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STATE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ADMINISTRATION
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FACSIMILE SHEET

Date: July 26, 2007	No. of Pages: 14
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Subject: Submission of Information on Implementation of the Programme of Work on Protected Areas

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing with reference to the Notification 2007-066 on the above-mentioned subject.

I would like, as the national focal point of the Convention of China, to submit the attached *Evaluation Matrix for the Review of Implementation of the Programme of Work on Protected Areas* to facilitate the Secretariat to prepare the synthesis report. And the filled form will reach you by email.

Thank you for your kind cooperation.

Sincerely yours,

Zhang Jieqing
Zhang Jieqing

Director, Division of International Organizations
 Department of International Cooperation
 State Environmental Protection Administration
 Beijing, China

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*****EVALUATION MATRIX FOR THE REVIEW OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
PROGRAMME OF WORK ON PROTECTED AREAS**

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Goal, & target	Key evaluation questions and national considerations
<i>Description</i>	
<p>Goal: To establish and strengthen national and regional systems of protected areas integrated into a global network as a contribution to globally agreed goals. Target: Establish a global network of comprehensive, representative and effectively managed national and regional protected area systems.</p>	<p>• Is the existing national protected area system comprehensive, ecologically representative and effectively managed (provide number of existing protected areas, total area covered, and type and percentage of biomes covered)?</p> <p>Yes, the existing national protected area system is basically comprehensive and ecologically representative. 2395 protected areas with various types have been established by the end of 2006 (Hong Kong, Macao and Taiwan were not included). The total area covered by protect areas is 151.54 million hm², occupying 15.16% of China's total terrestrial area. In terms of areas, wild animal protected areas account for 28.5%, desert 26.2%, forest 22.2%, inland waters 17.3%, grassland 2.1%, and marine & coast 0.67%.</p> <p>O What are the definitions of "comprehensive", "ecologically representative" and "effectively managed" in your country?</p> <p>Not yet scientifically defined</p> <p>O What is the progress made in quantitative and qualitative terms against the national targets relating to "comprehensiveness", "ecological representation", and "effective management"?</p> <p>Not assessed</p> <p>O What biomes are adequately represented?</p> <p>Forest, inland waters, and desert.</p> <p>O What biomes are underrepresented or not represented?</p> <p>Grassland ecosystems and marine ecosystems.</p>

	<p>O What IUCN categories of protected areas are included?</p> <p>All of the IUCN categories are included.</p> <p>• Do new protected areas established since COP-7 cover underrepresented ecosystems and biomes (number of new protected areas since COP-7, area covered by them, type and percentage of biomes covered by them)?</p> <p>Yes</p> <p>• Are there plans for the establishment of additional protected areas by the year 2010 (terrestrial) and 2012 (marine)?</p> <p>Yes, there are.</p> <p>O Have plans or actions for protected area system (incorporating elements for filling ecological gaps, securing financial resources, capacity-building, addressing policy, legislative and institutional barriers) been developed?</p> <p>China has published several plans, including "Development Plan of Nature Reserves of China (1996-2010)", and the updated "Development Plan of Nature Reserves of China (2006-2020)" which is expected to be approved by the State Council soon. Such plans were developed through inter-departmental coordination and consultation and approved by the central government. These plans have provided many regulations and endowed a foundation for filling ecological gaps, securing financial resources, capacity-building, addressing policy, legislative and institutional barriers.</p>
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<p>Goal: To integrate protected areas into broader land- and seascapes and sectors so as to maintain ecological structure and function. Target: All protected areas and protected area systems are integrated into the wider land- and seascape, and relevant sectors, by applying the ecosystem approach and taking into account ecological connectivity and the concept, where appropriate, of ecological networks</p>	<p>• What measures have been taken for developing enabling environment (legislation, policies, tools) for integrating protected areas into broader land and seascapes and sectoral interests (i.e. agriculture, infrastructure, energy)?</p> <p>A basic legal framework has been developed to integrate protected areas into broader land and seascape and sectoral interests in the aspect of land management, infrastructure construction and energy usage, which includes "Regulation on Nature Reserve of China", "Rule on Land Management of Nature Reserves", and "Rule on Supervision and Inspection of National Nature Reserve". China is also drafting the Law on Protected Areas.</p> <p>O Are the needs of protected areas taken into account in the wider land and seascape to address the need for connectivity, including ecological networks?</p> <p>Yes, the needs of integrating protected areas into wider land and seascape for connectivity has been fully considered.</p> <p>O Has the concept of the "ecosystem approach" been applied while developing protected area system?</p> <p>Yes, the concept of "ecosystem approach" has been applied, especially in the consideration of maintaining integrity of goods and service of the ecosystems.</p>
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Goal, & target	Key evaluation questions and national considerations
<i>Description</i>	

