China's Second National Report on Implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity

by

State Environmental Protection Administration of China

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Introductory tables

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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 process by which this report has been prepared is as follows:

1. Pre-investigation for compilation of this report

Upon request by the Office of CBD Implementation of China, the Nanjing Institute of Environmental Sciences under the State Environmental Protection Administration of China (SEPA) started the pre-investigation for the compilation of the Second National Report to the Convention on Biological Diversity in September 2000. The work plan and outline of the report were also drafted.

2. The First Meeting of the Coordination Group for CBD Implementation in China convened

The Coordination Group for CBD Implementation, composed of 20 departments and institutions under the State Council, met on February 28, 2001. During the meeting, a leading group for preparation of the Second National Report was established, and the work plan was approved. Responsibilities and tasks assigned to each department were clarified.

3. The First Expert Group Meeting convened

The Expert Group, composed of experts appointed by SEPA, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Science and Technology, Ministry of Construction, Ministry of Agriculture, Chinese Academy of Sciences, State Forestry Administration, and State Oceanic Administration, held its first meeting on March 9, 2001. During the meeting, discussions were made on the requirements, progress and limiting factors of implementing each articles, work plans and decisions of the convention, as well as the indicators, information and cases needed for preparation of the Second National Report.

4. Collection of information and case studies

Information regarding measures adopted, progress made, experiences and lessons learned, as well as problems encountered during CBD implementation in China, were collected nation-wide from all relevant departments and institutions.

5. Drafting the Second National Report

By the end of March 2001, all departments involved had finished the compilation of the sub-reports respectively in accordance with the requirements and format endorsed by the Conference of Parties. The expert group then compiled the first draft of the Second National Report.

6. The Second Expert Group Meeting convened

The Expert Group met for the second time on April 6, 2001, discussing in more detail on the first draft of the report. Further revisions and amendments were made, and the draft report

for comments was formulated.

7. The Second Meeting of the Coordination Group of CBD Implementation in China convened

The Draft Report for Comments was submitted to each member institution of the Coordination Group on April 13, 2001. An extended meeting of the Coordination Group was held on April 27, discussing and reviewing the Draft Report at the national level. Besides the member departments and institutions of the Coordination Group, the experts of the report compilation group and some specially invited experts also attended the meeting. The meeting approved in principle the Draft Second National Report (for Comments), and decided to submit it to Ministry of Foreign Affairs for reviewing and approval after further revision.

8. Submission and approval of the Second National Report

In accordance with comments of the Meeting of the Coordination Group on April 27, the report was further revised, and the Second National Report (Draft for Reviewing and Approval) was formulated and submitted to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

9. Translation and submission of the Second National Report

The Second National Report was translated into English and submitted to the Executive Secretary, Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity.

The following documents were referenced during the compilation of this report:

[1] Department of Nature & Ecology Conservation of SEPA, *Report of Ecological Issues in China.* China Environmental Science Press, Beijing, 1999

[2] GEF, *Report of the GEF to the Fifth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity*, UNEP/CBD/COP/5/7

[3] GEF, *Report of the GEF to the Fourth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity.*

[4] Glowka, L., et al., *A Guide to the Convention on Biological Diversity*, IUCN Gland and Cambridge, 1994

[5] Hu Zhiang & Zhang Yaping, *Genetic Diversity of Animals and Plants in China*. Zhejiang Science and Technology Press, Hangzhou, 1997

[6] Lu Wencong & Ni Qi, *Marketing Mechanism and International System for Conservation and Use of Plant Genetic Resources*. Journal of Natural Resources, 15(3), 2000: 285-289

[7] Ministry of Agriculture, *China Yearbook of Agriculture (1999-2000)*. China Agriculture Press, Beijing, 1999, 2000

[8] Report Compilation Group, *China Biodiversity Conservation Action Plan*. China Environmental Science Press, Beijing, 1994

[9] SEPA, *China Yearbook of Environmental Statistics (1999-2000)*. China Environmental Science Press, Beijing, 1999, 2000

[10] SEPA, *China's National Report on Implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity.* China Environmental Science Press, Beijing, 1998

[11] SEPA, *China's Biodiversity: A Country Study*. China Environmental Science Press, Beijing, 1998

[12] SEPA, *National Biosafety Framework of China*. China Environmental Science Press, Beijing, 2000

[13] Shi Baozhong, *Environmental Impact Assessment for Construction Projects*. China Environmental Science Press, Beijing, 1999

[14] State Forestry Administration, *China National Wetlands Conservation Action Plan*. China Forestry Press, Beijing, 2000

[15] State Forestry Administration, *China Yearbook of Forestry (1999-2000)*. China Forestry Press, Beijing, 1999, 2000

[16] State Planning Commission, State Science and Technology Commission, et al., *China's Agenda 21 – White Paper on China's Population, Environment and Development in the 21st Century*. China Environmental Science Press, Beijing, 1994

[17] Xue Dayuan & Gao Zhenning, *Technical Notes and Implementation Strategy for Convention on Biological Diversity*. China Environmental Science Press, Beijing, 1995

[18] Xue Dayuan, *Study on National Strategy for Genetic Resource Protection*. Journal of Natural Resources, 12(1), 1997: 22-28

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

N/A

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

China attaches great importance to the work program on biodiversity of inland water ecosystems, taking it as a priority action plan for CBD implementation in China, and has formulated the China National Wetlands Conservation Action Plan in 2000. Nevertheless, as a developing country, China lacks the technical and financial capacity for comprehensive implementation of the priority action plan for wetlands protection. The fund for work program on biodiversity in inland water ecosystems is also limited.

China always attaches importance to the protection of marine and coastal biological diversity, for which a series of policies, regulations and strategies have been established. A number of management approaches and technical measures have been taken in the aspect of conservation and sustainable development. Especially, the formulation of Blue Water Action Plan in Bohai Sea and the Integrated Renovation Plan in Bohai Sea strengthened the administration for biological diversity conservation in key marine areas. Nevertheless, due to the difficulty of the work and its high demand for fund and technologies, the input from the government can not meet the demand of the actual protection program. Therefore, the work program in this area can not be a high priority. The input for protection of marine and coastal biodiversity needs to be increased and more resources need to be obtained from home and abroad, so as to meet the demand of the actual practice.

The protection of agricultural biological diversity has been listed in the priority action plan for CBD implementation in China. China also formulated its China Biodiversity Conservation Action Plan for Agricultural Sectors and the China Biological Germplasm Resources Conservation Action Plan. Nevertheless, due to its large population, China first of all has to tackle the problem of grain production for near 1.3 billion of population. The agricultural bio-diversity conservation is then actually as medium priority. China also has a poor financial capacity for an overall implementation of the action plan for agricultural biodiversity conservation. The financial resource is limited. For example, the Guangzhou wild rice needs urgent *in situ* protection, but the government has no enough funds at present to establish a protected area.

China also attaches great importance to the protection of forest biological diversity and has formulated the China Biodiversity Conservation Action Plan for Forestry and the National Ecological Environment Construction Plan. Large amount of funds has been invested in the construction of protective forest system and the conservation of natural forest resources. As the work of forest biodiversity conservation in China is very heavy, we face the fund

shortage at both national and local levels.

For a long time, the Chinese government has taken major actions for restoration and re-construction of the deteriorated or degraded ecosystems in dry and sub-humid lands. These include the project of prevention and control of desertification, the project of preventive forests in Three-North areas and the project of re-afforestation and restoration of grasslands from cultivated lands. The focus is on the ecological restoration and construction in dry and sub-humid areas. The conservation of biological diversity in the area can only be listed as medium priority. The ecological deterioration and ecological degradation are very serious in dry and sub-humid lands in China, resulting in a heavy work load for ecological construction and conservation, which requires continued technical and financial supports from developed countries and international communities.

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

The Chinese government attaches high importance to and is active in the bilateral, multilateral and non-governmental cooperation in the field of biological diversity conservation. From 1991 to 1999, China has received a total of 23.6114 million USD of GEF grant. Through international cooperation, China has completed its "China's Biodiversity: A Country Study", and formulated China Biodiversity Conservation Action Plan, Compendium of Development Plan of Nature Reserves in China (1996-2010), China National Wetlands Conservation Action Plan, and National Biosafety Framework of China. Nature reserve management, conservation and sustainable use of wetlands biodiversity, conservation of marine and coastal biodiversity, protection of wild animals, afforestation, training and education on biodiversity were conducted, which greatly promoted the conservation of biodiversity in China. China will further promote the international cooperation to strengthen the conservation of biodiversity.

China is one of the countries in the world with richest biological diversity. It is also the largest developing country. Due to a variety of reasons, its ecological deterioration is still serious and the biological diversity is severely threatened, which brings a very heavy workload for the conservation of biological diversity. The funding support from international sources is far from enough to cover the incremental cost resulted from biodiversity conservation in China. Although the Chinese government has put large investment on its biodiversity conservation, there is still a great gap between supply and actual demand. This requires a continued necessary support from the international society to China in both the technical and financial aspects.

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

China has conducted effective international cooperation in the field of conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, actively participated in the negotiation of international conventions and regional multilateral actions. Bilateral cooperation has been strengthened continually and the non-governmental cooperation has been very active.

1. Active participation in the implementation and negotiation of relevant international conventions

China acceded the International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling in 1980, Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora in 1981, Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage in 1985, International Tropical Timber Agreement in 1986, Convention on Wetlands of International Importance Especially as Waterfowl Habitat in 1992, and Convention on Biological Diversity in 1993. China also ratified the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in December 1996, signed the Rotterdam Convention (PIC) on August 24, 1999, and signed the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety on August 8, 2000. China actively participated in the negotiation on the above international conventions related with conservation of biological diversity, and took a serious attitude towards the participation in the relevant international meetings and activities.

In 1981, the Chinese government and the Japanese government signed the Sino-Japan Agreement on the Protection of Migratory Birds. In 1986, China and Australia signed the Sino-Australia Agreement for the Protection of Migratory Birds and Their Habitat. In 1988, China and the former Soviet Union signed the Agreement on Fishery. In 1993, China and Russia initialed the Agreement for the Protection of Fish Propagation in Border Water along Heilong River and Wusuli River. In 1990, China and Mongolia signed the Cooperation Agreement on Protection of Natural Environment.

2. Multilateral cooperation

China Nature Reserve Management Project funded by GEF started in the second half of 1995. The World Bank is the implementing agency, and the domestic executing institutions are the State Forestry Administration, provincial forestry departments in Yunan, Hubei, Jiangxi, Shaanxi and Fujian, nature reserves of Xishuangbanna in Yunnan, Lake Poyang in Jiangxi, Wuyi Mountain in Fujian, Shengnongjia in Hubei, and nature reserves of Foping,

Zhouzhi, Niubeiliang, Dabaishan and Changqing in Qinling, Shaanxi, and Wuyishan Nature Reserve in Jiangxi, and Changqing Forestry Bureau in Shaanxi.

On February 24, 1999, GEF approved the project summary of Conservation and Sustainable Use of Wetland Biodiversity in China. The project started formally on July 19, 2000, and cosponsored by GEF, UNDP and Australian Agency for Development Assistance. The duration of this project is 5 years (2000-2004). The project scope covers the Sanjiang plain in Heilongjiang Province, the coastal wetlands in Yancheng of Jiangsu Province, wetlands in Lake Dongting in Hunan Province, and Ruoergai swamp wetlands in Sichuan and Gansu. The implementation of the project will not only give a better protection of the wetland biodiversity in the project areas so as to effectively ensure the local sustainable social and economic development, but also make a demonstration and gain experiences for wetland conservation nationwide.

With the support from GEF, China also implemented the project preparation for wetland biodiversity conservation in Sanjiang plain, the project of biodiversity conservation in Luobupo Nature Reserve (e.g. wild camel), and the project of National Biosafety Framework of China. China also took part in the project of biodiversity conservation in Tumen River area.

With the support from the World Bank, China implemented the project of national afforestation, the project of development and conservation of forest resources, the project of forestry development in poverty areas, and the project of sustainable forestry development. The implementation of these projects accelerated the pace of afforestation and promoted the conservation and management of the forest resources. It also helped the realisation of the target for increasing the forest coverage and facilitated the sustainable forestry development.

3. Bilateral Cooperation

China actively conducted the bilateral cooperation in the field of biodiversity conservation. Under the support from Canadian International Development Agency, China and Canada jointly implemented the project of Policy Study on Sustainable Management of Nature Reserves in China, the project of Capacity Building on Regulation and Technical Guidelines for Biosafety Management in China, and the project of Biodiversity Conservation and Community Development in Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region.

During July 5-7, 2000, the Third Meeting of Tri-Party Committee of China, Mongolia and Russia on Joint Nature Reserves was convened in Manchuri, Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region of China. The three parties discussed on the implementation of the Agreement between China, Mongolia and Russia on Joint Establishment of Nature Reserves, and summarised the problems encountered and the experiences gained. From July 14 to 20, 2000, the Sino-Mongolia Workshop on Transboundary Nature Reserves was also held in Manchuri.

China and Germany convened the China-Germany 2000 Environmental Cooperation Conference in Beijing. The two countries cooperatively implemented the project of

Afforestation in West Shaanxi, the Second Phase of Ecological Afforestation in West Shaanxi, the project of Prevention of Desertification and Afforestation in Chifeng of Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region and Chaoyang of Liaoning Province, the project of Ecological Afforestation in Hebei Province, the project of Natural Resource Conservation in Nature Reserves of Sichuan Province, the project of Monitoring and Management Information System of the Three-North Protective Forest System, and the project of Forestry Education, Training and Advanced Studies.

China and Netherlands implemented the project of Forest Resource Conservation and Community Development, and the project of Monitoring of Desertification using Remote Sensing.

On July 15, 1998, China and Japan signed on the project of Equipment for Soil Conservation in Upstream of Hanjiang River, in which the grant from Japan was used to build up water conserving forest at upper reach of Hanjiang River and seed-breeding in Hubei Province. China and Japan also conducted a joint investigation and study on black-tide, a study on subtropical circumfluence, and a study on the environmental load from rivers at specified areas in the East Sea and its impact on the marine ecosystems.

In 1997, China and the United States signed an agreement on sister mangrove nature reserves. In 1999, the two sides convened the Sino-US Workshop on Management of Marine Nature Reserves in China, discussing extensively on experiences, technologies, practices, problems and measures regarding the management of marine nature reserves. At present, the two countries are conducting cooperative studies in Sanya Coral Reef Nature Reserve in Hainan, Mangrove Nature Reserve in Guangxi, and the Ancient Coast and Wetland Nature Reserve in Tianjin. The formulation of mid and long term cooperation plans for integrated coastal management is now underway.

In 1997, the First Meeting of the Joint Committee for Sino-Korea Cooperation on Marine Science and Technology was held in Korea. As of today, the Joint Committee has met for a total of 4 times. In 1996, the cooperative project of oceanic circulation dynamics in the Yellow Sea was initiated. In 1998, the project of sedimentation dynamics in the Yellow Sea started.

4. Non-governmental cooperation

In 1996, China joined IUCN as a country member. The two sides jointly convened the First Forum on Biological Diversity in Asia. In April 2000, China joined the Wetland International. China also conducted a joint project with WWF for protection of Giant Panda and its habitats, and also jointly conducted an international workshop on conservation and management of biological diversity in Tibet. IFAW supported China on commending of nature reserves in China and the work of wild life protection. Relevant societies and non-governmental organizations in China also attended some international meetings regarding the biological diversity which are organized by international NGOs.

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

The conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity are beneficial to the sustainable development of the national economy and for increasing the living standard of the people. China has taken the environmental protection as one of its basic national policies, and is carrying out the principle "to conduct the ecological conservation and the ecological construction at the same time" and "to attach equal importance to pollution prevention and control and to the ecological conservation". China has actively taken actions on the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, and formulated a series of policies, laws, regulations, plans and measures in this field.

China is one of the largest developing countries with broad territory and large population. Its environmental pollution and ecological deterioration are severe. Therefore, the task for biodiversity conservation is very heavy, whereas the financial resources on the conservation of biological diversity are limited.

20. What is the status of your national biodiversity strategy (6a)?	
a) none	√
b) early stages of development	
c) advanced stages of development	
d) completed2	
e) completed and adopted2	
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) completed2	

2 Please provide information requested at the end of these guidelines.

e) completed and adopted2	
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	
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)?	UNEP, 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

China has formulated a series of laws, regulations, plans and programs for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity.

1. Laws and regulations on conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity

The Constitution of China regulates that the state shall ensure the reasonable utilisation of natural resources and protect the rare and valuable fauna and flora. China also promulgated and implemented a series of laws and regulations related with conservation of biological diversity, including, for example, Law on Environmental Protection, Law on Forest, Law on Water, Law on Marine Environmental Protection, Law on Grasslands, Low on Fishery, Law on Protection of Wild Animals, Regulation on Nature Reserves, and Regulation on Protection of Wild Plants.

2. Action plan for conservation of biological diversity

Under the support of UNDP/GEF, China compiled its China Biodiversity Conservation Action Plan in 1994, in which the priority of ecosystems for biodiversity conservation and the priority of species under protection are determined. It clarifies the objectives in 7 aspects and raises 26 priority action programs and 18 priority projects that require immediate implementation. The Chinese government also compiled and promulgated China's Agenda 21 – White Paper on China's Population, Environment and Development in

the 21 Century. Chapter 15 “Conservation of Biological Diversity” of the White Book defines the policies, targets, priority areas and projects for biodiversity conservation. At the end of 1997, the State Council approved the "China's Biodiversity: A Country Study", which determined the objectives of national capacity building for conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity in China in the next fifteen years (1996-2010). It covers areas of legislation, institutional construction, human resources, policy framework, protection facilities, science and technology, education and public participation as well as international cooperation. In 1999, China formulated its National Biosafety Framework of China, which gives the policy framework and regulation framework for national biosafety management, technical principle framework for risk assessment and management of LMOs and their products, and requirements for national capacity building for biosafety management.

The Chinese government has promulgated China Trans-Century Green Engineering Plan, National Ecological Environment Construction Plan, and Compendium of National Ecological Conservation. China set up its Compendium of Development Plan for Nature Reserves in China (1996-2010), specifying the targets and specific programs for nature reserves planning nationwide. China also formulated the China Biodiversity Conservation Action Plan for Forestry, the China Biodiversity Conservation Action Plan in Agricultural Sectors, the China Marine Biodiversity Conservation Action Plan, the China National Wetlands Conservation Action Plan, Action Plan for *Ex situ* Protection of Giant Panda, etc. These ensure the integration of activities of major sectors into the national action plans.

3. Action programs for sustainable use of biological diversity

For sustainable use of biological diversity, China implemented the projects for conservation of natural forests, construction of key protective forests in Three-North and in the middle and lower reaches of Yangtz, restoration of forests and grasslands from cultivated farms, sand protection and control around Beijing, and construction of forestry bases of fast-growing trees. China also applied quota system of tree falling in forests, designation of prohibiting areas and periods for fishing, and the licensing system on fishery. Release of fish to propagate population size is conducted in fresh lakes and oceans, and the licensing system is applied in farming and reproduction of key national protected animals. The bases for Chinese herb production are established for herb planting. The quarantine system is implemented for import and export goods to prevent the dispersion of plant diseases and insect pests. Measures like grass planting, flying seeding for pasture and fencing closure for grasslands and trees have also been taken. In some nature reserves, China also conducted sustainable tourism activities and management through public involvement, to achieve the coordinated development of both the nature reserves and the communities.

4. Requirements for capacity building for general measures of conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity

China has been making efforts, especially by increasing investment, to facilitate the implementation of the above action plans and programs, many of which have achieved good results. Nevertheless, due to the big gap between the actual inputs and demand, some plans

have not been effectively implemented. Therefore, financial support and technical assistance are needed from international society, to ensure the smooth implementation of these plans and programs.

Many of the national policies and reports contain strategies concerning about conservation of biological diversity in China. Nevertheless, we don't have a complete and comprehensive national strategy to guide the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity in the 21st century in China. In addition, China formulated its Action Plan in 1993. As the CBD implementation continues, COPs have made a series decisions on the work programs in dry and sub-humid, grassland, forest, marine, inland water and agricultural ecosystems, as well as on access to genetic resources and benefit sharing, traditional knowledge, clearing-house mechanism, prevention of alien species and technical transfer, etc. China started its Great West Development strategy in 2000. In this circumstance, the Action Plan has no longer been fully adaptable to the situation home and abroad. It needs to be further revised and improved, and then specific implementation plans should be plotted. These may include, for example, action plans for prevention and control of alien species, for access to genetic resources and benefit sharing, for traditional knowledge protection, and for protection of typical marine ecosystems. Action plans for biodiversity conservation at provincial level should also be formulated. In addition, supporting regulations and policies should be formulated as well.

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

For many years, China has conducted investigation on its major ecosystems, key species and important genetic resources, and monitored on its major ecosystems and key species. This provides the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity with large amount of fundamental data. Nevertheless, due to the financial and technical reasons, the identification and monitoring can only be rated as medium priority.

The investigation and monitoring require large amount of funds. The fund and equipment at present cannot meet the requirement of the actual work. China will further enlarge the input in this aspect and we also need more technical and financial support from international society in order to meet the demand of the work.

