendations made?

a) Good	<input type="checkbox"/>	b) Adequate	<input type="checkbox"/>	c) Limiting	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	d) Severely limiting	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Further comments on relative priority and on availability of resources

Questions 30-31.

The high priority of biodiversity conservation identification and monitoring is determined by the almost complete absence of systemic monitoring activities in the country, although significant work on the identification of components of biological diversity has been carried out during the previous decades. Currently outside of the need for various biologists on taxonomy, there is a strong need for specialists who can conduct the field biodiversity monitoring as well as information management specialists, who can create and manage data base and Geographic Information Systems. The biological diversity researches and monitoring are carried out by the scientific institutes, universities, State Committee for Environmental Protection and Forestry. The SCEPF together with Academy of Science and Tajik Academy for Agricultural Science are in charge of implementing the monitoring programme on flora and fauna, according to the following requirements:

- Natural areas protected by state (place, name, type, forest area);
- Flora: species number - vascular plants, bryophyta, lichenophyta, fungi, algae, among which there are vulnerable and endangered ones;
- Fauna: species number - mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, fish, protozoa, among which there are vulnerable and endangered ones;
- Habitats and communities of prime importance;
- Ecosystem state assessment;
- Agrobiodiversity of plants and animals.

The Government recognises the importance of these activities and plans to improve the situation in this domain. In the recently adopted State Program on protected areas development (#79 from March 4, 2005) in the point 3 of the action plan it is specified that the State Committee for Environmental Protection and Forestry in 2006-2009 will organize and conduct ecological monitoring in all country's zapovedniks.

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	
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	
36. Does your country have ongoing monitoring programmes at ecosystem level (7b)?	
a) minimal activity	x
b) for ecosystems of particular interest only	
c) for major ecosystems	
d) for a comprehensive range of ecosystems	
37. Does your country have ongoing monitoring programmes at genetic level (7b)?	
a) minimal activity	x
b) minor programme in some sectors	
c) major programme in some sectors	
d) major programme in all relevant sectors	

38. Has your country identified activities with adverse affects on biodiversity (7c)?	
a) limited understanding	
b) threats well known in some areas, not in others	
c) most threats known, some gaps in knowledge	x
d) comprehensive understanding	
e) reports available	
39. Is your country monitoring these activities and their effects (7c)?	
a) no	
b) early stages of programme development	x
c) advanced stages of programme development	
d) programme in place	
e) reports on implementation available	
40. Does your country coordinate information collection and management at the national level (7d)?	
a) no	
b) early stages of programme development	x
c) advanced stages of programme development	
d) programme in place	
e) reports on implementation available	

Decision III/10 Identification, monitoring and assessment

41. Has your country identified national indicators of biodiversity?	
a) no	
b) assessment of potential indicators underway	x
c) indicators identified (if so, please describe below)	

42. Is your country using rapid assessment and remote sensing techniques?	
a) no	x
b) assessing opportunities	
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	x
b) not appropriate to national circumstances	
c) yes	
44. Is your country cooperating with other Contracting Parties on pilot projects to demonstrate the use of assessment and indicator methodologies?	
a) no	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	x
b) limited co-operation	
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

Questions 32-37.

Biodiversity Conservation Monitoring it is carried out within the National Environmental Monitoring system as a separate sub system that includes the following components: Forestry; Pastures; Water Resources; Agricultural Systems; Fauna; and Protected Areas. Monitoring research at all three levels, species, ecosystem and genetic, are carried out to an extremely limited extent, outside the framework of any comprehensive programme and not at the state level.

A special place in this context has the reporting system on protected areas, - that represent an annual report on the protected areas status, population of protected flora and fauna species, as well as the status of other natural habitats. In several zapovedniks such annual reports were prepared continuously during more than 50 years that allows having a clear picture on the trend in the status of species population as well as on the status of biodiversity not only of the protected areas but on various natural zones. For the last decades the identification and monitoring of biological diversity components was carried out in the country for most groups of vertebrates (almost completely), for a number of groups of insects (mainly coleoptera, some butterflies, orthoptera, homoptera etc.), arachnids (mites, and to a lesser degree spiders), some groups of helminths and also a number of groups of fungi and major higher taxa of vascular plants. Numerous reports, including volumes of "Flora of Tajikistan" and "Fauna of Tajikistan" were published.

The collections of country's flora and fauna species are available in several academic institutions (Institutes of Botany, Zoology, of the Academy of Sciences), as well as to a limited extent in the biological departments of a number of educational institutions (Tajik State University, Agricultural Academy of Sciences). These collections provide scientists and experts with access to the collections within the framework of scientific co-operation through dispatching sample materials.

Questions 38-39.

The Monitoring of the human activities that have negative impacts on the biodiversity status is the responsibility of different state institutions, which have to monitor various factors, including air pollution, soil pollution and degradation, illegal forest cutting, pastures status, etc, but until now there are no any special studies on the impacts of these factors on the status of biodiversity. While identifying adverse impact and threats on BD by human activities, a partial assessment of human activities consequences was carried out. The assessment included: cattle pasturing and cutting of trees and bushes; plough of lands and irrigation; formation of waste piles tailing pits; chemical pollution of soil and water.

Questions 40.

Most of the updated information on the country's Biodiversity it is presented in National annual State of Environment report, prepared by Science Laboratory for Nature Protection of the State Committee for Environmental Protection and Forestry and National Biodiversity and Biosafety Center. Such reports are prepared starting from 1992 (they are published periodically) and contain detailed information about both the status and biodiversity conservation activities in the country. Data collection and quality control are restrained due to absence of Uniformed Database Center. At the moment the centers on data collection are various interested institutions.

Questions 41.

According to the data of Tajik Statistics Agency, the following indicators related to Biodiversity are used in the country: forest resources and its conservation, zapovedniks and zakazniks, pollutions to atmosphere, costs for nature conservation and rational use of natural resources, natural disasters.

Questions 46.

Herbarium collection of the Institute of Botany of Academy of Science in contract basis has the herbarium material exchange with SCI countries, Germany and USA. And also in the Department of systematization and flora of higher plants scientific works are conducted with the specialists of other countries.

Decisions on Taxonomy

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

50. Has your country carried out a national taxonomic needs assessment, and/or held workshops to determine national taxonomic priorities?	
a) no	
b) early stages of assessment	x
c) advanced stages of assessment	
d) assessment completed	
51. Has your country developed a national taxonomic action plan?	
a) no	x
b) early stages of development	
c) advanced stages of development	
d) action plan in place	
e) reports on implementation available	
52. Is your country making available appropriate resources to enhance the availability of taxonomic information?	
a) no	
b) yes, but this does not cover all known needs adequately	x
c) yes, covering all known needs	

53. Is your country encouraging bilateral and multilateral training and employment opportunities for taxonomists, particularly those dealing with poorly known organisms?	
a) no	x
b) some opportunities	
c) significant opportunities	
54. Is your country investing on a long-term basis in the development of appropriate infrastructure for your national taxonomic collections?	
a) no	
b) some investment	x
c) significant investment	
55. Is your country encouraging partnerships between taxonomic institutions in developed and developing countries?	
a) no	
b) yes - stated policy	x
c) yes - systematic national programme	
56. Has your country adopted any international agreed levels of collection housing?	
a) no	
b) under review	x
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	
b) under review	x
c) yes - limited extent	
d) yes - significant extent	
61. Has your country given special attention to international funding of fellowships for specialist training abroad or for attracting international experts to national or regional courses?	
a) no	
b) under review	
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	x
b) basic assessment	
c) thorough assessment	
64. Has your country established or consolidated taxonomic reference centres?	
a) no	x
b) yes	

65. Has your country worked to increase its capacity in the area of taxonomic research?	
a) no	
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	x
b) yes	
68. Has your country participated in the development of regional networks to facilitate information-sharing for the Global Taxonomy Initiative?	
a) no	x
b) yes	
<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

Questions 50.

Taxonomy in the country was presented in several publications: "Flora of Tajikistan" Data Book in 10 volumes (1957-1991), "Tajikistan Fauna" in 20 volumes (1960-1988); "Identification of Vascular Plants of Tajikistan" (1999), as well as publications on birds (Fauna of Tajikistan/Birds, 19 Volumes, Parts 1,2,3 (1971, 1973, 1977), fish, insects in paleontology and mammals. These publications cover about 10 thousand flora and around 13.5 thousand fauna species.

Questions 51-53.

The specific national policy on taxonomic studies in the country does not exist. The Country also doesn't have special taxonomic programs or action plans due to the lack of financial resources as well as due to absence of a special coordinating body in this area. Similarly there are no relevant resources for enhancing availability of taxonomic information. So far there are no electronic catalogs of collections. This doesn't allow access to taxonomy information as well as broad taxonomy information dissemination.

Information dissemination it is done by the mentioned above scientific institutions, depending on their means and resources. There are no special financing for collections maintenance. Since the collections are located in academic institutions, they are maintained only by means of the institutes' budgets, which does not allow for their effective protection from deterioration and attack by vermin.

Questions 54-56.

Tajikistan makes limited investments in developing the relevant infrastructure for national collections. The country hosts several collections that are internationally very important. A few of them, like collections of cultural flora species of the Botanical Garden of the Academy of Science, Scientific Associations "Bogparvar", "Ziroat", Collections of the Tajik Agricultural University, Tajik Academy for Agriculture,, Zoological museum of the Tajik State University, of the Geological Institute, as well as the herbarium of the Botanical Institute, the collection of the Physiology and Genetics Institute of the Academy of Science, Pamir Botanical Institute – are the most important country's collections and could be considered as international taxonomy research centers. On their basis currently are conducted various studies in the following areas: botany, zoology, systematic and evolution, genetics, agricultural selection, and biogeography. Most of these collections have long history; - most of them have started to collect the specimens about 70 years ago under the auspice of the USSR Academy of Science and meet the internationally recognized standards of collections fund care. In the same time many of them face very difficult problems concerning: (a) lack of adequate resources; (b) the absence of specially trained personnel; and (c) lack of specially equipped premises.

Questions 57.

Several universities prepare specialists in the area, including the Biological Department of the State Tajik University, Tajik Agricultural Academy, etc. Annually from Tajik State National University there graduate 5-7 specialist in the field of taxonomy with higher education, from Khujand State University - 2-5 specialists in taxons field, and from Academy of Science annually under post-graduate courses graduate 2-3 specialists with high qualification.

Questions 59.

Partially the following institutions are funded by state budget:

Institute of Zoology of the Academy of Science, Institute of Botany of the Academy of Science, Tajik State National University, Kulyab Pedagogical University, Tajik Agrarian University, Scientific Association "Bogparvar", "Ziroat", Pamir Biological University, Khujand State University.

Questions 60.

Some scientific institutions has the capacity of holding the regional projects, such as: Institute of Botany of the Academy of Science, Institute of Zoology of the Academy of Science, National Biodiversity and Biosafety Center, Science-research Institute, Tajik Academy on Agricultural Science.

Questions 61.

Academy of Science and some Universities are considering the scholarship issue and

preparing the specialist in a field of taxonomy.

Questions 62.

These activities are being carried out by some institutions of the Academy of Science, Tajik Academy on Agricultural Science, and Universities on the basis of funds from state budget.

Questions 65.

By the Universities and scientific institutions of the Academy of Science and TAAS there are prepared students, post-graduate students and specialists in the field of taxonomy.

