

THE THIRD PHILIPPINE NATIONAL REPORT
TO THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY



Protected Areas and Wildlife Bureau
Department of Environment and Natural Resources

CONTENTS

| | | |
|----|---|-----|
| A. | REPORTING PARTY | 1 |
| | Information On the preparation of the report | 2 |
| B. | PRIORITY SETTING, TARGET AND OBSTACLES | 6 |
| | Priority Setting | 12 |
| | Challenges and Obstacles to Implementation | 13 |
| | 2010 Target | 16 |
| | Global Strategy for Plant Conservation (GSPC) | 48 |
| | Ecosystem Approach | 63 |
| C. | ARTICLES OF THE CONVENTION | 65 |
| | Article 5 - Cooperation | 65 |
| | Article 6 – general measures for conservation and sustainable use | 68 |
| | Biodiversity and Climate Change | 72 |
| | Article 7 – Identification and monitoring | 73 |
| | Decisions and Taxonomy | 79 |
| | Article 8 – In-situ conservation[Excluding paragraphs (a) to (e), (h), (j)] | 83 |
| | Programme of Work on Protected Areas - Article 8 (a) to (e) | 89 |
| | Article 8 (h) – Alien species | 95 |
| | Article 8 (j) – Traditional knowledge and related provisions | 100 |
| | GURTS | 100 |
| | Status and Trends | 100 |
| | Akwe`Kon Guidelines | 101 |
| | Capacity Building and Participation of Indigenous and Local Communities | 101 |
| | Support to implementation | 104 |
| | Article 9 – Ex-situ conservation | 105 |
| | Article 10 – Sustainable use of components of biological diversity | 108 |
| | Biodiversity and Tourism | 112 |
| | Article 11 – Incentive measures | 113 |
| | Article 12 – Research and training | 116 |
| | Article 13 – Public education and awareness | 118 |
| | Article 14 – Impact assessment and minimizing adverse impacts | 124 |
| | Article 15 – Access to genetic resources | 129 |
| | Article 16 – Access to and transfer of technology | 132 |
| | Programme of Work on transfer of technology and technology cooperation | 133 |

| | | |
|----|---|-----|
| | Article 17 – Exchange of Information | 136 |
| | Article 18 – Technical and Scientific Cooperation | 137 |
| | Article 19 – Handling of biotechnology and distribution of its benefits | 140 |
| | Article 20 – Financial resources | 141 |
| D. | THEMATIC AREAS | 147 |
| | Inland water ecosystems | 149 |
| | Marine and coastal biological diversity | 153 |
| | General | 153 |
| | Implementation of Integrated Marine and Coastal Area Management | 153 |
| | Marine and Coastal Living Resources | 155 |
| | Marines and Coastal Protected Areas | 157 |
| | Mariculture | 157 |
| | Alien Species and Genotypes | 158 |
| | Agricultural biological diversity | 159 |
| | Annex to decision V/5 – Programme of Work on Agricultural Diversity | 160 |
| | Forest biological diversity | 165 |
| | General | 165 |
| | Expanded Programme of Work on Forest biological Diversity | 167 |
| | Biological diversity on dry and sub-humid lands | 175 |
| | Mountain Biodiversity | 178 |
| E. | OPERATIONS OF THE CONVENTION | 181 |
| F. | COMMENTS ON THE FORMAT | 183 |

List of Acronyms and Abbreviations

| | |
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| AFMA | Agriculture and Fisheries Modernization Act |
| AO | Administrative Order |
| ARCBC | ASEAN Regional Centre for Biodiversity Conservation |
| ASBP | Association of Systematic Biologists of the Philippines |
| ADSDPP | Ancestral Domain Sustainable Development and Protection Plan |
| A NEST | Awareness-raising, Networking, Education, support-mobilization and Training |
| ASEAN | Association of Southeast Asian Nations |
| ASOEN | ASEAN Senior Officials on the Environment |
| BCH | Biosafety Clearing House |
| BAR | Bureau of Agricultural Research, DA |
| BINU | Biodiversity Indicators for National Use |
| BMS | Biodiversity Monitoring System |
| BMT | Bohol Marine Triangle |
| BPI | Bureau of Plant Industry |
| BRP | Biodiversity Research Programme |
| CBFMA | Community-Based Forestry Management Agreement |
| CEPF | Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund |
| CEPA | Communication, Education and Public Awareness |
| CHM | Clearing House Mechanism |
| CI | Conservation International |
| C & I | Criteria and Indicators |
| CITES | Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna |
| CPA | Conservation Priority Areas |
| CMS | Convention on the conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (Bonn Convention) |
| CSCCSD | Civil Society Counterpart Council for Sustainable Development |
| DA | Department of Agriculture |
| DAO | Department Administrative Order |
| DENR | Department of Environment and Natural Resources |
| DOH | Department of Health |
| DOST | Department of Science and Technology |
| EIA | Environmental Impact Assessment |
| EMB | Environmental Management Bureau, DENR |
| ERDB | Ecosystems Research and Development Bureau |
| EUFS | Environmental User's Fee System |
| FAO | Food and Agriculture Organization |
| FMB | Forest Management Bureau |
| FPIC | Free and Prior Informed Consent |
| FRA | Forest Resource Assessment |
| FSIS | Forestry Statistical Information System |
| GEF | Global Environment Facility |
| GIS | Geographic Information System |
| GMOs | Genetically-Modified Organisms |
| GOCC | Government Owned and Controlled Corporation |
| GPOA | General Plan of Action |
| GTI | Global Taxonomy Initiative |
| GURTS | Genetic Use Restriction Technologies |
| ICDP | Integrated Conservation and Development |
| ICCs | Indigenous Cultural Communities |
| IEC | Information, Education and Communication |
| IKSP | Indigenous Knowledge Systems and Practices |
| IMO | International Maritime Organizations |
| IPRA | Indigenous People's Rights Act |
| IPs | Indigenous Peoples |
| IRR | Implementing Rules and Regulations |

| | |
|------------|--|
| IUCN | International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources |
| IPAF | Integrated Protected Areas Fund |
| IRRI | International Rice Research Institute |
| IWRM | Integrated Water Resources Management |
| KKP | Kabang Kalikasan ng Pilipinas |
| LGU | Local Government Unit |
| MDG | Millennium Development Goals |
| MEAs | Multilateral Environmental Agreements |
| MOU | Memorandum of Understanding |
| MPFD | Master Plan for Forest Development |
| MT-IOSEA | Marine Turtles and Their Habitats of the Indian Ocean and Southeast Asia |
| MTPDP | Medium Term Philippine Development Plan |
| NAP | National Action Plan |
| NBSAP | National Biodiversity Action Plan |
| NCBP | National Committee on Biosafety of the Philippines |
| NCIP | National Council for Indigenous People |
| NCSA | National Capacity Needs Self-Assessment |
| NES | National Ecotourism Strategy |
| NGO | non-government organization |
| NIPAS | National Integrated Protected Areas System |
| NPAAAD | Network of Protected Areas for Agriculture and Agro-industrial Development |
| PA | Protected Area |
| PBCP | Philippine Biodiversity Conservation Priorities |
| PCMARD | Philippine Council for Marine and Aquatic Resources Research and Development |
| PCSDP | Palawan Corridor Strategy Development Project |
| PCSDS | Palawan Council for Sustainable Development Staff |
| PCSD-SCB | Philippine Council for Sustainable Development-Sub-Committee on Biodiversity |
| P.D. | Presidential Decree |
| PHES | Potentially Harmful Exotic Species |
| PITAHC | Philippine Institute of Traditional and Alternative Health |
| PNNI | Palawan NGO Network Inc. |
| RSPB | Royal Society for the Protection of Birds |
| SEP | Strategic Environment Plan |
| SEAMEO | Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization |
| SEARCA | Southeast Asian Regional Center for Graduate Study and Research in Agriculture |
| SFM | Sustainable Forest Management |
| SIBP | Samar Island Biodiversity Project |
| SINP | Samar Island Natural Park |
| SO | Special Order |
| SSME | Sulu-Sulawesi Marine Ecoregion |
| SUMMIT | Sustainable Management of Mt. Isarog's Territories |
| R.A | Republic Act |
| TAHC | Traditional and Alternative Health Care |
| TAMA | Traditional and Alternative Medicine Act |
| TFWB | Task Force Wild Bird |
| TIHPA | Turtle Islands Heritage Protected Areas |
| TRNMP | Tubbataha Reef National Marine Park |
| UNCBD | United Nations Convention of Biological Diversity |
| UNCCD | United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification |
| UNDP | United Nations Development Programme |
| UNFCC | United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change |
| UPLB | University of the Philippines Los Baños |
| UP Diliman | University of the Philippines Diliman |
| USAID | United States Agency for International Development |
| WCMC | World Conservation Monitoring System |
| WWF-Phils | World Wide Fund for Nature- Philippines |

A. REPORTING PARTY

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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 Third Philippine National Report to the CBD (3NR) went through as the usual highly-participatory preparation process consisting of research, survey and interviews, meetings, workshops, and several levels of public consultation. Below are the details of said process:

1. Review of CBD Guidelines for the National Report Preparation and the National Reporting Format

The CBD Guidelines for the Preparation of the Third National Report to the CBD was reviewed and modified to suit national processes.

The prescribed National Reporting Format has also been reviewed and taken into account in the preparation of the data gathering instruments and workshop/ consultation designs.

2. Review relevant national documents

Relevant key national documents were also reviewed including national strategies and action plans such as the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) and its second iteration, the Philippine Biodiversity Conservation Priorities (PBCP); Philippine Agenda 21 (PA 21); Medium Term Philippine Development Plan (MTPDP) and the National Action Plan to Combat Desertification, Land Degradation, Drought, and Poverty, among others. Reports of recently completed and on-going initiatives major on biodiversity conservation such as the Enabling Activity on Biodiversity: Assessment of Capacity Building Needs for Biodiversity Conservation and Management in the Philippines; National Capacity Needs Self-Assessment for Global Environmental Management in the Philippines; National Biosafety Framework Project; and Project Reports of major site-based initiatives, such as the Samar Island Biodiversity Project, Biodiversity Conservation and Management of the Bohol Islands Marine Triangle, Conservation of Tubataha Reef National Park, and Sustainable Management of Mt. Isarog's Territories.

3. Preparation of data gathering instruments, interview schedules, workshop and consultation designs

Several data gathering forms were designed to capture national initiatives on biodiversity conservation and to have a preliminary assessment of the country's NBSAP. Another matrix used was the framework recommended in the Guidelines which was designed to assess implementation of specific articles for the prescribed time period. For the Thematic Workshop, a form was designed to check whether targets in the Thematic Programmes of Work correspond to targets set by agencies/institutions in their sectoral plans.

4. Data gathering and processing activities

A listing of respondents covering representations from all stakeholders were drawn up from existing list databases. The initial list of respondents was about 200 individuals and organizations active in biodiversity work. A stakeholder analysis was done to determine the levels of involvement of stakeholders. The list was enriched by additional recommendations during interviews, meetings, and consultations. The survey questionnaires were sent and majority was retrieved after 2-3 weeks. A considerable number of respondents turned in their accomplished questionnaires during and even after the consultations.

5. Meetings, Workshops, Consultations

The 3NR Project Management Team based at the Protected Areas and Wildlife Bureau met to set the dates of meetings and consultations that would seek to validate the results of the preliminary assessment. The levels of consultations were as follows:

- a. Philippine Council for Sustainable Development – Sub-Committee on Biodiversity with the PAWB

This is a multi-sectoral body that was tasked to function as the Drafting Committee of the National Report Preparation. In a 2-day workshop, the Sub-Com, along with the Protected Areas and Wildlife Bureau (PAWB) discussed the national reporting process, decide and approve the consultation/workshop design, formulate the criteria for prioritization of the implementation of CBD articles and review the list of survey respondents.

The PAWB 3NR Project Management Team also met several times to prepare the working documents that were used for the Consultations including the preliminary NBSAP Assessment and the CBD Implementation Assessment, and the initial version of the National Report. The Team also held a one-day workshop to accomplish the 2010 Target reporting format of the CBD Guidelines and consolidate the results of the regional consultations.

- b. Thematic Workshop

A Thematic Workshop was held in 11-13 October 2005 primarily to familiarize key stakeholders on the CBD's Thematic Work Programmes. This is the first time that they are briefed on the subject. The workshop was also aimed to check whether corresponding national targets have been set based on the goals and targets and action plans set at the global level. The approach was somewhat retrospective since most of the concerned agencies were not previously aware of the CBD's Thematic Work Programmes. In order not to add more layers to the already numerous national and sub-national strategies and action plans, it was decided that the best way to go about setting national targets is to see whether there are already built-in targets corresponding to the global targets and action plans mentioned in the various agencies concerned.

- c. Regional Consultations

To capture regional and local inputs, consultations were held covering the three major clusters or island groups namely Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao. At each of these consultations, eminent persons are invited to provide guidance and to act as resource persons in the discussions.

- d. National Consultations

A National Consultation was held on January 20, 2005 at the Convention Hall of the Bureau of Soils and Water Management in Quezon City, Philippines. This was attended by more than 70 participants coming from all sectors and backgrounds nationwide. At this level, inconsistencies arising from varied sources of information were rationalized/harmonized and new information came up to support points raised in previous consultations. The discussions and agreements in the national consultation influenced the final output of this reporting process to a large extent. The process involved review of prioritization, biodiversity 2010 targets, thematic programmes of the CBD and implementation of the NBSAP.

Information on any particular circumstances in the country that are relevant to understanding the answers to the questions in this report.

Scope and Limitations of the Second National Report

Time Period Covered by the Report

This report covers activities undertaken to implement the relevant provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity from 2002 to 2004. Since this Report is being submitted after the deadline in time for the Eighth Conference of the Parties in March 2005, it took advantage of reporting significant activities that occurred in 2005.

Although the report covers a specific time period, there are instances when activities reported in the First and Second National Report are again mentioned to provide background, context, and/or point of comparison. This is also true when activities are anchored on relevant legislation or policies that were enacted earlier but are still the basis for such action, or when the initiative is a continuing one that has extended even after the cut off for the Second National Report.

Sources of Information and Data Processing

In the preparation of this Report, key national documents were reviewed including the Philippine Agenda 21 (PA21), the Philippine Medium Term Development Plan (MTPDP), the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) and its second iteration, the Philippine Biodiversity Conservation Initiatives (PBCP), other national strategies and action plans, relevant policies and legislation, and numerous agency/ organizational annual/accomplishment reports. Specific information on initiatives came from stakeholders themselves who were respondents to the survey questionnaire earlier administered. Further, verification of information was done through personal or telephone interviews, email messages, and through the meetings, workshops, and consultations. The data gathering process had been very tedious since there is no monitoring and reporting mechanism in place that would have made this process a lot easier. Aside from time constraints, data collection and processing had been limited by the fact that information at the sources is also not in a format that could be readily accessed for this purpose. Almost all sources had to go through the tedious task of going through voluminous report to comply with the reporting requirements necessary to produce this Report. The Report heavily relied on what information were available at the time this was being prepared. It is therefore recommended a monitoring and reporting process be immediately put in place so that updating of this Report could be done continuously and in a more systematic manner. This will greatly facilitate future National Report preparation.

Responses to the Questions in the National Report Format

As in the Second National Report, the answers reflected in this Final Version of the National Report represent the harmonized responses from the different stakeholders that were consulted nationwide. Although the responses from the various consultations were most of the time in agreement, there were instances when the responses differ. In cases like these, the national consultation became the venue for the resolution of a response. It was observed that regional differences most of the time stem from lack of information. Most issues were resolved at the national consultation since the forum had a more macro perspective than the other consultations, and since information is more readily available at this level.

To determine the level of priority in terms of implementation of each of the CBD Articles, a set of criteria that was formulated in the preparation of the Second National Report was also used in this reporting cycle. The purpose of the criteria was for uniformity and comparability.

1.0 Law (was there a law enacted to support the implementation of the Article) – 20 points

Explanation: The perfect score is 20 points. The article can be rated from a range of 0 to 20. For example, if a law has been enacted, this criterion will be given 20 points. If however, the proposed act or law had been shelved for the past 4 years, it can be given a 0 rating. If the proposed bill is in process or has gone through readings in Congress, then it can be given a

score of anywhere between 1 and 19 depending on what stage the document is currently in.

- 2.0 Executive Order, Implementing Rules and Regulations, Administrative Order, Memorandum Order or Memorandum Circular among others (were any of these measures issued to support the implementation of the Article?) – 20 points

Explanation: The perfect score is 20 points. The article can be rated from a range of 0 to 20. For example, if an Executive Order, Implementing Rules and Regulations, Administrative Order, Memorandum Order or Memorandum Circular among others was issued to support the implementation of the Article, then this criterion will be given 20 points. If however, no executive or administrative measures or guidelines were issued to support the implementation of the Article, then this criterion could be given a score of 0. If the proposed measure is in process, then it can be given a score anywhere between 1 to 19, depending on what stage of processing the document is currently in.

- 3.0 Budget (was there budget for the implementation of this Article?) – 20 points

Explanation The perfect score is 20 points. The article can be rated from a range of 0 to 20. For example, if budget has been allocated and released, then the implementation of this Article is given 20 points. If there was no budget allocation, then the score is 0. If budget had been allocated but releases have been slow then it can be given a score anywhere between 1 to 19.

- 4.0 National plans and programs. (is the implementation of the Article covered in any of the national plans and programs, e.g. PA21, MTPDP, NBSAP, Wetlands Action Plan Agriculture and Fisheries Modernization Ct, National Physical Framework Plan) – 20 points

Explanation: The perfect score is 20 points. The article can be rated from a range of 0 to 20. For example, if it is included as a priority in any of the national plans and programs, then it can be given a score of 20. If it is not a priority in any of the major national plans and programs, a 0 rating can be assigned, If the initiative is only implied or subsumed in another priority activity, the implementation of this Article can be given a score of anywhere between 1 and 19.

- 5.0 Project implementation (were there projects implemented in relation to the implementation of this Article?) – 20 points.

Explanation: The perfect score is 20 points. The article can be rated from a range of 0 to 20. For example, if there are projects/ activities that support the implementation of the article, then it can be given a score o 20. If there are no projects or activities being implemented for the period under review, a 0 rating can be assigned, If the initiative is only implied or subsumed in another activity, the implementation of this Article can be given a score of anywhere between 1 and 19.

After each of the criteria has been assigned a rating, the scores are then added. Below are the total scores and the level of priority given by the country to the implementation of an Article:

| | |
|---------------------------|-----------------|
| Total score of 80 above - | High Priority |
| Total score of 60 to 79 - | Medium Priority |
| Total score of 40 to 59 - | Low Priority |
| Total score of 40 below - | Not relevant |

The assignment of rating between 0 to 20 is highly based on judgement call. This is justified since the stakeholders that participated in the consultation workshops are assumed to be knowledgeable in the field of biodiversity in the country. Further, the consultation-workshops were participated in by some eminent persons who provided guidance during the proceedings. The assignment of rating is first done by small groups during a workshop then presented and discussed in plenary. The above criteria is far from perfect but it served its purpose of assessing priorities in the implementation of the CBD Articles, It is hoped that this could later be refined to facilitate ease of reporting in the future.

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.

Executive Summary

Background

The Philippines is an archipelagic country of more than 7,100 islands and with a total land area of about 300,000 square kilometers and 679,800 square kilometers of territorial sea. Its population is estimated at 84.6 million (July 2003 est.) and growing at a rate of 2.36 percent or 1.7 million new births a year. Administratively, it has 79 provinces (clustered into 17 regions), 117 cities and 1502 municipalities. (March 2006)

In the Philippines, the mandate to protect and enhance the quality of the environment and ensure the conservation, management, development and proper use of the country's environment and natural resources is given to the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) through Executive Order 192 issued in 1987. It also created the Protected Areas and Wildlife Bureau (PAWB) charged mainly to formulate and recommend policies, guidelines, rules and regulations for the conservation of biological diversity as well as for the establishment and management of an Integrated Protected Areas System, among others.

Other government agencies who have mandates relevant to biodiversity conservation are the Department of Agriculture (DA), Department of Science and Technology (DOST), and the Department of Health (DOH). The Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) has a crucial role in the overall implementation of biodiversity conservation activities, however, the DENR has devolved very limited powers and functions to the Local Government Units (LGUs) as stipulated in the Local Government Code of 1991 or RA 7160 and the MOA executed between the DENR and DILG.

Aside from government efforts, the Philippines has an active civil society that advocates the conservation of natural resources. Their participation in the overall national policy making is institutionalized through the Philippine Council for Sustainable Development and their work had been significant at the local level. The private sector has likewise indicated their interest as shown by the increasing number of partnerships between the GOs, NGOs and the private sector in natural-resources conservation initiatives.

The country's blueprint for sustainable development is embodied in its Philippine Agenda 21. The National Integrated Protected Areas (NIPAS) Law or RA 7586 was enacted in June 1, 1992, just in time for the Earth Summit. The Law provides for the establishment and management of a comprehensive protected areas system encompassing remarkably outstanding areas and biologically important public lands that are habitats of various species. In 1993, the country ratified the Convention on Biological Diversity.

As a Party to the CBD, the Philippines prepared its National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) in 1997 to take stock of its biodiversity resources, identify threats, and formulate strategies and action plan for its conservation, sustainable use, and benefit-sharing mechanisms. The framework later underwent iteration through the Philippine Biodiversity Conservation Priority (PBCP) Project which further identified priority conservation areas and refined some of the NBSAP strategies.

To date, after more than a decade of fervent efforts to conserve biodiversity, the country stands poised amidst daunting challenges that compound the already critical situation of this nationally and globally important resource.

Status and Trends

This Report attempts to present the status and trends of the country's compliance to the CBD based on the available information collected in the reporting process. Most of the information sources are national in scope, thus, specific initiatives are usually cited in the boxes to have a glimpse of what is happening at the regional and local levels. In the Philippines, information on biodiversity resources as well as on biodiversity conservation initiatives are still not systematically reported and collated especially at the local and regional levels, thus it was very difficult to come up with an explicit statement on their current status.

However, the national reporting process indicates a positive trend in biodiversity conservation efforts over the years covered by this reporting period. This is a positive outlook considering the challenges faced, constraints that are still persistent, and in some cases, surmounted, by the country in its determination to conserve its natural richness and heritage. The resources and efforts accorded, however, are still inadequate considering the type and magnitude of constraints and challenges confronting biodiversity conservation in the country. These are still the focus of activities of the government and other key stakeholders. If sustained, these could significantly add momentum to the activities leading to the achievement of 2010 targets as well as the Millennium Development Goals.

Significant developments that contributed to this positive trend include the enactment of a landmark legislation, Republic Act 9147 or the Wildlife Resources and Conservation and Protection Act that redefined biodiversity conservation in aspects of conservation and protection of wildlife resources and their habitats, regulating access and provided the predisposing environment for sustainable use and research. Its IRR provided guidelines for benefit sharing.

Capacity of the country to implement commitments to the CBD had been raised in the past National Reports. The Philippines has just completed its National Capacity Needs Self Assessment for Global Environmental Management (NCSA) where this concern is partly being addressed. A proposal is in the pipeline to strengthen coordinating mechanism for the effective implementation of the three MEAs, the UNCCD, UNFCCC, and the UNCBD.

Below are snapshots of the developments related to the compliance of the country to the treaty obligations for the 2002-2004/05 reporting period, presented as selected thematic and cross-cutting areas of the CBD:

Inland Waters Biodiversity

To date, there is no national policy on wetlands in the Philippines. The National Wetlands Action Plan needs to be revisited being more than a decade old. However, in the Medium Term Philippine Development Plan and the NAP, concerns about wetlands have been incorporated and had been subsequently elaborated on in the DENR GPOA.

The country has four existing Ramsar sites, two of them are inland waters: Naujan Lake National Park and Agusan Marsh Wildlife Sanctuary. For the period under review, no new nomination was made for a new Ramsar site although Candaba Swamp has been identified as a possible candidate. Aside from Laguna de Bay, the only major inland waters with management plans are Lake Naujan, Agusan Marsh, Ligawasan Marsh, and Pasig River. River Basin management plans are also in place for a few river basins including the Bicol River Basin area. Aside from limited site-specific data, there is no adequate information to fully describe the state and trend of inland waters biodiversity in the country. Most of the major rivers that are being monitored are in various stages of deterioration.

In 2004, the Clean Water Act (RA9275) was passed into law providing for IWRM to guarantee effective water utilization and conservation. RA 9275 also aims to protect the country's wetlands, including inland waters, from land-based sources of pollution such as industries, mining, agricultural operations as well as community or household activities.

Wetlands has figured prominently in the recent months due the concern on avian flu.

Marine and Coastal Biodiversity

In terms of habitat protection, approximately 1.6 million hectares of protected areas (or 50 percent of total declared PAs) that have been declared under the NIPAS are marine and coastal areas. The establishment of marine sanctuaries as provided for in Section 81 of Republic Act 8550 or the Fisheries Code has also contributed significantly to the protection of marine and coastal ecosystems. RA 8550 states that at least twenty-five percent (25 %) but not more than forty percent (40%) of bays, foreshore lands, continental shelf or any fishing ground shall be set aside for the cultivation of mangroves to strengthen the habitat and the spawning grounds of fish. Marine sanctuaries are management mechanisms that can effectively protect critical habitats. The AFMA also calls for the establishment of Network of Protected Areas for Agriculture and Agro-Industrial Development (NPAAAD) which includes mangrove areas and fish sanctuaries.

The 2005 Philippine Report of the Biodiversity Indicators for National Use (BINU) indicated that on the whole, there is a declining trend in the state of most coral and marine ecosystems in the Philippines. It also identified the lack of comprehensive data and information to better understand the state of the resources and habitats as the most glaring gap in the effective conservation and management of coastal and marine biodiversity.

A proposed framework for Sustainable Archipelagic Framework has been crafted in 2004 and is being proposed for adoption. It seeks to transform the present land-based development planning paradigm and the fragmented, unsystematic approach taken to coastal and marine resource use into a more rational, integrative, and all-encompassing approach that sees the land and the ocean as one seamless web of interactions between human beings and nature.

Forest/Mountain Biodiversity

The past four (4) decades witnessed the steady decline of the Philippines forest resources leading to ecological degradation and rural poverty. Statistics show that from about 15 million hectares in 1950, the country's forest cover has been reduced to about 4.7 million hectares at present, of which only 800,000 hectares are primary forests. Fifty percent of the declared protected areas under NIPAS, or approximately 1.6 million hectares are predominantly forest lands.

The decline of forest cover in the country had devastating effects on forest biodiversity and on the other adjacent ecosystems. Add to this the fact that in the early stages of forest management in the country, biodiversity concerns were not taken into account. In 1992, under the National Integrated Protected Areas Act, logging or any commercial exploitation of forestry resources in old growth forests, proclaimed watershed and other areas covered by the NIPAS is prohibited to ensure perpetual existence of all native plants and animals. Proclaimed protected areas have management plans designed to maintain and enhance their forest biodiversity components, services and values.

In 2004, the Philippines adopted the concept of Sustainable Forest Management as the main policy thrust in order to guarantee the long-term stability of its forest resources. SFM envisions reversing the current critical state of forestry in the country, directly benefiting biodiversity.

Agricultural Biodiversity

There are already existing strategies, programmes and plans in place to ensure the development and successful implementation of policies and actions relevant to the conservation and sustainable use of agricultural biodiversity components. These are included in the Philippine Agenda 21, the NBSAP, the NAP, and in relevant sectoral plans such as those of the Department of Agriculture and the Philippine Council for Agriculture and Resources Research of the Department of Science and Technology, to name a few. However, the country has to put working mechanisms in place to coordinate these efforts for a more directed implementation and outcomes.

At the ecosystems level, agrobiodiversity is taken into account in the implementation of the Network of Protected Areas for Agriculture and Agro-industrial Development (NPAAAD).

Assessments of components of agricultural biodiversity, are being undertaken for plant genetic resources, animal genetic resources and pest management through the work of the Department of Agriculture – Bureau of Plant Industry and the University of the Philippines National Institute for Applied Microbiology and Biotechnology (BIOTECH), Institute of Plant-Breeding, and Institute of Biological Sciences), Philippine Rice Research Institute, Philippine Sugar Research Institute, among others.

Dry and Sub-Humid Lands Biodiversity

Approximately 27.3 percent of the country is vulnerable to drought, alternating with yearly floods and typhoons, causing serious land degradation and declining land productivity. In 2004, the Philippines completed the National Action Plan to Combat Desertification, Land Degradation, Drought, and Poverty or simply called the “NAP”. The NAP is an expression of full and unqualified commitment of the Philippine Government in the effective and accelerated implementation of the programs and project activities to combat desertification, land degradation and poverty in the identified drought-vulnerable areas of the country.