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

China has established the monitoring networks on major ecosystems and key groups of species and a lot of investigation and monitoring work have been conducted through the systems. As far as the systems for monitoring are concerned, China has set up the monitoring systems for forest resources, a monitoring center on wetland resources, a monitoring center on wild fauna and flora resources, and a monitoring center on desertification. China has set up a monitoring network on agricultural environments, which includes general monitoring center on agricultural environments, a monitoring center on fishery environments, a monitoring center on cultivation and grassland environments, and 626 monitoring stations on agricultural environments. The national marine environmental monitoring system has been set up, consisting of satellites, aircraft, ships, floating and coastal stations. China has also set up a general environmental monitoring station and over 2000 environmental monitoring stations. Sixty-four ecological positioning study stations have been established and a network for study on ecosystems in China has been set up, conducting for many years the study on structure, function, and evolution of the ecosystems with many research findings.

China conducts first-class investigation on forests at national level every 5 years, to provide first-hand information on the status and trend of national forestry resources. As required, provinces, autonomous regions and municipalities can arrange the second-class investigation, to provide scientific basis for compilation of forestry programs and management of forest resources at local level. At present, China has finished its 5th national investigation on forest resources.

The national wetland investigation started in 1995. Nevertheless, due to limited fund and technology, only preliminary investigation has been taken. The program is expected to complete in 2002.

China has conducted a total of seven round big-scaled investigations on the quality of agricultural eco-environments and its changing patterns. The investigation and assessment on agricultural resources and on the dynamic movement of the eco-environments were conducted. Investigations were also done on ecosystems of different types of grasslands. In addition, we also carried out the study on the structure, function and productivity of grassland ecosystems and monitoring on sample regions.

In order to get a comprehensive knowledge of the general status of the marine environmental quality in China, we performed a uniformed investigation from 1997 to 1999, on marine environmental pollution in 11 coastal provinces, autonomous regions and municipalities. The areas under investigation covered all the marine area under jurisdiction of China. Through this investigation, a lot of information and data on marine and coastal biological diversity were obtained. China also monitors the typical marine ecosystems like mangrove, coral reef, and up-going streams; Over one hundred bulletins, annual reports and

notices of marine environment quality have been promulgated.

China initiated a national investigation on terrestrial wild fauna resources in 1995 and the national investigation on key protected wild flora resources in 1996 in order to provide scientific basis for the protection of rare and endangered species. At present, all of the provinces, autonomous regions and municipalities have completed the on-site investigation, and entered data processing and analysis.

China conducts a national investigation on its nature reserves every two years. From 2000 on, the statistical investigation on nature reserves will be conducted each year, including data of the number, areas, categories, classes, target species as well as regional distribution and sectoral distribution of nature reserves. Some nature reserves in China also conducted the monitoring on natural resources and biological diversity, established monitoring network on rare and endangered species like Giant Panda, as well as the monitoring cooperation network on migratory birds like cranes and Anseriformes.

In 2000, China conducted an investigation on the ecosystems in West China, in order to understand the background of the ecosystems in the West region, therefore providing basis for the conservation of biological diversity in the region.

Although China has done some work on the investigation and monitoring on biological diversity and made some progress, there is still large gap from the requirement of the Convention. The application of quick assessment and remote sensing technology is quite limited. The indicators and methodologies for investigation and monitoring need to be standardized and normalized. The approaches to monitoring are not advanced. The sharing of data between different sectors and among whole society has not been achieved. The institutional capacity for monitoring is weak, and the expertise of the monitoring staff needs to be improved. Due to the limitation of expertise and fund, China has neither provided any report on the experiences of applying assessment methodologies, nor the case study report on the formulation and implementation of programs of assessment, monitoring and indicators.

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

Taxonomy is a fundamental branch of science that has played an active role in the investigation, evaluation, planing and use of the biological resources in China. China conducted extensively the investigation on biological resources, and obtained a large collection of specimen and data of biological species. Many records have been compiled including, for example, China Flora Records, China Fauna Records, China Cryptogam Records, China Economic Flora Records, China Compendium of Birds, China Records of Economic Insects, China Inventory of Mammals, China Red Data Book on Flora, China Red Data Book on Rare and Endangered Animals, Yunan Flora Records, Guangdong Flora Records, Hubei Flora Records, Groups and Distribution of Biological Species in Oceans in China, etc.

China allocates some financial resources to promote the biological taxonomy. The Chinese Academy of Sciences and some universities used to have strong institution and adequate infrastructure for taxonomy. Nevertheless, due to the recent reduction of input and the change of subject structuring, the number of talented professionals on taxonomy lost severely. The educational bases are not adequate. The equipment is out of date. The renewal of collection is difficult. The management approach is behindhand. At present, we do not have the worldwide-accepted conditions for collection housing (climate control, fire-prevention system, control of diseases and pests, acceptable on-site health care, and degree of safety). In order to improve the collection housing, the Chinese government allocated RMB 313 million*yuan* in 1998, for support the renovation of the collection housing conditions in over 10 houses under the Chinese Academy of Sciences.

China has not done the need assessment on national taxonomy, and has not formulated the national action plan for biological taxonomy. Although China has appointed a focal point for global initiative of taxonomy, it has not set up its national information center for biological taxonomy.

The Chinese Academy of Sciences and a few universities once convened some training on taxonomy, but the training used to focus on the academic exchange with little efforts being put on the professional and technical training. China encourages the bilateral and multilateral training for taxonomists, but it has no specific channel to facilitate the training on this aspect. China also lacks of the training program on biological taxonomy at the national level.

China encourages the partnership with the taxonomic institutions in both developed and developing countries. Nevertheless, due to the lack of special funding from China and international assistance, the collaboration is difficult to conduct.

In order to make a change to the current status, China has to strengthen its capacity building on the biological taxonomy:

(1) Establish the national action plan for taxonomy. Determine the needs for taxonomic information, identify the blocking factors, and raise the targets and plan of the capacity building for taxonomy in China.

(2) Set up taxonomic centers at both national and local levels. Establish 5-10 comprehensive collection houses that have great significance with large scale. Provide stable financial support to them. And at the same time, select a series of collection houses that have local characteristics for construction of several local centers for taxonomy.

(3) Strengthen the scientific study on biological taxonomy. Besides the work of investigation, discovery, description and cataloguing, conduct actively the intensive study on taxonomic issues related with key problems in the construction of national economy and the major issues of biological sciences itself.

(4) Strengthen the management of collection houses. Exchange experiences of collection housing extensively, explore multiple mechanisms for operation of collection houses, adopt effective measures to promote the modernised management of the collection houses.

(5) Establish partnership between collection houses. Expand the scope and range of collections and information for exchange, encourage the sharing of collections and documents among researchers, and promote extensive collaboration between collection houses. Establish effective network system for sharing of information and knowledge, and provide all-direction services of biological collection and species information for the national economic construction and the sustainable development.

(6) Establish extensive international cooperation. Establish contacts with other focal points in the world on the global taxonomy initiative. Participate in the information exchange and communication networking, and change the collections with foreign houses under the principle for mutual benefits.

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	√	b) Medium		c) Low	

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

Further comments on relative priority and on availability of resources

In situ conservation is the major approach to the conservation of biological diversity. China attaches great importance to in situ conservation, and compiled the Compendium of Plan for Nature Reserve Development in China (1996-2010). It proposed staged targets and defined the specific performance indicators for each five-year plan of the national social and economic development. Even with the very limited finance resources, the state has strengthened the investment in the *in situ* conservation. As of 2000, the coverage of nature reserves had reached 9.85% of the total territory of China, and a preliminary network of national reserves has been formed. Nevertheless, China is still a developing country and some remote mountainous areas are far from developed. Therefore, the work of *in situ* conservation is very heavy and the limited resources are far from adequate to meet the requirement of the *in situ* conservation of the biological diversity in China.

72. Has your country established a system of protected areas which aims to conserve biological diversity (8a)?	
a) system under development	
b) national review of protected areas coverage availabl	
c) national protected area systems plan in place	
d) relatively complete system in place	√
73. Are there nationally adopted guidelines for the selection, establishment and management of protected areas (8b)?	
a) no	
b) no, under development	
c) yes	
d) yes, undergoing review and extension	√
74. Does your country regulate or manage biological resources important for the conservation of biological diversity with a view to ensuring their conservation and sustainable use (8c)?	
a) no	
b) early stages of development	
c) advanced stages of development	
d) programme or policy in place	√
e) reports on implementation available	
75. Has your country undertaken measures that promote the protection of ecosystems, natural habitats and the maintenance of viable populations of species in natural surroundings (8d)?	
a) no measures	
b) some measures in place	√
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	√
If a developed country Party -	
83. Does your country cooperate in providing financial and other support for *in- situ* conservation particularly to developing countries (8m)?	
If a developing country Party or Party with economy in transition -	
84. Does your country receive financial and other support for *in situ* conservation (8m)?	
a) no	
b) yes (if so, please give details below)	√

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

China has done a lot in legislation, recovery and protection, conservation of rare and endangered species, and the international cooperation in the field of *in situ* conservation.

1. Laws, regulations and standards on *in situ* conservation

In Law on Environmental Protection, Law on Forest, Law on Water, Law on Marine Environmental Protection, Law on Grassland, Law on Fishery, Law on Protection of Wild Animals, and Regulations on Protection of Wild Plants, specific provisions are provided for *in situ* conservation and the protection of wild fauna and flora. China also established regulations and standards specially for the protected areas, including, for example, Rules of Nature Reserve Management, Methods for Management of Nature Reserves of Forest and Wild Animals, Methods for Management of Marine Nature Reserves, Tentative Rules for Management of Scenic Spots, and Principles for the Designation of Categories and Classes

of Natural Reserves.

2. Construction and management of facilities for *in situ* conservation

As of the end of 2000, China had established a total of 1227 nature reserves with total area reaching 98.208 million hectares, 9.85% of the total territory. Among these reserves, 155 are at national level. The nature reserves in China are more and more recognised in the world. 19 natural reserves have joined the World Man and Biosphere Protected Area Network, including Changbai Mountain, Wolong, Dinghu Mountain, Fanjing Mountain, Shennongjia, Wuyi Mountain, Bogeda Peak, Xilingele, Yancheng, Xishuangbanna, Tianmu Mountain, Maolan, Fenglin, Jiuzhaigou, Nanji Islands, Shankou, Huanglong, Gaoligong Mountain and Baishui River. Seven protected areas have been listed in the Inventory of Wetland of International Importance, including Zhalong, Xianghai, East Dongting Lake, Poyang Lake, Bird Island, Dongzhai Harbor and Mipu. Three natural reserves, i.e., Zhangjiajie, Jiuzhaigou and Huanglong are listed in the World Natural Heritages. By the end of 2000, China had established 1050 forest parks of different types with total area 9.8253 million ha, of which 344 are national forest parks. China also established over 600 scenic spots, 9.6 million ha of total area, of which 119 are at national level. In addition, China also established 50319 small protected areas, covering 1.3558 million ha of area. A national network of *in situ* conservation has preliminarily formed. About 70% of inland ecosystems, 80% of wild faunas, 60% of plants, and especially most of the national key rare and endangered species have been given better protection in the protected areas.

From 1998 to 1999, China formulated the development plans for nature reserves in each province, autonomous region and municipality. On basis of these plans, the national plan of nature reserve development has been formulated, and the targets and approaches to the construction of nature reserves for 2010 have been determined.

In 1998, the State Council issued the Notice on Further Strengthening the Management of Nature Reserves, requiring right co-ordination of the current and future benefits, the local and whole benefits, and the relation between development and protection. It timely stopped or corrected some construction projects that might otherwise bring adverse impacts on nature reserves. For example, according to the original plan, the Weining section in Guizhou of the Neikun railway would go through the experimental zone of Caohai Nature Reserve, and the passenger stations and cargo stations would be build in the protected area. SEPA, therefore, requested a special environmental assessment on this arrangement, and decided to stop the construction of passenger stations and cargo stations in the protection area. As a result, the adverse impacts on the species in the protected area were avoided.

For the problems encountered in the construction of nature reserves, some protected areas are seeking approaches and ways to co-ordinate the development of the protected areas and the development of the local communities, and have conducted management activities with community involvement. They also improved the knowledge and techniques of the local communities through training, in order to reverse the poverty status there by making income through multiple ways. For example, under the support from Ford Foundation, the Caohai National Nature Reserve implemented a project that combined the poverty relief and environmental protection. This is a typical example of success. The protection of the

habitats critical for biological diversity is ensured through sustainable use of the natural resources.

3. Ecological recovery and protection

The State Council approved and promulgated the National Ecological Environment Construction Plan and the Compendium of National Ecological Environment Conservation, implementing the principle of “to protect the ecosystems and to construct the ecosystems at the same time” and “to attach equal importance to the pollution prevention and to the ecological conservation”. Deforestation on natural forests is prohibited, and the restoration and reconstruction of the degraded ecosystems are extensively conducted. Since the initiation of the pilot project of natural forest protection in 1998, a total of 51.33 million ha of forests, in upper reach of Yangtz River, in middle and upper reaches of Yellow River and in the Northeast and in Inner Mongolia, have been effectively protected. The recovered forestation area totalled 5.988 million ha. From December 6, 2000, the state started a comprehensive project for protection of natural forestry resources. The project consists of two major parts: one is to effectively protect the 61.13 million ha forest in upper reach of Yangtz and in middle/upper reach of Yellow River, to increase the grassland by 14.67 million ha, to increase the forest coverage by 8.67 million ha, therefore, making the forest coverage increased from 17.52% to 21.24%; the other part is to reduce the commercial timber production by 7.515 million cubic meters in key state-owned forestry areas in the Northeast and in Inner Mongolia, therefore, to effectively protect the 33 million ha of forest. As of the end of 2000, a total of 1.363 million ha of forests and grasslands had been restored from cultivated farmlands in 193 counties in 17 provinces and autonomous regions across the country.

4. Protection of rare and threatened species

From 1997 to 1998, China promulgated the China Red Data Book on Endangered Faunas. The book composes of 4 volumes, covering species of birds, animals, amphibians/reptiles, and fishes. It provides the status and trend of species distribution and population, classes of being endangered and reasons for being threatened. In 1999, China promulgated the first batch of National Key Wild Flora under Protection, which includes 246 flora species in 8 categories.

A significant achievement has been made on the protection of the rare and endangered species in China. Thirty-three nature reserves for Giant Pandas have been established, with 165 thousand ha of the habitats and 643 thousand ha of protected area. During 1991 to 2000, China Research Center for Protection of Giant Panda, located in Wolong of Sichuan Province, bred 49 baby pandas in 32 embryos, of which 37 are survival. This made a wonder of artificial breeding of Giant Panda. The number of *Nipponia nippon* has increased from 7 when it was first found to more than 200, progressively breaking away from extinction. In Yangtze alligator Nature Reserve and Research Center for Artificial Breeding in Anhui Province, the number of Yangtze alligators has increased from 200 to 9000 in ten years through artificial breeding. In Hainan Datian National Nature Reserve, the number of Eld's deer has increased from initial 26 to over 800. In Shishou Nature Reserve in Hubei Province and Dafeng David’s Deer Nature Reserve in Jiangsu Province, the population of

David's deers has reached over 600, and a successful test of wild breeding has been conducted. Germplasm resources of over a thousand of rare flora species and trees like *Davidia involucrata*, *Cathaya argyrophylla*，*Ormosia hosiei* have been effectively protected and got propagated in nature reserves.

5. International cooperation on nature reserves

The construction and management of nature reserves in China have received broad attention and support from the international society. GEF has supported China on its management of nature reserves, conservation and sustainable use of wetlands biological diversity, and the protection of bio-diversity in nature reserves in Luobupo of Xinjiang Autonomous Region. Under the support of CIDA, China implemented the conservation of biological diversity and community development project in Inner Mongolia. The duration of the project is 5 years. It will establish demonstrations of biological diversity protection in Xieerduosi National Nature Reserve, Xilingele Grassland National Nature Reserve, Dalinuoer National Nature Reserve, Saihanwula Regional Nature Reserve, Lake Dalai National Nature Reserve, and Keerqin National Nature Reserve. China and the US have conducted a cooperative research on marine nature reserves. WWF continues its support on the protection of Giant Panda and its habitats, including projects of conservation and development in Pingwu of Sichuan, Baima Snow Mountain in Yunnan and the surroundings. IFAW has supported the national evaluation and selection for commending outstanding organizations and individuals in the management of nature reserves. It also supported the activities for anti-poaching of Tibet antelopes in Aerjin Mountain National Nature Reserve in Xinjiang and the Kekexili National Nature Reserve in Qinghai.

6. Works of *in situ* conservation that need immediate action

Although China has made significant progress in the *in situ* conservation of biological diversity, there are still many urgent works in the aspects of legislation, standardization, construction of protective facilities, scientific management, researches, education, and international cooperation.

(1) Formulate the law on nature reserves or the law on nature conservation, in order to integrate the planning of nature reserve development into the national plan of social and economic development, and to clarify the financial resources for the operation of the nature reserves.

(2) Revise the standards for categorization of the nature reserves. Establish the uniformed method of management of nature reserves, forest parks and scenic spots. Formulate regulations for management of the construction, protection, resource utilization and personnel training in nature reserves.

(3) Improve and strengthen the law enforcement for management of the nature reserves.

(4) Strengthen the infrastructure construction in nature reserves to raise efficiency of the management. Promote the coordination of development of nature reserves and the development of local communities. Strengthen the construction of small protected areas outside the nature reserves. Improve the network system of the nature reserves.

(5) Conduct scientific researches on nature reserves actively. Establish technical systems for investigation, assessment, planning, construction and management for nature reserves.

(6) Strengthen training for personnel of nature reserves.

(7) Make full use of the advantages of nature reserves to conduct diversified education and publicity activities on conservation of biological diversity.

(8) Strengthen international cooperation in nature reserves to internationalize the nature reserves that have important significance and scientific value, and to seek more technical and financial support from international society.

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

China has a large territory and is rich of biological species. It also has a long history of introducing alien species, especially those beneficial species. The introduction of alien species gives benefits to China's economy, whereas many introduced species also made severe natural disasters, resulting in damages to its biological diversity and great loses of the economy. The impact of introducing alien invasive species is extensive and potential, and often irreversible. As the globalisation of economic development and China's acceding to WTO are accelerated, more and more exchanges of species will happen, hence increasing the risk of introducing harmful species on purpose. Meanwhile, the possibility of accidental introduction of alien species will also increase due to the development of tourism and transportation. Therefore, the Chinese government attaches great importance to the prevention, control or eradication of the alien species threatening the ecosystems, living habitats or species.

China is a developing country with large territory. The resources for prevention, control and eradicate the harmful alien species are limited.

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 introduction	
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 assesse	√
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 (pleas 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

China attaches great importance to the prevention and control of alien invasive species. Some policies and regulations have been formulated and the corresponding control measures have been adopted. However, there are still many problems to be solved.

1. Policies, laws and regulations concerning the prevention and control of alien invasive species

The Quarantine Law on Import and Export of Animals and Plants has set up the clear stipulations for the work in this regard. The Law on Protection of Wild Animals has also the regulations on the intentional import of the alien species.

To prevent the diseases like mad cow and mouth-foot from entering China, the Chinese government has launched sets of official notifications to forbid direct and indirect import from those countries or regions that suffer from “mad cow diseases” of cow, cow embryo, sperm, beef and the beef products, and ruminant foodstuff. It is forbidden to import the artiodactyl and its products from those countries with foot and mouth diseases. Strict quarantine controlling work has been undertaken to those passengers and goods that come from the “epidemic areas”. These regulations have played an important role in prevent those pathogens getting into China in the emergent situations.

In the Compendium of National Ecological Conservation, it is for the first time to put forward the concept for bio-safety in China. The Article 14 of the Compendium says, “all the alien species have to undertake the risk assessments. The import quarantine work has to be strengthened to prevent any alien invasive species from entering into China”. However, China Biodiversity Conservation Action Plan does not involve much on the alien species and up to now there is no specific established action plan against the alien invasive species.

2. The present status of and controlling over alien invasive species

Several rounds of survey have been conducted in China on alien invasive species. According to incomplete statistics, all together China has 107 species and 75 genera of alien weeds, including mainly Alternanthera philoxeroides, Eupatorium adenophorum, Ambrosia artemisiifolia and A. Trifida etc. Among those alien weeds, 62 kinds have been imported

intentionally for pasture, foodstuff, vegetable, ornamentals, herbs and greening plants, representing 58% of the total amount. The others are introduced unintentionally through goods shipment, passengers or transportation and through natural spreading and dissemination.

There are 32 kinds of major alien pests in China, including Hyphantria cunea, Hemiberlesia pitysophila Takagi; 23 kinds of alien pathogens, like Ceratocystis fimbriata Ell.et halst, Fusarium vasifectum etc. In most cases, the alien pests and pathogens are imported unintentionally together with other plants or goods. Of course, some of them are spread and got into China naturally.

China has also introduced large amount of germplasm resources of crops, livestock and poultry and aquatic products.

