

The Islamic Republic of Iran

The second National Report
for the
Convention on Biological Diversity

Prepared by: NBSAP Secretariat

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In the name of God

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No: 9, Gha' em Magham Ave., Tehran 15899,

Islamic Republic of Iran

Tel: +98(21) 882 4513, Fax: +98(21) 883 1297

URL: WWW.BIODIVERSITY.IR

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Project Manager:

Mr. Asghar MOHAMMADI FAZEL

Drafting Group:

Mr. Behzad Kh. RAHGOSHAI (*Head of Group*)

Mr. Kamran MAZHARI

Mr. Ehsan MOHAMMADIFAZEL

Mr. Vazric NAZARI

Contributors:

Mr. SayedAli ADHAMI, Deputy of National Museum for Natural History

Mr. Hamid FARAHANIRAD, Department of Administration and Planning

Mr. Esmail KAHRUM, NBSAP Consultant

Mr. Nematollah KHANSARI, Bio-Safety sub Committee, CSD

Mr. Mohammadreza KHOSRAVI, DOE

Mrs. Parvin MARUFI, DG for International Affairs, DOE

Mr. Davoud RAHBAR; DG for EIA Bureau, DOE

Mr. Peiman SEADAT, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Note:

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Preface

The third National Socio-Economic Development Plan (2001-2005) includes two major paragraphs (Paragraphs 104 and 105) and several subparagraphs on environmental issues. These paragraphs address issues such as sustainable exploitation of natural resources, environmental liability and redress, support of green industries, as well as EIA.

We have the honor to say that the Leader of the Islamic Revolution, Ayatollah Seyed Ali Khamenei, recently has signed some strategies on natural resources and environmental issues, which reflect the importance of the subject in the country. Some of them are as follows:

- 1- The promotion of public participation. Involvement of private sector and non-governmental organizations to improve conservation activities and put biodiversity into the mainstream of the community.
- 2- Identification of the natural resources, including soil protection and genetic resources, in the country and conservation of these resources.
- 3- Production and consumption patterns should be compatible with environmental conservation.
- 4- Establishment of educational and research centers across the country.
- 5- To reduce the increasing rate of habitat destruction and loss of species.

In 1998 the Department of Environment formed a "Participation Bureau" to assist environmental non-governmental organizations (NGOs). The bureau provides legal counseling and logistical support for NGOs. The establishment of this Bureau is in the direction of new government policies to promote public participation in environmental affairs. The number of environmental NGOs has had a very positive trend.

The present document is the second National Report of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Convention on Biological Diversity. It was drawn up with support from the "National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan" (NBSAP) Project, and collaboration of distinguished representatives of the Management and Planning Organization, Ministry of Energy, Ministry of Oil, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Jihad-e-Keshavarzi (Construction and Rural Development) Ministry of Science, Technology and Research, Biodiversity sub-committee of the National Committee for Sustainable Development (NCSD), University of Tehran, Environmentalists Association (an Iranian NGO) , IUCN and UNDP country office in Tehran.

The Islamic Republic of Iran is willing to broaden its co-operation aiming at conservation of its environment and national heritage for future generations.

Please provide the following details on the origin of this report

Contracting Party	IRAN (Islamic Republic of)
National Focal Point	
Full name of the institution:	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Name and title of contact officer:	Mr. Bozorgmehr ZIARAN Director General for International Economic Affairs and Specialized Agencies
Mailing address:	Bldg. 8 of MFA, Koushk St., Tehran, Islamic Republic of IRAN
Telephone:	+98(21)311 2931
Fax:	+98(21)670 4176
E-mail:	<u>Ziaran@ties.itu.int</u>
Contact officer for national report (if different)	
Full name of the institution:	Department of Environment
Name and title of contact officer:	Mr. Anoushirvan NAJAFI Deputy Head for the Biodiversity and Natural Environment
Mailing address:	Pardisan Eco-Park, Hemmat Highway, Tehran, Islamic Republic of IRAN
Telephone:	+98(21)826 9913
Fax:	+98(21)826 9912
E-mail:	<u>Najafi@abedi.net</u>
Submission	
Signature of officer responsible for submitting national report:	
Date of submission:	10 May 2001

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 present document is the second National Report of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Convention on Biological Diversity. It was drawn up with support from the "National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP)" Project Secretariat, under the supervision of a Steering Committee, including representatives of the Department of Environment, Department of Administration and Planning, Ministry of Science, Technology and Research, Ministry of Oil, Ministry of Jihad-e-Keshavarzi, Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Energy, Biodiversity sub-committee of the National Committee for Sustainable Development (NCSA), University of Tehran and Environmentalists Association(NGO).

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

A series of workshops (Initiation February 99, Marine April 99, Paleontology May 99, Forest June 99, Soil July 99, Desert August 99, MAB sites September99, Arasbaran May 2000, Urmia June 2000, Strategies July 2000, Biodiversity August 2000 and Sustainable use of Biological Diversity February 2001) was held to incorporate the viewpoints of national and local stakeholders. Five working groups were formed to use results of these workshops for preparation of some documents such as the National Biodiversity Strategy, National Action Plans and the current report. Further meetings were held to explain this issue for experts and participants.

The COP has established programmes of work that respond to a number of Articles. Please identify the relative priority accorded to each theme and the adequacy of resources. This will allow subsequent information on implementation of each Article to be put into context. There are other questions on implementation of the programmes of work at the end of these guidelines.

Inland water ecosystems

1. What is the relative priority for implementation of this work programme in your country?	
a) High	
b) Medium	✓
c) Low	
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	✓
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	
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	
b) Medium	✓
c) Low	
d) Not relevant	

6. To what extent are the resources available adequate for meeting the obligations and recommendations made?	
a) Good	
b) Adequate	
c) Limiting	√
d) Severely limiting	

Forest biological diversity

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

Biological diversity of dry and sub-humid lands

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

Further comments on work programmes and priorities

Because of its large size and varied ecosystems, the Islamic Republic of Iran is one of the most important countries in the Middle East and Western Asia for conservation of biological diversity. Five major biomes are identified, namely:

- Irano-Touranian (ITP): Arid and semi-arid plains and deserts.
- Irano-Touranian (ITM): Arid and semi-arid mountains.
- Zagrosian (Z): Semi-arid Zagros mountains.
- Hyrceanian (H): Semi-humid and humid Arasbaran and Hyrcanian mountains and Caspian plain.
- Khalijo-Ommanian (KO): Dry southern coastal plains with high humidity.

Iranian habitats support some 8,200 species of plants, of which almost 2,500 are endemic. There are 12.4 million hectares of woodland, and some 8,900 hectares of mangroves along the southern coasts of Iran. Field studies in Iran confirm the presence of over 500 species of birds and 160 species of mammals.

The wetlands of Iran are globally significant; large populations of migratory birds winter at these wetlands or use them on their way to and from wintering areas in Africa or the Indian sub-continent.

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					
Mechanisms should be provided to enhance co-operation among governmental bodies with organisation in other contracting parties.					
Regional mechanisms should be utilized to promote cooperation in respect of area beyond National jurisdiction and on other matters of mutual interest, for the convention and sustainable use of biological diversity.					

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)	
b) international programmes (please give details below)	
c) international agreements (please give details below)	√

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

14. Has your country developed effective cooperation for the sustainable management of transboundary watersheds, catchments, river basins and migratory species through bilateral and multilateral agreements?	
a) no	
b) yes - limited extent (please give details below)	√
c) yes - significant extent (please give details below)	
d) not applicable	

Decision IV/15. The relationship of the CBD with the CSD and biodiversity-related conventions, other international agreements, institutions and processes or relevance

15. Has your country developed management practices for transboundary protected areas?	
a) no	√
b) yes - limited extent (please give details below)	
c) yes - significant extent (please give details below)	
d) not relevant	

Decision V/21. Co-operation with other bodies

16. Has your country collaborated with the International Biodiversity Observation Year of DIVERSITAS, and ensured complementarity with the initiative foreseen to be undertaken by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity to increase scientific knowledge and public awareness of the crucial role of biodiversity for sustainable development?	
a) no	✓
b) to a limited extent	
c) to a significant extent	

Decision V/27. Contribution of the Convention on Biological Diversity to the ten-year review of progress achieved since the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development

17. Is your country planning to highlight and emphasize biological diversity considerations in its contribution to the ten-year review of progress since the Earth Summit?	
a) no	
b) yes	✓

Further comments on implementation of this Article

I.R Iran has joined many international agreements related to Environmental issues, through which Iran enhances its capacity and plays a more active role in conservation and sustainable use of Biological diversity at national-regional levels.

The regional Convention for Co-operation to protect and improve coastal zones and the Marine Environment (ROPME, 24 April 1978) was approved by Iranian parliament. Therefore, the proceedings of convention are a domestic as well as an external obligation for the government and related organizations, for the purpose of protecting the marine environment in the Persian Gulf and the Sea of Oman.

Following a scientific and technical co-operation agreement signed between the governments of Iran and the former Soviet Union (1971), conclusive bilateral meetings were held to discuss problems and find solutions to the environmental problems of the Caspian. Since the collapse of the Soviet Union, the Caspian littoral republics and Iran have held ongoing discussions on the protection of the Caspian environment and agreed on the Caspian Environmental Program (CEP).

The wetlands of Iran are globally significant; large populations of migratory birds (e.g. Siberian Crane) winter at these wetlands or use them on their way to and from wintering areas in Africa or the Indian sub-continent. Because of its large size and varied ecosystems, the Islamic Republic of Iran is one of the most important countries in the Middle East and Western Asia for conservation of biological diversity and Convention on Wetlands (Ramsar). Currently Iran has bilateral environmental co-operation with research institutions of many countries.

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	✓	b) Medium		c) Low	
19. To what extent are the resources available adequate for meeting the obligations and recommendations made?					
a) Good		b) Adequate		c) Limiting	✓
d) Severely limiting					
Further comments on relative priority and on availability of resources					
Integration of the NBSAP into programs and policies needs more resources, such as technical support as well as legislation measures.					