Conservation of biodiversity is addressed in both of the two thematic programs under the NAP namely: (1) Sustainable Agriculture and Marginal Uplands Development Program and (2) Integrated Ecosystems Management. Specifically, its contribution to biodiversity conservation is through the prevention of desertification and further degradation of approximately 250,000 hectares of denuded critical agricultural lands and rehabilitation of some 500,000 hectares of critical watershed ecosystems in Mindanao and Luzon strategic areas for the improvement of agriculture and fisheries production as well as the rehabilitation/reestablishment of minor forest products. It will also promote community-based wilderness agriculture and home gardens for food, wood sufficiency and genetic diversity in sand dune areas of the Ilocos Region.

Ecosystem Approach

The overriding approach in the crafting of policies as well as formulation of strategies and action plans on biodiversity in the country is anchored on the ecosystem approach. This is continuously being affirmed through the following policies and strategies like the NIPAS Law, The Philippine Agenda 21, the NBSAP and the PBCP, and lately in the Sustainable Forest Management.

Access to Genetic Resources and Benefit Sharing

The period under review saw significant developments in the country’s efforts towards matters concerning access and benefit sharing. The Wildlife Resources Protection and Conservation Act or RA 9147 was enacted in 1992 providing for provisions on regulating access to genetic resources. The Implementing Rules and Regulations (Joint DENR-DA-PCSD-NCIP Administrative Order No. 01 entitled Guidelines for Bioprospecting Activity in the Philippines approved on January 14, 2005) provide separate regulations for access for purposes of scientific research and commercial research (bioprospecting). This is of course complemented by the Indigenous Peoples Right Act (IPRA Law of RA 8371) which protects the right of the indigenous people to exclude others in exploiting natural resources within their ancestral domain. This means that before any person is allowed access to these resources, free and prior informed consent of the community obtained in accordance to the customary laws, is required. The regulations governing bioprospecting further require that benefits derived from the utilization of biological and genetic resources shall be shared fairly and equitable with the community.

Protected Areas

A total of 101 Protected Areas have been proclaimed under the NIPAS with total area of approximately 3.2 million hectares. This indicates an increase of about 792 million hectares or 33 percent from the reported figure in the last national report. Of the 3.2 million hectares, 1.6M hectares or 50 percent are marine and the other 50 percent terrestrial.

This marked increase in the number of marine protected areas indicate the efforts of the country to address the under-representation of marine and inland water ecosystem in the existing system of protected areas. Moreover, the establishment of marine sanctuaries as targets in the MTPDP should help in the conservation of marine biodiversity outside protected areas.

There were major steps undertaken to improve the integration of protected areas into broader land and seascapes, including policy, planning and other measures. The Philippine Biodiversity Conservation Priority (PBCP) Program has identified the institutionalization of innovative and appropriate biodiversity conservation approaches such as the biodiversity corridors as a major strategy to address biodiversity conservation issues. This strategy is designed to ensure the survival and protection of the widest possible range of species unique to a particular region.

Another effort is the completion of a framework for Sustainable Archipelagic Development that seeks to transform the present land-based development planning paradigm and the fragmented, unsystematic approach taken to coastal and marine resource use into a more rational, integrative, and all-encompassing approach.

To improve protected areas management, an enabling activity was conducted to look into the capacity of the Protected Areas Management Board and the DENR as a whole in managing the country's PAs. Policy/Legislative and institutional gaps and barriers were identified in the study which are being inputted in the current revision of the IRR of the NIPAS Law.

Global Strategy for Plant Conservation

The concerns on Global Strategy for Plant Conservation (GSPC) and the Global Taxonomy Initiative (GTI) are largely being addressed by the creation of a Philippine Plant Conservation Committee on 20 January 2003 thru DENR Special Order No. 2003-32. It is tasked primarily to develop the Philippine Plant Conservation Strategy and Action Plan. To date, aside from completing the preparation of the Action Plan, the Committee has also prepared the National List of Threatened Plants and is now awaiting approval for subsequent implementation.

Alien Species

The National Committee on Biosafety of the Philippines (NCBP) through a set of guidelines provides the framework for enhancing cooperation among various sectors in order to improve prevention, eradication and/or control of invasive alien species. However, a mechanism still has to be put in place.

The Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources of the Department of Agriculture is tasked with the responsibility of granting permits for importations and for implementing quarantine regulations for aquatic species. Guidelines for the conduct of risk assessment and biosafety measures for introduced species have been formulated by the National Committee on Biosafety of the Philippines. However, the importation of alien species from other countries continues to be practiced for one reason or another (i.e. for food, recreation, or research) with or without government permits. Capacity at point of entry for monitoring is seriously lacking aside from the fact that backdoor entry is difficult to regulate much more control owing to the archipelagic configuration of the country.

Although the concern on alien species is covered by the strategies in the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP), there had been very few initiatives in this area. The country has some

existing measures in place to implement this Article, like the provisions in the CITES, the Wildlife Act, Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries/Aquaculture, among others. There is also the existence of the National Committee on Biosafety of the Philippines. Actual activities, however, have been limited by lack of awareness and understanding, not to mention lack of funds and capacity. Since there is very limited understanding of this subject, there is a need to undertake studies on the impacts of alien species. There should be a strategic communication program on the alien invasive species and its effect on the environment.

Critical capacity needs to implement this article are monitoring and enforcement.

Research, Training and CEPA

In the absence of an approved national agenda for research on biodiversity, current efforts are fragmented, lack focus and direction, and are not fully utilized for biodiversity conservation or management purposes. Formal training had a boost lately when in 2004, the Development Academy of the Philippines in collaboration with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources offered a Masters in Public Management, Major in Biodiversity Conservation and Management (MPM-BM). This is a one-year interdisciplinary graduate program that seeks to develop a cadre of professional biodiversity conservation and development managers in the public and non public sectors for the Philippines and the ASEAN region.

The Protected Areas and Wildlife Bureau of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources in cooperation with Haribon Foundation prepared a national CEPA document for biodiversity in an effort to increase the awareness on biodiversity conservation. Most of the strategies and action plans contained in this national CEPA document are already being implemented by the major players in biodiversity conservation even though it has not yet been officially adopted and institutionalized yet by the government.

NBSAP Implementation

The Reporting Process attempted to check on the progress of NBSAP implementation based on the initiatives that were undertaken for the period under review. As a general observation, the strategies in the NBSAP are still relevant, however, because of limited benchmarks and verifiable indicators, impacts on the overall conservation efforts are difficult to ascertain. The system of monitoring and reporting information is still inadequate. Below are salient points that attempt to describe the progress of NBSAP implementation for the reporting period:

- In terms of policies, considerable progress had been made with the enactment of RA 9147 or the Wildlife Resources Conservation and Protection Act" and its subsequent IRR, including all the other directives that stemmed from it. It drew on the experience from EO 247 implementation and clarified access and benefit sharing mechanisms.
- Activities undertaken were weak on identification and monitoring; heavy on fauna; and had limited work done on alien species, impact assessment, valuation and incentive measures.
- CEPA activities were markedly improved from the last reporting period
- Progress had been made in the area of capacity assessments and capacity development activities

In conclusion, a regular review of the NBSAP is in order, retaining relevant provisions in the process, integrating those innovations in the PBCP, and preparing action plans in the short-, medium- and long-term indicating implementation arrangements, budget, targets and indicators. There is a need to create a new "brand" to promote both documents not as two separate agenda, but as one in order to provide a more coherent planning tool and to avoid confusion. The strategic plan should prioritize activities that would address national biodiversity issues and concerns as well as international commitments such as the 2010 targets and the MDG.

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 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 |
| b) Limited public participation and stakeholder involvement | 3 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 |
| c) Lack of mainstreaming and integration of biodiversity issues into other sectors | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 |
| d) Lack of precautionary and proactive measures | 3 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 |
| e) Inadequate capacity to act, caused by institutional weakness | 3 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 |
| f) Lack of transfer of technology and expertise | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 2 |
| g) Loss of | 3 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 2 |

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

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| r) Lack of effective partnerships | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 3 |
| s) Lack of engagement of scientific community ³ | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 2 |
| t) Lack of appropriate policies and laws | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 3 |
| u) Poverty | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 |
| v) Population pressure | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 3 |
| w) Unsustainable consumption and production patterns | 2 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 |
| x) Lack of capacities for local communities | 3 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 |
| y) Lack of knowledge and practice of ecosystem-based approaches to management | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 2 |
| z) Weak law enforcement capacity | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 |
| aa) Natural disasters and environmental change | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 3 |
| 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 | | X | |
| 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>There are no explicit targets that have been set to correspond to this global target. However, the country, through several initiatives and processes, has set some national targets as contained in the following documents and or activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Philippine Biodiversity Conservation Priorities (PBCP) Project has come up with a listing of conservation priority areas. (170 Terrestrial and 36 Marine Conservation Priority Areas (CPAs) identified). • The Medium Term Philippine Development Plan (MTPDP) for 2004-2010 where the following targets are indicated: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - conduct assessment of 57 caves - manage 39 priority wetlands - develop protected area management plans for areas for protection - mangrove replanting in 10,500 hectares - establishment of 128 marine sanctuaries • Under the DENR General Plan of Action of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, 50 proposed areas have been identified for establishment as protected areas under NIPAS from 2005-2010. Additionally, 20 areas have to be designated as critical habitats. • The Department of Agriculture is establishing a Network of Protected Areas for Agricultural and Agro-Industrial Development (NPAAAD) | | | |
| 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 | | NPAAAD |
| b) Inland water | X | | Four (4) inland waters as indicated in the DENR-GPOA to be established as protected areas under NIPAS and critical habitats under the Wildlife Resources Conservation and Protection Act |

| | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| c) Marine and coastal | X | | As indicated in the MTPDP, PBCP, Sectoral Plans, Sustainable Archipelagic Development Framework |
| d) Dry and subhumid land | X | | As indicated in the NAP to combat desertification, land degradation, drought, and poverty (2004-2010), |
| e) Forest | X | | As indicated in the MTPDP and in the Revised Master Plan for Forestry Development |
| 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 | | | X |
| c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes | | | X |
| Please provide details below. | | | |
| <p>The abovementioned national targets are incorporated in relevant plans, programmes and strategies as enumerated below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Philippine Agenda 21 • NBSAP and PBCP • Medium Term Philippine Development Plan for 2004-2010 • NAP to combat desertification, land degradation, drought, and poverty (2004-2010) • Agriculture Sectoral Plan (NPAAAD) • Proposed Sustainable Philippine Archipelagic Development Framework • Revised Forestry Master Plan for Development | | | |
| IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target. | | | |
| <p>Protected Areas</p> <p>To date, a total of 3.2 million hectares have been declared as protected areas (1.6M hectares are terrestrial; 1.6 million hectares are marine).</p> | | | |
| <p>Key biodiversity areas (KBAs)</p> <p>The main intent of KBAs is to identify global priorities for conservation. Considering the limited resources available to establish and manage protected areas in the country, the need to identify priorities for conservation have been foreseen. Since threats to biodiversity are distributed unevenly, investments must be made in areas with great urgency, to prevent the loss of unique biodiversity features. In effect, some KBAs may require more urgent conservation interventions more than the others. Areas like Mt. Isarog and Northern Sierra Madre Natural Park in Luzon, Mt. Mantalingajan in Palawan, South and North Gigante Island in the Visayas, Lake Lanao and Mt. Malindang in Mindanao are examples of KBAs that have high vulnerability and irreplaceability values compared to other KBAs. These sites that have one or more endemic species occurring in the area, which are at the same time considered to be at high risks of extinction (they are listed as either critically endangered or endangered in the 2004 IUCN Red List). The destruction and loss of habitat in any of these KBAs would most likely result in the extinction of a species.</p> <p>Refinement of the results of the previous initiatives (i.e. NBSAP, PBCP) to identify biodiversity conservation priorities had been initiated by the DENR, Conservation International and Haribon Foundation using the most recent available scientific information. Premised on the fact that species are the bearers of genetic diversity and the building blocks of ecosystems, thus, information on their conservation status and distribution provides the foundation for making informed decisions about preserving biodiversity at both local and global levels.</p> | | | |

As a result of this initiative, one hundred twenty-eight (128) Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs) were identified covering a total of 6,008,813 hectares or approximately 20% of the total land area of the Philippines. Nineteen of the KBAs are wetland areas, 13 are island or groups of islands and 96 are forested areas.

One hundred twenty (120) KBAs overlaps with 127, out of the 170 identified, terrestrial Conservation Priority Areas (CPAs) and the remaining eight (8) KBAs have been identified outside of the CPAs. Out of the 101 protected areas (PAs) established under NIPAS as of September 2005, 49 PAs overlaps with 43 KBAs. Thirteen of these PAs are recommended for expansion or modification of boundaries. Twenty-one KBAs are currently under some form of PA management intervention(s) and 64 KBAs are proposed for PA establishment.

The main consideration in doing the KBA prioritization is the evaluation of each site in relation to the others using the same basic principle which in the first place, led to their identification. These are the criteria on irreplaceability and vulnerability.

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

Specific indicators still have to be developed when national target corresponding to the global targets are set and refined. Some indicators already in use are the Biodiversity Indicators for National Use (BINU) Project and Philippine Criteria and Indicators for Sustainable Forest Management.

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

There has been no target setting done in special reference to the Biodiversity 2010 targets. The targets indicated here are the ones already in the national and sectoral plans, in fact, some are still proposed frameworks. The country plans is in the process of refining these national targets in reference to the 2010 biodiversity targets.

VII) Please provide any other relevant information.

In the Philippines, the work programmes on Forest and Mountain Biodiversity have been treated as one due to the fact that most forest areas in the country are located on mountains or highlands.

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 | | X |
| 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>There are no explicit targets that have been set to correspond to this global target. However, the country, through several initiatives and processes, has set some national targets as evidenced in the following documents and or initiatives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Philippine Biodiversity Conservation Priorities (PBCP) Project has come up with a listing of conservation priority areas. (170 Terrestrial and 36 Marine Conservation Priority Areas | | |

(CPAs) identified).

- the Medium Term Philippine Development Plan (MTPDP) where the following are indicated:
 - conduct assessment of 57 caves
 - manage 39 priority wetlands
 - develop protected area management plans for areas for protection
 - mangrove replanting in 10,500 hectares
 - establishment of 128 marine sanctuaries
- Under the DENR General Plan of Action of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, 50 proposed areas have been identified for establishment as protected areas under NIPAS from 2005-2010. Additionally, 20 areas have to be designated as critical habitats.
- The establishment of a NPAAAD by the Department of Agriculture
- National Action Plan (NAP) to combat desertification, land degradation, drought, and poverty (2004-2010)

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 | | - Establishment of NPAAAD - Also included in targets are set in the Integrated Ecosystems Management of the NAP |
| b) Inland water | X | | - as indicated in the MTPDP - Four (4) inland waters as indicated in the DENR-GPOA to be established as protected areas under NIPAS and critical habitats under the Wildlife Resources Conservation and Protection Act |
| c) Marine and coastal | X | | As indicated in the MTPDP: - mangrove replanting in 10,500 hectares - establishment of 128 marine sanctuaries |
| d) Dry and subhumid land | X | | Targets are set in the Integrated Ecosystems Management of the NAP |
| e) Forest | X | | - As indicated in the Revised Master Plan for Forestry Development, MTPDP, Sectoral General Plan of Action |
| 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 | X |
| c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes | X |

Please provide details below.

The abovementioned national targets are incorporated in relevant plans, programmes and strategies as enumerated below:

- Philippine Agenda 21
- NBSAP as supported by the NIPAS Law
- Medium Term Philippine Development Plan for 2004-2010
- NAP to combat desertification, land degradation, drought, and poverty (2004-2010)

- Revised Master Plan for Forest Development
- Agriculture Sectoral Plan (Network of Protected Areas for Agriculture)
- Proposed Sustainable Philippine Archipelagic Development Framework

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

Protected Areas

To date, a total of 3.2 million hectares have been declared as protected areas (1.6M hectares are terrestrial; 1.6 million hectares are marine).

Key biodiversity areas (KBAs)

The main intent of KBAs is to identify global priorities for conservation. Considering the limited resources available to establish and manage protected areas in the country, the need to identify priorities for conservation have been foreseen. Since threats to biodiversity are distributed unevenly, investments must be made in areas with great urgency, to prevent the loss of unique biodiversity features. In effect, some KBAs may require more urgent conservation interventions more than the others. Areas like Mt. Isarog and Northern Sierra Madre Natural Park in Luzon, Mt. Mantalingajan in Palawan, South and North Gigante Island in the Visayas, Lake Lanao and Mt. Malindang in Mindanao are examples of KBAs that have high vulnerability and irreplaceability values compared to other KBAs. These sites that have one or more endemic species occurring in the area, which are at the same time considered to be at high risks of extinction (they are listed as either critically endangered or endangered in the 2004 IUCN Red List). The destruction and loss of habitat in any of these KBAs would most likely result in the extinction of a species.

Refinement of the results of the previous initiatives (i.e. NBSAP, PBCP) to identify biodiversity conservation priorities had been initiated by the DENR, Conservation International and Haribon Foundation using the most recent available scientific information. Premised on the fact that species are the bearers of genetic diversity and the building blocks of ecosystems, thus, information on their conservation status and distribution provides the foundation for making informed decisions about preserving biodiversity at both local and global levels.

As a result of this initiative, one hundred twenty-eight (128) Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs) were identified covering a total of 6,008,813 hectares or approximately 20% of the total land area of the Philippines. Nineteen of the KBAs are wetland areas, 13 are island or groups of islands and 96 are forested areas.

One hundred twenty (120) KBAs overlaps with 127, out of the 170 identified, terrestrial Conservation Priority Areas (CPAs) and the remaining eight (8) KBAs have been identified outside of the CPAs. Out of the 101 protected areas (PAs) established under NIPAS as of September 2005, 49 PAs overlaps with 43 KBAs. Thirteen of these PAs are recommended for expansion or modification of boundaries. Twenty-one KBAs are currently under some form of PA management intervention(s) and 64 KBAs are proposed for PA establishment.

The main consideration in doing the KBA prioritization is the evaluation of each site in relation to the others using the same basic principle which in the first place, led to their identification. These are the criteria on irreplaceability and vulnerability.

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

Specific indicators still have to be developed when national target corresponding to the global targets are set and refined. Other indicators currently being used are the Biodiversity Indicators for National Use (BINU) and the Philippine Criteria and Indicators for Sustainable Forest Management.

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

One of the main challenges faced in the implementation of this target is the priority given by the government when making decisions pertaining to the most beneficial use of multi-resource, multi-use areas (e.g. mining vs. biodiversity).

VII) Please provide any other relevant information.

In the Philippines, the work programmes on Forest and Mountain Biodiversity have been treated as one due to the fact that most forest areas in the country are located on mountains or highlands.

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 | | | X |
| Please provide details below. | | | |
| <p>There are no explicit targets that have been set to correspond to this global target. However, the country, through several initiatives and processes, has set some national targets as contained in the following documents and or initiatives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - As indicated in the Philippine Agenda 21 (conservation of endemic species and its corresponding strategy/action agenda) - As indicated in the MTPDP (conduct inventory of wildlife in the areas for protection) - There are existing species-specific projects like Phil. Raptors Conservation Project, Pawikan Conservation Project, Tamaraw Conservation Project, Palawan Wildlife Rescue and Conservation Center - Other areas-based projects have components on species diversity conservation (i.e. Samar Island Biodiversity Project, Bohol Marine Triangle Project, Conservation of Tubbataha Reef National Marine Park and World Heritage Site, Sustainable Management of Mt. Isarog Territories, and the Biodiversity Research for Development Project in Mt. Malindang). | | | |
| 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 | | To a certain extent as implied in the Strategic Agriculture and Fisheries Development Zones of the Department of Agriculture |
| b) Inland water | | X | No targets on species-specific efforts although there are habitat-based specific targets and activities. |
| c) Marine and coastal | X | | Agency plans of PCMARD, UP-Marine Sciences Center and other academic and research institutions (i.e. Tridacnids, corals, seaweed species) |

| | | | |
|---|----------|----------|---|
| d) Dry and subhumid land | X | | To a certain extent as indicated in the NAP |
| e) Forest | | X | As indicated in the Revised Master Plan for Forestry Development, MTPDP and Sectoral General Plan of Action |
| 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 | X | | |
| c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes | X | | |
| Please provide details below. | | | |
| <p>Said targets are incorporated in the following sectoral strategies, plans and programs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan - Philippine Biodiversity Conservation Priorities - Medium Term Philippine Development Plan - Strategic Agriculture and Fisheries Development Zones of the Department of Agriculture's AFMA - NAP to combat desertification, land degradation, drought, and poverty (2004-2010) | | | |
| IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target. | | | |
| <p>There are no explicit targets but initiatives relative to species of importance are currently being undertaken. (Refer to 2.1.I)</p> <p>For inland waters, there is an initiative on the conservation of Sinarapan in Lake Buhi but this is a localized effort.</p> | | | |
| V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target. | | | |
| <p>Biodiversity Indicators for National Use (BINu) for marine and coastal species; Biodiversity Monitoring System for protected areas and Philippine Criteria and Indicators for Sustainable Forest Management</p> | | | |
| VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target. | | | |
| <p>Capacity in terms of methods, tools, facilities, and know-how in species conservation.</p> | | | |
| VII) Please provide any other relevant information. | | | |
| <p>In the Philippines, the work programmes on Forest and Mountain Biodiversity have been treated as one due to the fact that most forest areas in the country are located on mountains or highlands.</p> | | | |

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 | | | X |
| 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>There are no explicit targets that have been set to correspond to this global target. However, the country, through several initiatives and processes, has set some national targets as contained in the following documents and or initiatives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Philippine Agenda 21 – under Priority Action Agenda on Biodiversity - The PBCP has identified conservation priority areas include areas with threatened species - There are existing species-specific projects like Phil. Raptors Conservation Project, Pawikan Conservation Project, Tamaraw Conservation Project, Palawan Wildlife Rescue and Conservation Center - There are also other species conservation projects being implemented by PAWB in partnership with various international partners: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Philippine Bleeding Heart Pigeons Conservation Program • Visayan Warty Pig Conservation Program • Philippine Crocodile Captive Breeding and Conservation Program • Cloud Rat Conservation Program • Philippine Cockatoo Conservation Project • Philippine Owl Conservation Program • Philippine Hornbill Conservation Program - Other areas-based projects have components on species diversity conservation (i.e. Samar Island Biodiversity Project, Bohol Marine Triangle Project, Conservation of Tubbataha Reef National Marine Park and World Heritage Site, Sustainable Management of Mt. Isarog Territories, and the Biodiversity Research for Development Project in Mt. Malindang). | | | |
| 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 | No targets. |
| b) Inland water | | X | No species-specific targets although some inland waters were among those classified as KBAs, thus implying the inclusion of species conservation plans in these areas. |
| c) Marine and coastal | X | | Coastal and marine areas for priority conservation are identified in the PBCP; also in the Key Biodiversity Areas |
| d) Dry and subhumid land | X | | To a certain extent as indicated in the NAP (Sustainable Agriculture and Marginal Uplands Development Program and Integrated Ecosystems Management) |
| e) Forest | X | | To a certain extent, as implied in the Revised Master Plan for Forestry Development |

| | | | |
|--|--|--|----------|
| 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 | | | X |
| c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes | | | X |
| Please provide details below. | | | |
| <p>There are no explicit targets for this but the NBSAP and the PBCP emphasizes the importance of conducting studies and implementing appropriate measures to improve the status of threatened species in the country. This is one of the main strategies in both documents.</p> | | | |
| IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target. | | | |
| <p>To date, 491 species from the Philippines are listed in the 2004 IUCN Red List of Threatened Species.</p> <p>A listing of national list of threatened Wild Plants and their Categories in the Philippines has been prepared. It is awaiting approval for implementation from the DENR Secretary through an issuance of a Department Administrative Order.</p> <p>Some relevant targets were set in the Philippine Agenda 21 that has to be revisited because the target dates have already passed and the recommended activities have not yet been implemented.</p> | | | |
| V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target. | | | |
| No indicators currently being used. | | | |
| VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target. | | | |
| <p>Lack of capacity of local stakeholders to integrate recovery strategies with on-ground conservation activities.</p> <p>Lack of information on nationally threatened species at local communities.</p> | | | |
| VII) Please provide any other relevant information. | | | |
| <p>In the Philippines, the work programmes on Forest and Mountain Biodiversity have been treated as one due to the fact that most forest areas in the country are located on mountains or highlands.</p> | | | |

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 | | | X |
| 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>There are no explicit national targets set corresponding to this global target. There are, however, some relevant efforts worth mentioning as described below.</p> <p>The Department of Agriculture put into place a Network of Plant Genetic Resources based at the Bureau of Plant Industry. The Network consists of all DA units such as the Phil Coconut Authority, Fiber Industry Development Council, and others. The Network also coordinates with UPLB Institute for Plant Breeding. The Philippine Rice Research Institute likewise has its own rice genetic resources network with State Colleges and University.</p> <p>The Department of Agriculture is also spearheading the move to ratify the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, so that the country can accede to the Treaty which has been enforced since June 29, 2004. The Treaty has several provisions such as identification, documentation, conservation and utilization of plant genetic resources, farmers rights which are responsibilities of contracting parties and the Multilateral System of Exchange which governs the relations of contracting countries in the access of genetic material. An interim Commission for the Treaty is currently working on the details of the Material Transfer Agreement and the Rules of Procedure.</p> <p>The Philippines regulates the access of genetic material through the Wildlife Protection and Conservation Act implemented by the DENR, DA, Palawan Sustainable Development Council and the Commission on Indigenous Peoples. The Joint IRR of the agencies specifically provides that material sourced from the Philippines covered by relevant international treaties shall not be covered by the country's bioprospecting guidelines.</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 | | Please refer to 3.1.I above |
| b) Inland water | | X | |
| c) Marine and coastal | X | | Please refer to 3.1.I above |
| d) Dry and subhumid land | | X | |
| e) Forest | | X | Please refer to 3.1.I above |

| | | | |
|--|--|--|----------|
| 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 | | | X |
| c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes | | | X |
| Please provide details below. | | | |
| Please refer to 3.1.I above | | | |
| IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target. | | | |
| Please refer to 3.1.I above | | | |
| V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target. | | | |
| No indicators. | | | |
| VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target. | | | |
| Lack of information and coordination among agencies concerned. | | | |
| 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 | X |
| 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>There are no explicit targets that have been set to correspond to the global target on sustainable consumption, thus the answer of "No" in item 4.1.I.a above. However, the country, through several initiatives and processes, has set some specific national targets for item 4.1.I.c as contained in the following documents and or initiatives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - as indicated in the Philippine Agenda 21 (Strategy/Action Agenda E- Promote the development of value-added products and alternative sustainable livelihood activities for bio-resources-dependent communities) - as indicated in the NBSAP and the PBCP - Network of Protected Areas for Agriculture and Agro-Industrial Development (NPAAAD) | |

- Revised Forestry Master Plan for Forestry Development

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 | | As indicated in NPAAAD |
| b) Inland water | | | No information on targets. |
| c) Marine and coastal | X | | No information on targets. |
| d) Dry and subhumid land | X | | As indicated in the NAP (Development of Compendium for Community Defined Useful Plants, Herbs and Wildlife and Their Location, Niches, Habitat as well as their Distribution) |
| e) Forest | X | | As indicated in the Revised Master Plan for Forestry Development |
| 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 | X |
| c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes | X |

Please provide details below.

- As indicated in the Philippine Agenda 21, NBSAP and PBCP, MTPDP, and National Ecotourism Strategy, Revised Master Plan for Forestry Development, Sectoral Plans of the Department of Agriculture

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

Please refer to 4.1.I above

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

No indicators yet – will be developed when corresponding national targets have been refined.

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

There is still no way of determining whether products are derived from sustainable sources.