<p>Goal: To establish and strengthen regional networks, transboundary protected areas (TBPAs) and collaboration between neighbouring protected areas across national boundaries. Target: Establish and strengthen by transboundary protected areas, other forms of collaboration between neighbouring protected areas across national boundaries and regional networks, to enhance the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, implementing the ecosystem approach, and improving international cooperation.</p>	<p>• What collaboration across national boundaries has been implemented in relation to protected areas?</p> <p>The collaboration include that, integrating protected areas into regional network, establishing transboundary protected areas and migratory corridors, sharing information and techniques, <i>et al.</i></p> <p>O Has any consultation process been established to identify potential transboundary, including marine, protected areas?</p> <p>Yes, there are consultation processes before identifying transboundary protected areas.</p> <p>O How many protected areas feature in regional networks and how many of these are transboundary?</p> <p>There are a lot of protected areas that belong to regional networks, and there are also several tansboundary protected areas.</p> <p>O Has the potential for regional cooperation under relevant conventions been utilised for the establishment of migratory corridors?</p> <p>Yes, the potential of regional cooperation under CBD has been utilized.</p>
<p>Goal: To substantially improve site-based protected area planning and management. Target: All protected areas have effective management using participatory and science-based site planning processes that incorporate clear biodiversity objectives, targets, management strategies and monitoring programmes, drawing upon existing methodologies and a</p>	<p>• What percentage of protected areas (area and number) have up-to-date science-based management plans that a) Are under development? b) Are under effective implementation?</p> <p>Most of protected areas in China developed management plans, however, many of them have not been implemented due to various impediments. The percentages are unable to access.</p> <p>O Have consultation been undertaken involving protected area functionaries, local stakeholders and researchers to identify science-based biodiversity conservation targets?</p> <p>Yes, all protected area's biodiversity conservation targets were based on consultation involving protected area functionaries, local stakeholders and researchers.</p>

<p>long-term management plan with active stakeholder involvement.</p>	
<p>Goal: To prevent and mitigate the negative impacts of key threats to protected areas. Target: Effective mechanisms for identifying and preventing, and/or mitigating the negative impacts of key threats to protected areas are in place.</p>	<p>• What measures have been put in place to identify, prevent and/or mitigate the negative impacts of threats?</p> <p>There are legal measures mainly:</p> <p>“Regulation of Nature Reserve of China” identifies the actions which might result in threats to protected areas such as lopping, herding, hunting, fishing, reclaiming, collecting herbs, exploiting mines and releasing contaminants. The regulation forbids these actions and prescribes punishment measures for preventing and mitigating impacts of threats.</p> <p>“Law of Environment Impacts Assessment of China” dictates that the potential impacts on protected areas after project constructions should be analyzed, predicted and assessed; and the strategies and measures for preventing and mitigating environmental impacts and means and systems for tracking monitoring should be developed.</p> <p>“Rule on the Supervision and Inspection on National Nature Reserves” prescribes that State Environmental Protection Administration (SEPA) takes responsibility for supervising and inspecting on national nature reserves, including periodic inspection, selective examination, case investigation and other ways, in order to identify and prevent the negative impacts on protected areas. SEPA has rights to punish the misfeasors and rectify the illegal actions to mitigate the caused impacts.</p> <p>O What measures have been taken to restore and rehabilitate the ecological integrity of protected areas?</p>

