

FORWARD

Liberia ratified the Convention on Biological Diversity on November 8, 2000. By ratifying the Convention, the country as a contracting party committed itself to institute national and international measures to achieve the objectives of the convention: the conservation of biological diversity; the sustainable use of its components, and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the use of genetic resources. These three objectives translate into obligations to which all parties are bound.

The requirement by parties to develop and submit periodic reports to the Convention is in compliance with Article 26 of the Convention. The Government of Liberia through the Environmental Protection Agency undertook this responsibility. The report constitutes an important contribution to the elaboration of environmental policies in the country by allowing the evaluation of all national actions undertaken in the various sectors for the conservation of the country's natural resources. This is Liberia's first national report to the Convention, apart from the elaboration thematic reports four years ago. As with previous reports, this report will be published on the local web page through CHM mechanism.

Liberia's Third National Report to the Convention on Biological Diversity includes initiatives reflecting the degree of compliance with obligations under the convention up to 2006. The document was developed based on the Guidelines for National Reports established by Decisions V/19, VI/25, and VII/25 of the Conference of the Parties, and is divided into three sections:

- Section One looks at targets set by Liberia in for the achievement of the 2010 Target to reverse the loss of biodiversity;
- Section Two considers the country's progress in the implementation of programmes of action completed under the Articles of the convention; and
- Section three looks at implementation of programs under various thematic areas.

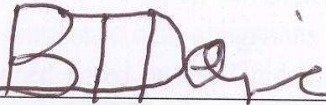
The Report confirms that Liberia has not set adequate targets for the implementation of several articles under the convention, nor have national goals and objectives been established to match sustainable management of our resources with national development initiatives. Some of the actions would require further supporting studies/assessments that are yet to be undertaken. Liberia subsequently chose to present an account of the portion of actions taken in meeting its obligations under the convention.

To aid in the process, the Guidelines for Reporting provided a questionnaire with 206 multiple-choice questions most of which were followed by comments to clarify the answers. There were also 35 boxes with six items to address, but to which comments were not made.

EPA recruited three consultants to work with the project coordinator/lead consultant, who is also the CBD national focal point. Data collected and collated by the consultants were presented in a draft report first to the National Steering Committee and then at a stakeholders' forum to allow for the views/opinions of representatives of civil society, Government, students and academic institutions. Stakeholders institution participating in these workshops include: Ministry of Lands, Mines & Energy, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry Development Authority, Liberia Water & Sewer Corporation, Ministry of Health & Social Welfare, Ministry of Internal Affairs, Coalition of local NGOs, International NGOs, and Civil society groups.

The consultation process began in late December 2006 and terminated mid January 2007. Thirty (30) persons were present at the first consultative forum, while nearly sixty persons from all sectors of the biodiversity related institutions partook in the validation meeting. Information provided during these meetings form part of the report.

The Report represents the views and opinions of the various stakeholders that collaborated with the Agency in the development and finalization of this report.



Ben Turtur Donnie
Executive Director
Environmental Protection Agency

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REPORTING PARTY

Contracting Party	LIBERIA
NATIONAL FOCAL POINT	
Full name of the institution	Environmental Protection Agency
Name and title of contact officer	Ben Turtur Donnie, Executive Director
Mailing address	4 th Street, Box 4024, Monrovia, Liberia
Telephone	+231651187
Fax	+23177523432
E-mail	benturturdonnie@yahoo.com
CONTACT OFFICER FOR NATIONAL REPORT (IF DIFFERENT FROM ABOVE)	
Full name of the institution	Environmental Protection Agency
Name and title of contact officer	Jonathan W. Davies, CBD Operational Focal Point
Mailing address	Same as above
Telephone	+2316523544
Fax	+23177523432
E-mail	Jondavies7315w@yahoo.com
SUBMISSION	
Signature of officer responsible for submitting national report	Ben Turtur Donnie
Date of submission	

Information on the preparation of the report

Box I.

Please provide information on the preparation of this report, including information on stakeholders involved and material used as a basis for the report.

The preparation of this report started with the selection of a National Steering Committee, and the recruitment of consultants by the Environmental Protection Agency. These included a lead consultant, and three additional consultants who were responsible for gathering data on in-situ and ex-situ conservation, socio-economic data and thematic programmes of work. Data gathered from the various consultants, were analyzed and compiled into a draft report by the team of consultants.

The draft report was presented to a stakeholders' consultative workshop for their review and inputs; following this, the report was submitted to a review panel that gave it a bill of health after four days of examining the information contained in it. The panel was mandated to authenticate the data provided in the report through careful examination of the sources. The report was then presented to a validation workshop where stakeholders carried out final review and thereafter approved of it as one that represents the status of biodiversity in the country.

The report was finalized by the team of consultants who integrated final comments from the validation workshop and was finally approved by the National Steering Committee in a regular sitting for the purpose of the report.

The resource materials used for this report include:

- **National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP);**
- **National Capacity Self Assessment Report (NCSA-Report);**
- **The Environmental Framework Laws (Environmental Policy of Liberia, Environmental Protection Agency Act and Environmental Protection and Management Law);**
- **The Forest Policy, Reformed Forestry Law, Guidelines, and the Five-Year Management Plan**
- **The Agriculture /Quarantine Law, and 1999 Annual Report Ministry of Agriculture;**
- **The New Mineral and Mining Law 2000 (Ministry of Lands, Mines and Energy);**
- **NAPA Liberia Report under the UNFCCC;**
- **The National Biosafety Framework;**
- **Coastal Profile and National Program of Action (2005-2009) under the Guinea Current Large Marine Ecosystem;**
- **State of the Environment Draft Report;**
- **Action For A Sustainable Future (Decisions from the Sixth Meeting of the**

Conference of the Parties to the CBD);

- **The 2010 Biodiversity Target: A Framework for Implementation;**
- **Handbook of the Convention on Biological Diversity;**
- **Fauna & Flora International Guidelines for Protected Forest Creation & Expansion;**
- **Draft Wetlands Policy;**
- **Draft Mountain Policy;**
- **National IBA Conservation Strategy (2004)**

B. PRIORITY SETTING, TARGETS AND OBSTACLES

Box II.

Please provide an overview of the status and trends of various components of biological diversity in your country based on the information and data available.

Priority Setting

1. Please indicate, by marking an "X" in the appropriate column below, the level of priority your country accords to the implementation of various articles, provisions and relevant programmes of the work of the Convention.

Article/Provision/Programme of Work	Level of Priority		
	High	Medium	Low
a) Article 5 – Cooperation	X		
b) Article 6 - General measures for conservation and sustainable use		X	
c) Article 7 - Identification and monitoring			X
d) Article 8 – <i>In-situ</i> conservation		X	
e) Article 8(h) - Alien species			X
f) Article 8(j) - Traditional knowledge and related provisions			X
g) Article 9 – <i>Ex-situ</i> conservation			X
h) Article 10 – Sustainable use of components of biological diversity			X
i) Article 11 - Incentive measures			X
j) Article 12 - Research and training		X	
k) Article 13 - Public education and awareness		X	
l) Article 14 - Impact assessment and minimizing adverse impacts		X	
m) Article 15 - Access to genetic resources			X
n) Article 16 - Access to and transfer of technology		X	
o) Article 17 - Exchange of information		X	
p) Article 18 – Scientific and technical cooperation		X	
q) Article 19 - Handling of biotechnology and distribution of its benefits			X
r) Article 20 - Financial resources			X
s) Article 21 - Financial mechanism			X

t) Agricultural biodiversity			X
u) Forest biodiversity	X		
v) Inland water biodiversity			X
w) Marine and coastal biodiversity			X
x) Dryland and subhumid land biodiversity			X
y) Mountain biodiversity			X

Challenges and Obstacles to Implementation

2. Please use the scale indicated below to reflect the level of challenges faced by your country in implementing the provisions of the Articles of the Convention (5, 6,7, 8, 8h, 8j, 9, 10, 11,12, 13, 14, 15,16, 17, 18, 19 and 20)	
3 = High Challenge	1 = Low Challenge
2 = Medium Challenge	0 = Challenge has been successfully overcome
N/A = Not applicable	

Challenges	Articles																	
	5	6	7	8	8h	8j	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
a) Lack of political will and support	2	2	3	2	3	3	3	2	3	2	2	3	3	2	2	2	2	3
b) Limited public participation and stakeholder involvement	1	2	2	2	3	3	3	2	3	2	2	3	3	2	1	2	2	3
c) Lack of mainstreaming and integration of biodiversity issues into other sectors	2	2	3	2	3	3	3	2	3	2	3	3	3	2	2	1	2	3
d) Lack of precautionary and proactive measures	3	2	3	2	3	3	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	2	1	2	3
e) Inadequate capacity to act, caused by institutional weakness	3	2	3	3	3	3	2	2	3	2	2	3	3	2	2	1	2	3
f) Lack of transfer of technology	2	2	2	2	3	3	2	2	3	2	2	2	2	2	3	1	2	2

and expertise																		
g) Loss of traditional knowledge	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	3	2	2	3	3	3	3	3	3
h) Lack of adequate scientific research capacities to support all the objectives	3	3	3	2	3	3	2	3	3	3	2	3	3	3	2	3	3	3
i) Lack of accessible knowledge and information	2	2	3	2	3	3	2	2	3	3	2	2	3	2	3	2	3	1
j) Lack of public education and awareness at all levels	2	2	3	2	3	3	3	3	2	2	2	3	3	2	2	2	2	2
k) Existing scientific and traditional knowledge not fully utilized	2	2	3	2	3	3	2	2	3	2	2	2	2	3	2	2	2	1
l) Loss of biodiversity and the corresponding goods and services it provides not properly understood and documented	2	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	2	2	2	3	3	2	2	2	2	2
m) Lack of financial, human, technical resources	3	2	3	3	3	2	2	2	3	3	2	2	3	2	2	2	2	2
n) Lack of economic incentive measures	3	2	3	3	2	2	2	2	3	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
o) Lack of benefit-sharing	3	2	2	3	2	3	3	2	3	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	2
p) Lack of synergies at national and international levels	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	2	1
q) Lack of horizontal cooperation among stakeholders	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
r) Lack of effective partnerships	1	2	2	2	2	2	1	2	2	2	1	2	2	2	2	1	1	1
s) Lack of	1	2	2	2	3	3	2	2	2	2	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2

engagement of scientific community																			
t) Lack of appropriate policies and laws	2	2	2	2	2	3	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	2	2	2	
u) Poverty	2	2	3	3	2	2	2	3	3	3	2	2	2	2	1	1	3	3	
v) Population pressure	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	1	1	1	2	2	1	1	2	1	
w) Unsustainable consumption and production patterns	3	3	3	3	2	3	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	3	2	
x) Lack of capacities for local communities	3	2	2	2	3	2	3	3	3	3	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	
y) Lack of knowledge and practice of ecosystem-based approaches to management	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	2	2	3	2	2	1	
z) Weak law enforcement capacity	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	
aa) Natural disasters and environmental change	2	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	1	1	1	2
bb) Others (please specify)																			

2010 Target

The Conference of the Parties, in decision VII/30, annex II, decided to establish a provisional framework for goals and targets in order to clarify the 2010 global target adopted by decision VI/26, help assess the progress towards the target, and promote coherence among the programmes of work of the Convention. Parties and Governments are invited to develop their own targets with this flexible framework. Please provide relevant information by responding to the questions and requests contained in the following tables.

Box III.

Goal 1	Promote the conservation of the biological diversity of ecosystems, habitats and biomes.		
Target 1.1	At least ten percent of each of the world's ecological regions effectively conserved		
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?			
a) No			
b) Yes, the same as the global target			X
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established			X
Please provide details below.			
<p>30% of the forests of Liberia are set aside for conservation, 10% for community forestry and 60% for commercial forestry (forest policy of Liberia p.6, 2006). Section 9.1 (a) of the Reformed Forestry Law 2006 mandates the establishment of protected forest areas network, conservation corridor, which incorporates 30% of existing national forests representing 1.5 million hectare into protected area network. The NBSAP Goal I Objective 2, confirmed the setting aside of at least 10% of the land area for strict protection and 30% for multiple use for partial protection.</p> <p>The Forest Policy and Guidelines for the Five-year Forest Management Plan of Liberia, considered EIA and social impact assessment as fundamental tools for sustainable forest management in Liberia (p.5 Guidelines for Strategic Forest Management in Liberia 2006). The Five-Year Forest Management Plan sets the objectives for forest management, describes and analyses the financial, technical, biological and environmental constraints to management and provides the solution on how the objectives can be achieved, measured and target indicators to measure performance. (Chapter 9 Section 9.2)</p> <p>The Environmental Protection and Management Law and the National Environmental Policy define standards and principles for promoting the conservation of biological diversity.</p>			
II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).			
Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural	X		Liberia developed a five-year (2000-2005) Agricultural Plan in 1999, which set targets to rehabilitate infrastructures and build both institutional and human capacities, as well as improve and ensure sustainable crop production/yield.
b) Inland water		X	No realistic program has been undertaken in this area; apart from a study done by the Ministry of Lands, Mines and Energy and the University of Liberia on

			Water Resources in the country.
c) Marine and coastal	X		GCLME Plan of Action has set targets for Coastal and Marine Ecosystem
d) Dry and subhumid land		X	Although Liberia ratified the Convention in 1998, no targets are in place under this program. Recently, the Global Environment Facility provided funding to develop a project for land degradation in the country.
e) Forest	X		The forestry Development Authority has developed a five-year Forest Management Plan that sets basic targets for various forest programs and also set Principles, criteria and generic indicators.
f) Mountain		X	The Government of Liberia in 2004 established an International Year of Mountain (IYM) Secretariat to formulate a National Mountain Policy and develop a Plan of Action for Liberia's Mountain Ecosystem.
III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?			
a) No			
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan			X
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes			X
Please provide details below.			
<p>Liberia had developed a number of strategies and plans that address the conservation of biological diversity. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guinea Current Large Marine Ecosystem- (GCLME)- outlines the country profile on coastal and marine ecosystem and national program of action for conservation of coastal and marine biodiversity. • National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP)- outlines strategies and actions for the sustainable use of biological diversity. • Five-year Forest Management Plan- addresses issues of access, sustainable as well as benefit sharing for forest resources. • National Adaptation Program of Action (NAPA)-identifies adaptive measures to reduce adverse effects to climate change. • National Reconstruction and Development Plan (NRDP)- outlines plan for post conflict reconstruction and development. • MDG Report for Liberia-outlines development benchmarks for Liberia from 2005-2015. The plan of action contains programmes and strategies for poverty alleviation, sustainable development, and environmental sustainability among others. 			
IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.			

V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.

VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.

The mobilization of the financial resources needed to implement the project.

VII) Please provide any other relevant information.

Box IV.

Target 1.2	Areas of particular importance to biodiversity protected		
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?			
a) No			
b) Yes, the same as the global target			
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established			X
Please provide details below.			
<p>Liberia has two legally protected areas (Sapo National Park and East Nimba Nature Reserve) with six proposed ones. Five wetlands of international importance were declared in 2005 under the Ramsar Convention and the five were gazetted by the convention's secretariat.</p> <p>The NBSAP sets national target for areas of particular importance to biological diversity. The forestry Development Authority has a five-year management plan for protected area embedded in its five-year forest management plan with technical support from Conservation International.</p>			
II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).			
Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural		X	
b) Inland water		X	
c) Marine and coastal	X		The GCLME project has developed a coastal profile and five-year (2005-2009) comprehensive management programme of action.
d) Dry and subhumid land		X	There is PDF-A going on and will be completed in the first quarter of 2007.
e) Forest	X		The FDA has five-year (2005-2009) forest management plan. 30% of the forestland is placed in strict conservation. Conservation International, Fauna and Flora international along with local NGOs are working along with the FDA to develop management plan for the protected areas.
f) Mountain		X	There is draft policy.
III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?			
a) No			
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan			X
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes			
Please provide details below.			
<p>The NBSAP developed complete strategies and actions for the management of protected area system. The action plan has not been implemented since its completion in 2004.</p>			

IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.
V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.
VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target. The implementation of the strategy and action plan is seen as a key challenge.
VII) Please provide any other relevant information.

Box V.

Goal 2	Promote the conservation of species diversity		
Target 2.1	Restore, maintain, or reduce the decline of populations of species of selected taxonomic groups		
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?			
a) No			X
b) Yes, the same as the global target			
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established			
Please provide details below.			
The NBSAP calls for baseline study to be conducted to include species inventory; identification of endangered and species at risk; identification of particular significant habitat; and identification of areas of particular economic significance. No clear actions for species diversity and selected taxonomic group. The study has not been conducted.			
II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).			
Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural	-	X	
b) Inland water		X	
c) Marine and coastal		X	Profile coastal and program of Action Plan Completed.

d) Dry and subhumid land		X	PDF-A - Stage
e) Forest		X	Programme of Action with timelines available
f) Mountain		X	At Policy development stage
III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?			
a) No			
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan		X	
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes			
Please provide details below.			
NBSAP has been developed, but is yet to be implemented.			
IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.			
V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.			
VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.			
The major challenge is the full or partial implementation of the strategies and actions recommended in the NBSAP.			
VII) Please provide any other relevant information.			

Box VI.

Target 2.2	Status of threatened species improved
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?	
a) No	
b) Yes, the same as the global target	
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established	X

Please provide details below.

The Reformed Forest Law 2006 and the Forest Regulations 2006 have provisions for the protection of threatened species of plants and animals. Also, the Environmental Protection and Management Law, calls for the following actions:

- That all wild animals and birds and in particular rare threatened and endangered species to be preserved and protected in accordance with guidelines develop by the agency in collaboration with line ministries;
- Identify, prepare and maintain an inventory of biological diversity of Liberia;
- Determine which component of biological resources are endangered, rare or threatened with extinction;

II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).

Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural		X	
b) Inland water		X	
c) Marine and coastal		X	
d) Dry and subhumid land		X	
e) Forest		X	
f) Mountain		X	

III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?

a) No	
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan	X
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes	

Please provide details below.

Goal I, Objective VI, Action I of the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan, call for the development of legislations to address the introduction of exotic genetic resources into Liberia. While Goal II, Objection III, Action I calls for survey to document endangered plants and animals. Action II calls for the establishment of a database for endangered species by 2006, which is yet to be done.

IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.

In collaboration with CI's Liberia field office a planned Rapid Assessment Program (RAP) to survey northwest, North Lorma and Gola, and the Grebo National Forest was conducted. These areas were concluded to be 'extremely' or "very high" for protecting mammals, birds, reptiles and amphibians, insects and plants.

V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.

VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.

The key challenge here is the formulation and implementation of relevant national programs of action for the protection of endangered species with specific timeline and activities.

VII) Please provide any other relevant information.

Box VII.

Goal 3	Promote the conservation of genetic diversity	
Target 3.1	Genetic diversity of crops, livestock, and of harvested species of trees, fish and wildlife and other valuable species conserved, and associated indigenous and local knowledge maintained	
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?		
a) No		
b) Yes, the same as the global target		
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established		X
Please provide details below.		
<p>Prior to the civil war, the Central Agriculture Research (CARI), Liberia Biomedical Research Institute and the College of Agriculture and Forestry had various research programs dealing with genetic diversity. Research programs at CARI focused mainly on agriculture biodiversity (livestock and plant species). The College of Agriculture and Forestry dealt with both agriculture and forestry biodiversity. This college had a large germplasm bank. Since the end of the civil war, these programs have not been rehabilitated due to resource constraint.</p>		

II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).			
Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural		X	Central Agriculture Research Institute was involved in extensive research in agriculture biodiversity mainly rice and livestock so as to develop improved seeds and livestock breed for local farmers. The research program ceased due to the civil war. Currently, efforts are under way to rehabilitate the institute.
b) Inland water		X	According to the NBSAP, the ecosystem has great potential for fishing but the potential is yet to be fully developed. It further recommended actions to improve inland water biodiversity, which are yet to be implemented.
c) Marine and coastal		X	The GCLME (Guinea Current Large Marine Ecosystem) project under the Environmental Protection Agency has developed a complete profile of the Liberian coastal zone and a five-year (2005-2009) program of action for sustainable management of coastal and marine biodiversity.
d) Dry and subhumid land		X	
e) Forest		X	
f) Mountain		X	
III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?			
a) No			
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan			X
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes			
Please provide details below.			
<p>The National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan, Goal 2 Objective10-Action 1 calls for the ratification of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture and the development of sub regional legal instrument for transboundry conservation of genetic resources in the Mano River Basin. There is no known program of action in this area.</p>			
IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.			
V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.			

VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.
<p>Actions recommended in the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan are yet to be implemented. In addition, limited human capacity and financial resources to implement relevant programmes are another constraint.</p>
VII) Please provide any other relevant information.

Box VIII.

Goal 4	Promote sustainable use and consumption.		
Target 4.1	Biodiversity-based products derived from sources that are sustainably managed, and production areas managed consistent with the conservation of biodiversity		
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?			
a) No			
b) Yes, the same as the global target			X
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established			
Please provide details below.			
<p>Since 2004, particularly in the forestry sector, Liberia has been engaged with the help of its global partners, in reforming laws, regulations, and policies and putting in place programs that will ensure sustainable forest management. Liberia has made significant efforts in reforming its laws, policies, regulations and programs of action for the sustainable management of biodiversity.</p>			
II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).			
Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural		X	
b) Inland water		X	Several local and International NGOs are implementing aquaculture projects in the interior of the country in partnership with local community as alternative to unsustainable exploitation of the inland fisheries the source of protein for over 50% Liberians. There is no Programme of action to address this problem.
c) Marine and coastal		X	GCLME project has developed coastal profile and five-year (2005-2009) Programme of action. But these programmes are yet to be

			implemented.
d) Dry and subhumid land		X	PDF-A just started and expected to end in this first quarter of 2007.
e) Forest		X	Forestry law, policy, regulations and guidelines have been reformed in line with sustainable resource management standards. These laws and programmes are however not yet implemented.
f) Mountain		X	
III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?			
a) No			
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan			
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes			X
Please provide details below.			
<p>The FDA has put in place five-year (2005-2009) forest management plan to sustainably manage the forests. The programs have not been implemented.</p> <p>The National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) also calls for the institution of timber certification scheme base on proven record of sustainable forest management and the implementation of Model Forest Management Plan by 2005. The NBSAP further calls for the multiplication of ducks, rabbits, Guinea pigs, chicken and snails as alternative sources of protein and income generation in order to address the unsustainable agricultural practices which is one major causes of biodiversity loss.</p>			
IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.			
V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.			
VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.			
Planned programs have not been implemented; limited financial resources and human capacity are other cited reasons.			