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 | | X | |
| 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 | | | No information on targets |
| b) Inland water | | | No information on targets |
| c) Marine and coastal | | | No information on targets |
| d) Dry and subhumid land | | | No information on targets |
| e) Forest | | | No information on targets |
| 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 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. | | | |
| The Philippines is a Party to the CITES, thus, the international movement of wildlife and wildlife products for commercial purposes is regulated to meet CITES obligations. | | | |
| 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 | | | No specific targets for the programme of work. |
| b) Inland water | | | No specific targets for the programme of work. |
| c) Marine and coastal | | | No specific targets for the programme of work. |
| d) Dry and subhumid land | | | No specific targets for the programme of work. |
| e) Forest | | | No specific targets for the programme of work. |
| 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 | | X | |
| 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. | | | |
| Please refer to 4.3.I above. | | | |
| V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target. | | | |
| Some of the indicators used for this target include: export permits issued for wildlife; number and type of illegal wildlife trade detected; identification of wildlife endangered by international trade. | | | |
| VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target. | | | |
| Major challenges in the implementation of this target are monitoring and enforcement considering the limited capacity of the country compounded by its archipelagic configuration. | | | |
| 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. | | | |
| <p>There are no explicit targets that have been set to correspond to this global target. However, the country, through several initiatives and processes, has set some national targets as contained in the following documents and or initiatives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Philippine Agenda 21 • National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan and the Philippine Biodiversity Conservation Priorities • National Action Plan to combat desertification, land degradation, drought, and poverty (2004-2010) • The Medium Term Philippine Development Plan for 2004-2010 • Revised Master Plan for Forest Development • Network of Protected Areas for Agriculture and Agro-Industrial Development (NPAAAD) | | | |
| 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 | | Particularly for the Department of Agriculture, there is an existing administrative order which provides that prime irrigated agriculture lands are not to be converted to non-agriculture uses. The prime agricultural lands currently compose the NPAAAD. |
| b) Inland water | X | | As indicated in the National Wetlands Action Plan, also in the PBCP |
| c) Marine and coastal | X | | Coastal and marine areas for priority conservation are identified in the PBCP; also in the Key Biodiversity Areas; and in the proposed Sustainable Philippine Archipelagic Development Framework |
| d) Dry and subhumid land | X | | As indicated in the NAP to combat desertification, land degradation, drought, and poverty (2004-2010) |
| e) Forest | X | | As indicated in the Revised Master Plan for Forestry Development |
| 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 | X |
| c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes | X |
| Please provide details below. | |
| Please refer to 5.1.I above. | |
| IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target. | |
| <p>The Philippine NBSAP has identified the priority areas for conservation in its second iteration (Philippine Biodiversity Conservation Priorities). However, it did not set time-bound targets nor indicators but serves as a guide when identifying areas for conservation.</p> <p>The Medium Term Philippine Development Plan has set time-bound targets for the period 2004-2010 as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delineate 6.336 million hectares nationwide for protection <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conduct assessment and classification of 57 caves - Manage 39 priority wetlands - Develop protected area management plans for areas for protection • Develop Protected Areas into viable management areas <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conduct zoning of 77 Protected Areas to delineate areas suitable for development (i.e. buffer and multiple-use zones) - Promote ecotourism in 29 Protected Areas that are included in the National Ecotourism Master Plan - Conduct carrying capacity studies for 29 protected areas, especially those that will host development projects - Develop Ninoy Aquino Parks and Wildlife Nature Center into a premier ecological destination and People's Center in Metro Manila. • Clearly delineate areas for protection, exploration and utilization through the survey and mapping of maritime zones starting in 2005 with particular emphasis on expediting the delineation of municipal waters in coastal areas with offshore islands. <p>These targets are further elaborated on in the DENR Sectoral Plans and Programs as indicated in their Major Final Outputs/General Plan of Action.</p> | |
| V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target. | |
| No indicators currently in use. | |
| VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target. | |
| Challenges in the implementation of this target are lack of political will to impose decisions that are not politically motivated especially when it comes to conflicting resource uses, i.e. biodiversity vs. mining. | |
| 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 | | | 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>There are no information on targets for this goal. Currently, national measures are the existence of the National Committee on Biosafety of the Philippines regulates the entry of potentially harmful exotic species. The NCBP is an inter-agency body consisting of technical representatives of the DOST, DA, DENR, and DOH and other scientists. Likewise, the Bureau of Plant Industry has its Crop Protection Division and Plant Quarantine.</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 | | | |
| 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 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. | | | |
| | | | |
| 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 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 | | | X |
| 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 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 | | X | |
| 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>There are no explicit targets that have been set to correspond to the global target to reduce pollution and its impacts on biodiversity. However, the country, through several initiatives and processes, has set some specific national or sectoral targets have been set such as in the MTPDP and the DENR Sectoral General Plan of Action.</p> <p>The Clean Water Act of Republic Act 9275 institutionalizes the Environmental User's Fee System (EUFS) with the twin objectives of reducing water pollution and providing incentives to industries to comply with national regulations. The DENR EMB conducts regular monitoring of water bodies for best usage classification. The Laguna Lake Development Authority, aside from pioneering the implementation of the EUFS likewise conducts regular monitoring of the water quality of the lake including the rivers that drain to it. Pasig River is regularly monitored by the Pasig River Rehabilitation Commission which also employs other means of reducing pollution like for example relocating informal settlers from the river banks.</p> <p>Other relevant legislations are the Clean Air Act of 1999 (RA 8749) and the Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2002 (RA 9003).</p> <p>On the other hand, Department of Agriculture (DA) is more concerned with the impact of pollution on food safety, for example pesticide residues, lead in fish etc. The other relevant agency under the DA is the Bureau of Agriculture and Fishery Product Standards which is a standard setting body. The DA likewise participates in the international sessions of important committees of the Codex Alimentarius Committee which is a standard setting body for food standards</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 | | Please refer to 7.2.I above |
| b) Inland water | X | | Please refer to 7.2.I above |
| c) Marine and coastal | X | | Please refer to 7.2.I above |
| d) Dry and subhumid land | X | | No available information on targets. |
| e) Forest | | | No available information on targets. |
| 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 | X |
| c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes | X |
| Please provide details below. | |
| This concern is covered in the strategies of the NBSAP and the DENR Sectoral General Plan of Action. | |
| IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target. | |
| Please refer to 7.2.I above | |
| V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target. | |
| No information on indicators. | |
| VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target. | |
| The main challenge in the implementation of this article is the lack of warm bodies in the concerned national and regional agencies for monitoring and enforcement. | |
| 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. | | | |
| The strategy of establishing a network of protected areas system is the centerpiece response of the country to this goal. Although there are no explicit targets set corresponding to this global target, the MTPDP includes activities that support the maintenance of ecosystems capacity to deliver goods and services. These are also elaborated on in the DENR Sectoral General Plan of Action (GPOA). | | | |
| 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 | | Through the NPAAD. |
| b) Inland water | X | | As indicated in the National Wetlands Action Plan, MTPDP, GPOA |
| c) Marine and coastal | X | | As indicated in the NPAAD, NIPAS and Framework for Sustainable Philippine Archipelagic Development |

| | | | |
|---|----------|--|--|
| d) Dry and subhumid land | | | As indicated in the NAP |
| e) Forest | X | | As indicated in the Revised Master Plan for Forest Development |
| 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 | | | X |
| c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes | | | X |
| Please provide details below. | | | |
| Identified as main strategies in the NBSAP and in the DENR GPOA. | | | |
| IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target. | | | |
| Please refer to 8.1.I above. | | | |
| V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target. | | | |
| Biodiversity Indicators for National Use (BINu) for marine and coastal species; Biodiversity Monitoring System for protected areas and Philippine Criteria and Indicators for Sustainable Forest Management | | | |
| VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target. | | | |
| Lack of capacity to undertake carrying capacity studies. | | | |
| VII) Please provide any other relevant information. | | | |
| | | | |

Box XVII.

| | | | |
|---|--|--|----------|
| Target 8.2 | Biological resources that support sustainable livelihood, 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 | | | X |
| b) Yes, the same as the global target | | | |
| c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established | | | X |
| Please provide details below. | | | |
| There are no explicit targets that have been set to correspond to this global target, thus the answer of "No" in item 8.2.I.a above. However, the country, through several initiatives and processes, has set some specific national or sectoral targets (Yes for item 8.2.I.c) as contained in the following documents and or initiatives: | | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Indigenous crops have been identified and the DA-BAR is currently working out a project for in-situ conservation of indigenous crops. - Establishment of municipal fish sanctuaries to ensure source of fish for restocking | | | |

- Controlling fish cages establishment in lakes and rivers
- Community-Based Forestry Management, where forestry management is the collaborative undertaking of national government, LGUs, local peoples, community organizations, civil society organizations and private business entities. Local cultures, traditions, local beliefs, and the rights of indigenous peoples to their rights and domains as promoted and/or designed by existing legislations shall be recognized and respected in all forestry undertakings.
- Republic Act 8423 (R.A. 8423) otherwise known as the Traditional and Alternative Medicine Act (TAMA) of 1997 gave rise to the creation of the Philippine Institute of Traditional and Alternative Health Care (PITAHC), a government owned and controlled corporation (GOCC) attached to the DOH to answer the present needs of the people on health care through the provision and delivery of traditional and alternative health care (TAHC) products, services and technologies that have been proven safe, effective and affordable. One of PITAHC's objectives is too formulate policies for the protection of indigenous and natural health resources and technology from unwarranted exploitation, for approval and adoption by the appropriate government agencies.

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 | | Please refer to 8.2.I above. |
| b) Inland water | X | | Please refer to 8.2.I above. |
| c) Marine and coastal | X | | Please refer to 8.2.I above. |
| d) Dry and subhumid land | X | | Please refer to 8.2.I above. |
| e) Forest | X | | Please refer to 8.2.I above. |
| 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 | X |
| c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes | X |

Please provide details below.

Please refer to 8.2.I above.

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

Please refer to 8.2.I above.

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

No indicators currently being used.

| |
|--|
| VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target. |
| There are several policy-based issues that pose as challenges to the implementation of this article. An example is that policies on food security and biodiversity conservation has to be harmonized. |
| 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 | | | |
| Please provide details below. | | | |
| <p>There are no explicit targets that have been set to correspond to this global target, thus the answer of "No" in item 9.1.I.a above. There are also no targets at the national level but there are policies and initiatives that are directed towards protecting traditional knowledge, innovations and practices. Some of these are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Wildlife Resources Protection and Conservation Act or RA 9147 regulates access to genetic resources. - The Implementing Rules and Regulations (Joint DENR-DA-PCSD-NCIP Administrative Order No. 01 entitled Guidelines for Bioprospecting Activity in the Philippines approved on January 14, 2005) provides separate regulations for access for purposes of scientific research and commercial research (bioprospecting). - The Indigenous Peoples Right Law (IPRA Law) protects the right of the indigenous people to exclude others in exploiting natural resources within their ancestral domain. Before any person is allowed access to these resources, free and prior informed consent of the community obtained in accordance to the customary laws, is required. The regulations governing bioprospecting further require that benefits derived from the utilization of biological and genetic resources shall be shared fairly and equitable with the community. - Republic Act 8423 (R.A. 8423) otherwise known as the Traditional and Alternative Medicine Act (TAMA) of 1997 gave rise to the creation of the Philippine Institute of Traditional and Alternative Health Care (PITAHC), a government owned and controlled corporation (GOCC) attached to the DOH to answer the present needs of the people on health care through the provision and delivery of traditional and alternative health care (TAHC) products, services and technologies that have been proven safe, effective and affordable. One of PITAHC's objectives is too formulate policies for the protection of indigenous and natural health resources and technology from unwarranted exploitation, for approval and adoption by the appropriate government agencies. | | | |
| 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 | | | |
| 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. | | | |
| Incorporated in the NBSAP and in the plans of the NCIP. | | | |
| IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target. | | | |
| Please refer to 9.1.I above. | | | |
| V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target. | | | |
| No indicators currently used. | | | |
| VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target. | | | |
| Lack of coordination among concerned agencies that work with IPs and lack of capacity (funds and human resources) of the National Commission for Indigenous Peoples to implement such activities. | | | |
| 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 | |
| b) Yes, the same as the global target | |
| c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established | |
| X | |
| Please provide details below. | |
| There is no explicit national target corresponding to this global target, however, there are policies and initiatives relevant to its achievement. Examples are cited below: | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Wildlife Resources Protection and Conservation Act or RA 9147 regulates access to genetic resources. | |

- The Implementing Rules and Regulations (Joint DENR-DA-PCSD-NCIP Administrative Order No. 01 entitled Guidelines for Bioprospecting Activity in the Philippines approved on January 14, 2005) provides separate regulations for access for purposes of scientific research and commercial research (bioprospecting).
- The Indigenous Peoples Right Law (IPRA Law) protects the right of the indigenous people to exclude others in exploiting natural resources within their ancestral domain. Before any person is allowed access to these resources, free and prior informed consent of the community obtained in accordance to the customary laws, is required. The regulations governing bioprospecting further require that benefits derived from the utilization of biological and genetic resources shall be shared fairly and equitable with the community.
- Republic Act 8423 (R.A. 8423) otherwise known as the Traditional and Alternative Medicine Act (TAMA) of 1997 gave rise to the creation of the Philippine Institute of Traditional and Alternative Health Care (PITAHC), a government owned and controlled corporation (GOCC) attached to the DOH to answer the present needs of the people on health care through the provision and delivery of traditional and alternative health care (TAHC) products, services and technologies that have been proven safe, effective and affordable. One of PITAHC's objectives is to formulate policies for the protection of indigenous and natural health resources and technology from unwarranted exploitation, for approval and adoption by the appropriate government agencies.

Additionally, the Plant Variety Protection Act has provided that local communities can document various plant material into a registry of commonly known, publicly-used plant genetic resources. This registry will protect the use of these varieties.

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 | Please refer to 9.2.I above. |
| b) Inland water | | X | Please refer to 9.2.I above. |
| c) Marine and coastal | | X | Please refer to 9.2.I above. |
| d) Dry and subhumid land | | X | Please refer to 9.2.I above. |
| e) Forest | | X | Please refer to 9.2.I above. |
| 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 | X |
| c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes | X |

Please provide details below.

Incorporated in the NBSAP and the plans and programs of the NCIP.

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

Please refer to 9.2.I above.

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

No indicators currently used.

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

Lack of coordination among concerned agencies that work with IPs and lack of capacity (funds and human resources) of the National Commission for Indigenous Peoples to implement such activities.

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. | | | |
| There are no targets for this even at the national level. However, the policy on transfer of genetic resources in the country are in line with the Convention on Biological Diversity and the FAO International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources. | | | |
| The FAO International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for food and agriculture provides a system of benefit sharing from the commercialization of material developed from the use of resources found in the Multi-lateral System of Exchange, as elaborated in the Material Transfer Agreement. | | | |
| 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 | | | |
| 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. | | | |
| This is covered in one of the strategies of the NBSAP. | | | |
| IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target. | | | |
| Please refer to 10.1.I above. | | | |
| V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target. | | | |
| No indicators currently in use. | | | |
| VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target. | | | |
| Lack of coordination mechanism in place among concerned agencies. There is also lack of understanding on the subject among implementers. | | | |
| 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>There are no explicit targets for this but progress on access and benefit sharing were achieved in terms of policy. The Wildlife Resources Protection and Conservation Act or RA 9147 provides for regulating access to genetic resources. The Implementing Rules and Regulations (Joint DENR-DA-PCSD-NCIP Administrative Order No. 01 entitled Guidelines for Bioprospecting Activity in the Philippines approved on January 14, 2005) provide separate regulations for access for purposes of scientific research and commercial research (bioprospecting). This is of course complemented by the Indigenous Peoples Right Act (IPRA Law of RA 8371) which protects the right of the indigenous people to exclude others in exploiting natural resources within their ancestral domain. This means that before any person is allowed access to these resources, free and prior informed consent of the community obtained in accordance to the customary laws, is required. The regulations governing bioprospecting further require that benefits derived from the utilization of biological and genetic resources shall be shared fairly and equitable with the community.</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 | | | |
| 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 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 | |
| b) Yes, the same as the global target | |
| c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established | |

| Please provide details below. | | | |
|---|-----|----|---------|
| Not applicable | | | |
| 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 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 | |
| c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established | |
| Please provide details below. | |

Not applicable

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.

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>Some of the current efforts include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initiated the preparation of a Flora of the Philippines project through the National Museum, Botany Division in 1990. The flora will cover the flowering plants, (ca. 8,000 species). The first volume is now in preparation. • The Protected Areas and Wildlife of the DENR is preparing a national list of threatened Wild Plants and their Categories in the Philippines • Preparation of a Philippine Plant Conservation Strategy and Action Plan | |
| 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>This is one of the major strategies in the NBSAP. (Strategy I: Expanding and Improving Knowledge on the Characteristics, Uses and Values of Biological Diversity)</p> | |
| III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target) | |
| <p>A preliminary checklist of Philippine Flowering Plants is being prepared.</p> <p>A listing of national list of threatened Wild Plants and their Categories in the Philippines has been prepared. It is awaiting approval from the DENR Secretary through an issuance of a Department Administrative Order.</p> | |
| IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target) | |
| <p>Formulation of policy (DAO) on Establishing national list of threatened Wild Plants and their Categories in the Philippines is still in its final stages.</p> | |

| |
|---|
| V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target) |
| No indicators currently used. |
| VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target |
| Main problem is lack of funds, facilities and technically qualified warm bodies to do inventory and activities related to such. |
| 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 | X |
| b) No | |
| Please specify | |
| Preliminary assessment is being done to a a limited extent through the National Committee on Plant Conservation spearheaded by the DENR-PAWB who prepared the National List of Threatened Plants and the Philippine Plant Conservation Strategy. | |
| II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies? | |
| a) Yes | X |
| b) No | |
| Please specify | |
| This is one of the major strategies in the NBSAP. (Strategy I: Expanding and Improving Knowledge on the Characteristics, Uses and Values of Biological Diversity) | |
| III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target) | |
| The National List of Threatened Plants has been completed and is now awaiting approval for subsequent implementation. | |
| IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target) | |
| On 20 January 2003, Special Order No. 2003-32 was issued formally creating the Philippine Plant Conservation Committee. This committee is chaired by the PAWB Director and composed of plant experts in the country. It is tasked primarily to develop the Philippine Plant Conservation Strategy and Action Plan. | |

| |
|---|
| V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target) |
| No indicators currently being used. |
| VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target |
| Lack of funds to support assessment activities. Lack of taxonomists/plant experts to implement activities. Lack of framework for plant taxonomic research in the country. |
| 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 | |
| This has been incorporated in to the Philippine Plant Conservation Strategy and Action Plan. | |
| III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target) | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - This target has been incorporated in the Philippine Plant Conservation Strategy and Action Plan. - Some initiatives were made by the National Museum, Botany Division on developing protocols for conservation of threatened plants, e.g. <i>Phoenix loureiroi</i>, <i>Tectona philippinensis</i>, <i>Cycas chamberlainii</i> | |
| IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target) | |
| The establishment of the Philippine Plant Conservation Committee, the development of the Philippine Plant Conservation Strategy and Action Plan and the establishment of the National List of Threatened Plants are significant steps in the achievement of this target. | |
| V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target) | |
| No indicators currently used. | |

| |
|--|
| VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target |
| Constraints include the capacity to develop models with protocols for plant conservation and sustainable use. There is also a need to involve more plant conservation experts. |
| 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 PBCP has identified a total of 206 Conservation Priority Areas (CPAs), of which, 170 are terrestrial and 36 are marine. The MTPDP has also set national targets relevant to this global GSPC target. | |
| II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies? | |
| a) Yes | X |
| b) No | |
| Please specify | |
| National targets are in the NBSAP/PBCP, MTPDP, and PA21. | |
| III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target) | |
| To date, 99 protected areas covering a total area of approximately 3.2 million hectares have been established under the NIPAS through presidential proclamation. Sixty-nine (69) of these protected areas covering approximately 1.6 million hectares are terrestrial representing the various vegetation types of the country. | |
| IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target) | |
| There is a comprehensive set of laws and policies supporting the implementation of activities to achieve this target, i.e. NIPAS Law that sets forth the establishment of protected areas in the country to conserve biodiversity. The IRR of this law is currently being reviewed in light experiences in more than a decade of implementation. | |
| V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target) | |
| No indicators currently being used to measure progress towards target. Although there are already declared protected areas, there is still no study to show that these are being managed effectively. | |

| |
|---|
| VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target |
| The main constraint is the lack of political will to implement the NIPAS Law especially in areas where there are resource use conflicts. Another is the lack of valuation studies that would support the implementation of the provisions of the NIPAS Law. |
| 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 | |
| The PBCP identified 43 priority areas for plant conservation (or important plant areas) and 19 terrestrial biodiversity corridors based on their biological importance and degree of socio-economic pressure exerted on said areas. | |
| 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 Philippines is involved in the Important Plant Areas project by PlantLife International with funding from GEF. It is also a main consideration in the preparation of the Philippine Plant Conservation Strategy and Action Plan. | |
| III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target) | |

The country has prepared a Philippine Plant Conservation Strategy and Action Plan. One of its strategy is to Conserve important plant areas in the Philippines and plant species of direct importance to human societies. The action activities identified are to:

1. Formulate criteria for identification of Important Plant Sites (IPS) or Important Plant Areas (IPA);
2. Identify and designate Important Plant Sites (IPS) or Important Plant Areas (IPA) or *In-Situ* Plant Conservation Centers;
3. Develop and implement conservation and management plan for each of the designated IPS. Such plan must include mechanisms that will ensure active participation of concerned local government units and other stakeholders; and,
4. Identify key plant species that will serve as emblem of plant conservation in each region of the country.

At least 6 areas in the country are listed in the Centers of Plant Diversity published by IUCN,WWF in 1995. More areas need to be assessed for Critical Plant Sites. The IPA project to be funded by GEF is a major step towards identifying these sites. Some of the important plant areas are presently inside protected areas and, are therefore, assured of protection. Other Important Plant Areas in the Philippines that are outside protected areas need to be declared officially as protected areas too.

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

Some of the important steps taken to achieve the target include the identification of the 43 priority areas plant conservation (or important plant areas) through the PBCP and the involvement of the country the Important Plant Areas project by PlantLife International with funding from GEF. The establishment of the Philippine Plant Conservation Committee and the development of the Philippine Plant Conservation Strategy and Action are likewise significant steps in the achievement of this target.

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

There are no indicators to monitor progress towards target and the establishment of the Philippine Plant Conservation Committee as well as the development of the Philippine Plant Conservation Strategy and Action Plan are very recent initiatives

VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target

The Philippine Plant Conservation Strategy and Action Plan has not yet been institutionalized although it has already been launched. There is a need for more promotion and advocacy on the said action plan.

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 | X |
| b) No | |
| Please specify | |
| This target is covered to a certain extent through the establishment of a Network of Protected Areas for Agriculture and Agro-Industrial Development (NPAAAD) of the Department of Agriculture and through the Revised Master Plan for Forestry Development of the DENR. | |
| II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies? | |
| a) Yes | X |
| b) No | |
| Please specify | |
| This has been taken into consideration in the NPAAD and in the Philippine Plant Conservation Strategy and Action Plan. The latter has identified a strategy to promote sustainable production and utilization of plant resources. | |
| III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target) | |
| Sustainable Forest Management principles are central to the implementation of the Revised Master Plan for Forestry Development. There are however no specific information as on the implementation of this Plan as well as the NPAAAD with regards to aspects on plant diversity conservation practices. | |
| IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target) | |
| No indicators used to measure progress towards target. | |
| V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target) | |
| | |
| VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target | |
| There is a need to ensure that the Philippine Plant Conservation Strategy and Action Plan, being a recent document, be incorporated in the overall implementation scheme of both the NPAAAD and the Revised Master Plan for Forestry Development which are both production-oriented plans. | |
| 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 | |
| To a certain extent, although no explicit targets have yet been set corresponding to the global target. The in-situ conservation of the world's threatened plant species is taken into consideration in setting forth the policy on Integrated Protected Areas Management System through the NIPAS Law, the formulation of the NBSAP and PBCP, as well as the targets set in the MTPDP and the DENR Sectoral General Plan of Action. More recently, conservation of threatened plant species have been given more emphasis through the Philippine Plant Conservation strategy and Action Plan. | |
| 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 in-situ conservation of the world's threatened plant species is taken into consideration in setting forth the policy on Integrated Protected Areas Management System through the NIPAS Law, the formulation of the NBSAP and PBCP, as well as the targets set in the MTPDP and the DENR Sectoral General Plan of Action. More recently, conservation of threatened plant species have been given more emphasis through the Philippine Plant Conservation strategy and Action Plan. | |
| III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target) | |
| Though many of the threatened plants are found in declared protected areas in the country there is yet to be a thorough inventory of the endangered species in these areas. | |
| The establishment of the Philippine Plant Conservation Committee, the development of the Philippine Plant Conservation Strategy and Action Plan and the establishment of the National List of Threatened Plants are significant steps in the achievement of 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 establishment of the Philippine Plant Conservation Committee, the development of the Philippine Plant Conservation Strategy and Action Plan and the establishment of the National List of Threatened Plants are significant steps in the achievement of this target. | |
| V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target) | |
| There is a proposed Department Administrative Order to approve and implement the National List of Threatened Plants. | |
| VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target | |
| The National List of Threatened Plants have yet to be approved for implementation. | |
| 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 | X |
| b) No | |
| Please specify | |
| To a certain extent, the country has policies and strategies that contribute to the achievement of this global target. These are embodied in the NBSAP/PBCP, MTPDP and the DENR Sectoral General Plan of Action. | |
| II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies? | |
| a) Yes | X |
| b) No | |
| Please specify | |
| Aside from general provisions in the national plans mentioned in 8.I, the Philippine Plant Conservation Strategy and Action Plan has identified the documentation of Philippine plant diversity including its uses and distribution in the wild, in-situ within and outside protected areas and in ex-situ collections. The Plan aims to establish and maintain ex-situ conservation center of wild plants. | |
| III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target) | |
| There are threatened plants that are conserved in botanic gardens, nurseries, arboreta, etc. There are some species, e.g. orchids (e.g. <i>Vanda sanderiana</i> ,), <i>Tectona philippinensis</i> , native palms (e.g. <i>Phoenix loureiroi</i>), Dipterocarps that have been included in recovery and restoration programmes (e.g. projects by DENR UPLB, National Museum, etc.) | |
| IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target) | |
| Completion of the National List of Threatened Plants. | |
| V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target) | |
| No indicators to measure progress. | |
| VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target | |
| Lacks list complete list of threatened plant species for propagation purposes as stipulated in the Wildlife Act. The National List of Threatened Plants has yet to be approved for implementation. | |
| 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

Please specify

No information available on targets although the Bureau of Plant Industry and the Philippine Institute for Traditional and Alternative Health Care have mandates for this. The conservation of genetic pool of important crops such as rice, banana, and papaya among others are being done by IRRI and PhilRice, UPLB National Crop Protection Center, Philippine Coconut Authority, Bureau of Agricultural Research, and other academic and research institutions.

II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?

a) Yes

b) No

Please specify

Several government agencies and academic institutions are involved in this aspect (please refer to 9.I).