Article 8 In situ conservation [excluding Articles 8h and 8j]

70. What is the relative priority afforded to implementation of this Article and the associated decisions by your country?

a) High	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	b) Medium	<input type="checkbox"/>	c) Low	<input type="checkbox"/>
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71. To what extent are the resources available adequate for meeting the obligations and recommendations made?

a) Good	<input type="checkbox"/>	b) Adequate	<input type="checkbox"/>	c) Limiting	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	d) Severely limiting	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Further comments on relative priority and on availability of resources

Questions 70-71.

Tajikistan is host to a very rich biodiversity. Taking into account the uniqueness of the flora and fauna of the country, the large number of rare, relict and endemic species, the rich gene fund of wild relatives of crops and domestic animals, as well as the traditionally high degree of their utilisation in various sectors, in-situ conservation is considered by the Government of Tajikistan as a primary guarantee of sustained conservation of the rich biodiversity of the country. For that purpose Tajikistan created a network of protected areas, comprising four nature reserves (zapovedniks), and species management protected areas (zakasniks) in 14 locations and one national park and one historical natural park. In 1992 a National Park for the conservation of several types of landscapes (high mountain deserts, glaciers, lakes, juniper forests, mountain steppes and alpine meadows) was established in the eastern part of the country. By 1993 the country established the Shirkent Natural Historical Park for the protection and conservation of ancient cultural landscapes, unique rocks, dinosaur footprints and juniper forests. The National Biodiversity Conservation Strategy and Action Plan stipulate clearly the main policy issues in this domain. Among the most important of them are:

- Development of national and regional protected areas network;
- Development of national and regional ecological networks that could be integrated into the Euro-Asia network;
- Implement measures on protection of rare and endangered species of flora and fauna, prepare a revised version of the Tajikistan Red Data Book;
- Development and improvement of the existing legal framework on both biodiversity conservation and on regulating the human impact on biodiversity;
- Integrate biodiversity conservation requirements into the sectoral policies and projects.

In implementing the NBSAP with regard to in-situ conservation, the Government of the country has issued recently a special Decision on “Program on Protected Areas Development in 2005-2015” (#79 from March 4, 2005). The document covers most important issues in this area, including creation of new PAs and expanding the existing ones, strengthening the PAs institutional and human capacity, conducting ecological restoration works, harmonizing the national legislation with the international biodiversity conventions, etc.

Unfortunately, the current economic difficulties, weak institutional and legal framework, and a lack of financial resources do not allow implementing the necessary activities in this area at the required level. Among most important problems in this regard are as follows: (a) Weak institutional and legal framework; (b) Extremely low financial and technical allocations; and (c) Shortage of human resources and capacity for the training of protected areas management specialists.

72. Has your country established a system of protected areas which aims to conserve biological diversity (8a)?

a) system under development	
b) national review of protected areas coverage available	
c) national protected area systems plan in place	
d) relatively complete system in place	x

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	
c) advanced stages of development	
d) programme or policy in place	x
e) reports on implementation available	

75. Has your country undertaken measures that promote the protection of ecosystems, natural habitats and the maintenance of viable populations of species in natural surroundings (8d)?

a) no measures	
b) some measures in place	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	x
b) some measures in place	
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	
c) yes, to a limited extent	x
d) yes, to a significant extent	

If a developed country Party -

83. Does your country cooperate in providing financial and other support for *in-situ* conservation particularly to developing countries (8m)?

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

84. Does your country receive financial and other support for *in situ* 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	
b) sharing of written materials and/or case-studies	
c) regional meetings	x

Further comments on implementation of this Article

Questions 72.

Tajikistan has created a network of protected areas, comprising four nature reserves (zapovedniks), species management protected areas (zakazniks) in 14 locations and one national park and one historical natural park. According the National Biodiversity Conservation Strategy and Action Plan, it is proposed by 2010 to expand this network, and to create new protected areas. For this purpose the Government of Tajikistan has adopted a special Decision (#79 dated March 4, 2005) on the "State Program for Protected Areas Development in 2005-2015". The document stipulates the following issues:

- Harmonization of zapovedniks and zakazniks regulations and making them in compliance with the international treaties;
- Assigning the buffer zones to the zapovedniks and expanding the country's protected areas territory;
- Organization of transboundary national parks, reorganization of the existing protected areas according to their status and importance;
- Restoration of the scientific research in the zapovedniks and zakazniks;
- Restoration of the degraded important natural habitats;

- Strengthening of human and institutional capacities of the protected areas; and other activities.

The State Program has attached a special Action Plan with concrete responsibilities and timing for the implementation. The Plan includes inter alia creation of a new natural Park “Fanskii Mountain” (point 10); extension of the Shirtkent natural and historical park up to 31.000 ha; creation of a transboundary national park with Afghanistan, Pakistan, China and Kyrgyzstan; creation of a new natural zakaznik “Piandj” with a total area of about 18.00 ha.

For effective management of PAs network at the national and regional levels, there was signed an agreement between Governments of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan “On creation and management of the regional ecological network” in 2004. within the framework of this agreement there is being implemented regional UNEP-GEF project “Establishment of econet for long-term conservation of biodiversity in Central Asian states”. The project was approved by the decision of International Commission on Sustainable development. The main goal of this project is creation of a joint scheme on econet development in Central Asian region (ECONET) and its integration into the context of regional and national plans on sustainable development, and also development and introduction of reliable mechanisms for a long-term intergovernmental cooperation on biodiversity conservation and sustainable development. Within the framework of the project there are implemented the following tasks:

1. Development of a scheme on developing ecological network on the basis of integral complex information management system (GIS) for the region, which unites data on biodiversity and natural resources, on existing system of Protected Areas and economic development.
2. Development and agreement for implementation of the plan on developing regional ecological network.
3. Creation of necessary legal, structural, technical and financial prerequisites and mechanisms in Central Asian region for successful joint implementation of the plan on ecological network creation.

In Tajikistan, within the framework of this project, on the basis of 82 indicator species of animals and 80 species of plants there was drawn the map on Tajikistan econet. In this map there are pointed the cores of 1-2 orders, corridors of 1-2 orders, and buffer zone. It is planned to organize a National Center on implementation of the Action Plan on creation of the national ecological network which includes a number of nature protection activities. So, the plan of actions contains activities ensuring development of conceptual base for organization of ecological network, including development of nature protective plans of territories, their schemes, and drawing up maps of various scales, creation of new elements of ecological network for long-term conservation of biodiversity.

Questions 73.

Tajikistan doesn't have official documents/guidelines on selection of new protected areas. According the Law on Protected areas (1996), art. 16, 21, 24 and 27, the new zapovedniks, national parks, zakazniks, botanical and zoological museums could be organized by the Government of the country, based on the documents presented by the Environmental Protection Authorities.

Questions 74.

The biological resources in the country are in State ownership. This allows regulating their use and protection. The main responsible institution in this regard is the State Committee for Environmental Protection and Forestry. This body is in charge with the

State control of activities of other ministries, departments, agencies and enterprises, private sector in the field of nature protection and management. It also sets dates and regulates the quantity of extraction of biological resources while hunting, fishing, gathering specific species of forest wood and non wood products, using the principle of estimation of wood-cutting area and sets different standards of forestry activities depending on the value of forest lands from ecological point of view. Limits on hunting animals in the Republic of Tajikistan are annually approved by resolutions of the Government of the country. The main legal documents in this respect are: Forest Code (1997); Law on protection and usage of vegetation world (2004); Law on Environmental Protection (1996); Law on Protected Areas (1996); and Law on protection and usage of animal world (1994).

Questions 75.

Activities promoting protection of ecosystems, natural habitats and conservation of species under natural conditions are implemented within the system of specially protected natural territories, and are regulated by the Forest Code, Law on use and protection of the vegetative world, Law on Protected Areas as well as Law on Nature Protection.

Questions 76.

Due to economic difficulties, the country doesn't undertake activities on promoting sustainable development in areas adjacent to protected areas. Such activities are implemented only within different projects that are supported by international donors: GEF Dashtidjum Biodiversity Conservation Projects; WB Community Watershed Management Project (see point 20).

Questions 77.

The issues of rehabilitation and reproduction of degraded ecosystems are considered in the following Programmes:

- National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (2003);
- National Strategy to Combat Desertification (2002)

The NBSAP stipulates in several places the need for ecological restoration of most important ecosystems, - in particular - restoration of teresken communities in Pamir region, restoration of pistachio forests. The State Program on PAs development also specifies restoration works, and in particular activities to restore the sagsaul forests around the Tigrovaya balka zapovednik. Due to the lack of financial resources such activities are not yet implemented in the country.

Questions 78.

At the limited level the country has implemented some activities on recovery the threatened species. In particular in zapovednik Tigrovaya balka - the activities are undertaken on conservation of *Gazella subguttrosa* Guldenstaedt, *Carvus elaphus bactrianus* Lydekker, and some bird species; in zapovednik Dashtidzhum - the activities on conservation of *Capra falconeri heptneri* Zalkin, *Uncia uncia* Schreber; in Romit - the activities on conservation of broad-leaf ecosystems and brown bear; in

Zorkul – activities on conservation of *Auser indicus*, *Ovis ammon Polii Blyth.*, *Carpa sibirica*, *Uncia uncial Schreber*, *Canis auerus*.

Questions 79.

Despite lack of existing measures on regulation, control or limited risk linked with GMOs use or release, Tajikistan has taken a number of measures in this direction. To coordinate activities in this area, the Government of Tajikistan has created a special National Biodiversity and Biosafety Center (#392 from September 1, 2003). Tajikistan has ratified the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (February 12, 2004) and adopted a special Biosafety Law (March, 2004). In art. 12 stipulated that natural sites that are protected by government (zapovedniks, zakazniks, national parks and botanical gardens) are free from usage and spreading of genetically modified organisms and these are the places of genetically safe territories.

Questions 80-81.

Tajikistan has prepared and approved the relevant documents that regulate the use of biological resources, among them: Laws on Nature Protection, on use and protection of vegetative world; Forest Code. Furthermore the Government has approved in a special Regulation on Hunting and hunting areas (1994) as well as on Fishery (1995). Red Data Book on plants and animals to protect endangered species and populations was published and adopted by the Government of Tajikistan.

Questions 84.

With a view to conserve in-situ biodiversity the country received some financial support from GEF and WB. In particular, the GEF approved a MSP on Dashtidjum Biodiversity Conservation Project (\$750 thousand); The recently approved WB Community Watershed Management Project has a \$ 4.5 million GEF component, oriented particularly on biodiversity conservation and land degradation.

Questions 85.

On the basis of NBBC there was organized a number of meetings, scientific conferences and workshops on biodiversity conservation where participated with representatives from neighboring Central Asian republics, Moldova and Russia.

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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	b) Medium	<input type="checkbox"/>	c) Low	<input type="checkbox"/>
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87. To what extent are the resources available adequate for meeting the obligations and recommendations made?

a) Good	<input type="checkbox"/>	b) Adequate	<input type="checkbox"/>	c) Limiting	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	d) Severely limiting	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Further comments on relative priority and on availability of resources

Questions 86-87.

The issue of alien species in the country are not regulated at the necessary level by the national legislation. Several very general provisions on that might be found in the Law "On Use and protection of vegetative world" (art 25 and 26, 2004) and in the Law "On Quarantine of Plants" (2001), which have to be used as guidelines by organizations dealing with introduction and acclimatization of various plants.

