

St. Vincent & the Grenadines



2nd National Biodiversity Report

Environmental Services Unit
Ministry of Health & the Environment
2004

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Acronyms

ACP – African Caribbean and Pacific
BPoA – Barbados Programme of Action
CABI – Centre for Agriculture and Biosciences International
CANARI – Caribbean Natural Resources Institute
CARDI – Caribbean Agricultural Research and Development Institute
CDB – Caribbean Development Bank
CBD – Convention on Biodiversity
CCA – Caribbean Conservation Association
CDERA – Caribbean Disaster Emergency Response Agency
CERMES – Centre for Resource Management and Environmental Studies
CFTDI – Caribbean Fisheries Technological Development Institute
CHM – Clearing House Mechanism
CIRAD – Centre for International Research and Development
CITES – Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species
COP – Conference of the Parties
CREP – Caribbean Regional Environmental Programme
CRFM – Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism
CSD – Commission on Sustainable Development
CTI – Climate Technology Initiative
CWSA – Central Water and Sewage Authority
EAF - -Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries
EIA – Environmental Impact Assessment
EU – European Union
FAO – Food and Agricultural Organisation
FMDP – Forestry Management and Development Plan
GCMN – Global Coral Reef Monitoring Network
GEF – Global Environment Fund
GMO – Genetically Modified Organism
ICCAT – International Convention for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas

Acronyms

ICRAN – International Coral Reef Action Network
ICRI – International Coral reef Initiative
IEA – International Energy Agency
IFMDP – Integrated Forest Management and Development Programme
IICA – Inter-American Institute for Cooperation in Agriculture
IWC – International Whaling Commission
JICA – Japan International Cooperation Agency
JOCV – Japan Overseas Corporation Volunteers
LMO – Living Modified Organism
MARPOL – Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships
MEDO – Mayreau Environmental Development Organisation
NBSAP – National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan
NEAB – National Environmental Advisory Board
NGO – Non Governmental Organisation
OECS – Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States
OECS-ESDU – Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States Environmental and Sustainable
Development Unit
PAHO – Pan American Health Organisation
PSA – Public Service Announcement
SBSTTA – Subsidiary Body on Scientific Technical and Technological Advice
SIDS – Small Island Developing States
SPAW - Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife
SVG – St. Vincent and the Grenadines
UNCCD – United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
UNFCCC – United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
USDA - United States Department of Agriculture
UWI – University of the West Indies
VINLEC - St. Vincent Electricity Services Ltd.
WECAFC – Western Central Atlantic Fisheries Commission

Acronyms

WHC – World Heritage Convention

WINFA – Windward Islands Farming Association

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¹ Also known as the Barbados Programme of Action (BPoA)

Please provide summary information on the process by which this report has been prepared, including information on the types of stakeholders who have actively involved in its preparation and on material which was used as a basis for the report.

Information for this report was collected primarily through interviews with appropriate personnel in the various agencies responsible for biodiversity management. The Legal Department and related offices (eg. Intellectual Property Rights Office) were also contacted. In most cases (except where only a few questions needed to be asked), the interviewees were given a copy of the questions a few days before the interview to make them better prepared to answer.

Some of the information collected for this report was also gathered through the use of appropriate documents such as the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) as well as supplementary national reports related to biodiversity.

In addition to interviewing appropriate personnel in biodiversity related agencies, a number of other persons were consulted. These included contractors who worked on the NBSAP as well as those who prepared preliminary reports associated with the preparation of the National Biodiversity Assessment Report. Representatives from environmental NGOs were also contacted.

Various local documents were also sourced. These include appropriate pieces of biodiversity related legislation, work plans, corporate plans, and management and development plans of agencies responsible for biodiversity management.

A number of other materials aided in the preparation of this document, particularly those found on the website and Clearing House Mechanism of the Convention on Biodiversity accessed through the Internet URL www.biodiv.org. Documents referred to included the text of the CDB, and decisions associated with the various meetings of the Conference of Parties, along with the various thematic programmes of work. Biodiversity related conventions were also referred to. Other websites sourced included those of environmental organisations in the Caribbean and those which dealt with biodiversity related treaties and undertakings.

A variety of biodiversity related books and booklets were also consulted, including:

- ◆ Heywood, V.H. 1995. *Global biodiversity assessment*. Cambridge University Press; Cambridge (Published for UNEP).
- ◆ FAO Fisheries Department. 2003. *The ecosystem approach to fisheries*. FAO Technical Guidelines for Responsible Fisheries. No. 4. Suppl. 2. Rome, FAO.

After the first draft of this report was completed, the main interviewees received a copy of the answers relating to their areas of specialization, so that they could verify the accuracy of the information. A final copy of this report was then prepared and then submitted to the Environmental Services Unit in the Ministry of Health and the Environment, the agency responsible for submission to the appropriate office of the United Nations Development Programme.

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

Although the Environmental Services Unit in the Ministry of Health and the Environment is responsible for coordinating the various biodiversity reports and is the focal point for the CBD, actual biodiversity management rests with a number of agencies. The major agencies are the Forestry Department in the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries and the Fisheries Division in that same Ministry. The Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries as a larger entity also consists of other departments and units which have responsibilities relating to biodiversity management. These include the Plant Protection Unit, the Animal Health and Production Unit, and the Research and Development Unit.

Another important agency responsible for biodiversity related matters is the Central Planning Unit in the Ministry of Finance and Planning. This agency deals with land use management and spatial mapping of natural resources. It is also responsible for ensuring the enforcement of legislation relating to Environmental Impact Assessments (EIA) and environmental mitigation. There is also the recently formed (2003) National Parks, Rivers and Beaches Authority which operates under the Ministry of Tourism and Culture as well as the Tobago Cays National Marine Park which is managed by a board.

There are also various private corporations and statutory organisations involved in certain aspects of biodiversity management. These include the electrical company, St. Vincent Electricity Services Ltd. (VINLEC) and the Central Water and Sewage Authority.

Since there is no single agency concerned with biodiversity management the coordination of management efforts is particularly challenging. Consequently data-gathering for this exercise (preparation of the Second National Biodiversity Report) presented an additional challenge, since the reporter had to compile the various priority ratings afforded to the articles in the convention, and then produce a rating that reflected overall national priority.

It is important to note that while biodiversity issues are dealt with as part of the work programs of the above-mentioned agencies, biodiversity as a separate concern is not given adequate attention. Thus the various work programmes outlined in the decisions made by the Conference of Parties are generally not deliberately tackled, but instead tend to coincide with strategies being implemented by the various agencies. One exception however, is the Environmental Services Unit in the Ministry of Health and the Environment. The work programme of this unit centres around a number of key environmental issues and the implementation of various international conventions and regional initiatives, including those relating to biodiversity. Though understaffed, the unit hires consultants to assist with the implementation of the CDB and also seeks to facilitate linkages among the various biodiversity related conventions.

In reading this report, it will become evident that the greatest priority in terms of biodiversity lies in the agricultural sector. Although the tourism sector has bypassed agriculture in terms of GDP contribution, the latter is still of great economic importance. As a result agricultural development, reform and diversification are high on the list of government activities. This may help to explain the apparent disproportionate amount of resources concentrated on biodiversity as it relates to agriculture.

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

It is also important to note that the issue of biodiversity conservation and sustainable use is also being tackled from a regional stand point, and that St. Vincent and the Grenadines is participating in a number of regional projects/initiatives that aim to achieve many of the objectives outlined in the CBD. Following is a brief description of a few of the regional biodiversity related efforts.

In 1990 St. Vincent and the Grenadines adopted the Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife (SPAW) Protocol, which became international law in 2001 . This protocol was designed to regionalize global conventions such as the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the International Coral Reef Initiative (ICRI) and its action component, the International Coral Reef Action Network (ICRAN), and the Global Coral Reef Monitoring Network (GCMN). See *Appendix A* for more information on the SPAW Protocol.

In 2003 a demonstration project was launched in St. Vincent and the Grenadines under the Caribbean Regional Environment Programme (CREP). The main objective of the project is “to enhance the contribution of natural areas of biodiversity and economic significance to the sustainable development of CARIFORUM¹ member states. The project is intended to help local people make a living while applying the principles of sustainable use. See *Appendix B*.

In 2001, St. Vincent and the Grenadines (SVG) signed the St. Georges Declaration of Principles for Environmental Sustainability in the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS). This set of principles mandates actions specific to biodiversity conservation. See *Appendix C* for detail.

At the 1994 Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States (SIDS) in Barbados, countries in the region, including St. Vincent and the Grenadines, adopted a Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of SIDS, also known as the Barbados Programme of Action (BPoA). Chapter IX of this programme of action outlines a number of activities to be undertaken at the national level as it regards biodiversity conservation. These activities coincide with many of the articles in the CBD. See *Appendix D* for more information.

Besides the various regional efforts, a number of local NGOs are involved in various biodiversity related projects. One outstanding NGO is the Bequia Sandwatch Group which is involved in the monitoring beach erosion, coral bleaching and other environmental hazards. Another group is the Mayreau Environmental Developmental Organisation (MEDO), based on the Grenadine Island of Mayreau, which collects and updates various checklists of biodiversity in St. Vincent and the Grenadines and which is involved in a number of conservation and sustainable use projects. This group is also engaged in a number of environmental education activities. In addition, the University of the West Indies Centre for Resources Management and Environmental Studies (CERMES) is coordinating a project in the Grenadines that seeks to build the capacity of local communities to manage their biodiversity.

Notes:

1. CARIFORUM – The Caribbean Forum of African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) States.

The COP has established programmes of work that respond to a number of Articles. Please identify the relative priority accorded to each theme and the adequacy of resources. This will allow subsequent information on implementation of the programmes of work at the end of these guidelines.

Inland water ecosystems

1. What is the relative priority for the implementation of this work programme in your country?	
a) High	
b) Medium	✓
c) Low	
d) Not relevant	
2. To what extent are the resources available adequate for meeting the obligations and recommendations made?	
a) Good	
b) Adequate	
c) Limiting	✓
d) Severely limiting	

Marine and coastal biological biodiversity

3. What is the relative priority for the implementation of this work programme in your country?	
a) High	
b) Medium	✓
c) Low	
d) Not relevant	
4. To what extent are the resources available adequate for meeting the obligations and recommendations made?	
a) Good	
b) Adequate	
c) Limiting	✓
d) Severely limiting	

Agricultural biological biodiversity

5. What is the relative priority for the implementation of this work programme in your country?	
a) High	
b) Medium	✓
c) Low	
d) Not relevant	
6. To what extent are the resources available adequate for meeting the obligations and recommendations made?	
a) Good	
b) Adequate	

c) Limiting	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Severely limiting	<input type="checkbox"/>

Forest biological diversity

7. What is the relative priority for the implementation of this work programme in your country?	
a) High	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Medium	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Low	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Not relevant	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. To what extent are the resources available adequate for meeting the obligations and recommendations made?	
a) Good	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Adequate	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Limiting	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Severely limiting	<input type="checkbox"/>

Biological diversity of dry and sub-humid lands

8. What is the relative priority for the implementation of this work programme in your country?	
a) High	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Medium	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Low	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Not relevant	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. To what extent are the resources available adequate for meeting the obligations and recommendations made?	
a) Good	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Adequate	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Limiting	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Severely limiting	<input type="checkbox"/>

Further comments on work programmes and priorities

Inland Water Ecosystems

Inland water ecosystems in St. Vincent and the Grenadines consist mainly of rivers and streams. Over the years, these ecosystems have indirectly fallen under the responsibility of the Forestry Division in the Ministry of Agriculture & Fisheries, which manages water catchments and forest ecosystems. More recently (2002) a National Parks, Rivers and Beaches Authority was established as part of the Ministry of Tourism & Culture. This agency also has responsibilities for biodiversity conservation in inland water ecosystems.

Since the state of rivers and streams is critical to the condition of water catchments and consequently the health of all, inland water ecosystems are generally given high priority at a national level. Statutory bodies, mainly the Central Water and Sewage Authority (CWSA) and the St. Vincent Electricity Services Ltd. (VINLEC) also have a critical stake in inland water resources and therefore contribute to their management.

