



REPUBLIC OF MAURITIUS

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND INTERNATIONAL TRADE

UNEP/SCBD	12004
RECEIVED	
JUL 13 2000	
JPLD	
JM	

Our Ref: 18570/115/21

4 July 2000

Sir,

Convention on Biological Diversity
Case studies in Ecosystem Approach applied
in Sustainable Forest Management Practices

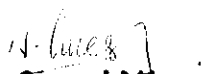
I have the honour to refer to your letter dated 27 January 2000 requesting for case studies on the ecosystem approach applied in sustainable forest management practices in Mauritius.

The Ecosystem approach which deals with the holistic Management of all components of an ecosystem consists of twelve principles. Although not all of them are applied in the Management of our forests, some of the principles are, however, adhered to as outlined hereunder:

- (a) Through the management of our forests by the removal of invasive plant species in selected areas where species richness is high and fencing these areas so as to keep away ground mammals we are in fact adhering to principle No. 5, whereby we are restoring the ecosystem structure and functioning.
- (b) By targetting our management practices to selected areas we are applying principle 7 whereby it is said that the ecosystem approach should be undertaken at appropriate spatial and temporal scales.
- (c) Since the restoration process is a long term one, we are in fact applying principle No. 8 whereby it is recognised that ecosystem management should be set for the long term.

- (d) We are also applying principle 11 of this approach whereby it is said that all forms of relevant information, including scientific, indigenous and local knowledge should be considered. Research have been and are being carried out to determine the best methods to control invasives (plants and animals) and to apply the results of these trials on a large scale.
- (e) Principle 12 says that the ecosystem approach should involve all relevant sectors of society and scientific disciplines.
As such, for restoration efforts, we are collaborating with local and international NGOs, academia, etc.
- (g) It should be noted that since there are no local communities who depend solely on the biodiversity of our forests for their living, sole access and benefit sharing do not apply.

Accept, Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.


(N. Gunesh)Mrs
for Supervising Officer

The Executive Secretary
Convention on Biological Diversity
World Trade Centre Building
393 Saint-Jacques St, Suite 300
Montreal, Quebec
Canada H2Y 1N9
Fax 1-514 288 6588