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	
f) reports on implementation available	
21. What is the status of your national biodiversity action plan (6a)?	
a) none	
b) early stages of development	
c) advanced stages of development	✓
d) completed ₂	
e) completed and adopted ₂	
f) reports on implementation available	
22. Do your national strategies and action plans cover all articles of the Convention (6a)?	
a) some articles only	
b) most articles	✓
c) all articles	

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

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

Decision II/7 and Decision III/9 Consideration of Articles 6 and 8

24. Is action being taken to exchange information and share experience on the national action planning process with other Contracting Parties?	
a) little or no action	
b) sharing of strategies, plans and/or case-studies	√
c) regional meetings	√
25. Do all of your country's strategies and action plans include an international cooperation component?	
a) no	
b) yes	√
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	
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	
If a developing country Party or a Party with economy in transition -	
28. Has your country received support from the financial mechanism for the preparation of its national strategy and action plan?	
a) no	
b) yes	√
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	√

Further comments on implementation of this Article

Four strategies have been proposed for conservation of biodiversity.

1-The first strategy aims at the promotion of public participation. Involvement of private sector and non-governmental organisations to improve conservation activities and put biodiversity into the mainstream of the community.

2-The second strategy relates to the formation of biodiversity information, monitoring and reporting systems. These systems would be used as environmental management tools and will be accessible to all sectors.

3- The third strategy includes reorganisation of institutional structures for sustainable use of biological components.

4-The fourth strategy deals with the systematic conservation of biodiversity resources (a full description of the strategies and action plans will be included in the "National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plans" report).

For the above-mentioned strategies, some action plans are under consideration and 35 are already being implemented. One of the fundamental activities is to priorities these plans. In order to co-ordinate the activities between different organisations, establishment of a committee is proposed.

Article 7 Identification and monitoring

30. What is the relative priority afforded to implementation of this Article and the associated decisions by your country?					
a) High		b) Medium	✓	c) Low	
31. 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					

32. Does your country have an ongoing inventory programme at species level (7a)?	
a) minimal activity	✓
b) for key groups (such as threatened or endemic species) or indicators	
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	
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	✓
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	
c) for a range of major groups	✓
d) for a comprehensive range of species	

36. Does your country have ongoing monitoring programmes at ecosystem level (7b)?	
a) minimal activity	
b) for ecosystems of particular interest only	
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	√
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	
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	√
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	√
c) advanced stages of programme development	
d) programme in place	
e) reports on implementation available	

Decision III/10 Identification, monitoring and assessment

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

42. Is your country using rapid assessment and remote sensing techniques?	
a) no	
b) assessing opportunities	
c) yes, to a limited extent	√
d) yes, to a major extent	
e) reports on implementation available	
43. Has your country adopted a "step-by-step" approach to implementing Article 7 with initial emphasis on identification of biodiversity components (7a) and activities having adverse effects on them (7c)?	
a) no	√
b) not appropriate to national circumstances	
c) yes	
44. Is your country cooperating with other Contracting Parties on pilot projects to demonstrate the use of assessment and indicator methodologies?	
a) no	√
b) yes (if so give details below)	
45. Has your country prepared any reports of experience with application of assessment methodologies and made these available to other Contracting Parties?	
a) no	√
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)	

Decision V/7. Identification, monitoring and assessment, and indicators

47. Is your country actively involved in co-operating with other countries in your region in the field of indicators, monitoring and assessment?	
a) no	
b) limited co-operation	√
c) extensive co-operation on some issues	
d) extensive co-operation on a wide range of issues	
48. Has your country made available case studies concerning the development and implementation of assessment, monitoring and indicator programmes?	
a) no	√
b) yes - sent to the Secretariat	
c) yes - through the national CHM	
d) yes - other means (please specify)	

49. Is your country assisting other Parties to increase their capacity to develop indicator and monitoring programmes?	
a) no	✓
b) providing training	
c) providing direct support	
d) sharing experience	
e) other (please describe)	

Further comments on implementation of this Article

For implementation and monitoring of this Article, which was drawn up with support from UNDP/GEF as an Enabling Activity through the "National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan" (NBSAP) Project, under the supervision of a Steering Committee, including representatives of the Department of Environment, Department of Administration and Planning, Ministry of Science, Technology and Research, Ministry of Oil, Ministry of Jihad-e-Keshavarzi, Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Energy, Biodiversity sub-committee of the National Committee for Sustainable Development (NCSD), University of Tehran, Environmentalists Association (an Iranian NGO) and UNDP, Iran has difficulties in coordinating with relative organizations.

Decisions on Taxonomy

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

50. Has your country carried out a national taxonomic needs assessment, and/or held workshops to determine national taxonomic priorities?	
a) no	√
b) early stages of assessment	
c) advanced stages of assessment	
d) assessment completed	
51. Has your country developed a national taxonomic action plan?	
a) no	√
b) early stages of development	
c) advanced stages of development	
d) action plan in place	
e) reports on implementation available	
52. Is your country making available appropriate resources to enhance the availability of taxonomic information?	
a) no	√
b) yes, but this does not cover all known needs adequately	
c) yes, covering all known needs	
53. Is your country encouraging bilateral and multilateral training and employment opportunities for taxonomists, particularly those dealing with poorly known organisms?	
a) no	
b) some opportunities	√
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	√
c) significant investment	
55. Is your country encouraging partnerships between taxonomic institutions in developed and developing countries?	
a) no	√
b) yes - stated policy	
c) yes - systematic national programme	
56. Has your country adopted any international agreed levels of collection housing?	
a) no	√
b) under review	
c) being implemented by some collections	
d) being implemented by all major collections	

57. Has your country provided training programmes in taxonomy?	
a) no	√
b) some	
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	√
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	
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	
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	
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	√
c) many	

**Decision V/9. Global Taxonomy Initiative: Implementation and further
advance of the Suggestions for Action**

63. Has your country identified its information requirements in the area of taxonomy, and assessed its national capacity to meet these requirements?	
a) no	
b) basic assessment	√
c) thorough assessment	
64. Has your country established or consolidated taxonomic reference centres?	
a) no	√
b) yes	
65. Has your country worked to increase its capacity in the area of taxonomic research?	
a) no	
b) yes	√
66. Has your country communicated information on programmes, projects and initiatives for consideration as pilot projects under the Global Taxonomy Initiative to the Executive Secretary?	
a) no	√
b) yes	
67. Has your country designated a national Global Taxonomy Initiative focal point linked to other national focal points?	
a) no	√
b) yes	
68. Has your country participated in the development of regional networks to facilitate information-sharing for the Global Taxonomy Initiative?	
a) no	√
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	√
b) applied for unsuccessfully	
c) applied for successfully	

Further comments on implementation of these decisions

The government of Islamic Republic of Iran has established natural history museums, seed and gene banks, botanical gardens, wildlife breeding centers and animal safe habitats, herbaria and microbial collection centers.

-National museum for natural history was founded in 1973 and is now a part of the Department of Environment. The mission of the museum and its affiliated branches in all provinces is to become a major source of public information and a center for scientific studies and research activities.

-The National botanic garden consists of a botanic garden illustrating the various biomes of Iran and the world, together with a herbarium with more than 100,000 specimens. Smaller scale herbaria and botanic gardens have also been established by provincial research centers and universities.

-Pardisan Eco-park embodies the ideals and the aims of the Department of Environment for conservation of biodiversity as important world heritage. Its themes have two dimensions. Firstly, it is concerned with nature, the history of Earth in its galactic context, and with a range and variety of wildlife, as well as physical and geological formations. The second dimension includes the relationship between them. The master plan includes re-creation of major biomes of Iran on an unprecedented scale.

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

70. What is the relative priority afforded to implementation of this Article and the associated decisions by your country?					
a) High	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	b) Medium	<input type="checkbox"/>	c) Low	<input type="checkbox"/>
71. To what extent are the resources available adequate for meeting the obligations and recommendations made?					
a) Good	<input type="checkbox"/>	b) Adequate	<input type="checkbox"/>	c) Limiting	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Severely limiting <input type="checkbox"/>					
Further comments on relative priority and on availability of resources					
Technical, scientific as well as funding resources for such a great task is limited.					

72. Has your country established a system of protected areas which aims to conserve biological diversity (8a)?	
a) system under development	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) national review of protected areas coverage available	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) national protected area systems plan in place	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) relatively complete system in place	<input type="checkbox"/>
73. Are there nationally adopted guidelines for the selection, establishment and management of protected areas (8b)?	
a) no	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) no, under development	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) yes, undergoing review and extension	<input type="checkbox"/>
74. Does your country regulate or manage biological resources important for the conservation of biological diversity with a view to ensuring their conservation and sustainable use (8c)?	
a) no	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) early stages of development	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) advanced stages of development	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) programme or policy in place	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) reports on implementation available	<input type="checkbox"/>

75. Has your country undertaken measures that promote the protection of ecosystems, natural habitats and the maintenance of viable populations of species in natural surroundings (8d)?	
a) no measures	
b) some measures in place	√
c) potential measures under review	
d) reasonably comprehensive measures in place	
76. Has your country undertaken measures that promote environmentally sound and sustainable development in areas adjacent to protected areas (8e)?	
a) no measures	
b) some measures in place	√
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	√
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	√
c) potential measures under review	
d) comprehensive measures in place	
79. Has your country undertaken measures to regulate, manage or control the risks associated with the use and release of living modified organisms resulting from biotechnology (8g)?	
a) no measures	√
b) some measures in place	
c) potential measures under review	
d) comprehensive measures in place	
80. Has your country made attempts to provide the conditions needed for compatibility between present uses and the conservation of biological diversity and sustainable use of its components (8i)?	
a) no	
b) early stages of development	√
c) advanced stages of development	
d) programme or policy in place	
e) reports on implementation available	

81. Has your country developed and maintained the necessary legislation and/or other regulatory provisions for the protection of threatened species and populations (8k)?	
a) no	
b) early stages of development	
c) advanced stages of development	
d) legislation or other measures in place	√
82. Does your country regulate or manage processes and categories of activities identified under Article 7 as having significant adverse effects on biological diversity (8l)?	
a) no	
b) under review	
c) yes, to a limited extent	
d) yes, to a significant extent	√
<i>If a developed country Party -</i>	
83. Does your country cooperate in providing financial and other support for <i>in-situ</i> conservation particularly to developing countries (8m)?	
<i>If a developing country Party or Party with economy in transition -</i>	
84. Does your country receive financial and other support for <i>in situ</i> conservation (8m)?	
a) no	
b) yes (if so, please give details below)	√

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	

Further comments on implementation of this Article

The protected area and reserve system provides the core areas for biodiversity conservation. This reserve system is not sufficient in itself for long-term conservation, and must be harmonized with conservation efforts in other areas and land-uses. In Iran, areas protected by the Department of Environment cover 8.5 million hectares (more than 5% of the land area). The Department of Environment's goal is to increase this proportion to 10% of the national land area. It is a priority to make the reserve system Comprehensive, Adequate and Representative (CAR) in regard to Iran's biodiversity assets. Limited tourism and research occurs in these areas.