Quarantine service of the plants of the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Tajikistan carries out the state control in the area of animal alien species. Its activity is regulated by the Law on "Veterinary Medicine" (1996)(art. 3) and on "Quarantine of plants" (2001) (art. 8) Tajikistan is also part to several international agreement in this area and in particular:

- The agreement "On co-operation between the Governments of the CIS states in the area of the quarantine of plants" dated November 13, 1992;
- Unified for the CIS states "List of the quarantine objects", dated November 13, 1992,

The unified standards for the territory of the CIS countries, the Resolution of the Government of RK № 1716 of 16.11.1999 on «Approval of the Protocol of unified order on application the technical, medicine, pharmaceutical, sanitary, veterinary, phytosanitary and ecological standards, codes and rules and requirements regarding goods imported to states which are Parties to agreements of Customs Union» (Kazakhstan, Russia, Belarus, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan). In a framework of agreement "On co-operation between the Governments of the Commonwealth Independent States in the area of the quarantine of plants" (13.11.1992) operates the informational coordination board on quarantine of plants.

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	
b) only some alien species of concern have been assessed	x
c) most alien species have been assessed	
90. Has your country undertaken measures to prevent the introduction of, control or eradicate those alien species which threaten ecosystems, habitats or species?	
a) no measures	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	x
c) limited implementation in some sectors	
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 biogeographical 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	
b) some initiatives	x
c) many initiatives	
101. Is your country making available the information which it holds on alien species through the CHM?	
a) no	
b) some information	x
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

Questions 88-89.

Scientific Institutions of Tajikistan have carried out preliminary assessment of a number of alien species and surveyed both possible negative impacts of their introduction and potential negative impacts on natural ecosystems and their components. The best-studied groups in this respect are vertebrates, vermin, weed plants and introduced species of plants. As a result of scientific researches, the list of alien invasive species of fauna and flora in the country has been prepared.

More than 2500 species of plants are defined in flora from other nature-geographic areas of Tajikistan. Along with useful introducents biodiversity of Tajikistan is invaded by some alien species which pose great threat to the biodiversity of Tajikistan. One of most dangerous species is semiparasitic dwarf subshrub (*Arceuthobium oxycedri*),- is very harmful for juniper and causes its death. One of the main factors of zonal invasion is the many-year driving of cattle from winter to summer, and back to winter, pastures. As a result of annual cattle driving, seeds of droughtresistant plants - cornflower (*Centaurea*), wormwood (*Artemisia*), mallow representatives (*Malvaceae*), *Gentiana*, *Thermopsis*, *Boraginaceae*, etc. - are spread over all mountainous zones. These species, inhabiting new areas, start forming independent coenosis, which replace communities of valuable indigenous high-productive plants.

Summer pastures are choked with rude grasses - goat grass *Aegilops triuncialis*, *Taeniatherum crinitum*, *Ceratocephalus testiculatus*, and noxious plants - heliotrope (*Heliotropium ellipticum*), trichodesma (*Trichodesma incanum*), thermopsis (*Thermopsis dolichocarpa*), (*Conium maculatum*), which are not eatable by animals.

Many invasive species, having been included in valuable communities and agricultural

crops, start progressing when the climatic conditions are slightly changed. At present fauna of Tajikistan consists of about 50 alien species. Among them about 30 species are invasive.

Entomofauna of the republic is presented by 20 alien species of insects. Almost all of them relate to invasive species. *Leptinotarsa desemlineata*, *Pseudococcus comstocki*, *Eriosoma lanigerum* invaded in the republic cause a great damage to potato cultivation, fruits and cotton.

Among vertebrates the class of Pisces is mostly introduced by alien species (about 20 species). Due to the introduction valuable fish species are filled with accidental invaders, which caused a negative impact on local ichthyofauna.

Of 3 alien species of mammals: nutria (*Myocastor coypus*), muskrat (*Ondatra zibethica*), Norway rat (*Rattus norvegicus*) a scientific damage is caused by grey rat.

Questions 90-91.

There were not developed any programmes on reduction of alien species impact in the country. Some research projects were developed on several species, but the projects are not being implemented yet because of the lack of funds. For example for trikhodesma, thermopsis and some poison and harmful species for agriculture.

Questions 92.

The National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan addresses the issues of alien species. It contains a special point (Chapter I) describing the alien for Tajikistan species (see their short description above), along with several activities stipulated in the Action Plan (see point 20 of the general measures of Biodiversity Conservation , which stipulates that the Government will develop measures on preventing alien and invasive species in 2004-2006 (page 129 of the document). The regulation of introduction of alien species are stipulated in very general terms in the Law on “use and protection of the vegetative world” (2004), as well as in the Law of Tajikistan on “Plants quarantine” (2001).

Article 8j Traditional knowledge and related provisions

103. What is the relative priority afforded to implementation of this Article and the associated decisions by your country?

a) High		b) Medium	x	c) Low	
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104. 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	
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Further comments on relative priority and on availability of resources

Questions 103-104.

Ethnographical peculiarity of Tajikistan is the presence on its territory of few separated sub ethnic groups of population, which are characterized by peculiarities of life, material and spiritual culture.

For centuries the Tajiks obeyed all the laws, including the laws of nature, which had significant mean on family building, child birth, house keeping and many others. For example: "in child birth his father has to plant a tree", "in the family parents teach their child to protect the birds nest, to look with care after the trees, especially if they are fruit-trees", "after cutting the grass they left some grass for the animals which leaved close by", "in medicine and food plant gathering process extremely all the standards were regulated".

Distant-pasture cattle breeding – a historic tradition of winter cattle grazing in the plain areas with consequent migration, in spring and summer, to high-level mountain pastures is widely practiced. This approach to breed cattle significantly promotes biodiversity conservation of feed plants and prevents soil from erosion.

Traditional for Tajikistan sport hunting using hunting birds is popularized and supported by the Government. To some extent this influences the reduction of poaching that still exists in the country despite the existence of prohibition legislative measures undertaken by the Government. Illegal hunting on rare and endangered animals, such as: *Ovis ammon Polii* Blyth., *Uncia uncial* Schreber and *Cervus elaphus bactrianus* Lydekker last years are registered but controlled with great difficulty.

Over 600 plant species and products of wild mammals, birds, and reptiles is used by the population for traditional medicine, spicery, flavouring, building, and also for traditional trade.

105. Have 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	x
b) early stages of development	
c) advanced stages of development	
d) programme or policy in place	

Decision III/4 and Decision IV/9. Implementation of Article 8(j)

107. Has your country developed national legislation and corresponding strategies for the implementation of Article 8(j)?	
a) no	
b) early stages of development	x
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	
b) yes - previous national report	x
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	
b) some	x
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	
b) under review	x
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	x
c) yes - to a limited extent	
d) yes - to a significant extent	

118. Has your country provided case studies on methods and approaches concerning the preservation and sharing of traditional knowledge, and the control of that information by indigenous and local communities?

a) no	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	x
b) not relevant	
c) some measures	
d) extensive measures	
121. Has your country supported the development of registers of traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities, in collaboration with these communities?	
a) no	x
b) not relevant	
c) development in progress	
d) register fully developed	
122. Have representatives of indigenous and local community organizations participated in your official delegation to meetings held under the Convention on Biological Diversity?	
a) not relevant	x
b) not appropriate	
c) yes	
123. Is your country assisting the Secretariat to fully utilize the clearing-house mechanism to co-operate closely with indigenous and local communities to explore ways that enable them to make informed decisions concerning release of their traditional knowledge?	
a) no	x
b) awaiting information on how to proceed	
c) yes	

124. Has your country identified resources for funding the activities identified in the decision?

a) no	x
b) not relevant	
c) partly	
d) fully	

Further comments on implementation of this Article

Questions 105-124.

The issue of using traditional knowledge in use of biological resources is widely used in Tajikista, although it is legislatively confirmed. The knowledge and experience of local communities on biodiversity protection and sustainable use are not disseminated and are not used by farmers. Although by now no legislative acts and strategies were elaborated in this domain. There are no activities for collecting, systematizing, maintaining and promoting traditional knowledge as well no financial support for such activities.

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	x	b) Medium		c) Low	
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126. To what extent are the resources available adequate for meeting the obligations and recommendations made?

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

Questions 125-126.

The National Biodiversity Strategy and Action plan has a special section devoted to biological collections (see section 3.19). Among the priority activities stipulated the following: developing of a special program on biodiversity conservation *ex-citu*; creating a data base; creating a center of genetic resources; drafting of a special law on *ex-citu* biodiversity conservation; creating new botanical gardens; signing the CITES Convention; developing educations programs in the domain. These actions do not have adequate financial support.

127. Has your country adopted measures for the <i>ex situ</i> conservation of components of biological diversity <i>native</i> to your country (9a)?	
a) no measures	
b) some measures in place	x
c) potential measures under review	
d) comprehensive measures in place	
128. Has your country adopted measures for the <i>ex situ</i> conservation of components of biological diversity <i>originating outside</i> your country (9a)?	
a) no measures	
b) some measures in place	x
c) potential measures under review	
d) comprehensive measures in place	
129. If the answer to the previous question was yes, is this being done in active collaboration with organizations in the other countries (9a)?	
a) no	x
b) yes	
130. Has your country established and maintained facilities for the <i>ex situ</i> conservation of and research on plants, animals and micro-organisms that represent genetic resources <i>native</i> to your country (9b)?	
a) no	
b) yes – limited extent	
c) yes – significant extent	x
131. Has your country established and maintained facilities for the <i>ex situ</i> conservation of and research on plants, animals and micro-organisms that represent genetic resources <i>originating elsewhere</i> (9b)?	
a) no	x
b) yes – limited extent	
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	x
b) yes	
133. Has your country adopted measures for the reintroduction of threatened species into their natural habitats under appropriate conditions (9c)?	
a) no measures	x

b) some measures in place	
c) potential measures under review	
d) comprehensive measures in place	
134. Has your country taken measures to regulate and manage the collection of biological resources from natural habitats for <i>ex situ</i> conservation purposes so as not to threaten ecosystems and <i>in situ</i> populations of species (9d)?	
a) no measures	x
b) some measures in place	
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 <i>ex situ</i> conservation and in the establishment and maintenance of <i>ex situ</i> conservation facilities in developing countries (9e)?	
<i>If a developing country Party or Party with economy in transition -</i>	
136. Has your country received financial and other support for <i>ex situ</i> conservation and in the establishment and maintenance of <i>ex situ</i> conservation facilities (9e)?	
a) no	
b) yes	x

Further comments on implementation of this Article

Questions 127-134.

The network of botanical institutions of Tajikistan has been developed since 1930. 5 botanical gardens, 2 stations, 4 temporary and 7 permanent points carried out active biomorphological, ecological, physiological biochemical, anatomical, phytocoenotic, floristic and other research until 1990.

The plant collections include about 15 thousand varieties, hybrids, lines, and local forms. The germ plasma collections of domestic animals include over 50 thousand doses from 10 breeds. The microorganism collections consist of many bacteria, fungi, and algae species, including about 500 taxa. The national herbarium includes about 350-400 thousand plant specimens of existing flora, zoological collections, including 280 species and 3.5 thousand specimens of birds; and 18.8 thousand specimens of insects.