VII) Please provide any other relevant information.

Box IX.

Target 4.2		Unsustainable consumption, of biological resources, or that impacts upon biodiversity, reduced	
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?			
a) No			
b) Yes, the same as the global target			
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established		X	
Please provide details below.			
<p>The National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) and the National Capacity Self Assessment (NCSA) Report, define actions for the sustainable management of biodiversity. The NBSAP recommends legislations, programs, and training, while the NCSA defines capacity building strategy and programs. In addition, The Millennium Development Goal report for Liberia also call for several actions to ensure sustainable management of biodiversity as counter measure to the wide spread unsustainable consumption and exploitation of biodiversity; while the Guinea Current Large Marine Ecosystem (GCLME) Project has programmes of action to address unsustainable exploitation and consumption of biological resources.</p> <p>The Forestry Development Authority (FDA) and the Ministry of Agriculture are the two national agencies that have developed programs of actions for sustainable biodiversity-base resource management; however, none of these programs have been put into practice. Example, FDA's five-year forest management plan (2005-2009) and the (2000-2005) Ministry of Agriculture program of action. The GCLME project's five-year plan action (2005-2009), focus on coastal and marine biodiversity particularly the fishing industry.</p>			
II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).			
Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural	X		The Ministry of Agriculture developed programmes with timelines (2000-2005); the action plan could not be implemented due to the civil war.

b) Inland water		X	No programmes of action in place.
c) Marine and coastal	X		There are comprehensive programmes of actions awaiting funding for implementation.
d) Dry and subhumid land		X	No program only PDF-A process on going.
e) Forest	X		There is comprehensive plan of action with timeline which awaiting implementation.
f) Mountain		X	There is only draft policy with no Programme developed.
III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?			
a) No			
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan			
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes			X
Please provide details below.			
<p>Sectoral agencies that have developed plans and programs include the FDA (five-year 2005-2009) sustainable forest management program, the Guinea Current Large Marine Ecosystem project under the Environmental Protection Agency of Liberia (2005-2009) for marine and coastal biodiversity and the Ministry of Agriculture (2000-2005) program of action.</p> <p>The NBSAP developed strategies and actions, which are yet to be implemented.</p>			
IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.			
V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.			
VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.			
<p>The major challenge is implementation of the planned programs and actions due to poor political will and lack of financial resources.</p>			
VII) Please provide any other relevant information.			

Box X.

Target 4.3		No species of wild flora or fauna endangered by international trade	
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?			
a) No			
b) Yes, the same as the global target			
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established		X	
Please provide details below.			
<p>Although Liberia ratified the CITES Convention in 1981, currently only an administrative structure has been established. However, the environmental framework laws and the Forest Policy, Law and regulations all have provisions for the protection of wild fauna and flora. Public awareness is being carried out in pursuit of CITES' obligations.</p>			
II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).			
Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural		X	
b) Inland water		X	
c) Marine and coastal	X		The GCLME has drawn up a five-year plan to protect vulnerable species and habitat, assessments of status of species by 2008.
d) Dry and subhumid land		X	
e) Forest	X		The National Wildlife Law and Forestry Regulations are currently being implemented in compliance with CITES.
f) Mountain		X	
III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?			
a) No			
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan		X	
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes		X	
Please provide details below.			
According to the FDA law and regulations, no one can take component of wild			

flora and fauna out of Liberia unless the FDA issues that person or institution certificate of permit to do so. Similar provisions are in the Agriculture law. Also, the NBSAP calls for transboundary legislation that will restrict trade in wild flora and fauna.

IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.

V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.

VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.

The enforcement of relevant provisions of regulations and laws on trade in wild flora and fauna remain a major challenge.

VII) Please provide any other relevant information.

Box XI.

Goal 5	Pressures from habitat loss, land use change and degradation, and unsustainable water use, reduced.		
Target 5.1	Rate of loss and degradation of natural habitats decreased		
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?			
a) No			
b) Yes, the same as the global target			
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established			X
Please provide details below.			
The Forest Policy of 2005 sets aside 30% of the forest for conservation purposes. The Millennium Development Goal Report of 2004 also targets increase of 3.4 million hectare of forest cover by 2015.			
II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).			
Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural		X	
b) Inland water	X		Ramsar project has developed draft policy.
c) Marine and coastal	X		The GCLME has drawn up action to protect vulnerable species and habitats; assessment of status of species by 2008
d) Dry and subhumid land		X	
e) Forest	X		The FDA has five-year forest management whose main pillar is not only sustainable management of existing forests but restoration of vegetation in degraded lands.
f) Mountain		X	
III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?			
a) No			
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan			
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes			X
Please provide details below.			
The NBSAP calls for rehabilitation of degraded lands, adherence to ITTO guidelines on logging along waterways and supporting the development of participatory reforestation and afforestation programs. NBSAP further calls for legislation for			

land use planning to avert the unnecessary loss of biodiversity and the production of land use plans for counties in biodiversity hot spots. In addition, the Forest Policy calls for setting aside 30% of the present forest cover for conservation purposes; While the MDG program of action calls for the increase of forest cover to 3.4 million hectare by 2015.

IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.

V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.

VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.

The full implementation of the various programs of action is considered the key challenge to reducing biodiversity loss.

VII) Please provide any other relevant information.

Box XII.

Goal 6	Control threats from invasive alien species.		
Target 6.1	Pathways for major potential alien invasive species controlled		
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?			
a) No			
b) Yes, the same as the global target		X	
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established			
Please provide details below.			
Under goal 1 of the NBSAP, the following actions are recommended: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct inventory of alien invasive species; • Introduce techniques to control invasive species; • Regulate the introduction of alien species. 			
II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).			
Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural		X	There are provisions in the agriculture law on the introduction and control of alien invasive species; however, policies and regulations on alien invasive species have not been developed to set standards for enforcement.
b) Inland water		X	
c) Marine and coastal		X	
d) Dry and subhumid land		X	
e) Forest		X	
f) Mountain		X	
III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?			
a) No			
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan		X	
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes			
Please provide details below.			
Under Goal 1, Objective 6, Activity1, the NBSAP calls for the development of regulations concerning the introduction of exotic genetic resources.			

IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.
V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.
VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.
Developing national programmes of action is the key challenge.
VII) Please provide any other relevant information.

Box XIII.

Target 6.2	Management plans in place for major alien species that threaten ecosystems, habitats or species		
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?			
a) No			X
b) Yes, the same as the global target			
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established			
Please provide details below.			
<p>Meeting target 10 calls for the development of management plans for AIS. To meet the 2010 target will require the sharing of experiences, expertise and resources in support of effective management plans. At the moment, no measures have been instituted for the achievement of the target since no focal point has been appointed for AIS and no stakeholders meeting held.</p> <p>Although the Ministry of Agriculture Quarantine Act is in place, no organized national program for the control of alien species is in place.</p>			
II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).			
Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural		X	
b) Inland water		X	

c) Marine and coastal		X	
d) Dry and subhumid land		X	
e) Forest		X	
f) Mountain		X	
III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?			
a) No			X
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan			
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes			
Please provide details below.			
No national program of action.			
IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.			
V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.			
VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.			
Developing a comprehensive national program of action is the key challenge to be overcome.			
VII) Please provide any other relevant information.			

Box XIV.

Goal 7	Address challenges to biodiversity from climate change, and pollution.
Target 7.1	Maintain and enhance resilience of the components of biodiversity to adapt to climate change
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?	
a) No	
b) Yes, the same as the global target	

c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established			X
Please provide details below.			
The preparation of the National Adaptation Program of Action (NAPA) is at its final stage; while work on the first National Communication just started with the training of local experts in the use of IPCC guidelines on Green \House Gas (GHG) inventory.			
II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).			
Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural		X	
b) Inland water		X	
c) Marine and coastal		X	
d) Dry and subhumid land		X	
e) Forest		X	
f) Mountain		x	
III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?			
a) No			X
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan			
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes			
Please provide details below.			
The pending NAPA report calls for integrated agriculture program; rehabilitation of the 47 hydrometric stations destroyed during the civil war to provide hydrological and meteorological information to serve as early warning system for climate variability, and construction of coastal defense system in Monrovia and Buchanan Cities to prevent coastal erosion. In addition, the NCSA recommends water resources management, public awareness as some of the several measures to address the impact of climate change.			
IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.			

V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.

VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.

The mobilization of financial resources and training the requisite human capacity to implement the recommended programs of actions remain the key challenges.

VII) Please provide any other relevant information.

Box XV.

Target 7.2	Reduce pollution and its impacts on biodiversity		
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?			
a) No			
b) Yes, the same as the global target			
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established			
Please provide details below.			
II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).			
Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural			
b) Inland water			
c) Marine and coastal			
d) Dry and subhumid land			
e) Forest			
f) Mountain			
III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?			

a) No	
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan	
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes	
Please provide details below.	
IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.	
V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.	
VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.	
VII) Please provide any other relevant information.	

Box XVI.

Goal 8	Maintain capacity of ecosystems to deliver goods and services and support livelihoods.		
Target 8.1	Capacity of ecosystems to deliver goods and services maintained		
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?			
a) No			
b) Yes, the same as the global target			
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established			X
Please provide details below.			
<p>NBSAP developed strategies and actions on ecosystem protection that was to be achieved by 2009. Also, the FDA five-year forest management plan has restoration of degraded forest areas component under its reforestation and afforestation Programmes. These programmes are still awaiting implementation.</p>			
II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).			
Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural		X	
b) Inland water		X	
c) Marine and coastal		X	
d) Dry and subhumid land		X	
e) Forest		X	
f) Mountain		X	
III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?			
a) No			
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan			X
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes			
Please provide details below.			
<p>These have been incorporated into the NBSAP and the Five-year forest Management Plan.</p>			

IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.
V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.
VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.
Implementation of actions is the key challenge.
VII) Please provide any other relevant information.

Box XVII.

Target 8.2	Biological resources that support sustainable livelihoods, local food security and health care, especially of poor people maintained		
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?			
a) No			
b) Yes, the same as the global target			X
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established			
Please provide details below.			
The Forest Policy, Regulations and the Reformed Forestry Law 2006 have provisions that support not only sustainable management of forest products; but also address sustainable livelihood issues as well as poverty concerns. This trend is not seen in the agricultural sector.			
II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).			
Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural		X	
b) Inland water		X	
c) Marine and coastal		X	
d) Dry and subhumid land		X	

e) Forest		X	
f) Mountain		x	
III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?			
a) No			X
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan			
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes			
Please provide details below.			
IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.			
V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.			
VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.			
VII) Please provide any other relevant information.			

Box XVIII.

Goal 9	Maintain socio-cultural diversity of indigenous and local communities.
Target 9.1	Protect traditional knowledge, innovations and practices
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?	
a) No	X
b) Yes, the same as the global target	
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established	

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Please provide details below.

The Environmental Policy and Environmental Protection and Management Law have provisions that call for the protection of traditional knowledge and practices; there is no Programme to translate the legal mandate into action. NBSAP developed strategies and actions on this subject but that has not been implemented.

II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).

Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural		X	
b) Inland water		X	
c) Marine and coastal		X	
d) Dry and subhumid land		X	
e) Forest	X		The Reformed Forestry Law 2006, forest policy legally defines actions. The five-year forest management Programme does not have specific action plan for this despite recognizing it.
f) Mountain		X	

III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?

a) No	X
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan	
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes	

Please provide details below.

Liberia is yet to develop program of action relative to protecting traditional knowledge, innovations and practices; however, the NBSAP calls for the conduct of survey of traditional knowledge, practices and innovations as it relates to biodiversity conservation. This is also considered in the Add-On Project to implement the NBSAP.

IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.

V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.
VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.
VII) Please provide any other relevant information.

Box XIX.

Target 9.2	Protect the rights of indigenous and local communities over their traditional knowledge, innovations and practices, including their rights to benefit sharing		
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?			
a) No			X
b) Yes, the same as the global target			
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established			
Please provide details below.			
<p>The Reformed Forestry Law, Policy and Regulations of 2006 and the environmental framework laws (Environmental Policy, Agency Act, and Environmental Protection and Management Law) all recognize and call for actions to protect the rights of indigenous and local communities over their traditional knowledge, and practices as well as right to benefit sharing. No national program of action to actualize these legal provisions.</p>			
II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).			
Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural		x	

b) Inland water		X	
c) Marine and coastal	x		The GCLME has developed five-year program of action for the management of coastal biodiversity, pollution control among others.
d) Dry and subhumid land		X	
e) Forest	X		The FDA has a comprehensive program of action for the forestry sector known as the 'Five-year Forest Management Plan'.
f) Mountain		X	
III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?			
a) No		X	
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan			
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes			
Please provide details below.			
There is no national program of action in place; however, the NBSAP and the FDA five-Year Forest Management Plan call for actions to protect the rights of indigenous and local communities.			
IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.			
V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.			
VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.			
VII) Please provide any other relevant information.			

Box XX.

Goal 10	Ensure the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the use of genetic resources.		
Target 10.1	All transfers of genetic resources are in line with the Convention on Biological Diversity, the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture and other applicable agreements		
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?			
a) No			X
b) Yes, the same as the global target			
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established			
Please provide details below.			
Liberia is not a signatory to the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture. Several research institutions nevertheless, have viable programs in this field. The Ministry of Agriculture is now working with the Food and Agriculture Organization and the Government of Liberia to ratify the Convention.			
II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).			
Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural		X	
b) Inland water		X	
c) Marine and coastal		X	
d) Dry and subhumid land		X	
e) Forest			
f) Mountain		x	
III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?			
a) No			X
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan			
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes			

Please provide details below.
IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.
V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.
VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.
VII) Please provide any other relevant information.

Box XXI.

Target 10.2	Benefits arising from the commercial and other utilization of genetic resources shared with the countries providing such resources	
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?		
a) No		X
b) Yes, the same as the global target		
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established		
Please provide details below.		
<p>Prior to the civil war, the Central Agriculture Research Institute (CARI) and the College of Agriculture and Forestry-University of Liberia were involved in the collection of germ plasm of rice and tree species for experimental purposes. CARI, which focused mainly on rice, exchange the germ plasm with other research institutions such as the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) in the Philippines, the International Institute for Tropical Agriculture (IITA) at the University of Ibadan, Nigeria, and West Africa Rice Development Association (WARDA) etc. These Institutes in return, sent back to Liberia improved variety of seeds for Liberian farmers.</p>		
<p>Although these activities were on going, no national mechanism is in place</p>		

for sharing of benefits and the utilization of genetic resources. Both the NBSAP and the NCSA documents recognize this gap, and it is suggested that the ADD-On project to the NBSAP will begin to address it.

II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).

Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural		X	The national target, which CARI was implementing, was to collect germplasm, characterize, conserve and utilize. A smallholder rice seed project was established to multiply and distribute the improved variety of seed rice arising from the germ plasm improvement program to local farmers for planting.
b) Inland water		X	
c) Marine and coastal		X	
d) Dry and subhumid land		X	
e) Forest		X	The College of Agriculture and Forestry at the University of Liberia has active program in germ plasm collection prior to the civil war. The purpose was to promote indigenous tree species for commercial utilization (logging industry and medicinal plants). The College also had collaboration with universities and research centers around the world on this program. Example, in 2004, a team of researchers from the College of Agriculture and Forestry-university of Liberia and Wageningen University in Netherlands spent 18 days research trip in the Sapo National Park and discovered six plants new to science.
f) Mountain		X	

III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?

a) No	X
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan	
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes	

Please provide details below.

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IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.
V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.
VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.
Formulation of programmes of action and setting a national target in addition to building financial and human resource capacity.
VII) Please provide any other relevant information.

Box XXII.

Goal 11	Parties have improved financial, human, scientific, technical and technological capacity to implement the Convention.		
Target 11.1	New and additional financial resources are transferred to developing country Parties, to allow for the effective implementation of their commitments under the Convention, in accordance with Article 20		
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?			
a) No			X
b) Yes, the same as the global target			
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established			
Please provide details below.			
Government of Liberia does not have the finances to rehabilitate research institutions and programmes. The country has depended largely on GEF financed programs and projects.			
II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).			
Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural		X	
b) Inland water		X	

c) Marine and coastal		X	
d) Dry and subhumid land		X	
e) Forest		X	
f) Mountain		X	

III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?

a) No		x
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan		
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes		

Please provide details below.

No Sectoral agency has integrated the global or national strategy into plans and programmes; the handicap continues to be limited financial and human resource capacity to do so. The NBSAP however, recommended an action plan, which cannot be implemented due to the already stated reasons.

IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.

The availability of finances to facilitate the work programs of research institutions is limited. The Central Agriculture Research Institute (CARI) present budget is less than quarter of a million US dollars, which is grossly inadequate to carry out the statutory functions of that institution.

V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.

VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.

Development of a comprehensive national programme of action.

VII) Please provide any other relevant information.

Box XXIII.

Target 11.2	Technology is transferred to developing country Parties, to allow for the effective implementation of their commitments under the Convention, in accordance with its Article 20, paragraph 4		
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?			
a) No			
b) Yes, the same as the global target			X
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established			
Please provide details below.			
<p>Liberia enjoys the benefits of technology transfer that allows for the effective implementation of her commitments under the convention in accordance with Article 20, paragraph 4 through the various GEF financed convention projects.</p>			
II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).			
Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural		X	
b) Inland water		X	
c) Marine and coastal		X	
d) Dry and subhumid land		X	
e) Forest		X	
f) Mountain		X	
III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?			
a) No			x
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan			
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes			
Please provide details below.			

IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.

V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.

VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.

Development of national target and programmes.

VII) Please provide any other relevant information.

Global Strategy for Plant Conservation (GSPC)

The Conference of the Parties, in decision VI/9, annex, adopted the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation. Parties and Governments are invited to develop their own targets with this flexible framework. The Conference of the Parties considered the Strategy as a pilot approach for the use of outcome oriented targets under the Convention. In decision VII/10, the Conference of the Parties decided to integrate the targets into the reporting framework for the Third National Reports. Please provide relevant information by responding to the questions and requests contained in the following tables.

Box XXIV.

Target 1. A widely accessible working list of known plant species, as a step towards a complete world flora.	
I) Has your country established national target corresponding to the above global target?	
a) Yes	X
b) No	
Please specify	
<p>The Forestry Development Authority (FDA) by law is the statutory agency for the management of fauna and flora; it has a list of plant species restricted because of their endangered status. The NBSAP catalogued list of plant species considered threatened or endangered and developed strategies and actions plan for their conservation. Some of the endangered species include: the pygmy hippopotamus, forest elephants, Diana monkey, and Jenkins and zebra duikers. The consumption of bush meat is also a threat to biodiversity.</p> <p>The FDA and the German Forestry Mission classified several tree species mainly for commercial purposes. Six new plant species were discovered by team of researchers from the Wageningen University in Netherlands and University of Liberia in the Sapou National Park. According to the researchers these plants were unknown to science. This indicates the need for more detailed study of Liberia's biodiversity, especially in the area of taxonomy.</p>	
II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?	
a) Yes	X
b) No	
Please specify	
<p>The National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan set strategies and actions that are not yet implemented. The National Capacity Self-Assessment Report also calls for training in Taxonomy and related fields, while the National Environmental Policy calls for integration of policies and programs into National Development Initiatives.</p>	

III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target)	
IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target)	
The environmental framework laws of April, 2003 (Environmental Policy, Agency Act and Environmental Protection and Management Law), the Reformed forestry Law, Policy and Regulations 2006, Five-year National Forest Management plan Guidelines have been developed and are in force.	
V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target)	
VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target	
The key constraints- the lack of funding and limited human resource capacity.	
VII) Any other relevant information	

Box XXV.

Target 2. A preliminary assessment of the conservation status of all known plant species, at national, regional and international levels.	
I) Has your country established national target corresponding to the above global target?	
a) Yes	
b) No	X
Please specify	
Assessment is largely limited to the timber industry or forest sector for commercial purposes mainly; the National Capacity Self-assessment Report calls for training in taxonomy, and the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan recommends a detail study on the conservation status of known plant species.	
II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?	
a) Yes	
b) No	X
Please specify	
Same as above.	

III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target)

IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target)

V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target)

VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target

Limited financial and human capacity.

VII) Any other relevant information

Box XXVI.

Target 3. Development of models with protocols for plant conservation and sustainable use, based on research and practical experience.	
I) Has your country established national target corresponding to the above global target?	
a) Yes	
b) No	X
Please specify	
II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?	
a) Yes	
b) No	X
Please specify	
III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target)	
IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target)	
The Environmental framework laws and the Reformed Forest Law and regulations 2006 have legal provisions for addressing the issues. The necessary standards, programmes and action plans have not been worked out.	
V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target)	
Legislations are in place	
VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target	
Trained human resource capacity and funding.	
VII) Any other relevant information	

Box XXVII.

Target 4. At least ten percent of each of the world's ecological regions effectively conserved.	
I) Has your country established national target corresponding to the above global target?	
a) Yes	X
b) No	
Please specify	
The Liberian Law places 30% of its forests in conservation. Those ones outside conservation such as the 10% and 60% community and commercial utilization enjoy conservation measures commensurate with their usage. There are two gazetted protected areas and six proposed ones; in addition, there are five wetland of international importance declared by the National Wetland Committee and recognized by the secretariat of the Ramsar Convention.	
II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?	
a) Yes	X
b) No	
Please specify	
Same as above.	
III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target)	
Two gazetted protected areas and six proposed ones.	
IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target)	
The requisite legislative measures are in placed (environmental framework laws, the Reformed Forestry Law, Policy, Regulations and Guidelines).	
V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target)	
VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target	
Implementing the various programmes of action and training the required human resource capacity.	
VII) Any other relevant information	

Box XXVIII.

Target 5. Protection of fifty percent of the most important areas for plant diversity assured.	
I) Has your country established national target corresponding to the above global target?	
a) Yes	X
b) No	
Please specify	
Liberia has significant level of protected area network and many proposed ones by legislations and regulations. 30% of forest areas are declared for conservation under the new forest legislation. The National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan calls for the setting aside of 10% of the land area for strict protection and 30% of the land area for multiple use/partial protection.	
II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?	
a) Yes	X
b) No	
Please specify	
The provisions of the NBSAP as quoted above, and the FDA has a five-year forest management plan in which conservation form key portion.	
III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target)	
IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target)	
The requisite legislative and programmes are in place; only implementation stage is yet to come.	
V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target)	
VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target	
Limited financial resources are the key constraint.	
VII) Any other relevant information	

Box XXIX.