In addition, other ministries also manage a number of protected areas; for example the Forests and Rangelands Organization of the Ministry of Jihad-e-Keshavarzi manages 131 reserves with a total area of over 111,000 ha. Of these, 19 are Natural Forest Parks, 91 are Forest Reserves, and 21 are Natural Parks. The Supreme Council of the Environment has adopted a bill (in 1999), according to which 10% of the existing forests are added as protected areas under the management of the DoE. Five rivers, namely Chalus (Caspian watershed), Karaj, Lar, Sardab and Jajeroud (all in the Central watershed) are also protected by DoE. Iran has also 9 UNESCO/MAB sites with a total area of 1.9 million hectares.

A series of GEF projects (e.g. Wetlands, Cheetah habitats, Marine turtle, Arasbaran forest, Zagros mountain, Yakh-kesh mountain, Siberian Crane) are at the stage of implementation or under development.

All the measures so far indicated reflect instances of in-situ protection. However, scientific evidence and traditional knowledge have demonstrated the value of genetic resources of wild and domesticated species as sources of biological diversity, and thus, techniques and specific methods have been developed for protection of species and rehabilitation of ecosystems worldwide.

Article 8h Alien species

86. What is the relative priority afforded to implementation of this Article and the associated decisions by your country?					
a) High		b) Medium		c) Low	✓
87. To what extent are the resources available adequate for meeting the obligations and recommendations made?					
a) Good		b) Adequate		c) Limiting	✓
d) Severely limiting					
Further comments on relative priority and on availability of resources					
Lack of research and related information.					

88. Has your country identified alien species introduced?	
a) no	
b) only major species of concern	✓
c) only new or recent introductions	
d) a comprehensive system tracks new introductions	
e) a comprehensive system tracks all known introductions	
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	✓
c) most alien species have been assessed	
90. Has your country undertaken measures to prevent the introduction of, control or eradicate those alien species which threaten ecosystems, habitats or species?	
a) no measures	
b) some measures in place	✓
c) potential measures under review	
d) comprehensive measures in place	

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

91. Is your country collaborating in the development of projects at national, regional, sub-regional and international levels to address the issue of alien species?	
a) little or no action	√
b) discussion on potential projects under way	
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	√
c) yes - significant extent	

Decision V/8. Alien species that threaten ecosystems, habitats or species

93. Is your country applying the interim guiding principles for prevention, introduction and mitigation of impacts of alien species in the context of activities aimed at implementing article 8(h) of the Convention, and in the various sectors?	
a) no	
b) under consideration	
c) limited implementation in some sectors	√
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	√
b) in preparation	
c) yes	
95. Has your country submitted written comments on the interim guiding principles to the Executive Secretary?	
a) no	√
b) yes	
96. Has your country given priority to the development and implementation of alien invasive species strategies and action plans?	
a) no	√
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	√
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	✓
b) yes	
99. Is your country using the ecosystem approach and precautionary and bio-geographical approaches as appropriate in its work on alien invasive species?	
a) no	✓
b) yes	
100. Has your country developed effective education, training and public-awareness measures concerning the issue of alien species?	
a) no	
b) some initiatives	✓
c) many initiatives	
101. Is your country making available the information which it holds on alien species through the CHM?	
a) no	✓
b) some information	
c) all available information	
d) information available through other channels (please specify)	
102. Is your country providing support to enable the Global Invasive Species Programme to fulfil the tasks outlined in the decision and its annexes?	
a) no	✓
b) limited support	
c) substantial support	

Further comments on implementation of this Article

The issue of alien species and especially invasive alien species is a very sensitive one, because of its potential threats to rich biological diversity throughout the country.

Some initial activities have been planned by the universities and research centers for further development.

Article 8j Traditional knowledge and related provisions

103. What is the relative priority afforded to implementation of this Article and the associated decisions by your country?					
a) High		b) Medium	√	c) Low	
104. To what extent are the resources available adequate for meeting the obligations and recommendations made?					
a) Good		b) Adequate		c) Limiting	√
d) Severely limiting					
Further comments on relative priority and on availability of resources					
<p>Traditional Knowledge in Iran is very rich however it is not exploited appropriately. Mechanisms to integrate rich traditional knowledge and scientific know-how is lacking. The value of traditional knowledge is not appreciated.</p> <p>Villagers and nomads have valuable traditional knowledge for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity. Mechanisms should be hired to collect and utilize these valuable heritages.</p>					

105. Has your country undertaken measures to ensure that the knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities embodying traditional lifestyles relevant for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity are respected, preserved and maintained?	
a) no measures	
b) some measures in place	
c) potential measures under review	√
d) comprehensive measures in place	
106. Is your country working to encourage the equitable sharing of benefits arising from the utilization of such knowledge, innovations and practices?	
a) no	
b) early stages of development	√
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	√
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	√
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	√
b) yes	
110. Is your country participating in appropriate working groups and meetings?	
a) none	
b) some	√
c) all	
111. Is your country facilitating the active participation of representatives of indigenous and local communities in these working groups and meetings?	
a) no	√
b) yes	

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	√
c) yes (please provide details)	
113. Is your country integrating such tasks into its ongoing programmes, taking into account the identified collaboration opportunities?	
a) no	
b) not appropriate to national circumstances	
c) yes - to a limited extent	√
d) yes - to a significant extent	
114. Is your country taking full account of existing instruments, guidelines, codes and other relevant activities in the implementation of the programme of work?	
a) no	√
b) not appropriate to national circumstances	
c) yes - to a limited extent	
d) yes - to a significant extent	

115. Has your country provided appropriate financial support for the implementation of the programme of work?	
a) no	
b) not appropriate to national circumstances	√
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	√
117. Has your country taken measures to facilitate the full and effective participation of indigenous and local communities in the implementation of the Convention?	
a) no	√
b) not appropriate to national circumstances	
c) yes - to a limited extent	
d) yes - to a significant extent	
118. Has your country provided case studies on methods and approaches concerning the preservation and sharing of traditional knowledge, and the control of that information by indigenous and local communities?	
a) no	√
b) not relevant	
c) yes - sent to the Secretariat	
d) yes - through the national CHM	
e) yes - available through other means (please specify)	
119. Does your country exchange information and share experiences regarding national legislation and other measures for the protection of the knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities?	
a) no	√
b) not relevant	
c) yes - through the CHM	
d) yes - with specific countries	
e) yes - available through other means (please specify)	
120. Has your country taken measures to promote the conservation and maintenance of knowledge, innovations, and practices of indigenous and local communities?	
a) no	
b) not relevant	
c) some measures	√
d) extensive measures	

121. Has your country supported the development of registers of traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities, in collaboration with these communities?	
a) no	✓
b) not relevant	
c) development in progress	
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	
b) not appropriate	✓
c) yes	
123. Is your country assisting the Secretariat to fully utilize the clearing-house mechanism to co-operate closely with indigenous and local communities to explore ways that enable them to make informed decisions concerning release of their traditional knowledge?	
a) no	
b) awaiting information on how to proceed	✓
c) yes	
124. Has your country identified resources for funding the activities identified in the decision?	
a) no	
b) not relevant	
c) partly	✓
d) fully	

Further comments on implementation of this Article

Villagers and nomads in Iran have valuable traditional knowledge for conservation of biodiversity. Most part of Iran located in arid and semi-arid regions, hence water resources are very important for both human and other creatures. Utilization Iranian rich traditional knowledge, exemplified by the famous Subterranean water canals known as "Qanats", is a good example of the value of traditional knowledge, which should be considered more seriously. The diversity of races-tribes in Iran provides the country with a significant source of indigenous knowledge.

Article 9 Ex situ conservation

125. What is the relative priority afforded to implementation of this Article and the associated decisions by your country?					
a) High		b) Medium	√	c) Low	
126. 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					
Maintenance of available resources requires continuous investment. Since most of ex-situ conservation is dependent on government budget allocation, limitations in budget would have negative impact on ex-situ conservation.					

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	√
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	√
c) potential measures under review	
d) comprehensive measures in place	
129. If the answer to the previous question was yes, is this being done in active collaboration with organizations in the other countries (9a)?	
a) no	√
b) yes	
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	
131. Has your country established and maintained facilities for the <i>ex situ</i> conservation of and research on plants, animals and micro-organisms that represent genetic resources <i>originating elsewhere</i> (9b)?	
a) no	
b) yes - limited extent	√

c) yes - significant extent	
132. If the answer to the previous question was yes, is this being done in active collaboration with organizations in the other countries (9a)?	
a) no	√
b) yes	
133. Has your country adopted measures for the reintroduction of threatened species into their natural habitats under appropriate conditions (9c)?	
a) no measures	
b) some measures in place	√
c) potential measures under review	
d) comprehensive measures in place	
134. Has your country taken measures to regulate and manage the collection of biological resources from natural habitats for <u>ex situ</u> conservation purposes so as not to threaten ecosystems and <u>in situ</u> populations of species (9d)?	
a) no measures	
b) some measures in place	√
c) potential measures under review	
d) comprehensive measures in place	
<i>If a developed country Party -</i>	
135. Has your country cooperated in providing financial and other support for <u>ex situ</u> conservation and in the establishment and maintenance of <u>ex situ</u> conservation facilities in developing countries (9e)?	
<i>If a developing country Party or Party with economy in transition -</i>	
136. Has your country received financial and other support for <u>ex situ</u> conservation and in the establishment and maintenance of <u>ex situ</u> conservation facilities (9e)?	
a) no	√
b) yes	

Further comments on implementation of this Article

Iran has developed national plans, subject to periodic revision. The government has established educational and research centers and has undertaken affirmative actions across the country throughout the recent decades. These actions were necessary because of the rich and diverse, but fragile ecosystems of Iran. Collecting and preserving of seeds, planting and maintenance of rare plant species, developing advanced techniques of seeding, testing capacities of seeds, hybridization of plant and animal species and microbial genetic engineering are only a few of the recognized practical experiments directed in Iran towards ex-situ conservation.