However although the management of inland water ecosystems is generally given high priority, the priority given to the management of biodiversity in these ecosystems can be rated as “medium”. While some of the management strategies overlap with the inland water ecosystems programme of work as outlined in Annex 1 of Decision IV/4, biodiversity management is not one of the main reasons for the implementation of these strategies. As a result there are a number of areas in the programme of work that have not been addressed. These include the valuation of inland water biological diversity and the development of criteria and indicators for the evaluation of impacts from various activities. Nevertheless, a number of other areas in the programme of work have been addressed, albeit indirectly.

Marine and Coastal Biological Diversity

The management of marine and coastal biological diversity is the responsibility of the Fisheries Division in the Ministry of Agriculture & Fisheries. As is the case with the inland water ecosystems and forest ecosystems, biodiversity issues are addressed as part of the national policy and programmes. With reference to the work programme outlined in Decision IV/5, the country continues to indirectly fulfil a number of the objectives outlined under the various programme elements. Notwithstanding, there are a number of other objectives that have not been given much attention mainly due to the lack of human and financial resources. These include objectives relating to alien species and genotypes, and the development of indicators. It can therefore be concluded that the priority given to this programme of work is “medium”.

Agricultural biological diversity

Of all the different types of biodiversity outlined in this report, agricultural biodiversity is perhaps given the greatest attention, especially as it relates to economic stability and food security. In recent years, the contribution of agriculture to the GDP of St. Vincent and the Grenadines (SVG) has been on the decline, and as a result the Government has placed much emphasis on agricultural diversification and greatly supports research and development in this field. A number of programme elements as outlined in Annex 5 of Decision V/5 are inherently incorporated into diversification activities. A number of elements in the programme of work have been addressed. However, there is still much to be done and resources continue to be inadequate.

Further comments on work programmes and priorities

Forest Biological Diversity

While overall forest conservation has been given high priority, matters relating specifically to forest biodiversity have not been given as much attention. In terms of the work programme outlined in the Annex to Decision IV/7, resources are inadequate to deal with some of the programme elements, including the development of indicators for forest biodiversity. However, a number of other elements in the programme of work have been given increasing attention. These include the development of methodologies for integrated forest management.

The Forestry Division has recently embarked on an Integrated Forest Management and Development Programme (IFMDP). The aim of this programme is to “ensure the effectiveness and sustainable management of our forests and their resources, to provide optimum benefit to the people of St. Vincent and the Grenadines, through people involvement and cooperation.” This aim is embodied in the CBD work programme for forest biological diversity. The Integrated Forest Management and Development Programme has three main components, (1) programme management, (2) strengthening of the Forestry Department and (3) alternative community livelihood projects. Improved biodiversity management is expected to be one of the main benefits of the IFMDP.

Biological diversity of dry and sub-humid lands

Dry and sub-humid lands exist mainly in the Grenadines and on the south east and south west coasts. It must be noted that St. Vincent and the Grenadines is a multi-island state and this creates additional challenges when it comes to distribution of resources among the islands. While a number of activities outlined in the programme of work (Annex 1, Decision V/23) are ongoing, others, such as the development of indicators, still need to be addressed.

Article 5 Cooperation

11. What is the relative priority afforded to implementation of this Article and the associated decisions by your country?			
a) High	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	b) Medium	c) Low
12. To what extent are the resources available adequate for meeting the obligations and recommendations made?			
a) Good	<input type="checkbox"/>	b) Adequate	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Limiting	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	d) Severely limiting	<input type="checkbox"/>
Further comments on relative priority and on availability of resources			
<p>St. Vincent and the Grenadines places high priority on cooperating with other Contracting Parties, particularly those in the Caribbean region. Alliances are formed at the government level as well as at the level of individual agencies. Cooperation is also facilitated through a number of biodiversity related conventions and protocols including, the Convention on Biodiversity (CBD), the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES), the World Heritage Convention (WHC) and the Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife Protocol (SPAW).</p> <p>Regarding the overall management of marine and coastal resources, the priority for cooperation is high. There exists significant collaboration with other countries in the region through the Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism (CRFM). The St. Vincent and the Grenadines Fisheries Division also provides technical assistance to other Fisheries Agencies through the CRFM and also on a bilateral basis. It is important to note that since the late 1980s the fisheries laws of countries in the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) have been harmonized. Currently (2004) national and regional consultations are being held regarding the establishment of a Common Fisheries Policy and Regime for the countries in the Caribbean Community (Caricom).</p> <p>Additional cooperation in the management of marine biodiversity is achieved through a number of conventions, including the International Convention for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT), the International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling (IWC), the Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL) among others. The Fisheries Division is also operating within the FAO Code of Conduct for responsible Fishing.</p> <p>The Forestry Department collaborates with international organisations such as the Rare Species Conservatory Foundation, and The Nature Conservancy. Forestry Department also works closely with an organisation called the St. Vincent Parrot Conservation Consortium, which is open to international members.</p> <p>The Ministry of Agriculture & Fisheries, as a larger body, cooperates with agencies such as the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), Taiwanese Mission, Caribbean Agricultural Research and Development Institute (CARDI), Centre for Agriculture and Biosciences International (CABI), among others. Overall collaboration exists with additional agencies including the FAO, Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States Environmental and Sustainable Development Unit (OECS-ESDU), the</p>			

Caribbean Conservation Association (CCA) and various environmental departments of the United Nations.

Participation in a number of international meetings is hampered by inadequate funds to pay membership fees. This problem resonates throughout the region and it is often necessary to seek regional representation through various regional negotiating mechanisms.

13. Is the country actively cooperating with other Parties in respect of areas beyond national jurisdiction for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity?	
a) bilateral cooperation (please give details below)	✓
b) international programmes (please give details below)	✓
c) international agreements (please give details below)	✓

Decision IV/4. Status and trends of the biological diversity of inland water ecosystems and options for conservation and sustainable use.

14. Has your country developed effective cooperation for the sustainable management of transboundary watersheds, catchments, river basins and migratory species through bilateral and multilateral agreements?	
a) no	
b) yes - limited extent (please give details below)	
c) yes – significant extent (please give details below)	✓ (marine migratory species)
d) not applicable	

Decision IV/15. The relationship of the CDB with the CSD and biodiversity-related conventions, other international agreements, institutions and processes or relevance

15. Has your country developed management plans for transboundary protected areas?	
a) no	
b) yes - limited extent (please give details below)	
c) yes – significant extent (please give details below)	
d) not relevant	✓

Decision V/21. Co-operation with other bodies

16. Has your country collaborated with the International Biodiversity Observation Year of DIVERSITAS, and ensured complementarity with the initiative foreseen to be undertaken by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation and the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity to increase scientific knowledge and public awareness of the crucial role of biodiversity for sustainable development?	
a) no	
b) to a limited extent	✓
c) to a significant extent	

Decision V/27. Contribution of the Convention on Biological Diversity to the ten-year review of progress achieved since the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development

17. Is your country planning to highlight and emphasize biological diversity considerations in its contribution to the ten-year review of progress since the Earth Summit?	
a) no	
b) yes	✓

Further comments on implementation of this Article

13. In fisheries, there exists bi-lateral cooperation between Grenada and St. Vincent and the Grenadines since these two countries share the Grenadine Islands as well as an island shelf. St. Vincent and the Grenadines is a signatory to the Convention on Migratory Species and Straddling Stocks, the International Whaling Commission (IWC), the International Convention for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT), and is involved in programmes associated with these conventions. The country is also a member of the Western Central Atlantic Fisheries Commission (WECAFC). Each of the afore-mentioned organisations possesses its own management plan for the protection of transboundary areas. Refer to page 8 for more information.

14. Of the four areas listed in this question, cooperation in the management of migratory species is the most relevant, since the geography of the country does not permit transboundary watersheds, catchments etc. As mentioned above, there is significant cooperation in the management of marine migratory species. In addition to the international conventions, regional management of migratory species is achieved through the Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism (CRFM).

In addition, increasing attention is being given to regional management of other migratory species such as birds. The Forestry Department recently (2003) participated in a Western Hemisphere meeting on migratory species and focal point has been established in St. Lucia to deal with this initiative.

Article 6 *General measures for conservation and sustainable use*

18. What is the relative priority afforded to implementation of this Article and the associated decisions by your country?				
a) High	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	b) Medium	<input type="checkbox"/>	c) Low
19. To what extent are the resources available adequate for meeting the obligations and recommendations made?				
a) Good	<input type="checkbox"/>	b) Adequate	<input type="checkbox"/>	c) Limiting
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	d) Severely limiting
Further comments on relative priority and on availability of resources				
<p>There are a number of legislative acts and regulations that incorporate the sustainable use of biodiversity. These include the Fisheries Act of 1986, Fisheries Regulations of 1987, Wildlife Protection Act of 1987, Forest Resource Conservation Act of 1992, Town and Country Planning Act of 1992, the Marine Parks Act and Marine Parks Regulations of 1997 and 1998 respectively, and the National Parks Act of 2002, among others.</p> <p>One of the major challenges is the enforcement of conservation regulations. There is also need to review and amend some of these pieces of legislation, and in some cases formulate regulations to complement the various acts, as in the case of the Forest Resource Conservation Act. Some consultants have even suggested an integration of the various pieces of environmentally related legislation into one, as a means of improving enforcement efforts and reducing overlaps.</p> <p>The implementation of measures for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity is incorporated into the work programmes, operational, corporate, and management plans of the various agencies.</p>				

20. What is the status of your national biodiversity strategy (6a)?	
a) none	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) early stages of development	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) advanced stages of development	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) completed ₂	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) completed ₂ and adopted	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) reports on implementation available	<input type="checkbox"/>
21. What is the status of your national biodiversity action plan (6a)?	
a) none	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) early stages of development	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) advanced stages of development	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) completed ₂	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) completed ₂ and adopted	<input type="checkbox"/>
f) reports on implementation available	<input type="checkbox"/>

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

22. Do your national strategies and action plans cover all articles of the Convention (6a)?	
a) some articles only	
b) most articles	✓
c) all articles	
23. Do your national strategies and action plans cover integration of other sectoral activities? (6b)?	
a) no	
b) some sectors	
c) all major sectors	✓
d) all sectors	

Decision II/7 and Decision III/9 Consideration of Articles 6 and 8

24. Is action being taken to exchange information and share experience on the national planning process with other Contracting Parties?	
a) little or no action	
b) sharing of strategies, plans and/or case studies	
c) regional strategies	✓
25. Do all of your country's strategies and actions plans include an international cooperation component?	
a) no	✓ (some, not all)
b) yes	
26. Are your country's strategies and action plans coordinated with those of neighbouring countries?	
a) no	
b) bilateral/multilateral discussions under way	
c) coordinated in some areas/themes	✓
d) fully coordinated	
e) not applicable	
27. Has your country set measurable targets within its strategies and action plans?	
a) no	
b) early stages of development	✓
c) advanced stages of development	
d) programme in place	
e) reports on implementation available	
<i>If a developing country Party or a Party with economy in transition –</i>	
28. Has country received support from the financial mechanism for the preparation of its national strategy and action plan?	
a) no	
b) yes	✓
If yes, which was the Implementing Agency (UNDP/UNEP/World Bank)	UNDP

**Decisions III/21. Relationship of the Convention with the SCD
and biodiversity-related conventions**

29. Are the national focal points for the CBD and the competent authorities of the Ramsar Convention, Bonn Convention and CITES cooperating in the implementation of these conventions to avoid duplication?	
a) no	
b) yes – limited extent	✓
c) yes – significant extent	

Further comments on implementation of this Article

24. & 26. While there has not been deliberate harmonization of the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plans (NBSAPs) in the region, information/experiences on biodiversity management is shared at regional and international workshops. It is important to recall that biodiversity management in St. Vincent and the Grenadines is covered not only in the NBSAP, but also in sectoral management plans, e.g. agriculture, forestry and fisheries. In the case of marine biodiversity, regional consultations are currently (2004) being held to develop a Common Fisheries Policy and Regime which would include strategies to address Articles 6 and 8 of the CBD.

There are also various regional projects that promote coordinated approaches to biodiversity management at the ecosystem level (e.g. marine protected areas) and at the species level (e.g. sea turtles). Refer to paragraph 2 on page 3. International coordination exists through various conventions and commissions, such as the International Convention for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) and the International Whaling Commission (IWC).