	<p>Chinese government has attached great importance on restoration and rehabilitation of ecological integrity of protected areas. The projects of rehabilitating forest from slope agriculture, restoring lake from farmland, and returning grassland from pasturing area have been implemented and the governments have appropriate special funds for these projects. The vegetation restoring projects have been commenced in the deserted mountains, naked lands and mudflats within some protected areas, and the corridors have been established to strengthen the connectivity of protected areas. All above measures are at the aims of rehabilitating the integrity of ecosystem structure and landscape pattern.</p>
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Goal, & target	Key evaluation questions and national considerations
<i>Description</i>	
<p>Goal: To promote equity and benefit sharing. Target: Establish mechanisms for the equitable sharing of both costs and benefits arising from the establishment and management of protected areas.</p>	<p>• What legislative or policy frameworks are in place to establish frameworks for the equitable sharing of costs and benefits arising from the establishment and management of protected areas?</p> <p>The legislative and policy framework include "Regulation on Nature Reserve Statute of China", "Rule on Land Management of Nature Reserves" But there are gaps in term of equitable sharing of costs and benefits arising from the establishment and management of protected areas.</p> <p>O Have assessments been made of the economic and socio-cultural costs and benefits of protected areas, particularly for indigenous and local communities?</p> <p>There are some case studies on the evaluation of ecosystem services and goods provided by protected areas, such as Changbai Mountain National Nature Reserve. But the methodology need to be developed further.</p> <p>O What measures have been taken to avoid and mitigate negative impacts on indigenous and local communities?</p> <p>The measures include the development of regulations to protect the rights and interests of indigenous and local</p>

	<p>communities, the involvement of indigenous and local communities in the design, management, monitoring, and assessment of protected areas.</p> <p>O What mechanisms have been put in place to identify and recognize community conserved areas and how many such areas have been integrated into the national protected areas system?</p> <p>The community conserved areas are established and administrated through participatory management. There are about 50319 community conserved areas with an area of 1.36 million ha. Although there is great progress in the management of community conserved areas, they are facing shortage of legislation, human resources, expertise and funding.</p>
<p>Goal: To enhance and secure involvement of indigenous and local communities, and relevant stakeholders. Target: Full and effective participation of indigenous and local communities, in full respect of their rights and recognition of their responsibilities, consistent with national law and applicable international obligations, and the participation of relevant stakeholders, in the management of existing, and the establishment and management of new, protected areas</p>	<p>• What mechanisms have been implemented to ensure full and effective participation of indigenous and local communities, in full respect of their rights and recognition of their responsibilities, consistent with national law and applicable international obligations, in the management of existing, and the establishment and management of new, protected areas?</p> <p>In China, the mechanisms to ensure participation of indigenous and local communities in the establishment and management of protected areas are in its preliminary stage, and there are conflicts in interests between local communities and protected areas. However, we have been considering the need of indigenous and local communities and been constructing the mechanisms of community based management in order to harmonize the relationship between local communities and protected areas and promote the participation of local communities in the establishment and management of protected areas. The mechanism of community based management has been tried out in some areas.</p> <p>O What measures have been taken to support areas conserved by indigenous and local communities?</p> <p>Main measures includes training on the conservation and sustainable use of biological resources, dissemination of eco-agricultural models, dissemination of energy-saving techniques and facilitates, establishment of small-scaled</p>

	<p>funding projects, and subsidy on conservation efforts, for indigenous and local communities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What mechanisms have been put in place to ensure the participation of relevant stakeholders, in the management of existing, and the establishment and management of new, protected areas? <p>There are some mechanisms to ensure the participation of relevant stakeholders both at national and local levels. A National Steering Committee on the Appraisal of National Nature Reserves, which is composed of representatives of relevant ministries including the Ministry of Agriculture, State Forestry Administration, State Oceanic Administration, Ministry of Education, and Chinese Academy of Sciences, are responsible for the establishment of new national nature reserves and the assessment of existing national nature reserves. There are also Provincial Steering Committees in many provinces which address provincial-level nature reserves. In order to ensure the participation of relevant stakeholders, some nature reserves have initiated and are implementing community based management committees, which is composed of both managers of nature reserves and representatives of indigenous and local communities.</p>
<p>Goal: To provide an enabling policy, institutional and socioeconomic environment for protected areas. Target: By 2008 review and revise policies as appropriate, including use of social and economic valuation and incentives, to provide a supportive enabling environment for more effective establishment and management of protected areas and protected area systems.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are the appropriate policy, institutional and socio-economic frameworks in place to value goods and services and enable more effective establishment and management of protected areas? <p>Before establishment of a new nature reserve, the National or Provincial Steering Committee on the Appraisal of Nature Reserves must take a field survey. They evaluate the structures and functions of the ecosystems, the representative and fragility of habitats, the status of species diversity and the scientific and socio-economic value of the protected areas. After the evaluation, only the eligible ones could be approved to establish. Relating to the existing protected areas, there is a periodic mechanism for appraising goods and services to enable more effective management of the protected areas.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What kind of social and economic valuation methods and incentives for more effective