Currently due to lack of financing these works are restricted. Work on introducing woody, shrub, and grass plants of both local and alien flora is still being carried out to select valuable species, forms, and varieties. More than 5 thousand species, forms, and varieties of plants from many floristic zones of the world, including about 2.3 thousand tree and shrub species, were put to introduction test at the Central Botanical Garden of the Tajik Academy of Science; 2.7 thousand species of tropical and subtropical plants were tested at the hothouse complex. The tree and shrub collection of the Botanical Garden was 1.765 species, including 137 species of conifer breeds.

The plant resources of the Pamirs Botanical Garden (Academy of Science of the Republic of Tajikistan) are: over 4 thousand species and in-traspecific taxa, including 1.1

thousand woody, 1.8 thousand grass, 400 fruit species, and over 80 species of indigenous flora.

The Khudjand Botanical Garden preserves the area of nature tugai; over 40 plant species, listed in the Red Data Book of Tajikistan, have been tested here.

In the Kulyab Botanical Garden, introductent and reproducent nurseries are established; areas of medicinal and decorative grasses of the local flora are created. There are over 300 species of decorative-flowering and medicinal grasses.

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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	b) Medium	<input type="checkbox"/>	c) Low	<input type="checkbox"/>
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138. To what extent are the resources available adequate for meeting the obligations and recommendations made?

a) Good	<input type="checkbox"/>	b) Adequate	<input type="checkbox"/>	c) Limiting	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	d) Severely limiting	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Further comments on relative priority and on availability of resources

137-138. The sustainable use of components of biological diversity is officially recognised as an issue of high priority in Tajikistan and constitutes one of the main factors for sustainable development of the country itself. The biodiversity of the country has an invaluable importance for the local population as income sources, as well as for country, as one of very important sources of export. Thus, the Government of Tajikistan has adopted a series of strategies and action plans, as well as legal documents that regulate activities in this area such as: the Law on Protected Areas; the Law on Environmental Protection; the Law on use and protection of vegetative world; the Forest Code; various by laws. The legal framework development is still under way, taking into account the changes in the national economy. However current economic and institutional difficulties do not allow fully implementing this Article and fulfilling the obligations it sets out.

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

a) no	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) early stages of development	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) advanced stages of development	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) programme or policy in place	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) review of implementation available	<input type="checkbox"/>

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	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) some measures in place	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

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	
c) potential measures under review	x
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	
b) yes - previous national report	
c) yes - case-studies	x
d) yes - other means (please give details below)	
145. Has your country submitted to the Secretariat information on biodiversity-related activities of the CSD (such as SIDS, oceans, seas and freshwater resources, consumption and production patterns)?	
a) no	

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

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	x
b) mechanisms under development	
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	
b) to a limited extent	x
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 Ecotourism?	
a) no	x
b) yes	
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

Questions 139-141.

In the process of decision-making on the national level there is provision for consideration of issues of conservation and sustainable use of natural resources. On the basis of the Law on Environmental Protection and Forestry Code, Law on use and protection of the vegetative world the use of natural resources is authorized by licensing (wood stocking up, fishing, herbs and technical plants stocking-up, for trade, hunting, etc.) basing on the standards for withdrawal and use, which prevent the negative impact upon biodiversity. All activities with regard to use and protection of fauna and fish resources are regulated by special Regulations approved by the Government of the country in the mid 90s. The decision-making on various economic activities that might have a negative impact on biodiversity should be done on the basis of Environmental Impact Assessment study and on the positive conclusion of the State Ecological Expertise (see Law on the Ecological Expertise, 2003).

Questions 142.

In Tajikistan, in those areas that have suffered from landslides, mudflows or other natural disasters, several support measures for the local population have been approved and are currently being implemented. They are aimed at restoring the biological diversity of these areas, and are carried out both at the state level, and with the assistance of the international community.

Questions 143.

Mechanisms for private sector involvement into initiatives on bioresources sustainable use are not developed. The NBSAP stipulates several activities that would create economic incentives for the private sector in implementing Biodiversity Conservation activities (see point 4.3 of the document). So far no concrete activities were implemented.

Questions 144-149.

No activities conducted.

Questions 150-155.

The Decree of the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan №582 dated December 29, 2003 approved the National Tourism Development Strategy. The country has a great tourist potential and first of all for eco tourism development (large protected areas with a limited negative human impacts), but its development it is constrained by the absence of the needed infrastructure, as well as by the lack of relevant incentives for the private sector. The cooperation between biodiversity and tourism management authorities is at the initial phase of its development. There is a lack of thematic researches on sustainable use of biodiversity and ecological tourism. The relationship between the touristic activity and biodiversity is reflected enough in the NBSAP. As a further goal, it is necessary to prepare the legislative and normative framework in this area.

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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	b) Medium	<input type="checkbox"/>	c) Low	<input type="checkbox"/>
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157. To what extent are the resources available adequate for meeting the obligations and recommendations made?

a) Good	<input type="checkbox"/>	b) Adequate	<input type="checkbox"/>	c) Limiting	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	d) Severely limiting	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Further comments on relative priority and on availability of resources

Questions 156-157.

Only certain elements of economical mechanism are applied in Tajikistan. According to the art. 14 of the Law on Environmental Protection (1996); art. 24 of the Law on use and protection of the vegetative world (2004); art. 32 of the Forest Code (1997) in the country was introduced a system of payments for the use of natural resources and for their protection and reproduction. Payments for the use of natural resources are introduced for the purposes of financial sources formation for activities aimed at social-economic development of territories (in the area of resource use) and present practical realization of the right of population living in the area, to use its resources.

Payments for protection and reproduction of natural resources are introduced for the purposes of establishment in all budgets of sources to finance activities on protection and reproduction of natural resources, which were somehow damaged in the result of their use. Art. 14 of the Environmental Protection Law stipulates also fiscal incentives all activities that might be beneficial for environmental protection, including biodiversity conservation, as well as special payments on the production processes that have negative impact on biodiversity, the compulsory ecological insurance of the environmentally dangerous technologies, and preferential crediting etc

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	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) early stages of development	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) advanced stages of development	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) programmes in place	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) review of implementation available	<input type="checkbox"/>

159. Do these incentives, and the programmes to identify them and ensure their adoption, cover the full range of sectoral activities?

a) no	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) some sectors	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) all major sectors	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) all sectors	<input type="checkbox"/>

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	
c) some reviews complete	x
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	
b) early stages of identifying mechanisms	x
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	
c) some	x
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	
b) yes	x
164. Has your country shared experience on incentive measures with other Contracting Parties, including making relevant case-studies available to the Secretariat?	
a) no	
b) yes - previous national report	x
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	x
b) early stages of development	
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	x

b) identification programme under way	
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	x
b) yes	
172. Has your country explored possible ways and means by which these incentive measures can support the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity in your country?	
a) no	
b) under consideration	
c) early stages of development	x
d) advanced stages of development	
e) further information available	

Further comments on implementation of this Article

Questions 158-170.

The National Biodiversity Conservation Strategy and Action Plan contains several activities with regard to developing economically and socially sound incentives to protect Biodiversity. Currently the Government is at the inception phase in developing such mechanisms.

Questions 171.

Tajikistan has submitted its First National Communication on climate change prepared under the Framework Convention on Climate Change. This First Communication contains a preliminary review of the adaptation of ecosystems to climate change but no review of incentive measures. The country didn't receive any support through the mechanisms of Kyoto Protocol.

Incentive measures for biodiversity conservation in Tajikistan are not yet developed and applied. Although the "Law on use and protection of the vegetative world" and "Law on Environmental Protection" contain Articles on the basic principles for biodiversity conservation incentive measures, their implementation is limited due to a lack of financial resources.

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	<input type="checkbox"/>
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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	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Further comments on relative priority and on availability of resources

Questions 173-174.

Despite the fact that Tajikistan biodiversity is very rich and diverse, its study has been mainly related to the identification of species composition and some ecological-morphological characteristics of individual representatives of the country's flora and fauna. Meanwhile, according to the requirements of the Convention, a complex approach at the ecosystem level is required, incorporating research on inventories, accounting, taxonomy, alien invasive species, etc. This type of research and the scientific potential necessary to carry it out are both currently absent in Tajikistan. Work on the identification, conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity is carried out in several academic and scientific institutions as well as in the state divisions of higher educational institutions of Tajikistan. However existing resources are insufficient for the tasks necessary to fulfil these obligations and recommendations, due to a reduction in budget allocations as a result of the general economic difficulties. The lack of funds does not allow the universities, academic and branch institutions to tackle thoroughly the key-problems in the field of protection and restoration of the bioresources. The most important results scientific results in this area were obtained in the 80s. Among most important studies are to conduct genetic and biosecurity researches, as well as investigations at ecosystem and population levels. The floristic and faunistic mapping is also important for setting up seeds fund of the valuable genotypes from the natural ecosystems.

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	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) early stages of development	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) advanced stages of development	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) programmes in place	<input type="checkbox"/>

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"/>
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b) yes	
177. Does your country promote and encourage research which contributes to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity (12b)?	
a) no	
b) yes - limited extent	x
c) yes - significant extent	
178. Does your country promote and cooperate in the use of scientific advances in biological diversity research in developing methods for conservation and sustainable use of biological resources (12c)?	
a) no	
b) yes - limited extent	x
c) yes - significant extent	

If a developed country Party -

179. Does your country's implementation of the above activities take into account the special needs of developing countries?

a) no	
b) yes, where relevant	

Further comments on implementation of this Article

Questions 175-176.

Tajikistan doesn't have a special Program on education in the area of Biodiversity Conservation, but in the curricula of many universities, scientific institutions, these issues are widely presented. In many higher educational institutions (such as Tajik State Pedagogical University, Tajik Agricultural Academy, etc.), within the framework of various subjects, students receive in-depth tuition on biodiversity at the global scale, and in particular on the biological diversity of Tajikistan and measures for its conservation and sustainable use. The main staff education centers in the field of botany, zoology, microbiology, genetics, ecology, forestry and agronomy are Tajik State University, Pedagogical University, Tajik Agriculture University. In the same time it is necessary to mention the need for the revision of the universities educational programmes in this area. The biodiversity conservation principles have to fit in the educational programs on forests, agriculture and tourism. There is also a need to prepare specialists dealing with issues of nature conservation, to include the up-to-date research methods of biodiversity protection into training programs and to supply laboratories with modern equipment.

The issues regarding biodiversity are also being considered mandatory in school curricula. A brief summary of information on the taxonomy of plants and animals, their geographical distribution and the ecological, economic and social importance of biodiversity is included in the textbooks on Botany starting from the 6th grade and until 11 grade.

Questions 177-178.

Scientific studies on biological diversity are traditional in Tajikistan and are the primary tasks of several institutions: Institute of Botany, Institute of Zoology, Institute of Physiology and Genetics of the National Academy of Sciences. Among most important scientific investigations are the following:

- Development of taxonomy studies;
- Flora and fauna inventarization for the whole country, as well as for its various regions and for the existing protected areas;
- Ecological studies of rare and endangered species;
- Prepare and publish flora and fauna national and regional reports;
- Prepare and publish the second edition of the Tajikistan Red Data Book;
- Prepare and publish of a special Geographical Atlas "Tajikistan Biodiversity";
- Prepare the economic mechanisms for Biodiversity Conservation;
- Create the scientific basis for ecological restoration, restoration of flora and fauna species;
- Scientific substantiation of biodiversity monitoring.

According to the recently approved State Program on Protected Areas Development in the nearest future the State Committee for Environmental Protection and Forestry has to prepare a special plan for scientific research in the country's zapovedniks. The program stipulates also a series of actions to strengthen the zapovedniks scientific potential, to develop new methods for ecological restoration activities, and for other purposes.