Alien invasive species has created huge damage to China ecosystems, wildlife and genetic resources. Each year the invasive pests have caused 7-8 billion RMB yuan losses in China. Bursaphelenchus xylophilus is closing in on the Huangshan Mountain located in Anhui Province and Xihu Lake located in Zhejiang Province. The damage of pine-needle scale insect (Hemiberlesia pitysophila) and Oracella acuta is increasing. The harmfulness caused by horticultural pest Opogona sacchari has been aggravating year by year, and exhibits the trend of spreading across the country.

According to incomplete investigation and statistics, the alien weeds has created as high as 900 million RMB yuan losses for China agriculture. The damage caused by Eichhornia crassipes to Dianchi Lake in Yunnan Province is very severe, and the threats of Spartina anglica to biodiversity in southeastern coastal China have not been effectively alleviated. Mikania micrantha has propagated very fast and caused catastrophe in some regions.

While the introduction of alien productive species has promoted the development of China agriculture and husbandry; at the same time, the native species has been replaced or reduced gradually, or even diminished. For example, total endangered livestock species amount to 10.4% of the native species and the extinct livestock species account for 3%.

Facing with all those damages caused by the alien invasive species, China has strengthened the management over quarantine systems to prevent the invasion of alien species. There are over 200 quarantine departments established at the ports, which formulate a comparatively complete supervision and monitoring network. For example, after the Sino-US Agreement on Agriculture Cooperation has been signed by the two governments, China has been seriously implement this Agreement by conducting strict quarantine work over wheat and other grains. In addition, China has also established the approval procedure and system on aquatic and terrestrial wildlife.

To fight against alien invasive pests, China has adopted physical, chemical, biological and agricultural comprehensive control measures. Great progress has been reached on bio-control technologies. The introduction of bio-control agent and the development of native bio-control agent have been applied into fall webworm (Hyphantria cunea), pine-needle scale insect (Hemiberlesia pitysophila) and Oracella acuta, with encouraging progress and obvious effect. The research on Liriomyza sativae (Blanchard) has achieved significant progress, and a series of practical prevention techniques have been developed which are extensively applied in production. From 1996 to 2000, 35 institutions have

introduced 63 kinds (times) of bio-control agents from 25 countries, among which the Encarsia formosa, Typhlodromus occidentalis, Phytoseiulus persimilis and Xylocoris flavipes etc. Are proved to be very successful. Transgenic Chinese white polar with pest resistance show high resistance to alien pests such as fall webworm.

Work on education and publicity enhancement has also been carried out; yet no systematic education, training and dissemination plan have into existence.

In Oct. 1999, China has submitted the case study on prevention, controlling and eradication of alien invasive species to the Secretariat. However, China does not have much chance to conduct international cooperation in this regard and lacks the expertise. That is why China could not make written comments to the provisional guidance.

3. The priority work in prevention and control of alien invasive species

(1) To establish and perfect the legislation systems to intensify the safety management on alien invasive species that are introduced intentionally or unintentionally.

(2) To conduct national survey over alien invasive species to identify species, number, distribution and functions of alien invasive species and to establish databases.

(3) To analyze the impacts generated by alien species on China ecosystems and species, and to establish risk assessment indicator system, risk assessment methods and risk management procedures for alien species that threat ecosystems, habitats and species.

(4) To establish the monitoring system over alien invasive species.

(5) To strengthen the public education on the impacts caused by alien species and enhance the awareness of prevention.

(6) To establish training programs on identification of alien invasive species, prevention and controlling technologies, risk assessment technologies and risk management.

(7) To strengthen international cooperation and information exchange on management, prevention and control technology of alien invasive species and to enhance national administrative capacity and expertise.

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

China is a civilized old country with a long history, and has accumulated rich traditional knowledge, innovations and practices in its thousands of years of agricultural production. China also has multiple nationalities. Even in today's civilized world, many farmers living in remote mountainous areas, especially the minorities, still inherit, use and develop the traditional knowledge and practices that are beneficial to the conservation and sustainable use of the biological diversity. The Chinese government attaches great importance to the maintaining and use of the traditional knowledge, innovations and practices, and stresses the equitable sharing of the benefit from the traditional knowledge, initiatives and practices.
China is a country with multiple nationalities. The people of these nationalities have accumulated very rich traditional knowledge in their long-term practice of production and living. The Chinese government fully respects and protects the traditional knowledge. However, the resources available for meeting the obligations and recommendations made on this Article are limited due to the lack of policies and mechanism for sharing the benefits from the traditional knowledge, innovations and practices as well as the limitation of the financial capacity of the country.

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

China has a long civilised history of five thousand years and has 55 minorities. The Chinese people created diversified traditional culture and knowledge in the past long history, which

played an important role in the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity in China.

1. Relevant policies

Policies and regulation in China fully respect the rights of minorities and local communities, respect the traditional living style of the local communities beneficial to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, support the minorities and local communities to participate in the activities in conformity with the objectives of the Convention, and promote the sum-up, inheriting and developing of the traditional knowledge. The China's Agenda 21 clearly emphasizes the significance of conserving traditional knowledge and encourages the participation of minority nationalities, women, and communities in biodiversity conservation.

China has established a relatively perfect intellectual property right system, but the traditional knowledge is not protected by the current system. For example, the flora species with unmodified genes, such as wild species and original plants planted by farmers, are treated as free-access goods. In the negotiation on International Agreement on Plant Heredity Resources, China supports the aim of the Convention on Biological Diversity, actively promotes the establishment of the multilateral system of access and benefit sharing of the plant heredity resources, and insists on the equitable sharing of the benefits resulted from the access of heredity resources through multilateral system to realize the rights of the farmers.

2. Sum-up and maintenance of traditional knowledge

Under the assistance of relevant international organizations, China actively conducted the sum-up and conservation of the traditional knowledge. The Chinese Academy of Agricultural Science, in cooperation with the International Research Institute of Plant Heredity Resources, conducted a study and investigation on the taros in Yunnan regarding their heredity diversity, planting, storage, processing and use. The study showed that the local farmers were able to effectively maintain and manage the species diversity.

Under the financial support from Ford Foundation, Kunming Institute of Botany, Chinese Academy of Sciences, conducted an investigation on the traditional slash-and-burn cultivation in Hani and Jinuo minority communities in Xishuangbanna mountainous areas. The study showed that many traditional approaches stressed the conservation of forests. In lands after the slash-and-burn cultivation, some flora species with special economic and ecological values are often reserved, including banyan, wild mango and timber species. The traditional management approaches have played an indelible active role in the conservation of biological diversity.

The Ford Foundation also provided financial support to the Xishuanbannai Tropical Arboretum in Yunnan to study the relationship between arboretum and the traditional religion (Buddhism) of Dai Nationality and the roles of religion in the conservation of biological diversity. Over 100 botanic species are regarded having important significance on the religions.

3. Participation of minorities and local communities in the conservation of biological

diversity

With the assistance of international organizations, some nature reserves performed the management with the participation of local communities. The local communities and women are attracted and encouraged to the management of the nature reserves. Many famous spots of Taoism and Buddhism, as well as other “Spirit Mountains” are places where the biological resources are better protected. Through setup of rules and conventions by local people, the good traditional knowledge is maintained and developed, and the conservation of biological diversity is facilitated. For example, there are 400 “spirit mountains” in Xishuangbanna. These “spirit mountains” have been protected by the local communities of Dai Nationality.

4. Problems encountered in the maintenance and use of traditional knowledge

Although some progress has been made in the conservation of traditional knowledge in China, the traditional knowledge, innovations and practices are scattered greatly among local people and have not been better summed up. Along with the process of modernization, the eminent national traditional cultures are dying away gradually. There is inadequate awareness on the conservation of traditional knowledge, and the national policies, strategies and legislation in this field are still very weak. The mechanism of equitable sharing of benefits from the utilization of traditional knowledge, innovations and practices has not been established. The national capacity and technologies for conservation of traditional knowledge are still weak.

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

China attaches great importance to the *ex situ* conservation of biological diversity, and has established many *ex situ* conservation bases such as zoos, centres for feeding and caring of the rare animals, arboretums, germplasm houses (nurseries) and species bases.

Significant progress has been made in the facility construction, scientific research and protection achievements for *ex situ* conservation in China, whereas the financial resources allocated for *ex situ* conservation are limited in general. The work of *ex situ* conservation should be strengthened and supported in policy and financial aspects. The current available facilities for *ex situ* conservation should be fully utilised. Meanwhile, China should also actively seek support of advanced technologies and financial resources from the international society.

127. Has your country adopted measures for the *ex situ* conservation of components of biological diversity *native* 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 *ex situ* conservation of components of biological diversity *originating outside* 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 *ex situ* conservation of and research on plants, animals and micro-organisms that represent genetic resources *native* to your country (9b)?	
a) no	
b) yes – limited extent	
c) yes – significant extent	√
131. Has your country established and maintained facilities for the *ex situ* conservation of and research on plants, animals and micro-organisms that represent genetic resources *originating elsewhere* (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 *ex situ* conservation purposes so as not to threaten ecosystems and *in situ* populations of species (9d)?	
a) no measures	
b) some measures in place	√
c) potential measures under review	
d) comprehensive measures in place	
If a developed country Party -	
135. Has your country cooperated in providing financial and other support for ex situ conservation and in the establishment and maintenance of ex situ conservation facilities in developing countries (9e)?	
If a developing country Party or Party with economy in transition -	
136. Has your country received financial and other support for ex situ conservation and in the establishment and maintenance of ex situ conservation facilities (9e)?	
a) no	
b) yes	√

Further comments on implementation of this Article

1. Laws and regulations on *ex situ* conservation in China

The Law on Protection of Wild Animals stipulates: The State shall carry out the policy of strengthening the resource conservation, domesticating and reproducing actively, and developing and using rationally; shall encourage the domestication and reproduction of the wild animals, and the license for such domestication and reproduction should be obtained for key wild animals under protection of the State. The Rules for Protection of Wild Plants stipulates: The State shall encourage and support the scientific research, in situ conservation and *ex situ* conservation of the wild plants; for any collection of first-class national

protected wild plants, for the purposes of scientific research, artificial cultivation or cultural exchange, the collection permit must be applied from wild plant administration of State Council or its authorized organization after obtaining signed comments from the wild plant administrative department of the government of province, autonomous region or municipality where the collection is to take place; for any collection of second-class national protected wild plants, the collection permit must be applied from wild plant administrative department of province, autonomous region or municipality or its authorized organization after obtaining signed comments from the wild plant administrative bureau of the government of the county where the collection is to take place. The Rules for Protection of Terrestrial Wild Animals stipulates: for any hunting and catching of key national protected wild animals, for the purposes of scientific investigation, domestication and reproduction, scientific study and teaching, the hunting/catching permit must be applied. The Rules for Implementation of Protection of Aquatic Wild Animals also defines provisions of the licensing system for domestication and catching.

2. Present status of *ex situ* conservation in China

(1) *Ex situ* conservation of plants

By 2000, there are over 140 arboretums across the country, growing about 18000 flora species native to China, about 65% of total native species. Newly constructed arboretums include the Three-Gorges Arboretum, Baoding Arboretum and Shijiazhuang Arboretum in Hebei. The Tianjin Arboretum is in construction. In Xishuangbanna Arboretum, an *ex situ* protected area, about 80 ha, has been established for endangered flora species native to South Yunnan. It is also planned to construct a branch of Xishuangbanna Arboretum in Yuanjiang.

China has constructed a long-term national storehouse and a backup storehouse of crop germplasm resources in Beijing and Qinghai respectively; 27 mid-term storehouses of crop germplasm resources, and 32 gardens of perennial plants and wild relatives of crops were established; 160 species of crops and 370000 pieces of crop germplasm resources have been kept in storehouses and evaluated in terms of catalogues, agronomic properties, quality, pressure, disease and pest resistance, and China Crop Germplasm Resource Information System is also established.

In addition, a lot of wild plant breeding bases, seed bases, and other plant germplasm resource storehouses were also established.

(2) *Ex situ* conservation of wild animals

By 2000, there are about 200 zoos and wild animal gardens, over 230 artificial breeding farms of wild animals, over 20 aquariums, about 10 bird gardens across the country, and 14 rescue and breeding centers for endangered animals such as *Panthera tigris altais*, David's deer (*Elaphurus davidianus*), *Equus przewalskii*, *Saiga tatarica*, *Nipponia nippon*, and Yangtze alligator (*Alligator sinensis*) have been established. There are also comprehensive storehouses of fresh water fish germplasm resources, cold semen houses of fish, and semen and embryo houses of experimental oxen and sheep.

During 1996 to 2000, 64 baby giant pandas in 45 embryos were bred in Wolong, Chengdu, Beijing, Chongqing, and Shanghai, of which 50 are survival. In 1999, captive south China tiger (*Panthera tigris amoyensis*) gave 10 babies, of which 1 was dead, with survival rate 90%. The number of captive south China tiger has increased from 47 in 1995 to 58 in 1999. The number of *Nipponia nippon* has increased from 7 when it was first found to more than 200. In Yangtze alligator Nature Reserve and Research Center for Artificial Breeding in Anhui Province, the number of Yangtze alligators has increased from 200 to 9000 in ten years through artificial breeding. In Hainan Datian National Nature Reserve, the number of Eld's deer has increased from initial 26 to over 800. In Shishou Nature Reserve in Hubei Province and Dafeng David's Deer Nature Reserve in Jiangsu Province, the population of David's deers has reached over 600, and a successful test of wild breeding has been conducted.

3. Status of scientific research on *ex situ* conservation in China

Studies on the introduction of plants and the mechanism by which rare plants become endangered have been extensively conducted in introduction and propagation bases across the country, over 100 rare and endangered plants such as *Davidia involucrata*, *Alsophila spinulosa*, *Camellia petelotii*, *Cathaya argyrophyll* , *Ostrya rehderiana*, *Abies beshanzuensis*, and *Carpinus putoensis*, have been successfully propagated.

Artificial breeding has been conducted for rare and endangered animals such as giant pandas, *Nipponia nippon*, *Rhinopithecus* spp., *Panthera tigris amoyensis*, and red-crowned crane in zoos and wild animal breeding bases across the country, encouraging progress has been achieved, and the bred population are effectively increased. "The Establishment of DNA Fingerprint Probe and Extraction Methods for Giant Panda" was awarded Second State Prize of Technology and Creation.

The international and national spectrums that were modified and finished in 1999 include giant panda (*Ailuropoda melanoleuca*), south China tiger (*Panthera tigris amoyensis*), black-necked crane (*Grus nigricollis*), *Ciconia ciconia*, *Budorcas taxicolor*, *Rhinopithecus* spp., *Grus leucogeranus*, and red-crowned crane, among which the spectrums of giant panda, south China tiger, black-necked crane and *Ciconia ciconia* were integrated into the International Species Information System (ISIS).

4. Reintroduction of captive rare animals into natural habitats

Wild and semi-wild David's deer population has been established in Jiangsu, Hubei and Beijing. Plants with high economic values such as metasequoia and eucommia have been artificially cultivated in large areas, however, most rare wild plants, limited by mechanism and budget, have not been reintroduced into wild habitats.

5.International cooperation on *ex situ* conservation

China and US have cooperated on the research on giant panda breeding and germplasm resources. The study of giant panda breeding was also conducted with Japan. China has carried out many studies on germplasm resources with Australia, Great Britain,

International Agricultural Organization, and International Institute on Botanic Genetic Resources. The study on nutrition, management, and veterinary of giant pandas and tigers were also conducted with IUCN.

6. The urgent work to be conducted for *ex situ* conservation

(1) Perfect laws, regulations, standards, and guidelines for *ex situ* conservation, to improve the effectiveness of *ex situ* conservation;

(2) Perfect existing and build new wild animal breeding and rescue centers, and *ex situ* conservation centers for rare and endangered aquatic animals, perfect the construction of zoo facility in capital cities of provinces across the country;

(3) Establish some *ex situ* conservation gardens for specific botanic families and genera, construct a series of breeding bases for rare and endangered plants, and set up some botanic gardens in new middle and small scaled cities;

(4) Establish some cultivation bases for medicinal plants;

(5) Strengthen the appraisal and assessment of crop germplasm resources kept in storage, establish core samples, in order to provide more high quality germplasm resources for breeding and production, and to improve the utilization of resources kept in storage;

(6) Implement reintroduction of some plants into wild habitats;

(7) Strengthen the research on the behavior, nutrition, breeding, diseases prevention and control, reintroduction of wild animals, and intensify the research on wild plant introduction and preservation, and germplasm resource appraisal.

(8) Strengthen international cooperation on *ex situ* conservation, so as to provide advanced technology and sufficient funds for *ex situ* conservation.

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

The biological diversity plays an important role in the national economic and social development. It has great economic value, directly and indirectly. The direct economic value mainly refers that it provides the human with the basic necessities for cloths, foods and shelters as well as the raw materials of important industries like timber, fiber, oil and rubber, and medicinal materials. The indirect economic value represents its functions for maintenance of energy flow, cleanup of the environment, improvement of the soil, conservation of water sources, adjustment of microclimate, and sustaining the biological evolution. The conservation of biological diversity and sustainable use of its components are required by the sustainable development strategy of China.

China has provided huge manpower and financial resources in the conservation of biological diversity and the sustainable use of its components. However, the efforts are still inadequate as compared to the requirements of the Convention. The comprehensive implementation of the convention requires more financial and human resources, which is beyond China's original capacity of investment. Large gap exists between demand and supply of funds.

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

China pays high attention to biodiversity conservation and sustainable use of its components in the process of national decision making, and has formulated policies, programs and measures for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.

1. Policies and programs of conservation and sustainable utilization of biodiversity

On November 26, 2000, the State Council issued the Compendium of National Ecological Environment Conservation. The basic principles of the Compendium are: to protect ecosystems and to construct ecosystems at the same time, and to attach equal importance to pollution prevention and to ecological conservation; to conduct integrated planning, comprehensive decision-making, and reasonable development; all development activities of natural resources should take the carrying capacity of natural ecosystems into consideration; it is not allowed to sacrifice ecological environment for short-term and regional economic benefits; to follow the principle that those conducting the development should be responsible for the conservation, and those making the damages should be responsible for the restoration, those utilizing the resources should pay, so as to protect ecological environment according to laws.

China has formulated the Tenth Five-Year Plan of National Economic and Social Development, with more emphasis on sustainable development strategy. It stipulates that fresh water, lands and energies be protected and utilized in a reasonable way according to laws. The comprehensive development, utilization and protection of marine resources should be strengthened. The non-gratuitous system of resource uses should be further improved. The laws, rules and regulations of resources conservation and utilization should be improved and the enforcement supervision should be enhanced. Attention should be paid to the construction of conservation engineering of natural forest resources in the upper reaches of the Yangtze River and in the middle and upper reaches of the Yellow River. Continuous efforts should be devoted to the establishment of key preventive forest systems in northeastern, northern, northwestern China and the middle and lower reaches of the Yangtze River. The conservation and construction of natural grasslands should be

improved.

2. *In situ* conservation of biodiversity

China has made significant achievements on *in situ* conservation. By the end of 2000, there were 1227 nature reserves, with a total area of 98.208 million hectares, accounting for 9.85% of state territory, and 155 of them are national nature reserves. There were 1050 forest parks, with a total area of 9.8253 million hectares and 344 of them are national forest parks. There were over 600 scenic spots, with a total area of 9.60 million hectares and 119 of them are national scenic spots. Nationwide *in situ* conservation networks have been preliminarily set up.

3. Measures of sustainable utilization of the components of biodiversity

(1) Environmental impact assessment system

Since 1979, China has carried out environmental impact assessment. The industrial construction projects, infra-structure construction projects, regional programming projects and the agriculture, forest, water resources, marine engineering projects should conduct environmental impact assessment. Environmental impact assessment takes full consideration of possible negative impact of construction projects on biodiversity, and formulate relevant measures to minimize such negative impact.

(2) Artificial breeding and cultivation of wild animals and plants

The development of wild animal breeding and wild plant cultivation is an important way to conserve and reasonably utilize biological resources. Permit system has standardized the breeding and cultivation of wild animals and plants, which has provided large amount of fur and pharmaceutical products for markets, reduced the demand for wildlife and promoted the sustainable utilization of these resources.

(3) Sustainable tourism development

The policies, options and activities of tourism have paid much attention to biodiversity conservation. The development of new tourism zones and the construction of new tourism sites and tourism reception facilities in the tourism zones should follow environmental impact assessment. In order to support the international ecotourism year, China has conducted various kinds of education activities. In order to support the International Coral Reef Initiative, China has conducted coral reef ecotourism activities in coral reef nature reserves, and including mainly diving, sea-bed sight-seeing and on-site education. By conducting the ecotourism activities, not only biodiversity conservation awareness has been improved, but also the economic income increased adequately. Due to the limitation of funds, China has not submitted the case study report on ecotourism to the Secretariat.

(4) Sustainable utilization of fishery resources

In order to protect spawning fish and baiting fingerling, no-fishing zones and seasons have been designated, and the fishery permit system has been carried out. Great efforts have been devoted to artificial breeding and natural breeding while protecting fishery resources.