Target 6. At least thirty percent of production lands managed consistent with the conservation of plant diversity.	
I) Has your country established national target corresponding to the above global target?	
a) Yes	
b) No	X
Please specify	
While both the NBSAP and the New Forest Reform Law have incorporated plans and actions, Liberia has no land use policy, plan and or tenure system in place to implement the strategies. Only In recent time as a result of the UN sanction on the diamond and logging industries provided opportunity for the on going effort to formulate a land use plan and policy as part of the reform process of the timber industry.	
II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?	
a) Yes	
b) No	X
Please specify	
Same as above.	
III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target)	
IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target)	
The Environmental framework legislations (Environmental Policy, Agency Act and Protection and Management Law) and the Reformed Forestry Law, Regulations, and Five Forest management Guidelines of 2006.	
V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target)	
Legislative process completed.	
VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target	
Funding and the requisite human resource capacity.	
VII) Any other relevant information	

Box XXX.

Target 7. Sixty percent of the world's threatened species conserved <i>In-situ</i>.	
I) Has your country established national target corresponding to the above global target?	
a) Yes	X
b) No	
Please specify	
Law places 30% of the remaining forests in Liberia in in-situ conservation.	
II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?	
a) Yes	X
b) No	
Please specify	
The FDA five-year forest management plan outlined comprehensive plan of action for in-situ conservation. Also, the NBSAP recommended that at least 10% of the land area be set aside for strict protection and 30% for partial protection and multiple uses.	
III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target)	
Legislative and program planning completed awaiting implementation.	
IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target)	
V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target)	
Limited financial and political will.	
VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target	
VII) Any other relevant information	

Box XXXI.

Target 8. Sixty percent of threatened plant species in accessible <i>Ex-situ</i> collections, preferably in the country of origin, and 10 percent of them included in recovery and restoration programmes.	
I) Has your country established national target corresponding to the above global target?	
a) Yes	
b) No	X
Please specify	
II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?	
a) Yes	
b) No	X
Please specify	
III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target)	
IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target)	
V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target)	
VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target	
VII) Any other relevant information	

Box XXXII.

Target 9. Seventy percent of the genetic diversity of crops and other major socio-economically valuable plant species conserved, and associated indigenous and local knowledge maintained.	
I) Has your country established national target corresponding to the above global target?	
a) Yes	
b) No	X
Please specify	
II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?	
a) Yes	
b) No	X
Please specify	
III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target)	
IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target)	
V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target)	
VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target	
Weak legal regime and lack of programmes.	
VII) Any other relevant information	

Box XXXIII.

Target 10. Management plans in place for at least 100 major alien species that threaten plants, plant communities and associated habitats and ecosystems.	
I) Has your country established national target corresponding to the above global target?	
a) Yes	
b) No	X
Please specify	
<p>There is provision in the agriculture law on the management of alien and evasive species. The key difficulty is the law is not only weak but lacks the necessary policies and guidelines and regulations to set standards for enforcement. The Environmental Protection and Management Law also have provision on the control of alien species. The NBSAP recommends that control measures necessary to control the introduction of alien species be put into place.</p>	
II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?	
a) Yes	
b) No	X
Please specify	
\same as above.	
III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target)	
IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target)	
Some level of legislative measures in place but lack programmes and actions lacking.	
V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target)	
VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target	
VII) Any other relevant information	

Box XXXIV.

Target 11. No species of wild flora endangered by international trade.	
I) Has your country established national target corresponding to the above global target?	
a) Yes	
b) No	X
Please specify	
Liberia acceded to CITES in 1981; since then, only an administrative structure is in place.	
II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?	
a) Yes	
b) No	X
Please specify	
Public awareness activities on threatened species are taking place involving sectoral agencies and nature conservation NGOs.	
III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target)	
IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target)	
V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target)	
FDA has conducted two training programmes for park rangers since 2004 as part of the capacity building Programme.	
VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target	
Limited financial and human resource capacity.	
VII) Any other relevant information	

Box XXXV.

Target 12. Thirty percent of plant-based products derived from sources that are sustainably managed.	
I) Has your country established national target corresponding to the above global target?	
a) Yes	
b) No	X
Please specify	
II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?	
a) Yes	
b) No	X
Please specify	
III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target)	
IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target)	
V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target)	
VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target	
VII) Any other relevant information	

Box XXXVI.

Target 13. The decline of plant resources, and associated indigenous and local knowledge, innovations and practices that support sustainable livelihoods, local food security and health care, halted.	
I) Has your country established national target corresponding to the above global target?	
a) Yes	X
b) No	
Please specify	
Prior to the civil war, there was national germ plasm collection programmes at CARI. The Programme was intended to improve seed varieties (rice) for distribution to local farmers. The College of Agriculture and Forestry-University of Liberia was also engaged in germplasm collection of indigenous tree species for experimental purposes	
II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?	
a) Yes	
b) No	X
Please specify	
III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target)	
IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target)	
V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target)	
VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target	
VII) Any other relevant information	

Box XXXVII.

Target 14. The importance of plant diversity and the need for its conservation incorporated into communication, educational and public-awareness programmes.	
I) Has your country established national target corresponding to the above global target?	
a) Yes	
b) No	X
Please specify	
II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?	
a) Yes	
b) No	X
Please specify	
III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target)	
IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target)	
V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target)	
VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target	
VII) Any other relevant information	

Box XXXVIII.

Target 15. The number of trained people working with appropriate facilities in plant conservation increased, according to national needs, to achieve the targets of this Strategy.	
I) Has your country established national target corresponding to the above global target?	
a) Yes	
b) No	X
Please specify	
II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?	
a) Yes	
b) No	X
Please specify	
III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target)	
IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target)	
V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target)	
VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target	
VII) Any other relevant information	

Box XXXIX.

Target 16. Networks for plant conservation activities established or strengthened at national, regional and international levels.	
I) Has your country established national target corresponding to the above global target?	
a) Yes	
b) No	X
Please specify	
II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?	
a) Yes	
b) No	X
Please specify	
III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target)	
IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target)	
V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target)	
VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target	
VII) Any other relevant information	

Box XL.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this strategy specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

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Ecosystem Approach

The ecosystem approach is a strategy for the integrated management of land, water and living resources that promotes conservation and sustainable use in an equitable way. Application of the ecosystem approach will help to reach a balance of the three objectives of the Convention. At its second meeting, the Conference of the Parties has affirmed that the ecosystem approach is the primary framework for action under the Convention (decision II/8). The Conference of the Parties, at its fifth meeting, endorsed the description of the ecosystem approach and operational guidance and recommended the application of the principles and other guidance on the ecosystem approach. The seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties agreed that the priority at this time should be facilitating implementation of the ecosystem approach. Please provide relevant information by responding to the following questions.

3. ¹ Is your country applying the ecosystem approach, taking into account the principles and guidance contained in the annex to decision V/6? (decision V/6)

a) No	X
b) No, but application is under consideration	
c) Yes, some aspects are being applied	
d) Yes, substantially implemented	

4. 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? (decision V/6)

a) No	X
b) No, but development is under consideration	
c) Yes, practical expressions have been developed for applying some principles of the ecosystem approach	
d) Yes, practical expressions have been developed for applying most principles of the ecosystem approach	

¹ Please note that all the questions marked with have been previously covered in the second national reports and some thematic reports.

5. Is your country strengthening capacities for the application of the ecosystem approach, and providing technical and financial support for capacity-building to apply the ecosystem approach? (decision V/6)

a) No	X
b) Yes, within the country	
c) Yes, including providing support to other Parties	

6. Has your country promoted regional cooperation in applying the ecosystem approach across national borders? (decision V/6)

a) No	
b) Yes, informal cooperation (please provide details below)	X
c) Yes, formal cooperation (please provide details below)	

Further comments on regional cooperation in applying the ecosystem approach across national borders.

There is negotiation on –going for an agreement, which is expected to be signed for the management of the Mount Nimba Massif involving Liberia, Guinea and Cote d’Ivoire. There is also on going collaborative effort between Liberia and Cote d’Ivoire on the creation of environmental corridor between the Sapo National Park on the Liberian side and the Tai Park on the Ivorian side.

7. Is your country facilitating the exchange of experiences, capacity building, technology transfer and awareness raising to assist with the implementation of the ecosystem approach? (decisions VI/12 and VII/11)

a) No	
b) No, some programmes are under development	X
c) Yes, some programmes are being implemented (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive programmes are being implemented (please provide details below)	

Further comments on facilitating the exchange of experiences, capacity building, technology transfer and awareness raising to assist with the implementation of the ecosystem approach.

The tri-partite experience/innovation among the three nations is being shared among countries in the region. One Example of such is the collaborative effort being negotiated between Liberia and Sierra Leone on the management of the Gola Forest between the two nations.

8. Is your country creating an enabling environment for the implementation of the ecosystem approach, including through development of appropriate institutional frameworks? (decision VII/11)	
a) No	
b) No, but relevant policies and programmes are under development	
c) Yes, some policies and programmes are in place (please provide details below)	X
d) Yes, comprehensive policies and programmes are in place (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the creation of an enabling environment for the implementation of the ecosystem approach.	
The environmental framework laws, GCLME and NBSAP all have provisions and strategies addressing transboundary management of biodiversity.	

C. ARTICLES OF THE CONVENTION

Article 5 – Cooperation

9. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 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) No	
b) Yes, bilateral cooperation (please give details below)	
c) Yes, multilateral cooperation (please give details below)	
d) Yes, regional and/or subregional cooperation (please give details below)	X
e) Yes, other forms of cooperation (please give details below)	
Further comments on cooperation with other Parties in respect of areas beyond national jurisdiction for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.	
Liberia is negotiating a Tripartite Agreement with Ivory Coast and Guinea for the conservation and protection of the Mount Nimba Massif. Negotiations are currently on going which will facilitate the signing of the agreement.	

10. Is your country working with other Parties to develop regional, subregional or bioregional mechanisms and networks to support implementation of the Convention? (decision VI/27 A)	
a) No	
b) No, but consultations are under way	X
c) Yes, some mechanisms and networks have been established (please provide details below)	

d) Yes, existing mechanisms have been strengthened (please provide details below)	
Further comments on development of regional, subregional or bioregional mechanisms and networks to support implementation of the Convention.	
The Negotiation under way between Liberia and Sierra Leone on the Gola National Forest, Liberia and Guinea on the Wonigizi-Ziama Forest Block, and Liberia and Cote d'Ivoire on the Tai-Grebo National Forest.	

11. Is your country taking steps to harmonize national policies and programmes, with a view to optimizing policy coherence, synergies and efficiency in the implementation of various multilateral environment agreements (MEAs) and relevant regional initiatives at the national level? (decision VI/20)	
a) No	
b) No, but steps are under consideration	
c) Yes, some steps are being taken (please specify below)	X
d) Yes, comprehensive steps are being taken (please specify below)	
Further comments on the harmonization of policies and programmes at the national level.	

Box XLI.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this strategy specifically focusing on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken; b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention; c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target; d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans; e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals; f) constraints encountered in implementation.


Article 6 - General measures for conservation and sustainable use

12. Has your country put in place effective national strategies, plans and programmes to provide a national framework for implementing the three objectives of the Convention? (Goal 3.1 of the Strategic Plan)

a) No	
b) No, but relevant strategies, plans and programmes are under development	
c) Yes, some strategies, plans and programmes are in place (please provide details below)	X
d) Yes, comprehensive strategies, plans and programmes are in place (please provide details below)	

Further comments on the strategies, plans and programmes for implementing the three objectives of the Convention.

The forest policy, law and guidelines set aside 30% of the forest area of Liberia for conservation purpose. In fulfillment of that, six new protected area networks have been proposed to add on the already two existing ones. Conservation is a key component part of the FDA's five-year forest management plan. While the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan defines general strategies and plans for the conservation and sustainable use of biological resources. Also, the Environmental Protection Agency has established in its structure, a unit for environmental conservation.

13.  Has your country set measurable targets within its national strategies and action plans? (decisions II/7 and III/9)

a) No	
b) No, measurable targets are still in early stages of development	
c) No, but measurable targets are in advanced stages of development	X
d) Yes, relevant targets are in place (please provide details below)	
e) Yes, reports on implementation of relevant targets available (please provide details below)	

Further comments on targets set within national biodiversity strategies and action plans.

The sectoral agency that has developed management program of action in which general conservation measures are key component is the Forestry Development Authority (FDA); however, the program is yet to be put into action. In the NBSAP, there are strategies and actions outlined but have no support and therefore have outdated the time frame specified in the document for implementation.

14. Has your country identified priority actions in its national biodiversity strategy and action plan? (decision VI/27 A)

a) No	
b) No, but priority actions are being identified	
c) Yes, priority actions identified (please provide details below)	X

Further comments on priority actions identified in the national biodiversity strategy and action plan.

There are six priority goals identified in the NBSAP to have been implemented from 2004-2009:

- To take appropriate measures to protect critical ecosystems against harmful effects or destructive practices for the conservation of biological diversity;
- To create biodiversity awareness among sectors of the society and promote international cooperation
- To commit the people the sound and sustainable use of biological diversity to bring about social-economic development;
- To promote rational utilization and conservation of biodiversity
- To promote access to genetic resources and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from their utilization;
- To contribute the fulfillment of the Millennium Development Goals through poverty alleviation, food security and women empowerment in biodiversity conservation by 2015;

15. Has your country integrated the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity as well as benefit sharing into relevant sectoral or cross-sectoral plans, programmes and policies? (decision VI/27 A)

a) No	
b) Yes, in some sectors (please provide details below)	X
c) Yes, in major sectors (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, in all sectors (please provide details below)	

Further information on integration of the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and benefit-sharing into relevant sectoral or cross-sectoral plans, programmes and policies.

Liberia has developed a National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan that embraces all sectors of biodiversity conservation in line with decision VI/27 and is cross-sectoral; however, elements defined in the strategy and action are yet to be implemented. Further more, the Forestry Development Authority (FDA), has developed a five-year sustainable forest management plan that addresses the issues of access, sustainable use as well as benefit sharing. The plan has been finalized for implementation in 2007.

16. Are migratory species and their habitats addressed by your country's national biodiversity strategy or action plan (NBSAP)? (decision VI/20)	
a) Yes	X
b) No	
I) If YES , please briefly describe the extent to which it addresses	
(a) Conservation, sustainable use and/or restoration of migratory species	
(b) Conservation, sustainable use and/or restoration of migratory species' habitats, including protected areas	X
(c) Minimizing or eliminating barriers or obstacles to migration	
(d) Research and monitoring for migratory species	
(e) Transboundary movement	
II) If NO , please briefly indicate below	
(a) The extent to which your country addresses migratory species at national level	
(b) Cooperation with other Range States since 2000	

Biodiversity and Climate Change

17. Has your country implemented projects aimed at mitigating and adapting to climate change that incorporate biodiversity conservation and sustainable use? (decision VII/15)	
a) No	
b) No, but some projects or programs are under development	X
c) Yes, some projects have been implemented (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the projects aimed at mitigating and adapting to climate change that incorporate biodiversity conservation and sustainable use.	
<p>The National Adaptation Program of Action (NAPA) implementation was completed in the last quarter of 2006 and the project report is soon to be released. In addition, regional experts from Ghana, Togo and Gambia completed three weeks training workshop (December 11-28, 2006) for local consultants in Green House Gas inventory and Vulnerability Assessment (V and A) in preparation of work on the first National Communication document for Liberia.</p>	

18. Has your country facilitated coordination to ensure that climate change mitigation and adaptation projects are in line with commitments made under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification? (decision VII/15)

a) No	
b) No, but relevant mechanisms are under development	
c) Yes, relevant mechanisms are in place (please provide details below)	X

Further comments on the coordination to ensure that climate change mitigation and adaptation projects are in line with commitments made under the UNFCCC and the UNCCD.

The **NAPA project** has been completed and the report is to be released shortly; while preparation is at its advance stage for the **First National Communication**. There is PDF-A activity presently on going under the UNCCD that will eventually lead to Medium Size Project on sustainable land management in Liberia.

The National Self Capacity Assessment project succeeded in identifying gaps at the individual, institutional and systemic levels, and identified areas for building synergies across the three conventions (CBD, UNFCCC and UNCCD).


Box XLII.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this article and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

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Article 7 - Identification and monitoring

19.  On Article 7(a), does your country have an ongoing Programme to identify components of biological diversity at the genetic, species, ecosystem level?

a) No	X
b) Yes, selected/partial programmes at the genetic, species and/or ecosystem level only (please specify and provide details below)	
c) Yes, complete programmes at ecosystem level and selected/partial inventories at the genetic and/or species level (please specify and provide details below)	

Further comments on ongoing programmes to identify components of biodiversity at the genetic, species and ecosystem level.

In pre-war time, the Central Agriculture Research Institute, Liberia Institute for Biomedical Research and the College of Agriculture and Forestry, all operated various programs to identify and monitor various species of biological diversity; conducted sampling on species for the purpose for plant and animal breeding and categorization. These programs are currently not fully operational due to damage done to them during the civil crisis.

20. On Article 7(b), which components of biological diversity identified in accordance with Annex I of the Convention, have ongoing, systematic monitoring programmes?

a) at ecosystem level (please provide percentage based on area covered)	X
b) at species level (please provide number of species per taxonomic group and percentage of total known number of species in each group)	
c) at genetic level (please indicate number and focus of monitoring programmes)	

Further comments on ongoing monitoring programmes at the genetic, species and ecosystem level.


Liberia has established two protected areas and six have been proposed. Under the Ramsar Convention, five wetlands of international importance. These include the Lake Piso, Kpatawee, Gbedin, Montserrado and Marshall Wetlands. In addition, Bird Life International has designated two IBAs (Important Bird Area).

21. On Article 7(c), does your country have ongoing, systematic monitoring programmes on any of the following key threats to biodiversity?

a) No	
b) Yes, invasive alien species (please provide details below)	
c) Yes, climate change (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, pollution/eutrophication (please provide details below)	
e) Yes, land use change/land degradation (please provide details below)	
f) Yes, overexploitation or unsustainable use (please provide details below)	X

Further comments on monitoring programmes on key threats to biodiversity.

The Environmental Protection Agency has both an environmental assessment and monitoring department and outstation and inspectorate department that are responsible for environmental assessment, monitoring, standards and compliance issues. Forestry Development Authority (FDA) has a department for forest conservation.


22.  On Article 7 (d), does your country have a mechanism to maintain and organize data derived from inventories and monitoring programmes and coordinate information collection and management at the national level?

a) No	
b) No, but some mechanisms or systems are being considered	
c) Yes, some mechanisms or systems are being established	
d) Yes, some mechanisms or systems are in place (please provide details below)	X
e) Yes, a relatively complete system is in place (please provide details below)	

Further information on the coordination of data and information collection and management.

There are GIS labs at the Liberia Institute for Statistics and Geographic Information System (LISGIS) and the Forestry Development Authority (FDA). This system played a pivotal role in the Forest –Reassessment project between 2001-2004 by use of remote sensing technology.

A hydrometric lab is located at the Bureau of Hydro-meteorological Services Ministry of Lands, Mines and Energy that is responsible for data and information on hydrology and meteorology. Also, the New York Blood Center VI-Lab is based in Margibi County which conducts studies on chimpanzees for the purpose of developing vaccine for hepatitis A, B, & C.

23.  Does your country use indicators for national-level monitoring of biodiversity? (decision III/10)

a) No	X
b) No, but identification of potential indicators is under way (please describe)	
c) Yes, some indicators identified and in use (please describe and, if available, provide website address, where data are summarized and presented)	
d) Yes, a relatively complete set of indicators identified and in use (please describe and, if available, provide website address, where data are summarized and presented)	

Further comments on the indicators identified and in use.

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Box XLIII.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this article and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

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Decisions on Taxonomy

24. Has your country developed a plan to implement the suggested actions as annexed to decision IV/1? (decision IV/1)

a) No	X
b) No, but a plan is under development	
c) Yes, a plan is in place (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, reports on implementation available (please provide details below)	
Further information on a plan to implement the suggested actions as annexed to decision IV/1.	

25. Is your country investing on a long-term basis in the development of appropriate infrastructure for your national taxonomic collections? (decision IV/1)

a) No	X
b) Yes (please provide details below)	
Further information on investment on a long-term basis in the development of appropriate infrastructure for your national taxonomic collections.	

26. ◊ Does your country provide training programmes in taxonomy and work to increase its capacity of taxonomic research? (decision IV/1)	
a) No	X
b) Yes (please provide details below)	
Further information on training programmes in taxonomy and efforts to increase the capacity of taxonomic research.	

27. ◊ Has your country taken steps to ensure that institutions responsible for biological diversity inventories and taxonomic activities are financially and administratively stable? (decision IV/1)	
a) No	X
b) No, but steps are being considered	
c) Yes, for some institutions	
d) Yes, for all major institutions	

28.*² Is your country collaborating with the existing regional, subregional and global initiatives, partnerships and institutions in carrying out the programme of work, including assessing regional taxonomic needs and identifying regional-level priorities? (decision VI/8)	
a) No	X
b) No, but collaborative programmes are under development	
c) Yes, some collaborative programmes are being implemented (please provide details about collaborative programmes, including results of regional needs assessments)	
d) Yes, comprehensive collaborative programmes are being implemented (please provide details about collaborative programmes, including results of regional needs assessment and priority identification)	
Further information on the collaboration your country is carrying out to implement the programme of work for the GTI, including regional needs assessment and priority identification.	

² The questions marked with * in this section on Taxonomy are similar to some questions contained in the format for a report on the implementation of the programme of work on the Global Taxonomy Initiative. Those countries that have submitted such a report do not need to answer these questions unless they have updated information to provide.

29. * Has your country made an assessment of taxonomic needs and capacities at the national level for the implementation of the Convention? (annex to decision VI/8)	
a) No	X
b) Yes, basic assessment made (please provide below a list of needs and capacities identified)	
c) Yes, thorough assessment made (please provide below a list of needs and capacities identified)	
Further comments on national assessment of taxonomic needs and capacities.	