These activities have been directed towards establishment of natural history museums, seed and gene banks, botanical gardens, wildlife breeding centers and animal safe habitats, herbaria and microbial collection centers. These centers have been established in conjunction with in-situ practices to support existing populations, regardless of their size. Ongoing research provides the basic knowledge required on endangered, depleted and sensitive species.

Article 10 Sustainable use of components of biological diversity

137. What is the relative priority afforded to implementation of this Article and the associated decisions by your country?					
a) High		b) Medium	✓	c) Low	
138. 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					
While in a country inheriting one of the very old civilizations, traditional knowledge was almost prescribing sustainable ways of exploiting natural resources through very basic methods, mostly in 60s and 70s the focus was shifted towards resorting conservatory measures. In order to realize the concept of sustainable use in the country there is a vital need for implementing training and public awareness programmes. The historical background can be a good source of encouraging such moves.					
139. Has your country integrated consideration of the conservation and sustainable use of biological resources into national decision making (10a)?					
a) no					
b) early stages of development				✓	
c) advanced stages of development					
d) programme or policy in place					
e) review of implementation available					
140. Has your country adopted measures relating to the use of biological resources that avoid or minimize adverse impacts on biological diversity (10b)?					
a) no measures				✓	
b) some measures in place					
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					
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	
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	√
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	
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	
d) yes - other means (please give details below)	

Decision V/24. Sustainable use as a cross-cutting issue

146. Has your country identified indicators and incentive measures for sectors relevant to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity?	
a) no	
b) assessment of potential indicators underway	√
c) indicators identified (if so, please describe below)	

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	√
b) not relevant	
c) to a limited extent	
d) to a significant extent (please provide details)	
148. Has your country developed mechanisms to involve the private sector and indigenous and local communities in initiatives on sustainable use, and in mechanisms to ensure that indigenous and local communities benefit from such sustainable use?	
a) no	√
b) mechanisms under development	
c) mechanisms in place (please describe)	
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	√
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	√
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	√
b) yes	
152. Has your country undertaken activities relevant to biodiversity and tourism in support of the International Year of Ecotourism?	
a) no	
b) yes	√
153. Has your country undertaken activities relevant to biodiversity and tourism in support of the International Year of Mountains?	
a) no	√
b) yes	
154. Has your country undertaken activities relevant to biodiversity and tourism in support of the International Coral Reef Initiative?	
a) no	√
b) yes	

155. Has your country established enabling policies and legal frameworks to complement voluntary efforts for the effective implementation of sustainable tourism?	
a) no	
b) to a limited extent	√
c) to a significant extent (please describe)	

Further comments on implementation of this Article

I.R Iran is prioritising its tourism with an emphasis on cultural values. Efforts are underway to provide plans for eco-tourism. The efforts of the government (Iran Touring and Tourism Organization affiliated to the Ministry of Culture and Islamic Guidance) are directed towards ways of promoting tourism without sacrificing cultural and environmental values. Properly organized eco-tourism has the potential to promote a new area of economic growth and assist the society in recognizing the value of better protection and enhancement of Iran's biodiversity.

Sustainable use of biological diversity workshop was held in Iran (February 2001). The following results were obtained:

-Economic valuation aspects should be considered in future conservation plans in Iran.

-Access and benefit sharing studies on genetic resources are unknown in Iran whereas biodiversity richness and traditional knowledge might be very useful for conservation issue.

-Production and Consumption patterns should be compatible with environmental conservation.

Article 11 Incentive measures

156. What is the relative priority afforded to implementation of this Article and the associated decisions by your country?					
a) High		b) Medium		c) Low	✓
157. To what extent are the resources available adequate for meeting the obligations and recommendations made?					
a) Good		b) Adequate		c) Limiting	d) Severely limiting
					✓
Further comments on relative priority and on availability of resources					
Limited knowledge and experience.					

158. Are programmes in place to identify and ensure the adoption of economically and socially sound measures that act as incentives for the conservation and sustainable use of components of biological diversity?	
a) no	✓
b) early stages of development	
c) advanced stages of development	
d) programmes in place	
e) review of implementation available	
159. Do these incentives, and the programmes to identify them and ensure their adoption, cover the full range of sectoral activities?	
a) no	✓
b) some sectors	
c) all major sectors	
d) all sectors	

Decision III/18. Incentive measures

160. Has your country reviewed legislation and economic policies to identify and promote incentives for the conservation and sustainable use of components of biological diversity?	
a) no	
b) reviews in progress	✓
c) some reviews complete	
d) as far as practically possible	
161. Has your country ensured the development of mechanisms or approaches to ensure adequate incorporation of both market and non-market values of biological diversity into plans, policies and programmes and other relevant areas, <i>inter alia</i> , national accounting systems and investment strategies?	
a) no	✓
b) early stages of identifying mechanisms	

c) advanced stages of identifying mechanisms	
d) mechanisms in place	
e) review of impact of mechanisms available	
162. Has your country developed training and capacity building programmes to implement incentive measures and promote private-sector initiatives?	
a) no	
b) planned	
c) some	√
d) many	
163. Has your country incorporated biological diversity considerations into impact assessments as a step in the design and implementation of incentive measures?	
a) no	√
b) yes	
164. Has your country shared experience on incentive measures with other Contracting Parties, including making relevant case-studies available to the Secretariat?	
a) no	√
b) yes - previous national report	
c) yes - case-studies	
d) yes - other means (please give details below)	

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

165. Is your country actively designing and implementing incentive measures?	
a) no	√
b) early stages of development	
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	√
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	√

c) yes - significant extent	
168. Has your country developed legal and policy frameworks for the design and implementation of incentive measures?	
a) no	√
b) early stages of development	
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	
c) processes identified but not implemented	
d) processes in place	
170. Has your country identified and considered neutralizing perverse incentives?	
a) no	√
b) identification programme under way	
c) identified but not all neutralized	
d) identified and neutralized	

Decision V/15. Incentive measures

171. Has your country reviewed the incentive measures promoted through the Kyoto Protocol to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change?	
a) no	√
b) yes	
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	
d) advanced stages of development	
e) further information available	

Further comments on implementation of this Article

A comprehensive system for incentive measures at different levels is not in place yet. Meanwhile some measures have been taken. For instance, for promoting private sector involvement and initiatives in this area, DOE has considered awards such as Green Prize, ISO 14001 and Environmental honouree medal.

Article 12 Research and training

173. What is the relative priority afforded to implementation of this Article and the associated decisions by your country?					
a) High	√	b) Medium		c) Low	
174. To what extent are the resources available adequate for meeting the obligations and recommendations made?					
a) Good		b) Adequate		c) Limiting	√
d) Severely limiting					
Further comments on relative priority and on availability of resources					
<p>-Lack of research facilities.</p> <p>-No mechanism to promote related research.</p> <p>-No relation between the research and the related industry.</p> <p>Iran specifically needs to establish and maintain programmes for scientific and technological education and training, mostly related to identification, conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity and its components and provide support for such education and training.</p>					

175. Has your country established programmes for scientific and technical education and training in measures for the identification, conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity and its components (12a)?	
a) no	
b) early stages of development	√
c) advanced stages of development	
d) programmes in place	
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	√
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	√
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	√
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

Upon completion of implementation of NBSAP at all decisions-making levels, one could expect enhancement of research and training. Research and training can also be upgraded through projects and development programs.

Article 13 Public education and awareness

180. What is the relative priority afforded to implementation of this Article and the associated decisions by your country?					
a) High	✓	b) Medium		c) Low	
181. 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					
Different institutes are active in data collection, but there is no mechanism for information exchange among organizations. Establishment of such a mechanism would benefit decision-making process.					

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	✓
c) yes - significant extent	
183. Does your country promote and encourage understanding of the importance of, and the measures required for, the conservation of biodiversity (13a) through the inclusion of this topic in education programmes?	
a) no	
b) yes - limited extent	✓
c) yes - significant extent	
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	✓
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	✓

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	
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	√
188. Has your country integrated biodiversity concerns into education strategies?	
a) no	
b) early stages of development	
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	
b) yes	√
190. Has your country illustrated and translated the provisions of the Convention into any local languages to promote public education and awareness raising of relevant sectors?	
a) not relevant	
b) still to be done	
c) under development	
d) yes	√
191. Is your country supporting local, national, sub-regional and regional education and awareness programmes?	
a) no	
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	√

Decision V/17. Education and public awareness

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

Further comments on implementation of this Article

Nowadays it is impossible to implement the laws, rules and regulations of the environmental Conservation without the full cooperation of people.

The most appropriate laws lose their validity without peoples collaborations. People in turn will willing with the authorities if they are fully satisfied with the importance and results of their cooperation. This will only achieved if people are enlightened on the issue related to the environment. Hence, the importance of education becomes quite obvious. Education provides enough information for the public, prepare them to take action against environmental degradation.

The need for public education has created strong NGOs across the world.

Educational programmes have targeted two major groups of audience, (a) specialists training leading to official university degrees such as BSc, MSc and PhD (b) general public awareness programmes, carried out by the NGOs and the media (such as Radio, Television and Press).