(5) Ecological construction

In order to restore and re-establish the damaged and degraded ecosystems, Chinese government has taken significant measures to implement the projects for conservation of natural forests, construction of key protective forests in Three-North and in the middle and lower reaches of Yangtz, restoration of forests and grasslands from cultivated farms, sand protection and control around Beijing. Since the implementation of pilot project of natural forest conservation in 1998, 51.33 million hectares of forests have been effectively protected and 5.988 million hectares of forest vegetation has been restored in the upper reaches of Yangtze River, upper and middle reaches of Yellow River, northeastern China and Inner Mongolia. By the end of 2000, 1.363 million hectares of steep arable lands had been converted back to forests and grasslands in 193 counties of 17 provinces and regions. Due to long-term efforts, the development of preventive forests has made significant progress. The Three-North Preventive Forest Project has afforested 27.92 million hectares of forests, approximately 12% of desert lands in the Three-North region has been treated, 30% of water and soil erosion areas has received initial treatment, and 4 million hectares of bare lands have now been turned into oases. The preventive forest project in the upper and middle reaches of Yangtze River has afforested a total of 5.29 million hectares of forests, 50% of affected areas has afforested bare mountains in 271 counties involved in the project, and water and soil erosion has been under control in over 100 counties.

Entering 1990s, China has adopted such measures as artificial grass sowing, aerial sowing, enclosed cultivation, and tries to combine grassland and pasture development with ecological restoration. The planted grassland area has been increasing year by year, and great progress has been achieved. For the past decade, the average annual planted grassland area has exceeded 2.7 million hectares, the aggregate remaining planted grassland area reaches more than 15 million hectares, and the area of enclosed pastureland reaches more than 10 million hectares.

The pilot of ecological agriculture been carried out in 51 counties across the country. The pilot regions in the construction of ecological demonstration zones have reached 154.

(6) Poverty alleviation

Chinese government has long been carrying out a series of policies and measures to improve the living of people in poverty areas. The principle of poverty alleviation through development is followed, and poverty alleviation is integrated closely with the conservation and sustainable utilization of biodiversity. Since 1994, the Eight-Seven Poverty Alleviation Plan has been carried out. By 2000, 80 million people in poverty rural areas across the country have basically solved the problems of foods and clothes. However, it is still a long-term and tough task to fundamentally change the situation in poverty areas.

(7) Public participation

The policies and laws and regulations in China show high respects to the minority people and the rights and benefits of the local communities, show respect to and maintain the traditional living modes of the local communities favorable to the conservation and

sustainable utilization of biodiversity, encourage the minority people, women, local communities and enterprises to be involved in the activities of the sustainable utilization of biodiversity. For example, some nature reserves have conducted participatory community management, and some enterprises are engaged in the development and sustainable utilization of biological resources.

4. Priority of sustainable utilization of components of biodiversity

(1) To formulate the guidance principles, targets, economic policies, industrial guidance, supervision and inspection methods for sustainable utilization of the components of biodiversity, and to formulate the management methods and technical guidance for sustainable tourism;

(2) To further implement the National Ecological Environment Construction Plan and the Compendium of National Ecological Environment Conservation, enhance the construction of nature reserves and ecological function protected areas, go on with the natural forest resource conservation engineering, restoration of forests and grasslands from cultivated farms, desertification control and prevention engineering;

(3) To improve and enhance the construction of various kinds of animal and plant breeding bases, rescue centers, seed bases, germplasm resource bases;

(4) To enhance *in situ* conservation of relatives of wild plants;

(5) To enhance the scientific researches on the sustainable utilization of components of biodiversity and set up relevant technical system;

(6) To enhance and expand international cooperation on sustainable utilization of components of biodiversity and seek for international support for advanced technologies and funds.

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

Incentive measures promote the conservation and sustainable utilization of biodiversity. In developing countries like China with limited national financial resources, the formulation of economic and social incentive measures can mobilize the active elements in all sectors and protect biodiversity in an effective way.

Incentive measures could be in various forms. There are economic ones, such as loans, financial subsidies, tax exemption, interests subsidies, and bonus. There are also social ones, such as praises in the media, awards to the excellent institutions and individuals, promotion of posts or titles, and acting as the public social posts with certain fame. China has carried out incentive measures in various forms for the conservation and sustainable utilization of biodiversity, and achieved great progress.

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, *inter alia*, 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

In accordance to problems existed in biodiversity conservation, Chinese government focuses on the causes of biodiversity loss, reviews some laws and economic policies, and formulates incentive measures favorable to the conservation and sustainable utilization of biodiversity based on the review. The major incentive measures include:

1. Amendment of relevant laws

On April 29, 1998, the Standing Committee of National People's Congress (NPC) passed the decision to amend the Forest Law. The amended Forest Law sets up the supplementary funds for forest ecological benefits for the first time, which is used for the afforestation, maintenance, conservation and management of forests for ecological benefits and the forests for special purposes.

On December 25, 1999, the Standing Committee of NPC passed the revised Marine Environmental Protection Law. The amended Marine Environmental Protection Law makes more specific stipulations on the conservation of marine biodiversity and adds in the chapter on marine ecological conservation. In 1995, the Air Pollution Prevention Law was amended; in 1996, the Water Pollution Prevention Law was amended, and in 2000 the Law on Seeds was passed.

These laws put forth the technical policies and incentive and penalty measures favorable to biodiversity conservation. As to the institutions and individuals that make great contribution to the conservation and sustainable utilization of biodiversity as well as scientific researches, governments at various levels shall give awards.

2. Economic policies favorable to the conservation and sustainable utilization of biodiversity

China has implemented the project on restoration of forests and grasslands from cultivated farms. The basic policy of the project is to restore forests and grasslands from cultivated lands, close hillsides to facilitate afforestation, provide grain instead of subsidies, and to allow individuals to sign contracts of afforestation. The central government provides gratuitous grain to farmers for re-afforestation. The standard for annual grain subsidy per hectare is 2250 kg at the upper reaches of the Yangtze River, and 1500 kg at the middle and upper reaches of the Yellow River. In the meantime, certain cash subsidies will be provided to farmers and the standard is 300 RMB yuan per hectare. The duration of subsidy depends on actual situation. The necessary seedling for the re-afforestation, re-vegetation and the artificial afforestation in the barren mountains suitable for afforestation shall be arranged by

the forestry departments and the seedling institutions should provide gratuitous seedling to farmers. The subsidy of the seedling is 750 RMB yuan according to the standards of establishing ecological forests which shall be provided to the seedling production institutions by government. By the end of 2000, the investment made by central government had exceeded 1.9 billion RMB yuan. The total area of re-afforestation and re-vegetation was 1.363 million hectares in 193 counties of 17 provinces or autonomous regions.

In 1999, the specific investment to natural forest resource conservation engineering was totaled up to 4.54 billion RMB yuan across the country, among which the central government provided 2.59 billion RMB yuan, accounting for 57%; the local financial departments provided 500 million RMB yuan, accounting for 11%; enterprises raised 1.4 billion RMB yuan by themselves, accounting for 31%; and the other investment was 50 million RMB yuan, accounting for 1%.

In recent years, some provinces and autonomous regions have formulated policies on levying ecological supplementary fee. The levying scope includes: (1) development of mines; (2) land development; (3) tourism development; (4) resources development, such as water, forest and grassland; (5) development of pharmaceutical plant resources; (6) development of power resources; (7) marine area utilization; and so on. The levied funds are mainly used for the rehabilitation of ecological environment and biodiversity conservation.

3. Conducting commending activities of various forms

China pays high attention to the publicity of the advanced performances and individuals concerning biodiversity conservation and conducts routine appraisal activities through comparison. For example, every year, there are the activities of competing for the titles of advanced workers and institutions, including the advanced individuals and institutions for nature conservation and biodiversity conservation. On December 9, 1999, State Environmental Protection Administration, State Forestry Administration, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Territory and Resources issued the Decision of Commending the National Advanced Institutions and Advanced Individuals for the Management of Nature Reserves. 50 institutions across the country were awarded the title of National Advanced Institutions on Nature Reserves, and 100 individuals awarded the title of National Advanced Workers on Nature Reserve Management or the title of National Advanced Scientific and Technical Researchers on Nature Reserves.

Since 1997, China has conducted activities of setting up Civilized Forest Parks across the country. From 1999, China has commended 505 forest maintenance personnel in villages for their outstanding contribution to forest resources conservation and awarded them with the glorious title of National Advanced Forest Maintenance Personnel in Rural Areas.

4. Problems existed

In the formulation of the incentive measures favorable to the conservation and sustainable utilization of biodiversity, China has its own characteristics and has made certain achievements and experiences. However, there are still lots of fields to be improved. We

have reviewed and amended some laws and policies, but have not yet conducted overall review on existing laws, regulations and policies. The legal and policy framework for incentive measures has not yet been established, and comprehensive incentive measures for promoting biodiversity conservation and sustainable utilization have not yet been formulated. Although demonstration studies have been conducted on the evaluation of biodiversity, there are still lots of work to be done in order to integrate the economic value of biodiversity into national audit system. Programs of training and capacity building on relevant incentive measures have not yet been formulated, and capacity building and expertise are still rather weak. We hope that through cooperation and information exchange with other Parties, we could further promote the conservation and sustainable utilization of China's biodiversity.

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

Through biodiversity researches, we could understand the status of biodiversity in China, describe the mechanism of human and natural interference in the loss of biodiversity, explore ways of restoring and maintaining biodiversity, and provide scientific evidence for biodiversity conservation. By conducting training and education for decision-making and administrative staff, we could improve their knowledge and ability, which is helpful for the implementation of relevant decisions and obligations under the Convention. Because China initiated biodiversity conservation and researches relatively late, and financial resources in China are comparatively limited, the resources for scientific research and training on biodiversity conservation and the implementation of relevant obligations are limited. We hope we could cooperate with countries, international organizations and areas with rich resources in this field so as to promote biodiversity conservation in China.

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

The researches and training of biodiversity in China started quite late. Due to the high attention of the government, a series of key achievements have been made, which has laid a foundation for further work.

In the period of Ninth Five-Year Plan, China conducted large amount of researches in fields such as policies, laws, regulations and criteria for biodiversity conservation and sustainable utilization, biodiversity data management and information sharing, nature reserve management, sustainable tourism, prevention of alien invasive species, bio-safety, genetic resources and preservation, ecological environmental protection and rehabilitation technologies, as well as ecosystem biodiversity conservation of wetlands, forests, agriculture, marine, dry and sub-humid lands. For example, the key National Science and Technology Program in the Ninth Five-Year Plan set up the project of Demonstration on Natural Resources Information Sharing, which covered information collection, processing, renovation, publication and sharing of forests, seas, vegetation, animals, plants, crop germplasm resources and nature reserves. The National Nature Science Fund has set up the large project of Ecosystem Dynamics and Sustainable Utilization of Biological Resources in

Bohai Sea. Through these researches, the status of damages to forests, grasslands, fresh waters and coral reef ecosystems in China and their causes have been preliminarily identified. The endangered status of key endangered species has been evaluated. Relevant countermeasures and drafts of laws, regulations and criteria have been put forth, which has provided scientific and technological support for biodiversity conservation. Some of the work has resulted in important influences in the academia in the world, such as the research results of endangered species like giant panda and the ultra-drought storage way of seeds in the condition of normal temperature. These scientific research programs have also published many influential works, reflecting the overall level of researches on biodiversity in China.

Currently, China is conducting two key projects of biodiversity, i.e. the Change and Sustainable Utilization of Biodiversity in the Yangtze River Basin and Regional Ecological Safety, and the Establishment of Wild Biological Germplasm Resource Bank in Yunnan, China.

In the period of Tenth Five-Year Plan, China will, in accordance with major problems of biodiversity conservation, focus on biodiversity conservation technologies and countermeasures of CBD implementation, impacts and countermeasures of western development strategy on biodiversity, and biosafety of environmental releases of genetically modified organisms. Researches on policies and technologies of biodiversity conservation, conservation biology of key groups of organisms and conservation of ecosystems in typical areas will be conducted, the prioritized modes of resource development in western region will be explored, the inspection and monitoring methods for environmental releases of genetically modified organisms will be established, so that policy and technical system of biodiversity conservation in China will be established, relevant industries especially the economic development in western regions will be promoted, and ecological conservation and ecological environment construction will be improved.

China has conducted training courses in the field of national nature reserves, participatory management of nature reserves, wetland conservation, grassland ecological conservation, the storage and evaluation of crop germplasm resources, biosafety, and environmental impact assessment, which has promoted the conservation awareness and expertise of decision-makers, management personnel, technicians and the public.

However, due to the limitation of science and technology as well as economic situation in China, the researches and training on biodiversity are still at the primary stage. The research level of biodiversity in China is still lagging far behind compared with that in developed countries. The creative thinking, research methods and research instruments need to be further promoted and improved. Although some training activities conducted, the overall training schemes have not yet been formulated. China actively promotes international cooperation on biodiversity, and hopes to conduct extensive scientific researches and training on biodiversity with relevant countries and international organizations, so as to formulate policies, programs, criteria, norms, technologies and methods for biodiversity conservation and sustainable use of biological resources.

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

With social and economic development in China, the scope of human activities has expanded rapidly. The way of land uses, even the living and behavior has significant influences on biodiversity conservation. Chinese government pays high attention to the public education of biodiversity conservation and lists it into the priority fields of the China Biodiversity Conservation Action Plan.

Dissemination and education on biodiversity is conducted through public media and publications, as well as festivals, commemoration days and large-scaled public participation, and is integrated into environmental education systems. This is the main way of education on biodiversity conservation in China. Due to the shortage of financial sources, especially the shortage of experiences, professional training and teachers, the resources for the public education of biodiversity is limiting. China will further enhance the input of financial and human resources as to biodiversity education for all people in the country. We hope to continue the wide cooperation with relevant countries and international organizations, so as to promote the development of public education of biodiversity in China.

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

Environmental education and publicity initiated in 1970s in China. With the experiences over 20 years, the environmental education system and a national environmental education and publicity network have been improved. With the development of environmental education and publicity, China has established a way of public education and publicity of biodiversity suitable to situations in China.

1. Strategy of public education and awareness of biodiversity

Chinese government pays high attention to the public education of biodiversity and integrates the public education of biodiversity into the priority fields of China Biodiversity Conservation Action Plan. The public education of biodiversity is regarded as the key components of national environmental education.

2. Basic environment and biodiversity education

The contents of basic environmental education have been integrated into the Overall Outline of Enhancing the Education of the National Situation in China and the Education Outline of the Course of Compulsory Education in Primary Schools and High Schools. There are over 50 versions of environmental education textbooks, reading materials and assistance materials for primary and high schools in the whole country, with a circulation of over two million copies. The education of biodiversity such as wild animals and plants is integrated in the education materials. Over 50000 primary and high schools across the country held environmental education courses. A network of national environmental basic education has been preliminarily shaped.

China has organized activities such as youth summer camps of environmental protection, ecology and forestry, and organized the youth to visit and study in nature reserves, zoos and botanical gardens. National competitions of environmental protection knowledge, competitions of wild animal knowledge and painting competitions of environmental protection for the children have been conducted across the country for many times. In the past years, there have been over 20 million children participating in these activities.

In July 1997, China signed the cooperation agreement of National Green Action for the Primary and High Schools in China with WWF and BP Company (the first stage, July 1997 to September 2000). This project has set up three environmental education centers that conduct training for over 500 teaching researchers at provincial and municipal levels and teachers in primary schools. The first phase of the project has been completed successfully.

The second phase of the project is now initiated. Its major tasks are to formulate the Outline of Environmental Education in Primary and High Schools, and master courses and short-term training courses of environmental education, according to the requirements of Action Plan of Education Revitalization Facing the 21st Century, and in close connection with the reform of new course system of basic education.

3. Professional education of biodiversity

Most universities in China have biological departments or life sciences schools, with the subjects of biology, ecology, molecular biology or conservation biology. Some universities have set up research institutions of biodiversity or closely related to biodiversity, awarding bachelor degrees, master degrees and Ph.D. degrees. The Chinese Academy of Sciences has strong capacity of biodiversity researches and teaching, and has set up dozens of research institutions with close relation to biodiversity research in recent years. In addition, it has also set up some key labs, conservation research centers and breeding centers, awarding master degrees and Ph.D. degrees. The scientific and technological research institutions affiliated to some departments of the State Council have also set up some research institutions closely related to biodiversity. Universities and research institutions have trained a series of professional personnel engaged in the conservation, researches, education and management of biodiversity.

4. Public education of biodiversity

As to the conservation of biodiversity, only with the wide participation of the entire society, shall sound results be made. China has widely utilized public media such as broadcast, movies, TV programs and newspapers, as well as exhibitions, summer camps and commemoration days of various forms to disseminate the knowledge and to enhance public awareness of biodiversity conservation. For example, large-scale education and publicity activities participated by the public are conducted on the Environmental Day, Earth Day and International Biodiversity Day every year. Zoos and botanical gardens also conduct lots of public education and publicity activities. China has also conducted some large-scale activities to utilize the supervision role of public media to promote the conservation awareness of the public. For example, the Trans-Century Environmental Protection Action in China initiated since 1993 is a successful example. Based on the situation in China every year, this program designates a topic and conducts activities in the entire country in a planned and organized way. There are over 3000 journalists gathering news of environmental enforcement in several thousand cities, towns and villages, which has effectively improved the environmental awareness and biodiversity conservation awareness of the public. The activity of Protecting the Mother River has also stimulated the environmental awareness of the youth.

China has also conducted social activities of commemoration and praises through comparison so as to promote the public participation in environmental protection and biodiversity conservation. For example, with the recommendation and competition for Global 500 organized by UNEP, nineteen institutions and individuals have been awarded with the title. The Women Environmental Forum has also been convened, and the activity of choosing National Women Environmental Protection 100 Best through public appraisal has

been conducted. Since 1997, China Association of Environmental Journalists and Hong Kong Friend of Earth have set up Earth Award. All these activities have wide public foundation and have effectively promoted the public awareness of biodiversity conservation.

Since 1997, China has set up lots of biodiversity related web sites, such as the China Biodiversity and Nature Conservation Information Network, and China Wetland. These web sites have become important media for biodiversity education in the new era.

5. Priority of capacity building of the public education on biodiversity

The public education of biodiversity is still at the preliminary stage, facing tough tasks. We urgently need to improve the work in the following fields:

(1) Formulate policies favorable to biodiversity education and publicity, integrate biodiversity education into national and local community development programs, and increase input of financial and other resources;

(2) Formulate the national program of biodiversity education and public awareness, and set up practical public participation mechanism;

(3) Further improve environmental education system in schools and universities, organize expertise to improve the education materials of biodiversity for universities, high schools and primary schools, and further enhance training for professional environmental education personnel;

(4) Set up a series of bases for biodiversity conservation education;

(5) Fully utilize public media such as newspapers, broadcast, TV and internet to conduct education and publicity activities of biodiversity conservation of various forms, such as special programs, scientific education programs and cartoons of biodiversity conservation so as to disseminate the knowledge of biodiversity;

(6) Actively promote the bilateral, multilateral and non-governmental cooperation on public education of biodiversity conservation and learn from overseas experiences of public education of the biodiversity.

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	√	d) Severely limiting	

Further comments on relative priority and on availability of resources
Environmental impact assessment is to assess and coordinate the economic, social and environmental benefits of policies, regional planning, or construction projects, to find out measures and options that could promote economic development, eco-environmental protection as well as biodiversity conservation, to coordinate economic construction, municipal and rural construction and environmental protection, and to minimize the adverse impacts. Therefore, China pays high attention to the significant role of environmental impact assessment in policy designing, regional planning, pollution prevention and biodiversity conservation. China has conducted a lot of work on environmental impact assessment and minimizing adverse impacts. However, in order to implement obligations under the Convention, there is lots of work to be implemented and needs large demand of financial resources.

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	
d) 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)	√

In 1979, China issued the Environmental Protection Law (trial). The environmental impact assessment system was carried out in the same year. In May 1981, the Provision on Environmental Protection and Administration for Capital Construction Projects was issued. This Provision stipulates some of the environmental protection principles that construction projects should follow, and the concrete measures of implementing environmental impact assessment report system. The Outline of the Environmental Impact Assessment Report of Large and Medium Sized Capital Construction Projects is attached to the Provision as

annex.

In the five years from 1981 to 1986, environmental impact assessment was promoted rapidly with significant achievements as well as some problems. In order to meet the demand of national economic development in the Seventh Five-Year Plan, the original measure was amended and the Environmental Protection Management Method of Construction Projects was issued in 1986. This new management method expands the management scope, enhances the management contents and stipulates clearly the responsibilities.

In order to improve and ensure the quality of the reports and forms of environmental impact assessment, and to enhance the capacity of environmental impact assessment personnel, the Management Method for Certificates of Environmental Impact Assessment of Construction Projects (trial) was issued in 1986, according to the Provision on Environmental Protection and Administration for Capital Construction Projects. Qualification inspection was conducted on the institutions engaged in environmental impact assessment, and the personnel and markets of environmental impact assessment were also cleared up so that environmental impact assessment develops in a healthier way.

In 1989, the Management Method of the Environmental Impact Assessment Certificates of the Construction Projects was issued, which replaced the original trial method. In the meantime, the evaluation stipulation on institutions with the Environmental Impact Assessment Certificates of the Construction Projects was published as annex to the Method. In 1989, China issued the Environmental Protection Law.