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	x	b) Medium		c) Low	
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181. To what extent are the resources available adequate for meeting the obligations and recommendations made?

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

Questions 180-181.

Despite the fact that Tajikistan has ratified the Århus Convention on access to information, public participation in decision-making and access to justice on questions relating to the environment, the level of public awareness on biodiversity importance is unsatisfactory and does not meet the requirements of biodiversity-related conventions and international agreements. Resources for the implementation of activities in the field of education and awareness rising are strictly limited, since allocations from the state budget are insufficient, and there is no foreign investment in this area. No special programs exist on environmental public awareness and participation. There are about 100 NGOs which undertake sporadic activities of public ecological education and awareness, including in the area of biodiversity. An important contribution to public awareness is brought by Academy of Science, Tajik Academy of Agricultural Science, Institutes of Higher Education, various funds, NGOs and special TV programmes. The National Television once a week shows programme called "Inson va Tabiat" ("Human and Nature"), also in "Subh" they show workshops and expeditions conducted by various national and/or local NGOs on ecological thematic. Also these programs are broadcasted on radio. At present the main publications on environmental protection, which reflect the biodiversity conservation issues as well, are the magazines "Navruzi Vatan" SCEPF, "Tabiat" Youth Ecological Centre, electronic ecological bulletin "Vsiakoe Raznoe" NGO For Earth, and also they send out short news marks.

182. Does your country promote and encourage understanding of the importance of, and the measures required for, the conservation of biodiversity (13a) through media?

a) no	
b) yes - limited extent	x
c) yes - significant extent	

183. Does your country promote and encourage understanding of the importance of, and the measures required for, the conservation of biodiversity (13a) through the inclusion of this topic in education programmes?

a) no	
b) yes - limited extent	x
c) yes - significant extent	

184. Does your country cooperate with other States and international organizations in developing relevant educational and public awareness programmes (13b)?

a) no	
b) yes - limited extent	x
c) yes - significant extent	

Decision IV/10. Measures for implementing the Convention [part]

185. Are public education and awareness needs covered in the national strategy and action plan?	
a) no	
b) yes - limited extent	
c) yes - significant extent	x
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	x
c) under development	
d) yes	
191. Is your country supporting local, national, sub-regional and regional education and awareness programmes?	
a) no	x

b) yes - limited extent	
c) yes - significant extent	
<i>If a developing country Party or Party with economy in transition -</i>	
192. When requesting assistance through the GEF, has your country proposed projects that promote measures for implementing Article 13 of the Convention?	
a) no	
b) yes	x

Decision V/17. Education and public awareness

193. Does your country support capacity-building for education and communication in biological diversity as part of the national biodiversity strategy and action plans?	
a) no	
b) limited support	x
c) yes (please give details)	

Further comments on implementation of this Article

Questions 182-191.

The National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan stipulates a series of activities to improve environmental education and training in this area. It is necessary to mention that all thematic action plans (for various ecosystems, for the national ecological network, etc) has two separate components: (a) research and Monitoring: and (b) training and education. In implementing these provisions, the Government of Tajikistan, various scientific institutions, NGO community have implemented last two years a series of activities, including the following:

- Strengthened role of mass media (press, TV, radio) in promoting public environmental knowledge.
- Organized meeting with representatives of stakeholders.
- Regularly released a TV programme in Tajikistan about biological diversity of the country, and also some films on conducted workshops.
- Regularly issued environmental newspapers "Navruzi Vatan" and TV programmes "Inson va Tabiat";
- In the State Committee fro Environment Protection and Forestry there was established a special unit on Ecological education and training;

In the frames of the work of the Regional Environmental Center activities for environmental education are implemented. The Internet web-site was developed covering wide range of environmental protection issues, national and regional seminars and forums are held with participation of representatives of Ministries, Agencies, Scientific Institutions, mass media and NGOs; environmental actions are conducted, posters and booklets are issued.

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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	b) Medium	<input type="checkbox"/>	c) Low	<input type="checkbox"/>
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195. To what extent are the resources available adequate for meeting the obligations and recommendations made?

a) Good	<input type="checkbox"/>	b) Adequate	<input type="checkbox"/>	c) Limiting	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	d) Severely limiting	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Further comments on relative priority and on availability of resources

Questions 194-195.

The "Law on Ecological Expertise" was adopted in 2003. Based on the law a special Regulation on conducting the state ecological expertise was approved by the State Committee of Environmental Protection and Forestry. These documents regulate all issues related to the assessment of the impacts of human activities on the country's biodiversity. In order to improve its practical implementation it would be necessary to complement these documents with other by-laws, in particular with regard to Strategic Impact Assessment.

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	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) early stages of development	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) advanced stages of development	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) legislation in place	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) review of implementation available	<input type="checkbox"/>

197. Do such environmental impact assessment procedures allow for public participation (14 (1a))?

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

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	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) early stages of development	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) advanced stages of development	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) fully compliant with current scientific knowledge	<input type="checkbox"/>

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	
b) no, assessment of options in progress	
c) some completed, others in progress	x
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	
b) early stages of development	
c) advanced stages of development	
d) mechanisms in place	x
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	
c) advanced stages of development	x
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	
b) information provided to the Secretariat	
c) information provided to other Parties	x
d) information provided on the national CHM	

206. Has your country exchanged with other Contracting Parties information on measures and agreements on liability and redress applicable to damage to biological diversity?

a) no	x
b) information provided to the Secretariat	
c) information provided to other Parties	
d) information provided on the national CHM	

Decision V/18. Impact assessment, liability and redress

207. Has your country integrated environmental impact assessment into programmes on thematic areas and on alien species and tourism?

a) no	x
b) partly integrated	
c) fully integrated	

208. When carrying out environmental impact assessments does your country address loss of biological diversity and the interrelated socio-economic, cultural and human-health aspects relevant to biological diversity?

a) no	
b) partly	
c) fully	x

209. When developing new legislative and regulatory frameworks, does your country have in place mechanisms to ensure the consideration of biological diversity concerns from the early stages of the drafting process?

a) no	
b) in some circumstances	x
c) in all circumstances	
210. Does your country ensure the involvement of all interested and affected stakeholders in a participatory approach to all stages of the assessment process?	
a) no	
b) yes - in certain circumstances	x
c) yes - in all cases	
211. Has your country organised expert meetings, workshops and seminars, and/or training, educational and public awareness programmes and exchange programmes in order to promote the development of local expertise in methodologies, techniques and procedures for impact assessment?	
a) no	
b) some programmes in place	x
c) many programmes in place	
d) integrated approach to building expertise	
212. Has your country carried out pilot environmental impact assessment projects, in order to promote the development of local expertise in methodologies, techniques and procedures?	
a) no	x
b) yes (please provide further details)	
213. Does your country use strategic environmental assessments to assess not only the impact of individual projects, but also their cumulative and global effects, and ensure the results are applied in the decision making and planning processes?	
a) no	
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

Questions 196.

Tajikistan undertakes measures for developing the integral system of biodiversity impact assessment. The Environment Impact Assessment system in the country is based on the Law on the Ecological Expertise (EE) (2003). The State Ecological Expertise is carried out at both local and national levels, based on the law on EE. The EE is applied for all project documentation for both project of economic activities as well as for the country's and regions strategic documents, such as strategies for development, policies, national programs including in the areas that are linked to biodiversity conservation. The project appraisal includes assessment of environmental impact of planned activities, including of the threat to lose biodiversity, which largely promotes measures for conservation and rational use of biodiversity at early stages of development and implementation of economic activities projects.

Questions 197.

According to chapter 4 of the "Law on Ecological Expertise", the public, NGOs have the right to organize a public ecological expertise, which could conduct independent ecological assessments. So far no such cases were observed in the country.

Questions 198.

Art. 7 of the Law on EE stipulate that all project documents as well as strategic documents (such as laws, Regulations, Programs, Plans, Strategies for Development) are subject to the EE.

Questions 199-200.

Tajikistan has ratified the Aarhus Convention in 2003. Under this Convention there is an obligation to notify neighbouring countries of any potential adverse impacts on their biodiversity arising from activities undertaken on your national jurisdiction. Other than the Aarhus Convention there are no special bilateral or regional agreements on notification.

Questions 208.

According the art. 4 and 5 of the Law of EE, in conducting EIA it is necessary to take into consideration all aspects of the proposed activities - ecological (including biodiversity), social and economical.

Questions 209.

The Law on EE, art. 12-14 stipulates that in conducting EIA and EE it is necessary to inform the potentially affected population and general public about the proposed activities and to involve them in decision making process.

Questions 213 - 214.

The Law on EE stipulates the need to identify all potential impacts, including cumulative ones, as well as different alternatives of the proposed activities.

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	<input type="checkbox"/>
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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	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Further comments on relative priority and on availability of resources

Questions 216 – 217.

Tajikistan has undertaken a limited number of activities on the conservation and sustainable use of genetic resources. In the country there is no specific National Centre of Genetic Resources and an Informational Data Base of genetic resources. The main problems in this regard are the absence of an appropriate legal and institutional framework as well as the lack of the relevant financial resources.

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	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) yes – limited extent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) yes – significant extent	<input type="checkbox"/>

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 type="checkbox"/>
b) yes – limited extent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) yes – significant extent	<input type="checkbox"/>

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	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) early stages of development	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) advanced stages of development	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) processes in place	<input type="checkbox"/>

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	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) some measures in place	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) potential measures under review	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) comprehensive measures in place	<input type="checkbox"/>

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	
b) yes, within the previous national report	
c) yes, through case-studies	x
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	x
b) yes	
c) yes, and Executive Secretary notified	

230. Do your country's national biodiversity strategy, and legislative, administrative or policy measures on access and benefit-sharing, contribute to conservation and sustainable use objectives?

a) no	
b) to a limited extent	x
c) to a significant extent	

Parties that are recipients of genetic resources

231. Has your country adopted administrative or policy measures that are supportive of efforts made by provider countries to ensure that access to their genetic resources is subject to Articles 15, 16 and 19 of the Convention?

a) no	x
b) other arrangements made	
c) yes	

232. Does your country co-operate with other Parties in order to find practical and equitable solutions supportive of efforts made by provider countries to ensure that access to their genetic resources is subject to Articles 15, 16 and 19 of the Convention, recognizing the complexity of the issue, with particular consideration of the multiplicity of prior informed consent considerations?

a) no	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	x
b) legislation under development	
c) yes	

234. Is your country co-ordinating its positions in both the Convention on Biological Diversity and the International Undertaking on Plant Genetic Resources?

a) no	x
b) taking steps to do so	
c) yes	

235. Has your country provided information to the Executive Secretary on user institutions, the market for genetic resources, non-monetary benefits, new and emerging mechanisms for benefit sharing, incentive measures, clarification of definitions, *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	x
b) yes to a limited extent	
c) yes to a significant extent	

Further comments on implementation of this Article

Questions 218 - 222.

Tajikistan owns great genetic resources potential, including unique genetic collections of artificially created useful flora species. The genetic collections of crops and spontaneous flora contain: cereals, leguminous and technical cultures - 1.5 thousand sorts; fruit-berry cultures - 10 thousand sorts; which are stored in various scientific and educational institutions (national fund of herbarium includes about 350-400 thousand plant specimens of modern flora).