Considerable coordination exists in the area of management of marine biodiversity. In addition there is some degree of coordination in other areas such as forestry and agriculture, especially at the policy level. Regional workshops and consultations also help to shape a common approach.

27. The answer to this question is “yes”, but answer options do not include that choice. The National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan outlines various projects with measurable objectives and activities.

29. St. Vincent and the Grenadines has not yet ratified the Ramsar and Bonn Conventions. However it has ratified the CITES convention.

Article 7 Identification and Monitoring

30. What is the relative priority afforded to implementation of this Article and the associated decisions by your country?				
a) High		b) Medium	✓	c) Low
31. To what extent are the resources available adequate for meeting the obligations and recommendations made?				
a) Good		b) Adequate		c) Limiting
			✓	d) Severely limiting
Further comments on relative priority and on availability of resources				
<p align="center">Both the Forestry Department and the Fisheries Division have identification and monitoring programmes as part of their ongoing work plans. However, in many cases there is little scientific data due to inadequate human and financial resources. While there is scientific data for a few terrestrial species (e.g. the St. Vincent Parrot), observation and anecdotal reports constitute a large part of monitoring activities. A comprehensive data collection programme is in place for marine species of commercial importance, but there needs to be improvement in the monitoring of other species.</p>				

32. Does your country have an ongoing inventory programme at species level (7a)?	
a) minimal activity	
b) for key groups (such as threatened or endemic species) or indicators	✓
c) for a range of major groups	
d) for a comprehensive range of species	
33. Does your country have an ongoing inventory programme at ecosystem level (7a)?	
a) minimal activity	✓
b) for major ecosystems	
c) for a comprehensive range of ecosystems	
d) for a comprehensive range of ecosystems	
34. Does your country have an ongoing inventory programme at genetic level (7a)?	
a) minimal activity	✓
b) minor programme in some sectors	
c) major programme in some sectors	
d) major programme in all relevant sectors	
35. Does your country have ongoing monitoring programme at species level (7a)?	
a) minimal activity	
b) for key groups (such as threatened or endemic species) or indicators	✓
c) for a range of major groups	
d) for a comprehensive range of species	
36. Does your country have ongoing monitoring programmes at ecosystem level (7b)?	
a) minimal activity	
b) for ecosystems of particular interest only	✓

c) for major ecosystems	
d) for a comprehensive range of ecosystems	
37. Does your country have ongoing monitoring programmes at genetic level (7b)?	
a) minimal activity	✓
b) minor programme in some sectors	
c) major programme in some sectors	
d) major programme in all relevant sectors	
38. Has your country identified activities with adverse effects on biodiversity (7c)?	
a) limited understanding	
b) threats well known in some areas, not in others	✓
c) most threats known, some gaps in knowledge	
d) comprehensive understanding	
e) reports available	
39. Is your country monitoring these effects (7c)?	
a) no	
b) early stages of programme development	✓
c) advanced stages of programme development	
d) programme in place	
e) reports on implementation available	
40. Does your country coordinate information collection and management at the national level (7d)?	
a) no	
b) early stages of programme development	✓
c) advanced stages of programme development	
d) programme in place	
e) reports on implementation available	

Decision III/10 Identification, monitoring and assessment

41. Has your country identified national indicators of biodiversity?	
a) no	✓
b) assessment of potential indicators underway	
c) indicators identified (if so please describe below)	
42. Is your country using rapid assessment and remote sensing techniques?	
a) no	
b) assessing opportunities	
c) yes, to a limited extent	✓
d) yes, to a major extent	
e) reports on implementation available	
43. Has your country adopted a “step by step” approach to implementing Article 7 with initial emphasis on identification of biodiversity components (7a) and activities having diverse effects on them (7c)?	
a) no	✓
b) not appropriate to national circumstances	
c) yes	

44. Is your country cooperating with other Contracting Parties on pilot projects to demonstrate the use of assessment and indicator methodologies?	
a) no	
b) yes (if so give details below)	✓ (assessment only)
45. Has your country prepared any reports of experience with application of assessment methodologies and made these available to other Contracting Parties?	
a) no	✓
b) yes	
46. Is your country seeking to make taxonomic information held in its collections more widely available?	
a) no relevant collections	
b) no action	
c) yes (if so, please give details below)	✓

Decision V/7

Identification, monitoring and assessment, and indicators

47. Is your country actively involved in co-operating with other countries in your region in the field of indicators, monitoring and assessment?	
a) no	
b) limited co-operation	
c) extensive co-operation on some issues	✓
d) extensive co-operation on a wide range of issues	
48. Has your country made available case studies concerning the development and implementation of assessment, monitoring and indicator programmes?	
a) no	✓
b) yes – sent to the Secretariat	
c) yes – through the national CHM	
d) yes – other means (please specify)	
49. Is your country assisting other Parties to increase their capacity to develop indicator and monitoring programmes?	
a) no	✓
b) providing training	
c) providing direct support	
d) sharing experience	
e) other (please describe)	

Further comments on implementation of this Article

General Information:

The Forestry Department carries out inventories and censuses on the St. Vincent parrot, *Amazona guildingi*, and monitors other endemic species, mainly through observation techniques. However this agency has plans to do more scientific work in this area, for example through the use of cameras in the nests of parrots, and through the use of satellite imagery. A number of mapping projects have also been planned as part of the Forestry Inventory and Mapping Programme.

The Fisheries Division has a comprehensive data collection programme which includes biological sampling and the collection of catch and effort data. Fisheries has also embarked on a survey of coral reefs on the west coast of St. Vincent and in the Grenadines.

As part of the preparation for the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP), a number of previously documented inventories were compiled with a number of new additions. These include a list of marine and fresh water species categorized according to economic importance, a checklist of ferns, a list of the distribution of amphibian and reptile species, a list of endemic species and their habitats, and a list of bats.

A number of other lists have been compiled as part of different projects including a list of agriculturally important species and a list of wild plants.

33. Inventories at the ecosystem level tend to be more sporadic than regular. Inventories have been carried out in ecosystems such as the Tobago Cays Marine Park.

35. A programme is in place for the monitoring of marine species of commercial value, agricultural pests and certain terrestrial wildlife species.

36. Inventories have been done for large ecosystems such as the Tobago Cays National Marine Park.

37. Genetic monitoring is done for the St. Vincent Parrot as well as for some agriculturally important species.

39. The Plant Protection Unit in the Ministry of Agriculture & Fisheries monitors the effects of certain alien species on plants and commercially important crops.

40. The Environmental Services Unit is currently seeking funding for a project that would establish an integrated natural resources database, which would be accessible to appropriate agencies.

42. Rapid assessment techniques are utilized by the Seismic Unit in the Ministry of Agriculture & Fisheries and the National Meteorological Office. The Forestry Department is planning to embark on a more comprehensive inventory and monitoring programme, which would include rapid assessment techniques.

Further comments on implementation of this Article

43. While it may be possible and even desirable to have a step-by-step approach to Article 7, this may be difficult under national circumstances, especially as biodiversity identification and monitoring programmes are varied, depending on the resources and the responsible agencies. However, an integrated programme which follows basic common steps may be possible.

44. Regional cooperation exists in the assessment of marine species such as cetaceans.

46. In 2003, the Ministry of Agriculture established a resource centre through which information, including taxonomic data can be made more widely available. In addition, there is a trend toward the establishment of specialized libraries in many government departments, in an effort to make such information easily available and accessible. A large portion of available taxonomic information exists in the form of FAO species manuals and identification charts. Other resources include specialized databases such as Fishbase, which can also be accessed through the Internet. Local efforts to compile additional taxonomic data are minimal. The proposed integrated natural resource database is not specific to taxonomic data, but can provide a means through which such information can be shared.

47. There is extensive cooperation in the fisheries sector in terms of the monitoring and assessment of migratory species, through the Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism. An even greater level of cooperation is anticipated through the proposed Common Fisheries Policy and Regime for the countries in the Caribbean Community (Caricom). It is important to note however that the development of indicators is sorely lacking in all sectors.

Decisions on Taxonomy

*Decision IV/1 Report and recommendations of the third meeting of SBSTTA
[part]*

50. Has your country carried out a national taxonomic needs assessment, and/or held workshops to determine national taxonomic properties?	
a) no	✓
b) early stages of assessment	
c) advanced stages of assessment	
d) assessment completed	
51. Has your country developed a national taxonomic action plan?	
a) no	✓
b) early stages of development	
c) advanced stages of development	
d) action plan in place	
e) reports on implementation available	
52. Is your country making available appropriate resources to enhance the availability of taxonomic information?	
a) no	
b) yes, but this does not cover all known needs adequately	✓
c) yes, covering all known needs	
53. Is your country encouraging bilateral and multilateral training and employment opportunities for taxonomists, particularly those dealing with poorly known organisms?	
a) no	
b) some opportunities	✓
c) significant opportunities	
54. Is your country investing on a long-term basis in the development of appropriate infrastructure for your national taxonomic collections?	
a) no	✓
b) some investment	
c) significant investment	
55. Is your country encouraging partnerships between taxonomic institutions in developed and developing countries?	
a) no	See page 21
b) yes – stated policy	for explanation
c) yes – systematic national programme	
56. Has your country adopted any international agreed levels of collection housing?	
a) no	✓
b) under review	
c) being implemented by some collections	
d) being implemented by all major collections	

57. Has your country provided training programmes in taxonomy?	
a) no	
b) some	✓
c) many	
58. Has your country reported on measures adopted to strengthen national capacity in taxonomy, to designate national reference centres, and to make information housed in collections available to countries of origin?	
a) no	✓
b) yes – in the previous national report	
c) yes – via the clearing house mechanism	
d) yes – other means (please give details below)	
59. Has your country taken steps to ensure that institutions responsible for biological diversity inventories and taxonomic activities are financially and administratively stable?	
a) no	
b) under review	
c) yes for some institutions	
d) yes for all major institutions	✓
60. Has your country assisted taxonomic institutions to establish consortia to conduct regional projects?	
a) no	
b) under review	
c) yes – limited extent	✓
d) yes – significant extent	
61. Has your country given special attention to international funding of fellowships for specialist training abroad or for attracting international experts to national or regional courses.?	
a) no	✓
b) under review	
c) yes – limited extent	
d) yes – significant extent	
62. Has your country provided programmes for re-training of qualified professionals moving into taxonomy-related fields?	
a) no	
b) some	✓ (limited extent)
c) many	

Decision V/9 Global Taxonomy Initiative: Implementation and further advance of the Suggestions for Action

63. Has your country identified its information requirements in the areas of taxonomy, and assessed its national capacity to meet these requirements?	
a) no	✓
b) basic assessment	
c) thorough assessment	
64. Has your country established or consolidated taxonomic reference centres?	
a) no	✓
b) yes	
65. Has your country worked to increase its capacity in the area of taxonomic research?	
a) no	
b) yes	✓ limited extent
66. Has your country communicated information on programmes, projects and initiatives for consideration as pilot projects under the Global Taxonomy Initiative to the Executive Secretary?	
a) no	✓
b) yes	
67. Has your country designated a national Global Taxonomy Initiative focal point linked to other national focal points?	
a) no	✓
b) yes	
68. Has your country participated in the development of regional networks to facilitate information-sharing for the Global Taxonomic Initiative?	
a) no	✓
b) yes	
<i>If a developing country Party or Party with economy in transition -</i>	
69. Has your country sought resources through the financial mechanism for the priority action identified in the decision?	
a) no	✓
b) applied for unsuccessfully	
c) applied for successfully	

Further comments on implementation of these decisions

55. Partnerships are encouraged particularly with universities, but no stated policy.

57. Short-term training programmes and workshops have been held but focused on the identification of alien species.

60. St. Vincent and the Grenadines has provided support to researchers of educational institutions, such as the University of the West Indies to carry out taxonomic studies, with the agreement that the country receives a copy of the information collected.

62 & 65. The country lacks highly trained taxonomic specialists, however technical persons involved in identification have received short-term training, especially as it relates to the identification of alien species. While this type of training helps to increase capacity, it is only to a limited extent.