Fortunately the role of the media in enlightening the public has been recognized by the authorities to a certain degree and such tools have been exploited to mobilize the public to help care for their environment.

Statistics indicate that radio has been quite effective in conveying the environmental messages to the public. There are now 245 radio receivers for every 1000 persons. Television has got a massive 86.5% coverage. There is now a growing cooperation between the Department of Environment and the Television stations resulting programmes on the various aspects of the environment.

Article 14 Impact assessment and minimizing adverse impacts

194. What is the relative priority afforded to implementation of this Article and the associated decisions by your country?					
a) High		b) Medium	✓	c) Low	
195. To what extent are the resources available adequate for meeting the obligations and recommendations made?					
a) Good		b) Adequate		c) Limiting	✓
Further comments on relative priority and on availability of resources					
Guidelines for specific EIAs do not exist yet.					

196. Is legislation in place requiring an environmental impact assessment of proposed projects likely to have adverse effects on biological diversity (14 (1a))?	
a) no	
b) early stages of development	
c) advanced stages of development	
d) legislation in place	✓
e) review of implementation available	
197. Do such environmental impact assessment procedures allow for public participation (14(1a))?	
a) no	
b) yes - limited extent	✓
c) yes - significant extent	
198. Does your country have mechanisms in place to ensure that the environmental consequences of national programmes and policies that are likely to have significant adverse impacts on biological diversity are duly taken into account (14(1b))?	
a) no	
b) early stages of development	
c) advanced stages of development	✓
d) fully compliant with current scientific knowledge	
199. Is your country involved in bilateral, regional and/or multilateral discussion on activities likely to significantly affect biological diversity outside your country's jurisdiction (14(1c))?	
a) no	
b) yes - limited extent	✓
c) yes - significant extent	
200. Is your country implementing bilateral, regional and/or multilateral agreements on activities likely to significantly affect biological diversity outside your country's jurisdiction (14(1c))?	
a) no	

b) no, assessment of options in progress	
c) some completed, others in progress	√
b) yes	
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	√
e) no need identified	
202. Has your country mechanisms in place to prevent or minimize danger or damage originating in your State to biological diversity in other States or in areas beyond the limits of national jurisdiction (14(1d))?	
a) no	
b) early stages of development	√
c) advanced stages of development	
d) fully compliant with current scientific knowledge	
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	
d) mechanisms in place	
204. Has your country encouraged international cooperation to establish joint contingency plans for emergency responses to activities or events which present a grave and imminent danger to biological diversity (14(1e))?	
a) no	
b) yes	√
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	
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	√
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	
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	
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	√
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	√
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	√
c) many programmes in place	
d) integrated approach to building expertise	
212. Has your country carried out pilot environmental impact assessment projects, in order to promote the development of local expertise in methodologies, techniques and procedures?	
a) no	

b) yes (please provide further details)	√
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	√
c) to a significant extent	
214. Does your country require the inclusion of development of alternatives, mitigation measures and consideration of the elaboration of compensation measures in environmental impact assessment?	
a) no	√
b) to a limited extent	
c) to a significant extent	
215. Is national information available on the practices, systems, mechanisms and experiences in the area of strategic environmental assessment and impact assessment?	
a) no	√
b) yes (please append or summarise)	

Further comments on implementation of this Article

DoE of Iran has enforced EIA for major industrial activities. There is a need to provide specific guidelines for EIA for different development activities. A mechanism is needed to promote the importance of EIA among different governmental as well as non-governmental sectors. Guidelines are needed to differentiate among activities, which require initial EIAs, and those, which need complete EIAs.

Major projects require an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) to evaluate the degree of damage inflicted on the environment, and the ways to reduce, eliminate or remedy these impacts. The Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran is in the process of formalizing the EIA. Biodiversity is one of the major factors, which has to be fully considered and studied in the process. Special attention must be paid to the protection of natural ecosystems, such as forests and habitats of wildlife. The concept of "no net loss" of biodiversity assets will be implemented in development assessments and approvals. Projects needing an EIA and the methods of assessment will be reviewed and updated at intervals, to ensure that progress is made in keeping up with the technical know-how of international environment bodies.

Article 15 Access to genetic resources

216. What is the relative priority afforded to implementation of this Article and the associated decisions by your country?					
a) High		b) Medium	√	c) Low	
217. To what extent are the resources available adequate for meeting the obligations and recommendations made?					
a) Good		b) Adequate		c) Limiting	d) Severely limiting
					√
Further comments on relative priority and on availability of resources					
The concept is relatively new in Iran and international expertise is required to promote attention to these 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	√
b) yes - limited extent	
c) yes - significant extent	
219. Is there any mutual understanding or agreement in place between different interest groups and the State on access to genetic resources (15(4))?	
a) no	
b) yes - limited extent	√
c) yes - significant extent	
220. Has your country an open participation planning process, or any other process in place, to ensure that access to resources is subject to prior informed consent (15(5))?	
a) no	√
b) early stages of development	
c) advanced stages of development	
d) processes in place	
221. Has your country taken measures to ensure that any scientific research based on genetic resources provided by other Contracting Parties is developed and carried out with the full participation of such Contracting Parties (15(6))?	
a) no measures	√
b) some measures in place	
c) potential measures under review	
d) comprehensive measures in place	

222. Has your country taken measures to ensure the fair and equitable sharing of the results of research and development and the benefits arising from the commercial and other use of genetic resources with any Contracting Party providing such resources (15(7))?	
a) no measures	√
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	
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	
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	
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	
c) yes - significant extent	

227. Has your country identified national authorities responsible for granting access to genetic resources?	
a) no	√
b) yes	
228. Is your country taking an active role in negotiations associated with the adaptation of the International Undertaking on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture?	
a) no	
b) yes	√

Decision V/26. Access to genetic resources

229. Has your country designated a national focal point and one or more competent national authorities to be responsible for access and benefit-sharing arrangements or to provide information on such arrangements?	
a) no	√
b) yes	
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	√
c) to a significant extent	
Parties that are recipients of genetic resources	
231. Has your country adopted administrative or policy measures that are supportive of efforts made by provider countries to ensure that access to their genetic resources is subject to Articles 15, 16 and 19 of the Convention?	
a) no	
b) other arrangements made	
c) yes	
232. Does your country co-operate with other Parties in order to find practical and equitable solutions supportive of efforts made by provider countries to ensure that access to their genetic resources is subject to Articles 15, 16 and 19 of the Convention, recognizing the complexity of the issue, with particular consideration of the multiplicity of prior informed consent considerations?	
a) no	
b) yes (please provide details)	

233. In developing its legislation on access, has your country taken into account and allowed for the development of a multilateral system to facilitate access and benefit-sharing in the context of the International Undertaking on Plant Genetic Resources?	
a) no	
b) legislation under development	
c) yes	
234. Is your country co-ordinating its positions in both the Convention on Biological Diversity and the International Undertaking on Plant Genetic Resources?	
a) no	
b) taking steps to do so	
c) yes	
235. Has your country provided information to the Executive Secretary on user institutions, the market for genetic resources, non-monetary benefits, new and emerging mechanisms for benefit sharing, incentive measures, clarification of definitions, <i>sui generis</i> systems and "intermediaries"?	
a) no	
b) some information provided	
c) substantial information provided	
236. Has your country submitted information on specific issues related to the role of intellectual property rights in the implementation of access and benefit-sharing arrangements to the Executive Secretary?	
a) no	
b) yes	
237. Has your country provided capacity-building and technology development and transfer for the maintenance and utilization of ex situ collections?	
a) no	
b) yes to a limited extent	
c) yes to a significant extent	

Further comments on implementation of this Article

Activities regarding conservation of genetic diversity include data collection of genetic resources and preparation of the "Domestic Animal Diversity - Information System of Iran (FAO/DAD-IS)". There are research centers on fish species (particularly sturgeons), medicinal plants and field crops. There are research stations on cattle, sheep and goat, cow, camel, horse and poultry used for research on genetic resources.

Article 16 Access to and transfer of technology

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

240. Has your country taken measures to provide or facilitate access for and transfer to other Contracting Parties of technologies that are relevant to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity or make use of genetic resources and do not cause significant damage to the environment (16(1))?	
a) no measures	✓
b) some measures in place	
c) potential measures under review	
d) comprehensive measures in place	
241. Is your country aware of any initiatives under which relevant technology is transferred to your country on concessional or preferential terms (16(2))?	
a) no	✓
b) yes (please give brief details below)	
242. Has your country taken measures so that Contracting Parties which provide genetic resources are provided access to and transfer of technology which make use of those resources, on mutually agreed terms (16(3))?	
a) not relevant	✓
b) relevant, but no measures	
c) some measures in place	
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	✓
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	
245. If yes, does it cover biological resources (for example, plant species) in any way?	
a) no	
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	√
b) some	
c) many	

Further comments on implementation of this Article

This is a very important article for Iran and all developing countries. The implementation of this article has been mostly impeded by IPR regulations in developed countries. Hence there is a vital need to create a multilateral guaranteeing system in order to give developing countries to be benefited from new technologies, while those developed countries access their resources.

Article 17 Exchange of information

247. What is the relative priority afforded to implementation of this Article and the associated decisions by your country?					
a) High		b) Medium	✓	c) Low	
248. 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					
There is an urgent need to provide a mechanism to facilitate the information exchange among different organizations.					
The second national strategy of Iran concerns about conservation of Biodiversity relates to the formation of biodiversity information, monitoring and reporting systems. These systems would be used as environmental management tools and will be accessible to all sectors and stakeholders.					