In November 1998, the State Council passed the Environmental Management Regulation of Construction Projects, which indicates that the environmental management of construction projects in China enters into a new era.

In 2000, China initiated the strategy of Great Western Development. In order to protect and improve ecological environments in western region, and to promote the smooth implementation of the Great Western Development Strategy, State Environmental Protection Administration issued the Advice on Strengthening Environmental Protection and Administration of Construction Projects in the Great Western Development on January 8, 2001. It points out that the environmental protection management of the construction in western development should follow the principle that prevention is the major measure, protection is the priority work and prevention and treatment should be integrated. The national regulations to phase out the backward processes and equipment inventory should be carried out in a strict way so as to prevent the enterprises, technologies, processes, and equipment with serious pollution to move to the western region. The siting and location of construction projects should be consistent with regional and watershed planning and environmental functional zoning so as to avoid the influences on local sensitive environments. The protection of regional ecological functions, such as nature reserves, source zones of rivers and lakes, and key water conservation zones, should be strengthened in the environmental management of construction projects, and all the development construction projects resulting in the degradation of ecological functions should be stop. It is forbidden to develop tourism in the core zones and buffer zones of nature reserves. For

the long-term construction projects with serious impacts on ecological environments, such as highways, railway, pipe transportation, water conservation, hydropower stations and urban infrastructure as well as mineral resource development, the demonstration of environmental supervision should be carried out during the period of construction. Key ecological environmental construction projects, such as the development of natural resources, afforestation, water and soil conservation, desertification prevention and control, and grassland construction, environmental impact assessment must be conducted. In the assessment, attention should be given to the reasonable allocation and utilization of water resources, biodiversity conservation, prevention of alien invasive species, water and soil conservation, and the prevention of land salinity. It also makes clear stipulations on the environmental impact assessment of construction projects in Tibetan Qinhai Plateau, agriculture development in arid and semi-arid regions and the hydropower development in southwestern mountainous areas.

In order to normalize the formulation of environmental impact assessment reports, China has issued the Technical Guidance of Environmental Impact Assessment, and published technical guidelines on the general principles, ambient air environments, surface water environments, sonic environments, and non-pollution ecological impacts, etc.

The management procedures of environmental impact assessment could be divided into five stages: the establishment and entrusting of environmental impact assessment; the formulation of environmental impact assessment outlines; the ratification of environmental impact assessment outlines; the formulation of environmental impact assessment reports; and the ratification of environmental impact reports. All the stakeholders could be widely involved in these stages of environmental impact assessment.

The environmental protection of construction projects is conducted according to various categories: (1) for construction projects with potential significant influences on the environment, the environmental impact reports should be formulated so as to conduct detailed overall assessment on the pollution generated by the construction projects and the environmental impacts; (2) as to the construction projects with potential light influences on the environment, the environmental impact report forms should be formulated so as to conduct analysis on the environmental impact or conduct specific analysis; (3) as to the construction project with little environmental impact and no need to conduct environmental impact assessment, the environmental impact registration forms should be filled.

The projects with various scales shall be ratified by environmental protection administrative institutions at various levels. The projects to be ratified by the environmental protection administrative institution of the State Council include: (1) the construction projects crossing the borders of provinces, autonomous regions and municipalities; (2) construction projects of special nature (such as the nuclear facilities and the confidential engineering); (3) extra large scaled construction projects, i.e. the total investment is over 200 million RMB yuan; and (4) the construction projects with disputes over environmental issues and submitted by provincial environmental protection administrative departments. The ratification of environmental impact reports, environmental impact report forms or environmental impact registration forms other than the above mentioned ones shall be decided by provincial

governments.

With the experiences of environmental impact assessment over 20 years, China has set up a set of sound environmental impact assessment system which has played a more and more important role in economic development and environmental protection. The major experience of China is to set up and improve legislative system; to carry out "Three Simultaneity" system, i.e. the environmental protection facilities of construction projects should be designed, constructed and put into operation together with the major engineering projects; to carry out bidding for the environmental impact assessment of construction projects; to conduct strict qualification review on the institutions engaged in the environmental impact assessment of construction projects; and to carry out the system of working permits to the personnel formulating environmental impact assessment reports or forms.

Further comments on implementation of this Article

China has carried out environmental impact assessment system since 1979. With the development over 20 years, a set of sound system has been established. The industrial construction projects, infrastructure construction projects, regional programming projects and the projects of agriculture, forestry, water resource works and tourism should conduct environmental impact assessment. However, there are no requirements of environmental impact assessment for the import of alien species. In 1999, the implementation rate of environmental impact assessment system for construction projects was 90.4%.

The environmental impact assessment takes full consideration of the potential adverse impacts of construction projects on biodiversity, and formulates relevant alternative options, measures of minimizing the impacts, and supplementary measures. The environmental impact assessment also takes full consideration of potential dangers of construction projects to other countries or regions, and takes relevant measures to minimize the adverse impacts, and set up relevant mechanism to notify these countries if the risks will or have serious threats on or lead to damages on other countries.

According to the characteristics that there are lots of environmental impact assessment projects, China pays attention to improve the quality of environmental impact assessment reports, especially to improve the training materials of environmental impact assessment. With the support of the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank, China has organized famous experts home and abroad, in line with advanced environmental impact assessment methodologies and technologies in the world, to compile the Training Material of Environmental Impact Assessment in 1995, and to amend the training material in 1999. The amended training material is divided into 17 chapters, including the surveys of pollution sources and engineering analysis, cleaner production assessment, ambient air impact assessment, the environmental impact assessment of surface water, the environmental impact assessment of ground water, marine environmental impact assessment, solid waste environmental impact assessment, sound environmental impact assessment, ecological environmental impact assessment, environmental risk assessment, regional environmental impact assessment, the environmental impact assessment of society and economy,

environmental monitoring and the public participation.

In order to improve the methods and skills of environmental impact assessment, China has held lots of seminars, workshops and training courses. For example, from 1993 to 2000, there were 74 training courses of environmental impact assessment, and the technical trainees add up to 11782.

The formulation of policies, laws and regulations, and programs in China are mainly put forth by governmental departments through organizing professional institutions to conduct scientific researches. They are discussed and evaluated by relevant departments, local governments and social associations, will be promulgated for implementation after ratified by governments. However, the environmental impact assessment of policies, laws and regulations, and programs need to be strengthened. Particularly, the impact on biodiversity is a new field to be improved in future.

China has set up a rather sound environmental impact assessment system, with certain experiences. However, in the environmental impact assessment of construction projects, infrastructure facility projects and resources development projects, the analysis of impacts on biodiversity is still rather weak. The knowledge, technology development and experience exchanges of biodiversity impact assessment should be strengthened, and personnel training and expertise as well as national emergency treatment capacity should be improved. We hope we could conduct exchanges and cooperation with the relevant countries and international organizations with rich knowledge and experiences in this field.

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 export of genetic resources of China has made great contribution to the agriculture in the world. The short-stalked rice gene originating in China has promoted the revolution of rice breeding in the world. The dissemination of soybean in the world has enriched the plant protein for human beings. The import of overseas genetic resources has also promoted agriculture production in China. The access to genetic resources has played a significant role as to agriculture, medicine and biodiversity conservation in the whole world and China. At the premise of ensuring China's sovereign right of its genetic resources, Chinese government has devoted efforts in creating conditions for the access to genetic resources by other Parties in an environmentally sound way.

The inventory and maintenance of genetic resources is rather complicated, which needs a large amount of funds and technologies. However, the obvious differences in the development and utilization of biotechnologies in the world, particularly short of relevant marketized mechanism and the existing multilateral system failure, make China in a position providing genetic resources for free. Due to the shortage of funds to upgrade germplasm resources, the wide exchanges and utilization of germplasm resources have been limited to certain extent.

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, *sui generis* 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

In order to set up a reasonable mechanism of access to and benefit sharing of genetic resources, promote the production of agriculture, forestry and medicine, and to ensure the safety of genetic resources, China has formulated some laws and regulations, and actively participated in the international cooperation on access to and utilization of genetic resources.

1. Improve laws and regulations and promote the access to and utilization of genetic resources

In April 1997, China issued the Regulation of the Protection of New Varieties of Plants, to conduct protection of new plant varieties by regulation. Based on the regulation, the Implementation Measures of the Regulation of the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (agriculture and forestry parts) and the protected inventory of new agriculture and forestry plant varieties were issued.

The Temporary Management Methods of the Export and Import Agricultural Seedling was

issued in March 1997. It stipulates that the supply of germplasm resources to overseas should be managed according to the classified inventory of crop germplasm resources. The Institute of Germplasm Resources of Chinese Academy of Agriculture Sciences is responsible for the application of ratification and the agriculture administrative department of the State Council is responsible for the ratification.

The Law of Seeds passed in July 2000 makes clear stipulations on germplasm resource conservation, the screening, breeding and appraisal of varieties, and the production, management, use, quality control, import and export and international cooperation of seeds. The permit system is carried out for seed management. The agriculture and forestry administrative departments of the State Council are responsible for the national management of crop seeds and forestry seeds, respectively. If the screened and cultivated varieties have been promoted widely, persons engaged in seed screening and cultivation shall obtain relevant economic benefits.

China has also issued the Implementation Measures for Livestock and Poultry Regulation, the Temporary Methods of the Production and Management of Crop Seeds, and the Quarantine Management Method of the Breeding Material of Imported Plants, etc.

2. Enhance the construction of bases and institutions to provide institutional guarantee for the access to and utilization of genetic resources

Since 1996, China has organized the implementation of seed engineering. By 1999, 189 non-profit seed projects have been invested, such as national seed farms, inspection centers of crop seed quality, national emergency seed storage bases, regional demonstration stations of crop seeds, and crop seed improvement centers, with 1.18 billion RMB yuan. 215 infrastructure loan projects have been arranged such as the large and medium sized seed processing centers, seed package material plants, and seed processing machinery plants, with the total investment of 1.5 billion RMB yuan. In 1999, the state-owned seed companies had 1.9333 million hectares of primitive and improved seed production bases, and the commercial supply of major crops in the whole country was 4.5 million tons.

China has constructed a long-term national storehouse and a backup storehouse of crop germplasm resources in Beijing and Qinghai respectively. 27 mid-term storehouses of crop germplasm resources, and 32 gardens of perennial plants and wild relatives of crops were established. 160 species of crops and 370000 pieces of crop germplasm resources have been kept in storehouses, and evaluated in terms of catalogues, agronomic properties, quality, pressure, disease and pest resistance. China Crop Germplasm Resource Information System is also established. During 1996 to 2000, institutions engaged in the preservation of crop germplasm resource in China provided 11896 copies of various kinds of excellent crop germplasm resources for institutions engaged in seed cultivation, education and production across the country.

Chinese government enhances the support for the protection of livestock and poultry germplasm resources. In 1998, there were over 3300 breeding livestock and poultry farms of various kinds, with over 32 million heads of breeding livestock and poultry. By the end of 1998, there were 64 livestock and poultry variety resources protected, among which were 19 kinds of pigs (including 4 imported ones), 15 kinds of poultry (including 3 imported

ones), 8 kinds of cows and camels, 9 kinds of sheep (including 1 imported one), 3 kinds of horses and 10 kinds of bees. These breeding livestock and poultry undertake the tasks of breeding, ensuring varieties and supplying varieties for the country, and have made great contribution to the stable progress of animal husbandry, the prospects of markets and the guarantee of supply in China.

China has also set up lots of zoos, wild animal breeding bases, botanical gardens and forest gardens as well as some seed storehouses, embryo banks, cell banks, and sperm banks, which has promoted the preservation and exchanges of genetic resources.

3. Conduct publicity and training to improve the awareness and skills of access to and utilization of genetic resources

In order to promote the awareness of the importance of protecting new plants varieties across the country and the enforcement and administration in line with laws, training courses of the protection of new plant varieties have been conducted many times. The participants include technical and management personnel, agents of variety rights, and seed business and trade persons. 30 participants have obtained agent qualification after taking exams for the first time.

4. Actively participate in the international cooperation of access to and utilization of genetic resources

On 23 April 1999, China became the formal member of the International Convention on New Plant Variety Conservation. In October 1999, Chinese government attended the Council of the Conservation Union of New Plant Varieties convened in Geneva.

China participated in each meeting during the negotiation process of the International Agreement on Botanical Genetic Resources. China fully supports the principles of CBD, and actively promotes the consistency of the principles of the two agreements. China supports and actively promotes the multilateral system for access to and benefit sharing of botanical genetic resources, and is committed to providing germplasm resources for the multilateral system according to the two principles of food security and inter-dependence. Within the multilateral system, China actively promotes convenient access, and stick to the principle of fair sharing of benefits from genetic resources acquired from the multilateral system, and holds that farmers' rights should be realized.

Through Material Transfer Agreement (MTA), China has conducted exchanges of germplasm resources with other countries or international agriculture organizations. With limited financial support, China has tried to breed germplasm resources as much as possible for exchanges. Chins has set up the information exchange network of germplasm resources with convenient information inquiry through Internet for overseas users. In recent three years, China has provided over 8000 copies of various crop germplasm resources for the countries in the world and the international agriculture research institution, so that the germplasm resources of China could be utilized in the world and contributions have been made for world food safety. China supports and encourages the Parties providing genetic resources to fully get involved in the development and scientific researches of genetic resources. However, due to technological and financial limitation, China only has few

chances to be involved in the process of the researches and development of genetic resources provided for other Parties.

5. Priority of access to and benefit sharing of genetic resources

(1) Improve national laws and regulations on access to and benefit sharing of genetic resources, especially to formulate the laws and regulations of genetic resource conservation of microorganisms, to promote access to and benefit sharing of genetic resources;

(2) Enhance *in situ* conservation of relatives of wild plants;

(3) Set up ecological bases and breeding and upgrading bases of germplasm resources in seven ecological regions in the country; Gradually realize the upgrading and breeding of the germplasm resources preserved in the mid-term and long-term bases in different ecological regions;

(4) Enhance the appraisal and evaluation of stored crop germplasm resources, and set up core samples, so as to provide more excellent germplasm resources for breeding and production, and to improve the effective utilization of stored resources;

(5) Set up gradually the national information management and feedback systems for the preservation and utilization of germplasm resources;

(6) Improve and set up a series of wildlife breeding centers, seed bases and germplasm resource storehouses;

(7) Enhance the monitoring of *in situ* and *ex situ* preserved resources, and set up effective warning systems to safeguard the conservation of biological resources;

(8) Actively participate in international negotiations, and promote the construction of international multilateral system and marketized mechanism for access to and benefit sharing of 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

China pays high attention to the access to and transfer of technologies for biodiversity conservation and sustainable utilization, including biotechnologies. The Patent Law has the

stipulations to protect technologies for the conservation and sustainable utilization of biodiversity, including the production ways of animal and plant varieties, as well as the invention ways of medicines. According to the situation in China, rice, corn and chrysanthemum have been listed into the protection of new plant varieties. Restrained by the overall level of researches and financial investment on biodiversity conservation and sustainable utilization in China, the available financial, human and technical resources are limited.

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

China has implemented the protection of biotechnological intellectual property rights since mid 1980s. The Patent Law enacted on April 1, 1985, protects the invention of biotechnology, including the invention of the production methods of animal and plant varieties and medicines. The Patent Law amended on January 1, 1993 lists most of the products and materials modified by biotechnology into protection. However, the 4th Provision of Article 25 of the law stipulates that animal and plant varieties shall not be granted with patents.

Article 27 of the Intellectual Property Right Agreement Related to Trade (including the Trade of Fake Commodities) stipulates that new plant varieties are protected under patent system, effective special system, or any kind of combined system. In connection to the legislation and national economic development in China, and in the meantime to make preparation for entry into relevant international treaties and WTO, China issued the Regulation of New Plant Variety Protection (hereinafter referred to as Regulation) on April

30, 1997. The agriculture part and forestry part of Implementation Measures of the Regulation of New Plant Variety Protection have been put to implementation, which makes the law more perfect. Up to now, 18 species and genera in the first batch were protected, such as rice, corn, Chinese cabbage, potato, chrysanthemum, dianthus, Calamus, purple flower lucerne, grassland early grain, Chinese white poplar, paulownia, China fir, magnolia, peony, plum, rose, and camellia.

According to the stipulations of the Regulation, China has accepted applications of new plant varieties, and authorized the applications that meet the requirements. By the end of 2000, China had accepted 392 applications of new plant varieties home and abroad and authorized the application of 68 varieties. In addition, the Supreme Court issued the Explanations of the Issues in the Inquisition of Cases of New Plant Variety Disputes. The promulgation of the legislative explanation will play an active role in ensuring that the People's Courts accept and make fair inquisition of the cases related to the disputes of new plant varieties and ensuring the consistent enforcement.

China ratified the Paris Treaty of Industrial Property Right Protection in 1984, participated in the World Intellectual Property Right Organization in 1989, ratified the Madrid Agreement on Registered Trade Marks in 1989, and on 23 April 1999, China became the member of the International Convention on New Plant Varieties Conservation, thus preliminarily achieving the match with the international intellectual property right system.

During the negotiation process of the International Agreement on Botanical Genetic Resources, China fully supports the principles of CBD, actively promotes the multilateral system for access to and benefit sharing of botanical genetic resources. China is committed to providing germplasm resources for the multilateral system according to the two principles of food security and inter-dependence. Within the multilateral system, China actively promotes convenient access, and stick to the principle of fair sharing of benefits from genetic resources acquired from the multilateral system, and holds that farmers' rights should be realized.

According to the three major objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the requirements of international economic development, China has formulated the legal frameworks of intellectual property right protection and technology transfer. But the systems of laws and regulations are not so perfect and need to be improved. Due to the financial and expertise limitations, China has not yet submitted the case study report of the influences of intellectual property rights on the achievements of objectives of the Convention to the Secretariat. China shall conduct work actively in the following fields in future:

(1) To improve national laws and regulations favorable to technologies of biodiversity conservation and sustainable utilization, including the access to and transfer of biotechnologies and the fair sharing of benefits;

(2) To conduct researches on protection and benefit sharing of wild varieties and primitive plants planted by farmers as well as traditional knowledge;

(3) To enhance training on technologies of biodiversity conservation and sustainable utilization, and technologies of genetic resource utilization that do not cause significant damage to the environment;

(4) To actively participate in the negotiation of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the International Agreement on Botanical Genetic Resources and promote the establishment of multilateral system for access to and benefit sharing of genetic resources;

(5) To enhance international cooperation and the access to the advanced technologies of biodiversity conservation and sustainable utilization in the fair and most favorable conditions, as well as the technologies of genetic resource utilization that do not cause significant damage to the environment.

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

China pays high attention to the exchanges of biodiversity information. Biodiversity conservation and sustainable utilization should be based on adequate and accurate data and information. The exchanges and sharing of information could improve the knowledge of biodiversity conservation and sustainable utilization, promote scientific and technological cooperation at international, regional and national levels, promote technical exchanges and transfer, and effectively conserve biodiversity.

China has rich biodiversity information, and has set up information networks for forests, seas, vegetation, nature reserves, animals, plants, microorganisms and crop germplasm resources. Most of the data could be searched on the web and the data accessed to Internet is over 3000 MB. However, the information is scattered in various sectors, universities and research institutions, without universe standards and norms. There are lots of difficulties to comprehensively process the data. In addition, the knowledge, operation and management capacity of information technologies of relevant personnel need to be improved.

The priorities of biodiversity information exchange in China in the future are as follows:

(1) Set up the cooperation mechanism of biodiversity information exchange and sharing, formulate the policies of information exchange and sharing, and regulations of non-gratuitous utilization and secrecy;

(2) Set up a series of standards of recording, storing, transform, exchanging and processing of information and data;

(3) Formulate standards of data dictionary, metadata standards, and data quality control;

(4) Set up national biodiversity information infrastructure and information networks;

(5) Establish, transform and upgrade a series of databases and information systems;

(6) Enhance the construction of infrastructure of data sources;

(7) Strengthen the training for personnel on biodiversity data and information management;

(8) Enhance the international cooperation of biodiversity information exchanges and seek for more technical and financial support from international communities.

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	√	b) Medium		c) Low	

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

Further comments on relative priority and on availability of resources

China is a developing country, without enough knowledge, technologies, experiences, instruments and information of biodiversity conservation and sustainable utilization. We need to conduct international scientific and technical cooperation so as to promote the national scientific and technical ability and experts' capacity, and to safeguard biodiversity in China. Therefore, China pays high attention to scientific and technical cooperation.

Since the Convention took into force, China has conducted wide cooperation with relevant organizations, Parties and NGOs, and obtained some technical and economic assistance. However, the tasks of biodiversity conservation and sustainable utilization in China are rather heavy, and the available technical and economic assistance is far from the actual demand.