The main holders of the genetic collections are the following institutes: Botany Garden of the Academy of Science, different branches of the Tajik Agricultural Academy, - which hold a series of genetic collections of tresses and bushes, fruit tresses, medical herbs, rare and endangered flora species, etc. The main genetic species of agricultural floristic species, grasses, potato, various vegetables, technical plants are collected in various scientific institutions of the Tajik Agricultural Academy. Similarly, the genetic Fund of agricultural animals are collected in several scientific institutes under the Ministry of Agriculture.

Genetic collection of fruit-berry cultures makes about 10 thousand sorts of apricot, apple, cherry-plum, almond, etc. (holder: Scientific Associations "Bogparrvar" Tajik Agricultural Academy); cereals, leguminous and technical cultures, potato - 1.5 thousand sorts (holder: Institute of plant physiology and genetics of the Academy of Science) and 2.2 thousand (Scientific Associations "Bogparrvar" Tajik Agricultural Academy); hermoplazma of tribal animals - over 50 thousand dozes from producers of cattle and small cattle (holder: basis farms of Tajik Scientific and Research Institute for cattle breeding of the Tajik Agricultural Academy).

Zoological collection of Tajikistan contain: animals 3.7 thousand species, including 280 bird species (3.5 thousand specimen) and about 3.3 thousand species of insects (18.8 thousand specimen) which are stored in zoological museum of the Institute of Zoology and Parasitology of the Academy of Science.

Questions 223-227.

The Law on Biosafety has been recently approved by the Parliament of the country (2005) that stipulates the main aspects on access to information regarding genetic resources, biotechnologies and GMO. According to the NBSAP in the country has been started the preparation of a special state program "Creation of National Genetic fund of important agricultural flora species". (In NBSCAP in chapter 1.4.3 Genetic Fund and Biological Safety, a table of genetic resources of agricultural cultures are given).

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	X	b) Medium		c) Low	
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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	
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Further comments on relative priority and on availability of resources

Questions 238-239.

The researches in the field of biotechnologies and genetic engineering are at the early stage in Tajikistan. The country has ratified the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to the Convention on Biological Diversity on February 12, 2004. Furthermore, Tajikistan has adopted in this regard a special Law on Biosafety (2005).

Currently the scientific institutions in the country are carrying out only some preliminary thematic researches on the following: the modern biotechnologies (molecular, genetic) of increasing the valuable hereditary variability (endurance, productivity, quality) of the crops; the molecular-genetic technologies for diagnosing human hereditary and infectious diseases; the synthesis of biologically active substances from bacteria and algae used as biotechnological objects. Such investigations are held in the Institute of plant physiology and genetics of the Academy of Science, Institute of the Veterinary of the Tajik Agricultural Academy, Tajik Agrarian University, Tajik Agricultural Academy, and also Ministry of Health Care.

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	x
b) yes (please give brief details below)	

242. Has your country taken measures so that Contracting Parties which provide genetic resources are provided access to and transfer of technology which make use of those resources, on mutually agreed terms (16(3))?

a) not relevant	x
b) relevant, but no measures	

c) some measures in place	
d) potential measures under review	
e) comprehensive measures in place	
If so, are these measures	
a) Legislation	
b) Statutory policy or subsidiary legislation	
c) Policy and administrative arrangements	
243. Has your country taken measures so that the private sector facilitates access to joint development and transfer of relevant technology for the benefit of government institutions and the private sector of developing countries (16(4))?	
a) no measures	x
b) some measures in place	
c) potential measures under review	
d) comprehensive measures in place	
If so, are these measures	
a) Legislation?	
b) Statutory policy and subsidiary legislation?	
c) Policy and administrative arrangements?	
244. Does your country have a national system for intellectual property right protection (16(5))?	
a) no	
b) yes	x
245. If yes, does it cover biological resources (for example, plant species) in any way?	
a) no	x
b) yes - limited extent	
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

Questions 240-245.

Tajikistan does not have a well established National system of intellectual property right protection. That's why so far the issues of technology transfer, protection of intellectual property rights didn't become yet a subject to intensive discussions among the national scientists. The main responsibilities in this area are delegated to the State Patent Committee under the Ministry of Economics. During last years the Parliament of the country adopted a few law in this domain, and in particular: "Law on patents on inventions», «On patents on plant sorts», «On patents on industrial specimens». The Government has also approved in this regard a series of by-laws.

The national system of intellectual property right protection is used only for plant varieties and animal breeds which are created through the methods of artificial selection.

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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	b) Medium	<input type="checkbox"/>	c) Low	<input type="checkbox"/>
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248. To what extent are the resources available adequate for meeting the obligations and recommendations made?

a) Good	<input type="checkbox"/>	b) Adequate	<input type="checkbox"/>	c) Limiting	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	d) Severely limiting	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Further comments on relative priority and on availability of resources

Questions 247-248.

The importance of information exchange in the field of genetic resources, both at the national, and at the international level, is recognised in the country. Information on the existing genetic resources, the characteristic properties of plant or animal taxa are widely presented in various scientific publications, including various articles and monographs, popular scientific journals and scientific reports. These publications generally are available for a wide range of users and scientists in the fields of botany, vegetation, zoology, animal industries, plant breeding, farming, and for various NGOs. A number of NGOs issue their own magazines and bulletins containing scientific and popular information on the location of species (sites), their status, distribution and necessary measures for their protection. Besides publications within the country, the first steps towards the creation of information systems and databases on existing genetic resources and *ex-situ* and *in-situ* collections of vegetative genetic resources are being undertaken.

249. Has your country taken measures to facilitate the exchange of information from publicly available sources (17(1))?

a) no measures	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) restricted by lack of resources	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) some measures in place	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

d) potential measures under review	
e) comprehensive measures in place	
<i>If a developed country Party -</i>	
250. Do these measures take into account the special needs of developing countries (17(1))?	
a) no	
b) yes - limited extent	
c) yes - significant extent	
251. If so, do these measures include all the categories of information listed in Article 17(2), including technical, scientific and socio-economic research, training and surveying programmes, specialized knowledge, repatriation of information and so on?	
a) no	
b) yes - limited extent	
c) yes - significant extent	

Article 18 Technical and scientific cooperation

252. What is the relative priority afforded to implementation of this Article and the associated decisions by your country?			
a) High	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	x
			d) Severely limiting
Further comments on relative priority and on availability of resources			
Questions 252-253.			
<p>Due to the lack of relevant financial resources as well as of advanced experience on several aspects of usage, protection and restoration of biodiversity, the international cooperation in this area is vital for Tajikistan. The country at some extent takes part in the technical and scientific collaboration in the field of conservation and sustainable use of the natural resources within various international conventions and agreements with regard to biodiversity, especially programmes on regional multilateral cooperation in the Central Asia region. The sharp decrease of funds allocated for travel expenses and reduction of information exchange in certain fields of conservation, reproduction and sustainable use of biological diversity, international scientific and technical cooperation becomes most important condition for development of large environmental projects in Tajikistan.</p>			

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	
b) yes	x
260. Is your country helping to develop national capabilities through exchanging and disseminating information on experiences and lessons learned in implementing the Convention?	
a) no	
b) yes - limited extent	x
c) yes - significant extent	
261. Has your country designated a national focal point for the Clearing-House Mechanism?	
a) no	
b) yes	x
262. Is your country providing resources for the development and implementation of the Clearing-House Mechanism?	
a) no	
b) yes, at the national level	x
c) yes, at national and international levels	
263. Is your country facilitating and participating in workshops and other expert meetings to further the development of the CHM at international levels?	
a) no	
b) participation only	x
c) supporting some meetings and participating	
264. Is your CHM operational	
a) no	
b) under development	
c) yes (please give details below)	x
265. Is your CHM linked to the Internet	
a) no	
b) yes	x
266. Has your country established a multi-sectoral and multi-disciplinary CHM steering committee or working group at the national level?	
a) no	x

b) yes	
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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	
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b) reviewed but not implemented	x
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c) reviewed and implemented as appropriate	
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Further comments on implementation of these Articles

Questions 254-255.

Technical and scientific co-operation is incorporated in many of the actions stipulated in the NBSAP. The international cooperation at global and regional level is developed on the background of the environment protection conventions ratified by Tajikistan as well as on the basis of bi and multilateral agreements, specified above under question # 13.

Questions 259-261.

The structures of the Clearing House Mechanism were established in 2001, as part of the UNDP-GEF project on Biodiversity. In Tajikistan all works on Clearing House Mechanism are conducted at the national level, particularly database was created on experts, implementing projects, implementing activities of NBSAP, information on Tajikistan biodiversity, etc. Despite all that, the works are conducted at the national level, there is established and developed the co-operation with several informational centres on biodiversity. And also in a framework of Clearing House Mechanism in governmental level created "Aarhus-Centre", that works on public awareness issues. The National Focal Point for Clearing House Mechanisms is appointed the Deputy Head of the National Biodiversity and Biosafety Center Ms. T.Novikova.

Questions 262.

Annually the Government provides budgetary financing for its activity at the level of about 15 thousand Somoni (about US\$ 5 thousand).

Questions 263.

All the NBBC staff with CBD Secretariat support participated in international workshops and working groups on Clearing House Mechanism.

Questions 264-265.

The CHM is fully operational and linked to Internet. Meantime the reprocessing and updating process is undertaken. And also there is a plan on establishing the under-component web-site on Biosafety Clearing House Mechanism, with UNEP-GEF support.

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	
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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	
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Further comments on relative priority and on availability of resources

Questions 268-269.

Tajikistan has no sufficient scientific and industrial capacity in the field of biotechnology. The biotechnological research that is carried out in the country in the field of agriculture mainly concerns the selection of cultivated plants and their accelerated reproduction for the purpose of obtaining new healthy agricultural breeds with a higher resistance.

270. Has your country taken measures to provide for the effective participation in biotechnological research activities by those Contracting Parties which provide the genetic resources for such research (19(1))?

a) no measures	x
b) some measures in place	
c) potential measures under review	
d) comprehensive measures in place	

If so, are these measures:

a) Legislation	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	x
b) some measures in place	
c) potential measures under review	
d) comprehensive measures in place	

Decision IV/3. Issues related to biosafety and Decision V/1. Work Plan of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety

272. Is your country a Contracting Party to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety?	
a) not a signatory	
b) signed, ratification in progress	
c) instrument of ratification deposited	x

Further comments on implementation of this Article

Questions 272.
Tajikistan is part of the Cartagena protocol since 2004. It has adopted some legal documents in the area of Biosafety. The basic document is the Law on Biosafety (2005). The law contains the description of the main objectives in this area, the main requirements to related activities, stipulations regarding the licensing process in the domain, as well as requirements on standardization and certification. Furthermore, the law stipulates also the responsibilities in the area, as well as the responsibilities in the case of violation of the existing legislation.

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	x	b) Medium	c) Low

274. 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

Questions 273-274.
Tajikistan with its limited financial resources finances at certain extent the implementation of the NBSAP. Annually the state budget is allocated some resources in this regard. For example in 2003-2004, for the National Biodiversity and Biosafety Center, were allocated about 45 thousand somoni (US\$ 15 thousand).

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

If a developed country Party -

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

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

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

x

b) yes

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

x

b) yes

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

x

b) yes - limited extent

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	
b) not in a standardized format	x
c) yes (please provide details)	
284. Are details available of your country's financial support to biodiversity activities in other countries?	
a) not applicable	x
b) no	
c) not in a standardized format	
d) yes (please provide details)	
<i>Developed country Parties -</i>	
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	
<i>Developing country Parties -</i>	
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

Questions 275.