249. Has your country taken measures to facilitate the exchange of information from publicly available sources (17(1))?	
a) no measures	
b) restricted by lack of resources	
c) some measures in place	
d) potential measures under review	✓
e) comprehensive measures in place	
If a developed country Party -	
250. Do these measures take into account the special needs of developing countries (17(1))?	
a) no	
b) yes - limited extent	
c) yes - significant extent	
251. If so, do these measures include all the categories of information listed in Article 17(2), including technical, scientific and socio-economic research, training and surveying programmes, specialized knowledge, repatriation of information and so on?	
a) no	
b) yes - limited extent	
c) yes - significant extent	

Article 18 Technical and scientific cooperation

252. What is the relative priority afforded to implementation of this Article and the associated decisions by your country?					
a) High	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	b) Medium	<input type="checkbox"/>	c) Low	<input type="checkbox"/>
253. To what extent are the resources available adequate for meeting the obligations and recommendations made?					
a) Good	<input type="checkbox"/>	b) Adequate	<input type="checkbox"/>	c) Limiting	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Severely limiting <input type="checkbox"/>					
Further comments on relative priority and on availability of resources					
I.R. of Iran would welcome international technical and scientific co-operation. Many of Iranian organizations are not actively related to appropriated international bodies and don't receive enough benefits from global scientific expertise.					

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	<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"/>
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	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) yes - limited extent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) yes - significant extent	<input type="checkbox"/>
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	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) early stages of development	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) advanced stages of development	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) methods in place	<input type="checkbox"/>

257. Does such cooperation include the training of personnel and exchange of experts (18(4))?	
a) no	
b) yes - limited extent	√
c) yes - significant extent	
258. Has your country promoted the establishment of joint research programmes and joint ventures for the development of technologies relevant to the objectives of the Convention (18(5))?	
a) no	
b) yes - limited extent	√
c) yes - significant extent	

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	√
260. Is your country helping to develop national capabilities through exchanging and disseminating information on experiences and lessons learned in implementing the Convention?	
a) no	
b) yes - limited extent	
c) yes - significant extent	√
261. Has your country designated a national focal point for the Clearing-House Mechanism?	
a) no	
b) yes	√
262. Is your country providing resources for the development and implementation of the Clearing-House Mechanism?	
a) no	
b) yes, at the national level	√
c) yes, at national and international levels	
263. Is your country facilitating and participating in workshops and other expert meetings to further the development of the CHM at international levels?	
a) no	√
b) participation only	
c) supporting some meetings and participating	

264. Is your CHM operational	
a) no	
b) under development	
c) yes (please give details below)	√
265. Is your CHM linked to the Internet	
a) no	
b) yes	√
266. Has your country established a multi-sectoral and multi-disciplinary CHM steering committee or working group at the national level?	
a) no	√
b) yes	

Decision V/14. Scientific and technical co-operation and the clearinghouse mechanisms (Article 18)

267. Has your country reviewed the priorities identified in Annex I to the decision, and sought to implement them?	
a) not reviewed	
b) reviewed but not implemented	√
c) reviewed and implemented as appropriate	

Further comments on implementation of these Articles

Under the Clearing House Mechanism (CBD/CHM) Internet sites have been established or supported to provide information for scientific studies and research activities.

Establishment of a special Biodiversity web site and encouraging other institutes to provide their information linked to this site was one of the major activities of Iran to promote the importance of information exchange. This site is introduced as a good example for inter-governmental cooperation.

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	√	c) Low	
269. 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					
This is an emerging concept in Iran. Iran is willing to benefit from the positive aspects of biotechnology, while taking care of its possible adverse effects.					

270. Has your country taken measures to provide for the effective participation in biotechnological research activities by those Contracting Parties which provide the genetic resources for such research (19(1))?	
a) no measures	√
b) some measures in place	
c) potential measures under review	
d) comprehensive measures in place	
If so, are these measures:	
a) Legislation	
b) Statutory policy and subsidiary legislation	
c) Policy and administrative measures	
271. Has your country taken all practicable measures to promote and advance priority access on a fair and equitable basis by Contracting Parties to the results and benefits arising from biotechnologies based upon genetic resources provided by those Contracting Parties (19(2))?	
a) no measures	
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	

Further comments on implementation of this Article

Iran signed the protocol on Biosafety on 23 April 2001 and measures are underway to incorporate the obligation of this protocol in national plans.

Article 20 Financial resources

273. What is the relative priority afforded to implementation of this Article and the associated decisions by your country?					
a) High	✓	b) Medium		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					
Further comments on relative priority and on availability of resources					
Regarding the rich biological diversity of Iran, the available financial resources are not enough. Conservation of these resources needs continuous international financial support.					

275. Has your country provided financial support and incentives in respect of those national activities which are intended to achieve the objectives of the Convention (20(1))?	
a) no	
b) yes - incentives only	
c) yes - financial support only	✓
d) yes - financial support and incentives	
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	
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	√
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	√
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	√
b) yes (please attach information)	

Decision V/11. Additional financial resources

282. Has your country established a process to monitor financial support to biodiversity?

a) no	√
b) procedures being established	
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	√
c) yes (please provide details)	

284. Are details available of your country's financial support to biodiversity activities in other countries?

a) not applicable	√
b) no	
c) not in a standardized format	
d) yes (please provide details)	

Developed country Parties -	
285. Does your country promote support for the implementation of the objectives of the Convention in the funding policy of its bilateral funding institutions and those of regional and multilateral funding institutions?	
a) no	
b) yes	
Developing country Parties -	
286. Does your country discuss ways and means to support implementation of the objectives of the Convention in its dialogue with funding institutions?	
a) no	
b) ye	✓
287. Has your country compiled information on the additional financial support provided by the private sector?	
a) no	✓
b) yes (please provide details)	
288. Has your country considered tax exemptions in national taxation systems for biodiversity-related donations?	
a) no	✓
b) not appropriate to national conditions	
c) exemptions under development	
d) exemptions in place	

Further comments on implementation of this Article

All developing countries including Iran for the implementation of the objectives of the convention need to receive financial support from international sources. Bearing in mind the concept of common but differentiated responsibilities the easier flow of these resources to developing countries should be guaranteed. . A more efficient GEF and its country office implementing agencies (like UNDP) would be needed to realize that.

Right now following GEF projects are at the stage of completion or formulation in Iran:

Article 21 Financial mechanism

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

291. Has your country worked to strengthen existing financial institutions to provide financial resources for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity?	
a) no	
b) yes	✓

Decision III/7. Guidelines for the review of the effectiveness of the financial mechanism

292. Has your country provided information on experiences gained through activities funded by the financial mechanism?	
a) no activities	
b) no, although there are activities	✓
c) yes, within the previous national report	
d) yes, through case-studies	
e) yes, through other means (please give details below)	

Further comments on implementation of this Article

While GEF is appreciated for its efforts in developing countries, a more efficient GEF, especially when it comes to its project approval cycle, would be a great help for developing countries.

Secondly not all the country offices of the GEF implementing Agencies have the needed capacities (e.g. personnel) to act on behalf of GEF.

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

**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	

Decision IV/16 (part) Preparation for meetings of the Conference of the Parties

295. Has your country participated in regional meetings focused on discussing implementation of the Convention before any meetings of the Conference of the Parties?	
a) no	√
b) yes (please specify which)	
If a developed country Party -	
296. Has your country funded regional and sub-regional meetings to prepare for the COP, and facilitated the participation of developing countries in such meetings?	
a) no	
b) yes (please provide details below)	

Decision V/22. Budget for the programme of work for the biennium 2001-2002

297. Did your country pay its contribution to the core budget (BY Trust Fund) for 2001 by 1 st January 2001?	
a) yes in advance	
b) yes on time	
c) no but subsequently paid	
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	√

Further comments on implementation of this Article

Regional meetings focused on discussing implementation of the convention would be very useful before meetings of the conference of the parties. It makes the work of the COPs much easier. Developed countries, considering their availability of resources have a better chance to coordinate their positions.

The negotiation process of the COPs should be transparent, open and democratic.

The active participation of all developing countries in such a process should be guaranteed, through providing enough resources.

Proliferation of sideline meetings, e.g. parallel working groups, would have a negative impact on the efficiency of developing country delegations (specifically small ones in number), while that is a major benefit to the big and well prepared delegations of the developed countries.

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	√
b) yes	

Further comments on implementation of this Article

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Article 25 Subsidiary body on scientific, technical and technological advice

300. How many people from your country participated in each of the meetings of SBSTTA?	
a) SBSTTA I (Paris)	
b) SBSTTA II (Montreal)	
c) SBSTTA III (Montreal)	
d) SBSTTA IV (Montreal)	0
e) SBSTTA V (Montreal)	1

Further comments on implementation of this Article

Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran was appointed as the Rapporteur of the second Working Group of SBSTTA5.

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	√
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)	Dec. 2000