30. * Is your country working on regional or global capacity building to support access to, and generation of, taxonomic information in collaboration with other Parties? (annex to decision VI/8)	
a) No	X
b) Yes, relevant programmes are under development	
c) Yes, some activities are being undertaken for this purpose (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, many activities are being undertaken for this purpose (please provide details below)	
Further comments on regional or global capacity-building to support access to, and generation of, taxonomic information in collaboration with other Parties.	

31. * Has your country developed taxonomic support for the implementation of the programmes of work under the Convention as called upon in decision VI/8? (annex to decision VI/8)	
a) No	X
b) Yes, for forest biodiversity (please provide details below)	
c) Yes, for marine and coastal biodiversity (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, for dry and sub-humid lands (please provide details below)	
e) Yes, for inland waters biodiversity (please provide details below)	
f) Yes, for mountain biodiversity (please provide details below)	
g) Yes, for protected areas (please provide details below)	
h) Yes, for agricultural biodiversity (please provide details below)	
i) Yes, for island biodiversity (please provide details below)	

Further comments on the development of taxonomic support for the implementation of the programmes of work under the Convention.

32. * Has your country developed taxonomic support for the implementation of the cross-cutting issues under the Convention as called upon in decision VI/8?

a) No	X
b) Yes, for access and benefit-sharing (please provide details below)	
c) Yes, for Article 8(j) (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, for the ecosystem approach (please provide details below)	
e) Yes, for impact assessment, monitoring and indicators (please provide details below)	
f) Yes, for invasive alien species (please provide details below)	
g) Yes, for others (please provide details below)	

Further comments on the development of taxonomic support for the implementation of the cross-cutting issues under the Convention.

Article 8 - *In-situ* conservation [excluding paragraphs (a) to (e), (h) and (j)]

33. ♦ On Article 8(i), has your country endeavored to provide the conditions needed for compatibility between present uses and the conservation of biological diversity and sustainable use of its components?

a) No	
b) No, but potential measures are being identified	
c) Yes, some measures undertaken (please provide details below)	X
d) Yes, comprehensive measures undertaken (please provide details below)	

Further comments on the measures taken to provide the conditions needed for compatibility between present uses and the conservation of biological diversity and sustainable use of its components.

Liberia has two protected areas and six proposed ones. The 2006 Forest Policy of Liberia apportioned 30% of the forested land for conservation purposes. In addition, FDA has in collaboration with Fauna and Flora International and Conservation International, implemented a forest re-assessment project from 2001-2004 in order to identify the rate of forest cover removal; establish additional protected areas and to set standards and guidelines for conservation purposes. Under the Ramsar Convention, five wetlands of international importance have been gazetted.

Liberia is implementing a Project Development Fund (PDF-A) to develop a Medium

Sized Project (MSP), which will address sustainable land management issues.

34. On Article 8(k), has your country developed or maintained the necessary legislation and/or other regulatory provisions for the protection of threatened species and populations?

a) No	
b) No, but legislation is being developed	
c) Yes, legislation or other measures are in place (please provide details below)	X

Further information on the legislation and/or regulations for the protection of threatened species and populations.

FDA revised Regulations 2006 have provisions for the protection of threatened species. In addition, the Environmental Protection and Management Law 2003, Section 80 (1-7) say among others, 'all wild animals and birds and in particular, rare, threatened and endangered species and their habitats shall be preserved and protected in accordance with the guidelines and recommendations made by the Agency after consultation with the Line Ministry; it further states that the measures prescribed shall include: 'the declaration by legislature of the wildlife conservation areas; to conduct EIS prior to declaration; investigate and make a report on the social and ecological consequences of the declaration; among others....

35. On Article 8(l), does your country regulate or manage processes and categories of activities identified under Article 7 as having significant adverse effects on biological diversity?

a) No	X
b) No, but relevant processes and categories of activities being identified	
c) Yes, to a limited extent (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, to a significant extent (please provide details below)	

Further comments on the regulation or management of the processes and categories of activities identified by Article 7 as having significant adverse effects on biodiversity.

The Environmental Policy of Liberia advocates the Intergenerational Principle that promotes the sustainable use of biodiversity and its component so as to benefit present and future generations. There is however no program of action to translate that principle into action.

Box XLIV.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this article and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation

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Programme of Work on Protected Areas (Article 8 (a) to (e))

36. Has your country established suitable time bound and measurable national-level protected areas targets and indicators? (Decision VII/28)

a) No (please specify reasons)	
b) No, but relevant work is under way	X
c) Yes, some targets and indicators established (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive targets and indicators established (please provide details below)	

Further comments on targets and indicators for protected areas.

Liberia developed legislations and guidelines for protected areas management. The laws have been enacted by the Legislature and approved by the Executive. These include the Environmental Legislations, the Reformed forest Law and Regulations. The Decree establishing the Sapo National Park was pronounced in 1983; while the Act establishing the East Mount Nimba Massif was enacted in 2003. Six other protected areas have been proposed awaiting approval by government. Public education about biodiversity conservation and its sustainable use, is presently on going.

37. Has your country taken action to establish or expand protected areas in any large or relatively unfragmented natural area or areas under high threat, including securing threatened species? (decision VII/28)

a) No	
b) No, but relevant programmes are under development	
c) Yes, limited actions taken (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, significant actions taken (please provide details below)	

	X
Further comments on actions taken to establish or expand protected areas.	
<p>The Sapo National Park, the largest of the protected area network in Liberia, was increase by over 200 hectare in 2003 to create buffer around the park as a way of preventing encroachment by local farmers and loggers. In addition, Environmental corridor was proposed in the same year linking the Grebo National Forest and the Tai National Park in Cote d'Ivoire in order to protect threatened species. Actions are under way to legislate the proposed environmental corridor.</p>	

38. Has your country taken any action to address the under representation of marine and inland water ecosystems in the existing national or regional systems of protected areas? (Decision VII/28)	
a) No	
b) Not applicable	
c) No, but relevant actions are being considered	
d) Yes, limited actions taken (please provide details below)	X
e) Yes, significant actions taken (please provide details below)	
Further comments on actions taken to address the under representation of marine and inland water ecosystems in the existing national or regional systems of protected areas.	
<p>Liberia has declared five wetland of international importance and Guinea Current Large Marine Ecosystem Project has completed coastal profile and five-year (2005-2009) National program of Action for coastal and marine ecosystem management. The action program calls for sustainable management of the coastal and marine ecosystem.</p>	

39. Has your country identified and implemented practical steps for improving the integration of protected areas into broader land and seascapes, including policy, planning and other measures? (decision VII/28)	
a) No	X
b) No, but some programmes are under development	
c) Yes, some steps identified and implemented (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, many steps identified and implemented (please provide details below)	
Further comments on practical steps for improving integration of protected areas into broader land and seascapes, including policy, planning and other measures.	

40. Is your country applying environmental impact assessment guidelines to projects or plans for evaluating effects on protected areas? (decision VII/28)	
a) No	
b) No, but relevant EIA guidelines are under development b	
c) Yes, EIA guidelines are applied to some projects or plans (please provide details below)	X
d) Yes, EIA guidelines are applied to all relevant projects or plans (please provide details below)	
Further comments on application of environmental impact assessment guidelines to projects or plans for evaluating effects on protected areas.	
<p>The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has developed guidelines for EIA administration and development of EIA regulations is near in completion.</p> <p>The Reformed Forestry Law of 2006 and the New Mining 2000, all have provisions that make the conduct of EIA as fundamental condition for acquiring concession in the forestry and mining sectors.</p>	

41. Has your country identified legislative and institutional gaps and barriers that impede effective establishment and management of protected areas? (Decision VII/28)	
a) No	
b) No, but relevant work is under way	
c) Yes, some gaps and barriers identified (please provide details below))	X
d) Yes, many gaps and barriers identified (please provide details below)	
Further comments on identification of legislative and institutional gaps and barriers that impede effective establishment and management of protected areas.	
<p>The National Capacity Self Assessment (NCSA) identified legislative and institutional gaps in the management of biodiversity, Climate Change and land degradation. Also, the society for the Conservation of Nature of Liberia (SCNL) in July 2006, undertook a study to identify gaps in protected area management under Important Bird Area (IBA) program. The study concludes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The legal frameworks of Liberia contain several laws, policies, and legislations relevant to the management of protected areas. • Some of these legislations (e.g. The Environmental Policy and law) have provisions for public participation in the management of protected areas and natural resources, and disregards traditional knowledge, rights, and access to genetic resources and benefits accruing there from. • Legislations are weak and ineffective. On the other hand, both the New Agriculture Law and the New Mineral and Mining Law have no provisions for the establishment of protected areas; 	

- There is no clear land-use policy which could fully address sustainable management issues;
- Currently, land ownership is by government. Even natural resources on privately owned land can be claimed by government;
- Most of the laws reviewed are either unclear or lack sufficient detailed information on traditional knowledge and rights in respect to community participation in Protected Areas management;
- There are no biodiversity laws or policies to address the three objectives of the CBD;
- There is no law on Access & Benefit Sharing including issues of access to genetic resources, fair and equitable sharing of benefits accruing there from, and general control mechanism;
- **Lack of harmonization of laws, policies, and related legislations of Sectoral institutions in relation to the Environmental Protection & Management Law;**
- **The general absence of education, awareness and the enforcement of existing laws, governing the management of Protected Areas is the key to conserving our biodiversity.**

42. Has your country undertaken national protected-area capacity needs assessments and established capacity building programmes? (decision VII/28)

a) No	
b) No, but assessments are under way	
c) Yes, a basic assessment undertaken and some programmes established (please provide details below)	X
d) Yes, a thorough assessment undertaken and comprehensive programmes established (please provide details below)	

Further comments on protected-area capacity needs assessment and establishment of capacity building programmes.

Fauna and Flora International through the Liberian Forest Re-assessment Project utilized satellite imagery analysis, field survey and protected forest area policy review, to develop recommendations for re-classifying Liberia's protected forests. The study represents the most comprehensive and up dated source of information on Liberia's forest available as well as the most comprehensive review effort in the Liberia forest sector since the 1970s.

Public awareness and promotion of conservation have been undertaken through the holding of public events, writing and publishing in local dailies by advising and lobbying donors to support conservation in Liberia and by sensitizing groups on how to address some of the current abuses in the forest sector.

43. Is your country implementing country-level sustainable financing plans that support national systems of protected areas? (decision VII/28)

a) No	X
b) No, but relevant plan is under development	
c) Yes, relevant plan is in place (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, relevant plan is being implemented (please provide details below)	

Further comments on implementation of country-level sustainable financing plans that support national systems of protected areas.

Government political will to environmental management and biodiversity conservation specifically, has been low.

44. Is your country implementing appropriate methods, standards, criteria and indicators for evaluating the effectiveness of protected areas management and governance? (decision VII/28)

a) No	
b) No, but relevant methods, standards, criteria and indicators are under development	X
c) Yes, some national methods, standards, criteria and indicators developed and in use (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, some national methods, standards, criteria and indicators developed and in use and some international methods, standards, criteria and indicators in use (please provide details below)	

Further comments on methods, standards, criteria and indicators for evaluating the effectiveness of protected areas management and governance.

The Society for the Conservation of Nature of Liberia (SCNL)-Important Bird Area (IBA) initiative has developed a detailed plan of action of protected area management, which has been approved for implementation in 2007.

Box XLV.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this article and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

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Article 8(h) - Alien species

45. Has your country identified alien species introduced into its territory and established a system for tracking the introduction of alien species?

a) No	
b) Yes, some alien species identified but a tracking system not yet established	X
c) Yes, some alien species identified and tracking system in place	
d) Yes, alien species of major concern identified and tracking system in place	

46. Has your country assessed the risks posed to ecosystems, habitats or species by the introduction of these alien species?

a) No	X
b) Yes, but only for some alien species of concern (please provide details below)	
c) Yes, for most alien species (please provide details below)	

Further information on the assessment of the risks posed to ecosystems, habitats or species by the introduction of these alien species.

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47. Has your country undertaken measures to prevent the introduction of, control or eradicate, those alien species which threaten ecosystems, habitats or species?

a) No	X
b) No, but potential measures are under consideration	
c) Yes, some measures are in place (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive measures are in place (please provide details below)	

Further information on the measures to prevent the introduction of, control or eradicate those alien species that threaten ecosystems, habitats or species.

The Act Adopting the New Agriculture Law 1973, calls on the Ministry of Agriculture to prevent entry into Liberia of injurious plants and animal pests and diseases existing in foreign countries and to prevent the spread of such pests and diseases should they become establish in Liberia. Furthermore, subsection 1.4a calls on the Ministry to promulgate reasonable rules and regulations pertaining to the inspection and control of the importation of living plants and animals of every description and in every form as are necessary to protect the agriculture and food supplies of the Republic from injurious plants and animals, pests and diseases existing in foreign countries. Prohibit the importation into Liberia of plants or animals which are poisonous, noxious or which produce deleterious drugs or which may be infected or effected by harmful pests or diseases or which shall have been exposed to such pests or diseases sixty days before their importation except as prohibiting the importation of such plants or animals for scientific experimental or education purposes. The Ministry is yet to complete its guidelines and policy in order to implement the above-mentioned provisions.

48. In dealing with the issue of invasive species, has your country developed, or involved itself in, mechanisms for international cooperation, including the exchange of best practices? (decision V/8)

a) No	X
b) Yes, bilateral cooperation	
c) Yes, regional and/or subregional cooperation	
d) Yes, multilateral cooperation	

49. Is your country using the ecosystem approach and precautionary and bio-geographical approaches as appropriate in its work on alien invasive species? (decision V/8)

a) No	X
b) Yes (please provide details below)	

Further comments on the use of the ecosystem approach and precautionary and bio-geographical approaches in work on alien invasive species.

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50. Has your country identified national needs and priorities for the implementation of the Guiding Principles? (decision VI/23)	
a) No	X
b) No, but needs and priorities are being identified	
c) Yes, national needs and priorities have been identified (please provide below a list of needs and priorities identified)	
Further comments on the identification of national needs and priorities for the implementation of the Guiding Principles.	

51. Has your country created mechanisms to coordinate national programmes for applying the Guiding Principles? (decision VI/23)	
a) No	X
b) No, but mechanisms are under development	
c) Yes, mechanisms are in place (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the mechanisms created to coordinate national programmes for implementing the Guiding Principles.	

52. Has your country reviewed relevant policies, legislation and institutions in the light of the Guiding Principles, and adjusted or developed policies, legislation and institutions? (decision VI/23)	
a) No	X
b) No, but review under way	
c) Yes, review completed and adjustment proposed (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, adjustment and development ongoing	
e) Yes, some adjustments and development completed (please provide details below)	
Further information on the review, adjustment or development of policies, legislation and institutions in light of the Guiding Principles.	

53. Is your country enhancing cooperation between various sectors in order to improve prevention, early detection, eradication and/or control of invasive alien species? (decision VI/23)

a) No	
b) No, but potential coordination mechanisms are under consideration	X
c) Yes, mechanisms are in place (please provide details below)	
Further comments on cooperation between various sectors.	

54. Is your country collaborating with trading partners and neighboring countries to address threats of invasive alien species to biodiversity in ecosystems that cross international boundaries? (decision VI/23)

a) No	X
b) Yes, relevant collaborative programmes are under development	
c) Yes, relevant programmes are in place (please specify below the measures taken for this purpose)	
Further comments on collaboration with trading partners and neighboring countries.	

55. Is your country developing capacity to use risk assessment to address threats of invasive alien species to biodiversity and incorporate such methodologies in environmental impact assessment (EIA) and strategic environmental assessment (SEA)? (decision VI/23)

a) No	X
b) No, but programmes for this purpose are under development	
c) Yes, some activities for developing capacity in this field are being undertaken (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive activities are being undertaken (please provide details below)	
Further information on capacity development to address threats of invasive alien species.	

56. Has your country developed financial measures and other policies and tools to promote activities to reduce the threats of invasive species? (decision VI/23)

a) No	X
b) No, but relevant measures and policies are under development	
c) Yes, some measures, policies and tools are in place (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive measures and tools are in place (please provide details below)	

Further comments on the development of financial measures and other policies and tools for the promotion of activities to reduce the threats of invasive species.

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Box XLVI.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this article and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

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Article 8(j) - Traditional knowledge and related provisions

GURTS

57. Has your country created and developed capacity-building programmes to involve and enable smallholder farmers, indigenous and local communities, and other relevant stakeholders to effectively participate in decision-making processes related to genetic use restriction technologies?	
a) No	X
b) No, but some programmes are under development	
c) Yes, some programmes are in place (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive programmes are in place (please provide details below)	
Further comments on capacity-building programmes to involve and enable smallholder farmers, indigenous and local communities and other relevant stakeholders to effectively participate in decision-making processes related to GURTs.	

Status and Trends

58. Has your country supported indigenous and local communities in undertaking field studies to determine the status, trends and threats related to the knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities? (decision VII/16)	
a) No	X
b) No, but support to relevant studies is being considered	
c) Yes (please provide information on the studies undertaken)	
Further information on the studies undertaken to determine the status, trends and threats related to the knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities, and priority actions identified.	

Akwé:Kon Guidelines

59. Has your country initiated a legal and institutional review of matters related to cultural, environmental and social impact assessment, with a view to incorporating the Akwé:Kon Guidelines into national legislation, policies, and procedures?	
a) No	X
b) No, but review is under way	
c) Yes, a review undertaken (please provide details on the review)	
Further information on the review.	

60. Has your country used the Akwé:Kon Guidelines in any project proposed to take place on sacred sites and/or land and waters traditionally occupied by indigenous and local communities? (decision VII/16)

a) No	X
b) No, but a review of the Akwé: Kon guidelines is under way	
c) Yes, to some extent (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, to a significant extent (please provide details below)	

Further information on the projects where the Akwé:Kon Guidelines are applied.

The Environmental Protection and Management law has provisions on the importance of cultural and traditional sacred sites but no program has been developed about cultural and traditional sites as it relates to the Awke:Kon guidelines.

61. Has your country undertaken any measures to enhance and strengthen the capacity of indigenous and local communities to be effectively involved in decision-making related to the use of their traditional knowledge, innovations and practices relevant to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity? (decision V/16)

a) No	X
b) No, but some programmes being developed	
c) Yes, some measures taken (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive measures taken (please provide details below)	

Further information on the measures to enhance and strengthen the capacity of indigenous and local communities.

Traditional knowledge on conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity is continuously neglected in programmes and actions for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity nationally.

62. Has your country developed appropriate mechanisms, guidelines, legislation or other initiatives to foster and promote the effective participation of indigenous and local communities in decision making, policy planning and development and implementation of the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity at international, regional, subregional, national and local levels? (decision V/16)

a) No	
b) No, but relevant mechanisms, guidelines and legislation are under development	
c) Yes, some mechanisms, guidelines and legislation are in place (please provide details below)	x

Further information on the mechanisms, guidelines and legislation developed.

The three environmental framework laws (Environmental Policy, Agency Act and the Environmental Protection and Management) and the Forestry Reformed Law 2006 are considered the few national legislations related to environment and resources management that received inputs from indigenous people or local

communities.

63. Has your country developed mechanisms for promoting the full and effective participation of indigenous and local communities with specific provisions for the full, active and effective participation of women in all elements of the programme of work? (decision V/16, annex)

a) No

X

b) No, but relevant mechanisms are being developed

c) Yes, mechanisms are in place (please provide details below)

Further comments on the mechanisms for promoting the full and effective participation of women of indigenous and local communities in all elements of the programme of work.

The Environmental Protection and Management Law mandate the full participation of women in environmental management, which has not been fully implemented.

Support to implementation

64. Has your country established national, subregional and/or regional indigenous and local community biodiversity advisory committees?

a) No

X

b) No, but relevant work is under way

c) Yes

65. Has your country assisted indigenous and local community organizations to hold regional meetings to discuss the outcomes of the decisions of the Conference of the Parties and to prepare for meetings under the Convention?

a) No

X

b) Yes (please provide details about the outcome of meetings)

Further information on the outcome of regional meetings.

The National Capacity Self Assessment calls for the establishment of Advisory Body composing of indigenous people on biodiversity management, which is yet to be put into action.

66. Has your country supported, financially and otherwise, indigenous and local communities in formulating their own community development and biodiversity conservation plans that will enable such communities to adopt a culturally appropriate strategic, integrated and phased approach to their development needs in line with community goals and objectives?

a) No

X

b) Yes, to some extent (please provide details below)

c) Yes, to a significant extent (please provide details below)

Further information on the support provided.

The FDA is experimenting such idea around the Sapo National Park in Southeast Liberia. Implementation of the initiative is not quite effective.

Box XLVII.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this article and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

Article 9 - *Ex-situ* conservation


67. On Article 9(a) and (b), has your country adopted measures for the *ex-situ* conservation of components of biological diversity native to your country and originating outside your country?

a) No	
b) No, but potential measures are under review	
c) Yes, some measures are in place (please provide details below)	x
d) Yes, comprehensive measures are in place (please provide details below)	

Further information on the measures adopted for the *ex-situ* conservation of components of biodiversity native to your country and originating outside your country.

The Central Agriculture Research has initiated field germ bank program following the destruction of its facility in the civil war.


The New York Blood Center VI Lab in Margibi County known as the Liberia Biomedical Research Institute is carrying on research activities using Chimpanzees to develop vaccines with the concept of releasing retired chimpanzees in the wild.

68.  On Article 9(c), has your country adopted measures for the reintroduction of threatened species into their natural habitats under appropriate conditions?

a) No	X
b) No, but potential measures are under review	
c) Yes, some measures are in place (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive measures are in place (please provide details below)	

Further comments on the measures for the reintroduction of threatened species into their natural habitats under appropriate conditions.

The Liberian Laws have identified natural habitats for threatened species; but appropriate measures are yet to be put in place to safeguard them.

69.  On Article 9(d), 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?

a) No	x
b) No, but potential measures are under review	
c) Yes, some measures are in place (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive measures are in place (please provide details below)	

Further information on the 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.

The Forestry Development Authority Reformed Law and Regulations 2006, required permit from said agency before the collection of biological resources from its natural habitat for *ex-situ* conservation and or research purposes. Additionally, the Agriculture law requires import and export permits for plants and animals entering or leaving Liberia.