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 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 | |
| No available information on targets or strategies on this aspect. | |
| 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) | |
| There is limited information on alien species as well as limited studies and interventions. | |
| 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 information on the subject, | |
| 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 | X |
| b) No | |
| Please specify | |
| The Philippines is party to the CITES. PAWB, as the management authority, also enforces the CITES which regulate international trade of endangered plants. | |
| II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies? | |
| a) Yes | X |
| b) No | |
| Please specify | |
| PAWB, as the management authority, also enforces the CITES which regulate international trade of endangered plants. The target is that no species under CITES exported outside the country without permits | |
| III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target) | |
| PAWB, as the management authority, also enforces the CITES which regulate international trade of endangered plants. PAWB ,DENR, PCSD are implementing the Wildlife Conservation Act which regulates international trading of wild species of plants. | |
| IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target) | |
| CITES permitting system is in place. There is an Interagency Wildlife Management Committee that review applications for permits and Wildlife Enforcement Officers that monitor implementation. | |
| V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target) | |
| Strict enforcement of permitting system. | |
| VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target | |
| Capacity of enforcement officers in monitoring implementation partly due to lack of mechanism and coordination among concerned agencies and lack of modern equipment and tools. | |
| 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 | |
| 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 | |
| The Philippine Plant Conservation Strategy and Action Plan aims to halt the current loss of Philippine plant diversity to ensure its perpetual existence essential to meet the future needs of the Filipino people and the global community. This is also supported by the Traditional and Alternative Medicine Act. | |
| II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies? | |
| a) Yes | X |
| b) No | |
| Please specify | |
| This is also supported by the Traditional and Alternative Medicine Act and the IPRA Law. | |
| 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) | |
| No indicators to monitor progress. | |
| 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 | X |
| b) No | |
| Please specify | |
| This is incorporated in the National Strategy for Plant 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 | |
| This is incorporated in the National Strategy for Plant Conservation. | |
| III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target) | |
| There are very limited efforts to disseminate information specific to plant biodiversity conservation. | |
| IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target) | |
| Incorporation as a major strategy in the National Strategy for Plant Conservation. | |
| V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target) | |
| | |
| VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target | |
| CEPA activities have not been given enough funding. | |
| 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 | X |
| b) No | |
| Please specify | |
| Capacity development is one of the strategies in the National Plant Conservation Strategy and Action Plan. | |
| II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies? | |
| a) Yes | X |
| b) No | |
| Please specify | |
| Capacity development is one of the strategies in the National Plant Conservation Strategy and Action Plan. | |
| III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target) | |
| There are very few people, i.e. scientists, researchers, teachers, technicians, that have special training in plant conservation in the Philippines. Example of training courses available are: De La Salle University offers a formal course on Plant Conservation in its Graduate Study Program. The National Museum, Botany Division conducts training course on Plant Conservation Principles and Techniques from time to time. Two such courses have been offered in the past years. | |
| IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target) | |
| A preliminary assessment of the country's taxonomic needs have been undertaken (please refer to Article 7) | |
| V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target) | |
| A preliminary assessment of the country's taxonomic needs have been undertaken. | |
| VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target | |
| Lack of funds is a basic problem. | |
| 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 | X |
| b) No | |
| Please specify | |
| This is covered in the strategies of the National Plant Conservation Strategy and Action Plan. | |
| II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies? | |
| a) Yes | X |
| b) No | |
| Please specify | |
| This is covered in the strategies of the National Plant Conservation Strategy and Action Plan. | |
| III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target) | |
| The Plan has just been completed and has not been implemented. | |
| 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 | |
| The Plan has just been completed and has to be officially approved for implementation. | |
| 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. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 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 | |
| b) No, but application is under consideration | |
| c) Yes, some aspects are being applied | |
| d) Yes, substantially implemented | X |

| | |
|---|----------|
| 4. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 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 | |
| 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 | X |

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 | |
| b) Yes, within the country | X |
| c) Yes, including providing support to other Parties | X |

| | |
|---|----------|
| 6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 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) | X |
| Further comments on regional cooperation in applying the ecosystem approach across national borders. | |
| The implementation of protected areas in the Philippines promotes regional cooperation in applying the ecosystem approach across national borders. Examples are the following: | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Tanon Strait covering Regions 6 and 7 b) Mt. Apo National Park covering more than one province c) Samar Island National Park straddling more than one province | |
| The mechanism for cooperation is through the PAMB. | |

| | |
|--|----------|
| 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 | |
| c) Yes, some programmes are being implemented (please provide details below) | X |
| 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. | |
| To a limited extent, through: | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - IEC component of major programs - exchange of information during workshops - NCSA project and enabling activity project | |

| | |
|---|----------|
| 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) | |
| d) Yes, comprehensive policies and programmes are in place (please provide details below) | X |
| Further comments on the creation of an enabling environment for the implementation of the ecosystem approach. | |
| Philippine Agenda 21, The Medium Term Philippine Development Plan, the NABSAP and PBCP, and the NAP. | |

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) | X |
| c) Yes, multilateral cooperation (please give details below) | X |
| d) Yes, regional and/or subregional cooperation (please give details below) | X |
| e) Yes, other forms of cooperation (please give details below) | X |
| Further comments on cooperation with other Parties in respect of areas beyond national jurisdiction for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity. | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One of the main strategies under the Philippine NBSAP is to advocate stronger international cooperation on biodiversity conservation through a) the fulfillment of Philippine commitments to international agreements and the related creation of oversight institutions; b) strengthening of NGO linkages with their international counterparts; c) establishment of the ASEAN Regional Center for Biodiversity Conservation; d) establishment of a pool of Filipino experts in biodiversity. • Bilateral Cooperation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MOU on the Conservation and Management of Marine Turtles and Their Habitats of the Indian Ocean and Southeast Asia (MT-IOSEA) Joint management of the Turtle Islands Heritage Protected Areas (TIHPA) which is the world's first transfrontier PA for marine turtles and the only major rookery of green turtles in the ASEAN region. The TIHPA is composed of six islands from the Philippines (Baguan, Langaan, Taganak, Great Nakkugan, Lihiman, and Boan) and three islands from Malaysia (Selingan, Glisaan, and Bakkungan Kenchil). • Multilateral cooperation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aside from the CBD, the Philippines is a signatory to these various international conventions | |

and other international agreements that are concerned with the conservation of biodiversity:

- Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals
- Convention on International Trade of Endangered Species of Flora and Fauna
- Convention on Wetlands of International Importance
- Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage of the World Heritage Convention
- UN Convention on the Law of the Sea

- Regional Cooperation

- Activities under the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Committee on Nature Conservation and Biodiversity
- Seascapes: Securing Globally Important Marine Ecosystems (Sulu Sulawesi Seascape) (Philippines, Indonesia and Malaysia),
- Sustainable Development Strategy for the Seas of East Asia (GEF/UNDP/IMO Regional Programme on Partnerships in Environmental Management for the Seas of East Asia)

As an ASEAN-member nation, the Philippines for the past four years had been active in its biodiversity conservation programs. Among the important activities undertaken under this partnership are a) the establishment of links and cooperation through the ASEAN Regional Center for Biodiversity Conservation, and, b) membership in the ASEAN Working Group on Nature Conservation and Biodiversity

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 | |
| c) Yes, some mechanisms and networks have been established (please provide details below) | X |
| d) Yes, existing mechanisms have been strengthened (please provide details below) | X |

Further comments on development of regional, subregional or bioregional mechanisms and networks to support implementation of the Convention.

Mechanisms and Networks developed and/or strengthened:

- ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations)
As an ASEAN-member nation, the Philippines for the past four years had been active in its biodiversity conservation programs. Among the important activities undertaken under this partnership are a) the establishment of links and cooperation through the ASEAN Regional Center for Biodiversity Conservation (ARCBC), and, b) membership in the ASEAN Working Group on Nature Conservation and Biodiversity
- GEF/UNDP/IMO Regional Programme on Partnerships in Environmental Management for the Seas of East Asia for supporting the development of the Sustainable Development Strategy for the Seas of East Asia. The Strategy has been adopted in principle by an Intergovernmental Meeting in March 2002 is expected to be collectively and individually adopted by concerned countries to commit to its implementation. This was one of the motivations for the formulation of the proposed Framework for Sustainable Philippine Archipelagic Development.
- Seascapes: Securing Globally Important Marine Ecosystems (Sulu Sulawesi Seascape) (Philippines, Indonesia and Malaysia). The overall vision for this project is to ensure the

conservation of the full range of marine biodiversity in the Sulu-Sulawesi Seascape. In the three-year period covered, Conservation International will work toward achieving this vision by: (1) engaging the world's leading marine scientists to identify quantifiable targets—conservation outcomes—that will be the basis for all of our strategic decision-making; (2) developing a seascape strategy and management plan with our partners that builds on existing plans and institutions; and (3) building capacity for marine conservation in our partners by providing technical and financial support.

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.

Initiatives to harmonize national policies and programmes, with the end-in-view of optimizing policy coherence, synergies and efficiency in the implementation of various MEAs and other relevant initiatives at the national level were largely parts of processes and products in the crafting of landmark documents such as:

- National Capacity Needs Self-Assessment (NCSA) Document
- IRR of the Wildlife Act
- National Biosafety Framework for the Philippines
- Framework for Sustainable Philippine Archipelagic Development
- Philippine National Action Plan to Combat Desertification, Land Degradation, Drought, and Poverty

Additionally, a study was undertaken to look at mechanisms that will promote synergy in implementation of the commitments to the MEAS where the Philippines is a signatory.

Box XLI.

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.

Harmonizing policies and programmes at the national level will optimize use of resources earmarked for biodiversity conservation and promote the achievement of 2010 targets as well as the MDG.


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) | |
| d) Yes, comprehensive strategies, plans and programmes are in place (please provide details below) | X |

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

The implementation of the three objectives of the CBD is firmly embedded in the Philippine Agenda 21, the Medium Term Philippine Development Plan (2004-2010), the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) and its second iteration, the Philippine Biodiversity Conservation Priorities and other sectoral plans and programs. The implementation of the Strategic Environment Plan (SEP) of Palawan is a good example of how national policy frameworks can be adopted at the local level.

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 | |
| d) Yes, relevant targets are in place (please provide details below) | X |
| 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.

Strategies and action plans for biodiversity conservation have been identified in the Philippine NBSAP. However, a major shortcoming of the document is its lack of targets and indicators as well as a clear-cut implementing mechanism. The Philippine Biodiversity Conservation Priorities which was endorsed by the government to the CBD Secretariat as the second iteration to the NBSAP improved the document by refining the strategies and identifying priority conservation areas but again failed to come up with time-bound targets. These two documents, however, remain to serve as guides or frameworks for biodiversity conservation in the country.

The Medium Term Philippine Development Plan for 2004-2010 has set relevant targets for biodiversity conservation in the country. These are articulated in the Sectoral Plans and Programs of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources where targets are set on a per agency and major final output basis.

To fully implement the NBSAP/PBCP, it is imperative that both documents be reviewed periodically taking into consideration national priorities and commitments to the CBD (including the incorporation of thematic programmes of work and biodiversity 2010 targets). In doing so, measurable targets and indicators for monitoring and evaluation have to be established to ensure that the goals of the NBSAP/PBCP is achieved. An implementing mechanism that defines clear-cut process, tasking,

financing and feedback mechanism has to be designed and institutionalized. This can largely be solved through strengthening coordinative mechanisms among the key players in biodiversity conservation in the country.

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.

Priority actions have been identified in the Philippine Agenda 21, the NBSAP and the PBCP. More recently, these were reflected in the Medium Term Philippine Development Plan for 2004-2010.

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.

The sustainable use of biodiversity as well as benefit sharing has been integrated into relevant sectoral policies, plans and programmes, to wit:

Policies

- RA 9147 or the Wildlife Act. It aims to conserve and protect wildlife species and their habitats, regulate the collection and trade of wildlife, pursue the Philippine commitments to related international conventions, and initiate or support scientific studies on the conservation of biological diversity.
- Republic Act 8371 otherwise known as the Indigenous People’s Rights Act (IPRA), provided for the promotion and protection of the rights of the IPs/ICCs related to their Indigenous Knowledge Systems and Practices (IKSP).
- Joint DENR-DA-PCSD-NCIP Administrative Order No. 01 entitled Guidelines for Bioprospecting Activity in the Philippines approved on January 14, 2005) provides equitable sharing scheme for benefits derived from bioprospecting activities among the government and the resource providers.

Plans and Programs

- The National Biodiversity Action Plan (NBSAP)

The NBSAP was adopted in 1997. The action plan identified strategies and specific priority projects that should be integrated in the sectoral plans and programs of government agencies. The national planning agency had been using the NBSAP as the main reference document for approving and rationalizing projects and proposals on biodiversity.

- National Biodiversity Conservation Priority-Setting Program for the Philippines (PBCP)
- A Philippine Biodiversity Conservation Priority-Setting Program (PBCPP) was implemented in the past two years to identify, assess and prioritize specific geographic areas for biodiversity conservation in the Philippines and the strategic actions needed to conserve Philippine Biodiversity. The results of the PBCPP shall be incorporated in the work programs such as in Land Use Planning, Physical Framework Development Plan and other development plans of government agencies.
- National Wetland Action Plan
- This document provides a framework for actions by all concerned and relevant institutions, both government and non-government, to protect wetlands and to use their resources sustainably.
- National Ecotourism Strategy
- This document provides the framework for sustainable ecotourism development.

| | |
|---|--|
| 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 | The NBSAP and the PBCP both embody these concern as a major strategy/ies. (NBSAP Strategy II: Enhancing and Integrating Existing and Planned Biodiversity Conservation Efforts with Emphasis on In-situ Activities; PBCP Strategy I: Harmonize Research with Conservation Needs, Strategy III: Institutionalize Innovative and Appropriate Conservation Approaches: The Biodiversity Corridors) |
| (b) Conservation, sustainable use and/or restoration of migratory species' habitats, including protected areas | PBCP Strategy III: Institutionalize Innovative and Appropriate Conservation Approaches: The Biodiversity Corridors). The PBCP identified at least 23 priority marine areas for conservation critical for cetaceans, 12 areas for marine turtles, 16 areas for whale sharks and 23 areas for dugongs. Conservation priority areas for terrestrial species e.g. birds and mammals , were also identified. |
| (c) Minimizing or eliminating barriers or obstacles to migration | The PBCP has identified major biodiversity corridors in the country. These are intended to eliminate barriers or obstacles to migration, among others. The PBCPP also identified priority areas for conservation which includes 170 terrestrial and inland waters and 36 marine areas. The Program recommends for the designation of these areas as critical habitats or |

| | |
|--|---|
| | <p>be proclaimed as protected areas under the NIPAS. As well, the Wetland Action Plan identified several significant wetland areas for protection and management some of which were already declared as protected area.</p> <p>The National Wetland Action Plan of 1992 emphasized the need to conserve wetland areas because of their importance to migratory species, among other ecological and economic values. The plan recommended several wetland sites in the Philippines, ranging from lakes, swamps and marshes, mudflats, and marine areas for priority conservation including the associated wetland species. Migratory wetland species of concerned mentioned in the plan are the marine turtles, dugongs, crocodiles, and migratory waterbirds. It also recommends the development of appropriate policies, programs and research activities necessary to address the prevailing and emerging conservation issues of wetlands and wetland species in the country</p> <p>In the NBSAP, interhabitat connectivity studies are identified among the priority projects.</p> |
| <p>(d) Research and monitoring for migratory species</p> | <p>The Biodiversity Monitoring System is a standard tool developed by PAWB to monitor trends in the status of priority species and habitats within protected areas. The system emphasizes migratory species as one priority species for monitoring and should be given the necessary management action. It was adopted in 2000 through an Administrative Order for implementation in all established terrestrial, marine and freshwater protected areas in the country. One of the relevant results arising from the implementation of this system is the rediscovery of <i>Platalea minor</i> (Black-faced spoonbill) in Batanes, Philippines. The species has been recommended for inclusion to Appendix 1.</p> <p>Ecological and population studies in wetlands are also identified as priority projects under the NBSAP, i.e. Population Biology of Marine Mammals in Philippine Waters, Establishment of whale watching stations in the Philippines</p> |
| <p>(e) Transboundary movement</p> | <p>The Philippines is currently engaged in the joint management of the Turtle Islands Heritage Protected Areas (TIHPA) which is the world's first transfrontier PA for marine turtles and the only major rookery of green turtles in the ASEAN region. The TIHPA is composed of six islands from the Philippines (Baguan, Langaan, Taganak, Great Nakkugan, Lihiman, and Boan) and three islands from Malaysia (Selingan, Glisaan, and Bakkungan Kenchil).</p> |
| <p>II) If NO, please briefly indicate below</p> | |

| | |
|--|--|
| (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. | |
| There are no known initiatives on this aspect. The National Capacity Needs Self Assessment for Global Environmental Management (NCSA) has set the initial step of bringing this concern to the attention of implementers, thus, it is expected that coordination regarding climate change and biodiversity will be one of the major downstream concerns of the NCSA. | |

| | |
|--|----------|
| 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 | X |
| c) Yes, relevant mechanisms are in place (please provide details below) | |
| 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. | |
| These concerns have been taken in to consideration in the formulation of the NAP (The Philippine Action Plan to Combat Desertification, Land Degradation, Drought, and Poverty). It is also one of the major recommendations of the Philippine NCSA. | |


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.

The implementation of this Article is being given high priority by the country. There are adequate policies and laws as well as directives to support its implementation. However, the integration of sustainable development principles in some sectoral plans, can still be improved. There is an urgent need to conduct an in-depth review of these key policies and strategies in line with the achievement of the 2010 targets as well as the MDG.

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 | |
| b) Yes, selected/partial programmes at the genetic, species and/or ecosystem level only (please specify and provide details below) | x |
| 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.

- One of the main strategies in the Philippine National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan is stated as "Expanding and Improving Knowledge on the extent, characteristics, uses and values" which promotes the objective of this Article. This is further supported by one of the strategies identified under the PBCP which is to harmonize research with conservation needs.
- An important mandate of the Philippine National Museum is to conduct national inventories of plants and animals, collect and preserve these biological specimens for use in research, education and public information. This is embodied in R.A. 8492, known as the National Museum Act of 1998.
- The Philippines has still to undertake a national taxonomic needs assessment in order to come up with a national taxonomic action plan.
- Most of the inventory programs reported are species-specific are either done by the academe or the Philippine National Museum, with some NGOs contributing to the body of work.
- It is also worthy to note that efforts in inventory are very few at the genetic level.

Some Inventory Programs and Other Related Initiatives

Most of the work done on inventory for the past four years were components of bigger projects. Example :

- Biodiversity Research Programme for Development in Mindanao: Focus on Mount Malindang and Environs (component on assessment of arthropods, development of participatory methodology for the inventory and assessment of floral resources and their characterization in


the mountain forests of Mount Malindang)

- The Philippine Plant Conservation Committee has been organized to come up with a National Plant Conservation Strategy and Action Plan including the listing of Threatened Plants.

- The National Museum Botany Division is undertaking the following activities:

For plants at the species Level: A national inventory of plants of the Philippines (flowering plants, algae, mosses, ferns, fungi) is an on-going project of the PNM Botany Division. This has started since the 1900's and extends to this period. Though many books and articles have been published on this subject most of them are long out of date and needs revision and emendation. A priority project of the National Museum is publishing a Flora of the Philippines. Up to now there is no comprehensive, up-to-date book on the Flora of the Philippines and this is a serious handicap.

- Other projects implemented by NGOs with inventory components:
 - Eastern Mindanao Corridor Facilitation Implementation
 - Sierra Madre Biodiversity Corridor Facilitation Project
 - Establishment of Mt. Mantalingahan in Southern Palawan as a protected area
 - Calamianes Marine Corridor Project

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) | X |
| 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.

Biodiversity Monitoring System (BMS)

The Protected Areas and Wildlife Bureau of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources and the Nordic Agency for Development and Ecology developed a participatory and management-oriented system for monitoring biodiversity and resource uses in protected areas. It is called the Biodiversity Monitoring System (BMS).

The BMS was designed to improve the information available for decision-makers in protected areas through the regular collection of data with focus on priority species and natural resource utilization. Information gathered through the BMS serves to guide actions of Protected Area Management Board (PAMB), the protected area staff, local government units and communities in natural resource and protected area management.

Four (4) simple, cost-effective, and standardized monitoring techniques are integrated in the monitoring system. These are: 1) Focus Group Discussion, 2) Field Diary, 3) Photo documentation, and 4) Transect method. The BMS also provides the guidelines on how findings from monitoring activities are utilized in formulating management interventions.

In about two (2) years of BMS implementation, eight (8) protected areas under the Conservation of Priority Protected Areas Project (CPPAP) reported to have gained promising results. These include the increased number in management resolutions passed by PAMB as well as local communities and actions implemented on the ground by the protected area staff on the basis of BMS findings. The management resolutions and actions address issues important for protected area management and biodiversity conservation such as a) sustainable land and resource use, b) habitat management and protection, and c) protection of conservation-dependent species.

BMS also proved to be one core management tool in introducing participatory protected area management in all the eight (8) sites. The protected area staff in these sites jointly with 350 community volunteers follow changes in biodiversity and resource use on a regular basis and discuss their observation and follow-up actions. The participation of protected area stakeholders in management implementation resulted in at least 105 PAMB resolutions and decisions, including ordinances issued by municipal and barangay council and council of indigenous peoples.

These initial results from BMS implementation can be considered as a starting point towards achieving the desired objectives in managing protected areas, which are, maintaining biodiversity and providing communities sustained benefits from natural resources.

Other Biodiversity Monitoring Programmes:

Assessment and Monitoring of Philippine Eagle (*Pithecophaga jefferyi*) Population along the Sierra Madre Mountain Range: Mt Twin Peaks-Mt Cetaceo Complex, Cagayan, Quirino and Aurora Province, Luzon, Philippines

This project is focused on the fourth strategic direction of CEPF outlined in the ecosystem profile of the country. Specifically, to establish an emergency response mechanism to help save critically endangered species. The project targets the critically endangered Philippine Eagle and aims to generate basic information on the life history of the eagle in the Island of Luzon. This project is coordinated with the research plan of the Philippine Eagle Alliance (CI, Haribon, Birdlife, Philippine Eagle Foundation and WWF-Phils

Outcomes Definition, Refinement and Monitoring Project Implementation


The project deals with completing a Conservation Outcomes Definition and a Monitoring System for the Philippines Hotspot, including using scientific data to validate the identified conservation priority areas during the PBCPP and monitor the conservation initiatives in the priority areas.

Development of Effective Management Monitoring and Evaluation Systems for Key Marine Protected Areas in Palawan

The project aims to improve management in two protected areas in Palawan, the Tubbataha Reef National Marine Park (TRNMP), a World Heritage Site and Coron Island Ancestral Domain, by designing appropriate management monitoring and evaluation systems based on their respective management schemes. Both TRNMP and Coron Island have been designated a conservation rating of 'High Priority' in the second iteration of the National Biodiversity Strategy an Action Plan of the Philippines due to high biodiversity values

Eastern Mindanao Corridor Facilitation Implementation

Critical stakeholders participate in the design of a province wide conservation strategy, which includes establishment of species, and site outcomes, and an outcomes monitoring program, for Eastern Mindanao, and actively engage in the implementation of this strategy

| | |
|---|----------|
| 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) | X |
| c) Yes, climate change (please provide details below) | |
| d) Yes, pollution/eutrophication (please provide details below) | X |
| e) Yes, land use change/land degradation (please provide details below) | |
| f) Yes, overexploitation or unsustainable use (please provide details below) | |

| | |
|--|--|
| below) | |
| Further comments on monitoring programmes on key threats to biodiversity. | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Biodiversity Monitoring System as described in item 20 is also a tool that is being used to monitor threats to biodiversity. • The Plant Quarantine Office and the Plant Protection Division of the BPI have mandates and programmes to regulate the entry of potential harmful exotic species. • The National Museum has an on-going national inventory of invasive alien plant species in the Philippines. It is still in its early phase with funding from the National Museum. • Water quality monitoring in selected water bodies are regularly being conducted to determine level of pollution (Pasig River, Manila Bay, Laguna de Bay, etc.) | |

| | |
|--|----------|
| 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 | X |
| 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. | |
| Some mechanisms to maintain and organize data derived from inventories and monitoring programmes are in place. Examples of which are enumerated below: | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Protected Areas and Wildlife Bureau maintains a database on protected areas including physical, biological and socio-economic features. They also have databases on the following: wetlands, waterfowl census, and wildlife species, and CITES-related information. - ASEAN Regional Centre for Biodiversity Conservation (ARCBC) Biodiversity Databases http://www.arcbc.org.ph/databases.html <p>ARCBC has developed and maintains a database referral system which links national and international institutions and agencies holding information relevant to biodiversity conservation, to the ARCBC and NBRUs database networks, and possibly with the ASEAN web network where appropriate.</p> <p>Biodiversity Information Sharing Service (BISS)</p> <p>The most comprehensive on-line database for species and protected areas in South East Asia. It provides descriptions, pictures, distributional data with maps, information on uses and conservation status of many thousands of flora and fauna species across the ASEAN region, including the protected areas and country profiles of the 10 ASEAN countries.</p> <p><u>ASEAN wide summary data</u></p> <p>Gives a summary of Biodiversity Data for the ASEAN Region. This gives a summary of data compiled from raw data collected over the past decades using the MASS and BIMS software packages.</p> <p>Data is based on internationally published and accessible reports, like the IUCN/UN List of Protected Areas, Review of the Protected areas System of the Indo-Malayan Realm, and various in-</p> | |

ternational and NGOs like WCMC, WWF, RSPB, BI, etc.

Currently these data are updated and vastly expanded under the ARCBC project, with inputs from ARCBC's National Biodiversity Reporting Units (NBRUs), and any other agency, institution or individual who are willing to share information this way.


Detailed information on species and protected areas of the region is organized by:

[Data by country](#)

[Data by species](#)

- The National Museum has organized and maintains a comprehensive data base of plant and animal species of the Philippines. It has produced checklists such as BirdBase of the Philippines (available in CD) and also provides data for FishBase. It also maintains a database for plants of the Philippines which is now being incorporated in the Philippine National Herbarium website. It will be soon be made available in the internet.
- The academe and other research institutions maintain their own species-based databases (i.e. University of the Philippines –Institute of Biology, Marine Science Institute; Silliman University; Leyte State University; Department of Science and Technology – Philippine Council for Agriculture and Resources Research and Philippine Council for Marine and Aquatic Resources Research, among others.
- Some NGOs likewise maintain their own databases notably those with foreign funding, i.e. Conservation International, Haribon, WWF-KKP.

However, there is an urgent need to put in place a systematic manner of linking these databases, preferably through the CHM, to make the information easily accessible to the users.

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

| | |
|---|----------|
| a) No | |
| 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) | X |
| 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.

There are some initial efforts to come up with indicators for national-level monitoring of biodiversity, to wit:

1) Biodiversity Monitoring System

The BMS was designed to improve the information available for decision-makers in protected areas through the regular collection of data with focus on priority species and natural resource utilization.

Four (4) simple, cost-effective, and standardized monitoring techniques are integrated in the monitoring system. These are: 1) Focus Group Discussion, 2) Field Diary, 3) Photo documentation, and 4) Transect method. The BMS also provides the guidelines on how

findings from monitoring activities are utilized in formulating management interventions.

2) Forestry Criteria and Indicators

To measure progress toward sustainable forest management, the DENR formulated a proposed criteria and indicators for SFM. The C & I for SFM will provide a common yardstick by which the various stakeholders can determine the state of the country's forest resources at any given time and at any particular location. With the adoption of a mutually agreed upon yardstick, the contentious debates that characterize discussion on Philippine forestry will be minimized.

3) Biodiversity Indicators for National use

The Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) has recognized the urgency to evaluate the progress of worldwide efforts toward biodiversity conservation and sustainable use, and to monitor and report biodiversity status and trends at national level through the use of indicators. Toward this end, the Biodiversity Indicators for National Use (BINU) Project was developed as an offshoot of the CBD efforts to strengthen the capacities of countries and to support global and regional development of biological diversity indicators that could be used within countries, particularly for use at the national level.

4) NGO initiatives

Outcomes Definition, Refinement and Monitoring Project Implementation

Completing a Conservation Outcomes Definition and a Monitoring System for the Philippines Hotspot, including using scientific data to validate the identified conservation priority areas during the PBCPP and monitor the conservation initiatives in the priority areas.

Development of Effective Management Monitoring and Evaluation Systems for Key Marine Protected Areas in Palawan

The project aims to improve management in two protected areas in Palawan, the Tubataha Reef National Marine Park (TRNMP), a World Heritage Site and Coron Island Ancestral Domain, by designing appropriate management monitoring and evaluation systems based on their respective management schemes. Both TRNMP and Coron Island have been designated a conservation rating of 'High Priority' in the second iteration of the National Biodiversity Strategy an Action Plan of the Philippines due to high biodiversity values

Eastern Mindanao Corridor Facilitation Implementation

Critical stakeholders participate in the design of a province wide conservation strategy, which includes establishment of species, and site outcomes, and an outcomes monitoring program, for Eastern Mindanao, and actively engage in the implementation of this strategy

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.

Although identified as a priority in the strategies of both the NBSAP and the PBCP, the implementation of this article had not been given adequate attention due to several factors including lack of financial resources, lack of clear-cut priorities in taxonomic research, and lack of indicators for systematic monitoring of activities and its effects on biodiversity.

The Country Study was able to identify the threats to biodiversity in the Philippines. Monitoring of effects of these threats, however, have not been undertaken on a systematic manner because of several constraints. There is a limited know-how and capacity on monitoring systems that could be used.

Human and institutional capacity for taxonomic work had been also identified as one of the more urgent needs in biodiversity conservation. Addressing these needs as well as overcoming the constraints would greatly facilitate the achievement of the 2010 targets as well as the MDG.

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 | |
| b) No, but a plan is under development | X |
| 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.

Certain aspects of the Decision IV/1 have been implemented such as the designation of three focal points for the GTI (Dr. Domingo Madulid for plants, Dr. Edwino Fernando for forest species and Dr. Victor Gapud for insects). A preliminary taxonomic needs assessment has been undertaken through the Association of Systematic Biologists of the Philippines (ASBP), an organization of plant, animal and microorganism taxonomists in the country. A preliminary database of biological collection and expertise is under development by the Philippine National Museum and will soon be available on the Internet.

The ASBP is also planning to spearhead the formulation of a plan to implement the GTI.

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 | |
| b) Yes (please provide details below) | X |

Further information on investment on a long-term basis in the development of appropriate infrastructure for your national taxonomic collections.

Yes, but investments had been minimal compared to the country's needs for appropriate

infrastructure to house national taxonomic collections. As far as the National Museum is concerned, investments had been only from the Philippine Government. The National Museum which holds one of the largest and oldest national taxonomic collections for plants and animals (e.g. mammals, fish, birds, reptiles, e.g.) in the country receives a minimal budget from the government for infrastructure development, such as acquisition of steel herbarium cases to replace the old, wooden cases, cabinets for its collections.

26. ♦ Does your country provide training programmes in taxonomy and work to increase its capacity of taxonomic research? (decision IV/1)

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

Further information on training programmes in taxonomy and efforts to increase the capacity of taxonomic research.

The Philippines offers undergraduate and graduate subjects on plant and animal taxonomy in several universities in the Philippines. The Philippine National Museum offers training on plant identification and herbarium management to teachers, researchers and interested persons representing research institutions, academe, NGOs, etc.

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 | |
| b) No, but steps are being considered | |
| c) Yes, for some institutions | X |
| 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 | |
| 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) | X |
| d) Yes, comprehensive collaborative programmes are being implemented (please provide details about collaborative programmes, including results of 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.