Article 8 *In situ* conservation [excluding Articles 8h and 8j]

70. What is the relative priority afforded to implementation of this Article and the associated decisions by your country?					
a) High	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	b) Medium	<input type="checkbox"/>	c) Low	<input type="checkbox"/>
71. To what extent are the resources available adequate for meeting the obligations and recommendations made?					
a) Good	<input type="checkbox"/>	b) Adequate	<input type="checkbox"/>	c) Limiting	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Severely limiting <input type="checkbox"/>					
Further comments on relative priority and on availability of resources					
<p>In general, high priority is given to <i>in situ</i> conservation. Conservation activities are of major importance on the work programmes of the Forestry Departments and the Fisheries Division, the two main agencies involved in <i>in-situ</i> conservation. In addition, recognizing the need for a more integrated approach to the conservation of natural resources important to the tourism industry, the Government has recently (2003) established a National Parks, Rivers and Beaches Authority to help ensure further protection of natural resources. However, inadequate human and financial resources dedicated to <i>in-situ</i> biodiversity conservation and inadequate enforcement of conservation laws continue to be a major challenge.</p>					

72. Has your country established a system of protected areas which aims to conserve biological diversity (8a)?	
a) system under development	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) national review of protected areas coverage available	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) national protected area systems plan in place	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) relatively complete system in place	<input type="checkbox"/>
73. Are there nationally adopted guidelines for the selection, establishment and management of protected areas?	
a) no	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) no, under development	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) yes, undergoing review and extension	<input type="checkbox"/>
74. Does your country regulate or manage biological resources important for the conservation of biological diversity with a view to ensuring their conservation and sustainable use (8c)?	
a) no	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) early stages of development	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) advanced stages of development	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) programme or policy in place	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) reports on implementation available	<input type="checkbox"/>

75. Has your country undertaken measures that promote the protection of ecosystems, natural habitats and the maintenance of viable populations of species in natural surroundings (8d)?	
a) no measures	
b) some measures in place	
c) potential measures under review	
d) reasonably comprehensive measures in place	✓
76. Has your country undertaken measures that promote environmentally sound and sustainable development in areas adjacent to protected areas (8e)?	
a) no measures	
b) some measures in place	✓
c) potential measures under review	
d) reasonably comprehensive measures in place	
77. Has your country taken measures to rehabilitate and restore degraded ecosystems (8f)?	
a) no measures	
b) some measures in place	✓
c) potential measures under review	
d) reasonably comprehensive measures in place	
78. Has your country undertaken measures to promote the recovery of threatened species (8f)?	
a) no measures	
b) some measures in place	✓
c) potential measures under review	
d) comprehensive measures in place	
79. Has your country undertaken measures to regulate, manage or control the risks associated with the use and release of living modified organisms resulting from biotechnology (8g)?	
a) no measures	
b) some measures in place	✓
c) potential measures under review	✓
d) comprehensive measures in place	
80. Has your country made attempts to provide the conditions needed for compatibility between present uses and the conservation of biological diversity and sustainable use of its components(8i)?	
a) no	
b) early stages of development	
c) advanced stages of development	
d) programme or policy in place	✓ (conservation laws)
e) reports on implementation available	
81. Has your country developed and maintained the necessary legislation and/or other regulatory provisions for the protection of threatened species and populations (8k)?	
a) no	
b) early stages of development	

c) advanced stages of development	
d) legislation or other measures in place	✓
82. Does your country regulate or manage processes or categories of activities identified under Article 7 as having significant adverse effects on biological diversity (8l)?	
a) no	
b) under review	
c) yes, to a limited extent	✓
d) yes, to a significant extent	

If a developed country Party –

83. Does your country cooperate in providing financial and other support for *in-situ* conservation particularly to developing countries (8m)?

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

84. Does your country receive financial and other support for *in-situ* conservation (8m)?

a) no	
b) yes - (if so, please give details below)	✓

Decision II/7 Consideration of Articles 6 and 8 of the Convention

85. Is action being taken to share information and experience on implementation of this Article with other Contacting Parties?	
a) little or no action	
b) sharing of little materials and/or case-studies	
c) regional meetings	✓

Further comments on implementation of this Article

75. Biodiversity related legislation include the Fisheries Act of 1986, the Fisheries Regulations of 1987, the Forest Resource Conservation Act of 1992, The Wildlife Protection Act of 1987 (amended in 1988 an 1991), the Marine Parks Act of 1997, the Marine Parks Regulations of 1998 and the National Parks Act of 2002 all provide for the regulation, management and sustainable use of biodiversity. A number of activities on the work programmes of various agencies also address these issues.

75. Forest reserves and marine conservation areas have been established through legislation.

76. In the re-acquisition of the Tobago Cays from foreign owners, an agreement was made to prohibit construction on these cays, which surround the Tobago Cays Marine Park.

77. The Forestry Division carries out reforestation activities, while the Fisheries Division has begun an artificial reef pilot project particularly for lobster. The first artificial reef will be deployed in an area devoid of natural reefs, but future projects may incorporate the deployment of reefs in areas where there is depletion of natural habitats.

78. A comprehensive programme is in place for the recovery of the St. Vincent Parrot, *Amazona guildingi* and there are private efforts to rare newly hatched hawksbill turtles for reintroduction into the wild.

79. The national biosafety project (refer to Appendix E - page 112) will address the need to institute measures to regulate, manage and control the risks associated with the use and release of living modified organisms (LMOs) resulting from biotechnology.

81. A number of threatened species are protected by a variety of conservation laws. For terrestrial species there are close seasons and harvesting bans (as is the case with the St. Vincent Parrot), while for marine species there are close seasons, minimum sizes, weight and gear restrictions. However these laws are still inadequate and better enforcement is needed.

84. The Forestry Division receives financial assistance for some of its in-situ conservation programmes from various organisations, including the Barbados Grahaeme Hall Nature Club. Financial assistance from this club is used for the upgrade of the Nicholl's Wildlife Conservatory housed at the Botanical Gardens.

85. The Environmental Services Unit (Ministry of Health and the Environment), which is responsible for coordinating the implementation of the CBD, facilitates from time to time, national and regional workshops which provide a forum for the sharing of experiences regarding conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.

Other regional meetings, for example those organised by the Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism, are not directly associated with the CBD but do address and incorporate biodiversity issues.

Article 8h Alien Species

86. What is the relative priority afforded to implementation of this Article and the associated decisions by your country?			
a) High		b) Medium	✓
87. To what extent are the resources available adequate for meeting the obligations and recommendations made?			
a) Good	b) Adequate	c) Limiting	✓
d) Severely limiting			
Further comments on relative priority and on availability of resources			
<p>Alien species that have more pronounced negative impacts on the country's economy are given much greater attention than those perceived to have less evident economic impacts. For such species, priority is high. For example, available resources are concentrated on alien species that greatly affect the agricultural industry. On the other hand, fewer resources are assigned to species such as the nine-banded armadillo whose impacts are seen as more environmental and gradual. In light of these extremes, a balanced overall rating of "medium" is given.</p> <p>The Plant Protection Unit in the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries implements a comprehensive programme to deal with the problem of agricultural pests, many of which are alien species. There are border control and quarantine systems in place at the main ports of entry. Legislation exist in the form of the Animals (National and International Movement and Disease Prevention) Act of 1994.</p> <p>It is important to note however that the multi-island nature of the country presents a major challenge in the control of alien species introduced through illegal points of entry. However intensive public education campaigns are implemented to encourage public cooperation in the prevention, control and eradication of alien species.</p>			

88. Has your country identified alien species introduced (8a)?	
a) no	
b) only major species of concern	✓ (some are new)
c) only new or recent introductions	
d) a comprehensive system tracks new introductions	
e) a comprehensive system tracks all known introductions	
89. Has your country assessed the risks posed to ecosystems, habitats or species by introduction of these alien species?	
a) no	
b) only some alien species of concern have been assessed	✓
c) most alien species have been assessed	
90. Has your country undertaken measures to prevent the introduction of, control or eradicate those alien species which threaten ecosystems, habitats or species?	
a) no measures	
b) some measures in place	
c) potential measures under review	
d) comprehensive measures in place	✓

Decision IV/1 Report and recommendations of the third meeting of SBSTTA

91. Is your country collaborating in the development of projects at national, regional, sub-regional and international levels to address the issue of alien species?	
a) little or no action	
b) discussion on potential projects underway	
c) active development of new projects	✓
92. Does your national strategy and action plan address the issue of alien species?	
a) no	
b) yes - limited extent	✓
c) yes - significant extent	

Decision V/8 Alien Species that threaten ecosystems, habitats or species

93. Is your country applying the interim guiding principles for prevention, introduction and mitigation of impacts of alien species in the context of activities aimed at implementing Article 8(h) of the Convention, and in the various sectors?	
a) no	
b) under consideration	
c) limited implementation in some sectors	
d) extensive implementation in some sectors	✓ (agricultural sector)
e) extensive implementation in most sectors	
94. Has your country submitted case studies to the Executive Secretary focusing on thematic assessments?	
a) no	✓

b) in preparation	
c) yes	
95. Has your country submitted written comments on the interim guiding principles to the Executive Secretary?	
a) no	✓
b) yes	
96. Has your country given priority to the development and implementation of alien invasive species strategies and action plans?	
a) no	
b) yes	✓
97. In dealing with the issue of invasive species, has your country developed or involved itself in mechanisms for international co-operation, including the exchange of best practices?	
a) no	
b) trans-boundary co-operation	
c) regional co-operation	
d) multilateral co-operation	✓
98. Is your country giving priority attention to geographically and evolutionarily isolated ecosystems in its work on alien invasive species?	
a) no	✓
b) yes	
99. Is your country using the ecosystem approach and precautionary and biogeographical approaches as appropriate in its work on alien invasive species?	
a) no	
b) yes	✓
100. Has your country developed effective education, training and public-awareness measures concerning the issue of alien species?	
a) no	
b) some initiatives	
c) many initiatives	✓
101. Is your country making available the information which it holds on alien species through the CHM?	
a) no	
b) some information	
c) all available information	
d) information available through other channels (please specify)	✓
102. Is your country providing support to allow the Global Invasive Species Programme to fulfil the tasks outlined in the decision and its annexes?	
a) no	
b) limited support	
c) substantial support	

Further comments on implementation of this Article

88. Some new species are being investigated. These include a black exotic lizard recently (2004) observed by the Forestry Division.

90. Preventative measures include a licensing system for all plants, animals, fruit and fish entering the country. The licensing system requires an import permit from St. Vincent and the Grenadines, and a health certificate from the country of origin. There are also mandatory inspections, quarantine stipulations, and ongoing monitoring and surveillance programmes in place.

Development and review of legislation is also a focus, such that a draft amendment to the Animals (National and International Movement and Disease Prevention) Act of 1994 is currently being reviewed by the Government's Cabinet.

In cases where species have been known to cause or threaten serious economic impacts, eradication programmes have been implemented, as was the case with the threatening Tropical Bont Tick, which has now been eradicated with the assistance of the European Union. Control systems have been put in place for other species including the Pink Mealy Bug and the West Indian Fruit Fly.

93. Most of the guiding principles are being applied in the agricultural sector. However the principles are not being applied as part of deliberate efforts to address Article 8(h), but instead coincide with the strategies being used to address broader national issues associated with alien species.

97. Cooperation exists between the Ministry of Agriculture and a number of regional and international organisations, including the European Union (EU), Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA), Pan American Health Organisation (PAHO), Center for International Research and Development (CIRAD), Centre for Agriculture and Biosciences International (CABI), United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the Caribbean Agricultural Research and Development Institute (CARDI).

100. Education initiatives are concentrated on species that have significant impacts on the agricultural industry, rather than on the general issue of alien species. Many education programmes are launched in response to problems caused by alien species, but some are implemented as part of precautionary efforts. Education programmes usually take the form of radio broadcasts, school presentations and community workshops.

101. Information on alien species is available from the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, upon request.