Box XLVIII.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this article and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

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Article 10 - Sustainable use of components of biological diversity

70. On Article 10(a), has your country integrated consideration of the conservation and sustainable use of biological resources into national decision-making?

a) No	
b) No, but steps are being taken	
c) Yes, in some relevant sectors (please provide details below)	X
d) Yes, in most relevant sectors (please provide details below)	

Further information on integrating consideration of conservation and sustainable use of biological resources into national decision-making.

The Environmental framework laws of the Environmental Protection Agency and the Reformed Forest Law, policies and regulations 2006, clearly define the path for conservation and sustainable management of biological diversity. The NBSAP recommended strategies and actions on how to go about it but the missing link is no standards have been developed to enforce these legislations, policies, regulations and programmes.

71. On Article 10(b), has your country adopted measures relating to the use of biological resources that avoid or minimize adverse impacts on biological diversity?

a) No	
b) No, but potential measures are under review	
c) Yes, some measures are in place (please provide details below)	X
d) Yes, comprehensive measures are in place (please provide details below)	

Further information on the measures adopted relating to the use of biological resources that avoid or minimize adverse impacts on biological diversity.

Besides the Environmental Protection and Management Law, and the FDA Forest Reformed Law of 2006, the Guidelines for the five-year forest management plan of the FDA set the rules and regulations for sustainable forest management.

72. ♦ On Article 10(c), 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?

a) No	
b) No, but potential measures are under review	
c) Yes, some measures are in place (please provide details below)	X
d) Yes, comprehensive measures are in place (please provide details below)	

Further information on the measures that protect and encourage customary use of biological resources that is compatible with conservation or sustainable use requirements.

The Environmental Protection and Management Law and Environmental Policy recognized customary use of biological resources that is compatible with sustainable use and conservation of biodiversity. The revised FDA's Regulations 2006 also recognized traditional conservation approach to biodiversity conservation. The Regulations require every forest concessionaire to enter into Social Agreement with communities where the concession is located. According to the Regulations, the Social Agreement addresses where logging activities should be permitted by the locals and where logging activity can't take place because of its cultural and traditional significance among others.

73. ♦ On Article 10(d), 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?

a) No	X
b) No, but potential measures are under review	
c) Yes, some measures are in place (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive measures are in place (please provide details below)	

Further information on the measures that help local populations develop and implement remedial action in degraded areas where biodiversity has been reduced.

According to the NBSAP, The extent of forest cover removal does not match replacement. Up to about 480,000 acres or 192,000 hectares of forestland is lost annually due to logging, shifting cultivation and other activities; while government has only been able to replant less than 27,000 acres or 10,927 hectares since the inception of its reforestation program in 1971.

74. Has your country identified indicators and incentive measures for sectors relevant to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity? (decision V/24)

a) No	X
b) No, but assessment of potential indicators and incentive measures is under way	
c) Yes, indicators and incentive measures identified (please describe below)	
Further comments on the identification of indicators and incentive measures for sectors relevant to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.	
Incentive measures program have not been instituted in Liberia.	

75. Has your country implemented sustainable use practices, programmes and policies for the sustainable use of biological diversity, especially in pursuit of poverty alleviation? (decision V/24)

a) No	
b) No, but potential practices, programmes and policies are under review	
c) Yes, some policies and programmes are in place (please provide details below)	X
d) Yes, comprehensive policies and programmes are in place (please provide details below)	
Further information on sustainable use programmes and policies.	
All of the post conflict reconstruction programmes including the MDGs, National Reconstruction Development Program, Result -Focused Transnational Framework, The Five-Year Forest Management Plan and the Interim Poverty Reduction Strategy Program focus the achievement of poverty alleviation as fundamental issue.	

76. Has your country developed or explored mechanisms to involve the private sector in initiatives on the sustainable use of biodiversity? (decision V/24)

a) No	X
b) No, but mechanisms are under development	
c) Yes, mechanisms are in place (please describe below)	
Further comments on the development of mechanisms to involve the private sector in initiatives on the sustainable use of biodiversity.	
The Environmental Policy and Environmental Protection and Management Law outlined legal requirements for the participation of private sector in biodiversity management. In addition, the NBSAP developed strategies and actions for private sector involvement in the conservation and management of biodiversity. The implementation side is yet to. In order words nothing have been put in place on the ground.	

77. Has your country initiated a process to apply the Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines for the Sustainable Use of Biodiversity? (decision VII/12)	
a) No	X
b) No, but the principles and guidelines are under review	
c) Yes, a process is being planned	
d) Yes, a process has been initiated (please provide detailed information)	
Further information on the process to apply the Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines for the Sustainable Use of Biodiversity.	

78. Has your country taken any initiative or action to develop and transfer technologies and provide financial resources to assist in the application of the Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines for the Sustainable Use of Biodiversity? (decision VII/12)	
a) No	X
b) No, but relevant programmes are under development	
c) Yes, some technologies developed and transferred and limited financial resources provided (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, many technologies developed and transferred and significant financial resources provided (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the development and transfer of technologies and provision of financial resources to assist in the application of the Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines for the Sustainable Use of Biodiversity.	

Biodiversity and Tourism

79. Has your country established mechanisms to assess, monitor and measure the impact of tourism on biodiversity?

a) No	X
b) No, but mechanisms are under development	
c) Yes, mechanisms are in place (please specify below)	
d) Yes, existing mechanisms are under review	

Further comments on the establishment of mechanisms to assess, monitor and measure the impact of tourism on biodiversity.

The Ministry of Information, Culture and Tourism has no provision in the Act that established the Ministry any policy or guidelines that outline any steps to mitigate the impact of tourism on biodiversity. The Environmental Protection and Management law defines the requisite measures to assess monitor and measure the impact of tourism on biodiversity management. While NBSAP set up the strategies and actions for addressing the impacts of tourism on biodiversity. These strategies and actions are yet to be implemented.

80. Has your country provided educational and training programmes to the tourism operators so as to increase their awareness of the impacts of tourism on biodiversity and upgrade the technical capacity at the local level to minimize the impacts? (decision V/25)

a) No	X
b) No, but programmes are under development	
c) Yes, programmes are in place (please describe below)	

Further comments on educational and training programmes provided to tourism operators.

81. Does your country provide indigenous and local communities with capacity-building and financial resources to support their participation in tourism policy-making, development planning, product development and management? (decision VII/14)

a) No	X
b) No, but relevant programmes are being considered	
c) Yes, some programmes are in place (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive programmes are in place (please provide details below)	

Further comments in the capacity-building and financial resources provided to indigenous and local communities to support their participation in tourism policy-making, development planning, product development and management.

Development planning in Liberia is centralized. Also, Tourism planning has not been linked with biodiversity management.

82. Has your country integrated the Guidelines on Biodiversity and Tourism Development in the development or review of national strategies and plans for tourism development, national biodiversity strategies and actions plans, and other related sectoral strategies? (decision VII/14)

a) No, but the guidelines are under review	
b) No, but a plan is under consideration to integrate some principles of the guidelines into relevant strategies	X
c) Yes, a few principles of the guidelines are integrated into some sectoral plans and NBSAPs (please specify which principle and sector)	
d) Yes, many principles of the guidelines are integrated into some sectoral plans and NBSAPs (please specify which principle and sector)	

Further information on the sectors where the principles of the Guidelines on Biodiversity and Tourism Development are integrated.

NBSAP developed strategies and actions to link tourism development and biodiversity management. Goal 5, objective 2 Action 1 of the document calls for the promotion of eco-tourism. It further calls for the production of brochures on tourists sites by 2005; awareness campaign in to be conducted to promote eco-tourism in the four agricultural regions of Liberia by 2004, and the establishment of tourism management committee by 2007, among others. These goals have not been implemented.

Box XLIX.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this article and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

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Article 11 - Incentive measures

83. Has your country established programmes to identify and adopt economically and socially sound measures that act as incentives for the conservation and sustainable use of components of biological diversity?

a) No	X
b) No, but relevant programmes are under development	
c) Yes, some programmes are in place (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive programmes are in place (please provide details below)	

Further comments on the programmes to identify and adopt incentives for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.

Environmental Protection and Management Law considers incentive measures as one key tool for sustainable biodiversity management. NBSAP developed the necessary strategies and actions. There are however no national programmes and standards to achieve that.

84. Has your country developed the mechanisms or approaches to ensure adequate incorporation of both market and non-market values of biological diversity into relevant plans, policies and programmes and other relevant areas? (decisions III/18 and IV/10)

a) No	X
b) No, but relevant mechanisms are under development	
c) Yes, mechanisms are in place (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, review of impact of mechanisms available (please provide details below)	

Further comments on the mechanism or approaches to incorporate market and non-market values of biodiversity into relevant plans, policies and programmes.

85. Has your country developed training and capacity-building programmes to implement incentive measures and promote private-sector initiatives? (decision III/18)

a) No	X
b) No, but relevant programmes are under development	
c) Yes, some programmes are in place	
d) Yes, many programmes are in place	

86. Does your country take into consideration the proposals for the design and implementation of incentive measures as contained in Annex I to decision VI/15 when designing and implementing incentive measures for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity? (decision VI/15)

a) No	X
b) Yes (please provide details below)	

Further information on the proposals considered when designing and implementing the incentive measures for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.

87. Has your country made any progress in removing or mitigating policies or practices that generate perverse incentives for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity? (decision VII/18)

a) No	X
b) No, but identification of such policies and practices is under way	
c) Yes, relevant policies and practices identified but not entirely removed or mitigated (please provide details below)	

d) Yes, relevant policies and practices identified and removed or mitigated (please provide details below)	
Further information on perverse incentives identified and/or removed or mitigated.	

Box L.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this article and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

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Article 12 - Research and training

88.  On Article 12(a), 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?

a) No	X
b) No, but programmes are under development	
c) Yes, programmes are in place (please provide details below)	X

Further information on the programmes for scientific and technical education and training in the measures for identification, conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.

The Central Agriculture Research Institute (CARI), Liberia Biomedical Research Institute, College of Agriculture and Forestry, University of Liberia, and Forestry Development Authority and the Bureau of Hydrological Services, Ministry of Lands, Mines and Energy have some programs in research and training.

89.  On Article 12(b), does your country promote and encourage research which contributes to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity?

a) No	
b) Yes (please provide details below)	X

Further information on the research which contributes to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.

As stated above, CARI and LIBR were encouraging joint research programs in the

past along with the College of Agriculture and Forestry. Efforts are under way to rehabilitate and revitalize these institutions. With the aid of Fauna and Flora International, the FDA now utilizes a GIS lab to facilitate forest-monitoring activities.

90. On Article 12(c), 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?

a) No	
b) Yes (please provide details below)	X

Further information on the use of scientific advances in biodiversity research in developing methods for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.

Although Liberia promotes and cooperates in the use of Scientific research, scientific research has not developed to international standards.

Box LI.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this article specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

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Article 13 - Public education and awareness

91. Is your country implementing a communication, education and public awareness strategy and promoting public participation in support of the Convention? (Goal 4.1 of the Strategic Plan)

a) No	X
b) No, but a CEPA strategy is under development	
c) Yes, a CEPA strategy developed and public participation promoted to a limited extent (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, a CEPA strategy developed and public participation promoted to a significant extent (please provide details below)	

Further comments on the implementation of a CEPA strategy and the promotion of public participation in support of the Convention.

The Public Awareness Department of the Environmental Protection Agency of Liberia (EPA) is engaged in information dissemination and awareness on general sustainable environmental management including issues on biodiversity conservation and its sustainable use. The target population includes policy makers, students and ordinary citizens. Other stakeholders mainly environmental NGOs are also engaged in similar activities. While these activities are contributing to the effort to increase citizens' consciousness about the environment and sustainable use of natural resources, the process is fragmented; that is there is no clear policy and programmes to be followed by the stakeholders. Programmes are designed based on the needs of individual organization and how they see things. Furthermore, the EPA is yet to develop policy, strategies and action programme on public awareness, education and information dissemination

92. Is your country undertaking any activities to facilitate the implementation of the programme of work on Communication, Education and Public Awareness as contained in the annex to decision VI/19? (decision VI/19)

a) No	
b) No, but some programmes are under development	X

c) Yes, some activities are being undertaken (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, many activities are being undertaken (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the activities to facilitate the implementation of the programme of work on CEPA.	
The EPA and FDA have public education and information dissemination activities on going on sustainable environmental management and biodiversity conservation. There is however no national blue print for communication, education and public awareness as considered in the annex to decision VI/19.	

93. Is your country strongly and effectively promoting biodiversity-related issues through the press, the various media and public relations and communications networks at national level? (decision VI/19)	
a) No	
b) No, but some programmes are under development	
c) Yes, to a limited extent (please provide details below)	X
d) Yes, to a significant extent (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the promotion of biodiversity-related issues through the press, the various media and public relations and communications networks at national level.	
The capacity of the Environmental Protection Agency and sectoral Institutions to support public awareness and education programmes through the media is limited. The situation is not helped also by the weak capacity of the Liberian media relative to environmental communication. More result can be obtained once environmental journalists are given the opportunity for training and or capacity building as a whole.	


94. Does your country promote the communication, education and public awareness of biodiversity at the local level? (decision VI/19)	
a) No	
b) Yes (please provide details below)	X
Further information on the efforts to promote the communication, education and public awareness of biodiversity at the local level.	
There is every effort by both civil society and sector agencies to promote biodiversity conservation and its sustainable use through various media at the local level.	

95. Is your country supporting national, regional and international activities prioritized by the Global Initiative on Education and Public Awareness? (Decision VI/19)	
a) No	X
b) No, but some programmes are under development	
c) Yes, some activities supported (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, many activities supported (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the support of national, regional and international activities prioritized by the Global Initiative on Education and Public Awareness.	

96. Has your country developed adequate capacity to deliver initiatives on communication, education and public awareness?	
a) No	X
b) No, but some programmes are under development	
c) Yes, some programmes are being implemented (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive programmes are being implemented (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the development of adequate capacity to deliver initiatives on communication, education and public awareness.	
<p>The EPA through its Outreach and Public Awareness Department and the local media are doing well within their reach to communicate relevant environmental messages like the ones on biodiversity conservation and its sustainable use but limited human and financial resources continue to be the major problem facing the process.</p>	

97. Does your country promote cooperation and exchange programmes for biodiversity education and awareness at the national, regional and international levels? (decisions IV /10 and VI/19)	
a) No	
b) Yes (please provide details below)	X
Further comments on the promotion of cooperation and exchange programmes for biodiversity education and awareness, at the national, regional and international levels.	
<p>Liberia has participated in series of regional and international meetings, Workshops and seminars on education, information dissemination and public awareness in environmental management as well as sustainable use of resources.</p>	

98. Is your country undertaking some CEPA activities for implementation of cross-cutting issues and thematic programmes of work adopted under the Convention?	
a) No (please specify reasons below)	
b) Yes, some activities undertaken for some issues and thematic areas (please provide details below)	X
c) Yes, many activities undertaken for most issues and thematic areas (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive activities undertaken for all issues and thematic areas (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the CEPA activities for implementation of cross-cutting issues and thematic programmes of work adopted under the Convention.	
<p>The Press Union of Liberia and the Forestry Development Authority are undertaking public awareness, education and information dissemination projects on the Reformed Forestry Law, Regulations, Policy and five-year forest management plan. The project involves daily publication of various provisions of these legal instruments in the national dailies, talk shows and phoning-in programmes on national and local radio stations.</p>	

99.  Does your country support initiatives by major groups, key actors and stakeholders that integrate biological diversity conservation matters in their practice and education programmes as well as into their relevant sectoral and cross-sectoral plans, programmes and policies? (decision IV/10 and Goal 4.4 of the Strategic Plan)	
a) No	
b) Yes (please provide details below)	X
Further comments on the initiatives by major groups, key actors and stakeholders that integrate biodiversity conservation in their practice and education programmes as well as their relevant sectoral and cross-sectoral plans, programmes and policies.	
<p>The EPA and the Ministry of Education are expected to launch program with the latter integrating key environmental information into the curricula of primary, secondary and tertiary schools. One big handicap for the success of this pending program is the limited human capacity particularly in environmental education to execute the program. Local and international civil society, nature conservation organizations like FFI and CI are also engaged in fragmented public education on biodiversity conservation and sustainable use of its components.</p>	

100. Is your country communicating the various elements of the 2010 biodiversity target and establishing appropriate linkages to the Decade on Education for Sustainable Development in the implementation of your national CEPA programmes and activities? (Decision VII/24)

a) No	X
b) No, but some programmes are under development	
c) Yes, some programmes developed and activities undertaken for this purpose (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive programmes developed and many activities undertaken for this purpose (please provide details below)	


Further comments on the communication of the various elements of the 2010 biodiversity target and the establishment of linkages to the Decade on Education for Sustainable Development.

Box LII.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this article and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.


Article 14 - Impact assessment and minimizing adverse impacts

101.  On Article 14.1(a), has your country developed legislation requiring an environmental impact assessment of proposed projects likely to have adverse effects on biological diversity?

a) No	
b) No, legislation is still in early stages of development	
c) No, but legislation is in advanced stages of development	
d) Yes, legislation is in place (please provide details below)	X
e) Yes, review of implementation available (please provide details below)	

Further information on the legislation requiring EIA of proposed projects likely to have adverse effects on biodiversity.

The three environmental framework laws April, 2003 (Environmental Policy, Environmental Agency Act and Environmental Protection and Management Law), the Reformed Forestry Law 2006, the Forest Policy, Forest Regulations and the Guidelines for the five-year Forest Management Plan of (FDA) and the New Mining Law 2000, all require Environmental Impact Assessment before the commencement of any project and activity that impact land use. Specifically Part III Sections 6-33 the Environmental Protection and Management Law forbid any sectoral agency that has the power to grant permission for the implementation of any project to do so until the project proponent submits to such agency EIA certificate from the EPA certifying that proponent has conducted an EIA and met conditions required by law to engage in such undertaking. The EPA before the close of 2006 is in the process of completing the regulations and standards for the conduct of EIA.

102.  On Article 14.1(b), has your country developed mechanisms to ensure that due consideration is given to the environmental consequences of national programmes and policies that are likely to have significant adverse impacts on biological diversity?

a) No	
b) No, mechanisms are still in early stages of development	
c) No, but mechanisms are in advanced stages of development	
d) Yes, mechanisms are in place (please provide details below)	X

Further comments on the mechanisms developed to ensure that due consideration is given to the environmental consequences of national programmes and policies that are likely to have significant adverse impacts on biodiversity.

Documents and instruments as qualified in question 101 are part of the mechanisms that Liberia has put in place.

103. On Article 14.1(c), is your country implementing bilateral, regional and/or multilateral agreements on activities likely to significantly affect biological diversity outside your country's jurisdiction?


a) No	
b) No, but assessment of options is in progress	
c) Yes, some completed, others in progress (please provide details below)	X
d) Yes (please provide details below)	

Further information on the bilateral, regional and/or multilateral agreements on activities likely to significantly affect biodiversity outside your country's jurisdiction.

The formal agreement for the Mount Nimba Massif Tri-partite cooperation involving Liberia, Guinea and Cote d'Ivoire will be signed later in the year following the Monrovia summit. There is also cooperative effort between Liberia and Cote d'Ivoire on the creation of environmental corridor between the Grebo National Forest on the Liberian side and the Tai National Park in Cote d'Ivoire. Civil society organizations particularly nature conservation ones like Conservation International, Fauna and Flora International and local non-governmental agencies are heavily involved in these efforts. The Guinea Current Large Marine Ecosystem project involving sixteen African countries including Liberia is another clear example.

104. On Article 14.1(d), has your country put mechanisms in place to prevent or minimize danger or damage originating in your territory to biological diversity in the territory of other Parties or in areas beyond the limits of national jurisdiction?

a) No	X
b) No, mechanisms are still in early stages of development	
c) No, but mechanisms are in advanced stages of development	
d) Yes, mechanisms are in place based on current scientific knowledge	

105.  On Article 14.1(e), has your country established national mechanisms for emergency response to activities or events which present a grave and imminent danger to biological diversity?

a) No	
b) No, mechanisms are still in early stages of development	X
c) No, but mechanisms are in advanced stages of development	
d) Yes, mechanisms are in place (please provide details below)	

Further information on national mechanisms for emergency response to the activities or events which present a grave and imminent danger to biodiversity.

The EPA EIA Guidelines and Regulations and the Forestry Development Authority Regulations both stimulate mechanism for emergency response relative to environmental impact assessment. These are supported by the Environmental Protection and Management Law which emphasizes “the precautionary and promotion of sustainable development Principles”.

106. Is your country applying the Guidelines for Incorporating Biodiversity-related Issues into Environment-Impact-Assessment Legislation or Processes and in Strategic Impact Assessment as contained in the annex to decision VI/7 in the context of the implementation of paragraph 1 of Article 14? (decision VI/7)

a) No	
b) No, but application of the guidelines under consideration	
c) Yes, some aspects being applied (please specify below)	X
d) Yes, major aspects being applied (please specify below)	

Further comments on application of the guidelines.

The Environmental Protection Agency of Liberia recently completed Interim EIA guidelines; issues related to biodiversity are core part of the instrument.

107. On Article 14 (2), has your country put in place national legislative, administrative or policy measures regarding liability and redress for damage to biological diversity? (decision VI/11)	
a) No	X
b) Yes (please specify the measures)	
Further comments on national legislative, administrative or policy measures regarding liability and redress for damage to biological diversity.	

108. Has your country put in place any measures to prevent damage to biological diversity?	
a) No	
b) No, but some measures are being developed	
c) Yes, some measures are in place (please provide details below)	X
d) Yes, comprehensive measures are in place (please provide details below)	
Further information on the measures in place to prevent damage to biological diversity.	
<p>The Environmental Protection and Management Law Section 90 calls for the restoration of the environment or natural resources to near- or may be to the state in which it was before the taking of action which is subject of the order. It further calls for the restoration of land including the replacement of soil, replanting of trees and other floral and geographical, archaeological or historical features of the land or the area contiguous to the land specified in the order. The Reformed Forestry Law 2006, Forest policy, Forest Regulations and the five-year Forest Management Plan, complements this provision.</p>	

109. Is your country cooperating with other Parties to strengthen capacities at the national level for the prevention of damage to biodiversity, establishment and implementation of national legislative regimes, policy and administrative measures on liability and redress? (decision VI/11)	
a) No	
b) No, but cooperation is under consideration	
c) No, but cooperative programmes are under development	
d) Yes, some cooperative activities being undertaken (please provide details below)	X
e) Yes, comprehensive cooperative activities being undertaken (please provide details below)	
Further comments on cooperation with other Parties to strengthen capacities for the prevention of damage to biodiversity.	
<p>The United Nations Environment Program in collaboration with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) implemented the project- “key Consideration of Camp Closure, Rehabilitation and the Return Process”; it was specifically targeted at Refugees and Internally Displaced Centers around Liberia. Major issues</p>	

addressed included land restoration, including the removal of slabs, back filling pits, tree planting and cash crops planting in an effort to restore degraded lands in the areas of refugee and IDPs settlements.