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.

The Philippines collaborates with the herbaria in Southeast Asia through the Southeast Asian Botanical Collections Information Network. The Philippines also collaborates its plant taxonomic research through the Flora Malesiana Foundation based in Bogor, Indonesia and Leiden, The Netherlands.

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 | |
| b) Yes, basic assessment made (please provide below a list of needs and capacities identified) | X |
| 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.

A preliminary assessment has been made through the Association of Systematic Biologists of the Philippines, an organization of plant, animal and microorganism taxonomists in the country. Result of the initial assessment is available as a CD report.

Needs: 1. Support for infrastructure of institutions holding important taxonomic collections (e.g. Philippine National Museum, UPLB, UP Diliman, etc.) 2. Manpower development (training of young taxonomists, parataxonomists, for degree or non-degree programs) 3. Support to carry out the Flora of the Philippines (8 vols); 4. Databasing of taxonomic information from institutions and making this available in the internet. 5. support for publication of taxonomic research.

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 | |
| b) Yes, relevant programmes are under development | |
| c) Yes, some activities are being undertaken for this purpose (please provide details below) | X |
| 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.

The Philippines collaborates with the herbaria in Southeast Asia through the Southeast Botanical Collection Information Network. The Philippines also collaborates on plant taxonomic research through the Flora Malesiana Foundation in Bogor, Indonesia and Leiden, The Netherlands.

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) | |
| d) Yes, comprehensive measures undertaken (please provide details below) | X |

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.

Measures undertaken to provide the conditions needed for compatibility between present uses and the conservation of biological diversity and sustainable use of its components:

- implementation of the relevant policies, laws and similar directives
 - Executive Order 192 (series of 1987), creating the Protected Areas and Wildlife Bureau (PAWB), which is mandated to consolidate all government efforts in the conservation of natural biological resources through the establishment of a network of protected areas system.
 - Republic Act 7586, other wise known as the National Integrated Protected Areas System (NIPAS) Law, which provides for the establishment and management of a comprehensive system which encompasses outstandingly remarkable areas and biologically important public lands that are habitats of various species of plants and animals. The specific provisions of the NIPAS Law are: a) identification of protected area categories; b) establishment of a standard planning process; c) NIPAS


- administration by the DENR; d) recognition of ancestral rights; and, e) institutionalization of environmental impact assessment. The Protected Areas and Wildlife Bureau is mandated to implement this Law. To date, the Implementing Rules and Regulations of this law is currently being revised to make it more relevant and responsive to current biodiversity conservation issues and concerns
 - Republic Act 9147, the Wildlife Conservation and Protection Act, was enacted into law to conserve the country's wildlife resources and their habitats for sustainability. Towards this end, the following objectives shall be pursued: a) conserve and protect wildlife species and their habitats to promote ecological balance and enhance biological diversity; b) regulate the collection and trade of wildlife; c) pursue, with due regard to the national interest, the Philippine commitment to international conventions, protection of wildlife and their habitats; and e) initiate or support scientific studies on the conservation of biological diversity.
 - Republic Act 8550, known as the Philippine Fisheries Code of 1998, requires all government agencies, as well as the private firms and entities who intend to undertake activities or projects which will affect the habitats of the rare, threatened and endangered aquatic species to prepare a detailed Environmental Impact Assessment that shall be submitted to the DENR for review and evaluation.
 - Republic Act 9072, the National Caves and Cave Resources Management and Protection Act, is declaration of policy of the country to conserve, protect and manage caves and cave resources as part of the country's natural wealth.
- Enactment of site-specific Protected Area (PA) Laws and local ordinances
 - For the period under review, 17 new protected areas were established either through a Republic Act or Presidential Proclamation.
 - To date, 101 PAs have been proclaimed under the NIPAS with a total area of approximately 3.2M hectares (marine – 1.6M hectares; terrestrial – 1.6M hectares)
 - Local communities have successfully implemented the establishment of marine sanctuaries through issuances of local ordinances.
 - Implementation of in-situ programs/projects; examples of major undertakings are described below:
 - Samar Island Biodiversity Project aims to establish the Samar Island Natural Park (SINP); develop institutional systems necessary to effectively manage the SINP; put in place a comprehensive management plan for SINP; develop conservation-compatible livelihood opportunities for upland communities; strengthen the protection of habitats and biodiversity resources, and to generate broad-based support and participation of LGUs, NGOs, POs, and other sectors in biodiversity conservation and protected area management.
 - The Sustainable Management of Mt. Isarog's Territories (SuMMIT) Project is an integrated conservation and development project (ICDP) designed to protect the biodiversity of Mt. Isarog Natural Park and develop ecologically sustainable livelihoods for those living around it. The project has six components, namely: Capacity Development, Forest Rehabilitation, Information, Education and Communication, Sustainable Livelihood, Land Tenure Security, and Socio-Economic Research and Biodiversity Monitoring.

- The Philippines-Netherlands Biodiversity Research Programme (BRP) for Development in Mindanao: Focus on Mt. Malindang and its Environs aims to build capacity for local communities, government, academe, and other stakeholders to promote and undertake the sustainable use of biological resources and effective decision-making on biodiversity conservation. BRP was envisioned to break new ground in developing a location-specific, interactive and landscape approach to biodiversity research that will contribute to the conservation, restoration and sustainable use of biological diversity in the Mindanao region.
- The project "Conservation of the Tubbataha Reefs Marine National Park Project and World Heritage Site" was a conservation initiative designed to protect the unique and relative pristine condition of the globally significant biological diversity and ecological processes of the Tubbataha Reefs National Marine Park (TRNMP), and to manage TRNMP and the surrounding area on a sustainable and ecologically sound basis. The project intends to conserve the TRNMP through a participatory, stakeholder-driven process. One of the projects main objectives was to immediately stop practices that have negative impact to the TRNMP, at the same time introducing long-term and sustainable measures.
- This project aims to ensure that options and existence values embodied in the globally significant Bohol Marine Triangle (BMT) are conserved. A more effective, equitable and sustainable planning, implementation, monitoring and enforcement of biodiversity conservation efforts will be established through the following inputs:
 - a) strengthened government and community institutions to facilitate application of a coastal management framework, with the establishment and maintenance of marine reserves as a major component;
 - b) development and application of policies and guidelines that will facilitate the elimination of destructive activities
 - c) relevant and reliable information for monitoring and inventory as basis to establish sustainable harvesting
 - d) compliance with environmental guidelines improved through a programme of education and awareness building
 - e) alternative conservation schemes
 - f) targeted ecosystem rehabilitation will improve overall ecosystem health and contribute to improved well-being of local communities
 - g) an Integrated Master Plan for BMT is established and operationalized.

The project will be accomplished through a community-based conservation management and multi-sectoral partnership between the government, local industries, non-government and people's organization.

- Establishment/Strengthening of linkages and/or networks with civil society organizations and local communities as partners in biodiversity conservation
 - The government through the Protected Areas and Wildlife Bureau has strong linkages with civil society and community-based organizations who have been partners in biodiversity conservation.
 - The Philippine Council for Sustainable Development Sub-Committee on Biodiversity, a multi-sectoral group provides support to biodiversity conservation activities by:
 - a) Identifying stakeholders within the government and the Non-Government sector who would be advocates of NBSAP and sustainable development;
 - b) Ensuring consultative participation in the development and implementation of policies relevant to NBSAP;
 - c) Promoting the integration of international commitments including the NBSAP in various development plans, programs and projects through the PCSD;
 - d) Assessing and monitoring, through its various agency representatives, the implementation of commitments, including the NBSAP, to international environmental agreements relevant to biodiversity;

- e) Preparing the national report on biodiversity and submit to the CBD thru the national focal point;
- f) Providing advocacy support to policies and programs relevant to the implementation of commitments, including the NBSAP, to international environmental agreements relevant to biodiversity;
- g) Providing the venue for discussion and identification of critical issues that need to be addressed/resolved and those that specifically require the intervention of the PCSD; and,
- h) Leading and coordinating the formulation of the country positions in international environmental agreements and ensure such positions are results of consensus and consultations.

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.

Below are landmark legislations and/or regulations for the protection of threatened species and populations:

- Republic Act 9147 - "Wildlife Resources Conservation and Protection Act" states that it shall be the policy of the state to conserve the country's wildlife resources and their habitats sustainably. It has the following objectives:
 - a) to conserve and protect wildlife species and their habitats to promote ecological balance and enhance biological diversity
 - b) to regulate the collection and trade of wildlife
 - c) to pursue, with due regard to the national interest, the Philippine commitment to international convention, protection of wildlife and their habitats, and;
 - d) to initiate or support scientific studies on the conservation of biological diversity
 This Law has specific provisions on the Protection of Threatened Species (Article 2)
- Joint DENR-DA-PCSD Administrative Order No. 01 Series of 2004 - Joint Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) pursuant to Republic Act No. 9147: "An Act Providing for the Conservation and Protection of Wildlife Resources and Their Habitats, Appropriating Funds Therefore and For Other Purposes"
- Department Administrative Order 2004-15 - Establishing the List of Threatened Species and their Categories, and the List of Other Wildlife Species Under the Jurisdiction of DENR Pursuant to Republic Act No. 9147, Otherwise Known as the Wildlife Resources Conservation and Protection Act of 2001.
- DENR Administrative Order No. 2004-55 - DENR Streamlining/Procedural Guidelines Pursuant to the Joint DENR-DA-PCSD Implementing Rules and Regulations of Republic Act 9147 otherwise known as "Wildlife Conservation and Protection Act"
- DENR Administrative Order No 2004-58 - Registration of Threatened and Exotic Species of Wild Fauna in the Possession of Private Person (s) and Entities

- DENR Administrative Order No. 2004-60 – Addendum to DAO 2004-58 RE: Registration of Threatened and Exotic Species of Wild Fauna in the Possession of Private Person(s) and Entities
- Prescribing the Fees and other Guidelines on the Implementation of DENR A.O. Nos. 2004-55 and 2004-58 Both Dated August 31, 2004 Pertaining to the Registration of Threatened, Non-Threatened, Non-Threatened and Exotic Faunal Species Under the Jurisdiction of the DENR
- DENR Administrative Order No. 2004-65 – Waiving Certain Provisions of DENR Administrative Order (DAO) No. 2004-62 Re: Prescribing Fees and Other Guidelines on the Implementation of DAO Nos. 2004-55 and 2004-58 Both Dated August 31, 2004 Pertaining to the Registration of Threatened, Non-Threatened and Exotic Faunal Species Under the Jurisdiction of DENR

35. On Article 8(I), 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 | |
| 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) | X |

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.

Some measures to regulate or manage processes and categories of activities identified under Article 7 as having significant adverse effects on biodiversity:

- Republic Act 9147 - “Wildlife Resources Conservation and Protection Act” states that it shall be the policy of the state to conserve the country’s wildlife resources and their habitats sustainably. It has the following objectives:
 - a) to conserve and protect wildlife species and their habitats to promote ecological balance and enhance biological diversity
 - b) to regulate the collection and trade of wildlife
 - c) to pursue, with due regard to the national interest, the Philippine commitment to international convention, protection of wildlife and their habitats, and;
 - d) to initiate or support scientific studies on the conservation of biological diversity

- Environmental Impact Assessment Law – The Philippine EIA System had been in place since 1978 with the issuance of Presidential Decree 1586. This was further updated in 1996 with the issuance of Department /of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Administrative Order No. 96 – 37 that streamlined the system. The latest directive on the EIA is DENR Administrative Order No. 30 Series of 2003 or DAO 03-30 and its Procedural Manual. Central to the system is the consideration that projects to be located in environmentally critical areas are required to prepare Environmental Impact Assessment and secure an Environmental Compliance Certificate. Environmentally critical areas include biodiversity-rich areas and critical habitats. The EIA Law is currently being revised.
- Philippine Fisheries Code of 1998 (Republic Act 8550) contain provision/s that also require all government agencies, as well as the private firms and entities who intend to undertake activities or projects which will affect the habitats of the rare, threatened and endangered aquatic species to prepare a detailed EIA that shall be submitted to the DENR for review and evaluation.
- Indigenous People’s (IPs) Rights Act (IPRA or RA 8371). The IPRA is the embodiment of the long struggle for the recognition of the rights of the IPs to their ancestral domain as well as their cultural identity. Under IPRA, “the State shall recognize, respect and protect the rights of the Indigenous Peoples to preserve and develop their cultures, traditions, and institutions. It shall consider these rights in the formulation of national laws and policies.” The rights referred to include the rights to claim ancestral domains which covers not only physical environment but also the spiritual and cultural bonds associated with it (Section 4 of IPRA). In return, the IPs are charged with the responsibility of maintaining ecological balance and restoring damaged areas (Section 9 of IPRA). The Law also protects the rights of the IPs to exclude others in exploiting natural resources within their ancestral domain. Before any person is allowed access to these resources, free and prior informed consent (FPIC) community obtained in accordance with the customary laws is required.

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

The implementation of this article had been accorded high priority by the country for this reporting period. Policies and laws are in place and many of the strategies identified in the NBSAP and the PBCP have been integrated, to a certain extent, in agency sectoral plans. In fact, the IRR for the NIPAS Law is currently being reviewed to make it more responsive to current needs. Implementation constraints are still prevalent, however, with lack of political will and shift in priorities of the government topping the list. It was the consensus of the groups consulted for this report that recently, biodiversity is not in the priority agenda of the government.

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 | |
| c) Yes, some targets and indicators established (please provide details below) | x |
| d) Yes, comprehensive targets and indicators established (please provide details below) | |
| Further comments on targets and indicators for protected areas. | |
| <p>The Philippine NBSAP has identified the priority areas for conservation in its second iteration (Philippine Biodiversity Conservation Priorities). However, it did not set time-bound targets nor indicators but serves as a guide when identifying areas for conservation.</p> <p>The Medium Term Philippine Development Plan has set time-bound targets for the period 2004-2010 as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delineate 6.336 million hectares nationwide for protection <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conduct assessment and classification of 57 caves - Manage 39 priority wetlands - Develop protected area management plans for areas for protection • Develop Protected Areas into viable management areas <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conduct zoning of 77 Protected Areas to delineate areas suitable for development (i.e. buffer and multiple-use zones) - Promote ecotourism in 29 Protected Areas that are included in the National Ecotourism Master Plan - Conduct carrying capacity studies for 29 protected areas, especially those that will host development projects - Develop Ninoy Aquino Parks and Wildlife Nature Center into a premier ecological destination and People's Center in Metro Manila. • Clearly delineate areas for protection, exploration and utilization through the survey and mapping of maritime zones starting in 2005 with particular emphasis on expediting the delineation of municipal waters in coastal areas with offshore islands. <p>These targets are further elaborated on in the DENR Sectoral Plans and Programs as indicated in their Major Final Outputs/General Plan of Action.</p> | |

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.

- Samar Island Biodiversity Project aims to establish the Samar Island Natural Park (SINP); develop institutional systems necessary to effectively manage the SINP; put in place a comprehensive management plan for SINP; develop conservation-compatible livelihood opportunities for upland communities; strengthen the protection of habitats and biodiversity resources, and to generate broad-based support and participation of LGUs, NGOa, POs, and other sectors in biodiversity conservation and protected area management.
- The project "Conservation of the Tubbataha Reefs Marine National Park Project and World Heritage Site" was a conservation initiative designed to protect the unique and relative pristine condition of the globally significant biological diversity and ecological processes of the Tubbataha Reefs National Marine Park (TRNMP), and to manage TRNMP and the surrounding area on a sustainable and ecologically sound basis. The project intends to conserve the TRNMP through a participatory, stakeholder-driven process. One of the projects main objectives was to immediately stop practices that have negative impact to the TRNMP, at the same time introducing long-term and sustainable measures.
- Sierra Madre Biodiversity Corridor Program
An initiative by Conservation International, Philippines deals with establishing protected areas in "open access" areas or areas with high biodiversity to form a contiguous network of protected areas using the NIPAS Law as the framework within the Sierra Madre Mountains based on the priority areas identified in the PBCPP This is done through partnership with key players (DENR, LGUs, Local Communities and other stakeholders)
- Palawan Corridor Strategy Development Project (PCSDP)
In partnership with the Palawan Provincial Government, Palawan Council for Sustainable Development Staff PCSDS), PNNI, Conservation International convened local stakeholders and experts to develop a Palawan Corridor strategy to identify priority sites and actions for the corridor.
- Sulu-Sulawesi Marine Ecoregion Conservation (SSME) Program

The Sulu-Sulawesi Marine Ecoregion (SSME) is an integral part of the Indo-Pacific Region which is considered as the global center of marine biodiversity, and the Coral Triangle, noted as the center of coral and reef-fish diversity on the planet. The SSME encompasses Malaysia, Indonesia, and the Philippines. The SSME has two-pronged goals - biodiversity conservation and sustainable development. In 2004 at the COP8 in Kuala Lumpur, the governments of the three countries adopted the Ecoregion Conservation Plan (ECP) for SSME. The ASEAN member countries recognize the SSME tri-national initiative as a sub-regional program. These events provided the impetus for the full implementation of the SSME Program by the governments starting with the development of a network of MPAs in the ecoregion. The WWF developed its Action Plan based on the ECP focused on conserving priority areas in SSME. WWF in Malaysia and the Philippines implement the Action Plan with partners. The

SSME Coordination Unit complements national efforts taken by countries by implementing ecoregion level actions of transboundary nature and relevance. The SSME Program is supported by the Packard Foundation, National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration, the Australian Department of Environment and Heritage, the US State Department, USAID, WWF-US and WWF-International

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) | |
| e) Yes, significant actions taken (please provide details below) | X |

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.

To a limited extent, actions were taken to address the under representation of marine and inland water ecosystem in the existing national system of protected areas as described below:

- To date, 101 PAs have been proclaimed under the NIPAS with a total area of approximately 3.2M hectares. Of these, 1.6M hectares or 50 percent are marine and the other 50 percent terrestrial.
- The establishment of marine sanctuaries is included in the Medium Term Philippine Development Plan

Seascapes: Securing Globally Important Marine Ecosystems (Sulu Sulawesi Seascape)

- The overall vision for this project is to ensure the conservation of the full range of marine biodiversity in the Sulu-Sulawesi Seascape. In the three-year period covered, Conservation International, Philippines will work toward achieving this vision by: (1) engaging the world's leading marine scientists to identify quantifiable targets—conservation outcomes—that will be the basis for all of our strategic decision-making; (2) developing a seascape strategy and management plan with our partners that builds on existing plans and institutions; and (3) building capacity for marine conservation in our partners by providing technical and financial support.

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 | |
| b) No, but some programmes are under development | |
| c) Yes, some steps identified and implemented (please provide details below) | X |
| 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.

Steps undertaken to improve the integration of protected areas into broader land and seascapes, including policy, planning and other measures are described as follows:

- The Philippine Biodiversity Conservation Priority (PBCP) Program has identified the institutionalization of innovative and appropriate biodiversity conservation approaches such as the biodiversity corridors as a major strategy to address biodiversity conservation issues. Corridors are large, interconnected networks of protected areas and the surrounding landscape established to protect and conserve biodiversity within a given landscape. Corridors are efficient strategies for conservation of biodiversity, usually comprising a network of parks, reserves and other areas of less intensive use whose management is integrated into biodiversity conservation. This strategy is designed to ensure the survival and protection of the widest possible range of species unique to a particular region.
- The proposed Sustainable Archipelagic Development Framework seeks to transform the present land-based development planning paradigm and the fragmented, unsystematic approach taken to coastal and marine resource use into a more rational, integrative, and all-encompassing approach – one that sees the land and the ocean as one seamless web of interactions between human beings and nature.

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 | |
| 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.

Environmental Impact Assessment Law – The Philippine EIA System had been in place since 1978 with the issuance of Presidential Decree 1586. This was further updated in 1996 with the issuance of Department /of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Administrative Order No. 96 – 37 that streamlined the system. The latest directive on the EIA is DENR Administrative Order No. 30 Series of 2003 or DAO 03-30 and its Procedural Manual. Central to the system is the consideration that projects to be located in environmentally critical areas are required to prepare Environmental Impact Assessment and secure an Environmental Compliance Certificate. Environmentally critical areas include biodiversity-rich areas and critical habitats. The EIA Law is currently being revised.

| | |
|---|----------|
| 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)) | |
| d) Yes, many gaps and barriers identified (please provide details below) | X |
| Further comments on identification of legislative and institutional gaps and barriers that impede effective establishment and management of protected areas. | |
| <p>Some Policy/Legislative and institutional gaps and barriers identified in the Protected Areas Management Study (Add-On Enabling Activity for Biodiversity):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - policy on community participation using the PAMB as a vehicle although articulated sufficiently in the NIPAS Law is not fully implemented - much of the provisions of the Act and its IRR centers on bio-physical management, very little on community participation - Management Plans are usually prepared by DENR personnel or the PASU, or an external consultant and are just presented to the community for approval. - There is no clear-cut organizational and appropriate management structures that define the role of key actors in PA management. The PAMB itself has a low awareness of their duties and responsibilities, as well as their power. - Failures on its designated membership and leadership <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PAMB membership as stipulated by law can come to a numbers as high as over a hundred persons which could be unwieldy and does not guarantee quality decision-making. • The availability of the DENR Regional Executive Director as Chair to preside over meetings is also an issue considering his many other duties • Continuity of policies considering the frequent change in political climate and leadership • No specified qualifications in the recruitment system for PAMB membership <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – The PAMB as an organization does not predispose an efficient an effective structure for policy-making and strategic set-up that could easily operate programs/projects/activities. – PAMB appointments and reappointments are still centralized thus takes a long time. – Very weak mechanism for financial sustainability, knowledge management and social marketing. – PA management is not professionalized. | |

| | |
|---|----------|
| 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. | |

There were several efforts undertaken to assess capacity to manage protected areas. Of note is the UNDP-GEF funded Add-On Enabling Activity Project on Biodiversity (Assessment of Capacity Building Needs for Biodiversity Conservation and Management in the Philippines). One component assessed capacity for protected area management at three levels: individual, institutional and systemic. The findings and recommendations of the project are being used as basis for some of the proposed revisions in the Implementing Rules and Regulations of the NIPAS Law.

This was followed by another UNDP-GEF funded Philippine National Capacity Needs Assessment for Global Environment Project, a project that had a wider scope by looking into the capacity needs of the country in implementing commitments to the three MEAs (UNCBD, UNFCCC, UNCCD). The elements of a capacity building programmes have been identified and prioritized in this project. As a follow-through activity, a project proposal based on the recommendations of the NCSA document is currently in the pipeline. The proposed project will enhance coordination among the major actors for the synergistic and effective implementation of the county’s commitments to the three MEAs, the UNCBD, UNCCD, and UNFCCC.

Some of the major NGO players in biodiversity conservation in the country have capacity building components in their projects, especially those working in protected areas. To further improve its capacity for protected area work, Conservation International embarked on a project aimed to capacitate CI’s Philippines Program in order to maintain high-level marine technical expertise; engage in national marine policy development with relevant government ministries in the Philippines and Indonesia; and leverage additional funding to support these staff positions over the long term and, specifically, to enable the staff members to execute successful conservation programs in Palawan.

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

| | |
|---|----------|
| a) No | |
| 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) | X |

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

The NIPAS Law provides for the Integrated Protected Areas Fund or IPF for “financing the projects of the System” (Section 16). The funds shall consist of tax-free grants and endowments, taxes from sale of flora and fauna and other resources of the PA, lease of PA sites, voluntary contributions from users, and other fees and incomes. The IPAF was effectively centralized with Chapter X of DAO 25. The major challenge in the implementation of the IPAF is accessing the funds given that the mechanism is highly centralized and thus goes through a series of bureaucratic red tape.

Some initiatives on resource mobilization and management by NGOs were noted, i.e. Conservation International’s CEPF Grant Facilitation / Alliance Building Project.

In the NCSA Document, financing has been identified as one of the most urgent concerns of biodiversity conservation.

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.

An on-going study by the Ecosystems Research and Development Bureau of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources deals with assessing the management effectiveness of selected protected areas in the Philippines. Its objectives are:

1. To assess the effectiveness of existing Protected Area management system.
2. To identify factors that may have influenced the effectiveness of existing Protected Area management system.
3. To develop a management evaluation system or systems, which could be used by the government in future assessments of PAs in the country.
4. To recommend courses of action or policy reformulation/revision that may lead to a more effective system of management of Protected Areas in the country.

The study expects to come up with only one major output, and that is the PA management evaluation system or systems, which could be used by DENR in future assessments of PA management in the country. This is an identified gap, and if made available, PA management could be made effective by identifying factors (through this system) that may enhance or deter PA management.

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.

The Programme of Work on Protected Areas has to be reviewed in a more in-depth manner vis-à-vis the national strategies and action plans to ensure that the achievement of 2010 goals and the MDG.

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. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Has your country assessed the risks posed to ecosystems, habitats or species by the introduction of these alien species? | |
| a) No | |
| b) Yes, but only for some alien species of concern (please provide details below) | X |
| 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. | |
| Some assessment done by the Bureau of Plant Industry Plant Quarantine Service for plant pests. | |
| There is an urgent need to provide additional measures for the strict implementation of the Plant Quarantine Act. | |

| | |
|--|----------|
| 47. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Has your country undertaken measures to prevent the introduction of, control or eradicate, those alien species which threaten ecosystems, habitats or species? | |
| a) No | |
| b) No, but potential measures are under consideration | X |
| 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 Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources of the Department of Agriculture is tasked with the responsibility of granting permits for importations and for implementing quarantine regulations for aquatic species. Guidelines for the conduct of risk assessment and biosafety measures for introduced species have been formulated by the National Committee on Biosafety of the Philippines. However, the importation of alien species from other countries continues to be practiced for one reason or another (i.e. for food, recreation, or research) with or without government permits. Capacity at point of entry for monitoring is seriously lacking aside from the fact that backdoor entry is difficult to regulate much more control owing to the archipelagic configuration of the country. | |

| | |
|---|---|
| 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 | |
| b) Yes, bilateral cooperation | X |
| c) Yes, regional and/or subregional cooperation | Yes . Philippines is an active member of the International Plant Protection Convention including the regional agreements under the Convention. The Department of Agriculture benefits from trainings and exchange of information in this respect. |
| 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. | |
| | |

| | |
|---|----------|
| 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. | |
| The Guiding Principles has not been reviewed to date. | |

| | |
|--|----------|
| 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. | |
| The National Committee on Biosafety of the Philippines (NCBP) through a set of guidelines provides the framework for enhancing cooperation among various sectors in order to improve prevention, eradication and/or control of invasive alien species. However, a mechanism still has to be put in place. | |

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.

The Philippines is an active member of the International Plant Protection Convention including the regional agreements under the Convention. The Department of Agriculture benefits from trainings and exchange of information in this respect.

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 | |
| b) No, but programmes for this purpose are under development | X |
| 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 | |
| b) No, but relevant measures and policies are under development | X |
| 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.

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.

Although the concern on alien species is covered by the strategies in the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP), there had been very few initiatives in this area. The country has some existing measures in place to implement this Article, like the provisions in the CITES, the Wildlife Act, Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries/Aquaculture, among others. There is also the existence of the National Committee on Biosafety of the Philippines. Actual activities, however, have been limited by lack of awareness and understanding, not to mention lack of funds and capacity. Since there is very limited understanding of this subject, there is a need to undertake studies on the impacts of alien species. There should be a strategic communication program on the alien invasive species and its effect on the environment.

Critical capacity needs to implement this article are monitoring and enforcement.

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.

The use of GURTS (Genetic Use Restriction Technologies) is currently prohibited/banned.

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 | |
| b) No, but support to relevant studies is being considered | |
| c) Yes (please provide information on the studies undertaken) | X |

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.

There is very limited support for such endeavors. To date, some NGOs and the academe have initiated some work on the subject but they are few in number and limited in geographical coverage.

One initiative that tried to document IKSP was the a component of an Enabling Activity Project entitled "Capacity Assessment for Biodiversity Conservation and Management in the Philippines Study" implemented by the DENR-PAWB through funding from the UNDP-GEF. This component called "Capacity Assessment for the Preservation and Maintenance of Biodiversity-Related Knowledge of Indigenous and Local Communities" attempted to document biodiversity-related knowledge of indigenous and local communities.

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.

Capacity Building and Participation of Indigenous and Local Communities

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 | |
| b) No, but some programmes being developed | |
| c) Yes, some measures taken (please provide details below) | X |
| 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.