Tajikistan suffered severe economic hardships in the 1990s. Economic recovery has started in the second half of the 90s. The financing of biodiversity conservation programs is supported by a number of sources, including the State budget and foreign contributions to projects. While environmental problems are recognised, the environment is not considered as a national priority for public expenditure. Current financing is insufficient for the needs of biodiversity conservation in Tajikistan. Despite this fact last years some activities have been undertaken thanks to the limited budgetary allocations and international financial support. The annual volume of financial support allocated from the State Budget for forest protection activities and protected areas has not changed as a result of Tajikistan's ratification of the CBD.

The current State budget meets about 9% of the basic needs of biodiversity conservation, and the existing expenditure is primarily for payment of staff salaries. Almost no investment is made into equipment or other capital costs, and there is inadequate support for scientific research on biodiversity. Environmental spending is focused on three principal areas: (1) Fisheries; (2) Forestry; and (3) Protected areas. Additional activities covered include the funding of the Environmental Inspectorate, which is responsible for the enforcement of relevant legislation and regulations and for the collection of payments for natural resource use.

Questions 279.

Last years Tajikistan has received funds from various international organisations including the World Bank, GEF (see point 20-23, page15-16).

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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	b) Medium	<input type="checkbox"/>	c) Low	<input type="checkbox"/>
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290. 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 type="checkbox"/>	d) Severely limiting	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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Further comments on relative priority and on availability of resources

Questions 289-290.

Tajikistan lacks special financial mechanisms to stimulate investments in biodiversity, although, there are in place some economic instruments on environment protection (including on biodiversity conservation): *Taxes* for the natural resources use (flora, fauna, water, soil etc.); *Payment* for environment pollution and services (waste storage in areas that might have impact on biodiversity); *Payment* to compensate the damages to biodiversity (taxes are provided by the Forest Code, Law on Environmental Protection; Law on use and protection of the vegetative world, etc.) etc. The Government of the country has approved in the mid 90s several special regulations on the payments for use of bioresources (in particular game animals and fish resources) (# 340 from July 14, 1995), as well as regulations on payments for the damages to these resources

The main funds for biodiversity conservation activities are as follows: the state budget 35%; Environmental Fund 10%; other nature-users and subjects of economic activities 20%) and international financing structures and donors 35%). Total expenditure sum for biodiversity conservation which is approximated for 10 years makes 67.8 million somoni (26.6 million USD). The annual expenses constitute about 5 million somoni (1.5 million USD).

The major part of environmental funds are formed by payments for environmental pollution, and revenues from inspection activities (compensations, fines, revenues from realization) account for extremely small amount of funds.

State financing of projects, programmes and activities for conservation and sustainable use of the national biological diversity is partially realized through funding certain research projects and development of protected areas network with the state budget 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	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

*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	x
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***Questions 291.**

The Country has in place the National Environmental Fund, which is one of very important source for financing Biodiversity Conservation activities. The State Committee with the assistance from the Economic Commission for Europe of the UN (see Tajikistan: Environmental Performance Review - www.unece.org/environment), has prepared several recommendations on strengthening the capacity of the Fund and on improving its activity.

*Article 23 Conference of the Parties***293. How many people from your country participated in each of the meetings of the Conference of the Parties?**

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

*Decision I/6, Decision II/10, Decision III/24 and Decision IV/17. Finance and budget***294. Has your country paid all of its contributions to the Trust Fund?**

a) no	
b) yes	x

*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	
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b) yes (please specify which)	x
If a developed country Party -	
296. Has your country funded regional and sub-regional meetings to prepare for the COP, and facilitated the participation of developing countries in such meetings?	
a) no	
b) yes (please provide details below)	

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 1st 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

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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***Questions 299.**

The funds of the country are strictly limited and are not enough to finance even the Tajik participants in the Conference of the Parties.

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)	0
b) SBSTTA II (Montreal)	0
c) SBSTTA III (Montreal)	0
d) SBSTTA IV (Montreal)	0
e) SBSTTA V (Montreal)	0

Further comments on implementation of this Article

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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)	February 2004

Decision IV/14 National reports

302. Did all relevant stakeholders participate in the preparation of this national report, or in the compilation of information used in the report?	
a) no	
b) yes	x
303. Has your country taken steps to ensure that its first and/or second national report(s) is/are available for use by relevant stakeholders?	
a) no	
b) yes	x
If yes, was this by:	
a) informal distribution?	
b) publishing the report?	x
c) making the report available on request?	x
d) posting the report on the Internet?	x

Decision V/19. National reporting

304. Has your country prepared voluntary detailed thematic reports on one or more of the items for in-depth consideration at an ordinary meeting of the parties, following the guidelines provided?	
a) no	
b) yes - forest ecosystems	x
c) yes - alien species	
d) yes - benefit sharing	

Further comments on implementation of this Article

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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	
d) substantially implemented	x
306. Is your country developing practical expressions of the ecosystem approach for national policies and legislation and for implementation activities, with adaptation to local, national, and regional conditions, in particular in the context of activities developed within the thematic areas of the Convention?	
a) no	
b) under consideration	
c) some aspects are being applied	x
d) substantially implemented	
307. Is your country identifying case studies and implementing pilot projects that demonstrate the ecosystem approach, and using workshops and other mechanisms to enhance awareness and share experience?	
a) no	
b) case-studies identified	
c) pilot projects underway	x
d) workshops planned/held	
e) information available through CHM	
308. Is your country strengthening capacities for implementation of the ecosystem approach, and providing technical and financial support for capacity-building to implement the ecosystem approach?	
a) no	
b) yes within the country	x
c) yes including support to other Parties	
309. Has your country promoted regional co-operation in applying the ecosystem approach across national borders?	
a) no	
b) informal co-operation	x
c) formal co-operation (please give details)	

Inland water ecosystems

Decision IV/4. Status and trends of the biological diversity of inland water ecosystems and options for conservation and sustainable use

310. Has your country included information on biological diversity in wetlands when providing information and reports to the CSD, and considered including inland water biological diversity issues at meetings to further the recommendations of the CSD?	
a) no	x
b) yes	
311. Has your country included inland water biological diversity considerations in its work with organizations, institutions and conventions affecting or working with inland water?	
a) no	
b) yes	x
<i>If a developing country Party or Party with economy in transition -</i>	
312. When requesting support for projects relating to inland water ecosystems from the GEF, has your country given priority to identifying important areas for conservation, preparing and implementing integrated watershed, catchment and river basin management plans, and investigating processes contributing to biodiversity loss?	
a) no	x
b) yes	
313. Has your country reviewed the programme of work specified in annex 1 to the decision, and identified priorities for national action in implementing the programme?	
a) no	x
b) under review	
c) yes	

Decision V/2. Progress report on the implementation of the programme of work on the biological diversity of inland water ecosystems (implementation of decision IV/4)

314. Is your country supporting and/or participating in the River Basin Initiative?	
a) no	
b) yes	x
315. Is your country gathering information on the status of inland water biological diversity?	
a) no	
b) assessments ongoing	x
c) assessments completed	

316. Is this information available to other Parties?	
a) no	x
b) yes - national report	
c) yes - through the CHM	
d) yes - other means (please give details below)	
317. Has your country developed national and/or sectoral plans for the conservation and sustainable use of inland water ecosystems?	
a) no	x
b) yes - national plans only	
c) yes - national plans and major sectors	
d) yes - national plans and all sectors	
318. Has your country implemented capacity-building measures for developing and implementing these plans?	
a) no	x
b) yes	

Decision III/21. Relationship of the Convention with the CSD and biodiversity-related conventions

319. Is the conservation and sustainable use of wetlands, and of migratory species and their habitats, fully incorporated into your national strategies, plans and programmes for conserving biological diversity?	
a) no	
b) yes	x

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

Questions 319.

The protection of inland water ecosystems is performed within the framework of Convention on Biological Diversity and Ramsar Convention. The National Strategy and Action Plan on Biodiversity Conservation also provide activities on these ecosystems protection. Tajikistan has identified 3 natural aquatic zones (tugai, meadow-swamp, water and water-by), which meet the requirements of the Ramsar Convention.

The State Committee for Environmental Protection and Forestry is the main responsible institution in the field of environment protection, rational use of forest, water, biological and other nature resources, animal and vegetative world and as a whole nature in accordance to adopted laws and standards in a field of environmental protection. Under SCEPF established district, city and local enforcement authorities on environment protection for effective work control in place.

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	
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	
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	
b) yes	
323. Has your country undertaken and/or exchanged information on demonstration projects as practical examples of integrated marine and coastal area management?	
a) no	
b) yes - previous national report	
c) yes - case-studies	
d) yes - other means (please give details below)	
324. Has your country programmes in place to enhance and improve knowledge on the genetic structure of local populations of marine species subjected to stock enhancement and/or sea-ranching activities?	
a) no	
b) programmes are being developed	
c) programmes are being implemented for some species	
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	

b) under review	
c) yes	

Decision V/3. Progress report on the implementation of the programme of work on marine and coastal biological diversity (implementation of decision IV/5)

326. Is your country contributing to the implementation of the work plan on coral bleaching?	
a) no	
b) yes	
c) not relevant	x
327. Is your country implementing other measures in response to coral bleaching?	
a) no	
b) yes (please provide details below)	
c) not relevant	x
328. Has your country submitted case-studies on the coral bleaching phenomenon to the Executive Secretary?	
a) no	
b) yes	
c) not relevant	x

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

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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	x
c) advanced stages of development	
d) mechanisms in place	
332. Is your country taking steps to share experiences addressing the conservation and sustainable use of agricultural biological diversity?	
a) no	x
b) yes - case-studies	
c) yes - other mechanisms (please specify)	
333. Has your country conducted case-studies on the issues identified by SBSTTA: i) pollinators, ii) soil biota, and iii) integrated landscape management and farming systems?	
a) no	x
b) yes - pollinators	
c) yes - soil biota	
d) yes - integrated landscape management and farming systems	
334. Is your country establishing or enhancing mechanisms for increasing public awareness and understanding of the importance of the sustainable use of agrobiodiversity components?	
a) no	
b) early stages of development	x
c) advanced stages of development	
d) mechanisms in place	

335. Does your country have national strategies, programmes and plans which ensure the development and successful implementation of policies and actions that lead to sustainable use of agrobiodiversity components?	
a) no	
b) early stages of development	x
c) advanced stages of development	
d) mechanisms in place	
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	x
b) yes - limited extent	
c) yes - significant extent	
338. Is your country promoting mobilization of farming communities for the development, maintenance and use of their knowledge and practices in the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity?	
a) no	
b) yes - limited extent	x
c) yes - significant extent	
339. Is your country helping to implement the Global Plan of Action for the Conservation and Sustainable Utilization of Plant Genetic Resources?	
a) no	x
b) yes	
340. Is your country collaborating with other Contracting Parties to identify and promote sustainable agricultural practices and integrated landscape management?	
a) no	
b) yes	x

Decision V/5. Agricultural biological diversity: review of phase I of the programme of work and adoption of a multi-year work programme

341. Has your country reviewed the programme of work annexed to the decision and identified how you can collaborate in its implementation?	
a) no	x
b) yes	

342. Is your country promoting regional and thematic co-operation within this framework of the programme of work on agricultural biological diversity?	
a) no	
b) some co-operation	x
c) widespread co-operation	
d) full co-operation in all areas	