Box LIII.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this article and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

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Article 15 - Access to genetic resources

110. Has your country endeavored to facilitate access to genetic resources for environmentally sound uses by other Parties, on the basis of prior informed consent and mutually agreed terms, in accordance with paragraphs 2, 4 and 5 of Article 15?

a) No	X
b) Yes (please provide details below)	

Further information on the efforts taken by your country to facilitate access to genetic resources for environmentally sound uses by other Parties, on the basis of prior informed consent and mutually agreed terms.

The three environmental framework laws and the Reformed Forestry Law, Policy, Regulations and the five-year forest management plan have provisions to facilitate access to genetic resources for environmentally sound uses. Liberia has developed a proposal for GEF support to conduct assessment of genetic resources and to develop ABS Legislation. The request is still pending.

111. Has your country taken measures to ensure that any scientific research based on genetic resources provided by other Parties is developed and carried out with the full participation of such Parties, in accordance with Article 15(6)?

a) No	X
b) No, but potential measures are under review	
c) Yes, some measures are in place (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive measures are in place (please provide details below)	

Further information on the 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.

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112. Has your country taken measures to ensure the fair and equitable sharing of the results of research and development and of the benefits arising from the commercial and other use of genetic resources with any Contracting Party providing such resources, in accordance with Article 15(7)?

a) No	X
b) No, but potential measures are under review	
c) Yes, some measures are in place (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive legislation is in place (please provide details below)	
e) Yes, comprehensive statutory policy or subsidiary legislation are in place (please provide details below)	
f) Yes, comprehensive policy and administrative measures are in place (please provide details below)	

Further information on the type of measures taken.

113. In developing national measures to address access to genetic resources and benefit-sharing, has your country taken into account the multilateral system of access and benefit-sharing set out in the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture?

a) No	X
b) Yes (please provide details below)	

Further information on national measures taken which consider the multilateral system of access and benefit-sharing as set out in the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture.

Liberia is not a signatory of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture; Liberia has no program of such under this treaty in regard to plant genetic resources.

The NBSAP in its programme of action, calls for the ratification of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture; developing a sub regional legal instrument for transboundary conservation of genetic resources within the Mano River Basin; developing sub-regional mechanism for the promoting of trade in wildlife in the Upper Guinea Forest Ecosystem and supporting transboundary conservation initiatives to target Mount Nimba, Gola Forest and Tai-Grebo Corridors for the identification of important bird areas by 2005.

114. Is your country using the Bonn Guidelines when developing and drafting legislative, administrative or policy measures on access and benefit-sharing and/or when negotiating contracts and other arrangements under mutually agreed terms for access and benefit-sharing? (decision VII/19A)

a) No	X
b) No, but steps being taken to do so (please provide details below)	
c) Yes (please provide details below)	

Please provide details and specify successes and constraints in the implementation of the Bonn Guidelines.

Liberia intends to consult the Bonn's Guidelines when resources are available for drafting of its ABS Legislation.

115. Has your country adopted national policies or measures, including legislation, which address the role of intellectual property rights in access and benefit-sharing arrangements (i.e. the issue of disclosure of origin/source/legal provenance of genetic resources in applications for intellectual property rights where the subject matter of the application concerns, or makes use of, genetic resources in its development)?

a) No	X
b) No, but potential policies or measures have been identified (please specify below)	
c) No, but relevant policies or measures are under development (please specify below)	
d) Yes, some policies or measures are in place (please specify below)	
e) Yes, comprehensive policies or measures adopted (please specify below)	

Further information on policies or measures that address the role of IPR in access and benefit-sharing arrangements.

Liberia has law on intellectual property right but no provisions are included relative to access and benefit sharing.

116. Has your country been involved in capacity-building activities related to access and benefit-sharing?

a) Yes (please provide details below)

b) No

X


Please provide further information on capacity-building activities (your involvement as donor or recipient, key actors involved, target audience, time period, goals and objectives of the capacity-building activities, main capacity-building areas covered, nature of activities). Please also specify whether these activities took into account the Action Plan on capacity-building for access and benefit-sharing adopted at COP VII and available in annex to decision VII/19F.

Box LIV.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this article and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

Article 16 - Access to and transfer of technology

117.  On Article 16(1), has your country taken measures to provide or facilitate access for and transfer to other 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?

a) No

b) No, but potential measures are under review

c) Yes, some measures are in place (please provide details below)

d) Yes, comprehensive measures are in place (please provide details below)

X

Further information on the measures to provide or facilitate access for and transfer to other Parties of technologies that are relevant to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity or make use of genetic resources and do not cause significant damage to the environment.

Liberia has developed National Biosafety Framework which when approved by the National Legislature will address issues relevant to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and/or use of genetic resources. Also, when the NBSAP is implemented, issues related to genetic resources will be addressed.

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

a) No	
b) No, but potential measures are under review	X
c) Yes, some measures are in place	
d) Yes, comprehensive legislation is in place	
e) Yes, comprehensive statutory policy or subsidiary legislation are in place	
f) Yes, comprehensive policy and administrative arrangements are in place	
g) Not applicable	

119. On Article 16(4), 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?

a) No	
b) No, but potential measures are under review	X
c) Yes, some policies and measures are in place (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive policies and measures are in place (please provide details below)	
e) Not applicable	

Further information on the measures taken.

The Environmental Protection Agency has begun to engage private sector, institutions to both participate and support initiatives relevant to the transfer of technology. In addition, the NBSAP's Goal II Objective 9 & 11 called for promoting access to and transfers of technology and technological cooperation in the control of Risks associated with biotechnology. Also, to promote information exchange as well as technical and scientific cooperation with countries and regional bodies in relation to biodiversity conservation.

Box LV.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this article specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

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Programme of Work on transfer of technology and technology cooperation

120. Has your country provided financial and technical support and training to assist in the implementation of the programme of work on transfer of technology and technology cooperation? (decision VII/29)

a) No	X
b) No, but relevant programmes are under development	
c) Yes, some programmes being implemented (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive programmes being implemented (please provide details below)	

Further comments on the provision of financial and technical support and training to assist in the implementation of the programme of work on transfer of technology and technology cooperation.

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121. Is your country taking any measures to remove unnecessary impediments to funding of multi-country initiatives for technology transfer and for scientific and technical cooperation? (decision VII/29)

a) No	
b) No, but some measures being considered	
c) Yes, some measures are in place (please provide details below)	X
d) Yes, comprehensive measures are in place (please provide details below)	

Further comments on the measures to remove unnecessary impediments to funding of multi-country initiatives for technology transfer and for scientific and technical cooperation.

Liberia's accession to, and ratification of several international conventions is an indication of the effort to remove unnecessary impediments that will hinder

technology transfer and/or scientific and technical cooperation among biodiversity institutions.

The draft Biosafety Legislations have administrative and technical protocols that can assist countries interested and or involved with biotechnology programmes in Liberia.

122. Has your country made any technology assessments addressing technology needs, opportunities and barriers in relevant sectors as well as related needs in capacity building? (annex to decision VII/29)

a) No	
b) No, but assessments are under way	
c) Yes, basic assessments undertaken (please provide details below)	X
d) Yes, thorough assessments undertaken (please provide details below)	

Further comments on technology assessments addressing technology needs, opportunities and barriers in relevant sectors as well as related needs in capacity building.

The National Capacity Self Assessment Project identified several technological needs, opportunities and barriers under the CBD, UNFCCC and the UNCCD and developed a plan of action to address the identified gaps. Moreover, the United Nations Environment Program has worked extensively with the Environmental Protection Agency to conduct such institutional assessment, and to build capacities in line with the mandate of the Agency.

123. Has your country made any assessments and risk analysis of the potential benefits, risks and associated costs with the introduction of new technologies? (annex to decision VII/29)

a) No	X
b) No, but assessments are under way	
c) Yes, some assessments undertaken (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive assessments undertaken (please provide details below)	

Further comments on the assessments and risk analysis of the potential benefits, risks and associated costs with the introduction of new technologies.

124. Has your country identified and implemented any measures to develop or strengthen appropriate information systems for technology transfer and cooperation, including assessing capacity building needs? (annex to decision VII/29)

a) No	X
b) No, but some programmes are under development	
c) Yes, some programmes are in place and being implemented (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive programmes are being implemented (please provide details below)	
Further comments on measures to develop or strengthen appropriate information systems for technology transfer and cooperation.	

125. Has your country taken any of the measures specified under Target 3.2 of the programme of work as a preparatory phase to the development and implementation of national institutional, administrative, legislative and policy frameworks to facilitate cooperation as well as access to and adaptation of technologies of relevance to the Convention? (annex to decision VII/29)

a) No	
b) No, but a few measures being considered	
c) Yes, some measures taken (please specify below)	X
d) Yes, many measures taken (please specify below)	
Further comments on the measures taken as a preparatory phase to the development and implementation of national institutional, administrative, legislative and policy frameworks to facilitate cooperation as well as access to and adaptation of technologies of relevance to the Convention.	
Liberia implemented the Forest Re-assessment project utilizing the Geographic Information System (GIS) technology to identify percentage of forest cover removal, conservation strategies and identification of priority-protected areas. Key partners in this project included Fauna and Floral International, Conservational International, and donors.	

Box LVI.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this article and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

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Article 17 - Exchange of information

126. On Article 17(1), has your country taken measures to facilitate the exchange of information from publicly available sources with a view to assist with the implementation of the Convention and promote technical and scientific cooperation?

a) No	
b) No, but potential measures are under review	
c) Yes, some measures are in place	X
d) Yes, comprehensive measures are in place	

The following question (127) is for DEVELOPED COUNTRIES

127. On Article 17(1), do these measures take into account the special needs of developing countries and include the categories of information listed in Article 17(2), such as technical, scientific and socio-economic research, training and surveying programmes, specialized knowledge, repatriation of information and so on?

a) No	
b) Yes, but they do not include the categories of information listed in Article 17(2), such as technical, scientific and socio-economic research, training and surveying programmes, specialized knowledge, repatriation of information and so on	
c) Yes, and they include categories of information listed in Article 17 (2), such as technical, scientific and socio-economic research, training and surveying programmes, specialized knowledge, repatriation of information and so on	


Box LVII.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this article and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

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Article 18 - Technical and scientific cooperation

128.  On Article 18(1), has your country taken measures to promote international technical and scientific cooperation in the field of conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity?

a) No	
b) No, but potential measures are under review	
c) Yes, some measures are in place (please provide details below)	X
d) Yes, comprehensive measures are in place (please provide details below)	

Further information on the measures to promote international technical and scientific cooperation.

Liberia is working with the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), African Union (AU), and New Partnership for African Development (NEPAD), to develop Regional Strategic Action Plan for the management of Environmental resources including biodiversity. Also, the Tri-Partite initiative being negotiated between and among Guinea, Cote d'Ivoire and Liberia on the management and conservation of Mount Nimba Nature Reserve on the one hand; Sierra Leone and Liberia on the management and conservation of the Gola National Forest, and Guinea and Liberia on the management and conservation of the Winigizi Mountain, are examples of such technical and scientific cooperation.

Furthermore, Liberia's participation at international conferences, workshops and seminars under the convention is in support of technical and scientific cooperation of developed country parties to developing country parties as called for in the Convention.

129. On Article 18(4), 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?

a) No	X
b) No, but relevant methods are under development	
c) Yes, methods are in place	

130. On Article 18(5), 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?

a) No	X
b) Yes (please provide some examples below)	

Examples for the establishment of joint research programmes and joint ventures for the development of technologies relevant to the objectives of the Convention.

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131. Has your country established links to non-governmental organizations, private sector and other institutions holding important databases or undertaking significant work on biological diversity through the CHM? (decision V/14)

a) No	
b) No, but coordination with relevant NGOs, private sector and other institutions under way	X
c) Yes, links established with relevant NGOs, private sector and institutions	

The following question (132) is for DEVELOPED COUNTRIES

132. Has your country further developed the CHM to assist developing countries and countries with economies in transition to gain access to information in the field of scientific and technical cooperation? (decision V/14)

a) No	
b) Yes, by using funding opportunities	
c) Yes, by means of access to, and transfer of technology	
d) Yes, by using research cooperation facilities	
e) Yes, by using repatriation of information	
f) Yes, by using training opportunities	
g) Yes, by using promotion of contacts with relevant institutions, organizations and the private sector	
h) Yes, by using other means (please specify below)	

Further comments on CHM developments to assist developing countries and countries with economies in transition to gain access to information in the field of scientific and technical cooperation.

133. Has your country used CHM to make information available more useful for researchers and decision-makers? (decision V/14)

a) No	X
b) No, but relevant initiatives under consideration	
c) Yes (please provide details below)	

Further comments on development of relevant initiatives.

CHM project is yet to be implemented.

134. Has your country developed, provided and shared services and tools to enhance and facilitate the implementation of the CHM and further improve synergies among biodiversity-related Conventions? (decision V/14)

a) No	X
b) Yes (please specify services and tools below)	

Further comments on services and tools to enhance and facilitate the implementation of CHM and further improve synergies among biodiversity-related Conventions.

Same as above.

Box LVIII.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this article and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

Article 19 - Handling of biotechnology and distribution of its benefits

135. On Article 19(1), 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?

a) No	
b) No, but potential measures are under review	
c) Yes, some measures are in place	X
d) Yes, comprehensive legislation are in place	
e) Yes, comprehensive statutory policy and subsidiary legislation are in place	
f) Yes, comprehensive policy and administrative measures are in place	

136. On Article 19(2), has your country taken all practicable measures to promote and advance priority access by Parties, on a fair and equitable basis, to the results and benefits arising from biotechnologies based upon genetic resources provided by those Parties?

a) No	
b) No, but potential measures are under review	X
c) Yes, some measures are in place	
d) Yes, comprehensive measures are in place	

Box LIX.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this article and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

Article 20 – Financial resources

Box LX.

Please describe for each of the following items the quantity of financial resources, both internal and external, that have been utilized, received or provided, as applicable, to implement the Convention on Biological Diversity, on an annual basis, since your country became a Party to the Convention.

a) Budgetary allocations by national and local Governments as well as different sectoral ministries	None
b) Extra-budgetary resources (identified by donor agencies)	None
c) Bilateral channels (identified by donor agencies)	UNEP \$750,00USD
d) Regional channels (identified by donor agencies)	None
e) Multilateral channels (identified by donor agencies)	GEF support to NBSAP =USD\$256,000; NCSA = \$190,000; and Third National Report \$20,000.
f) Private sources (identified by donor agencies)	None
g) Resources generated through financial instruments, such as charges for use of biodiversity	A proposed Trust Fund; not yet operating

Box LXI.

Please describe in detail below any major financing programmes, such as biodiversity trust funds or specific programmes that have been established in your country.

137. On Article 20(1), has your country provided financial support and incentives to those national activities that are intended to achieve the objectives of the Convention?

a) No	
b) Yes, incentives only (please provide a list of such incentives below)	
c) Yes, financial support only	X
d) Yes, financial support and incentives (please provide details below)	

Further comments on financial support and incentives provided.

Government of Liberia supports public awareness initiatives through the Environmental Protection Agency and the Forestry Development Authority to educate and inform citizens on the importance of environmental governance. The EPA received the amount of US\$4,000 in its 2006/2007 annual budget for public awareness on the Liberian environment.

The next question (138) is for DEVELOPED COUNTRIES

138. On Article 20(2), 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 fulfill the obligations of the Convention?

a) No	
b) Yes (please indicate the amount, on an annual basis, of new and additional financial resources your country has provided)	

Further comments on new and additional financial resources provided.

The next question (139) is for DEVELOPING COUNTRIES OR COUNTRIES WITH ECONOMIES IN TRANSITION

139. On Article 20(2), has your country received new and additional financial resources to enable it to meet the agreed full incremental costs of implementing measures which fulfill the obligations of the Convention?

a) No	
b) Yes	X

140. Has your country established a process to monitor financial support to biodiversity, including support provided by the private sector? (decision V/11)

a) No	
b) No, but procedures being established	X
c) Yes (please provide details below)	

Further comments on processes to monitor financial support to biodiversity, including support provided by the private sector.

The Environment Protection Agency Act established financial mechanism for environmental governance. The Act provides for: An Environmental Fund; A Refundable Performance Bond; and a Trust Fund. The Agency has developed monitoring mechanism in its Finance Department to monitor expenditure of biodiversity support.

141. Has your country considered any measures like tax exemptions in national taxation systems to encourage financial support to biodiversity? (decision V/11)

a) No	X
b) No, but exemptions are under development (please provide details below)	
c) Yes, exemptions are in place (please provide details below)	

Further comments on tax exemptions for biodiversity-related donations.

The EPA is contemplating developing a taxing system for biological resources, which will be submitted to the National Legislation for enactment into law.

142. Has your country reviewed national budgets and monetary policies, including the effectiveness of official development assistance allocated to biodiversity, with particular attention paid to positive incentives and their performance as well as perverse incentives and ways and means for their removal or mitigation? (decision VI/16)

a) No	X
b) No, but review is under way	
c) Yes (please provide results of review below)	

Further comments on review of national budgets and monetary policies, including the effectiveness of official development assistance.

The National Capacity Self-Assessment considered monetary policy including the effectiveness of development assistance allocated to biodiversity and related conventions. Both the NCSA Report and NBSAP specify strategies and actions that are required to address incentives measures of biodiversity conservation and management.

143. Is your country taking concrete actions to review and further integrate biodiversity considerations in the development and implementation of major international development initiatives, as well as in national sustainable development plans and relevant sectoral policies and plans? (decisions VI/16 and VII/21)

a) No	
b) No, but review is under way	
c) Yes, in some initiatives and plans (please provide details below)	X
d) Yes, in major initiatives and plans (please provide details below)	

Further comments on review and integration of biodiversity considerations in relevant initiatives, policies and plans.

Sections 90-94 of the Environmental Protection and Management Law mandate restoration order. In part the law says, to restore the environment or natural resources as near as it may be to the state in which it was before the taking of action which is the subject of the order; restore land including the replacement of soil, the replanting of trees and other flora and outstanding geological, archaeological or historical features of the land or area contiguous to the land specified in the order and to prevent damage to the land or the environment, aquifer beneath lands and flora and fauna on under or about the land or the environment contiguous to the land specified in the order. It further calls for a charge to be levied or bond that represents a reasonable estimate of the cost of any action taking by an authorized person or organization to the environment to the state in which it was before the taking of the action which is the subject of the order. Similar provisions are found in the Reformed Forestry Law 2006 and the New Mineral and Mining Law 2000.

144. Is your country enhancing the integration of biological diversity into the sectoral development and assistance programmes? (decision VII/21)

a) No	
b) No, but relevant programmes are under development	X
c) Yes, into some sectoral development and assistance programmes (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, into major sectoral development and assistance programmes (please provide details below)	

Further comments on the integration of biodiversity into sectoral development and assistance programmes

The Result Focus Transitional Framework, Interim Poverty Reduction Strategy and the Millennium Development Goal, all recognized environmental issues as cross cutting and have included in sectoral programmes sustainable environmental management as a key requirement of post conflict national development initiatives.

The next question (145) is for DEVELOPED COUNTRIES

145. Please indicate with an "X" in the table below in which area your country has provided financial support to developing countries and/or countries with economies in transition. Please elaborate in the space below if necessary.

A r e a s	Support provided
a) Undertaking national or regional assessments within the framework of MEA (decision VI/8)	
b) <i>In-situ</i> conservation (decision V/16)	
c) Enhance national capacity to establish and maintain the mechanisms to protect traditional knowledge (decision VI/10)	
d) <i>Ex-situ</i> conservation (decision V/26)	
e) Implementation of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation (decision VI/9)	
f) Implementation of the Bonn Guidelines (decision VI/24)	
g) Implementation of programme of work on agricultural biodiversity (decision V/5)	
h) Preparation of first report on the State of World's Animal Genetic Resources (decision VI/17)	
i) Support to work of existing regional coordination mechanisms and development of regional and sub regional networks or processes (decision VI/27)	
j) Development of partnerships and other means to provide the necessary support for the implementation of the programme of work on dry and subhumid lands biological diversity (decision VII/2)	
k) Financial support for the operations of the Coordination Mechanism of the Global Taxonomy Initiative (decision VII/9)	
l) Support to the implementation of the Action Plan on Capacity Building as contained in the annex to decision VII/19 (decision VII/19)	
m) Support to the implementation of the programme of work on mountain biological diversity (decision VII/27)	
n) Support to the implementation of the programme of work on protected areas (decision VII/28)	
o) Support to the development of national indicators (decision VII/30)	
p) Others (please specify)	
Further information on financial support provided to developing countries and countries with economies in transition.	

The next question (146) is for DEVELOPING COUNTRIES OR COUNTRIES WITH ECONOMIES IN TRANSITION

146. Please indicate with an "X" in the table below in which areas your country has applied for funds from the Global Environment Facility (GEF), from developed countries and/or from other sources. The same area may have more than one source of financial support. Please elaborate in the space below if necessary.

Areas	Applied for funds from		
	GEF	Bilateral	Other
a) Preparation of national biodiversity strategies or action plans	X		
b) National capacity self-assessment for implementation of Convention (decision VI/27)	X		
c) Priority actions to implement the Global Taxonomy Initiative (decision V/9)	-	-	-
d) <i>In-situ</i> conservation (decision V/16)		X	
e) Development of national strategies or action plans to deal with alien species (decision VI/23)	-	-	-
f) <i>Ex-situ</i> conservation, establishment and maintenance of <i>Ex-situ</i> conservation facilities (decision V/26)		X	
g) Projects that promote measures for implementing Article 13 (Education and Public Awareness) (decision VI/19)		X	X
h) Preparation of national reports (decisions III/9, V/19 and VI/25)	X		
i) Projects for conservation and sustainable use of inland water biological diversity (decision IV/4)		X	
j) Activities for conservation and sustainable use of agricultural biological diversity (decision V/5)		X	
k) Implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (decision VI/26)	X		
l) Implementation of the Global Taxonomy Initiative	-	-	-
m) Implementation of the Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines for the Sustainable Use of Biodiversity	-	-	-
n) Others (please specify)			

Further information on application for financial support.