254. Has your country taken measures to promote international technical and scientific cooperation in the field of conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity (18(1))?	
a) no measures	
b) some measures in place	
c) potential measures under review	
d) comprehensive measures in place	√

255. Do the measures taken to promote cooperation with other Contracting Parties in the implementation of the Convention pay special attention to the development and strengthening of national capabilities by means of human resources development and institution building (18(2))?	
a) no	
b) yes – limited extent	
c) yes – significant extent	√

256. Has your country encouraged and developed methods of cooperation for the development and use of technologies, including indigenous and traditional technologies, in pursuance of the objectives of this Convention (18(4))?

a) no	
b) early stages of development	
c) advanced stages of development	√
d) methods in place	
257. Does such cooperation include the training of personnel and exchange of experts (18(4))?	
a) no	
b) yes – limited extent	
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

China has taken measures to promote the international scientific and technical cooperation on biodiversity conservation and sustainable utilization. China has established good relationship with UNEP, UNDP, WB and other international organizations, actively get involved in the negotiations of international conventions related to biodiversity and seriously get involved in relevant international meetings and activities. China has implemented China Nature Reserves Management Project, Wetland Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Utilization Project, Biodiversity Conservation Project in Luobupo Nature Reserve, Xinjiang, and National Biosafety Framework of China funded by GEF.

China has actively conducted bilateral cooperation on biodiversity conservation. For example, China has conducted biodiversity conservation and community development

project in Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region with Canada. China implemented afforestation and desertification prevention projects with Germany and the Netherlands. China conducted cooperation projects of marine nature reserves with USA. China implemented afforestation and desertification prevention and marine cooperation projects with Japan. China also conducted marine scientific and technical cooperation with Korea.

China gives wide support to non-governmental cooperation. With the support of WWF, China has conducted projects of giant panda and habitat protection. China participated in IUCN in 1997 and the Wetland International in April 2000.

In conclusion, China has conducted fruitful scientific and technical cooperation with relevant international organizations, Parties and NGOs in various ways. During international scientific and technical cooperation, China has strengthened the development and training of human resources as well as institutional construction, developed various practical technologies, and developed and enhanced national capacity and expertise.

China has designated the national focal point of clearing house mechanism and preliminarily set up a biodiversity clearing house website based on Internet by its own efforts. This website mainly introduces the *status quo* and threats of biodiversity in China, introduces the policies, laws and regulations, programs, plans, measures and key events of biodiversity conservation and sustainable utilization in China, and publicizes the achievements, experiences and lessons of biodiversity conservation in China. The information volume of the web site is rather small without full coverage of all contents of the Convention, its data update capacity is rather weak, and its equipment is rather backward, without continuous financial support mechanism. The clearing house mechanism lacks effective instrument to promote scientific and technical cooperation between the world, regions and countries.

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

With the rapid development of biotechnologies, there is a potential bright future for utilizing the genetic resources to improve the characteristics and quality deliberately so as to solve the key problems of foods, medicines and environment in 21st Century. The genetic resources have played a key role in the researches and development of biotechnologies.

China is a country with rich genetic resources. However, the capacity to develop and utilize genetic resources is rather limited. Therefore, China pays high attention to issues that the Parties providing genetic resources could participate in the researches of biotechnologies utilizing genetic resources, and could have priority access to results and benefits generated by the biotechnologies based on the genetic resources it provides on a fair base, including patents, production technologies, products, profits and so on, so as to achieve the sustainable utilization and benefit sharing of genetic resources.

As a developing country, China is restricted by technologies and national financial resources while implementing the obligations under this Article.

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

China has formulated some policies, laws and regulations to support and encourage the Parties providing genetic resources to be involved in the development and scientific researches of genetic resources. However, the marketized mechanism and international multilateral system for access to and benefit sharing of genetic resources have not yet set up in the world. Therefore, further work should be conducted in this field to ensure that the Parties providing the genetic resources could fully participate in the activities of developing biotechnologies by genetic resources, and based on the mutual agreed conditions, have priority in accessing to the results and benefits of biotechnologies generated from the genetic resources, so as to promote the capacity and enthusiasm of countries especially developing countries in protecting genetic resources and to ensure the sustainable utilization and benefit sharing of global genetic resources.

Chinese government pays high attention to the safety issues of genetically modified organisms, agrees to the principle of prior prevention, and has conducted some work on laws, regulations, management and international cooperation of biosafety.

1. Formulate laws and regulations of biosafety

In 1993, China issued the Safety Management Method of Genetic Engineering. It stipulated concretely on the management of technologies utilizing carrier systems to reorganize DNA and importing the DNA from other sources into the organisms in physical and chemical ways.

According to the requirements of the Safety Management Method of Genetic Engineering, the Implementation Measures of the Safety Management of Agricultural Biological Genetic Engineering, and the Management Method of Researches and Applications of Tobacco Genetic Engineering were issued in 1996 and 1998, respectively. The Implementation Measures of the Safety Management of Agricultural Biological Genetic Engineering makes rather specific stipulations on safety management issues of agricultural biological genetic engineering. It makes classification of safety of genetic engineering carriers, and provides relevant management measures, especially that it designates the procedures and rules of the registration and safety assessment of agricultural biological genetic engineering. This regulation is carried out effectively in the management of agricultural biological genetic engineering across the country. 8 batches of applications were received for safety assessment which were responded and ratified appropriately, and safety ratification documents have been issued.

Currently, China is preparing the Regulation of Biosafety Management in China.

2. Participate actively in the negotiation of Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety and sign the Protocol

China has participated in the 10 working group meetings and negotiations of Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety and has played an active role for the adoption of the Protocol. China signed the Protocol on August 8, 2000 and is now in the process of ratification.

3. Conduct international cooperation of biosafety actively

From the end of 1997 to 1999, China has implemented the National Biosafety Framework of China. The report of the project described the national policy framework and legislative framework of biosafety management in China, clarified the technical principle framework of risk assessment and risk management of genetically modified organisms and their products, and identified the needs of national capacity building of biosafety management.

In 1999 and 2000, Chinese biosafety delegations visited UK, Germany, Australia, New Zealand and Canada.

4. Future priority of biosafety management in China

(1) To set up an integrated biosafety management system, improve the legislation system of biosafety and formulate the policies of environmental release, commercial production, and transboundary movement of genetically modified organisms and their products;

(2) To formulate the indicators, criteria, methodologies and procedures for the risk assessment of environmental releases, commercial production and transboundary movement of genetically modified organisms;

(3) To set up the risk management system and risk emergency response system for the environmental release, commercial production and transboundary movement of genetically modified organisms;

(4) To set up the biosafety database system and clearing house mechanism;

(5) To enhance the environmental monitoring of genetically modified organisms and the researches on biosafety technologies;

(6) To enhance the personnel training on biosafety laws and regulations, risk assessment, risk management, environmental monitoring and information management;

(7) To enhance the public education of biosafety;

(8) To strengthen international cooperation on biosafety and promote the healthy development of biotechnology industry.

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

Financial resource is one of the key elements for the conservation and sustainable utilization of biodiversity. According to the characteristics that China has vast territory and rich biodiversity, and that China's biodiversity is reducing significantly and the ecological degradation is rather serious, it is necessary to increase investment and conduct emergent conservation. China has increased the national input in biodiversity conservation in recent years and, in the meantime, has mobilized the investment of various sectors, regions and the public. However, large amount of new incremental costs is needed for the complete implementation of the obligations under the Convention. There is a great gap in funds. We urgently need international financial and technological support to implement the priority projects of the China Biodiversity Conservation Action Plan.

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) yes	√
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

In order to implement the strategy of sustainable development, fulfil the obligations under the CBD, and effectively protect biodiversity, the Chinese government has devoted large amount of financial resources to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, scientific research and public education. During this process, China has received technical and financial support from the international communities.

1. China's investment in the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity

(1) Investment of *in situ* conservation

It is estimated that, in 1995 and neighbouring years, the average annual input by the central and local governments in the construction of nature reserves was approximately 200 million

RMB yuan. The input has been increasing since then to well over 200 million RMB yuan each year, with the development of the construction and management of nature reserves. In addition, the central government has earmarked approximately 30 million RMB yuan each year for capital construction of nature reserves.

(2) Investment in the construction of ecosystems

Between 1998 and 2000, the national investment (state debt) in the conservation of natural forests and the development of public welfare forests and commercial forests was 8.04 billion RMB yuan, and the central fiscal expenditure on forest conservation and management, retirement fees for forestry workers, economic and social costs, relocation as well as life insurance and compensation costs was 11.3 billion RMB yuan. On December 6, 2000, China launched the Natural Forest Resources Conservation Project. The planned duration of this project is from 2000 to 2010, with a total investment of 96.2 billion RMB yuan, among which 78.4 billion will be from central budget and 17.8 billion will be from local budget. By the end of 2000, 193 counties in 17 provinces had launched the efforts to convert steep arable land back to forests or grasslands. The central government has invested over 1.9 billion RMB yuan into it, and the converted area totalled 1.363 million hectares.

During the 9th Five-Year Period, China invested 8.702 billion RMB yuan into the 10 major forestry ecological projects, i.e. Three-North Preventive Forest Project, Yangtze River Upper and Middle Reaches Preventive Forest Project, Coastal Preventive Forest Project, Preventive Forest Project for Huai River and Tai Lake Basin, Preventive Forest Project for Pearl River Basin, Yellow River Middle Reaches Preventive Forest Project, Preventive Forest Project for the Liao River Basin, Desertification Combating Project, Forestation Project for Taihang Mountain, and Forestation Project for Plain Areas, among which the national investment was 3.276 billion RMB yuan. Between 1997 and 1999, the total investment in these projects was 7.213 billion RMB yuan, among which the national investment was 2.727 billion RMB yuan. From 1998 to 1999, China's investment in key ecological environmental restoration projects was 858 million RMB yuan, among which the national investment was 630 million RMB yuan.

(3) Investment in the access to and use of genetic resources

From 1996, China started to implement the Seed Project. By 1999, 189 non-commercial projects had been launched within the Seed Project, with a total investment of 1.18 billion RMB yuan.

(4) Investment in scientific research on biodiversity

During the 9th Five-Year period, China supported researches on such areas as biodiversity inventories, conservation technologies, monitoring and information systems, biotechnologies, and policy and management. For example, the National Key Scientific and Technological Research Plan of the 9th Five-Year Period set up the project named the Demonstration on Information Sharing of Natural Resources, with a total budget of 7.5 million RMB yuan. In 2000, the budget for the Division of Life Sciences of the National Natural Sciences Foundation was 212.61 million RMB yuan, a considerable part of which

was devoted to biodiversity. Currently, the National Key Basic Research Development Plan has established a project named the Change and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity in the Yangtze River Basin and Regional Ecological Safety, with a total budget of 25 million RMB yuan.

(5) Training and public Education for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity

China invested large amount of money in workshops, seminars and training courses for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity. Public education activities have also been carried out through newspaper, radio, TV, film, exhibitions, the Internet, summer camp, knowledge contest, and anniversary, etc.

2. International technical and financial assistance

(1) Multilateral assistance

With the support of GEF, the China Nature Reserve Management Project was launched in the 2nd half of 1995. The total budget of this project is 23.6 million USD, among which 17.9 million is GEF grant and 5.7 million is domestic matching fund. The Conservation and Sustainable Use of Wetlands Biodiversity of China was formally launched on July 19, 2000. The duration of this project will be 5 years (2000-2004), and the total investment will be 34.57 million USD, among which 11.68 million USD is grant by UNDP and GEF, 2.59 million USD is grant by the Australian government, and 20.29 million USD will be provided by the Chinese government. In 1997, UNDP financed through GEF the project named Preparation of Strategic Action Plan and Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis for the Tumen River Area, Its Coastal Regions and Northeast Asian Environments. China participated in this multilateral project whose total budget was 5 million USD. GEF also supported the project named the Capacity Building for the Partnership of Environmental Protection and Management in North Asia Sea, in which China participated and whose total budget was 16.22 million USD. In addition, GEF also financed some medium-sized projects in China.

During the 9th Five-Year Period, China utilized loans of 253 million USD from World Bank, and afforested 1.1332 million hectares of forests, among which, the project of the Development and Conservation of Forest Resources utilized 185 million USD of World Bank loans to afforest 876600 hectares of forests; the project of the Forestry Development in Poverty Regions utilized 68 million USD of World Bank loans to afforest 256600 hectares of forests, and the project of Fast-Growing Timber Production Base utilized 2.77 billion RMB yuan and produced 745200 hectares of fast-growing timber forests. From 1994 to present, China has utilized a total of 4.5 million USD of Wold Bank loans for biodiversity research and information system development.

(2) Bilateral Assistance

China has been carrying out extensive bilateral cooperation on the conservation of biodiversity. For example, China and Canada jointly implemented a project on biodiversity conservation and community development in Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region. The Japanese government provided grant in the amount of 1.247 billion Japanese yen to China

for developing water and soil conservation forests in the upper reaches of Han River, and another grant in the amount of 500 million Japanese yen for a forest breeding project in Hubei Province. China has also carried out afforestation and desertification combating projects with Germany and the Netherlands, and cooperation on marine research with the US and Korea.

(3) Nongovernmental assistance

WWF and IFAW have done a lot of work in China. In the 3 years from 1998 to 2000, WWF invested 55.18 million RMB yuan in relevant projects in China.

Chinese government has made considerable investment in the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, despite of its limited financial resources, and at the same time has received great assistance from developed countries, international organizations and NGOs. Remarkable achievements have been made. However, China is still faced with arduous tasks in conserving biodiversity, and is seriously short of funding. According to the estimate made by "China's Biodiversity: A Country Study" (1995), in the next 15 years, the annual incremental costs for China to implement CBD will be 6.624 billion RMB yuan, which is equivalent of 798 million USD. The new and additional costs that China has received are far short of the full incremental costs that it has to pay for the implementation of CBD. Therefore, China needs continued technical and financial support from the international communities.

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

The effectiveness of the implementation of CBD by parties of developing countries depends on the extent to which funding resources are adequate and the financial mechanism of the Convention is efficient. As a temporary financial mechanism for CBD, GEF has played a key and active role in promoting the implementation of obligations, work programmes and decisions of CBD and in providing financial and technical assistance for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity. However, the financial assistance provided by GEF to developing countries, especially countries like China whose rich biodiversity is being seriously threatened, is limited. Parties of developed countries should provide more financial and technical assistance to China in accordance with their commitment to financial resources and technology transfer, so as to promote China's implementation of the Convention.

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

GEF has played a key and active role in conserving biodiversity. Between 1991 and 1999,

GEF financed 324 projects in 119 countries, with a total grant of 960 million US dollars which was almost 40% of GEF's overall grant. During that period, it also raised 1.3 billion US dollars through recipient countries, bilateral donor agencies, other development agencies, private organisations and NGOs.

Through the financial and technical assistance provided by GEF, China has strengthened its capacity in the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity. Chinese experts and managers have had the opportunities to participate in various kinds of international workshops and training courses on the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, and got their ability promoted. Government decision-makers, managers and the public now have higher awareness of biodiversity conservation, which has contributed to China's biodiversity conservation and the sustainability of GEF funded projects. Particularly, the expedite approval process by GEF has simplified and shortened the process and duration of the application and approval of projects, thus facilitating effective and timely implementation of the decisions by relevant COP meetings.

However, as the major financial mechanism for CBD, GEF has too limited fund, and therefore is only able to provide limited support. From 1991 to 1999, the total grant China obtained from GEF to be used for the projects of the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, capacity building projects and PDF was 23.6114 million US dollars. In addition, the projects that will be implemented after 2000 include the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Wetlands Biodiversity of China and 2 transboundary conservation projects participated by multiple countries (see annex). This is far from enough to cover the full incremental costs of China in the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity. China is one of countries with richest biodiversity in the world. Conservation of its biodiversity is not only important for China itself and the surrounding regions, but also for the world at large. China has invested large amount of money in the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, but it falls far short of the actual needs. It is therefore desirable that GEF increase its financial and technical assistance to China.

GEF should increase the transparency of its funding policy and priority areas. It should formulate medium and long-term plans and establish appropriate mechanisms to support the implementation of various decisions of COPs. It should work out a package of funding plans for developing countries both at global and regional levels. It should simplify application and approval procedures, shorten the duration of project application, promote the efficiency of examination and approval, so that developing countries could get funding as quickly as possible and thus be able to implement COP decisions effectively.

In many cases, the concept of incremental cost is not made clear with low practicability, causing different understandings and increasing the difficulty in applying for GEF funding. This may also affect negatively the approval progress of projects.

The Expedite Approval Procedure has effectively promoted the capacity of developing countries to implement CBD. The applicable areas of the procedure should be expanded in accordance with relevant COP decisions. During the preliminary process of project application, domestic experts of implementing countries should have more opportunities to

participate in the project preparations, and international consultants should have full understanding of GEF policies and priorities of biodiversity conservation of the recipient countries. During the implementation process of the project, the bidding for the selection of international consultants should be able to attract first-rate international scientists to participate in GEF projects.

With the support of GEF, Article 6 and 26 have been implemented effectively, the implementation of stipulation (a)-(g) of Article 8 and Article 19 has been greatly improved. However, Article 7 (identification and monitoring, Taxonomy), stipulation (h)-(j) of Article 8 (prevention of alien species, protection of traditional knowledge), Article 9 (*ex situ* conservation), Article 10 (sustainable use), Article 11 (incentives measures), Article 14 (impact assessment), Article 15 (access to and benefit sharing of genetic resources), Article 16 (access to and transfer of technology), Article 17 (exchange of information), and Article 18 (scientific and technical cooperation) have not been implemented effectively. GEF needs to continue to provide financial and technical assistance in those areas.

Annex: **Grants Received by China from GEF for the Implementation of CBD since 1991**

Conservation and Sustainable Use:

China Nature Reserve Management , 17.9 million USD

The Conservation and Sustainable Use of Wetlands Biodiversity of China, 11.68 million USD (implemented after 2000)

Biodiversity Conservation in Luobupo Nature Reserve, Xinjiang Autonomous Region, 725,000 USD

Population, Land Management and Environmental Changes (PLEC), 560,000 USD

Capacity Building:

China Biodiversity Conservation (Action Plan and Investment Plans for Key Forest Reserves), 1.68 million USD

China's Biodiversity: A Country Study, 420,000 USD

Biodiversity Data Management and Information Networking Capacity Building of China, 290,000 USD

National Biosafety Framework of China, 260,000 USD

The First National Report on the Implementation of CBD by China, 59,400 USD

Preliminary Project Preparations:

The Project of the Conservation of Natural Forests Biodiversity, 350,000 USD

The Project of the Wetlands Biodiversity Conservation in Sanjiang Plain, 330,000 USD

The Project of the Conservation and Sustainable use of Wetlands Biodiversity of China, 337,000 USD

The Project of the Conservation of Marine Ecosystems in the Yellow Sea, 350,000 USD

The Project of the Conservation of Marine Biodiversity in China's Southeasten Seas, 350,000 USD

China's Participation in Transboundary Conservation Projects(implemented after 2000)

The Preparation of Strategic Action Plan and Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis for the Tumen River Area, Its Coastal Regions and Northeast Asian Environments, 5.2 million USD

Partnership Building for Environmental Protection and Management in North Asia Seas, 16.22 million USD

Data sources: preliminary statistics from GEF, UNDP, UNEP, World Bank and domestic implementing agencies in China

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)	14
b) COP 2 (Jakarta)	8
c) COP 3 (Buenos Aires)	11
d) COP 4 (Bratislava)	11
e) COP 5 (Nairobi)	9

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 1st 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

The Conference of Parties is the highest organizational body for CBD. The Chinese government attaches great importance to COP meetings and sends high-level governmental delegations composed of multiple departments to each of these meetings. The Chinese delegations actively participated in the preparations for and discussions on topics at these meetings. China also actively develops relevant bilateral and multilateral activities and coordinates with other sides its positions. China has been a great supporter of CBD Secretariat, UNEP and GEF. China has also been actively sharing information with other parties regarding its laws, policies, activities for conserving biodiversity as well as its principles on key issues related to the implementation of CBD. These efforts have contributed to the success of COP meetings.

Prior to the convening of COP meetings, China actively participated in regional meetings to discuss implementation issues, and tried to coordinate with other parties in the region regarding their respective positions. For example, on March 26, 1998, the Chinese government and the CBD Secretariat co-sponsored the Asia Regional Preparatory Meeting for the 4th Meeting of COP to CBD, Haikou, China. More than 30 representatives and observers from 20 Asian countries, CBD Secretariat, Asia-Pacific Regional Office of UNEP, UNDP, GEF and IUCN, etc, participated in the meeting. China has also sent delegates to specialised meetings on relevant COP decisions, such as alien invasive species, access to and benefit sharing of genetic resources, protection of traditional knowledge, biosafety, clearing house mechanism, ecosystems approach, sustainable tourism, and inter-governmental forest forum, etc.

As a developing country, China has paid all donations committed to BY trust fund.

China suggests that the issues discussed by COP meetings should be more focused; COP meetings should focus more on examining and discussing selected issues than on spending too much time on debate; the participation of developing countries should be strengthened; the implementation of COP decisions should be emphasized, and the results should be reported to COP meetings in a timely manner; due importance should be attached to capacity building, technology transfer, information exchange and financial mechanism; and, administrative, institutional and financial issues should be directly handled by COP meetings.

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

China attaches high importance to and supports the work of CBD Secretariat. China took part in each COP meetings, participated in the 10 rounds of working group meetings and negotiations for the formulation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety organized by the CBD Secretariat, and signed the Protocol. China co-sponsored the Asian Regional Preparatory Meeting for the 4th COP Meeting of CBD in cooperation with the CBD Secretariat. China has established national focal point for CBD, focal point for Clearing House Mechanism, focal point for Inter-Governmental Commission for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, and coordination mechanism for Global Taxonomy Initiative. China has been actively taking part in relevant action plans and ad-hoc meetings. At COP meetings, regional meetings and ad-hoc meetings, China has been playing an active role by engaging in discussions, elucidating its positions and introducing its achievement and experiences in the implementation of CBD.