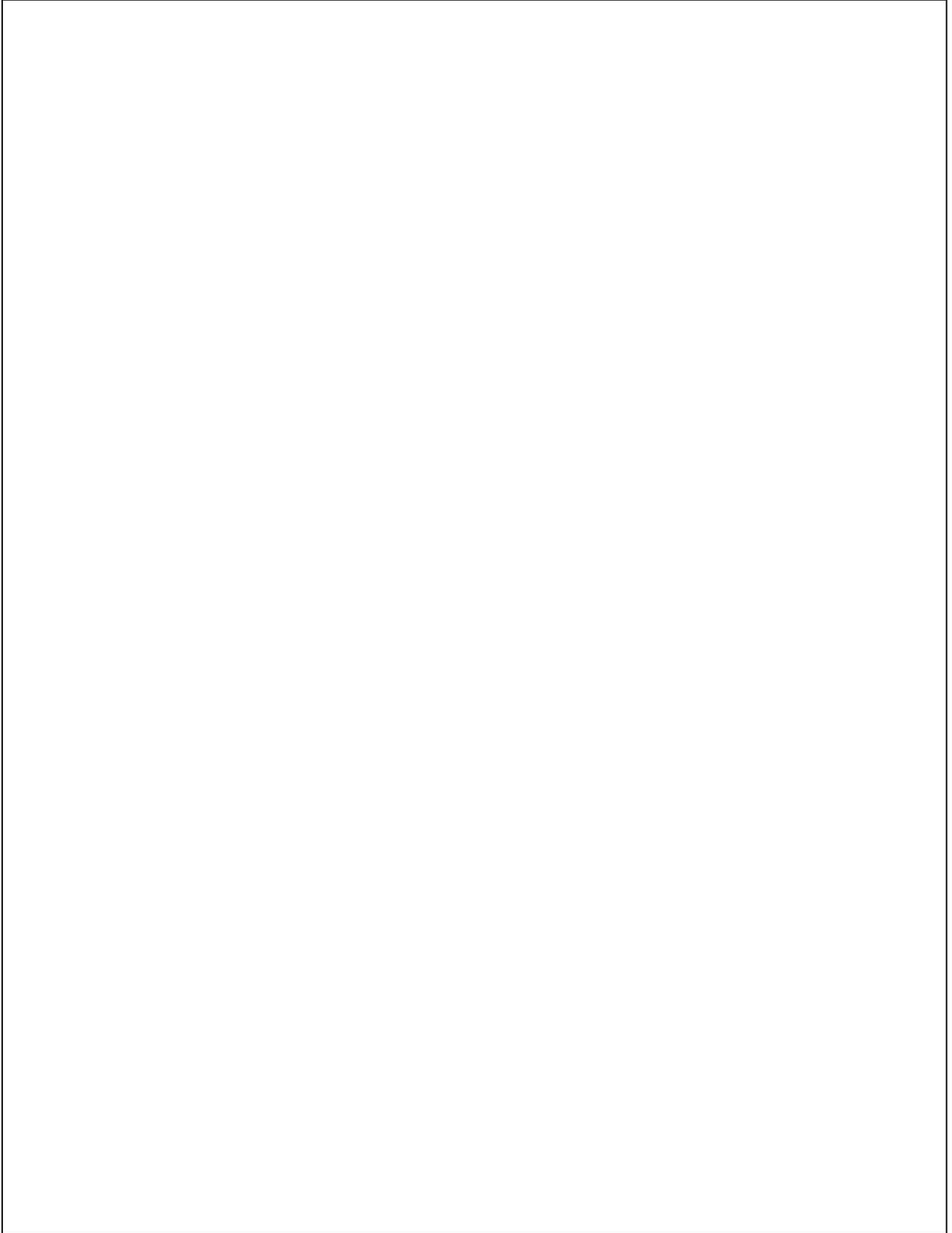
Decision IV/14 National reports

302. Did all relevant stakeholders participate in the preparation of this national report, or in the compilation of information used in the report?	
a) no	
b) yes	√
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	√
If yes, was this by:	
a) informal distribution?	
b) publishing the report?	√
c) making the report available on request?	√
d) posting the report on the Internet?	√

Decision V/19. National reporting

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

Further comments on implementation of this Article



Decision V/6. Ecosystem approach

305. Is your country applying the ecosystem approach, taking into account the principles and guidance contained in the annex to decision V/6?	
a) no	
b) under consideration	√
c) some aspects are being applied	
d) substantially implemented	
306. Is your country developing practical expressions of the ecosystem approach for national policies and legislation and for implementation activities, with adaptation to local, national, and regional conditions, in particular in the context of activities developed within the thematic areas of the Convention?	
a) no	
b) under consideration	√
c) some aspects are being applied	
d) substantially implemented	
307. Is your country identifying case studies and implementing pilot projects that demonstrate the ecosystem approach, and using workshops and other mechanisms to enhance awareness and share experience?	
a) no	√
b) case-studies identified	
c) pilot projects underway	
d) workshops planned/held	
e) information available through CHM	
308. Is your country strengthening capacities for implementation of the ecosystem approach, and providing technical and financial support for capacity-building to implement the ecosystem approach?	
a) no	
b) yes within the country	√
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	
c) formal co-operation (please give details)	

Inland water ecosystems

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

310. Has your country included information on biological diversity in wetlands when providing information and reports to the CSD, and considered including inland water biological diversity issues at meetings to further the recommendations of the CSD?	
a) no	
b) yes	√
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	√
If a developing country Party or Party with economy in transition -	
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	
b) yes	√
313. Has your country reviewed the programme of work specified in annex 1 to the decision, and identified priorities for national action in implementing the programme?	
a) no	
b) under review	√
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	
315. Is your country gathering information on the status of inland water biological diversity?	
a) no	
b) assessments ongoing	√
c) assessments completed	
316. Is this information available to other Parties?	
a) no	
b) yes - national report	√
c) yes - through the CHM	
d) yes - other means (please give details below)	

317. Has your country developed national and/or sectoral plans for the conservation and sustainable use of inland water ecosystems?	
a) no	
b) yes - national plans only	
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	√
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	√

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

Iran has more than 3,450 rivers (including seasonal rivers). Within the six main watersheds there are 37 major river basins. The most important (with their average annual flow) are: Karoun River (Persian Gulf) 24,000 million m³; Dez (Persian Gulf) 2,784 million m³; Sefidrood (Caspian) 3,998 million m³; Aras (Caspian) 5,700 million m³; Zayandehrood (Markazi) 1,208 million m³; Hirmand (Hamoun) 5,800 million m³; the inflow to Lake Urmia (from all rivers) is 5,971 million m³. These figures show clearly that the head of the Persian Gulf and the Caspian sea receive the highest flows, while the other four watersheds receive relatively low inflow. Rivers are natural habitats for aquatic species, small animals, birds and a specialized flora.

Rivers are under severe pressure because of population increase and human activities. Dam construction and inappropriate exploitation of riverbeds throughout Iran has changed the biological characteristics of many rivers. Many man-made water reservoirs have closed the migration routes of fishes coming from the sea. No fishways were planned for these dams. In many highly populated areas, communities living along riverbanks destroy vegetation and habitats, as well as causing water pollution. The biological diversity in many rivers, near urban communities has been sharply reduced. DoE also protects five rivers, namely Chalus (Caspian watershed), Karaj, Lar, Sardab and Jajeroud (all in the Central watershed).

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

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

The Regional Convention for Co-operation to Protect and Improve Coastal Zones and the Marine Environment (ROPME, 24 April 1978) was approved by the Iranian Parliament (Majles). Therefore, the proceedings of the Convention are a domestic as well as an external obligation for the government and related organizations, for the purpose of protecting the marine environment in the Persian Gulf and the Sea of Oman.

Following a scientific and technical co-operation agreement signed between the governments of Iran and the former Soviet Union (1971), conclusive bilateral meetings were held to discuss problems and find solutions to the environmental problems of the Caspian. Since the collapse of the Soviet Union, the Caspian littoral republics and Iran have held ongoing discussions on the protection of the Caspian environment and agreed on the Caspian Environmental Program (CEP).

Currently Iran has bilateral environmental cooperation with the governments or research institutions of many countries.

Agricultural biological diversity

Decision III/11 and Decision IV/6. Conservation and sustainable use of agricultural biological diversity

329. Has your country identified and assessed relevant ongoing activities and existing instruments at the national level?	
a) no	
b) early stages of review and assessment	√
c) advanced stages of review and assessment	
d) assessment completed	
330. Has your country identified issues and priorities that need to be addressed at the national level?	
a) no	
b) in progress	√
c) yes	
331. Is your country using any methods and indicators to monitor the impacts of agricultural development projects, including the intensification and extensification of production systems, on biological diversity?	
a) no	
b) early stages of development	√
c) advanced stages of development	
d) mechanisms in place	
332. Is your country taking steps to share experiences addressing the conservation and sustainable use of agricultural biological diversity?	
a) no	√
b) yes - case-studies	
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	√
b) yes - pollinators	
c) yes - soil biota	
d) yes - integrated landscape management and farming systems	
334. Is your country establishing or enhancing mechanisms for increasing public awareness and understanding of the importance of the sustainable use of agrobiodiversity components?	
a) no	
b) early stages of development	
c) advanced stages of development	√
d) mechanisms in place	

335. Does your country have national strategies, programmes and plans which ensure the development and successful implementation of policies and actions that lead to sustainable use of agrobiodiversity components?	
a) no	
b) early stages of development	√
c) advanced stages of development	
d) mechanisms in place	
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	√
c) yes - significant extent	
337. Is your country promoting the use of farming practices that not only increase productivity, but also arrest degradation as well as reclaim, rehabilitate, restore and enhance biological diversity?	
a) no	√
b) yes - limited extent	
c) yes - significant extent	
338. Is your country promoting mobilization of farming communities for the development, maintenance and use of their knowledge and practices in the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity?	
a) no	√
b) yes - limited extent	
c) yes - significant extent	
339. Is your country helping to implement the Global Plan of Action for the Conservation and Sustainable Utilization of Plant Genetic Resources?	
a) no	√
b) yes	
340. Is your country collaborating with other Contracting Parties to identify and promote sustainable agricultural practices and integrated landscape management?	
a) no	√
b) yes	

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	√
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	
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	
c) significant additional funds	
<i>If a developed country Party -</i>	
344. Has your country provided financial support for implementation of the programme of work on agricultural biological diversity, in particular for capacity building and case-studies, in developing countries and countries with economies in transition?	
a) no	
b) yes within existing cooperation programme(s)	
b) yes, including limited additional funds	
c) yes, with significant additional funds	
345. Has your country supported actions to raise public awareness in support of sustainable farming and food production systems that maintain agricultural biological diversity?	
a) no	
b) yes, to a limited extent	
c) yes, to a significant extent	
346. Is your country co-ordinating its position in both the Convention on Biological Diversity and the International Undertaking on Plant Genetic Resources?	
a) no	
b) taking steps to do so	
c) yes	
347. Is your country a Contracting Party to the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade?	
a) not a signatory	
b) signed - ratification in process	
c) instrument of ratification deposited	
348. Is your country supporting the application of the Executive Secretary for observer status in the Committee on Agriculture of the World Trade Organisation?	
a) no	
b) yes	