Box LXII.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this article and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

D. THEMATIC AREAS

147. Please use the scale indicated below to reflect the level of challenges faced by your country in implementing the thematic programmes of work of the Convention (marine and coastal biodiversity, agricultural biodiversity, forest biodiversity, inland waters biodiversity, dry and sub-humid lands and mountain biodiversity).

3 = High Challenge

1 = Low Challenge

2 = Medium Challenge

0 = Challenge has been successfully overcome

N/A = Not applicable

Challenges	Programme of Work					
	Agricultural	Forest	Marine and coastal	Inland water ecosystem	Dry and subhumid lands	Mountain
(a) Lack of political will and support	2	1	2	2	2	2
(b) Limited public participation and stakeholder involvement	2	2	3	2	3	2

(c) Lack of mainstreaming and integration of biodiversity issues into other sectors	3	2	3	3	2	3
(d) Lack of precautionary and proactive measures	3	2	3	3	3	2
(e) Inadequate capacity to act, caused by institutional weakness	3	2	2	3	3	2
(f) Lack of transfer of technology and expertise	2	2	2	3	3	3
(g) Loss of traditional knowledge	1	2		2	3	2
(h) Lack of adequate scientific research capacities to support all the objectives	2	2	2	3	2	3
(i) Lack of accessible knowledge and information	2	2	2	3	3	2
(j) Lack of public education and awareness at all levels	2	2	2	3	2	2
(k) Existing scientific and traditional knowledge not fully utilized	2	3	2	2	3	3
(l) Loss of biodiversity and the corresponding goods and services it provides not properly understood and documented	3	3	3	3	3	3
(m) Lack of financial, human, technical resources	2	2	2	2	3	3
(n) Lack of economic incentive measures	3	3	2	3	3	3
(o) Lack of benefit-sharing	3	3	3	3	3	3
(p) Lack of synergies at national and international levels	2	2	1	1	2	2
(q) Lack of horizontal cooperation among stakeholders	3	2	2	2	2	2
(r) Lack of effective partnerships	3	1	1	3	2	2
(s) Lack of engagement of scientific community	2	2	2	3	2	2
(t) Lack of appropriate policies and laws	2	1	2	2	3	2

(u) Poverty	2	2	2	2	3	3
(v) Population pressure	3	2	3	3	3	1
(w) Unsustainable consumption and production patterns	3	2	3	3	3	1
(x) Lack of capacities for local communities	2	2	2	3	3	3
(y) Lack of knowledge and practice of ecosystem-based approaches to management	3	2	2	3	3	3
(z) Weak law enforcement capacity	3	2	2	3	3	3
(aa) Natural disasters and environmental change	3	2	1	2	3	3
(bb) Others (please specify)						

Inland water ecosystems

148. Has your country incorporated the objectives and relevant activities of the programme of work into the following and implemented them? (Decision VII/4)

Strategies, policies, plans and activities	No	Yes, partially, integrated but not implemented	Yes, fully integrated and implemented	N/A
a) Your biodiversity strategies and action plans		X		
b) Wetland policies and strategies		X		
c) Integrated water resources management and water efficiency plans being developed in line with paragraph 25 of the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development		X		
d) Enhanced coordination and cooperation between national actors responsible for inland water ecosystems and biological diversity		X		

Further comments on incorporation of the objectives and activities of the programme of work

The issue of water management is fragmented due to many statutory agencies having different kinds of jurisdictions over management control. Example, the Ministry of Lands, Mines and Energy under its Bureau of Hydrological Services, is responsible for Inland Water Management; the Bureau of Fisheries under the Ministry of Agriculture has responsibility over coastal watercrafts; while the Bureau

of Maritime responsibility is over the maritime zone of the country and the National Coast Guard controls the territorial waters of the country. The Liberia Water and Sewer Corporation is responsibility to provide urban center or cities with safe drinking water. Because of this diverse management control couple with the lack of policy and regulations and programme of work, there is actually no program geared toward incorporating the global objectives and programmes of work into national plans of action.

149. Has your country identified priorities for each activity in the programme of work, including timescales, in relation to outcome oriented targets? (Decision VII/4)

a) No	
b) Outcome oriented targets developed but priority activities not developed	
c) Priority activities developed but not outcome oriented targets	X
d) Yes, comprehensive outcome oriented targets and priority activities developed	

Further comments on the adoption of outcome oriented targets and priorities for activities, including providing a list of targets (if developed).

150. Is your country promoting synergies between this programme of work and related activities under the Ramsar Convention as well as the implementation of the Joint Work Plan (CBD-Ramsar) at the national level? (Decision VII/4)

a) Not applicable (not Party to Ramsar Convention)	
b) No	X
c) No, but potential measures were identified for synergy and joint implementation	
d) Yes, some measures taken for joint implementation (please specify below)	
e) Yes, comprehensive measures taken for joint implementation (please specify below)	

Further comments on the promotion of synergies between the programme of work and related activities under the Ramsar Convention as well as the implementation of the Joint Work Plan (CBD-Ramsar) at the national level.

151. Has your country taken steps to improve national data on: (decision VII/4)			
Issues	Yes	No	No, but development is under way
a) Goods and services provided by inland water ecosystems?	X		
b) The uses and related socioeconomic variables of such goods and services?	X		
c) Basic hydrological aspects of water supply as they relate to maintaining ecosystem function?	X		
d) Species and all taxonomic levels?		X	
e) On threats to which inland water ecosystems are subjected?	X		
Further comments on the development of data sets, in particular a list of data sets developed in case you have replied "YES" above.			
<p>The Bureau of Fisheries of the Ministry of Agriculture has legislative mandate to develop and manage the fisheries resources of the country. The mandate includes, programme development, regulatory services, fisheries biological research, statistics collection, compilation and dissemination of relevant fisheries information to related entities in the Country. The main areas of concentration, include marine fishery (Artisanal and Industrial), Inland Fishery (Artisanal and Fish farming) and Aquaculture Fishery (Brackish and fresh water cultivation)</p> <p>The Bureau of Hydrological Services of the Ministry of Lands, Mines and Energy is for the ecosystem of water bodies and their quality.</p>			

152. Has your country promoted the application of the guidelines on the rapid assessment of the biological diversity of inland water ecosystems? (Decision VII/4)	
a) No, the guidelines have not been reviewed	X
b) No, the guidelines have been reviewed and found inappropriate	
c) Yes, the guidelines have been reviewed and application/promotion is pending	
d) Yes, the guidelines promoted and applied	
Further comments on the promotion and application of the guidelines on the rapid assessment of the biological diversity of inland water ecosystems.	

Box LXIII.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this programme of work and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

**Marine and coastal biological diversity
General**

153. Do your country's strategies and action plans include the following? Please use an "X" to indicate your response. (Decisions II/10 and IV/15)

a) Developing new marine and coastal protected areas	X
b) Improving the management of existing marine and coastal protected areas	
c) Building capacity within the country for management of marine and coastal resources, including through educational programmes and targeted research initiatives (if yes, please elaborate on types of initiatives in the box below)	X
d) Instituting improved integrated marine and coastal area management (including catchments management) in order to reduce sediment and nutrient loads into the marine environment	X
e) Protection of areas important for reproduction, such as spawning and nursery areas	X
f) Improving sewage and other waste treatment	X
g) Controlling excessive fishing and destructive fishing practices	X
h) Developing a comprehensive oceans policy (if yes, please indicate current stage of development in the box below)	X
i) Incorporation of local and traditional knowledge into management of marine and coastal resources (if yes, please elaborate on types of management arrangements in the box below)	X
j) Others (please specify below)	X
k) Not applicable	

Please elaborate on the above activities and list any other priority actions relating to conservation

and sustainable use of marine and coastal biodiversity.

National Action Plan for the protection of Marine and Coastal Areas against land-based activities has been prepared for implementation by the Environmental Protection Agency.

The EPA, for coordination of the Coastal and Marine Environment has established national steering committee comprising of stakeholders.

The EPA has prepared National Coastal Profile and Plan of Action under the Guinea Current large Marine Ecosystem project. Awareness program is going on but has not covered the entire country.

Implementation of Integrated Marine and Coastal Area Management

154. 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	X
c) Advanced stages of development	
d) Arrangements in place (please provide details below)	
e) Not applicable	

Further comments on the current status of implementation of integrated marine and coastal area management.

A national Program of Action has been prepared and endorsed for the protection of the Coastal and Marine Ecosystem against land-based activities.

155. Has your country implemented ecosystem-based management of marine and coastal resources, for example through integration of coastal management and watershed management, or through integrated multidisciplinary coastal and ocean management?

a) No	
b) Early stages of development	X
c) Advanced stages of development	
d) Arrangements in place (please provide details below)	
e) Not applicable	

Further comments on the current status of application of the ecosystem to management of marine and coastal resources.

Monitoring and evaluation surveys have been undertaken for the management of Marine and Coastal Resources in Liberia.

Marine and Coastal Living Resources

156. Has your country identified components of your marine and coastal ecosystems, which are critical for their functioning, as well as key threats to those ecosystems?

a) No	
b) Plans for a comprehensive assessment of marine and coastal ecosystems are in place (please provide details below)	
c) A comprehensive assessment is currently in progress	
d) Critical ecosystem components have been identified, and management plans for them are being developed (please provide details below)	X
e) Management plans for important components of marine and coastal ecosystems are in place (please provide details below)	
f) Not applicable	

Further comments on the current status of assessment, monitoring and research relating to marine and coastal ecosystems, as well as key threats to them

Restoration plan for mangroves is contained within the five-year (2005-2009) Coastal and Marine Ecosystem Plan of Action under the GCLME. There is also a proposed conservation plan for West African Manatees, which is being developed by consortium of nature conservation NGOs and statutory agencies such as the Forestry Development Authority (FDA).

157. Is your country undertaking the following activities to implement the Convention's work plan on coral reefs? Please use an "X" to indicate your response.

Activities	Not implemented nor a priority	Not implemented but a priority	Currently implemented	Not applicable
a) Ecological assessment and monitoring of reefs	X			
b) Socio-economic assessment and monitoring of communities and stakeholders	X			
c) Management, particularly through application of integrated coastal management and marine and coastal protected areas in coral reef environments	X			
d) Identification and implementation of additional and alternative measures for securing livelihoods of people who directly depend on coral reef services	X			

e) Stakeholder partnerships, community participation programmes and public education campaigns	X			
f) Provision of training and career opportunities for marine taxonomists and ecologists	X			
g) Development of early warning systems of coral bleaching	X			
h) Development of a rapid response capability to document coral bleaching and mortality	X			
i) Restoration and rehabilitation of degraded coral reef habitats	X			
j) Others (please specify below)				
Please elaborate on ongoing activities.				
Coral Reefs are found along Lake Piso in Grand Cape Mount County. Although it is an important source of economic value to the citizens of the area, it not yet been given the priority it deserves.				

Marine and Coastal Protected Areas

158. Which of the following statements can best describe the current status of marine and coastal protected areas in your country? Please use an "X" to indicate your response.	
a) Marine and coastal protected areas have been declared and gazetted (please indicate below how many)	
b) Management plans for these marine and coastal protected areas have been developed with involvement of all stakeholders	
c) Effective management with enforcement and monitoring has been put in place	
d) A national system or network of marine and coastal protected areas is under development	X
e) A national system or network of marine and coastal protected areas has been put in place	
f) The national system of marine and coastal protected areas includes areas managed for purpose of sustainable use, which may allow extractive activities	
g) The national system of marine and coastal protected areas includes areas which exclude extractive uses	
h) The national system of marine and coastal protected areas is surrounded by sustainable management practices over the wider marine and coastal environment.	
i) Other (please describe below)	
j) Not applicable	

Further comments on the current status of marine and coastal protected areas.

The Guinea Current Large Marine Ecosystem Project has developed a Plan of Action for the sustainable management of the coastal and marine resources of the country.

Mariculture

159. Is your country applying the following techniques aimed at minimizing adverse impacts of mariculture on marine and coastal biodiversity? Please check all that apply.

a) Application of environmental impact assessments for mariculture developments	
b) Development and application of effective site selection methods in the framework of integrated marine and coastal area management	
c) Development of effective methods for effluent and waste control	
d) Development of appropriate genetic resource management plans at the hatchery level	
e) Development of controlled hatchery and genetically sound reproduction methods in order to avoid seed collection from nature.	
f) If seed collection from nature cannot be avoided, development of environmentally sound practices for spat collecting operations, including use of selective fishing gear to avoid by-catch	
g) Use of native species and subspecies in mariculture	
h) Implementation of effective measures to prevent the inadvertent release of mariculture species and fertile polypoids.	
i) Use of proper methods of breeding and proper places of releasing in order to protect genetic diversity	
j) Minimizing the use of antibiotics through better husbandry techniques	
k) Use of selective methods in commercial fishing to avoid or minimize by-catch	
l) Considering traditional knowledge, where applicable, as a source to develop sustainable mariculture techniques	
m) Not applicable	

Further comments on techniques that aim at minimizing adverse impacts of mariculture on marine and coastal biodiversity.

Mariculture is not practiced in Liberia

Alien Species and Genotypes

160. Has your country put in place mechanisms to control pathways of introduction of alien species in the marine and coastal environment? Please check all that apply and elaborate on types of measures in the space below.

a) No	
b) Mechanisms to control potential invasions from ballast water have been put in place (please provide details below)	X
c) Mechanisms to control potential invasions from hull fouling have been put in place (please provide details below)	X
d) Mechanisms to control potential invasions from aquaculture have been put in place (please provide details below)	X
e) Mechanisms to control potential invasions from accidental releases, such as aquarium releases, have been put in place (please provide details below)	x
f) Not applicable	

Further comments on the current status of activities relating to prevention of introductions of alien species in the marine and coastal environment, as well as any eradication activities.

The Guinea Current Large Marine Ecosystem Project (GCLME-Project) has trained a team of experts to control potential invasion of alien species and genotypes in the marine environment of Liberia. Also, the GCLME-Project has developed strategies and contingency plan for ballast water and invasive species for Liberia. The Government of Liberia has also designed regulations and Policies for the discharge of ballast water from ships in the seaports and coastal waters awaiting endorsement.

Box LXIV.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this programme of work and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

Agricultural biological diversity

161. Has your country developed national strategies, programmes and plans that ensure the development and successful implementation of policies and actions that lead to the conservation and sustainable use of agrobiodiversity components? (Decisions III/11 and IV/6)	
a) No	X
b) No, but strategies, programmes and plans are under development	
c) Yes, some strategies, programmes and plans are in place (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive strategies, programmes and plans are in place (please provide details below)	
Further comments on agrobiodiversity components in national strategies, programmes and plans.	

162. Has your country identified ways and means to address the potential impacts of genetic use restriction technologies on the <i>In-situ</i> and <i>Ex-situ</i> conservation and sustainable use, including food security, of agricultural biological diversity? (Decision V/5)	
a) No	X
b) No, but potential measures are under review	
c) Yes, some measures identified (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive measures identified (please provide details below)	
Further information on ways and means to address the potential impacts of genetic use restriction technologies on the <i>In-situ</i> and <i>Ex-situ</i> conservation and sustainable use of agricultural biodiversity.	

Annex to decision V/5 - Programme of work on agricultural biodiversity

Programme element 1 – Assessment	
163. Has your country undertaken specific assessments of components of agricultural biodiversity such as on plant genetic resources, animal genetic resources, pollinators, pest management and nutrient cycling?	
a) No	X
b) Yes, assessments are in progress (please specify components below)	
c) Yes, assessments completed (please specify components and results of assessments below)	
Further comments on specific assessments of components of agricultural biodiversity.	
The Ministry of Agriculture has an assessment on going. This assessment began in the latter part of last year, but a report has not emerged.	

164. Is your country undertaking assessments of the interactions between agricultural practices and the conservation and sustainable use of the components of biodiversity referred to in Annex I of the Convention (e.g. ecosystems and habitats; species and communities; genomes and genes of social, scientific or economic importance)?

a) No	X
b) Yes, assessments are under way	
c) Yes, some assessments completed (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive assessments completed (please provide details below)	

Further comments on assessment of biodiversity components (e.g. ecosystems and habitats; species and communities; genomes and genes of social, scientific or economic importance).

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165. Has your country carried out an assessment of the knowledge, innovations and practices of farmers and indigenous and local communities in sustaining agricultural biodiversity and agro-ecosystem services for food production and food security?

a) No	X
b) Yes, assessment is under way	
c) Yes, assessment completed (please specify where information can be retrieved below)	

Further comments on assessment of the knowledge, innovations and practices of farmers and indigenous and local communities.

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166. Has your country been monitoring an overall degradation, status quo or restoration/rehabilitation of agricultural biodiversity since 1993 when the Convention entered into force?

a) No	X
b) Yes, no change found (status quo)	
c) Yes, overall degradation found (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, overall restoration or rehabilitation observed (please provide details below)	

Further comments on observations.

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Programme element 2 - Adaptive management	
167. Has your country identified management practices, technologies and policies that promote the positive, and mitigate the negative, impacts of agriculture on biodiversity, and enhance productivity and the capacity to sustain livelihoods?	
a) No	
b) No, but potential practices, technologies and policies being identified	X
c) Yes, some practices, technologies and policies identified (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive practices, technologies and policies identified (please provide details below)	
Further comments on identified management practices, technologies and policies.	

Programme element 3 - Capacity-building	
168. Has your country increased the capacities of farmers, indigenous and local communities, and their organizations and other stakeholders, to manage sustainable agricultural biodiversity and to develop strategies and methodologies for <i>In-situ</i> conservation, sustainable use and management of agricultural biological diversity?	
a) No	X
b) Yes (please specify area/component and target groups with increased capacity)	
Further comments on increased capacities of farmers, indigenous and local communities, and their organizations and other stakeholders.	

169. Has your country put in place operational mechanisms for participation by a wide range of stakeholder groups to develop genuine partnerships contributing to the implementation of the programme of work on agricultural biodiversity?	
a) No	X
b) No, but potential mechanisms being identified	
c) No, but mechanisms are under development	
d) Yes, mechanisms are in place	

170. Has your country improved the policy environment, including benefit-sharing arrangements and incentive measures, to support local-level management of agricultural biodiversity?	
a) No	X
b) No, but some measures and arrangements being identified	
c) No, but measures and arrangements are under development	
d) Yes, measures and arrangements are being implemented (please specify below)	
Further comments on the measures taken to improve the policy environment.	

Programme element 4 – Mainstreaming	
171. Is your country mainstreaming or integrating national plans or strategies for the conservation and sustainable use of agricultural biodiversity in sectoral and cross-sectoral plans and programmes?	
a) No	
b) No, but review is under way	
c) No, but potential frameworks and mechanisms are being identified	X
d) Yes, some national plans or strategies mainstreamed and integrated into some sectoral plans and programmes (please provide details below)	
e) Yes, some national plans or strategies mainstreamed into major sectoral plans and programmes (please provide details below)	
Further comments on mainstreaming and integrating national plans or strategies for the conservation and sustainable use of agricultural biodiversity in sectoral and cross-sectoral plans and programmes.	

172. Is your country supporting the institutional framework and policy and planning mechanisms for the mainstreaming of agricultural biodiversity in agricultural strategies and action plans, and its integration into wider strategies and action plans for biodiversity?	
a) No	
b) Yes, by supporting institutions in undertaking relevant assessments	X
c) Yes, by developing policy and planning guidelines	
d) Yes, by developing training material	
e) Yes, by supporting capacity-building at policy, technical and local levels	
f) Yes, by promoting synergy in the implementation of agreed plans of action and between ongoing assessment and intergovernmental processes.	
Further comments on support for institutional framework and policy and planning mechanisms.	

The Bureau of Fisheries of the Ministry of Agriculture and the GCLME Project of EPA are carrying on joint assessment and monitoring of the fisheries resources.

173. In the case of centers of origin in your country, is your country promoting activities for the conservation, on farm, *In-situ*, and *Ex-situ*, of the variability of genetic resources for food and agriculture, including their wild relatives?

a) No	X
b) Yes (please provide details below)	
Further comments on of the conservation of the variability of genetic resources for food and agriculture in their center of origin.	

Box LXV.

Please provide information concerning the actions taken by your country to implement the Plan of Action for the International Initiative for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Pollinators.

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Box LXVI.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this programme of work and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

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Forest Biological Diversity

General

174. Has your country incorporated relevant parts of the work programme into your national biodiversity strategies and action plans and national forest programmes?	
a) No	
b) Yes, please describe the process used	X
c) Yes, please describe constraints/obstacles encountered in the process	X
d) Yes, please describe lessons learned	X
e) Yes, please describe targets for priority actions in the programme of work	
Further comments on the incorporation of relevant parts of the work programme into your NBSAP and forest programmes	
<p>The process began with the engagement of the public on the national level, then on the sectoral level onward to the community or local level to obtain their inputs into the NBSAP relevant to their roles in the conservation of biodiversity resources. Consultants were hired to amalgamate all the pieces of information from the various communities, institutional and public meetings.</p> <p>The constraints/obstacles encountered include, but not limited to: 1) difficulties in reaching local communities due to bad roads condition and, 2) the inavailability of some valuable documented information which were destroyed during the war.</p> <p>The targets and priority actions in the program were: 1) marine and coastal sector, 2) agricultural sector, 3) fisheries sector, 4) forestry sector, 5) protected areas, 6) mining sector, 7) policy/legislation, 8) educational sector, and, 9) environment and pollution.</p>	

Box LXVII.

Please indicate what recently applied tools (policy, planning, management, assessment and measurement) and measures, if any, your country is using to implement and assess the programme of work. Please indicate what tools and measures would assist the implementation.
<p>Liberia has put in place a forest policy, protected areas management guidelines; forest management plan; community forest manual, which are being used in the forestry sector of the country.</p> <p>A national Land Use Policy/Plan if developed would, along with the Community Empowerment Plan for natural resources conservation/management assist the implementation of the NBSAP and the forest management plan.</p>

Box LXVIII.