China actively responded to the various initiatives by CBD Secretariat, submitted the first national report on the implementation of CBD and relevant reports on case studies and surveys, and actively recommended Chinese experts to the CBD Secretariat.

China has paid all donations committed to BY Trust Fund. However, as a developing country, China is unable to provide financial donations to the CBD Secretariat due to financial constraints.

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)	3
b) SBSTTA II (Montreal)	3
c) SBSTTA III (Montreal)	2

d) SBSTTA IV (Montreal)	2
e) SBSTTA V (Montreal)	4

Further comments on implementation of this Article

China has been actively participating in the activities of SBSTTA, has provided necessary information for its meetings, taken part in the drafting of relevant meeting documents, and sent government representatives with rich expertise to participate in all 5 meetings of SBSTTA. The Chinese delegates seriously engaged themselves in examining the action plans, progress reports and technical documents submitted to SBSTTA meetings, took part in debate, shared information with representatives of other parties about China's policies, laws, plans, technical standards and experiences in the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, and elucidated its opinions on fundamental and technical issues. As recommended by Asian working group and approved by SBSTTA, Mr. Wang Dehui was elected a member of the Presidium for the 7th and 8th Meetings of SBSTTA.

SBSTTA has been playing an important role in implementing CBD. However, SBSTTA should formulate medium and long-term work plan and prioritize issues so as to promote efficiency. In order to run itself in a more scientific way, SBSTTA could set up expert groups and liaison groups for specific issues, and compile the roster of experts. SBSTTA should also attach importance to the extensive participation of developing countries, and strengthen cooperation with its subsidiary bodies and organizations such as International Science Union Council.

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)	

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

China submitted its first national report in December 1997. This report was prepared under the guidance of China's Coordination Group for the Implementation of CBD. This Coordination Group is led by the State Environmental Protection Administration and composed of 20 departments of the State Council of China. During the compiling process, 2 workshops were held. The second workshop was a national one, participated by representatives of NGOs as well as representatives of the 20 departments involved. The discussions at the two workshops supplied important input to the revision and improvement of the national report. The 1st national report has been published and distributed.

China has submitted report on the case study of the prevention and control of invasive alien species, and is currently compiling two case study reports on forest ecosystems and benefit sharing, respectively.

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

1. National strategy and action plan for wetland conservation

Wetland is one of the most important environmental capitals of mankind, and a kind of natural ecological system with rich biodiversity and high productivity. The Chinese government attaches high importance to the conservation and sustainable use of wetlands biodiversity. China formulated its China National Wetlands Biodiversity Conservation Action Plan in 2000.

China's national strategy for the conservation of wetlands biodiversity is: stick to the strategic guidelines of "protecting comprehensively, attaching priority to ecology, highlighting priorities, utilising rationally, and developing in a sustainable way", strengthen the overall conservation of wetlands and its biodiversity; safeguarding the ecological

characteristics and functions of wetland ecosystems, devoting key attention to the conservation of wetlands of national and international importance, maintaining and making best use of the various functions of wetland ecosystems, and utilising wetland resources in a sustainable way, so as to make it meet the needs of current generations without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs.

2. Current status of wetland conservation

China has established wetland nature reserves and demonstration zones for the rational utilisation of wetlands, which puts wildlife, their habitats and unique ecosystems of wetlands under effective protection. By the end of 2000, China has established 289 wetland nature reserves, with a total area of 49.45 million hectares. Among them, 7 wetland nature reserves of Zhalong, Xianghai, East Dongting Lake, Boyang Lake, Bird Island, Dongzhai Gang, and Mipu have been listed into Important International Wetlands.

3. International cooperation of wetland conservation

China has been engaging itself in extensive international cooperation on the conservation and sustainable use of wetlands. In 1992, China joined the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance Especially as Waterfowl Habitat. In 1981, the Chinese government and the Japanese government signed China-Japan Agreement on the Conservation of Migratory Birds. In 1986, China and Australia signed China-Australia Agreement on the Conservation of Migratory Birds and Their Habitats. In 1988, China and the former Soviet Union signed Agreement on Fishery. In 1993, China and Russia initialled Agreement on the Protection of Fishes in Border Areas of Heilongjiang River and Wusuli River. China also attended all COP meetings of the wetland Convention and COP meetings of Migratory Species Conservation Convention.

In December 1996, GEF decided to support China to prepare for a project on the conservation and sustainable use of wetlands biodiversity. This project was formally launched on July 19, 2000. It covers Sanjiang Plain wetlands of Heilongjiang Province, Yancheng coastal wetlands of Jiangsu Province, Dongting Lake wetlands of Hunan Province, and Ruoergai marsh wetlands in Sichuan and Gansu provinces. This project will not only protect the biodiversity of these wetlands, but also provide demonstrations for wetland conservation across the country.

4. Challenges and priorities for wetland conservation in the future

Wetlands are situated at the borders of water and terrestrial areas. Due to China's current institutional system, wetland resources management involves many departments. Also, due to backward means of management at grass-roots units, implementation of relevant laws and regulations is weak. Since there is no unified planning for the conservation and use of wetland resources, it often happens that wetland resources are damaged and sacrificed for short-term economic interests. For a long time, scientific research on the conservation and sustainable use of wetland biodiversity is lagging far behind due to lack of funding. In order to rectify these constraints, the following efforts are needed:

(1) Legislation should be strengthened, so as to provide legal basis for the conservation of

China's limited wetland resources. Relevant administrative laws and regulations should also be formulated at provincial and municipal levels.

(2) Input into wetland conservation should be increased. Central and local governments at various levels should integrate wetland conservation into state economic and social development plans, and should increase input into wetland conservation.

(3) The construction of wetland nature reserve network should be strengthened, and a number of demonstration wetland nature reserves should be established.

(4) Scientific research should be promoted. Indicators, standards and methods of wetland assessment, indicator system and methodology for the monitoring of wetland ecology, and technological system for the sustainable use of wetlands should be established, so as to provide scientific basis for the conservation and management of wetlands.

(5) A monitoring system for wetland resources should be established. Dynamic monitoring of wetland resources should be strengthened, so as to provide monitoring data on a regular basis. A Monitoring information system should be established for wetland resources so as to achieve information sharing.

(6) Training should be strengthened. Relevant training should be promoted for management and technical personnel at various levels, so that the methods, technologies and tools for wetland conservation and management could be modernized and standardized.

(7) Public education should be promoted. Through various public media, the public should be informed of the importance of the conservation and sustainable use of wetlands. Public participation in wetland conservation should be encouraged.

(8) International cooperation should be strengthened to get technical and financial support from the international communities to promote China's capacity and expertise for the conservation and sustainable use of wetland biodiversity.

Marine and coastal biological diversity

Decision II/10 and Decision IV/5. Conservation and sustainable use of marine and coastal biological diversity

320. Does your national strategy and action plan promote the conservation and sustainable use of marine and coastal biological diversity?	
a) no	
b) yes – limited extent	
c) yes – significant extent	√
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

China has taken a lot of measures to protect marine and coastal biodiversity, and made remarkable progress.

1. Relevant laws, strategies and regulations

China has formulated China Marine Biodiversity Conservation Action Plan, National Ocean Function Zone Planning, National Ocean Development Planning, and Action Plan for Mangrove Conservation. China issued government white book on China Oceanography Development in 1998, and is currently formulating National Marine Ecological Environment Conservation and Construction Planning. China has also formulated the Blue Water Action Plan in Bohai Sea and the Integrated Renovation Plan in Bohai Sea, which aim to recover the resources and the environmental functions of Bohai Sea within 15-20 years and conserve the biodiversity there. These policies and strategies are good reflection of China's efforts to achieve the conservation and sustainable use of marine resources.

The Law on Marine Environment Protection, which was revised in 2000, more explicitly clarified China's management system for the conservation of marine environments. The revised law added a chapter on "the conservation of marine ecology", which include stipulations on strategies, liabilities, principles and methods for the conservation of marine ecology. The Law on Fishery, which was also revised in 2000, provides an important legal basis for the conservation and management of fishery resources. China has promulgated "Regulation on the Management of Offshore Marine Environment Function Zones" and "Regulation on the Conservation and Management of Mangrove Forests". Most local governments at various levels have formulated local regulations on the conservation and management of marine biodiversity.

2. Management measures

The Chinese government has been strengthening the development and management of marine nature reserves all the time, and has established more than 70 marine nature reserves, with a total area of 14,000 km^2, covering rare and endangered species such as

lancelet, dugong, white-flag dolphin, striped seal, white Chinese dolphin, manatee and esculent swift, as well as mangrove, coral reef, offshore and river estuary wetlands, gulf, sea island, and lagoon, etc. Since 1997, 5 new marine nature reserves have been established. China also established 2 special marine protected areas and a number of fishery resources conservation zones in key fishery areas.

China has already established a national monitoring system for the marine environments, which is composed of satellites, aircraft, ships, buoys and coastal stations. A national monitoring network for marine environment has taken initial shape. From 1997 to 1999, the largest ever marine environmental pollution survey was carried out in 11 coastal provinces, covering almost all sea areas within China's jurisdiction. China has initially established a marine ecological monitoring technical system, and conducted ecological monitoring of typical marine ecosystems such as mangrove, coral reef, up-welling areas, etc. Through such surveys and monitoring, a lot of data have been obtained about the marine and coastal biodiversity, and more than 100 reports have been promulgated on the quality of the marine environments.

The Chinese government strictly implements environmental management for coastal and marine engineering projects. Environmental impact assessment is strictly implemented to prevent new damage and destruction to marine biodiversity from coastal and marine engineering projects. From 1989, 11 coastal provinces, autonomous regions and municipalities have carried out marine environmental function zoning. Since October 1999, special supervision has been carried out for the treatment and standards-meeting status of key pollution sources directly discharged into Bohai Sea.

The Chinese government has adopted a series of measures to strengthen the conservation of spawning spots, baiting areas, winter habitats, migratory routes and breeding spots of marine fish. Since 1995, no-fishing in summer has been carried out in East Sea and Yellow Sea, and the scope and period of this practice has been extended gradually. Since 1999, no-fishing practice has been effective for 2 and a half months in the northern part of Yellow Sea, 3 months in the southern part of Yellow Sea, and in June and July in South Sea. This has contributed to the conservation of major types of young commercial fish, and led to a remarkable rise in the quantity and quality of fish. Starting from 1999, China has been implementing a "zero increase" strategy for marine fishery catch. The revised Fishery Law identifies marine fishery catch quota as a basic fishery system. This reflects the transition of China's marine fishery from the sole expansion of production scale and quantity to a sustainable development model that pays more attention to resources conservation, structural optimization and quality improvement.

3. Measures to conserve coral reef

Most coral reefs in China are being seriously threatened by over fishing, marine pollution and sedimentation. In recent years, China conducted surveys on the types, quantities, distribution and management of coral reefs, and established an information system. The Chinese government has been exercising cruising supervision in key sea areas, and implemented punishment measures for law-violating activities such as dynamiting and

digging of coral reefs.

Since 1997, Guangdong Province, Guangxi Autonomous Region and Hainan Province have been conducting comprehensive coastal management on some coral reef areas. In 1999, Hainan Province formulated Regulation on the Conservation of Coral Reefs. In 2000, Hainan Province held a training workshop on ecological monitoring of coral reefs in Sanya Coral Reef Nature Reserve. The workshop exposed local coral reef managers to standard international coral reef monitoring technologies. Hainan Province also joined local tourism organizations to combat illegal activities again coral reefs.

4. International co-operation

The Chinese government attaches great importance to international co-operation on marine and coastal biodiversity conservation, and has been actively seeking international support in the field.

(1) Multilateral co-operation

From 1997 to 2000, with the support of UNDP, China implemented the project of “Capacity Building for the Comprehensive Coastal Management of South China Sea”. This project established 3 demonstration sites in Hailing Bay of Guangdong Province, Fangchenggang of Guangxi Autonomous Region and Qinglan Bay of Hainan Province. This project laid a good basis for comprehensive coastal management in demonstration areas, and has greatly promoted the conservation of marine and coastal biodiversity in China.

In 1999, with the support of GEF, China launched the project on “the Conservation of the Ecological System of the Yellow Sea”. In 2000, also with the support of GEF, China implemented the project on “the Conservation of Biodiversity of South Sea”, which aims to recover offshore biodiversity by developing mangrove forests and artificially transplanting offshore coral reefs.

(2) Bilateral co-operation

China and the US have been actively promoting co-operation projects on comprehensive marine and coastal management, and have signed bilateral co-operation agreements on the conservation of offshore coral reefs in Beibu Bay, on the conservation of mangrove ecosystems, and on the conservation of marine biodiversity. China has also carried out scientific and technical co-operation with Japan and Korea.

5. Existing problems and recommendations

Due to various reasons, the ecological structure of China’s marine territories is not balanced, the number of marine species is decreasing drastically, biological diversity is declining, and eco-environment is degrading. The main reasons for the destruction of marine and coastal biodiversity are: over fishing, irrational reclamation, damming, pollution from animal husbandry, agricultural and urban pollution, illegal hunting of rare and endangered wildlife, etc. Another important reason is the lack of capacity and relevant measures for effective management. Due to lack of funding and expertise, China is unable to provide reports and recommendations to the Secretariat on future alternatives for the

conservation and sustainable use of marine and coastal biodiversity or case studies of coral reef de-colouring.

The conservation of marine and coastal biodiversity is a long-term and arduous task. China feels an urgent need to seek technical and financial support from international organizations or developed countries in the following areas: (1) national-scale survey on marine and coastal biodiversity, and the development of information system; (2) development of monitoring network for marine and coastal biodiversity; (3) capacity building for management of existing marine nature reserves, and establishment of a number of new marine nature reserves; and (4) construction of demonstration areas of ecological fishery, ecological aquaculture, and ecological tourism that is beneficial to the conservation and sustainable use of marine and coastal biodiversity.

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 system	
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	
If a developed country Party –	
344. Has your country provided financial support for implementation of the programme of work on agricultural biological diversity, in particular for capacity building and case-studies, in developing countries and countries with economies in transition?	
a) no	

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	As China is not a member of WTO yet, it is not in a position to answer this question.
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 inter alia 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 inter alia 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 in situ and ex situ 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, inter alia, 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

China has adopted a lot of measures for the conservation and sustainable use of agricultural biodiversity, and made remarkable progress. However, many urgent problems still exist.

1. Relevant action plans

China has formulated China Biodiversity Conservation Action Plan for Agricultural Sectors, China Biological Germplasm Resource Conservation Action Plan, China National Wetlands Conservation Action Plan, and National 10th Five-Year Plan and 2015 Plan for the Conservation of Agricultural Ecological Environments.

China's national strategy for the conservation and sustainable use of agricultural biodiversity can be summarized as follows: While developing economy in order to meet the needs of people and the country and especially to increase the income of farmers, high attention should be paid to the conservation of agricultural ecosystems, species and genetic resources so as to ensure the sustainable, stable and coordinated development of agriculture. The priorities are as follows: (1) conservation, recovery and development of various kinds of agricultural ecosystems; (2) development of a national-level biological germplasm resources conservation system; (3) priority conservation for rare, endangered and unique species as well as biological species with high economic value or potential high economic value, and comprehensive conservation for existing wildlife species within agricultural systems; (4) strengthening the maintenance and conservation of existing cultivated and breeding species and their wild relatives; (5) continued implementation of projects on comprehensive treatment of ecological environment and ecological agriculture; and (6) strengthening of capacity building for monitoring.

2. Conservation of agricultural biodiversity

China has adopted such measures as artificial grass sowing, aerial sowing, enclosed cultivation, and tries to combine grassland and pasture development with ecological

restoration. The planted grassland area has been increasing year by year. For the past decade, the average annual planted grassland area has exceeded 2.7 million hectares, the aggregate remaining planted grassland area reaches more than 15 million hectares, and the area of enclosed pastureland reaches more than 10 million hectares. In pasture areas, overgrazing is strictly prohibited to protect mountain forests and grasslands. China is also implementing the project of "converting steep arable lands back to forests and grasslands". By the end of 2000, 193 counties have implemented this kind of "conversion" project, with the converted area totalled 1.363 million hectares.

In order to protect spawning fish and baiting fish, China has implemented the practice of no-fishing zones and no-fishing periods, and permit system. Since 1995, the practice of no-fishing in summer has been carried out in East Sea and Yellow Sea. Since 1999, no-fishing practice has been effective for 2 and a half months in the northern part of Yellow Sea, 3 months in the southern part of Yellow Sea, and in June and July in South Sea. This has contributed to the conservation of major types of young commercial fish, and led to a remarkable rise in the quantity and quality of fish. In 1999, China started to implement a zero-increase strategy for fish catch.

China has also been artificially introducing ornamental plants, medicinal plants, edible plants and other plant species with economic value. For example, wild ginseng once almost became extinct in northeastern China, but now it is being extensively cultivated in that region. Due to forest destruction and human picking, natural wild glossy ganoderma (*Ganoderma lucidum*) once almost disappeared, but now they are being artificially planted extensively.

China has constructed a long-term national storehouse and a backup storehouse of crop germplasm resources in Beijing and Qinghai respectively. 27 mid-term storehouses of crop germplasm resources, and 32 gardens of perennial plants and wild relatives of crops were established. 160 species of crops and 370000 pieces of crop germplasm resources have been kept in storehouses and evaluated in terms of catalogues, agronomic properties, quality, pressure, disease and pest resistance. China Crop Germplasm Resource Information System is also established with data of 800 MB. China has also established fresh water fish germplasm storehouses, cold fish semen storehouses, experimental cow and sheep semen and embryo storehouses. It has been confirmed that China has more than 590 kinds of livestock and poultry. The collection, sorting and maintenance of agricultural biological germplasm resources are regarded as a basic national task, and special budget is earmarked for such purposes. In areas with significant importance such as the area of Three-Gorge Reservoir, rescue work is conducted to collect and maintain germplasm resources. China has introduced over 50000 items of foreign crop germplasm resources that have been examined, assessed, utilized and well stored.

3. Maintenance and dissemination of traditional knowledge relevant to agricultural biodiversity conservation

In areas resided by minority nationalities, local farmers are encouraged to adopt traditional tillage technologies, to use biological pesticide and organic fertiliser, to exercise crop

rotation and inter-cropping, and to conserve and use local biological resources in a sustainable way. With the support of related international organizations, China has made remarkable achievements in the research on and dissemination of traditional knowledge in agricultural and natural resource management. For example, the Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences and the International Institute for Botanic Genetic Resources jointly carried out research and surveys in Yunnan Province on the genetic diversity, plantation, storage, processing and use of taro. The result showed that local farmers were capable of effectively conserving and managing species diversity.

Kunmin Institute of Botany, the Chinese Academy of Sciences, conducted an investigation on the traditional slash-and-burn cultivation in Hani and Jinuo minority communities in Xishuangbanna mountainous areas. The study showed that many traditional approaches stressed the conservation of forests. In lands after the slash-and-burn cultivation, some flora species with special economic and ecological values are often reserved, including banyan, wild mango and timber species. The traditional management approaches have played an indelible active role in the conservation of biological diversity.

4. Regulations and management on agricultural biosafety

On July 10, 1996, China issued *Regulation on the Safety Management of Agricultural Biological Genetic Engineering*. It supplements the *Regulation on the Safety Management of Genetic Engineering* by making concrete stipulations on safety management issues related to agricultural biological genetic engineering. It also classifies the safety levels of genetic engineering, and defined relevant management measures. Particularly, concrete procedures and rules were established for the registration and safety assessment for agricultural biological genetic engineering. It has been implemented effectively in the management of agricultural biological genetic engineering across the country. By now, 8 lots of applications for safety assessment have been received and processed, and safety licences have been presented to those who qualify. In addition, China has stipulated other regulations on agricultural biosafety.

5. Agricultural environmental impact assessment and monitoring

The Guidelines for Agricultural Environmental Impact Assessment of China provides the policies, procedures and guiding principles for conducting agricultural environmental impact assessment, and introduces EIA cases on agricultural reclamation, wetland reclamation, agricultural development in marshes, grassland use, and agricultural industry, etc. Across the country, seven large-scale surveys on the status and trend of agricultural eco-environmental quality have been carried out, and the survey and assessment of dynamic state of agricultural resources and ecological environments has also been carried out.

6. Public education

Public education for the conservation of agricultural biodiversity has been carried out by various forms, such as TV, radio, newspapers and magazines, films, exhibitions, student summer camps, as well as the internet. The formulation of local rules and farmers' agreement that are friendly to the conservation of biodiversity is encouraged. The role of

women and rural schools is recognized as a key in this respect. Local traditional agricultural techniques are respected and disseminated.