There are very few measures being taken 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 of biodiversity. Some of these are:

- **Principles of self-delineation as stated in Chapter 8 of the IPRA (RA 8371)**

Self-delineation shall be the guiding principle in the identification and delineation of ancestral domains. As such, the ICCs/IPs concerned shall have a decisive role in all the activities pertinent thereto. The Sworn Statement of the Elders as to the scope of the territories and agreements/ pacts made with neighboring ICCs/IPs, if any, will be essential to the determination of these traditional territories. The Government shall take the necessary steps to identify lands which the ICCs/IPs concerned traditionally occupy and guarantee effective protection of their rights of ownership and possession thereto. Measures shall be taken in appropriate cases to safeguard the right of the ICCs/IPs concerned to land which may no longer be exclusively occupied by them, but to which they have traditionally had access for their subsistence and traditional activities, particularly of ICCs/IPs who are still nomadic and/or shifting cultivators.

Other relevant provisions in the IPRA Law are as follows:

Natural Resources within Ancestral Domains. - The ICCs/ IPs shall have priority rights in the harvesting, extraction, development or exploitation of any natural resources within the ancestral domains. A non-member of the ICCs/IPs concerned may be allowed to take part in the development and utilization of the natural resources for a period of not exceeding twenty-five (25) years renewable for not more than twenty-five (25) years:

Provided, That a formal and written agreement is entered into with the ICCs/IPs concerned or that the community, pursuant to its own decision making process, has agreed to allow such operation: Provided, finally, That the NCIP may exercise visitorial powers and take appropriate action to safeguard the rights of the ICCs/IPs under the same contract.

Environmental Considerations. - Ancestral domains or portions thereof, which are found to be necessary for critical watersheds, mangroves, wildlife sanctuaries, wilderness, protected areas, forest cover, or reforestation as determined by appropriate agencies with the full participation of the ICCs/IPs concerned shall be maintained, managed and developed for such purposes. The ICCs/IPs concerned shall be given the responsibility to maintain, develop, protect and conserve such areas with the full and effective assistance of government agencies. Should the ICCs/IPs decide to transfer the responsibility over the areas, said decision must be made in writing. The consent of the ICCs/IPs should be arrived at in accordance with its customary laws without prejudice to the basic requirements of existing laws on free and prior informed consent: Provided, That the transfer shall be temporary and will ultimately revert to the ICCs/IPs in accordance with a program for technology transfer: Provided, further, That no ICCs/IPs shall be displaced or relocated for the purpose enumerated under this section without the written consent of the specific persons authorized to give consent.

- **Free and Prior Informed Consent (FPIC)**

NCIP Administrative Order No. 3 Series of 2002 or the Revised Guidelines for FPIC and issuance of Certificates of Precondition. This directive provides the guidelines for the issuance of Certificates of Precondition and the Free and Prior Informed Consent (FPIC) in connection with applications for license, permit, agreement or concession to implement or operate programs/projects/plans/business or investments including other similar or analogous activities or undertaking that do not involve issuance of license, permit, agreement or concession but requires the FPIC of ICC/IP community in ancestral domain areas in accordance with the IPRA Law.

- **Preparation of Ancestral Domain Sustainable Development and Protection Plan**

NCIP Administrative Order No. 1 Series of 2004 or the Guidelines on the Formulation of the Ancestral Domain Sustainable Development and Protection Plan (ADS DPP)

- **Other relevant capacity development activities:**

- IEC to advocate and appreciate Free and Prior Informed Consent (FPIC) conducted by the NCIP
- Training of IP youth to pass on IKSP through traditional means

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.

Relevant provisions pertaining to indigenous peoples (IPs) are contained in the 1987 Philippine Constitution. Two sections in the Constitution specifically contains provisions that: 1) recognize and promote the rights of indigenous cultural communities within the framework of national unity and development ; and, 2) protect, subject to the provisions of the Constitution and national development programs, the rights of indigenous cultural communities to their ancestral lands to ensure their economic, social, and natural well being.

The Philippine Congress enacted the Indigenous People’s (IPs) Rights Act (IPRA Law or RA 8371) in 1997. The IPRA Law is the embodiment of the long struggle for the recognition of the rights of the IPs to their ancestral domain as well as their cultural identity. Under IPRA, “the State shall recognize, respect and protect the rights of the Indigenous Peoples to preserve and develop their cultures, traditions, and institutions. It shall consider these rights in the formulation of national laws and policies.” The rights referred to include the rights to claim ancestral domains which covers not only physical environment but also the spiritual and cultural bonds associated with it (Section 4 of IPRA). In return, the IPs are charged with the responsibility of maintaining ecological balance and restoring damaged areas (Section 9 of IPRA).

The Law also protects the rights of the IPs to exclude others in exploiting natural resources within their ancestral domain. Before any person is allowed access to these resources, free and prior informed consent (FPIC) of the community obtained in accordance with the customary laws is required. The regulations governing bioprospecting (EO247) further requires that benefits derived from the utilization of biological and genetic resources shall be shared fairly and equitably with the community.

Please also refer to answers to item #61.

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 | |
| b) No, but relevant mechanisms are being developed | X |
| 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 Programme of Work on the Implementation of Article 8j and Related Provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity is still being reviewed by the concerned agencies in the country. However, the Indigenous Peoples Rights Law (IPRA Law) has provisions to promote the full and active participation of indigenous and local communities that are also mentioned in the programme of work. (please also refer to answers to items #61 and #62.)

Support to implementation

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

| | |
|---------------------------------------|----------|
| a) No | |
| b) No, but relevant work is under way | |
| c) Yes | X |

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

Further information on the outcome of regional meetings.

- The Philippines has institutionalized the participation of civil society, including indigenous and local communities in the creation of the Philippine Council for Sustainable Development which has a Sub-Committee on Biodiversity (PCSD-SCB). The PCSD-SCB is a multi-sectoral group that advises the government on policy matters related to biodiversity. They spearhead the formulation of positions for negotiations during COP. The National Commission for Indigenous Peoples (NCIP) is a member of the PCSD-SCB.
- The Civil Society Counterpart Council for Sustainable Development (CSCCSD) or simply the CSD was formed shortly after the first Earth summit in 1992. Its formal incorporation however, took a little longer and was finally completed in 1997. Created to serve as the NGO counterpart in the government's Philippine Council for Sustainable Development, the aim of the CSD is the creation and implementation of sustainable development plans towards a better future for the country.

The CSD is headed by a Board of Trustees and has as its member organizations who were part of the CSD at its incorporation, and those organizations that initially have been partners on specific projects. The CSD also monitors compliance with the environmental treaties that the Philippines is a signatory to.

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 | |
| b) Yes, to some extent (please provide details below) | |
| c) Yes, to a significant extent (please provide details below) | X |

Further information on the support provided.

The National Commission for Indigenous Peoples assists ICCs and IPs in coming up with their Ancestral Domain Sustainable Development and Protection Plan. NCIP Administrative Order No. 1 Series of 2004 prescribes the Guidelines on the Formulation of the Ancestral Domain Sustainable Development and Protection Plan (ADSDPP).

The ADSDPP is the manifestation of the ICCs/IPs rights to self-governance and determination. To guarantee the exercise, enforcement and realization of these rights, the ICCs/IPs shall prepare their own ADSDPP in accordance with their customary practices, laws and traditions.


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.

Although there is a comprehensive set of policies that cover the implementation of this article, there is very limited support for such endeavors. There is a need to harness more resources to support the implementation of this article in order to mainstream the aspirations of the IPs especially concerning resource use.

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

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

National Law and Policy : RA 9147 (Wildlife Act) and its IRR (Joint DENR-DA-PCSD Administrative Order 2004-01) Joint Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) Pursuant to Republic Act No. 9147: An Act Providing For The Conservation and Protection of Wildlife Resources and Their Habitats, Appropriating Funds Therefor And For Other Purposes”

There are also number of policy issuances with their attendant rules and regulations relative to *ex-situ* conservation. Most of these regulations have something to do with the government’s compliance to international treaties such as the CITES. Some of these regulations are:

- a. DENR Special Order No. 1044, Series of 1991, issued on 13 November 1991, Creating an Inter-Agency Committee to Evaluate Wildlife Permit Applications and Allocation of Quota
- b. DENR Administrative Order No. 30, Series of 1993, Providing Incentives for the Wildlife Breeding Industry
- c. DENR Administrative Order No. 96 – 20 spells out the implementing Rules and Regulations of Executive Order No. 247, regulating the prospecting of biological and genetic resources.
- d. DENR Administrative Order No. 95 – 22 provides the guidelines on the accreditation and registration of zoos and wildlife facilities of private collector/s, including wildlife maintained threat.
- e. DENR Administrative Order No. 97 – 33 sets the guidelines on the issuance of permit for the collection and the transport of biological specimens from protected areas for use by the DENR biodiversity conservation
- f. DENR Administrative Order No 2004-15 Establishing the List of Threatened Species and Their Categories, and the List of other Wildlife Species Under the Jurisdiction of DENR Pursuant to Republic Act No. 9147, Otherwise Known As The Wildlife Conservation Protection of 2001
- g. DENR Administrative Order No. 2004-55 DENR Streamlining/Procedural Guidelines Pursuant To The Joint DENR_DA_PCSD Implementing Rules and Regulations of Republic Act 9147 Otherwise Known As “Wildlife Resources Conservation and Protection Act”
- h. DENR Administrative Order No. 2004-60 Addendum to DAO 2004-58 Re: Registration of Threatened and Exotic Species of Wild Fauna in the Possession of Private Person(s) and Entities
- i. Prescribing Fees and Other Guidelines on the Implementation of DENR A.O. Nos. 2004-55 and 2004-58 Both Dated August 31, 2004 Pertaining To The Registration of Threatened, Non-Threatened and Exotic Faunal Species Under the Jurisdiction of the DENR
- j. Waiving Certain Provisions of DENR Administrative Order (DAO) No. 2004-62 Re: Prescribing Fees and Other Guidelines on the Implementation of DAO Nos. 2004-55 and 2004-58 both dated August 31, 2004 Pertaining to the Registration of Threatened, Non-Threatened and Exotic Faunal Species Under the Jurisdiction of DENR
- k. Extension of the Filing of Applications Re: Registration of Threatened, Non-Threatened and Exotic Faunal Species In the Possession of Private Person(s) and Entities

Some *ex-situ* conservation initiatives:

The International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) Germplasm Center in Los Baños, Laguna is the largest rice seed bank in the world. It has seeds from rice-growing countries in the world systematically stored in specifically built rooms kept at sub-zero temperatures that can be readily available for research. The Center is maintained by the IRRI.

Other facilities for the *ex-situ* conservation of and research of plants, animals and micro-organisms that represent genetic resources native to the country are the Institute of Plant Breeding, IRRI, Institute of Plant Breeding, and the Ecosystems Research and Development Bureau of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, among others.

Some of the *ex-situ* conservation efforts in the Philippines are focused on the following:

Botanical Gardens

- Gene Bank/s
- Seed Bank
- Zoological Gardens
- Wildlife Sanctuary/s
- Rescue Centers

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 | |
| b) No, but potential measures are under review | 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 the reintroduction of threatened species into their natural habitats under appropriate conditions.

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 | |
| 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 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.

National Law and Policy : RA 9147 (Wildlife Act) and its IRR (Joint DENR-DA-PCSD Administrative Order 2004-01) Joint Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) Pursuant to Republic Act No. 9147: An Act Providing For The Conservation and Protection of Wildlife Resources and Their Habitats, Appropriating Funds Therefor And For Other Purposes”

There are also number of policy issuances with their attendant rules and regulations relative to *ex-situ* conservation. Most of these regulations have something to do with the government’s compliance to international treaties such as the CITES. Some of these regulations are:

- DENR Special Order No. 1044, Series of 1991, issued on 13 November 1991, Creating an Inter-Agency Committee to Evaluate Wildlife Permit Applications and Allocation of Quota
- DENR Administrative Order No. 30, Series of 1993, Providing Incentives for the Wildlife Breeding Industry
- DENR Administrative Order No. 96 – 20 spells out the implementing Rules and Regulations of Executive Order No. 247, regulating the prospecting of biological and genetic resources.
- DENR Administrative Order No. 95 – 22 provides the guidelines on the accreditation and registration of zoos and wildlife facilities of private collector/s, including wildlife maintained threat.
- DENR Administrative Order No. 97 – 33 sets the guidelines on the issuance of permit for the collection and the transport of biological specimens from protected areas for use by the DENR biodiversity conservation
- DENR Administrative Order No 2004-15 Establishing the List of Threatened Species and Their Categories, and the List of other Wildlife Species Under the Jurisdiction of DENR Pursuant to Republic Act No. 9147, Otherwise Known As The Wildlife Conservation Protection of 2001
- DENR Administrative Order No. 2004-55 DENR Streamlining/Procedural Guidelines Pursuant To The Joint DENR_DA_PCSD Implementing Rules and Regulations of Republic Act 9147 Otherwise Known As “Wildlife Resources Conservation and Protection Act”
- DENR Administrative Order No. 2004-60 Addendum to DAO 2004-58 Re: Registration of Threatened and Exotic Species of Wild Fauna in the Possession of Private Person(s) and Entities
- Prescribing Fees and Other Guidelines on the Implementation of DENR A.O. Nos. 2004-55 and 2004-58 Both Dated August 31, 2004 Pertaining To The Registration of Threatened, Non-Threatened and Exotic Faunal Species Under the Jurisdiction of the DENR

- Waiving Certain Provisions of DENR Administrative Order (DAO) No. 2004-62 Re: Prescribing Fees and Other Guidelines on the Implementation of DAO Nos. 2004-55 and 2004-58 both dated August 31, 2004 Pertaining to the Registration of Threatened, Non-Threatened and Exotic Faunal Species Under the Jurisdiction of DENR
- Extension of the Filing of Applications Re: Registration of Threatened, Non-Threatened and Exotic Faunal Species In the Possession of Private Person(s) and Entities

The country has likewise 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. An example of this is the collection of monkeys.


Box XLVIII.

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

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

The implementation of this article had been given high priority by the country. It has policies and legislations in place and numerous projects and activities are currently being undertaken. A major capacity need for the implementation of this article is the capacity building of institutions to handle protocols for ex-situ conservation measures as well as facilities related to such.

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) | |
| d) Yes, in most relevant sectors (please provide details below) | X |

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

There are several landmark policies and legislations that stipulate the integration of conservation and sustainable use of biological resources into national decision-making. Examples are enumerated below:

- The Philippine Agenda 21 (PA 21), the blueprint to achieve sustainable development in the country contains action agenda on biological diversity;
- The Philippine National Biodiversity and Action Plan (NBSAP) promotes sustainable use of biodiversity components through valuation studies and giving importance to indigenous knowledge systems.
- the PBCP, the second iteration of the NBSAP
- The integration of NBSAP in the national planning process of all government agencies as provided for in Memorandum Order from the President issued on 04 June 1997
- The Philippine EIA System that takes into consideration environmentally critical areas in the evaluation of EIA documents and in the subsequent issuance of an Environmental Compliance Certifi-

cate.

- National Ecotourism Strategy (NES)

The National Ecotourism Strategy was adopted in 2002. The NES provides the framework for sustainable ecotourism development in the Philippines. Ecotourism is one of the priorities identified in the Medium Term Philippine Development Plan.

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.


Policies and measures include relevant provisions in RA 9147 (Wildlife Resources Conservation and Protection Act) and in Republic Act 8371 otherwise known as the Indigenous People's Rights Act (IPRA), which provides for the promotion and protection of the rights of the IPs/ICCs related to their Indigenous Knowledge Systems and Practices (IKSP).

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

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


- Republic Act 8371 otherwise known as the Indigenous People's Rights Act (IPRA), provided for the promotion and protection of the rights of the IPs/ICCs related to their Indigenous Knowledge Systems and Practices (IKSP).
- There is a proposed project on Sustainable Conservation and Utilization of Indigenous Crop Species by the Department of Agriculture.

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 | |
| 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 that help local populations develop and implement remedial action in degraded areas where biodiversity has been reduced.

There are existing measures in place to help local populations develop and implement remedial action in degraded areas where biodiversity had been reduced. At the local level, ordinances for establishment of fish sanctuaries are currently being practiced as a strategy to set aside areas for protection. Restoration of denuded forest areas through Community-Based Forest Management is also encouraged and is one of the pillars of sustainable forest management. IPs are also empowered to implement remedial action in degraded areas through their Ancestral Domain Sustainable Development and Protection Plan (ADSDPP)

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 | |
| b) No, but assessment of potential indicators and incentive measures is under way | X |
| c) Yes, indicators and incentive measures identified (please describe below) | X |

Further comments on the identification of indicators and incentive measures for sectors relevant to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.

There are limited experiences in terms of identifying indicators and incentive measures relevant to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity. There are some initial efforts to come up with indicators for national-level monitoring of biodiversity, to wit:

1) Biodiversity Monitoring System

The BMS was designed to improve the information available for decision-makers in protected areas through the regular collection of data with focus on priority species and natural resource utilization.

Four (4) simple, cost-effective, and standardized monitoring techniques are integrated in the monitoring system. These are: 1) Focus Group Discussion, 2) Field Diary, 3) Photo documentation, and 4) Transect method. The BMS also provides the guidelines on how findings from monitoring activities are utilized in formulating management interventions.


2) Forestry Criteria and Indicators

To measure progress toward sustainable forest management, the DENR formulated a proposed criteria and indicators for Sustainable Forest Management. The C & I for SFM will provide a common yardstick by which the various stakeholders can determine the state of the country's forest resources at any given time and at any particular location. With the adoption of a mutually agreed upon yardstick, the contentious debates that characterize discussion on Philippine forestry will be minimized.

3) Biodiversity Indicators for National use

The Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) has recognized the urgency to evaluate the progress of worldwide efforts toward biodiversity conservation and sustainable use, and to monitor and report biodiversity status and trends at national level through the use of indicators. Toward this end, the Biodiversity Indicators for National Use (BINU) Project was developed as an offshoot of the CBD efforts to strengthen the capacities of countries and to support global and regional development of biological diversity indicators that could be used within countries, particularly for use at the national level.


On incentives, the DENR through Department Order 30 provides incentives for the Wildlife Breeding Industry. Additionally, Executive Order No. 318 on Promoting Sustainable Forestry Management in the Philippines provides for incentives although indirectly, on biodiversity.

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.

Livelihood components, including the use of sustainable practices, are incorporated as major objectives in almost all protected areas management plans.

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

Further comments on the development of mechanisms to involve the private sector in initiatives on the sustainable use of biodiversity.

The private sector is involved in co-management of resources and in the implementation of the National Ecotourism Strategy.

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.

Although the Addis Ababa Principles have not yet been formally reviewed by the country, some of the principles are already being applied and/or considered in the formulation of policies and activities pertaining to the sustainable use of biodiversity.

The review of the Addis Ababa Principles will be included as one of the activities to be undertaken in the design of the national reporting mechanism.


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.


The Addis Ababa Principle has not yet been formally reviewed by the country.

Biodiversity and Tourism

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

| | |
|--|----------|
| a) No | |
| b) No, but mechanisms are under development | X |
| 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.

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

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

The Philippines National Ecotourism Programme conducts regular activities to increase the awareness of tourism operators on the impacts of tourism and biodiversity, such as the National Ecotourism Congress. It also conducts training workshops at the local level (specifically on the three banner sites) for running ecotourism ventures incorporating techniques on minimizing impacts on biodiversity.

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 | |
| b) No, but relevant programmes are being considered | X |
| 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.

IPs and local communities are consulted with regards to the use of ancestral domain for ecotourism as provided for in the IPRA Law. Aside from the involvement of Aetas in the Subic Forest Reserve Ecotourism Program, there is no other information available on provision of capacity-building and financial resources to support their participation in tourism policy-making, development planning, product development and 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 | X |
| b) No, but a plan is under consideration to integrate some principles of the guidelines into relevant strategies | |
| 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.


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.

Ecotourism has been identified as one of the flagship programs of the DENR and PAWB in the Medium Term Philippine Development Plan as well as in the DENR General Plan of Action. Its implementation should incorporate the concerns of the Guidelines on Biodiversity and Tourism and should take into account the achievement of 2010 targets and the MDG.

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

Incentive measures are included as one of the strategies under the NBSAP. Due to the limited understanding and capacity of the country in the implementation of this Article, activities supporting incentive measures for biodiversity conservation had been few. There are a few measures in place that could be considered as incentive for biodiversity conservation to a limited extent. Some examples are described below:

- **- incentive to the wildlife industry**
(DAO 30 Providing Incentives for the Wildlife Breeding Industry)
- **User's Fee and similar provisions in the Clean Water Act**
The implementation of the User's Fee in this context is premised on the assumption the industries will clean the waters of Laguna de Bay indirectly benefiting biodiversity.
- **Social Incentive**
Another measure is incorporated in the Community-Based Forestry Management Agreement (CBFMA), a social-forestry project of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources. Communities participating in this program have access to the harvest of forest resources, thus, there is social incentive to the communities.
- **Integrated Protected Areas Fund (IPAF)**

The NIPAS Law provides for an Integrated Protected Areas Fund (IPAF), a trust fund for the purpose of promoting the sustained financing of the system. The fund may receive revenues generated within protected areas, donor support and other funds as provided by law, and disburse the same to finance projects of the NIPAS. The IPAF is in principle an incentive measure for biodiversity protection. In practice, however, its effectiveness has still to be proven since experiences for the past years showed that accessing the Fund to finance NIPAS project is difficult. This mechanism has to be looked into

seriously by the DENR so that this instrument could fully utilized as a management and incentive toll for biodiversity conservation.

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

The country has needs to conduct more valuation studies on biodiversity to support the establishment of appropriate incentive measures. Moreover, capacity to incorporate both market and non-market values of biodiversity into relevant plans, policies and programmes has to be enhanced.

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

| | |
|--|----------|
| a) No | |
| b) No, but relevant programmes are under development | X |
| 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.

The said decision has not been reviewed yet by the country.

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.

The country still has to review the decisions on perverse incentives and initiate steps towards the establishment of appropriate incentives in relation to biodiversity conservation.

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 | |
| 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.

• **Training on Biodiversity Management and Conservation**

Formal Degree Courses

To date, formal degree courses offered by universities that were mentioned in the First National Report are still considered as the established programmes for the identification, conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity and its components. These include undergraduate, graduate and post-graduate degrees in the field of Biology, Botany, Marine Biology, Forestry, Biotechnology, Molecular Biology, Environmental Education, Environmental Studies, and Environmental Science. A new course is being offered by the Development Academy of the Philippines in coordination with the DENR on biodiversity conservation and management. Below is a brief descrip-

tion of the program.

**MASTER IN PUBLIC MANAGEMENT
MAJOR IN BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT (MPM-BCM)**

The Master in Public Management, Major in Biodiversity Conservation and Management (MPM-BCM) is a one-year interdisciplinary graduate program that seeks to develop a cadre of professional biodiversity conservation and development managers in the public and non public sectors for the Philippines and the ASEAN region. Developed in 2004, MPM-BCM is the first of its kind in the country and in South East Asia. It is a Program of the Development Academy of the Philippines in collaboration with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources.

The Program focuses on two major learning thrusts:

- (1) Strengthening scientific and technical knowledge and skills; and,
- (2) Enhancing governance capacities and managerial efficacy. This particular focus covers research, planning, and implementation of policies and programs in the following areas:
 - nature conservation;
 - community-based natural resources management;
 - conservation and management of wildlife, forest, fisheries and marine resources;

Major Program learning areas involve strengthening scientific and technical knowledge and skills on one hand, and, developing personal and managerial efficacy on the other hand; these cover research, planning and implementation of programs on nature conservation, community-based natural resources management, conservation and management of wildlife, forest, fisheries and marine resources respectively, and, other relevant fields. Students shall be honed on scientific as well as managerial approaches and tools for solving actual biodiversity conservation problems.

Program graduates are expected to rise to senior positions in nature conservation organizations either in government or in non-government organizations and as senior advisers to government institutions on matters related to biodiversity.

On its pilot run, the program has graduated 28 DENR supervisory and technical personnel representing 12 regions in the country. These graduates have produced multi-stakeholder projects on ecotourism, resource valuation approaches, site management schemes, and policy resolutions on critical issues, among others, through the Program's action plans and projects module.

Non-Formal Training Courses

Opportunities for training in this field are not wanting, however, most of them are being conducted in relation to on-going projects. Further, there is no mechanism in place to keep track of these training courses that would have been useful in determining capacity enhancement in the field of biodiversity conservation. This is one reason why this Report does not have a comprehensive analysis of the training courses for the past four years.

There are also numerous training programs on biodiversity conservation at the local level being implemented by NGOs and the academe.

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.

Research policies with respect to biodiversity are largely embodied or assumed under general conservation policies. The draft national agenda crafted in 2002 never took off the ground. To date,


sans an approved and adopted National Agenda for Biodiversity Research, initiatives on this aspect remain to be in general, inadequate, fragmented, uncoordinated, and donor-driven.

The primary basis for biodiversity research in the country is embodied Executive Order 192, the law that created the Department of Environment and Natural Resources. EO 192 states that the Ecosystems Research and Development Bureau (ERDB) was created primarily to “formulate and recommend an integrated research program relating to the Philippine ecosystems and natural resources. . . as holistic and interdisciplinary fields inquiry”.

To date, this Bureau has to justify its existence amidst the recommendation to reconfigure the ERDB to becoming just a unit within the DENR Central Office. This is in line with the government rationalization program of making government operations more efficient and effective.

More recent policy directives have been issued relevant to biodiversity research. Of note is the Joint DENR-DA-PCSD-NCIP Administrative Order No. 01 series of 2005. Said issuance contains guidelines that apply to research on biological resources for commercial purpose only. Non-commercial research using biological resources shall be covered by other simple forms of permit system in accordance with the Wildlife Act (RA 9147 and its IRR, DAO 2004-55 re DENR streamlining/procedural guidelines pursuant to the Joint DENR0DA-PCSD IRR of RA 9147).

A good example of research contributing to conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity is shown in the Biodiversity Research for Development strategy of the Netherlands-supported project on Mt. Malindang and its Environs. It aims to build capacity for local communities, government, academe, and other stakeholders to promote and undertake the sustainable use of biological resources and effective decision-making on biodiversity conservation. BRP was envisioned to break new ground in developing a location-specific, interactive and landscape approach to biodiversity research that will contribute to the conservation, restoration and sustainable use of biological diversity in the Mindanao region.

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.

Scientific advances in the field of biological diversity research is utilized in the following manner which contribute to developing methods for conservation and sustainable use:

- for agriculture, the Bureau of Plant Industry and Bureau of Agricultural research use these scientific advances to manage diversity of crops
- for forestry, the University of the Philippines College of Forestry uses scientific advances for selection of appropriate forest species to take into consideration biodiversity aspects in reforestation efforts
- for marine an aquatic concerns, the Philippine Council for Marine and Aquatic Resources Research (PCMARD) uses scientific advances for selection of species appropriate for aquaculture
- The Bureau of Anima Industry uses scientific advances for livestock production
- The PhilRice uses scientific advances to promote rice varieties.

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.

The benefits of biodiversity resources of the country can only be harnessed in the most sustainable way through research for development. However, appropriate policies and capacities including institutional and funding support from the government are prerequisites. Only when these are satisfied will the country aspire to achieve the 2010 targets as well as the MDG.

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 | |
| 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) | x |
| 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 Protected Areas and Wildlife Bureau of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources in cooperation with Haribon Foundation embarked on a project that would come up with a national biodiversity information, education and communication framework. In a workshop held in 2003, a draft framework was formulated and turned over to PAWB for further refinement and institutionalization.

To date, this document has evolved into the National Biodiversity Information, Education and Communication Strategy and Action Plan or the equivalent of a CEPA document. It contains the vision, goals and objectives as well as the key biodiversity messages, intended audiences, communication channels and timeframe. The CEPA strategy still needs to be institutionalized and mainstreamed into the plan of institutions and organizations working on biodiversity conservation. This is currently being facilitated by the PAWB.

On the part of the NGOs, Haribon Foundation for the Conservation of Natural Resources had been active in CEPA activities having received a substantial grant from the Royal Netherlands Embassy for involving a wider public in biodiversity conservation to help mitigate the rapid loss of biodiversity in the Philippines. The project called "Awareness-raising, Networking, Education, support-mobilization and Training (A NEST) for Biodiversity Conservation in the Philippines" was implemented from 2003-2005 and has undertaken many of the activities identified in the CEPA strategy that was jointly prepared by this NGO and PAWB.

In effect, most of the strategies and action plans contained in the CEPA are already being implemented by the major players in biodiversity conservation even though it has not yet been officially adopted and institutionalized by the government.

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 | |
| c) Yes, some activities are being undertaken (please provide details below) | X |
| 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 country is undertaking some activities in relation to the implementation of the programme of work on CEPA. Some of these are described below:

- establishment of on-line biodiversity databases at the ASEAN Regional Center for Biodiversity Conservation which are made available to other countries especially in the ASEAN Region. The databases are <http://www.arcbc.org.ph/databases.htm>
- Most organizations dealing with biodiversity have already online information on their websites. However, these individual databases have to be linked to the CHM to support a meaningful virtual national biodiversity resource center.
- The PAWB has organized a group of biodiversity information “generators, “providers” and “users” called the “Bioweb”. The idea is to facilitate sharing of information among key players on biodiversity conservation. This group is also being tapped to form the core group that will operationalize the Clearing House Mechanism.
- Although the infrastructure for the CHM is already in place, it has not yet reached its full potential as a tool for promoting biodiversity conservation and a venue for information, knowledge and technology exchange. A closer look at how it can better serve as a tool for biodiversity conservation and a venue for exchange of information should be looked into in a more in-depth manner.
- The programme of work on CEPA is currently being reviewed by PAWB for the purpose of incorporating pertinent elements that are not yet included in the national CEPA Strategies and Action Plan.