Please indicate to what extent and how your country has involved indigenous and local communities, and respected their rights and interests, in implementing the programme of work.

The rights of indigenous people, as well as local communities and their involvement in the forest biodiversity conservation, is a crucial issue spelt out in the Revised Forestry Law of Liberia. Additionally, local communities are being engaged and encountered around the Sapo National Park to adapt community (CF) practices. Community Forest Constitution are being drafted to empower local communities and give them whatever ownership rights that will guarantee their rights to benefit from their community forests.

Box LXIX.

Please indicate what efforts your country has made towards capacity building in human and capital resources for the implementation of the programme of work.

In the area of protected area management, staff of Sapo National Park and Nimba Nature Reserve underwent short-term practical training in Monrovia in 2005. The United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNMIL) did the training. Also, staffs of the Sapo national Park, in 2006, were trained locally by an international technical assistance hired by Fauna & Flora International. They were trained in patrol techniques, map reading and reading of GPS.

Box LXX.

Please indicate how your country has collaborated and cooperated (e.g., south-south, north-south, south-north, north-north) with other governments, regional or international organizations in implementing the programme of work. Please also indicate what are the constraints and/or needs identified.

The Liberian Government, through the Forestry Development Authority is partnering with several international institutions (Conservation International, Fauna & Flora International, Liberia Forest Initiatives, Merci Corps, Liberia Agency for Community Empowerment, United Nations Mission in Liberia, which is composed of multinational groups, German Agro Action, Africare, and the Governments of the United States of America, China, etc in implementing specific aspects of the forest biodiversity programs. Collaboration has been focused in the areas of forestry, agriculture and rural community development.

Some constraints encountered include: 1) delay in implementation due to more focus on enhancing the political environment to ensure sustainable stability, peace and sanity in the country; 2) shortage of trained manpower to handle crucial aspects of the forest biodiversity conservation program; and, 3) the slow pace at which financial assistance are forthcoming.

Expanded programme of work on forest biological diversity

Programme element 1 – Conservation, sustainable use and benefit-sharing	
175. Is your country applying the ecosystem approach to the management of all types of forests?	
a) No (please provide reasons below)	
b) No, but potential measures being identified (please provide details below)	X
c) Yes (please provide details below)	
Comments on application of the ecosystem approach to management of forests (including effectiveness of actions taken, lessons learned, impact on forest management, constraints, needs, tools, and targets).	
Liberia intends to apply the ecosystem approach to the management of all types of forests; she is still carrying on the planning process, putting in place a protected area management plans along with its international partner.	

176. Has your country undertaken measures to reduce the threats to, and mitigate its impacts on forest biodiversity?		
Options	X	Details
a) Yes	X	Please specify below the major threats identified in relation to each objective of goal 2 and the measures undertaken to address priority actions
b) No		Please provide reasons below
Further comments on measures to reduce threats to, and mitigate the impacts of threatening processes on forest biodiversity (including effectiveness of actions taken, lessons learned, impacts on forest biodiversity, constraints, needs, tools and targets).		
Through the Liberian Forest Re-assessment Project, biological and socio-economic surveys have been conducted in protected, proposed protected, and other forests likely to have conservation potentials. The intent of these surveys was to acquire supporting data for legislating more sites as protected areas. As a result of those surveys, one of the proposed sites (Nimba Nature Reserve) has been gazetted. Also, the Sapo National Park has been extended by legislature. In addition, Fauna & Flora International in collaboration with the Forestry Development Authority is currently implementing an EC Project which should build the capacity of FDA and other local biodiversity institutions, environmental NGOs, CBOs, and learning institutions to reduce threats to forest biodiversity. Conservation International also is providing technical and financial support to the management of the Nimba Nature Reserve for the same purpose.		

177. Is your country undertaking any measures to protect, recover and restore forest biological diversity?

Options	X	Details
a) Yes	X	Please identify priority actions in relation to each objective of goal 3 and describe measures undertaken to address these priorities
b) No		Please provide reasons below

Further comments on measures to protect, recover and restore forest biological diversity (including effectiveness of actions taken, lessons learned, impacts on forest biodiversity, constraints, needs, tools and targets).

Liberia, in collaboration with its national and international partners, has developed a national forest policy, which will generate specific regulations for protecting, recovering and restoring forest biodiversity. Also, local communities around Sapo National Park are being engaged to undertake a community forest initiative that should positively impact on the protection of Sapo National Park and the conservation of forest biodiversity in the buffer zone and other forest areas in the vicinity of the park.

The lessons learned in the engagement of the communities around Sapo National Park so far is that, if local communities are not adequately engaged in the development of protected areas management, provided appropriate incentives as motivation to participate and properly empowered to participate fully in protected areas management, the challenges would much greater than anticipated during the implementation of the management plan. This was exemplified in 2004, 2005, and 2006 by local communities' action to evade the park for alluvial mining and challenged government on the demarcation of the boundary lines that should lay out the expansion of the park.

Establishment of the community forest around the park has been aborted until the boundary line demarcation dispute is settled.

178. Is your country undertaking any measures to promote the sustainable use of forest biological diversity?

Options	X	Details
a) Yes	X	Please specify priority actions in relation to each objective of goal 4 and describe measures undertaken to address these priorities
b) No		Please provide reasons below

Further comments on the promotion of the sustainable use of forest biological diversity (including effectiveness of actions taken, lessons learned, impacts on forest biodiversity, constraints, needs, tools and targets).

Government, through the FDA has instituted biodiversity conservation department, gazetted two protected areas (SNP and NMR) and is monitoring them.

179. Is your country undertaking any measures to promote access and benefit-sharing of forest genetic resources?

Options	X	Details
a) Yes	X	Please specify priority actions in relation to each objective of goal 5 and describe measures undertaken
b) No		Please provide reasons below

Further comments on the promotion of access and benefit-sharing of forest genetic resources. (including effectiveness of actions taken, lessons learned, impacts on forest biodiversity, constraints, needs, tools and targets)

The New Forestry Law provides for benefit sharing rights for communities, access to Community forest management with FDA guidance and they are involved in the decision-making.

Programme element 2 – Institutional and socio-economic enabling environment

180. Is your country undertaking any measures to enhance the institutional enabling environment for the conservation and sustainable use of forest biological diversity, including access and benefit-sharing?

Options	X	Details
a) Yes	X	Please identify priority actions in relation to each objective of Goal 1 and describe measures undertaken to address these priorities
b) No		Please provide reasons below

Further comments on the enhancement of the institutional enabling environment for the conservation and sustainable use of forest biological diversity, including access and benefit-sharing (including effectiveness of actions taken, lessons learned, impacts on forest biodiversity, constraints, needs, tools and targets).

After the civil crisis, government and its international partners have been and are still planning forest management and sustainable natural resource utilization strategies; a forest reform process is being carried out in line with this process.

181. Is your country undertaking any measures to address socio-economic failures and distortions that lead to decisions that result in loss of forest biological diversity?

Options	X	Details
a) Yes	X	Please identify priority actions in relation to each objective of Goal 2 and describe measures undertaken to address these priorities
b) No		Please provide reasons below

Further comments on review of socio-economic failures and distortions that lead to decisions that result in loss of forest biological diversity (including effectiveness of actions taken, lessons learned, impacts on forest biodiversity, constraints, needs, tools and targets).

Alternative livelihood development under the forestry reform program and the involvement of local stakeholders in the decision-making progress socio-economic issues that could lead to failure in the protection of parks and other protected areas.

182. Is your country undertaking any measures to increase public education, participation and awareness in relation to forest biological diversity?		
Options	X	Details
a) Yes	X	Please identify priority actions in relation to each objective of goal 3 and describe measures undertaken to address these priorities
b) No		Please provide reasons below
Further comments on measures to increase public education, participation and awareness in relation to forest biological diversity (including effectiveness of actions taken, lessons learned, impacts on forest biodiversity, constraints, needs, tools and targets).		
The New Forest Law has printed into handbills and published. Plans are already in place for outreach to the public for community education on the law.		

Programme element 3 – Knowledge, assessment and monitoring		
183. Is your country undertaking any measures to characterize forest ecosystems at various scales in order to improve the assessment of the status and trends of forest biological diversity?		
Options	X	Details
a) Yes	X	Please identify priority actions in relation to each objective of Goal 1 and describe measures undertaken to address these priorities
b) No		Please provide reasons below
Further comments on characterization of forest ecosystems at various scales (including effectiveness of actions taken, lessons learned, impacts on forest biodiversity, constraints, needs, tools and targets).		
There are two identified protected areas and nine national forest reserves.		

184. Is your country undertaking any measures to improve knowledge on, and methods for, the assessment of the status and trends of forest biological diversity?

Options	X	Details
a) Yes	X	Please identify priority actions in relation to each objective of goal 2 and describe measures undertaken to address these priorities
b) No		Please provide reasons below

Further comments on improvement of knowledge on and methods for the assessment of the status and trends (including effectiveness of actions taken, lessons learned, impacts on forest biodiversity, constraints, needs, tools and targets).

A laboratory called Liberia Institute for Statistics and Geographic Information System has been established. Another is at the Forestry Development Authority, and is operating in collaboration with Conservation International. Technicians operating the two laboratories were trained under the Liberia Forest Re-Assessment Project, which was implemented in 2002 – 2004.

185. Is your country undertaking any measures to improve the understanding of the role of forest biodiversity and ecosystem functioning?

Options	X	Details
a) Yes	X	Please identify priority actions in relation to each objective of goal 3 and describe measures undertaken to address these priorities
b) No		Please provide reasons below

Further comments on the improvement of the understanding of the role of forest biodiversity and ecosystem functioning (including effectiveness of actions taken, lessons learned, impacts on forest biodiversity, constraints, needs, tools and targets).

186. Is your country undertaking any measures at national level to improve the infrastructure for data and information management for accurate assessment and monitoring of global forest biodiversity?

Options	X	Details
a) Yes	X	Please identify priority actions in relation to each objective of goal 4 and describe measures undertaken to address these priorities
b) No		Please provide reasons below

Further comments on the improvement of the infrastructure for data and information management (including effectiveness of actions taken, lessons learned, impacts on forest biodiversity, constraints, needs, tools and targets).

The LISGIS and the LFI/GIS laboratories are established to analyze and to store data for planning, assessment and monitoring purposes.

Box LXXI.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this programme of work and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

- a) The NBSAP was constantly referenced during the forestry reform process impacting on the revision of the country's forestry law, forest management plan, and setting up of the protection areas network of Liberia;
- b) Goal 1: Assessments of protected, proposed protected, and potential areas for biodiversity conservation have been supported by LFR Project and CI, and are being implemented by FACE and FDA to provide information needed to gazette more protected areas in the country and to develop management plans for those areas;
- c) Goal 2: The forest law printed in hand bills recently contribute to this goal;
- d) Goal 3: The concept of three the Cs, (Commercial, Conservation and Community Forestry) is being transformed to the practical level. Already FFI in collaboration with FDA and MIA is implementing community forestry projects around SAPO National Park on the pilot level. If successful, CF activities will be spread to other rural communities throughout Liberia;
- e) Goal4: The Forest Management Plan has been revised as part of the forest reform process. This revision takes into account sustainable timber extraction and efficient processing of timber locally which should

- significantly reduce wood wastage;
- f) Goal 5: Actions are in the planning process;
- g) Goal 6: The CF activities are also intended to contribute to this goal. The Sapó CF project started with studies on grassroot institutions and impacts on livelihood activities on the sustainability of biological resources. The intent was to gather information on how local communities are governed, how they function, how they exploit and use their resources, and how the various social groups including women are involved in the extraction/utilization of biological resources

Biological diversity of dry and sub-humid lands

187. Is your country supporting scientifically, technically and financially, at the national and regional levels, the activities identified in the programme of work? (Decisions V/23 and VII/2)

a) No	X
b) Yes (please provide details below)	

Further comments on scientific, technical and financial support, at the national and regional levels, to the activities identified in the programme of work.

188. Has your country integrated actions under the programme of work of dry and sub-humid lands into its national biodiversity strategies and action plans or the National Action Programme (NAP) of the UNCCD? (Decisions V/23, VI/4 and VII/2)

a) No	
b) Yes (please provide details below)	X

Further comments on actions under the programme of work of dry and sub-humid lands integrated into national biodiversity strategies and action plans or the National Action Programme (NAP) of the UNCCD.

An NAP is yet to be elaborated. For the NBSAP, a Committee on Dry land Ecosystem has been recommended.

189. Has your country undertaken measures to ensure synergistic/collaborative implementation of the programme of work between the national UNCCD process and other processes under related environmental conventions? (Decisions V/23, VI/4 and VII/2)

a) No	
b) Yes, some linkages established (please provide details below)	X
c) Yes, extensive linkages established (please provide details below)	

Further comments on the measures to ensure the synergistic/collaborative implementation of the programme of work between the national UNCCD processes and other processes under related environmental conventions.

Under the NCSA, linkages were established among the three RIO Conventions.

Other conventions/protocols including the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants, RAMSAR Convention on Wetlands, and the Montreal and Cartagena Protocols will be considered under both the NAP outcomes and the 1st and 2nd Communications under the UNFCCC.

Programme Part A: Assessment

190. Has your country assessed and analyzed information on the state of dryland biological diversity and the pressures on it, disseminated existing knowledge and best practices, and filled knowledge gaps in order to determine adequate activities? (Decision V/23, Part A: Assessment, Operational objective, activities 1 to 6)

a) No	
b) No, but assessment is ongoing	
c) Yes, some assessments undertaken (please provide details below)	X
d) Yes, comprehensive assessment undertaken (please provide details below)	

Further comments on the relevant information on assessments of the status and trends and dissemination of existing knowledge and best practices.

Mainly, assessments were done on Terrestrial Ecosystem.

Programme Part B: Targeted Actions

191. Has your country taken measures to promote the conservation and sustainable use of the biological diversity of dry and sub-humid lands and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilization of its genetic resources, and to combat the loss of biological diversity in dry and sub-humid lands and its socio-economic consequences? (part B of annex I of decision V/23, activities 7 to 9)

a) No	X
b) Yes, some measures taken (please provide details below)	
c) Yes, many measures taken (please provide details below)	

Further comments on the measures taken to promote the conservation and sustainable use of the biological diversity of dry and sub-humid lands and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilization of its genetic resources, and to combat the loss of biological diversity in dry and sub-humid lands and its socio-economic consequences.

192. Has your country taken measures to strengthen national capacities, including local capacities, to enhance the implementation of the programme of work?

a) No	
b) Yes, some measures taken (please provide details below)	x
c) Yes, comprehensive measures taken (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, all identified capacity needs met (please provide details below)	

Further comments on measures taken to strengthen national capacities, including local capacities, to enhance the implementation of the programme of work.

*The forestry reform process requires the down-sizing of employees of the Forestry Development Authority as is also with all government institutions in order to improve the capacities of a manageable number of people who will be able to adequately deliver the goods and services expected and as planned;

*Protected Areas personnel have received some training locally and abroad;

*FFI and CI through the Liberia Forest Initiative, LFR, are helping to strengthen the capacity of biodiversity institutions to enable them become more efficient in performing their tasks.

Box LXXII.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this programme of work and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

Mountain Biodiversity

Programme Element 1. Direct actions for conservation, sustainable use and benefit sharing	
193. Has your country taken any measures to prevent and mitigate the negative impacts of key threats to mountain biodiversity?	
a) No	
b) No, but relevant measures are being considered	
c) Yes, some measures taken (please provide details below)	X
d) Yes, many measures taken (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the measures taken to prevent and mitigate the negative impacts of key threats to mountain biodiversity	
<p>In 2002, Liberia joined the rest of the world in celebrating global mountain 2002 Program with funding from the FAO. The program was intended to promote sustainable development in mountain communities and the conservation of mountains and mountain biodiversity resources throughout the world.</p> <p>Also, in 2004, and with financial support from the FAO, Liberia actively participated in the Beyond Mountain 2002 Global Campaign to raise awareness on mountains and sustainable development in mountain communities.</p> <p>In addition, Liberia is member of the Nimba Tri-national program, a sub-regional initiative aimed at protecting/conserving the ecosystem of the Nimba Mountains which Liberia, Ivory Coast and Guinea share. The program started in 2001 with the first meeting in Man, Cote d'Ivoire, and the second in 2002 in N'zerekore, Guinea. Liberia is planning to host the third meeting in Saniquellie this year.</p> <p>Finally, the proposed Nimba Nature Reserve has been gazetted to a strict protected area status and is now under management.</p>	

194. Has your country taken any measures to protect, recover and restore mountain biodiversity?	
a) No	X
b) No, but some measures are being considered	
c) Yes, some measures taken (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, many measures taken (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the measures taken to protect, recover and restore mountain biodiversity	

195. Has your country taken any measures to promote the sustainable use of mountain biological resources and to maintain genetic diversity in mountain ecosystems?	
a) No	X
b) No, but some measures are being considered	
c) Yes, some measures taken (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, many measures taken (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the measures to promote the sustainable use of mountain biological resources and to maintain genetic diversity in mountain ecosystems	
As a result of 'Beyond Mountain 2002' Program celebrated in 2004, a proposed mountain policy for Liberia was developed and submitted to the Liberian Government through the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The proposed policy framework contains elements of sustainable use of mountain biological resources and the maintenance of genetic diversity in mountain ecosystems.	

196. Has your country taken any measures for sharing the benefits arising from the utilization of mountain genetic resources, including preservation and maintenance of traditional knowledge?	
a) No	X
b) No, but some measures are being considered	
c) Yes, some measures taken (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, many measures taken (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the measures for sharing the benefits arising from the utilization of mountain genetic resources	

Programme Element 2. Means of implementation for conservation, sustainable use and benefit sharing	
197. Has your country developed any legal, policy and institutional framework for conservation and sustainable use of mountain biodiversity and for implementing this programme of work?	
a) No	
b) No, but relevant frameworks are being developed	
c) Yes, some frameworks are in place (please provide details below)	X
d) Yes, comprehensive frameworks are in place (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the legal, policy and institutional frameworks for conservation and sustainable use of mountain biodiversity and for implementing the programme of work on mountain biodiversity.	
A draft policy on mountain ecosystem has been developed and is pending legislative approval or enactment.	

198. Has your country been involved in regional and/or transboundary cooperative agreements on mountain ecosystems for conservation and sustainable use of mountain biodiversity?

a) No	
b) No, but some cooperation frameworks are being considered	
c) Yes (please provide details below)	X

Further information on the regional and/or transboundary cooperative agreements on mountain ecosystems for conservation and sustainable use of mountain biodiversity

Liberia, Ivory Coast and Guinea initiated in 2001 a Tri-national transboundary program for the conservation and protection of the Nimba Mountains. An agreement is shortly to be signed by the three member countries this year, 2007 after the Saniquellie Meeting.

Programme Element 3. Supporting actions for conservation, sustainable use and benefit sharing

199. Has your country taken any measures for identification, monitoring and assessment of mountain biological diversity?

a) No	
b) No, but relevant programmes are under development	X
c) Yes, some measures are in place (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive measures are in place (please provide details below)	

Further comments on the measures for identification, monitoring and assessment of mountain biodiversity

Measures are indicated in the proposed mountain policy for Liberia. When the document is accepted, approved and legalized, these measures will be taken, especially to establish database on mountain communities in the country.

200. Has your country taken any measures for improving research, technical and scientific cooperation and capacity building for conservation and sustainable use of mountain biodiversity?	
a) No	
b) No, but relevant programmes are under development	
c) Yes, some measures are in place (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive measures are in place (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the measures for improving research, technical and scientific cooperation and capacity building for conservation and sustainable use of mountain biodiversity	

201. Has your country taken any measures to develop, promote, validate and transfer appropriate technologies for the conservation of mountain ecosystems?	
a) No	X
b) No, but relevant programmes are under development	
c) Yes, some measures are in place (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive measures are in place (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the measures to develop, promote, validate and transfer appropriate technologies for the conservation of mountain ecosystems	

Box LXXIII.

<p>Please elaborate below on the implementation of this programme of work and associated decisions specifically focusing on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken; b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention; c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target; d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans; e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals; f) constraints encountered in implementation.

E. OPERATIONS OF THE CONVENTION

202. Has your country actively participated in subregional and regional activities in order to prepare for Convention meetings and enhance implementation of the Convention? (decision V/20)	
a) No	
b) Yes (please provide details below)	X
Further comments on the regional and subregional activities in which your country has been involved.	

203. Is your country strengthening regional and subregional cooperation, enhancing integration and promoting synergies with relevant regional and subregional processes? (decision VI/27 B)	
a) No	
b) Yes (please provide details below)	X
Further comments on regional and subregional cooperation and processes.	

The following question (204) is for DEVELOPED COUNTRIES

204. Is your country supporting the work of existing regional coordination mechanisms and the development of regional and subregional networks or processes? (decision VI/27 B)	
a) No	
b) No, but programmes are under development	
c) Yes, included in existing cooperation frameworks (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, some cooperative activities ongoing (please provide details below)	
Further comments on support for the work of existing regional coordination mechanisms and the development of regional and subregional networks or processes.	

205. Is your country working with other Parties to strengthen the existing regional and subregional mechanisms and initiatives for capacity-building? (decision VI/27 B)	
a) No	
b) Yes	X - stakeholders agreed that Liberia's participation in both regional and sub-regional meetings, confer-

	ences, and work-shops, constitute ways of working with other parties as referenced in Decision VI/27. It is important to note that Liberia has attended all Dutch-German African Initiatives on ABS.
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206. Has your country contributed to the assessment of the regional and subregional mechanisms for implementation of the Convention? (decision VI/27 B)	
a) No	
b) Yes (please provide details below)	X
Further comments on contribution to the assessment of the regional and subregional mechanisms. Apart from the tripartite initiative on-going between Liberia and the countries of Guinea and the Ivory Coast, the National Capacity Self-Assessment issues identified under Biodiversity Study, and the issues under the National Biodiversity Strategy & Action Plan, no other assessment has been made.	

Box LXXIV.

<p>Please elaborate below on the implementation of the above decisions specifically focusing on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken; b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention; c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target; d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans; e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals; f) constraints encountered in implementation.

F. COMMENTS ON THE FORMAT

Box LXXV.

Please provide below recommendations on how to improve this reporting format.