	<p>establishment and management of protected areas are developed and incorporated into national policies, institutional and socioeconomic structures?</p> <p>China has developed valuation methods and incentive mechanisms for protected areas and incorporated them into national policies, institutional and socio-economic structures. The National Steering Committee on the Appraisal of National Nature Reserves or the Provincial Steering Committee on the Appraisal of Provincial Nature Reserves take some social and economic valuation methods for establishment and adjustment of nature reserves. The Criteria for Appraising the Management of National Nature Reserves, which consists of 20 indicators, was established. The social and economic incentives include: "Excellent Collectivity Prize", "Excellent Individual Prize" and other prizes every two year to the collectivities and individuals who have done great contributions to the establishment and management of protected areas; appropriate more funds for the excellent protected areas and increase their employees' salary after an appraising process.</p> <p>O What are the main impediments to effective establishment and management of protected areas? Have measures been taken to overcome these?</p> <p>The main impediments to effective establishment and management of protected areas are lack of qualified human resources, expertise and funding. Many nature reserves in China have not yet management bodies and qualified professionals; some nature reserves have very few qualified management staff. As a countermeasure, Chinese governments are establishing management bodies and training management staff for nature reserves step by step. China lacks relevant expertise and funding on the design, management, monitoring and assessment of nature reserves. To overcome these, Chinese government is strengthening the research on the design, management, monitoring and assessment of nature reserves, and making efforts to increase the funds from various channels. China is a developing country. The establishment of protected areas needs the support from international communities.</p>
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Goal, &target	Key evaluation questions and national considerations
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<i>Description</i>	
<p>Goal: To build capacity for the planning, establishment and management of protected areas. Target: comprehensive capacity-building programmes and initiatives are implemented to develop knowledge and skills at individual, community and institutional levels, and raise professional standards.</p>	<p>• Has a comprehensive capacity-needs assessment for protected areas management been carried out?</p> <p>Yes. There was a comprehensive capacity-needs assessment for protected areas management.</p> <p>• What capacity-building programmes have been undertaken or are being undertaken. How successful have the completed programmes been?</p> <p>The capacity-building programmes include: holding training courses for management staff of nature reserves; encouraging the management staff to attend professional education; establishing cooperation with universities and research institutions. These measures have made obvious outcomes in some protected areas.</p> <p>O Does your country consider a multidisciplinary approach to protected areas management?</p> <p>Yes, a multidisciplinary approach consisting of ecology, geography, management, economics and law are taking account to protected area management.</p>
<p>Goal: To develop, apply and transfer appropriate technologies for protected areas. Target: development, validation, and transfer of appropriate technologies and innovative approaches for the effective management of protected areas is substantially improved, taking into account decisions of the Conference of the Parties on technology transfer and cooperation.</p>	<p>• What new innovative approaches and technologies have been identified, developed and implemented for protected areas establishment and management on the national and regional level?</p> <p>In the establishment and management of protected areas, Chinese scientists have developed new innovative concepts of ecological security and landscape security and guided the designing of new protected areas. GIS technologies have been also utilized in the designing, planning, managing and monitoring of protected areas. Concerning nature resources of protected areas.</p> <p>O Has there been collaboration within the country and/or with other countries to share information and technologies?</p> <p>Yes, the collaboration within our country and with other countries to share information and technologies has been being carried out.</p>