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) | |
| d) Yes, to a significant extent (please provide details below) | X |

Further comments on the promotion of biodiversity-related issues through the press, the various media and public relations and communications networks at national level.

For the reporting period, there has been considerable media coverage on biodiversity conservation in the country. This was largely through the efforts of the major NGO players that focused their activities in increasing public awareness on the subject. Of note is the Netherlands Government funded "Awareness-raising, Networking, Education, support-mobilization and Training (A NEST) for Biodiversity Conservation in the Philippines" which was primarily aimed at involving a wider public in biodiversity conservation to help mitigate rapid loss of biodiversity in the Philippines.

The project benefited the following audiences:

1. General Public (A,B, and Broad C segment)
2. Local and national government planners
3. Conservation Professionals including Academe
4. NGO Community and Civic Organizations
5. Conservation researchers and students
6. Donor community

The campaign covered a lot of ground including the following:

- a) television advertisements
- b) print advertisements and 50 press releases
- c) radio advertisements, plugs, weekly programs in selected sites
- d) conduct of monthly for a
- e) round table discussions
- f) 1 national conference (*Integrating Forest Conservation with Local Governance with co-funding with European Commission*)
- g) preparation of guides, posters, technical papers, videos
- h) 2 LGU Case Studies on the experiences of LGUs in Nueva Viscaya and Negros Occidental printed
- i) Cross visits

The campaign also conducted advocacy activities, and successfully fostered corporate partnerships for biodiversity conservation (i.e.. Wild Manila Adventure Race 1 & 2; Badminton Cup; Bird Kite Festival 1 & 2

It implemented capacity -building activities for academic centers and for core resource managers, experts and professionals in biodiversity conservation (BC) through the following:

- a. National consultation on BC Management Competencies
- b. 2 Education and Training Needs analysis workshops conducted including 4 local consultations on resource valuation, BC and PA resource management and law enforcement
- c. 4 grants selection committees formed
- d. Trainers' training
 - d.1 Resource valuation
 - d.2 3 field training course on biodiversity conservation research in the following areas:
 1. Initao, Misamis Occidental
 2. San Remigio, Antique
 3. Mt. Isarog, Camarines Sur
- e. Biodiversity Conservation Coordinating Units established
- f. orientation workshop meetings with ACEs
- g. 1 module development workshop on resource valuation
- h. syllabus & research development workshops
- i. universities working towards BC curriculum integration and research

| | |
|--|----------|
| 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 are also many activities conducted at the local level to promote biodiversity conservation. Examples include the Dalaw Turo of the PAWB, seminars in vernacular, exhibits and posters, and airing of radio programs. | |

| | |
|--|----------|
| 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 | |
| b) No, but some programmes are under development | |
| c) Yes, some activities supported (please provide details below) | X |
| 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. | |
| Some activities being implemented include the following: | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Establishment and/or strengthening of information network and traditional communication mechanisms (Bioweb) - Linking the CHM and related websites to international sources of information - Establishment of a regional network through the ASEAN Research Center for Biodiversity Conservation - Knowledge management - Capacity building for CEPA | |
| Enhance stakeholder participation through provision of venue for dialogue, partnership with media and local communities | |

| | |
|--|----------|
| 96. Has your country developed adequate capacity to deliver initiatives on communication, education and public awareness? | |
| a) No | |
| b) No, but some programmes are under development | |
| c) Yes, some programmes are being implemented (please provide details below) | X |
| 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. | |
| The country has a well developed infrastructure for communication (85% of the country is covered by cellular phone communication signal). In terms of communication infrastructure, the country has considerably improved in reaching out to the more remote areas in the country. However, Internet | |

connections are still limited because of the need for hardware. Voice Over Internet Protocol is now being tested.

However, the skills to communicate and to relay information in a manner that the public or the intended audience gets motivated to change his or her behavior towards biodiversity conservation still needs to be improved. This also means that the communication materials have to be made appropriate, thus local translations of concepts and practices is a must. Needless to say, this implies funding support and commitment.

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.

Cooperation and exchange programs for biodiversity education and awareness are very limited. In the ASEAN region, these were done under the auspices of Southeast Asian Regional Center for Graduate Study and Research in Agriculture (SEARCA) and through the ASEAN Regional Center for Biodiversity Conservation (ARCBC).

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.

Some CEPA activities undertaken relevant to the cross-cutting issues and thematic programmes of work:

- formulation of a draft CEPA for the Ramsar Convention (relevant to inland waters and coastal areas)
- almost all major conservation projects have components on CEPA

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.

The PAWB-DENR works closely with the media, the academe, the NGOs and other key actors in the integration of biodiversity concerns in their practice and education programmes. Examples of these initiatives are described in item #93.

The ARCBC which is based in the Philippines implemented activities that promote the integration of biodiversity conservation in school curriculum. Among the many activities it conducted, one worthy to note is the National Trainers' Training on Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Development Education at the Tertiary Level.

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 | |
| b) No, but some programmes are under development | X |
| 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.

The integration of 2010 biodiversity targets into the national CEPA Action Plan as well as establishing appropriate linkages to the Decade on Education for Sustainable Development still has to be done.

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.

Although there are already numerous activities being implemented to increase public awareness on biodiversity conservation, it is not quite enough to change behaviors of individuals, especially policy- and decision-makers, towards its sustainable use. The role of

the CEPA in this should not be underestimated, as it has been proven that an informed community can dialogue intelligently and assert its rights and aspirations. The implementation of this article should not just be a postscript to bigger projects but in fact should be given high priority if the country is to meet the 2010 biodiversity targets as well as the MDG.

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 | |
| No, legislation is still in early stages of development | |
| b) No, but legislation is in advanced stages of development | |
| c) Yes, legislation is in place (please provide details below) | X |
| d) 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 Philippine EIA System had been in place since 1978 with the issuance of Presidential Decree 1586. This was further updated in 1996 with the issuance of Department /of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Administrative Order No. 96 – 37 that streamlined the system. The EIS System has undergone several refinements to make it a more effective planning, management and regulatory tool in addressing environmental problems in the country. The most recent of these refinements is DENR Administrative Order No. 30 (DAO 03-30) and its Procedural Manual. Central to the system is the consideration that projects to be located in environmentally critical areas are required to prepare Environmental Impact Assessment and secure an Environmental Compliance Certificate. Environmentally critical areas include biodiversity-rich areas and critical habitats.

In the Joint DENR-DA-PCSD Administrative Order No. 1 series of 200 or the Implementing Rules and Regulations for the Wildlife Resources Conservation and Protection Act (RA 9147), an EIA is required for the following activities:

- introduction of exotic fauna in public/private forest
- field release of any pathogenic organism
- field-testing of any genetically-engineered organisms: (1) in an Environmentally Critical Area; (ii) the conduct of which has been determined by the DENR-Environmental Management Bureau and the DA-Bureau of Plant Industry, as posing significant risks to the environment.
- Breeding or propagation of wildlife for commercial purposes pursuant to Section 17 of RA9147.

A draft DENR Administrative Order has been prepared to incorporate these provisions.

Other laws such as the Philippine Fisheries Code of 1998 (Republic Act 8550) have provision/s that also requires all government agencies, as well as the private firms and entities who intend to undertake activities or projects which will affect the habitats of the rare, threatened and endangered aquatic species to prepare a detailed EIA that shall be submitted to the DENR for review and evaluation.

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 | X |
| d) Yes, mechanisms are in place (please provide details below) | |

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.

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) | |
| d) Yes (please provide details below) | X |

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

The CITES and CMS, and the MOU on the Conservation and Management of Marine Turtles and Their Habitats of the Indian Ocean and Southeast Asia (MT-IOSEA) are the agreements on activities likely to significantly affect biodiversity outside the country's jurisdiction.

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 | |
| 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 | X |

| | |
|--|----------|
| 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 | |
| c) No, but mechanisms are in advanced stages of development | |
| d) Yes, mechanisms are in place (please provide details below) | X |
| Further information on national mechanisms for emergency response to the activities or events which present a grave and imminent danger to biodiversity. | |
| <p>The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) created a task force to intensify and make more effective the government's alertness on the avian flu virus that might reach the country through migratory birds.</p> <p>DENR Special Order (SO) 878 issued in October 28, 2005 created "Task Force Wild Bird" (TFWB) which will operate the DENR's nerve center to keep a close watch on the country's 55 wetland areas and implement measures that will prevent local fowls and even humans from venturing into wading areas of migratory birds.</p> | |

| | |
|--|----------|
| 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 | X |
| c) Yes, some aspects being applied (please specify below) | |
| d) Yes, major aspects being applied (please specify below) | |
| Further comments on application of the guidelines. | |
| <p>The EIA Law is currently undergoing revision/refinement, thus, it is timely to review the Guidelines for Incorporating Biodiversity-Related Issues into Environment-Impact-Assessment Legislation or Processes.</p> | |

| | |
|---|----------|
| 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. | |
| Some measures in place to prevent damage to biological diversity: | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Philippine EIA System or PD 1586 and its subsequent refinements. - The Wildlife Resources Conservation and Protection Act or RA 9147 and its IRR and other related directives - Philippine Fisheries Code of 1998 (Republic Act 8550) have provision/s that also requires all government agencies, as well as the private firms and entities who intend to undertake activities or projects which will affect the habitats of the rare, threatened and endangered aquatic species to prepare a detailed EIA that shall be submitted to the DENR for review and evaluation. - NCBP's Guidelines on Planned Release of Genetically Manipulated Organisms (GMOs) and Potentially Harmful Exotic Species - DA Administrative Order No. 8 series of 2002 "Rules and Regulations for the Importation and Release in the Environment of Plants and Plant Products Derived From the Use of Modern Biotechnology - Drafting of a DENR Administrative Order on "Guidelines and Procedures for Environmental Impact and Biosafety Assessment on the Introduction and Release of Genetically-Modified Organisms (GMOs) and Potentially Harmful Exotic Species (PHES) | |

| | |
|---|----------|
| 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 Philippines is currently cooperating with other ASEAN countries in the formulation of a Formulation of Draft ASEAN Framework Agreement on Access and Benefit Sharing from the Utilization of Biological and Genetic Resources.</p> <p>Other types of cooperation with other parties to strengthen capacities at the national level for the prevention of damage to biodiversity are (1) establishment of the ARCBC through a grant from the European Union (b) formulation of guidelines for bioprospecting in the Philippines from GTZ and other training courses on the implementation of other multilateral agreements such as CITES and CMS.</p> | |

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.

The Philippine EIA System has been in place for quite sometime but it has not yet incorporated recent issues and concerns on biodiversity such as those on GMOs, wildlife and exotic species. Although provisions on this are already in RA 9147 (Wildlife Resources Conservation and Protection Act), capacity to do impact assessment in this aspect still has to be developed. The review of the Guidelines for Incorporating Biodiversity-Related Issues into Environment-Impact-Assessment Legislation or Processes has to be done soon to coincide with the revision/refinement of the EIA Law. This step when completed, will pave the way for the achievement of many of the 2010 targets as well as the MDG.

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

b) Yes (please provide details below)

X

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 Wildlife Resources Protection and Conservation Act or RA 9147 regulates access to genetic resources. The Implementing Rules and Regulations (Joint DENR-DA-PCSD-NCIP Administrative Order No. 01 entitled Guidelines for Bioprospecting Activity in the Philippines approved on January 14, 2005) provides separate regulations for access for purposes of scientific research and commercial research (bioprospecting). The Indigenous Peoples Right Act (IPRA Law of RA 8371) protects the right of the indigenous people to exclude others in exploiting natural resources within their ancestral domain. Before any person is allowed access to these resources, free and prior informed consent of the community obtained in accordance to the customary laws, is required. The regulations governing bioprospecting further require that benefits derived from the utilization of biological and genetic resources shall be shared fairly and equitable with the community.

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 | |
| 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 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.

The FAO International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture governs the relations of contracting parties regarding access to genetic resources identified by parties listed in the Multilateral System of Exchange. This Treaty is consistent with the objectives of the CBD.

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 | |
| 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) | X |

Further information on the type of measures taken.

The Joint DENR-DA-PCSD-NCIP Administrative Order No. 01 entitled Guidelines for Bioprospecting Activity in the Philippines approved on January 14, 2005 provides equitable sharing scheme for benefits derived from bioprospecting activities. The legal basis for this IRR includes the Wildlife Resources Conservation and Protection Act, EO 247 and the country's commitments to the CBD.

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 | |
| b) Yes (please provide details below) | X |

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.

The IRR of the Wildlife and Resources Act does not cover material sourced from the country covered by international agreements such as the ITPGRFA.

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

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

The Bonn Guidelines had been considered in the formulation of the Joint Administrative Order on Bioprospecting Guidelines. There are no documentation on either its success or constraints in its implementation as of this time since the Joint AO was issued less than 2 years ago.

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 | |
| 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) | X |
| 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.

The Implementing Rules and Regulations of the Plant Variety Protection Act requires disclosure of breeding history as part of the criteria for granting a plant variety certificate.

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.

Policy interventions on access and benefit-sharing should be complemented by capacity at the national and local level in order to ensure success of implementation. Information about access and benefit-sharing should be widely disseminated to increase the awareness and appreciation of key stakeholders and major players in biodiversity conservation. These two preconditions will predispose the successful implementation of the commitments to the CBD and contribute to the progress towards achieving the 2010 targets and the MDG.

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.

The Department of Agriculture has issued Administrative Order (AO) No. 8. series of 2002 "Rules and Regulations on the Importation and Release of plants and Plant Products Derived from the Use of Modern Biotechnology. The AO requires that DA regulatory agencies conduct a formal determination of safety approval on the use and importation of any GMO before any activity involving that GMO begins.

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 | |
| c) Yes, some measures are in place | X |
| 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 | |
| c) Yes, some policies and measures are in place (please provide details below) | X |
| d) Yes, comprehensive policies and measures are in place (please provide details below) | |
| e) Not applicable | |

Further information on the measures taken.

For item #118, that access has been established under the FAO International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources For Food and Agriculture. However, the Philippines has yet to ratify this treaty.

For item #119, some measures are practiced such as the "freedom to operate" agreement. Freedom to operate is a mode of transferring technology by which the use of a protected material granted for research but subject to limitations when the product developed reaches commercialization.

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.

So far, these measures (i.e. Department of Agriculture Administrative Order No. 8, series of 2002, freedom to operate), have facilitated transfer of technology from the private sector.

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

Transfer of approved technologies is a mandate of the Department of Agriculture. Extension of technologies can be both provided by private and government sector through farm field test.

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) | |
| 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.

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.

In the agriculture sector, basic assessments have been undertaken. Local capacity is a prerequisite to successful technology transfer.

| | |
|--|----------|
| 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 | |
| b) No, but assessments are under way | |
| c) Yes, some assessments undertaken (please provide details below) | X |
| 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. | |
| Yes, the DA has issued its implementing rules and regulations on the use of plant and plant products derived from modern biotechnology. The DA requires a formal determination of safety of humans and environment before the use of any of these products. The core decision point for an approval of a permit is a risk assessment (food safety, feed safety, human and environmental safety). No activity commences without a permit. | |

| | |
|---|----------|
| 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 | |
| b) No, but some programmes are under development | |
| c) Yes, some programmes are in place and being implemented (please provide details below) | X |
| 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. | |
| The Biosafety Clearing House (BCH) of the Cartagena Protocol and the CBD Clearing House Mechanism (CHM) are examples of such measures. Based on the National Biosafety Framework, the National Committee on Biosafety of the Philippines shall be the focal point for the BCH. The Philippines has signified its interest to participate in the UNEP-GEF Project for Building Capacity for Effective Participation in the BCH. | |

| | |
|---|----------|
| 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. | |

Measures include the provisions in the Joint AO 1 on Bioprospecting Rules and Regulations for access and the National Biosafety Framework which is a general framework for products of modern biotechnology.

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.

The local legislation on bioprospecting and the proposed National Biosafety Framework uphold the goals of the CBD which include sustainable use of resources, conservation and protection.

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.

The implementation of this article had been given low priority in this reporting period. This is because despite the fact that communication infrastructure is already in place in most urban centers in the country, information or knowledge at source is not yet systematically organized. This is one of the main reasons why exchange of information does not take place – because when information is not organized, the person will still have to spend time putting them together, thus the flow of information is hampered, or in worst cases, stopped. This is the reason why the CHM in the country is not fully operational.

Other initiatives/organizations that facilitate the exchange of information include SEARCA and ARCBC. The full operationalization of the Clearing House Mechanism should contribute significantly to information exchange on biodiversity conservation.

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

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

To date, there are already comprehensive measures in place at the national level to promote international technical and scientific cooperation in the field of conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity. Institutions that contribute significantly to this technical and scientific cooperation include the ASEAN Regional Center for Biodiversity Conservation, the Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization- Regional Center for Graduate Study and Research in Agriculture (SEAMEO SEARCA), Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center, the University of the Philippines – Marine Sciences Institute, and several universities and academic institutions and other government agencies such as the Department of Agriculture, Department of Health, and the Department of Science and Technology. However, there is still a need to expand participation in technical and scientific cooperation initiatives among Parties to fully benefit from the implementation of this Article.

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

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 | |
| b) Yes (please provide some examples below) | X |

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

There are joint research programs that are being undertaken for the development of technologies relevant to the objectives of the convention among South East Asian countries through the SEARCA. (<http://web.searca.org>)

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 | |
| c) Yes, links established with relevant NGOs, private sector and institutions | X |

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 | |
| b) No, but relevant initiatives under consideration | X |
| c) Yes (please provide details below) | |
| Further comments on development of relevant initiatives. | |
| | |

| | |
|--|----------|
| 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. | |
| | |

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.

Technical and scientific cooperation should be implemented in a well-directed manner in order to optimize benefits for biodiversity conservation. Thus, priorities should be identified and partnerships actively sought among parties. The full operationalization of the CHM will greatly contribute to the achievement of the 2010 goals, the MDG, the Strategic Plan of the Convention as well as the objectives of the NBSAP.

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 | |
| c) Yes, some measures are in place | X |
| 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.

For item #135, resources which can be used for research can be accessed through the Joint DENR-DA-PCSD AO #1 or the IRR of Republic Act 9147 or commonly called the Bioprospecting IRR..

For item #136, the Material Transfer Agreement provides that the resource provider can share in the commercial benefits of the research which has used the resource accessed.

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 | Please refer to table in Box LX.1. |
| b) Extra-budgetary resources (identified by donor agencies) | |
| c) Bilateral channels (identified by donor agencies) | |
| d) Regional channels (identified by donor agencies) | |
| e) Multilateral channels (identified by donor agencies) | |
| f) Private sources (identified by donor agencies) | |
| g) Resources generated through financial instruments, such as charges for use of biodiversity | |

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.

a) Budgetary allocations by national and local Governments as well as different sectoral ministries

Biodiversity conservation cuts across many sectors. This implies that initiatives with their corresponding budgets spent by other relevant sectors (i.e. Department of Agriculture, Department of Science and Technology, Department of Health, Department of Tourism, Department of Trade and Industry, Department of National Defense) which are directly or indirectly benefiting biodiversity conservation should also be accounted for as investments towards this purpose. However, since there is still no standardized financial reporting for this purpose, it is not possible to come up with an exact figure of the financial resources utilized for the implementation of the Convention. Below, however, are estimates which could be useful in terms of looking at trends in the allocation of financial resources for biodiversity conservation.

Table LX.1

| Agency | Amount allocated directly or indirectly to biodiversity conservation (2002-2005) | % |
|---|--|--------|
| Department of Environment and Natural Resources | 20,396,798,000 | 42.855 |
| Department of Agriculture | 12,125,382,000 | 25.476 |
| Department of Agrarian Reform | 9,668,140,000 | 20.313 |
| Department of Science and Technology | 4,865,492,000 | 10.223 |
| Department of Tourism | 539,322,000 | 1.133 |
| Department of Health | No data available | |
| Department of Trade and Industry | No data available | |
| Department of National Defense | No data available | |
| Department of Interior and Local Government | No data available | |
| Total (in Philippine peso) | 47,595,134,000 | 100% |

Further, since there is no mechanism in place to report or monitor financing assistance specifically on biodiversity conservation from other sources (i.e. donor community, private sector, user charges, etc.) it is not possible to come up with a reasonable estimate as requested in the above item.

An Example of a Biodiversity Trust Fund

The Foundation for the Philippine Environment Inc., is a non-stock, grant-making organization, established to help reverse the rapid destruction of the Philippine natural resource base through strategically-designed and fully-integrated conservation programs. The Foundation is committed to provide financial resources needed to strengthen and support non-governmental organizations (NGOs), people's organizations (POs) and other groups addressing critical environmental challenges throughout the Philippine archipelago.

Under a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) among the government of the Republic of the Philippines, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the Foundation, an endowment fund of P569,809,065.00 (equivalent to \$22 million at the time of the transfer to the Foundation) was established in April 1994 to support environmental activities specially focused on biodiversity conservation activities of NGOs and POs in the Philippines. A large portion of the fund, which is the financial base of the Foundation is invested in securities being managed by banks and financial institutions. Only the interest and earnings of the fund shall be used for environmental activities of the Foundation.

The Foundation also receives funds from others. The funds are generally restricted for use in specified projects and programs approved by the respective donors.

The Foundation is exempt from payment of income taxes under Section 30 (g) of the National Internal

Revenue Code, as amended in 1998. However, income of whatever kind and character of the Foundation, on any of its properties, real or personal or from any of its activities conducted for profit, regardless of the disposition of such income, shall be subjected to income tax imposed under the Code. (FPE Annual Report 2002-2004).

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.

Please refer to Box **LIX** and **LX**.

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

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

For item #139 - The country received new and additional funds from the financial mechanism but this was not enough to meet the agreed incremental costs of implementing measures, which fulfill the obligations to the Convention.

For item #141 – There is no mechanism to monitor financial support to biodiversity in the country to date.

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. | |
| | |

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. | |
| | |

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) | |
| d) Yes, in major initiatives and plans (please provide details below) | X |
| Further comments on review and integration of biodiversity considerations in relevant initiatives, policies and plans. | |
| <p>The MTPDP for 2004-2010 contains a chapter on environment and natural resources including targets on biodiversity. These are further elaborated on in the sectoral plans of the DENR (General Plan of Action).</p> | |

| | |
|--|--|
| 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 | |
| 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 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 (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) | X | | |
| 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) | | | |
| g) Projects that promote measures for implementing Article 13 (Education and Public Awareness) (decision VI/19) | | 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. | | | |
| The total funding support for biodiversity conservation received by the country from the UNDP-GEF for the period 2002-2005 is approximately USD8,940,441.77. | | | |

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.

The funding received for the abovementioned areas helped the country in implementing its NBSAP and in meeting the commitments to the CBD.

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 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | | |
| (b) Limited public participation and stakeholder involvement | 3 | 1 | 2 | 1 | | |

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

| | | | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|---|--|--|
| (u) Poverty | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | | |
| (v) Population pressure | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | | |
| (w) Unsustainable consumption and production patterns | 1 | 3 | 3 | 3 | | |
| (x) Lack of capacities for local communities | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | | |
| (y) Lack of knowledge and practice of ecosystem-based approaches to management | 1 | 3 | 3 | 3 | | |
| (z) Weak law enforcement capacity | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | | |
| (aa) Natural disasters and environmental change | 3 | 3 | 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 Programme of Work on Inland Water Ecosystem of the CBD has not been disseminated to national implementers before this reporting cycle although similar efforts have been undertaken as part of existing national or sectoral strategies, policies, plans and activities. As part of the Third National Reporting Process, key personalities representing key agencies and organizations were convened in a workshop for the purpose of reviewing said program of work and ascertaining which of the objectives and relevant activities have been already incorporated in the existing policies,

strategies, action plans and activities. The Programme of work was reviewed vis-s-vis the following documents: (a) Philippine Agenda 21 (b) NBSAP and PBCP (c) Medium Term Philippine Development Plan (2004-2010), (d) the National Wetlands Action Plan, and other related sectoral plans.

To date, there is still no national wetlands policy and that the existing Action Plan has to be revisited being more than a decade old. This undertaking would facilitate the incorporation/harmonization of the objectives and activities under the programme of work and national policies/initiatives.

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).

Outcome oriented targets have not yet been set. However, priority activities and some targets have been identified to a limited extent in the Medium Term Philippine Development Plan as well as in the Department of Environment and Natural Resources Sectoral Plans and Programs (DENR Major Final Output [MFO] and General Plan of Action [GPOA]). A few examples are mentioned below:

A. As indicated in the Medium Term Philippine Development Plan:

By 2010, manage 39 priority wetlands.

By 2010, adopt Integrated Water Resources Management Approach

- Ensure clean water resources for the entire country through the full implementation of the Ecological Solid Waste Management Act and the Clean Water Act
 - Improve water quality through close and regular monitoring of 18 priority rivers nationwide and reduce biological oxygen demand (BOD) in Pasig River by 50 percent to provide for adequate oxygen for aquatic life to survive
 - Reclassify the remaining 202 unclassified principal water bodies nationwide, based on their best and most suitable uses, for better water quality management

B. As indicated in the DENR Sectoral Plans and Programs:

Major Final Output: Critical ecosystems protected and degraded ones rehabilitated

Priority activities:

- Development and Rehabilitation of Hinulugang Taktak National Park
- Designation of critical habitats
- Management of Critical Habitats
- Preparation of management prescriptions for classified caves and wetland areas
- Establishment of protected areas (including those with inland waters)
- Assessment and classification of significant caves/wetland areas

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 | |
| c) No, but potential measures were identified for synergy and joint implementation | |
| d) Yes, some measures taken for joint implementation (please specify below) | X |
| 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.

Some initiatives were undertaken to identify potential measures for synergy and joint implementation between CBD and Ramsar Conventions. The potential synergies between the two MEAS were looked into during the process of preparing the National Capacity Needs Assessment Document. Further, a study was undertaken to look at mechanisms that will promote synergy in implementation of the commitments to the MEAS where the Philippines is a signatory.

The Joint Work Plan (CBD-Ramsar) still has to be reviewed thoroughly so that tasks for joint implementation could be identified and institutionalized. Plans to undertake this activity has been already included in the priority next steps for both the Ramsar and CBD National Report Preparation.

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.

Although there are steps being taken to improve national data on the abovementioned parameters, they are very limited and unsystematically documented and stored. Among the more notable efforts are the following:

- a) Fish Catch and Fish Production in some lakes i.e. Laguna de Bay and Taal Lake);
- b) Resource Valuation studies done in Laguna de Bay which was used as basis for implementing the Environmental User's Fee System. Currently, the EUFS for households

is still under development.

- c) Hydrological studies for Laguna de Bay and Pasig River
- e) Threats to which inland waters are subjected to were identified in the Philippine Biodiversity Conservation Priorities Project Process and are constantly being updated during workshops and consultations. There is however, no systematic manner of monitoring and documentation.

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.

To date, the Programme of Work on Inland Waters has still to be fully integrated into the national strategies and plans of the country. What has been done so far was to review the program elements and see whether these are already incorporated or being addressed in the national and sectoral strategies and plans. A more detailed assessment has yet to be undertaken.

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 | X |
| 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 | X |

| | |
|---|----------|
| initiatives in the box below) | |
| 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) | |
| 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. | |
| There is currently a national marine policy which is being enhanced through the proposed Sustainable Philippine Archipelagic Development Framework. | |

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 | X |
| d) Arrangements in place (please provide details below) | X |
| e) Not applicable | |
| Further comments on the current status of implementation of integrated marine and coastal area management. | |
| <p>Implementation status of integrated marine and coastal areas in the country varies depending on which level one looks at. At the national level, various landmark policies are in place (national marine policy) but needs to be revisited considering the archipelagic nature of the country. At the local level, as a result of decentralization under the Local Government Code, communities are now empowered to craft local ordinances and implement activities promotive of integrated marine and coastal area management, i.e. establishment of fish sanctuaries, etc.</p> <p>Moreover, the proposed Sustainable Philippine Archipelagic Development Framework recommends several modes of institutional arrangements for strengthening integrated marine and coastal management.</p> <p>At the transboundary level, these concerns are being addressed both in the Sulu-Celebes Sea Commission Action Plan and the Sulu-Sulawesi Marine Ecoregion Conservation Program.</p> | |

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

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

The application of ecosystem-based management of marine and coastal resources in the country is already in its advanced stages. There are already examples of how this is being applied, as illustrated in the project described below.