349. Is your country collaborating with other Parties on the conservation and sustainable use of pollinators?	
a) no	
b) yes	
350. Is your country compiling case-studies and implementing pilot projects relevant to the conservation and sustainable use of pollinators?	
a) no	
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	
c) yes - national report	
d) yes - through the CHM	
e) yes - other means (please give details below)	
352. Has your country considered how to address generic concerns regarding such technologies as genetic use restriction technologies under international and national approaches to the safe and sustainable use of germplasm?	
a) no	
b) yes - under consideration	
c) yes - measures under development	
353. Has your country carried out scientific assessments on <u>inter alia</u> ecological, social and economic effects of genetic use restriction technologies?	
a) no	
b) some assessments	
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	
b) yes - through the CHM	
c) yes - other means (please give details below)	
355. Has your country identified the ways and means to address the potential impacts of genetic use restriction technologies on the <u>in situ</u> and <u>ex situ</u> conservation and sustainable use, including food security, of agricultural biological diversity?	
a) no	
b) some measures identified	
c) potential measures under review	
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	
c) yes - regulation not needed (please give more details)	
357. Has your country developed and applied such regulations taking into account, <i>inter alia</i> , the specific nature of variety-specific and trait-specific genetic use restriction technologies?	
a) no	
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	
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

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	
c) not relevant	
360. Has your country reviewed the programme of work annexed to the decision and identified how you can collaborate in its implementation?	
a) no	√
b) under review	
c) yes	
361. Has your country integrated forest biological diversity considerations in its participation and collaboration with organizations, institutions and conventions affecting or working with forest biological diversity?	
a) no	
b) yes - limited extent	√
c) yes - significant extent	
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	√
For developing country Parties and Parties with economies in transition -	
363. When requesting assistance through the GEF, Is your country proposing projects which promote the implementation of the programme of work?	
a) no	
b) yes	√

Decision V/4. Progress report on the implementation of the programme of work for forest biological diversity

364. Do the actions that your country is taking to address the conservation and sustainable use of forest biological diversity conform with the ecosystem approach?	
a) no	
b) yes	√
365. Do the actions that your country is taking to address the conservation and sustainable use of forest biological diversity take into consideration the outcome of the fourth session of the Intergovernmental Forum on Forests?	
a) no	√
b) yes	

366. Will your country contribute to the future work of the UN Forum on Forests?	
a) no	
b) yes	√
367. Has your country provided relevant information on the implementation of this work programme?	
a) no	√
b) yes - submission of case-studies	
c) yes - thematic national report submitted	
d) yes - other means (please give details below)	
368. Has your country integrated national forest programmes into its national biodiversity strategies and action plans applying the ecosystem approach and sustainable forest management?	
a) no	
b) yes - limited extent	
c) yes - significant extent	√
369. Has your country undertaken measures to ensure participation by the forest sector, private sector, indigenous and local communities and non-governmental organisations in the implementation of the programme of work?	
a) no	
b) yes - some stakeholders	√
c) yes - all stakeholders	
370. Has your country taken measures to strengthen national capacities including local capacities, to enhance the effectiveness and functions of forest protected area networks, as well as national and local capacities for implementation of sustainable forest management, including restoration?	
a) no	
b) some programmes covering some needs	
c) many programmes covering some needs	√
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	
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	√
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	
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	√
c) to a significant extent	

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

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	√
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	√
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	

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:

Publications:

- 1-Paleontology and Biodiversity
- 2-Biotechnology and biosafety
- 3-Bioiversity
- 4-Valuing the global biodiversity
- 5-Convention on biological diversity

Workshops: A series of workshops (Marine April 99, Paleontology May 99, Forest June 99, Soil July 99, Desert August 99, MAB sites September99, Arasbaran May 2000, Uroomieh June 2000, Strategies July 2000, Biodiversity August 2000 and Sustainable use of Biological Diversity February 2001) was held to incorporate the viewpoints of national and local stakeholders. The results of these workshops were used in preparation of the National Biodiversity Strategy, National Action Plans and some project drafts. Also some meetings and working groups were held to explanation of issue for experts and participants.

The third National Socio-Economic Development Plan (2001-2005) includes two major paragraphs (Paragraphs 104 and 105) and several subparagraphs on environmental issues. These paragraphs address issues such as sustainable exploitation of natural resources, environmental liability and redress, support of green industries, as well as EIA.

Two environmental studies were carried out prior to the NBSAP, namely, the "National Strategy on Environment and Sustainable Development" and the "National Resolution Plan". Unfortunately, some parts were not implemented, because the mechanisms for their integration into the national development plans were not completely understood. These valuable experiences will be used in implementation of NBSAP. There have been great efforts to ensure the implementation of NBSAP in the Third National Socio-Economic Development Plan.

Four strategies have been proposed for conservation of biodiversity.

- The first strategy aims at the promotion of public participation. Involvement of private sector and non-governmental organizations to improve conservation activities and put biodiversity into the mainstream of the community.
- The second strategy relates to the formation of biodiversity information, monitoring and reporting systems. These systems would be used as environmental management tools and will be accessible to all sectors.
- The third strategy includes reorganization of institutional structures for sustainable use.
- The fourth strategy deals with the systematic management of biodiversity resources (A full description of the strategies and action plans will be included in the "National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plans" report).

For the above-mentioned strategies, about 80 action plans are under consideration and 35 are already being implemented. One of the fundamental activities is to prioritize these plans. In order to coordinate the activities between different organizations, establishment of a committee is proposed.

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

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

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

The questions were well oriented and specific.

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

Date of completion:	<i>10 May 2001</i>		
If the NBSAP has been adopted by the Government			
By which authority?	<i>Steering Committee</i>		
On what date?	<i>February 2001</i>		
If the NBSAP has been published please give			
Title:	<i>NBSAP</i>		
Name and address of publisher:	<i>DOE, TEHRAN, IRAN</i>		
ISBN:	<i>N\A</i>		
Price (if applicable):	<i>N\A</i>		
Other information on ordering:	<i>ON REQUEST</i>		
If the NBSAP has not been published			
Please give full details of how copies can be obtained:	<i>ON REQUEST</i>		
If the NBSAP has been posted on a national website			
Please give full URL:	<u><i>WWW.BIODIVERSITY.IR</i></u> <u><i>WWW.IRAN-DOE.ORG</i></u>		
If the NBSAP has been lodged with an Implementing Agency of the GEF			
Please indicate which agency:	<i>UNDP</i>		
Has a copy of the NBSAP been lodged with the Convention Secretariat?			
Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>

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

Following books and workshops were published and held during this study by NBSAP secretariat in collaboration with UNDP and GEF:

Publications:

- 1-Paleontology and Biodiversity
- 2-Biotechnology and biosafety
- 3-Bioiversity
- 4-Valuing the global biodiversity
- 5-Convention on biological diversity

Workshops:

A series of workshops (Marine April 99, Paleontology May 99, Forest June 99, Soil July 99, Desert August 99, MAB sites September99, Arasbaran May 2000, Uroomieh June 2000, Strategies July 2000, Biodiversity August 2000 and Sustainable use of Biological Diversity February 2001) was held to incorporate the viewpoints of national and local stakeholders. The results of these workshops were used in preparation of the National Biodiversity Strategy, National Action Plans and some project drafts. Also some meetings and working groups were held to explanation of issue for experts and participants.

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

Deputy for Biodiversity and Natural Environments is a legislative body that reviews the implementation of the convention in Iran.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs as CBD/NFP and also GEF/NFP, observes and audits implementation of the Convention in Iran.

ANNEX

GUIDELINES FOR NATIONAL REPORTS

The following format for preparation of the national report specified in Article 26 of the Convention was endorsed by the Conference of the Parties in its decision V/19.

It is a series of questions based on the Articles of the Convention and on those elements of decisions of the Conference of the Parties which are addressed to Contracting Parties. Responses to these questions will help Contracting Parties to review the extent to which they are successfully implementing the provisions of the Convention and will assist the Conference of the Parties to assess the overall status of implementation of the Convention. The wording of questions follows the wording of the Articles and Decisions as closely as possible. 2/

The questions are simple in nature in order to facilitate completion of the review. In most cases they require only a tick in one or more boxes.2/ Following each set of questions there is a box for further comments. Contracting Parties are invited to provide a more detailed response to the preceding questions at this point.3/ This is an opportunity to identify particular successes or constraints. In particular this box could be used to identify cases where the reporting of no action or of a partial fulfillment of the obligation is the result of inadequate resources or a need for assistance, rather than a decision not to take action on a particular obligation.

The information provided by Contracting Parties will not be used to rank performance or to otherwise compare implementation between individual Contracting Parties.

In order to assist with the review and synthesis of the information in the reports, respondents are asked to ensure that the further information provided in this box is closely related to the preceding questions and is as succinct as possible. There is no set

2/ Please note that obligations implied or specified by some decisions have been omitted where they are duplications of obligations already in the Articles or in other decisions, or where the deadline for compliance is now passed and information on the action undertaken is no longer relevant.

2/ If you feel that, in order to properly reflect the circumstances, it is necessary to tick more than one box, please do so. In this case, you are encouraged to provide further information in the box at the end of the set of questions.

3/ Please feel free to append to the report further information on any of the questions.

limit on length, but it is anticipated that Parties will be able to provide adequate and useful information in a maximum of a page or two at each of these points.

There is an opportunity at the end of the document to communicate any issues relevant to implementation of the Convention that have not been addressed by the questions below. The Executive Secretary would also welcome any comments on the adequacy of the questions, and difficulties in completing the questions, and any further recommendations on how these reporting guidelines could be improved.

It is recommended that Contracting Parties involve a wide range of stakeholders in the compilation of information that is presented in the report, in order to ensure a participatory and transparent approach to its development. A box is provided in which to identify those groups who have been involved in these processes.

Contracting Parties are requested to submit their second national report in this format to the Executive Secretary by 15 May 2001. Parties are requested to submit an original signed copy by post and an electronic copy on diskette or by electronic mail. An electronic version of this document will be sent to all national focal points and this will also be available from the Convention's website at:

<http://www.biodiv.org>.

Completed national reports and any comments should be sent to:

The Executive Secretary
Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity
World Trade Centre
393 St. Jacques Street West, suite 300
Montreal, Quebec
H2Y 1N9 Canada

Fax: (+1 514) 288 6588
e-mail: secretariat@biodiv.org