<p>Goal: To ensure financial sustainability of protected areas, and national and regional systems of protected areas. Target: Sufficient financial, technical and other resources to meet the costs to effectively implement and manage national and regional systems of protected areas are secured, including both from national and international sources, particularly to support the needs of developing countries and countries with economies in transition and small island developing States.</p>	<p>• Have financial needs been identified? What are the results of this needs assessment (quantitative and qualitative)?</p> <p>Yes, the financial needs have been identified. From now to 2010, the financial need for infrastructure of protected areas is around 150 million RMB Yuan per year and the management need is around 295 million RMB Yuan per year.</p> <p>• What strategies are in place to meet these needs, and in particular to secure long-term funding for the national protected areas system?</p> <p>The funds for protected areas mainly from national and local governments' budget. The State Environmental Protection Administration, State Forestry Administration and other ministries have budgets on the protected areas under their governing. The Ministry of Finance has set a budget nominated as "Nature Reserve Special Fund" in 2001. This is a long-term funding guarantee for protected areas, though it may not meet the financial needs adequately.</p> <p>O What financial support has been given to developing countries and countries with economies in transition and small island developing States?</p> <p>Not applicable, because China is a developing country.</p> <p>O What proportion of the budget is dedicated to supporting the national protected areas system (What proportion of the total funding for the national protected areas comes from private and public funding sources, and how much from the state budget?)</p> <p>There is no definite amount and proportion of the budgets dedicated to the protected area system in China.</p> <p>O Have studies been made on the efficient use of the resources in contribution to financial sustainability of protected areas?</p> <p>Yes, we have been studying the mechanisms for financial sustainability of protected areas.</p>
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<p>Goal: To strengthen communication, education and public awareness. Target: Public awareness, understanding and appreciation of the importance and benefits of protected areas is significantly increased.</p>	<p>• Is there a review mechanism for public education programmes to measure if they have been effective in communicating the basic biodiversity values of protected areas?</p> <p>No, there is not such a mechanism.</p> <p>O What education measures and programmes have been developed and implemented regarding protected areas, including for raising public awareness?</p> <p>The education measures and programmes include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Provide education and training to government officers, manager of protected areas, indigenous people to increase their awareness of values of biodiversity and nature reserves. (2) Build systems of environmental education in schools and colleges and provide extracurricular for students regarding natural protection. (3) Develop awareness raising activities to raise public awareness using various media, public relationships and networks in national and regional levels. (4) Establish mechanisms for public participation and encourage the public and NGOs to be involved in propagandas and educations concerning protected areas.
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Goal, & target	Key evaluation questions and national considerations
<i>Description</i>	
<p>Goal: To develop and adopt minimum standards and best practices for national and regional protected area systems. Target: Standards, criteria, and best practices for planning, selecting, establishing, managing and governance of national and regional systems of protected areas are developed and adopted.</p>	<p>• Have standards, criteria and best practices for a) site selection, b) management, c) governance, and d) long-term monitoring of outcomes been applied and documented? (Please provide a reference).</p> <p>Yes, there have been some standards and criteria:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Principle for Categories and Grades of Nature Reserves (1994); (2) Technical Guideline for the Construction of Management and Conservation Infrastructure of Nature Reserves (2003); (3) Design Specification for the Engineering of Nature Reserves (2004); (4) Technical Specification for the Management of Marine Protected Areas (2004)

	(5) Technical Specification for the monitoring of Marine Protected Areas—General (2002).
<p>Goal: To evaluate and improve the effectiveness of protected area management.</p> <p>Target: Frameworks for monitoring, evaluating and reporting protected areas management effectiveness at sites, national and regional systems, and transboundary protected area levels adopted and implemented by Parties.</p>	<p>• Has your country evaluated management effectiveness of protected areas in a systematic way? If yes, (a) What percentage of national protected area system surface area has been evaluated? (b) What are the conclusions for the national protected areas system, and to what extent were results incorporated into management plans and strategies?</p> <p>We have established some measures for evaluating the management effectiveness of protected areas. The elements of evaluation include: setup of management agencies, construction of conservation infrastructures, enacting and implementing of management regulations and plans, conservation and usage of nature resources, scientific research, monitoring, and education, etc.. The evaluation processes are being commenced at the provincial level now.</p>