343. Has your country provided financial support for implementation of the programme of work on agricultural biological diversity?	
a) no	
b) limited additional funds	x
c) significant additional funds	

If a developed country Party -

344. Has your country provided financial support for implementation of the programme of work on agricultural biological diversity, in particular for capacity building and case-studies, in developing countries and countries with economies in transition?

a) no	x
b) yes within existing cooperation programme(s)	
b) yes, including limited additional funds	
c) yes, with significant additional funds	

345. Has your country supported actions to raise public awareness in support of sustainable farming and food production systems that maintain agricultural biological diversity?

a) no	
b) yes, to a limited extent	x
c) yes, to a significant extent	

346. Is your country co-ordinating its position in both the Convention on Biological Diversity and the International Undertaking on Plant Genetic Resources?	
a) no	x
b) taking steps to do so	
c) yes	
347. Is your country a Contracting Party to the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade?	
a) not a signatory	x
b) signed - ratification in process	
c) instrument of ratification deposited	
348. Is your country supporting the application of the Executive Secretary for observer status in the Committee on Agriculture of the World Trade Organisation?	
a) no	x
b) yes	
349. Is your country collaborating with other Parties on the conservation and sustainable use of pollinators?	
a) no	x
b) yes	
350. Is your country compiling case-studies and implementing pilot projects relevant to the conservation and sustainable use of pollinators?	
a) no	x
b) yes (please provide details)	
351. Has information on scientific assessments relevant to genetic use restriction technologies been supplied to other Contracting Parties through media such as the Clearing-House Mechanism?	
a) not applicable	
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	x
b) some assessments	
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	x
b) some measures identified	
c) potential measures under review	
d) comprehensive review completed	
356. Has your country assessed whether there is a need for effective regulations at the national level with respect to genetic use restriction technologies to ensure the safety of human health, the environment, food security and the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity?	
a) no	
b) yes - regulation needed	x
c) yes - regulation not needed (please give more details)	
357. Has your country developed and applied such regulations taking into account, <u>inter alia</u>, 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

Questions 330.

The priority issue in the area of biodiversity is reflected in the NBSAP, section 3.16. Among them are the following activities to be done in the next 5-10 years:

- Creating a collection and a genetic data base of rare and endangered varieties of fruit and vegetables, berries and melons;
- Developing programs for yak acclimatization and expansion of their area in high mountain conditions of Tajikistan;
- Developing a complex action plan on agrobiodiversity conservation of local varieties of fruits and vegetables, berries and melons;
- Creating zakazniks for restoring populations of wild relatives of cultivated plants and preventing the threat of their degradation;
- Improving legislation in the area, including the laws on controlling and preventing the distribution of quarantine and invasive species;
- Developing a system of agrobiodiversity evaluation and monitoring, collecting data and creating a database of wild relatives of cultivated plants;
- Raise the public awareness on agrobiodiversity, publish books, manuals and booklets on this issue.

Questions 331.

There are no specially adopted methods and indicators to monitor the impacts of agricultural development activities on biodiversity currently in place. In the same time, the Law on Ecological Expertise (art. 17) requires that all project documents] for any economic activities that might have a potential negative impact on the environment (including biodiversity) must contain and EIA study, that reflects the appropriate alternatives of the proposed activities; the potential impacts; proposed mitigation measures, including monitoring activities during the construction and functioning.

Questions 334.

The NBSAP contains special provisions with regard to increasing public awareness on agrobiodiversity. In particular, the document stipulates that different national institutions in 2004-2007 will conduct popularization of conservation of genetic resources of plants and animals through publishing booklets, preparing films, organizing exhibitions. It is also proposed to publish the book "Wild and cultivated

varieties of fruits and vegetables of Tajikistan” as well as of a special manual on “Agrobiodiversity Conservation”.

Questions 335- 336.

Tajikistan doesn't have a special action plan and/or a Program on conserving Agrobiodiversity. Implementation of the use of sustainable agricultural technologies takes place but is very limited due to a lack of state financing, and mostly based on international financing. With the assistance of the World Bank starting from 2005 the “Community Watershed Management Project is being implemented. The project covers partially along with the increase of agricultural productivity and land degradation issues the sustainable use and reproduction of biodiversity, particularly forest resources, through the development of traditional methods (see point 20-23, page 16).

Questions 357.

The main activity ways on conservation and rational use of agrobiodiversity are the following:

- developing and disseminating the new methods of agricultural development, complex landscape management of several agricultural and natural regions;
- developing and implantation of ecologically safe planting technologies, forming the mixed (binary) sowing agricultural cultures, supporting the biodiversity of pastures and hayland, implantation of ecologically safe systems of minerals use, integration of plant protection system;
- developing the resource-economic and genetically sustainable to illnesses and pests plant sorts.

The State policy on conservation and rational use of native plant resources is defined by the Law “On Selection achievements of agricultural cultures”; from November 4, 1995. #118. Law “On plant quarantine” (2001); the Programme “Establishing the national genetic fund of economically useful plants”. The programme is aimed for establishment, systematization, maintenance and analysis of plant resources for their use in agriculture of Tajikistan and integration in regional and global gene-fund of plant resources.

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	x
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b) under review	
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	x
b) yes	
366. Will your country contribute to the future work of the UN Forum on Forests?	
a) no	x
b) yes	
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	
b) under review	x
c) yes	
373. Is your country supporting scientifically, technically and financially, at the national and regional levels, the activities identified in the programme of work?	
a) no	
b) to a limited extent	x
c) to a significant extent	
374. Is your country fostering cooperation for the regional or subregional implementation of the programme among countries sharing similar biomes?	
a) no	
b) to a limited extent	x
c) to a significant extent	

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

Questions 361.

The problems of forest biodiversity and forest conservation are considered in the NBSAP as well as in the "National Action Program to combat Desertification in Tajikistan". Both documents stipulate activities for increasing the forest areas in the country as well as for improving their biodiversity. In particular, activities proposed in the NBSAP in the sections 3.10, 3.11; 3.12; related to different types of forest ecosystems contain special provisions in that regard.

Questions 363.

The GEF MSP Dashtidjum Biodiversity Conservation project (see point 20-23) is directly aimed at forest conservation and preservation, including improving biodiversity of the existing forests in the zakaznik's buffer zone.

Questions 368.

The NBSAP contains a number of activities relating to the conservation and sustainable use of different types of forests (sections 1.4.1; and 3.10; 3.11; 3.12). The proposed activities are grouped under the following categories: A. "Improving the policy, legislation, and institutional base"; B. "Territorial Planning, Programs on Biodiversity Conservation"; C. "Research and monitoring"; and D. "Training and Education of the population".

Questions 370.

Due to limited resources the country didn't implement measures to strengthen national and local capacities to enhance the effectiveness of the forest protected areas. Within the mentioned above GEF MSP Dashtidjum BC project there will be implemented such activities, the results of which will be replicated in other PAs of the country.

Questions 372-373.

This decision has a high priority in Tajikistan, as a significant part of the territory of the Republic is covered by arid and semi-arid areas. Furthermore the many biologically diverse areas, including the majority of endemic species, are found in these regions. Until now the conservation of biodiversity in the arid and semi-arid territories of the country has attracted insufficient attention.

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

c) to a significant extent

x

377. Has your country undertaken a review of national programmes and needs related to the implementation of the Convention and, if appropriate, informed the Executive Secretary?

a) no

b) under way

c) yes

x

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:

Among the activities that were carried out as a direct result of becoming a Contracting Party to the Convention are the following:

- There was developed the National Biodiversity Conservation Strategy and Action Plan;
- The requirements of Biodiversity Conservation and proposed in the NBSAP are

reflected in the Governmental Decisions and in sectoral action plans;

- Received the GEF financial support for implementation of projects on biodiversity conservation (Biodiversity Conservation Enabling Activities projects – phase I and Phase II; Dashtidjum Biodiversity Conservation and Community Watershed Management Projects);
- Development of new normative acts, and amendments to environmental legislation (Law on Biosafety; Law on Use and Protection of vegetative world);
- Created National Biodiversity and Biosafety Center, being responsible for the implementation and monitoring of the National Biological Diversity Conservation Strategy and Action Plan, as well as on coordination of the activities on biosecurity in the country;
- The biodiversity conservation policy, and institutional capacities have been improved;
- A concrete State Program for Protected Areas development has been developed and adopted (Government Decision # 79 from March 4, 2005);
- A special new division on Protected Areas Management was created in the structure of the State Committee for Environmental Protection and Forestry;
- The CHM has been established and the exchange of information between biodiversity focal points works;
- Created access of the public to biodiversity-related information and ensured by setting up the CHM;
- New environmental NGOs with a specific focus on Biodiversity have been created;

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

Among the joint activities on Biodiversity Conservation might be mentioned:

- Bilateral agreements with Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan and China on Biological Diversity Conservation (including transboundary biodiversity);

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

The scientists and experts in this field are not fully satisfied with the implementation of the requirements of the Convention in the Tajikistan. The main reason that slows down the implementation of the Convention is the lack of relevant financial resources. Therefore, despite the fact that biodiversity conservation is declared as the country priority, the Government doesn't provide necessary financial resources to implement the activities stipulated in the NBSAP.

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

In the context that several specialists took part in the international, regional and national workshops on Convention articles and COP provisions several difficulties in NBSAP preparation process and the given document were taken away. The main difficulties that came up were the lack of methodical guidelines in Russian. Besides, separate issues on given document organized too long and with double meaning. It would be perfect if the issues would be broken down into short and concrete expressions.

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

Date of completion: *July 2003*

If the NBSAP has been adopted by the Government

By which authority? *Government of the Republic of Tajikistan*

On what date? *September 1, 2003*

If the NBSAP has been published please give

Title: *National Strategy and Action Plan on Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity*

Name and address of publisher: *National Biodiversity and Biosafety Centre
44 Aini str., Dushanbe, Tajikistan, 734025*

ISBN: *n/a*

Price (if applicable):

Other information on ordering: *NBSAP is available in CD-format in Russian, Tajik and English*

If the NBSAP has not been published

Please give full details of how copies can be obtained: *By sending the relevant proposal to:
biodiv@biodiv.tojikiston.com*

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:

UNDP

Has a copy of the NBSAP been lodged with the Convention Secretariat?

Yes

x

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

- *Action Plan on Desertification*
- *Action Plan on Climate Change*
- *Report and Action Plan on development of national potential and responsibilities of the Republic of Tajikistan in implementing the global ecological convention*
- *National Environmental Action Plan*

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

- *State Committee for Environment Protection and Forestry*
- *National Biodiversity and Biosafety Center*
- *Tajikglavgidromet*
- *State Land Use Committee*
- *Ministry on melioration and water management*
- *Ministry of Agriculture*
- *Academy of Science and its Institutes:*
- *Institute of Botany, Institute of Zoology and Parasitology, Institute of Plant Physiology and Genetic, Institute of Forestry*
- *Tajik Academy on Agricultural Sciencel*

On documents work were used published and report materials of Academy of Science of the Republic of Tajikistan, Tajik Academy of Agricultural Science, State Committee for Environmental Conservation and Forestry, Tajik Hydrometeorology, Forestry Productive Association of the Republic of Tajikistan, State Statistic Agency of the Republic of Tajikistan, State Committee on Land Use of the Republic of Tajikistan and materials of separate scientists and specialists that work on biodiversity.

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