Article 8j Traditional knowledge and related provisions

103. What is the relative priority afforded to implementation of this Article and the associated decisions by your country?					
a) High		b) Medium		c) Low	✓
104. To what extent are the resources available adequate for meeting the obligations and recommendations made?					
a) Good		b) Adequate		c) Limiting	✓
d) Severely limiting					
Further comments on relative priority and on availability of resources					
<p>While the attention given to traditional practices has been increasing, the priority given to traditional knowledge as it relates to biodiversity is still relatively low. National focus is more concentrated on traditional and cultural practices for tourism. Recently however (2003) a document was prepared outlining traditional practices important to biodiversity. The name of the document is <i>Identifying and Preserving Traditional Practices Important to Biodiversity in St. Vincent and the Grenadines</i>, and it was prepared as part of the National Biodiversity Programme being undertaken by the Environmental Services Unit, the focal point for the CBD.</p> <p>Additional information on traditional practices is fragmented, existing in unpublished notes of herbalists, and in the form of reports and booklets prepared by students and other researchers. While a number of research projects on traditional knowledge may have been completed, some of the results are thought to exist in the libraries of various universities and institutions rather than at local libraries and documentation centres.</p> <p>The University of the West Indies (UWI) may hold a more comprehensive collection of data relating to traditional knowledge in St. Vincent and the Grenadines. In times past, UWI collaborated with the agricultural stations on mainland St. Vincent, and students from the university have done projects on traditional medicines, including chemical analyses. Currently a student from France is doing a study on traditional medicines in some regional countries, including SVG, with a view to encouraging local people to return to the use of these medicines. The study is being coordinated by the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation in Agriculture</p> <p>It must be noted too that there have been, and still are, a number of projects which incorporate various elements of the work programme outlined in Decision V 16. Current projects include the regional demonstration project being implemented in St. Vincent by the Caribbean Regional Environment Programme (CREP) and the Caribbean Conservation Association (CCA) (refer to <i>Appendix B</i>).</p> <p>An Intellectual Property Rights Office was set up to ensure that legislation regarding intellectual property rights is enacted. So far a number of related laws have been passed, while others are being drafted or are under review. Draft laws concerning plant varieties are now under consideration.</p> <p>With reference to questions about indigenous communities, please note that the answers were given with the understanding that the remaining Carib descendants can be categorized as indigenous. No other group was considered to be indigenous in the answering of these questions. It is important to note however that descendants of both Black and Yellow Caribs have integrated significantly into mainstream local communities, and are often indistinguishable.</p>					

105. Has your country undertaken measures to ensure that the knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities embodying traditional lifestyles relevant for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity are respected, preserved and maintained?	
a) no measures	
b) some measures in place	✓ (insufficient)
c) potential measures under review	
d) comprehensive measures in place	
106. Is your country working to encourage the equitable sharing of benefits arising from the utilization of such knowledge, innovations and practices?	
a) no	
b) early stages of development	✓
c) advanced stages of development	
d) legislation or other measures in place	

Decision III/4 and Decision IV/9 Implementation of Article 8(j)

107. Has your country developed national legislation and corresponding strategies for the implementation of Article 8(j)	
a) no	
b) early stages of development	✓
c) advanced stages of development	
d) legislation or other measures in place	
108. Has your country supplied information on the implementation of Article 8(j) to other Contracting Parties through media such as the national report?	
a) no	
b) yes – previous national report	
c) yes - CHM	
d) yes – other means (please give details below)	✓ (upon request)
109. Has your country submitted case studies to the Executive Secretary on measures taken to develop and implement the Convention’s provisions relating to indigenous and local communities?	
a) no	✓
b) yes	
110. Is your country participating in local working groups and meetings?	
a) no	
b) some	✓
c) all	
111. Is your country facilitating the active participation of representatives of indigenous and local communities in these working groups and meetings?	
a) no	
b) yes	✓

Decision V/16 Article 8(j) and related provisions

112. Has your country reviewed the programme of work specified in the annex to the decision, and identified how to implement those tasks appropriate to national circumstances?	
a) no	
b) under review	✓
c) yes (please provide details)	
113. Is your country integrating such tasks into its ongoing programmes, taking into account the identified collaboration opportunities?	
a) no	
b) not appropriate to national circumstances	
c) yes – to a limited extent	✓
d) yes – to a significant extent	
114. Is your country taking full account of existing instruments, guidelines, codes and other relevant activities in the implementation of the programme of work?	
a) no	
b) not appropriate o national circumstances	
c) yes – to a limited extent	✓
d) yes – to a significant extent	
115. Has your country provided appropriate financial support for the implementation of the programme of work?	
a) no	
b) not appropriate to national circumstances	
c) yes – to a limited extent	✓
d) yes – to a significant extent	
116. Has your country fully incorporated women and women’s organizations in the activities undertaken to implement the programme of work contained in the annex to the decision and other relevant activities under the Convention?	
a) no	✓
b) yes	
117. Has your country taken measures to facilitate the full and effective participation of indigenous and local communities in the implementation of the Convention?	
a) no	
b) not appropriate to national circumstances	
c) yes – to a limited extent	✓
d) yes – to a significant extent	
118. Has your country provided case studies on methods and approaches concerning the preservation and sharing of traditional knowledge, and the control of that information by indigenous and local communities?	
a) no	✓
b) not relevant	
c) yes – sent to the Secretariat	
d) yes – through the national CHM	
e) yes – available through other means (please specify)	

119. Does your country exchange information and share experience regarding national legislation and other measures for the protection of the knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities?	
a) no	
b) not relevant	
c) yes – through the CHM	
d) yes – with specific countries	
e) yes - available through other means (please specify)	✓
120. Has your country taken measures to promote the conservation and maintenance of knowledge, innovations, and practices of indigenous and local communities?	
a) no	
b) not relevant	
c) some measures	✓ (insufficient)
d) extensive measures	
121. Has your country supported the development of registers of traditional knowledge, innovation and practices of indigenous and local communities in collaboration with these communities?	
a) no	✓
b) not relevant	
c) development in progress	
d) register fully developed	
122. Have representatives of indigenous and local community organizations participated in your official delegation to meetings held under the Convention on Biological Diversity?	
a) not relevant	
b) not appropriate	
c) yes	✓
123. Is your country assisting the Secretariat to fully utilize the clearing-house mechanism to co-operate closely with indigenous and local communities to explore ways that enable them to make informed decisions concerning release of their traditional knowledge?	
a) no	
b) awaiting information on how to proceed	
c) yes	
124. Has your country identified resources for funding the activities identified in the decision?	
a) no	
b) not relevant	
c) partly	✓
d) fully	

Further comments on the implementation of this Article

119. ***Information shared upon request and through discussions at regional workshops.***

110, 111 & 122. Local communities are usually represented at national meetings held to discuss environmental matters, including the CBD. However no meetings have been held to specifically discuss Article 8i

Article 9 Ex-situ conservation

125. What is the relative priority afforded to implementation of this Article and the associated decisions by your country?				
a) High		b) Medium	✓	c) Low
126. To what extent are the resources available adequate for meeting the obligations and recommendations made?				
a) Good		b) Adequate		c) Limiting
			✓	d) Severely limiting
Further comments on relative priority and on availability of resources				
<p>The priority afforded to the ex-situ conservation of agricultural species is generally high. However it is low in other sub-sectors, such as Fisheries, partly due to lack of resources. Ex-situ conservation is practised at a few agricultural outstations and includes the conservation of citrus plants, root crops and other plants of economic importance.</p> <p>The Nicholls Wildlife Centre located at the national botanical gardens serves as an ex-situ station for the St. Vincent Parrot, <i>Amazona guildingi</i>; the Orange-winged Amazon Parrot, <i>Amazona amazonica</i> and the Common Agouti, <i>Dasyprocta punctata</i>.</p>				

127. Has your country adopted measures for the <i>ex situ</i> conservation of components of biological diversity native to your country (9a)?	
a) no measures	
b) some measures in place	✓
c) potential measures under review	
d) comprehensive measures in place	
128. Has your country adopted measures for the <i>ex situ</i> conservation of components of biological diversity originating outside your country (9a)?	
a) no measures	
b) some measures in place	✓
c) potential measures under review	
d) comprehensive measures in place	
129. If the answer to the previous question were yes, is this being done in active collaboration with organisations in the other countries (9a)?	
a) no	
b) yes	✓
130. Has your country established and maintained facilities for the <i>ex-situ</i> conservation of and research on plants and animals and micro-organisms that represent genetic resources native to your country(9b)?	
a) no	
b) yes – limited extent	✓
c) yes – significant extent	

131. Has your country established and maintained facilities for <i>ex-situ</i> conservation of and research on plants, animals and micro-organisms that represent genetic resources originating elsewhere (9b)?	
a) no	
b) yes – limited extent	✓
c) yes – significant extent	
132. If the answer to the previous question were yes, is this being done in active collaboration with organizations in the other countries (9a)?	
a) no	
b) yes	✓
133. Has your country adopted measures for the reintroduction of the threatened species into their natural habitats under appropriate conditions (9c)?	
a) no measures	
b) some measures in place	✓
c) potential measures under review	
d) comprehensive measures in place	
134. Has your country taken measures to regulate and manage the collection of biological resources from natural habitats for <i>ex-situ</i> conservation purposes so as not to threaten ecosystems and <i>in-situ</i> populations of species (9d)?	
a) no measures	
b) some measures in place	✓
c) potential measures under review	
d) comprehensive measures in place	
<i>If a developed country Party –</i>	
135. Has your country cooperated in providing financial and other support for <i>ex-situ</i> conservation and in the establishment and maintenance of <i>ex-situ</i> conservation facilities in developing countries (9e)?	
<i>If a developing country Party or Party with economy in transition –</i>	
136. Has your country received financial and other support for ex-situ conservation and in the establishment of ex-situ conservation facilities (9e)?	
a) no	
b) yes	✓

Further comments on implementation of this article

133. There have been reintroduction efforts in the case of St. Vincent Parrots born in captivity. On the Grenadine island of Bequia, there is a private turtle sanctuary which practices the reintroduction of 2 year old hawksbill turtles into the wild. However, it is important to note that these turtles were not born in captivity, but rather born in the wild, caught as hatchlings, reared in captivity and then released.

The Plant Protection Unit has recently (2004) renovated a building for the purpose of breeding and rearing natural enemies for plant pests, for the purpose of reintroduction into their natural habitats.

136. The Nicholls Wildlife Centre receives a small annual financial contribution from the Grahaeme Hall Nature Club in Barbados.

Article 10 Sustainable use of components of biological diversity

137. What is the relative priority afforded to implementation of this Article and the associated decisions by your country?					
a) High	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	b) Medium	<input type="checkbox"/>	c) Low	<input type="checkbox"/>
138. To what extent are the resources available adequate for meeting the obligations and recommendations made?					
a) Good	<input type="checkbox"/>	b) Adequate	<input type="checkbox"/>	c) Limiting	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Severely limiting <input type="checkbox"/>					
Further comments on relative priority and on availability of resources					
<p>While the agencies responsible for the management of biodiversity components recognize the need to give sustainable use high priority, these agencies are limited by lack of resources and in some cases inadequate regulations. In some cases, the availability of resources can be described as severely limiting. The Forestry and Fisheries legislation establish various conservation measures that provide for the sustainable use of biodiversity, but proper enforcement presents an enormous challenge. In addition, there are no regulations to build on the Forestry Act. However with the current challenge of enforcement, it is difficult to forecast the effectiveness of new regulations.</p> <p>Furthermore the multi-island nature of the country presents an added challenge to enforcement in the smaller Grenadine islands. Lack of human and financial resources makes it difficult to have adequate monitoring and surveillance activities in the smaller islands. In the case of fisheries, this is critical, since important habitats like coral reefs and sea grass beds are concentrated in the Grenadines.</p> <p>Both the Forestry Department and Fisheries Division are implementing ongoing public education programmes in an effort to encourage voluntary compliance with conservation measures. Still, this alone will not ensure sustainable use. Increased institutional capacity, increased official presence in the Grenadines, monitoring and surveillance activities, public education coverage, stronger support from law enforcement agencies, human/financial resources and political will are all necessary for more sustainable uses of biodiversity.</p>					