7. International cooperation on the conservation of agricultural biodiversity

China participated in each meeting during the negotiation process of the International Agreement on Botanical Genetic Resources, and actively involved itself in relevant coordination and promotion of the negotiation. China fully supports the principles of CBD, and actively promotes the consistency of the principles of the two agreements. China supports and actively promotes the multilateral system for access to and benefit sharing of botanical genetic resources, and is committed to providing germplasm resources for the multilateral system according to the two principles of food security and inter-dependence. Within the multilateral system, China actively promotes convenient access, and stick to the principle of fair sharing of benefits from genetic resources acquired from the multilateral system, and holds that farmers' rights should be realized.

In accordance with the 20 priority areas identified by Global Action Plan for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Botanical Genetic Resources, China has made a lot of efforts in such areas as *in situ* conservation, *ex situ* conservation, use of botanical genetic resources, institutional and capacity building, etc. During the period of the 9th Five-Year Plan, China completed survey on and collection of germplasm resources in areas such as the Three-Gorge Reservoir and mountain development zones in south Jiangxi and north Guangdong, over 6000 new items of germplasm resources were collected; 20000 new pieces of germplasm resource were kept in storehouses, and their agronomic property was appraised and assessed; approximately 240 excellent germplasm resources out of 30000 items of crop germplasm resources were selected for breeding and cultivation. In recent 3 years, China has provided over 8000 items of crop germplasm resources of various kinds for research institutions in the world, and these germplasm resources are used across the world, which contributes to global food security.

In cooperation with the International Institute for Botanical Resources, China has carried out research on the impact of pollinating media on seed genetic integrity during the process of renewing and breeding of seeds in germplasm storehouses.

China signed Rotterdam Convention (PIC Convention) on Sept. 11, 1998. As China is not a WTO member, it can not respond to question 348.

8. Priorities for the conservation of agricultural biodiversity

Although China has made great progress in the conservation and sustainable use of agricultural biodiversity, there are some urgent problems. The priority tasks for the future are as follows:

(1) Comprehensively conserve and restore various kinds of agricultural ecosystems, and disseminate technology of ecological agriculture and organic agriculture.

(2) Comprehensively conserve the existing wild biological species within agricultural ecosystems, and promote *in situ* conservation of relatives of various kinds of wild

plants.

(3) Establish a number of new agricultural nature reserves, and strengthen the construction and management of nature reserves.

(4) Strengthen monitoring on *in situ* and *ex situ* conserved resources, and establish an effective prewarning system.

(5) Establish ecological storehouses and germplasm proliferation bases in 7 ecological regions across the country; Gradually realize the upgrading and breeding of the germplasm resources preserved in the mid-term and long-term bases in different ecological regions.

(6) Gradually establish a national information management and feedback system for the conservation and use of germplasm resources.

(7) Strength capacity building for the monitoring system of agricultural biodiversity.

(8) Promote international cooperation on agricultural biodiversity, introduce expertise and technologies, and raise fund to make up for domestic fund shortage.

(9) Promote public education, and raise public awareness of agricultural biodiversity.

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

In order to protect the ecological environment of dry and sub-humid areas, China formulated a series of laws. The Law on Environmental Protection (1989), the Law on Grasslands (1985), and the Law on Water and Soil Conservation (1991) all made clear stipulations on the ecological construction, ecological conservation and biodiversity conservation in dry and sub-humid areas.

China has adopted a lot of measures to conserve and restore the ecological environment and biodiversity in dry and sub-humid areas.

(1) Since 1998, China has been implementing the Natural Forest Resource Conservation Project, banned logging of natural forests in the upper reaches of Yangtze River and the upper and middle reaches of the Yellow River, and greatly reduced timber production in key state forestry farms such as those in northeastern provinces and Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region.

(2) China implemented preventive forest development in areas such as Three-North region and in the middle and lower reaches of the Yangtze River, etc. This is the largest project of its type in China in term of coverage. Phase III of the Three-North Preventive Forest Development Project, which covers 13 provinces, autonomous regions and municipalities, has been completed, and Phase IV has been launched.

(3) China has adopted measures like artificial grass sowing, aerial grass sowing, enclosed animal husbandry, to protect and restore the ecology of grasslands.

(4) After the big flood in 1998, China has been implementing pilot projects to convert steep arable land (with slope more than 25 degrees) back to forests and grasslands. The comprehensive implementation of the project has been formally launched in 2001.

(5) The sand control and abating project will be launched in 2001 around Beijing, aiming to solve the problem of sand storms around Beijing.

These national ecological engineering has led to remarkable improvement in the ecological environment in certain areas, slowed down the trend of ecological degradation, and contributed to the coordinated development of economy and environment. Since the implementation of pilot project of natural forest conservation in 1998, 51.33 million hectares of forests have been effectively protected and 5.988 million hectares of forest vegetation has been restored in the upper reaches of Yangtze River, upper and middle reaches of Yellow River, northeastern China and Inner Mongolia. By the end of 2000, 1.363

million hectares of steep arable lands had been converted back to forests and grasslands in 193 counties of 17 provinces and autonomous regions. Due to long-term efforts, the development of preventive forests has made significant progress. The Three-North Preventive Forest Project has afforested 27.92 million hectares of forests, approximately 12% of desert lands in the Three-North region has been treated, 30% of water and soil erosion areas has received initial treatment, and 4 million hectares of bare lands have now been turned into oases. The preventive forest project in the upper and middle reaches of Yangtze River has afforested a total of 5.29 million hectares of forests, 50% of affected areas has afforested bare mountains in 271 counties involved in the project, and water and soil erosion has been under control in over 100 counties.

During the past decade, China has been planting grass at an average annual rate of 2.7 million hectares, and the total remaining planted grassland area is more than 15 million hectares. The area of enclosed pasture farmlands reaches more than 10 million hectares, and 11 grassland nature reserves have been established. These efforts have promoted the construction of grasslands and contributed significantly to the conservation of ecological environment.

In cooperation with the Secretariat of the UN Convention on Combating Desertification, China successfully hosted the Asia-Africa Workshop on Pre-Warning for Combating Desertification and the Liaison Meeting for Asian Parties of the Convention from July 22-27, 1999 in Beijing.

Although China has made great progress in the ecological conservation in dry and sub-humid areas, it needs to pay greater attention to the conservation of biodiversity during ecological construction and ecological conservation so as to realize the goal of regional sustainable development. In the relevant laws and regulations on ecological conservation and restoration, relevant stipulations on the conservation of biodiversity should be added. Engineering projects of afforestation and grassland development should be carried out in light of the local conditions, with a view to promoting species diversity.

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 you 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	√

Concluding Tables

Please use this box to identify what specific activities your country has carried out as a DIRECT RESULT of becoming a Contracting Party to the Convention, referring back to previous questions as appropriate:

1. Set up the Coordination Group for the Implementation of CBD in China and national focal points

The Coordination Group for the Implementation of CBD in China is established. It is led by the State Environmental Protection Administration, and participated by 20 departments of the State Council. Its role is to formulate annual and quarterly work plans, convene relevant meetings, and to organize and coordinate implementation activities. China also established national focal points for CBD, for clearing house mechanism, for inter-governmental meetings of the Biosafety Protocol, and for coordination mechanism for Global Taxonomy Initiative.

2. Took part in the follow-up activities of CBD, and carried out bilateral, multilateral and non-governmental Cooperation

China participated in CBD activities at global, regional and sub-regional levels, took part in each COP meetings, engaged itself in the inter-governmental negotiations of the Biosafety Protocol and eventually signed the Protocol. It also participated in each meetings of SBSTTA, and established multilateral, bilateral and non-governmental relations with relevant international organizations, countries and NGOs.

3. Promulgated and revised relevant laws and regulations, and formulated relevant action plans

China promulgated the Law on the Quarantine of Animal and Plant Import and Export, the Law on Seeds, the Regulation on Nature Reserves, the Regulation on the Protection of New Plant Species, and the Regulation on the Conservation of Wild Plant; and revised the Law on Forestry, the Law on the Protection of Marine Environment, and the Law on Fishery. The Regulation on Biosafety Management is now being prepared. China also promulgated the "China's Biodiversity: A Country Study", the China Biodiversity Conservation Action Plan,

the China's National Report on the Implementation of CBD, the National Biosafety Framework of China, the China Wetlands Biodiversity Conservation Action Plan, the Compendium for the Development Plan of Nature Reserves (1996-2010), the National Ecological Environment Construction Plan, and the Compendium of National Ecological Conservation.

4. Strengthened conservation of and scientific research on biodiversity

(1) *In situ* conservation

By the end of 2000, China has established 1227 nature reserves, with a total area of 98.208 million hectares, accounting for 9.85% of the national territory; established 1050 various types of forest parks, with a total area of 9.8253 million hectares; and established more than 600 scenic spots, with a total area of 9.6 million hectares. A national nature reserve network has taken initial shape. China’s nature reserves are gaining increasing importance internationally. 19 nature reserves have joined MBA network, 7 nature reserves have been listed as international important wetlands, and 3 nature reserves have been recognized as world heritage sites. In order to be in line with the requirement of CBD, China has strengthened construction and management of nature reserves, shifted the management focus from quantity to quality of nature reserves, and established a number of new nature reserves.

(2) *Ex situ* conservation

By 2000, there are over 140 botanical gardens across China, which cultivate approximately 18000 native plant species, accounting for 65% of all native plant species; there are about 200 zoos and wild animal gardens, over 230 artificial breeding farms of wild animals, over 20 aquariums, dozens of bird gardens across the country, and 14 rescue and breeding centers for endangered animals such as *Panthera tigris altais*, David's deer (*Elaphurus davidianus*), *Equus przewalskii*, *Saiga tatarica*, *Nipponia nippon*, and Yangtze alligator (*Alligator sinensis*) were established, there are also comprehensive storehouses of fresh water fish germplasm resources, cold semen houses of fish, and semen and embryo houses of experimental oxen and sheep.

China has constructed a long-term national storehouse and a backup storehouse of crop germplasm resources in Beijing and Qinghai respectively, 27 mid-term storehouses of crop germplasm resources, and 32 gardens of perennial plants and wild relatives of crops.

(3) Ecological construction and conservation

The State Council approved and promulgated the National Ecological Environment Construction Plan and the Compendium of National Ecological Environment Conservation, implementing the principles of “to protect the ecosystems and to construct the ecosystems at the same time” and “to attach equal importance to the pollution prevention and to the ecological conservation”. Since the implementation of pilot project of natural forest conservation in 1998, 51.33 million hectares of forests have been effectively protected and 5.988 million hectares of forest vegetation has been restored in the upper reaches of Yangtze River, upper and middle reaches of Yellow River, northeastern China and Inner Mongolia.

By the end of 2000, 1.363 million hectares of steep arable lands had been converted back to forests and grasslands in 193 counties of 17 provinces and autonomous regions. Due to long-term efforts, the development of preventive forests has made significant progress. The Three-North Preventive Forest Project has afforested 27.92 million hectares of forests, approximately 12% of desert lands in the Three-North region has been treated, 30% of water and soil erosion areas has received initial treatment, and 4 million hectares of bare lands have now been turned into oases. The preventive forest project in the upper and middle reaches of Yangtze River has afforested a total of 5.29 million hectares of forests, 50% of affected areas has afforested bare mountains in 271 counties involved in the project, and water and soil erosion has been under control in over 100 counties.

Entering 1990s, China has adopted such measures as artificial grass sowing, aerial sowing, enclosed cultivation, and tries to combine grassland and pasture development with ecological restoration. The planted grassland area has been increasing year by year, and great progress has been achieved. For the past decade, the average annual planted grassland area has exceeded 2.7 million hectares, the aggregate remaining planted grassland area reaches more than 15 million hectares, and the area of enclosed pastureland reaches more than 10 million hectares. The acceleration of grassland construction has contributed significantly to the conservation of ecological environment.

(4) Conservation of wildlife

From 1997 to 1998, China promulgated the China Red Data Book on Endangered Faunas. The book composes of 4 volumes, covering species of birds, animals, amphibians/reptiles, and fishes. It provides the status and trend of species distribution and population, classes of being endangered and reasons for being threatened. In 1999, China promulgated the first batch of National Key Wild Flora under Protection, which includes 246 flora species in 8 categories.

A significant achievement has been made on the protection of the rare and endangered species in China. Thirty-three nature reserves for Giant Pandas have been established, with 165 thousand ha of the habitats and 643 thousand ha of protected area. The number of *Nipponia nippon* has increased from 7 when it was first found to more than 200, progressively breaking away from extinction. In Yangtze alligator Nature Reserve and Research Center for Artificial Breeding in Anhui Province, the number of Yangtze alligators has increased from 200 to 9000 in ten years through artificial breeding. In Hainan Datian National Nature Reserve, the number of Eld's deer has increased from initial 26 to over 800. In Shishou Nature Reserve in Hubei Province and Dafeng David's Deer Nature Reserve in Jiangsu Province, the population of David's deers has reached over 600, and a successful test of wild breeding has been conducted. Germplasm resources of over a thousand of rare flora species and trees like *Davidia involucrata*, *Cathaya argyrophylla*，*Ormosia hosiei* have been effectively protected and got propagated in nature reserves.

(5) Collection, maintenance and preservation of genetic resources

160 species of crops and 370000 pieces of crop germplasm resources have been kept in

storehouses and evaluated in terms of catalogues, agronomic properties, quality, pressure, disease and pest resistance. China Crop Germplasm Resource Information System is established. It has been confirmed that China has more than 590 kinds of livestock and poultry.

(6) Ecological monitoring

China has set up a national monitoring system for forest resources, a monitoring center on wetland resources, a monitoring center on wild fauna and flora resources, and a monitoring center on desertification. China has set up a monitoring network on agricultural environments, which includes general monitoring center on agricultural environments, a monitoring center on fishery environments, a monitoring center on cultivation and grassland environments. The national marine environmental monitoring system has been set up, consisting of satellites, aircraft, ships, floating and coastal stations. China has also set up a general environmental monitoring station and over 2000 environmental monitoring stations. Sixty-four ecological positioning study stations and the ecosystem research network in China has been set up.

China has carried out national surveys on terrestrial wild animal resources, key protected wild plant resources, forest resources, wetland resources, the quality of agricultural ecological environments, marine environmental pollution, and nature reserves, etc.

(7) Scientific research

During the period of the 9th Five-Year Plan, China supported mainly research on ecological environments aimed to conserve regional biological diversity, initially identified the status and reasons for damages to forests, grasslands, fresh waters and coral reef ecosystems, and assessed the threats faced by key endangered species. Such research provided scientific basis for the conservation of biological diversity.

5. Supervised the implementation of relevant laws

The Central and local governments took consistent actions to supervise on law-violating activities, such as activities that are harmful to nature reserves; illegal buying and selling of rare and endangered species; illegal sell and use of wildlife and their products; illegal hunting, purchasing, processing, export and import of wild animals; and illegal manufacturing, processing, buying, use and possession of hunting guns and fishing equipment. A large number of cases that caused damages to wildlife resources have been revealed and punished, which promoted the conservation of wild animals.

6. Held various expert meetings, training courses and workshops

Various expert meetings, training courses and workshops are held to deliberate on the existing problems in the implementation of CBD, exchange information and knowledge, and to propose strategies and measures for the implementation of CBD. These activities have helped build national capacity and expertise.

7. Carried out various public education activities

Various public education activities, including newspapers, magazines, films and TV programs, exhibitions, anniversaries, summer camps, knowledge contests, etc., have been carried out to advertise the importance of CBD and biodiversity conservation, and to promote the public awareness of biodiversity conservation.

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

China has taken active part in all COP meetings, biosafety working group meetings and negotiations, SBSTTA meetings, and relevant specialised meetings, and has organized some regional meetings. China has carried out in-depth study and discussion on the issues, work programmes, progress reports and technical papers of these meetings, elaborated China's guiding principles on key issues in international implementation, engaged itself in multilateral and bilateral activities, actively coordinated its position with other developing countries, and proposed relevant suggestions and initiatives regarding the implementation of the Convention.

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

1. Formulate and perfect national strategy and action plans

Although the "China's Biodiversity: A Country Study" and the China's National Report on Implementation of CBD both included some aspects of national biodiversity strategy, China has not yet formulated a comprehensive biodiversity conservation strategy at the national level. With more in-depth implementation of CBD, the COPs have formulated a series of work programmes for biodiversity conservation in arid and sub-arid, grassland, forest, ocean, inland water, and agricultural ecosystems, and have adopted a series of decisions on the access of genetic resources and benefit sharing, the protection of traditional knowledge, clearing house mechanism, alien invasive species, and technology transfer. In line with these development and the requirements by the Convention, China should formulate a national biodiversity conservation strategy, revise China Biodiversity Conservation Action Plan, and should consider formulating the action plan for the conservation of genetic resources, the action plan for the prevention and control of alien invasive species, the action plan for the conservation of wildlife, the action plan for grassland conservation, the action plan for the conservation of typical marine ecosystems, and provincial action plans for biodiversity conservation

2. Formulate medium and long-term working plans to ensure China to meet its obligations under CBD

The COPs should, in accordance with priorities identified in above articles and work programmes, formulate medium and long-term work plans and concrete financial support plans to implement progressively the priority issues in the construction of nature reserve system, *ex situ* conservation, sustainable use of components of biodiversity, biodiversity

surveys and monitoring system, access to and benefit sharing of genetic resources, biosafety, prevention and control of alien invasive species, protection of traditional knowledge, construction of information network, and public education, etc., in order to ensure that China can meet its obligations under the Convention and protect its biodiversity effectively.

3. Strengthen capacity building for China

China should establish and update relevant laws, regulations, and various kinds of technical standards, strengthen the capacity building of integrated decision-making departments, national focal points and departmental focal points, set up a number of scientific institutions that are capable of carrying out international cooperation projects, establish a national-level expert group, promote training for decision makers, managers, technical personnel and the public, raise the public awareness of biodiversity conservation, create opportunities for China to participate in international, regional and sub-regional expert meetings, workshops, training courses, etc, and promote exchange of technology, experiences, know-how and information.

4. Increase technical and financial assistance to China

As the temporary financial mechanism of CBD, GEF has the responsibility of providing support for developing countries in their implementation of CBD. The Chinese government and its relevant departments attaches great importance to biodiversity conservation, and have formulated and promulgated a number of national, sectoral and regional plans for biodiversity conservation. However, due to lack of funding, many plans and most projects have not been implemented effectively. China is a largest developing country, and many parts of China are still very poor and do not have sufficient fund for biodiversity conservation. Fund shortage has become the most urgent issue for China to conserve biodiversity effectively. This requires high attention of the international community.

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

Compared with the first national report, the format of the second national report has been greatly improved. The contracting parties could assess their progress, existing problems and future needs for capacity building in accordance with their obligations under various CBD articles, decisions and work programmes. It is also convenient for CBD Secretariat to summarize the second national reports by various contracting parties. However, this format could be further improved. For example, some questions are repetitive; there are fewer choices than there should be for some questions; the choices for some questions are not easy to comprehend; etc.

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

Date of completion:		November 1993	
If the NBSAP has been adopted by the Government			
By which authority?		The Chinese Government	
On what date?		June 1994	
If the NBSAP has been published please give			
Title:		China Biodiversity Conservation Action Plan	
Name and address of publisher:		China Environmental Science Press Beijing, China	
ISBN:		7-80093-622-8/X.860	
Price (if applicable):		22.0RMB	
Other information on ordering:			
If the NBSAP has not been published			
Please give full details of how copies can be obtained:			
If the NBSAP has been posted on a national website			
Please give full URL:			
If the NBSAP has been lodged with an Implementing Agency of the GEF			
Please indicate which agency:		UNDP	
Has a copy of the NBSAP been lodged with the Convention Secretariat?			
Yes		No	

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

Title: China's Biodiversity: A Country Study
Completed on Dec. 25, 1996
Adopted by the State Council on Dec. 23, 1997
Published by China Environmental Sciences Press in Beijing, China
ISBN: 7-80135-256-4/X.1173
Price: 58.0RMB
A copy of this report has been lodged with UNEP

Title: China's National Report on Implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity
Completed on Nov. 14, 1997
Adopted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on Nov. 14, 1997

Published by China Environmental Science Press in Beijing, China
ISBN: 7-80135-466-4/X.1279
Price: 18.0RMB
A copy of this report has been lodged with UNEP

Title: China National Wetlands Biodiversity Conservation Action Plan
Completed in June 2000
Adopted by State Forestry Administration in June 2000
Published by China Forestry Press in Beijing, China
ISBN: 7-5038-2647-9/F.0178
Price: 26.0RMB

Title: China Biodiversity Conservation Action Plan for Agricultural Sectors
Completed in 1993
Adopted by the Ministry of Agriculture in 1993
Published by China Agriculture Press in Beijing, China
ISBN: 7-109-04264-2/S.2640
Price: 28.0RMB

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

Annex I
List of Compilers of China's Second National Report on the Implementation of CBD

Final Reviewer of the Report:

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Responsible Person of the Project and First Reviewer of the Report:

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Ministry of Science and Technology:

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Ministry of Construction:

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Annex II
List of the Second National Report Reviewers

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Mr. Lei Zhongliang, Director, Ministry of Education
Mr. Sun Hong, Director, Ministry of Science and Technology
Ms. You Yanxin, Director, Ministry of Finance
Mr. Zhao Qingguo, Director, Ministry of Construction
Ms. Wang Zhuyun, Deputy Director, Ministry of Agriculture
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