This project called "Biodiversity Conservation and Management of the Bohol Islands Marine Triangle" aims to ensure that options and existence values embodied in the globally significant area (BMT) are conserved. A more effective, equitable and sustainable planning, implementation, monitoring and enforcement of biodiversity conservation efforts will be established through the following inputs:

- a) strengthened government and community institutions to facilitate application of a coastal management framework, with the establishment and maintenance of marine reserves as a major component;
- b) development and application of policies and guidelines that will facilitate the elimination of destructive activities
- c) relevant and reliable information for monitoring and inventory as basis to establish sustainable harvesting
- d) compliance with environmental guidelines improved through a programme of education and awareness building
- e) alternative conservation schemes
- f) targeted ecosystem rehabilitation will improve overall ecosystem health and contribute to improved well-being of local communities
- g) an Integrated Master Plan for BMT is established and operationalized.

The project will be accomplished through a community-based conservation management and multi-sectoral partnership between the government, local industries, non-government and people's organization.

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) | X |
| c) A comprehensive assessment is currently in progress | X |
| 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) | X |
| 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

On items (b) and (c) - Plans for a comprehensive assessment of marine and coastal ecosystems are in place (please provide details below); and a comprehensive assessment is currently in progress

- all surveys conducted regularly by the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources include biophysical and socio-economic components

On items (d) - Critical ecosystem components have been identified, and management plans for them are being developed (please provide details below)

- critical ecosystem components have been identified in the NBSAP and the PBCP as well as in the Key Biodiversity Areas

On item (e) - Management plans for important components of marine and coastal ecosystems are in place (please provide details below)

- all Protected Areas declaration requires management and monitoring plan

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. | | | | |
| <p>There are a number of initiatives from the government, NGOs, research and academic institutions regarding the abovementioned activities, albeit in a somewhat uncoordinated manner. Many of the activities mentioned above (i.e. assessment, community participation and partnerships, livelihood), are already being implemented as regular activities of the DENR Coastal and Marine Management Office, Department of Agriculture - Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources and many community-based initiatives. These are also major features in projects such as the "Conservation of Tubbataha Reef National Marine Park and World Heritage Site-TRNMP" as well as "Biodiversity Conservation and Management of the Bohol Islands Marine Triangle.</p> <p>Restoration of degraded coral reef habitats and concerns on coral bleaching has received attention from the academe and other research institutions (University of the Philippines – Marine Sciences Center, Silliman University, De la Salle University, among others).</p> | | | | |

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) | X |
| b) Management plans for these marine and coastal protected areas have been developed with involvement of all stakeholders | X |
| 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 | X |
| g) The national system of marine and coastal protected areas includes areas which exclude extractive uses | X |
| 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. | |
| <p>On item 158(a), there are three (3) marine and coastal protected areas have been declared and gazetted. These are the Batanes Protected Landscape and Seascape, Sagay Protected Landscapes and Seascapes, and the Sierra Madre Natural Park.</p> <p>On item 158(b), all three areas have management plans that had been developed with almost all stakeholders.</p> <p>On items (f) and (g), there are areas designated for protection and for sustainable use consistent with the NIPAS Act.</p> | |

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. | X |

| | | |
|--|--|----------|
| 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 | X |
| 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. | | |
| There are rules and guidelines for items (a), (b), and (c) above, but application is not being practiced. | | |

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 | X |
| b) Mechanisms to control potential invasions from ballast water have been put in place (please provide details below) | |
| c) Mechanisms to control potential invasions from hull fouling have been put in place (please provide details below) | |
| d) Mechanisms to control potential invasions from aquaculture have been put in place (please provide details below) | |
| e) Mechanisms to control potential invasions from accidental releases, such as aquarium releases, have been put in place (please provide details below) | |
| 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. | |
| | |

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.

The Programme of Work on Coastal and Marine Resources have to be reviewed in a more in-depth manner by the various implementing agencies and organizations to ensure integration and mainstreaming in the country's national and sectoral plans, as well as taking into account the achievement of 2010 targets and MDG.

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 | |
| 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) | X |

Further comments on agrobiodiversity components in national strategies, programmes and plans.

There are already comprehensive strategies, programmes and plans in place to ensure the development and successful implementation of policies and actions that lead to the conservation and sustainable use of agrobiodiversity components. These are included in the Philippine Agenda 21, the NBSAP, the NAP, and in relevant sectoral plans such as those of the Department of Agriculture and the Philippine Council for Agriculture and Resources Research of the Department of Science and Technology.

However, the country has to put working mechanisms in place to coordinate these efforts for a more directed implementation and outcomes.

162. Has your country identified ways and means to address the potential impacts of genetic use restriction technologies on the *In-situ* and *Ex-situ* conservation and sustainable use, including food security, of agricultural biological diversity? (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 *In-situ* and *Ex-situ* conservation and sustainable use of agricultural biodiversity.

GURTS is currently not in the market.

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 | |
| b) Yes, assessments are in progress (please specify components below) | X |
| c) Yes, assessments completed (please specify components and results of assessments below) | |
| Further comments on specific assessments of components of agricultural biodiversity. | |
| <p>Assessments of components of agricultural biodiversity, are being undertaken for plant genetic resources, animal genetic resources and pest management through the work of the Department of Agriculture – Bureau of Pland Industry and the University of the Philippines (National Institute for Applied Microbiology and Biotechnology (BIOTECH), Institute of Plant-Breeding, and Institute of Biological Sciences), Philippine Rice Research institute, Philippine Sugar Research Institute, among others.</p> | |

| | |
|---|----------|
| 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 | |
| b) Yes, assessments are under way | X |
| 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). | |
| <p>This is an activity under the Network of Protected Areas for Agriculture and Agro-industrial Development (NPAAAD).</p> | |

| | |
|---|----------|
| 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 agroecosystem services for food production and food security? | |
| a) No | |
| b) Yes, assessment is under way | X |
| 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. | |
| To a limited extent, an assessment of knowledge, innovations and practices of farmers and indigenous and local communities in sustaining agricultural biodiversity and agroecosystem services for food and food security has been done through the efforts of the Bureau of Agricultural Research in cooperation with the Protected Areas and Wildlife Bureau. A UNDP-GEF study was conducted in 2002-2003 as part of an Enabling Activity grant for biodiversity that looked into the documentation and crafting of a mechanism by which these innovations and practices could be systematically documented. | |

| | |
|---|----------|
| 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. | |
| There is no information to support that the Philippines has been monitoring overall degradation of agricultural biodiversity since the time the CBD entered into force. | |

| 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 | |
| c) Yes, some practices, technologies and policies identified (please provide details below) | X |
| d) Yes, comprehensive practices, technologies and policies identified (please provide details below) | |
| Further comments on identified management practices, technologies and policies. | |
| Some practices, technologies and policies that promote the positive and mitigate the negative impacts of agriculture on biodiversity, including those that enhance productivity and the capacity to | |

sustain livelihoods have been identified. Some of these were identified through the efforts of the Bureau of Agricultural Research in cooperation with the Protected Areas and Wildlife Bureau through UNDP-GEF study was conducted in 2002-2003 as part of an Enabling Activity grant for biodiversity.

On the policy aspect, the country being a party to International Plant Protection Convention also implements policies related to this program element as part of the regular activities of the concerned agencies especially the Department of Agriculture.

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 *In-situ* conservation, sustainable use and management of agricultural biological diversity?

| | |
|--|----------|
| a) No | |
| b) Yes (please specify area/component and target groups with increased capacity) | x |

Further comments on increased capacities of farmers, indigenous and local communities, and their organizations and other stakeholders.

The government, the academe, some research institutions, as well as some NGOs have implemented capacity-building activities over the years that are intended to make them more capable of carrying out sustainable agrobiodiversity practices. These include efforts done by the Department of Agriculture through their Network of Agricultural State Universities and Colleges and the Bureau of Plant Industry.

Examples of capacity building projects being implemented by NGOs (SEARICE or the Southeast Asia Regional Initiatives for Community Empowerment):

Community Biodiversity Development and Conservation (CBDC- Third Phase) and Biodiversity Use and Conservation in Asia Program (BUCAP) with activities such as:

- Farmers' Field Schools on PGR-CDU
- Formation of PGR Youth
- Rice Sanctuary
- Community Registry
- Participatory Plant Breeding and Participatory Varietal Selection
- Farmers' Field Days
- Rice Festivals
- Farmer-to-Farmer Seed Exchange
- Anti-GMO Campaign
- Collaboration with Academic Institution with regards to conservation of rice varieties developed by farmers
- Community Organizing
- Network building with other local NGOs
- Farmers' Field Schools on PGR-CDU
- Formation of PGR Youth
- Rice Sanctuary
- Community Registry

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 | |
| b) No, but potential mechanisms being identified | |
| c) No, but mechanisms are under development | |
| d) Yes, mechanisms are in place | X |

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 | |
| 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) | X |

Further comments on the measures taken to improve the policy environment.

Measures are already being implemented to improve the policy environment, including benefit-sharing and incentive measures to support local-level management of agricultural biodiversity. To wit:

The Wildlife Resources Protection and Conservation Act regulates access to genetic resources. The Implementing Rules and Regulations (Joint DENR-DA-PCSD-NCIP Administrative Order No. 01 entitled Guidelines for Bioprospecting Activity in the Philippines approved on January 14, 2005) provides separate regulations for access for purposes of scientific research and commercial research (bioprospecting). The prior informed consent is required under the Indigenous People's Rights Act.

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 | |
| d) Yes, some national plans or strategies mainstreamed and integrated into some sectoral plans and programmes (please provide details below) | X |
| 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.

The conservation and sustainable use of agricultural biodiversity, to a certain extent, is integrated in the sectoral plans of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, the Department of Agriculture, as well as in the Department of Science and Technology.

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 | X |
| d) Yes, by developing training material | |
| e) Yes, by supporting capacity-building at policy, technical and local levels | X |
| f) Yes, by promoting synergy in the implementation of agreed plans of action and between ongoing assessment and intergovernmental processes. | X |

Further comments on support for institutional framework and policy and planning mechanisms.

The Department of Agriculture (DA) and the Department of Natural Resources (DENR) have been coordinating work on the aspects mentioned above. In fact, it is one of the agencies that jointly issued the guidelines for bioprospecting. The DA is a member of the Philippine Council for Sustainable Development Sub-Committee on Biodiversity and as such, it regularly participates in discussions and decision-making concerning agricultural biodiversity issues.

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 | |
| b) Yes (please provide details below) | X |

Further comments on of the conservation of the variability of genetic resources for food and agriculture in their center of origin.

Related activities are being implemented by the Department of Agriculture (Bureau of Agricultural Research, Bureau of Plant Industry), by the academe (Institute of Plant Breeding – University of the Philippines), among others.

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.

No information on actions taken by the country to implement the Plan of Action for the International Initiative for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Pollinators.

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.

There is an urgent need to review the programme of work on agricultural biodiversity in a more in-depth manner to ensure integration of relevant elements into national and sectoral plans taking into consideration the 2010 targets and the achievement of the MDG.

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 | |
| 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

The work programme of CBD on forest biological diversity was only brought to the attention of the stakeholders in the process of preparing the Third National Report to the CBD (this report). However, during this preliminary review of the said work programme, it was found out that many of the relevant elements are already incorporated in the existing national biodiversity and forest strategies, programmes and action plans.

These include the Philippine Agenda 21, Medium Term Philippine Development Plan (MTPDP) for 200-2010, NBSAP/PBCP, NAP, and other sectoral plans of the concerned government agencies, i.e. DENR (Revised Master Plan for Forest Development), DA, DOST, etc. NGOs and other civil society efforts are also noteworthy in the incorporation of the elements in their plans.

It should be noted that the preliminary review showed that the MTPDP targets on forestry are leaned towards investment and economic interests and not centered on conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.

Process

The process by which the NBSAP/PBCP and the sectoral plans were formulated had been highly consultative, participative involving all major stakeholders from all sectors of society.

However, due to the retrospective manner in which the programme of work was reviewed against the existing national strategies and action plans, there is still a need to conduct a more in-depth review to ensure that the relevant elements are indeed incorporated in these national and sectoral

documents. This process when undertaken should be able to resolve issues such as the bias of the MTPDP on investment and economic interests as well as in setting targets for priority actions and documentation of lessons learned in the process.

Constraints/Obstacles

The most daunting obstacle in the process is the difficulty in rationalizing irreconcilable interests and priorities among stakeholders holding different points of view.

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.

The Philippines has applied various tools and measures used in policy, planning, management, assessment and measurement to facilitate the implementation of the activities in the work programme that are already components of national and sectoral strategies and action plans. Some of the more recent tools are resource valuation, GIS, remote sensing, action research, Criteria and Indicators for SFM, among others.

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.

In the formulation of national strategies and most sectoral plans, the National Commission for Indigenous Peoples are among those who invited to participate in the discussions and setting directions. Aside from the NCIP, representatives of IPs and local communities are also invited to participate. Republic Act 8371 or the IPRA Law (Indigenous Peoples' Rights Law) protects and respects the rights and interests of the IPs especially when it comes to indigenous knowledge systems and practices.

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.

For the period under review, the National Capacity Needs Self-Assessment (NCSA) document has indicated that there had been adequate capacity building among individuals in the field of biodiversity conservation. This implies that efforts made towards building expertise had been adequate. Details on available human resources capacity building programs are in Article 12- Research and Training.

However, efforts in building capital resources had been inadequate especially in aid of research and enforcement.

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 country has engaged in some North-South Cooperation with other governments and international organizations in implementing elements of the work programme that are already incorporated in the national and sectoral strategies and action plans. An example of a North-South cooperation project is the the Philippines-Netherlands Biodiversity Research Programme (BRP) for Development in Mindanao: Focus on Mt. Malindang and its Environs. Its aim was to build capacity for local communities, government, academe, and other stakeholders to promote and undertake the sustainable use of biological resources and effective decision-making on biodiversity conservation. BRP was envisioned to break new ground in developing a location-specific, interactive and landscape approach to biodiversity research that will contribute to the conservation, restoration and sustainable use of biological diversity in the Mindanao region

In implementing these types of cooperative projects, constraints are mainly on sourcing counterpart local funding and peace and order situations since most of these forested areas are also areas where insurgency movements are still found.

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)

c) Yes (please provide details below)

X

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).

As mentioned earlier, the overall framework in the formulation of the NBSAP and the PBCP uses the ecosystems approach. This is further affirmed in the issuance of Executive Order 318 dated June 9, 2004 "promoting Sustainable Forest Management in the Philippines" In the formulation of the Master Plan for Forestry Development, the overall framework/strategy was anchored on the watershed and ecosystem management approach as the overarching principle.

However, the review of the implementation of the said Master Plan showed that it fell short of expected outcomes which resulted in coming up with the revised Forestry Master Plan where one of the priority strategies is "protected area and biodiversity conservation".

The Forestry Sector Vision is stated as " A sustainably managed watershed and forest resources providing environmental and economic benefits to society with globally competitive industries contributing to the national economy and upliftment of upland communities' welfare." Among the general objectives to pursue this vision is "To enhance protective and biodiversity values of forests".

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 Policies have been issued to reduce the threats and mitigate the impacts of threatening processes on forest biological diversity. |
| 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).

Under the National Integrated Protected Areas Act (NIPAS Act), logging or any commercial exploitation of forestry resources in old growth forests, proclaimed watershed and other areas covered by the NIPAS is prohibited to ensure perpetual existence of all native plants and animals.

The issuance of Executive Order No. 318 (signed in 2004) entitled "Promoting Sustainable Forest Management in the Philippines" is one of the more recent measures made to reduce threats to and mitigate impacts of threatening processes on forest biodiversity. The Revised Master Plan for Forestry Development also contains strategies and activities to reduce threats to biodiversity conservation.

However, there is a need for a strong political will to enforce these laws/legislations, as well as valuation studies to support them as recently, these have been the subject of national debate (i.e. mining and commercial logging in protected areas).

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 Policies have been issued and activities undertaken to protect, recover and restore forest biological diversity. |
| 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).

There are relevant provisions in Executive Order No. 318 (signed in 2004) entitled "Promoting Sustainable Forest Management in the Philippines" such as the holistic, sustainable and integrated development of forestry resources taking into account the rehabilitation of critical denuded forest areas. Under the National Integrated Protected Areas Act (NIPAS Act), logging or any commercial

exploitation of forestry resources in old growth forests, proclaimed watershed and other areas covered by the NIPAS is prohibited to ensure perpetual existence of all native plants and animals. Proclaimed protected areas have management plans designed to maintain and enhance their forest biodiversity components, services and values.

The implementation of the Samar Island Biodiversity Project (SIBP) and the Sustainable Management of Mt. Isarog's Territories (SUMMIT) are examples of how protected area management integrates measures to protect, recover and restore forest biological diversity.

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

| Options | X | Details |
|---------|-------------------------------------|---|
| a) Yes | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Please specify priority actions in relation to each objective of goal 4 and describe measures undertaken to address these priorities Policy/ies issued and relevant activities undertaken. |
| b) No | <input type="checkbox"/> | 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).

Some of the relevant policies issued and activities undertaken include:

- NIPAS Law (RA 7586)
- Wildlife Resources Protection and Conservation (RA 9147)
- Executive Order No. 318 (signed in 2004) entitled "Promoting Sustainable Forest Management in the Philippines"
- Revision of the Master Plan for Forest Development

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

| Options | X | Details |
|---------|-------------------------------------|--|
| a) Yes | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Please specify priority actions in relation to each objective of goal 5 and describe measures undertaken Policies have been issued in relation to this objective. |
| b) No | <input type="checkbox"/> | 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 Wildlife Resources Protection and Conservation Act regulates access to genetic resources. The Implementing Rules and Regulations (Joint DENR-DA-PCSD-NCIP Administrative Order No. 01

entitled Guidelines for Bioprospecting Activity in the Philippines approved on January 14, 2005) provides separate regulations for access for purposes of scientific research and commercial research (bioprospecting). The prior informed consent is required under the Indigenous People's Rights Act. There are fairly new legislations thus it is still not possible to assess effectiveness of actions taken, lessons learned, impacts on biological resources as well as constrains, tools and targets.

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 Policies have been issued and relevant activities undertaken. |
| 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).

There are several policies and relevant activities undertaken:

- Wildlife Resources Protection and Conservation Act (RA 9147)
- Joint DENR-DA-PCSD-NCIP Administrative Order No. 01 entitled Guidelines for Bioprospecting Activity in the Philippines
- Indigenous People's Rights Act (RA Executive Order No. 318 (signed in 2004) entitled "Promoting Sustainable Forest Management in the Philippines"
- Revised Master Plan for Forest Development

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 Policies issued and some relevant activities undertaken. |
| 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).

- Executive Order No. 318 (signed in 2004) entitled "Promoting Sustainable Forest Management in the Philippines" contains provisions on proper valuation and pricing of forestry resources.
- Revised Forestry Master Plan likewise has similar provisions.

These measures are fairly new, thus, there are no available information yet on the effectiveness of their implementation.

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 Relevant activities are being implemented. |
| 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).

Relevant activities are described in items 91-100 under Article 13 (Public Education and Awareness)

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 Policies issued and relevant activities undertaken. |
| 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).

The Forest Resource Assessment (FRA) Project is a grant agreement between the Forest Management Bureau (FMB) of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) and the Forestry Department of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), in support of the Forest Resources Assessment Programme of FAO. It is being undertaken under the auspices of the FRA Programme, the FAO program tasked to lead the implementation of the Global Forest Re-

sources Assessment, and to support national forest assessments.

The Global Forest Resources Assessment on the other hand, is a global process led by FAO that collects, analyzes, manages and makes available information about forest resources, their management and uses for all countries. It is an FAO initiative which aims to provide up-to-date information on the state of the world's forest resources on a continuing basis.

The FRA aims to enhance the social, economic and environmental functions of the forest and trees resources through their sustainable management on the basis of better understanding of their qualitative and quantitative importance. To do this, it will (a) develop and reinforce capacities of the national forestry institutions in the Philippines to design, plan, implement forest inventory projects and manage information; and (b) design and carry out a forest inventory project that satisfies national needs in information and reliability and set up a monitoring system for future surveys; and (c) design and set up a forestry information system to process field data and manage the generated information.

Other on-going activities on forest assessment that complements the FRA project are the following:

- Forestry Statistical Information System (FSIS)
- Development of Criteria and Indicators (C&I) for Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) in the Philippines
- Revision of the Master Plan for Forest Development (MPFD)
- Community-Based Forest Management (CBFM)
- Biodiversity Monitoring System

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 | <p>Please identify priority actions in relation to each objective of goal 2 and describe measures undertaken to address these priorities</p> <p>Relevant activities are being undertaken.</p> |
| b) No | | <p>Please provide reasons below</p> |

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).

Please refer to item 183.

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 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Please identify priority actions in relation to each objective of goal 3 and describe measures undertaken to address these priorities |
| b) No | <input type="checkbox"/> | 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).

Please refer to item 183.

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 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Please identify priority actions in relation to each objective of goal 4 and describe measures undertaken to address these priorities Relevant activities being undertaken. |
| b) No | <input type="checkbox"/> | 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).

Please refer to item 183.

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.

The adoption of Sustainable Forest Management as the overarching policy in response to the alarming condition of the Philippine forest predisposed the issuance of related policies and crafting of activities that would move the country towards the long-term stability of the forest resources and reverse its current critical state.

The continued pursuit of SFM is expected to lead to concrete achievements even in biodiversity conservation 2010 targets, the NBSAP and the MDG.

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

b) Yes (please provide details below)

X

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

The Philippine National Action Plan to Combat Desertification, Land Degradation, Drought, and Poverty or the NAP for short was only crafted in August 2004. However, it supports the activities in this programme of work by including them in the NAP thematic programs namely: Sustainable Agriculture and Marginal Uplands Development and Integrated Ecosystems Management.

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.

Under the National Action Plan of the UNCCD which was approved by the four major concerned government agencies (Department of Agriculture, Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Department of Science and Technology, Department of Agrarian Reform), most of the elements of the programme of work has been integrated. Among the actions included are the following:

- Promotion and development of community-based wilderness agriculture for improvement of forest productivity and rehabilitation
- Establishment of network of farmer experts' systems and farmers' participatory learning centers for technology adaptation and development of understanding desertification,

biodiversity and climate change

- Enhancement of home gardens for food and wood sufficiency and genetic diversity especially in sand dune areas of the Ilocos Region
- Development of compendium for community-defined useful plants, herbs, and wildlife and their location, niches habitats as well as their distribution

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) | |
| c) Yes, extensive linkages established (please provide details below) | X |

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.

The preparation of the NAP was largely participatory and had the benefit of getting inputs from a multi-sectoral group of stakeholders at the national, regional and local levels. It institutionalized a multi-sectoral collaborative planning and implementation of the NAP by having the four major concerned government agencies work together, along with key stakeholders, in crafting the document and approving/endorsing it as a major step in achieving the vision of sustainable development. Owing to the said process, the action programs in the NAP include provisions that are relevant to the other environmental agreements notably the UNCBD and 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 | X |
| b) No, but assessment is ongoing | |
| c) Yes, some assessments undertaken (please provide details below) | |
| 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.

Although there might be some studies done on this aspect, there are no available systematic documentation that can be referred to or can be considered an assessment of the state of dryland biodiversity. However, the NAP which was just recently completed include activities that will contribute to the assessment as indicated under the following projects, among others:

- Establishment of network of farmer experts' systems and farmers' participatory learning centers for technology adaptation and development of understanding desertification, biodiversity and climate change
- Enhancement of home gardens for food and wood sufficiency and genetic diversity especially in sand dune areas of the Ilocos Region
- Development of compendium for community-defined useful plants, herbs, and wildlife and their location, niches habitats as well as their distribution

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 | |
| b) Yes, some measures taken (please provide details below) | X |
| 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.

The NBSAP as well as the NAP of the UNCCD have strategies as well as projects that promote the conservation and sustainable use of the biological diversity of dry and sub-humid lands as mentioned (examples are mentioned in questions 187-190).

On the sharing of benefits arising out of the utilization of its genetic resources, there is an existing policies as stated in the Wildlife Resources Protection and Conservation Act, the Joint DENR-DA-PCSD-NCIP Administrative Order No. 01 entitled Guidelines for Bioprospecting Activity in the Philippines and the Indigenous People's Rights Act.

The causes of loss of biological diversity in dry and sub-humid lands and its socio-economic consequences have also been identified and measures are being taken by means of policy and project interventions (please refer to answers to questions 187-190). Specific projects/activities are included in the following documents:

- National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan/Philippine Biodiversity Conservation Priorities
- National Action Plan for the UNCCD
- Medium Term Philippine Development Plan

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.

A National Capacity Needs Self-Assessment for Global Environmental Management Study was undertaken in 2004-2005. The study identified the capacity needs of the country in meeting its obligations and commitments to the three Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs): the UN Convention on Biological Diversity, the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), and the UN Convention to Combat Desertification. It came up with the national NCSA document which recommended the areas where capacity needs across the three conventions will be addressed. To date, a downstream project arising from the study is now in the pipeline for GEF funding. Said project is envisioned to generate global environmental benefits through the creation of an enabling policy environment at the national level through the establishment of coordination mechanisms at

the focal agencies. This project will enable the country to implement its commitments to the UNCBD, UNCCD, and UNFCCC in a coordinated and cost effective manner.

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.

The Philippine National Action Plan to Combat Desertification, Land Degradation, Drought, and Poverty or the NAP for short was only completed in August 2004, however, activities under the plan has already taken into consideration its contribution to the achievement of the MDG.

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

In the Philippines, threats to mountain ecosystems are similar to threats to forest ecosystems since most of the country's forestlands are in elevated, mountainous areas. (Please refer to item 176).

194. Has your country taken any measures to protect, recover and restore mountain biodiversity?

| | |
|--|----------|
| a) No | |
| b) No, but some 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 protect, recover and restore mountain biodiversity

Please refer to item 177.

| | |
|---|----------|
| 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 | |
| b) No, but some 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 to promote the sustainable use of mountain biological resources and to maintain genetic diversity in mountain ecosystems | |
| Please refer to item 178. | |

| | |
|---|----------|
| 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 | |
| b) No, but some 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 for sharing the benefits arising from the utilization of mountain genetic resources | |
| Please refer to item 179. | |

| | |
|---|----------|
| 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. | |
| The policy guiding the conservation and sustainable use of forest/mountain biodiversity is Sustainable Forest Management. | |

| | |
|--|----------|
| 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 | X |
| b) No, but some cooperation frameworks are being considered | |
| c) Yes (please provide details below) | |
| Further information on the regional and/or transboundary cooperative agreements on mountain ecosystems for conservation and sustainable use of mountain biodiversity | |
| | |

| | |
|---|----------|
| 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 | |
| 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 for identification, monitoring and assessment of mountain biodiversity | |
| Please refer to item 183. | |

| | |
|---|----------|
| 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) | X |
| 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 | |
| Please refer to item 183. | |

201. Has your country taken any measures to develop, promote, validate and transfer appropriate technologies for the conservation of mountain ecosystems?

| | |
|--|----------|
| a) No | |
| b) No, but relevant programmes are under development | |
| 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 develop, promote, validate and transfer appropriate technologies for the conservation of mountain ecosystems

Please refer to item 183.

Box LXXIII.

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.

| |
|--|
| |
|--|

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) | |

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) | X |
| 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. | |
| The ASEAN has an ASEAN Senior Officials on the Environment (ASOEN) where concerns on environment and natural resources, specifically biodiversity, are discussed. The PAWB chairs one its Working Groups which is the ASEAN Working Group on Nature Conservation and Biodiversity. | |

| | |
|---|----------|
| 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 |

| | |
|--|----------|
| 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. | |
| Initiatives within the auspices of the ASEAN and the ARCBC. | |

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.

The format predisposes a reporting process that is tedious, resource-intensive, complicated, and time-consuming. It did not take into consideration the limitations of developing countries like the Philippines that a systematic national reporting mechanism is still not in place.

The format itself is repetitive and the questions are hard to interpret. It would have helped if in the instructions, examples of how it can be accomplished are included. It does not leave enough room for developing countries to articulate their responses since explanations in the boxes are already limited by the questions being asked in the first place.

The Philippines, just like many developing countries, has a lot to improve when it comes to generating, organizing, and simply handling data and information. Considering the cross-sectoral nature of biodiversity and the limited resource it has to work with, information systems is just one of the many urgent matters it has to deal with. Very often than not, this takes a lesser priority compared to other more pressing concerns.

Without financial assistance from GEF, the Philippines could not possibly come up with a report in this format that will have at the same time undergone a participative process. It should be noted that the consultation process is one of the means to validate data and information coming from many sources. However, this process is very resource-intensive.

It is, therefore highly recommended, that a review of the reporting process take into consideration the situation in developing countries and that a more streamlined, simplified and concise format be designed to enable developing countries to have a more meaningful reporting process.