139. Has your country integrated consideration of the conservation and sustainable use of biological resources into national decision-making (10a)?	
a) no	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) early stages of development	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) advanced stages of development	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) programme or policy in place	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) review of implementation available	<input type="checkbox"/>
140. Has your country adopted measures relating the use of biological resources that avoid or minimize adverse effects on biological diversity (10b)?	
a) no measures	<input type="checkbox"/>

b) some measures in place	✓
c) potential measures under review	
d) comprehensive measures in place	
141. Has your country put in place measures that protect and encourage customary use of biological resources that is compatible with conservation or sustainable use requirements (10c)?	
a) no measures	
b) some measures in place	✓
c) potential measures under review	
d) comprehensive measures in place	
142. Has your country put in place measures that help local populations develop and implement remedial action in degraded areas where biological diversity has been reduced (10d)?	
a) no measures	
b) some measures in place	✓
c) potential measures under review	
d) comprehensive measures in place	
143. Does your country actively encourage cooperation between government authorities and the private sector in developing methods for sustainable use of biological diversity?	
a) no	
b) early stages of development	✓
c) advanced stages of development	
d) programme or policy in place	
e) review of implementation available	

Decisions IV/15 Relationship of the Convention with the Commission on Sustainable Development and biodiversity-related conventions

144. Has your country submitted to the Secretariat information on tourism and its impacts on biological diversity, and efforts to effectively plan and manage tourism?	
a) no	✓
b) yes – previous national report	
c) yes – case studies	
d) yes – other means (please give details below)	
145. Has your country submitted to the Secretariat information on biodiversity related activities of the CSD (such as SIDS, oceans, seas and freshwater resources, consumption and production patterns)?	
a) no	✓
b) yes – previous national report	
c) yes – correspondence	
d) yes – other means (please give details below)	

Decision V/24**Sustainable use as a cross-cutting issue**

146. Has your country identified indicators and incentive measures for sectors relevant to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity	
a) no	✓
b) assessment of potential indicators underway	
c) indicators identified (if so, please describe below)	
147. Has your country assisted other Parties to increase their capacity to implement sustainable- use practices, programmes and policies at regional, national, local levels, especially in pursuit of poverty alleviation?	
a) no	
b) not relevant	
c) to a limited extent	✓
d) to a significant extent (please provide details)	
148. Has your country developed mechanisms to involve the private sector and indigenous and local communities in initiatives on sustainable use, and in mechanisms to ensure that indigenous and local communities benefit from such sustainable use?	
a) no	
b) mechanisms under development	
c) mechanisms in place (please describe)	✓
149. Has your country identified areas for conservation that would benefit through the sustainable use of biodiversity and communicated this information to the Executive Secretary?	
a) no	✓ (identified only)
b) yes	

Decision V/25**Biological Diversity and Tourism**

150. Has your country based its policies, programmes and activities in the field of sustainable tourism on an assessment of the inter-linkages between tourism and biological diversity?	
a) no	
b) to a limited extent	✓
c) to a significant extent	
151. Has your country submitted case-studies on tourism as an example of the sustainable use of biological diversity to the Executive Secretariat?	
a) no	✓
b) yes	
152. Has your country undertaken activities relevant to biodiversity and tourism in support of the International Year of Ecotourism?	
a) no	
b) yes	✓
153. Has your country undertaken activities relevant to biodiversity and tourism in support of the International Year of Mountains?	

a) no	
b) yes	✓
154. Has your country undertaken activities relevant to biodiversity and tourism in support of the International Coral Reef Initiative?	
a) no	
b) yes	✓
155. Has your country established enabling policies and legal frameworks to complement voluntary efforts for the effective implementation of sustainable tourism?	
a) no	
b) to a limited extent	✓
c) to a significant extent (please describe)	

Further comments on the implementation of this Article

140. Legislative measures exist for certain marine and terrestrial species.

148. The Integrated Forest Management and Development Programme (IFMDP) concentrates heavily on the co-management activities relating to the management of forest ecosystems.

In addition there is a programme being funded by the European Union and implemented by the Caribbean Regional Environmental Programme (CREP) and the Caribbean Conservation Association (CCA), in conjunction with the National Parks Authority, which focuses on sustainable livelihoods. This project was launched in 2003 and seeks to promote co-management of high amenity areas. It will attempt to demonstrate that the private/public sector can work with local communities to achieve sustainable use of natural resources.

150. Recognizing the need for inter-linkages between tourism and biodiversity management, the Government, in 2002, established through legislation a National Parks, Rivers and Beaches Authority. This agency is part of the Ministry of Tourism and Culture, and according to the National Parks Act of 2002, one of its functions is “to ensure permanent protection of species and habitats, especially species which are threatened, rare, endemic, and commercial species and representative habitats.” There is also emphasis on environmental protection in the management plan of the Tobago Cays National Park. This park is managed by a separate board.

However, while the inter-linkages between tourism and biodiversity management are improving, they remain inadequate, particularly between the Tourism Department and other biodiversity related agencies such as the Forestry Department and Fisheries Division.

152. A rural community organisation, the North Leeward Tourism Association held activities to mark the International Year of Ecotourism.

Article 11

Incentive measures

156. What is the relative priority afforded to implementation of this Article and the associated decisions by your country?				
a) High		b) Medium		c) Low <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
157. To what extent are the resources available adequate for meeting the obligations and recommendations made?				
a) Good		b) Adequate		c) Limiting <input type="checkbox"/> d) Severely limiting <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Further comments on relative priority and on availability of resources				
<p>Incentive measures which promote biodiversity conservation and sustainable use are few, primarily because of lack of financial resources. However, there are a few in the agricultural sector; for example, farmers are charged a reduced price for fruit trees and have free access to improved breeds of animals.</p> <p>Some sustainable use initiatives, such as the Forestry's Division's Integrated Forest Management and Development Programme (IMFDP) and Caribbean Regional Environmental Programme's (CREP) demonstration project promote alternative livelihoods for persons who engage in destructive practices such as planting on hillsides and removing sand from the beaches. In these cases resources made available to participants, to help them switch to alternative livelihoods, may be considered incentives.</p>				

158. Are programmes in place to ensure the adoption of economically and socially sound measures that act as incentives for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity?	
a) no	
b) early stages of development	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) advanced stages of development	
d) programmes in place	
e) review of implementation available	
159. Do these incentives and the programmes to identify them and ensure their adoption, cover the full range of sectoral activities?	
a) no	
b) some sectors	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) all major sectors	
d) all sectors	

Decision III/18

Incentive measures

160. Has your country reviewed legislation and economic policies to identify and promote incentives for the conservation and sustainable use of components of biological diversity?	
a) no	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) reviews in progress	

c) some reviews complete	
d) as far as practically possible	
161. Has your country ensured the development of mechanisms or approaches to ensure adequate incorporation of both market and non-market values of biological diversity into plans, policies and programmes and other relevant areas, <i>inter alia</i> , national accounting systems and investment strategies?	
a) no	
b) early stages of identifying mechanisms	✓
c) advanced stages identifying mechanisms	
d) mechanisms in place	
e) review of impact of mechanisms available	
162. Has your country developed training and capacity building programmes to implement incentive measures and promote private-sector initiatives?	
a) no	
b) planned	
c) some	✓
d) many	
163. Has your country incorporated biological diversity considerations into impact assessments as a step in the design and implementation of incentive measures?	
a) no	✓
b) yes	
164. Has your country shared experiences on incentive measures with other Contracting Parties, including making relevant case-studies available to the Secretariat?	
a) no	
b) yes – previous national report	
c) yes – case studies	
d) yes – other means (please give details below)	✓ (regional workshops)

Decision IV/10 Measures for implementing the Convention [part]

165. Is your country actively designing and implementing incentive measures?	
a) no	✓
b) early stages of development	
c) advanced stages of development	
d) measures in place	
e) review of implementation available	
166. Has your country identified threats to biological diversity and underlying causes of biodiversity loss, including the relevant actors, as a stage in designing incentive measures?	
a) no	
b) partially reviewed	✓
c) thoroughly reviewed	
d) measures designed based on the reviews	
e) review of implementation available	

167. Do the existing incentive measures take account of economic, social, cultural and ethical evaluation of biological diversity?	
a) no	
b) yes – limited extent	✓
c) yes – significant extent	
168. Has your country developed legal and policy frameworks for the design and implementation of incentive measures?	
a) no	
b) early stages of development	✓
c) advanced stages of development	
d) frameworks in place	
e) review of implementation available	
169. Does your country carry out consultative processes to define clear target-oriented incentive measures to address the underlying causes of biodiversity loss?	
a) no	✓
b) processes being identified	
c) processes identified but not implemented	
d) processes in place	
170. Has your country identified and considered neutralizing perverse incentives?	
a) no	
b) identification programme underway	
c) identified but not all neutralized	✓
d) identified and neutralized	

Decision V/15

Incentive measures

171. Has your country reviewed the incentive measures promoted through the Kyoto Protocol to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change?	
a) no	
b) yes	✓
172. Has your country explored possible ways and means by which these incentive measures can support the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity in your country?	
a) no	
b) under consideration	✓
c) early stages of development	
d) advanced stages of development	
e) further information available	

Further comments and implementation of this Article

162. Training and capacity building programmes implemented in relation to the Integrated Forest Management and Development Programme (IMFDP) and the demonstration project being implemented under the Caribbean Regional Environment Programme (CREP) demonstration project (refer to *Appendix B*).

Article 12

Research and training

173. What is the relative priority afforded to implementation of this Article and the associated decisions by your country?					
a) High		b) Medium	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	c) Low	
174. To what extent are the resources available adequate for meeting the obligations and recommendations made?					
a) Good		b) Adequate		c) Limiting	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Severely limiting					
Further comments on relative priority and on availability of resources					
<p>Overall the priority given to research and training is very high, especially within the various biodiversity related agencies. However the training that relates specifically to biodiversity and related issues is inadequate. Both short and long-term training programmes are promoted. Persons wishing to pursue long term training are given study-leave with full salary for the first year and half salary for the following two years.</p> <p>Some of the local, regional and international workshops and short courses organised each year relate to the sustainable use and conservation of biodiversity. Such programmes are organised by various agencies including FAO, the Organisation for Eastern Caribbean States Environmental and Sustainable Development Unit (OECS ESDU), the Caribbean Conservation Association and the Centre for Resource Management and Environmental Studies (CERMES) with headquarters at the University of the West Indies Cave Hill campus in Barbados. The latter offers a Master's degree in Resource Management, which emphasizes sustainable use.</p> <p>St. Vincent and the Grenadines also benefits from an ongoing programme funded by the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA). The programme is called the Project for the Promotion of Sustainable Marine Fisheries Resource Utilization, and consists of two main components; formal training at the Caribbean Fisheries Technological Development Institute CFTDI and technical assistance through the dispatch of experts and equipment.</p>					
175. Has your country established programmes for scientific and technical education and training in measures for the identification, conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity and its components (12a)?					
a) no					
b) early stages of development					<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) advanced stages of development					
d) programmes in place					
176. Has your country provided support to other Parties for education and training in measures for the identification, conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity and its components (12a)?					
a) no					
b) yes					<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (limited extent)

177. Does your country promote and encourage research which contributes to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity (12b)?	
a) no	
b) yes – limited extent	
c) yes – significant extent	✓
178. Does your country promote and cooperate in the use of scientific advances in biological diversity research in developing methods for conservation and sustainable use of biological resources (12c)?	
a) no	
b) yes – limited extent	✓
c) yes – significant extent	

If a developed country Party -

179. Does your country's implementation of the above activities take into account the special needs of developing countries?

a) no	
b) yes, where relevant	

Further comments on implementation of this Article

176. Support provided mainly to other Caribbean countries through bodies such as the Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism, which facilitates the sharing of experts among the various CARICOM countries.

177. Sectoral work plans include research programmes. Some agencies, e.g. the Fisheries Division and the Agricultural Department have specific units dedicated to research. Research by non-governmental entities is also encouraged and supported.

180. What is the relative priority afforded to implementation of this Article and the associated decisions by your country?				
a) High		b) Medium	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	c) Low
181. To what extent are the resources available adequate for meeting the obligations and recommendations made?				
a) Good		b) Adequate		c) Limiting
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	d) Severely limiting
Further comments on relative priority and on availability of resources				
<p>All environmental agencies have ongoing public education programmes and sometimes coordinate intensive national campaigns. A large number of these programmes, especially those implemented by the Forestry Department and Fisheries Division focus on conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity. In addition the Environmental Services Unit, in the Ministry of Health and the Environment, has implemented a schools campaign focusing on the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.</p> <p>Most recently (2004), the World Food Day Committee coordinated a public education campaign under the 2004 World Food Day theme, “Biodiversity for Food Security”. This campaign did much to bring matters of biodiversity to the fore. However a higher priority needs to be given to ongoing education programmes on biodiversity.</p>				

Article 13

Public education and awareness

182. Does your country promote and encourage understanding of the importance of, and measures required for, the conservation of biodiversity (13a) through media?	
a) no	
b) yes – limited extent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) yes – significant extent	
183. Does your country promote and encourage understanding of the importance of, and the measures required for, the conservation of biodiversity (13a) through the inclusion of this topic in education programmes?	
a) no	
b) yes – limited extent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) yes – significant extent	
184. Does your country cooperate with other States and international organizations in developing relevant educational and public awareness programmes (13b)?	
a) no	
b) yes – limited extent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) yes – significant extent	

Decision IV/10 Measures for implementing the Convention [part]

185. Are public education and awareness needs covered in the national strategy and action plan?	
a) no	
b) yes – limited extent	
c) yes – significant extent	✓
186. Has your country allocated appropriate resources for the strategic use of education and communication instruments at each phase of policy formulation, implementation and evaluation?	
a) limited resources	✓
b) significant but not adequate resources	
c) adequate resources	
187. Does your country support initiatives by major groups that foster stakeholder participation and that integrate biological diversity conservation matters in their practice and education programmes?	
a) no	
b) yes	✓
188. Has your country integrated biodiversity concerns into education strategies?	
a) no	
b) early stages of development	✓
c) advanced stages of development	
d) yes	
189. Has your country made available any case-studies on public education and awareness and public participation, or otherwise sought to share experiences?	
a) no	✓
b) yes	
190. Has your country illustrated and translated the provisions of the Convention into any local languages to promote public education and awareness raising of relevant sectors??	
a) not relevant	✓
b) still to be done	
c) under development	
d) yes	
191. Is our country supporting local, national, sub-regional and regional education and awareness programmes?	
a) no	
b) yes – limited extent	
c) yes – significant extent	✓
<i>If a developing country Party or Party with economy in transition -</i>	
192. When requesting assistance through the GEF, has your country proposed projects that promote measures for implementing Article 13 of the Convention?	
a) no	
b) yes	✓

193. Does your country support capacity – building for education and communication in biological diversity as part of the national biodiversity strategy and strategy and action plan?	
a) no	
b) limited support	✓
c) yes (please give details)	

Further comments on implementation of this Article

General:

Public awareness on matters relating to biodiversity management is achieved through various media including, radio, television and print. Print materials include brochures, flyers, stickers and posters. Some programmes may address broad biodiversity concerns, while others may feature a particular species (e.g. the St. Vincent Parrot, *Amazona guildingi*).

It is important to note however that programmes specific to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity are only occasional. While some agencies have regular radio and television programmes, these programmes facilitate public education on various other issues. Furthermore when radio and TV programmes do feature biodiversity issues, the programmes are only seen/heard by a fraction of the society. This is because these programmes are usually aired only on the Government-owned station. However there are six other radio stations, but they are privately owned and do not usually allow free information programmes. To help overcome this challenge, agencies often utilize the free segments of these private stations (e.g. Public Service Announcements) to educate the public on matters such as conservation laws.

In addition to the above-mentioned programmes, the various environmental agencies have ongoing school programmes and regular community workshops and meetings. Resources are limiting however, especially when it comes to production of print material.

183. Natural resource conservation is the major focus of most public education programmes

194. What is the relative priority afforded to implementation of this Article and the associated decisions by your country?				
a) High		b) Medium	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	c) Low
195. To what extent are the resources available adequate for meeting the obligations and recommendations made?				
a) Good		b) Adequate		c) Limiting
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	d) Severely limiting
Further comments on relative priority and on availability of resources				
<p>The Town and Country Planning Act of 1992 gives the Central Planning Board authority to request environmental impact assessments (EIAs) for projects that are likely to have significant adverse effects on biodiversity. However the legislation regarding EIAs is inadequate and therefore leaves room for subjectivity on the part of the Planning Board. This may cause some projects to slip through the cracks. More specific legislation is needed, along with greater enforcement, especially as it relates to mitigation activities.</p> <p>Currently the Central Planning Unit uses the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) and World Bank guidelines regarding the types of projects that should require an EIA.</p>				

Article 14 *Impact assessment and minimizing adverse impacts*

196. Is legislation in place requiring an environmental impact assessment of proposed projects likely to have adverse effects on biological diversity (14 (1a))?	
a) no	
b) early stages of development	
c) advanced stages of development	
d) legislation in place	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) review of implementation available	
197. Do such environmental impact assessment procedures allow for public participation (14 (1a))?	
a) no	
b) yes – limited extent	
c) yes – significant extent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
198. Does your country have mechanisms in place to ensure that the environmental consequences of national programmes and policies that are likely to have significant adverse impacts on biological diversity are duly taken into account (14 (1b))?	
a) no	
b) early stages of development	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) advanced stages of development	
d) fully compliant with current scientific knowledge	

199. Is your country involved in bilateral, regional and/or multilateral discussion on activities likely to significantly affect biological diversity outside your country's jurisdiction (14 (1b))?	
a) no	
b) yes – limited extent	✓
c) yes – significant extent	
200. Is your country implementing bilateral, regional and/or multilateral agreements on activities likely to significantly affect biological diversity outside your country's jurisdiction (14 (1c))?	
a) no	
b) no, assessment of options in progress	
c) some completed, others in progress	
d) yes	✓
201. Has your country mechanisms in place to notify other States in cases of imminent or grave danger or damage to biological diversity originating in your country and potentially affecting those States (14 (1d))?	
a) no	
b) early stages of development	
c) advanced stages of development	
d) mechanisms in place	✓
e) no need identified	
202. Has your country put mechanisms in place to notify other States of cases of imminent or grave danger or damage to biological diversity originating in your country and potentially affecting those States (14 (1d))?	
a) no	
b) early stages of development	
c) advanced stages of development	✓
d) fully compliant with current scientific knowledge	
e) no need identified	
203. Has your country put national mechanisms in place for emergency responses to activities or events which present a grave and imminent danger to biological diversity (14 (1e))?	
a) no	
b) early stages of development	✓
c) advanced stages of development	
d) mechanisms in place	
204. Has your country encouraged international cooperation to establish joint contingency plans for emergency responses to activities or events which present a grave and imminent danger to biological diversity (14 (1e))?	
a) no	
b) yes	✓
c) no need identified	
205. Has your country exchanged with other Contracting Parties information and experience relating to environmental impact assessment and resulting mitigating measures and incentive schemes?	

a) no	
b) information provided to the Secretariat	
c) information provided to other Parties	✓
d) information provided on the national CHM	
206. Has your country exchanged with other Contracting Parties information on measures and agreements on liability and redress applicable to damage to biological diversity?	
a) no	
b) information provided to the Secretariat	
c) information provided to other Parties	✓
d) information provided on the national CHM	

Decision V/18

Impact assessment, liability and redress

207. Has your country integrated environmental impact assessment into programmes on thematic areas and on alien species and tourism?	
a) no	
b) partly integrated	✓
c) fully integrated	
208. When carrying out environmental impact assessments does your country address loss of biological diversity and the interrelated socio-economic, cultural and human health aspects relevant to biological diversity?	
a) no	
b) partly	✓
c) fully	
209. When developing new legislative and regulatory frameworks, does your country have in place mechanisms to ensure the consideration of biological diversity concerns from the early stages of the drafting process?	
a) no	
b) in some circumstances	✓
c) in all circumstances	
210. Does your country ensure the involvement of all interested and affected stakeholders in a participatory approach to all stages of the assessment process?	
a) no	✓ (some stakeholders)
b) yes – in certain circumstances	
c) yes – in all cases	
211. Has your country organised expert meetings, workshops and seminars, and/or training, educational and public awareness programmes and exchange programmes in order to promote the development of local expertise in methodologies, techniques and procedures for impact assessment.	
a) no	✓
b) some programmes in place	
c) many programmes in place	
d) integrated approach to building expertise	

212. Has your country carried out pilot environmental impact assessment projects in order to promote the development of local expertise in methodologies, techniques and procedures?	
a) no	✓
b) yes (please provide further details)	
213. Does your country use strategic environmental assessments to assess not only the impact of individual projects, but also their cumulative and global effects, and ensure the results are applied in the decision making and planning processes?	
a) no	✓
b) to a limited extent	
c) to a significant extent	
214. Does your country require the inclusion of development of alternatives, mitigation measures and consideration of the elaboration of compensation measures in environmental impact assessment?	
a) no	
b) to a limited extent	✓
c) to a significant extent	
215. Is national information available on the practices, systems, mechanisms and experiences in the area of strategic environmental assessment and impact assessment?	
a) no	
b) yes (please append or summarize)	✓

Further comments on implementation of this Article

197. The Town and Country Planning Act of 1992 requires that EIAs be subject to public scrutiny. Thus the Central Planning Unit invites public participation through invitations in the print media and also through public service announcements (PSAs).

201 & 202: Notification mechanisms facilitated through regional agencies such as the Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism (CRFM) and the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Response Agency (CDERA).

203. National mechanisms are outlined in specialized emergency plans, such as the National Oil Spill Contingency Plan, as well as in general plans such as the National Disaster Management Plan. Individual agencies such as the Forestry Department and Fisheries Division are also working to put mechanisms in place to deal with disasters that could affect resources under their jurisdiction, with possible effects on areas outside national jurisdiction..

204. Regional contingency planning is facilitated by agencies such as the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Response Agency (CDERA).

205 & 206. Information and experience regarding EIAs shared at regional environmental meetings and conferences, and upon request.

211. National representatives have participated in regional workshops/seminars on EIAs.

Article 15

Access to genetic resources

216. What is the relative priority afforded to implementation of this Article and the associated decisions by your country?				
a) High		b) Medium	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	c) Low
217. To what extent are the resources available adequate for meeting the obligations and recommendations made?				
a) Good		b) Adequate		c) Limiting
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	d) Severely limiting
Further comments on relative priority and on availability of resources				
<p>Draft legislation specifically addressing access to plant genetic material is under consideration.</p> <p>Bilateral programmes are usually implemented on a reciprocal basis. Students and other researchers are allowed access with the guarantee that they share data on their findings.</p> <p>The Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries operates a programme in which farmers borrow improved breeds of livestock which they use to enhance the genetic make-up of their stock.</p>				

218. Has your country endeavoured to create conditions to facilitate access to genetic resources for environmentally sound uses by other Contracting Parties (15 (2))?	
a) no	
b) yes – limited extent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) yes – significant extent	
219. Is there any mutual understanding or agreement in place between different interest groups and the State on access to genetic resources (15 (4))?	
a) no	
b) yes – limited extent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) yes – significant extent	
220. Has your country an open participation planning process, or any other process in place, to ensure that access to resources is subject to prior informed consent (15 (5))?	
a) no	
b) early stages of development	
c) advanced stages of development	
d) processes in place	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
221. Has your country taken means to ensure that any scientific research based on genetic resources provided by other Contracting Parties is developed and carried out with the full participation of such Contracting Parties (15 (6))?	
a) no measures	
b) some measures in place	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) potential measures under review	

d) comprehensive measures in place	
222. Has your country taken measures to ensure the fair and equitable sharing of the results of research and development and the benefits arising from the commercial and other use of genetic resources with any Contracting Party providing such resources (15 (7))?	
a) no measures	
b) some measures in place	✓
c) potential measures under review	
d) comprehensive measure in place	
If so, are these measures	
a) Legislation?	
b) Statutory policy or subsidiary legislation?	
c) Policy and administrative measures?	✓

Decision II/11 and Decision III/15

Access to genetic resources

223. Has your country provided the Secretariat with information on relevant legislation, administrative and policy measures, participatory processes and research programmes?	
a) no	✓
b) yes, within the previous national report	
c) yes, through case-studies	
d) yes, through other means (please give details below)	
224. Has your country implemented capacity-building programmes to promote successful development and implementation of legislative, administrative and policy measures and guidelines on access, including scientific, technical, business, legal and management skills and capacities?	
a) no	
b) some programmes covering some needs	✓
c) many programmes covering some needs	
d) programmes cover all perceived needs	
e) no perceived need	
225. Has your country analysed experiences of legislative, administrative and policy measures and guidelines on access, including regional efforts and initiatives, for use in further development and implementation of measures and guidelines?	
a) no	
b) analysis in progress	✓
c) analysis completed	
226. Is your country collaborating with all relevant stakeholders to explore, develop and implement guidelines and practices that ensure mutual benefits to providers and users of access measures?	
a) no measures	
b) yes – limited extent	✓
c) yes – significant extent	

227. Has your country identified national authorities responsible for granting access to genetic resources?	
a) no	
b) yes	✓
228. Is your country taking an active role in negotiations associated with the adaptation of the International Undertaking on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture?	
a) no	
b) yes	✓

Decision V/26

Access to genetic resources

229. Has your country designated a national focal point and one or more competent national authorities to be responsible for access and benefit-sharing arrangements or to provide information on such arrangements?	
a) no	
b) yes	✓
c) yes, and Executive Secretary notified	
230. Do your country's national biodiversity strategy and legislative, administrative or policy measures on access and benefit-sharing, contribute to conservation and sustainable use objectives?	
a) no	
b) to a limited extent	✓
c) to a significant extent	
Parties that are recipients of genetic resources	
231. Has your country adopted administrative or policy measures that are supportive of efforts made by provider countries to ensure that access to their genetic resources is subject to Article 15, 16 and 19 of the Convention?	
a) no	
b) other arrangements made	
c) yes	✓
232. Does your country co-operate with other Parties in order to find practical and equitable solutions supportive of efforts made by provider countries to ensure that access to their genetic resources is subject to Articles 15, 16 and 9 of the Convention, recognizing the complexity of the issue, with particular consideration of the multiplicity of prior informed consent considerations?	
a) no	
b) yes (please provide details)	
c) yes	
233. In developing its legislation on access, has your country taken into account and allowed for the development of a multilateral system to facilitate access and benefit-sharing in the context of the International Undertaking on Plant Genetic Resources?	
a) no	
b) legislation under development	
c) yes	
234. Is your country co-ordinating its positions in both the Convention on Biological Diversity and the International Undertaking on Plant Genetic Resources?	

a) no	
b) taking steps to do so	
c) yes	✓
235. Has your country provided information to the Executive Secretary on user institutions, the market for genetic resources, non-monetary benefits, new and emerging mechanisms for benefit sharing, incentive measures, clarification of definitions, <i>sui generis</i> systems and “intermediaries”?	
a) no	✓
b) some information provided	
c) substantial information provided	
236. Has your country submitted information on specific issues related to the role of intellectual property rights in the implementation of access and benefit-sharing arrangements to the Executive Secretary?	
a) no	✓
b) yes	
237. Has your country provided capacity-building and technology development and transfer for the maintenance and utilization of <i>ex situ</i> collections?	
a) no	
b) yes to a limited extent	✓
c) yes to a significant extent	

Further comments on implementation of this Article

227 & 229. Since legislation regarding access and benefit-sharing arrangements is still in the early stages of development, only administrative and policy measures are currently in place. Responsibilities regarding access and benefit-sharing of genetic resources currently fall under the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. This Ministry is expected to collaborate with the Legal Department and the Intellectual Property Rights Office to develop appropriate legislation. The biosafety project described in Appendix E (page 112) is being coordinated by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

Article 16

Access to and transfer of technology

238. What is the relative priority afforded to implementation of this Article and the associated decisions by your country?				
a) High		b) Medium	✓	c) Low
239. To what extent are the resources available adequate for meeting the obligations and recommendations made?				
a) Good		b) Adequate		c) Limiting
			✓	d) Severely limiting
Further comments on relative priority and on availability of resources				
<p>Policy and administrative measures have been taken to ensure that access to biotechnology is given and received on a fair and equitable basis. Legislation regarding access to plant genetic material is under consideration. The recent (2003) establishment of the Intellectual Property Rights Office will help to ensure that appropriate legislation is continually developed, and that access to technology and biodiversity resources is transferred on a fair and equitable basis. Refer to further comments on page 65.</p>				

240. Has your country taken measures to provide or facilitate access for and transfer to other Contracting Parties of technologies that are relevant to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity to make use of genetic resources and do not cause significant damage to the environment?	
a) no measures	
b) some measures in place	✓
c) potential measures under review	
d) comprehensive measures in place	
241. Is your country aware of any initiatives under which relevant technology is transferred to your country on concessional or professional terms (16 (2))?	
a) no	
b) yes (please give brief details below)	✓
242. Has your country taken measures so that Contracting Parties which provide genetic resources are provided access to and transfer of technology which make use of those resources, on mutually agreed terms (16 (3))?	
a) not relevant	
b) relevant, but no measures	
c) some measures in place	✓
d) potential measures under review	
e) comprehensive measures in place	
If so, are these measures?	
a) Legislation	under development
b) Statutory policy or subsidiary legislation	
c) Policy and administrative measures	✓
243. Has your country taken measures so that the private sector facilitates access to joint development and transfer of relevant technology for the benefit of government institutions and the private sector of developing countries (16 (4))?	

a) no measures	✓
b) some measures in place	
c) potential measures under review	
d) comprehensive measures in place	
If so, are these measures	
a) Legislation?	
b) Statutory policy or subsidiary legislation?	
c) Policy and administrative measures?	
244. Does your country have a national system for intellectual property right protection (16 (5))?	
a) no	
b) yes (please give brief details below)	✓
245. If yes, does it cover biological resources for example (plant species) in any way?	
a) no	
b) yes - limited extent	✓
c) yes - significant extent	

Decision III/17

Intellectual property rights

246. Has your country conducted and provided to the Secretariat case-studies of the impacts of intellectual property rights on the achievement of the Convention's objectives?	
a) no	✓
b) some	
c) many	

Further comments on implementation of this article

241. Initiatives for the transfer of technology exists through the Taiwanese Mission and also through international initiatives, such as the Climate Technology Initiative (CTI), an implementing agreement under the International Energy Agency (IEA), in collaboration with the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

242. Draft laws relating to plant genetic material are under consideration.

244 & 245: An Intellectual Property Rights Office was established in 2003 to develop legislation relating to intellectual property. This office has developed various pieces of legislation and is working on others. Draft legislation on plant genetic material is currently under consideration.

247. What is the relative priority afforded to implementation of this Article and the associated decisions by your country?					
a) High		b) Medium	✓	c) Low	
248. To what extent are the resources available adequate for meeting the obligations and recommendations made?					
a) Good		b) Adequate		c) Limiting	✓
d) Severely limiting					
Further comments on relative priority and on availability of resources					
<p>The Freedom of Information Act of 2003 has made it possible for the public to have access to information housed in Government agencies, including such information that refers to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity. Nevertheless, there is much room for improvement in the fulfilment of this article as a number of individuals in key agencies still subscribe to an attitude of secrecy, even with information that should be available to the public.</p> <p>Furthermore, a number of key biodiversity related agencies have not fully organised their information so that it is easily accessible to the general public. However, this situation is improving in some ministries including the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries which recently (2003) set up a resource centre. This centre has made information from the various agricultural departments more accessible to stakeholders and other interested persons. Some agricultural departments such as the Fisheries Division are working toward setting up similar resource centres, but with information specific to their sectors.</p> <p>The CHM is another way in which biodiversity information is now becoming more available to the general public. Furthermore the Environmental Services Unit in the Ministry of Health and the Environment has formulated a project for the development of a integrated natural resources database, and is seeking funding for its implementation.</p>					

Article 17

Exchange of information

249. Has your country taken measures to facilitate the exchange of information from publicly available sources (17 (1))?	
a) no measures	
b) restricted by lack of resources	
c) some measures in place	✓
d) potential measures under review	
e) comprehensive measures in place	

If a developed country Party -

250. Do these measures take into account the special needs of developing countries (17(1))?

a) no	
b) yes – limited extent	
c) yes – significant extent	

251. If so, do these measures include all the categories of information listed in Article (17 (2), including technical, scientific and socio-economic research, training and surveying programmes, specialized knowledge, repatriation of information and so on?

a) no	
b) yes – limited extent	✓
c) yes – significant extent	

Article 18

Technical and scientific cooperation

252. What is the relative priority afforded to implementation of this Article and the associated decisions by your country?					
a) High		b) Medium	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	c) Low	
253. To what extent are the resources available adequate for meeting the obligations and recommendations made?					
a) Good		b) Adequate		c) Limiting	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Severely limiting					
Further comments on relative priority and on availability of resources					
<p>Various projects have been implemented and others are in progress. Technical and scientific cooperation exists with regional and international agencies. Regional agencies include, Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States Environment and Sustainable Development Unit (OECS ESDU), Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism (CRFM), and the Caribbean Conservation Association (CCA). International agencies include FAO and the International Institute for Cooperation in Agriculture (IICA).</p> <p>There is also significant cooperation between St. Vincent and the Grenadines and the Republic of China on Taiwan particularly as it relates to agricultural diversification, and with Japan, particularly in the field of fisheries development and sustainable use.</p> <p>One important form of technical assistance comes through the dispatch of personnel from other countries to St. Vincent and the Grenadines, through organisations such as the United States Peace Corps. and the Japan Overseas Corporation Volunteers (JOCV). This type of assistance is also given through Governments such as the Cuban and Taiwanese Governments. In addition, a significant amount of cooperation exists with other Caribbean countries through various regional bodies such as the CRFM.</p> <p>Nevertheless, in light of the above, the priority given to technical and scientific cooperation, for the specific purpose of biodiversity conservation and sustainable use, is not as high as it could be.</p>					

254. Has your country taken measures to promote international technical and scientific cooperation in the field of conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity (18(1))?	
a) no measures	
b) some measures in place	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) potential measures under review	
d) comprehensive measures in place	
255. Do the measures taken to promote cooperation with other Contracting Parties in the implementation of the Convention pay special attention to the development and strengthening of national capabilities by means of human resources development and institution building (18(2))?	
a) no	
b) yes – limited extent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) yes – significant extent	

256. Has your country encouraged and developed methods of cooperation for the development and use of technologies, including indigenous and traditional technologies, in pursuance of the objectives of this Convention (18 (4))?	
a) no	
b) early stages of development	✓
c) advanced stages of development	
d) methods in place	
257. Does such cooperation include the training of personnel and exchange of experts (18(4))?	
a) no	
b) yes – limited extent	✓
c) yes – significant extent	
258. Has your country promoted the establishment of joint research programmes and joint ventures for the development of technologies relevant to the objectives of the Convention (18(5))?	
a) no	
b) yes – limited extent	✓
c) yes – significant extent	

Decision II/3, Decision III/4 and Decision IV/2

Clearing House Mechanism

259. Is your country cooperating in the development and operation of the Clearing House Mechanism?	
a) no	
b) yes	✓
260. Is your country helping to develop national capabilities through exchanging and disseminating information on experiences and lessons learned in implementing the Convention?	
a) no	
b) yes – limited extent	✓
c) yes – significant extent	
261. Has your country designated a national focal point for the Clearing House Mechanism?	
a) no	
b) yes	✓
262. Is your country providing resources for the development and implementation of the Clearing-House Mechanism?	
a) no	
b) yes, at the national level	✓
c) yes, at the national and international levels	
263. Is your country facilitating and participating in workshops and other expert meetings to further the development of the CHM at the international levels?	
a) no	
b) participation only	✓
c) supporting some meetings and participating	

264. Is your CHM operational?	
a) no	
b) under development	
c) yes (please give details below)	✓
265. Is your CHM linked to the Internet?	
a) no	
b) yes	✓
266. Has your country established a multi-sectoral and multi-disciplinary CHM steering committee or working group at the national level?	
a) no	
b) yes	✓

Decision V/14

Scientific and technical co-operation and the clearinghouse

267. Has your country reviewed the priorities identified in Annex I to the decision, and sought to implement them?	
a) not reviewed	✓
b) reviewed but not implemented	
c) reviewed and implemented as appropriate	

Further comments on implementation of these Articles

261. The CHM is housed in the Government's Web Unit. This unit provides a web base for all Government agencies.

264. Funds were received from the GEF to develop and operate a CHM. This CHM is being operated by the Web Unit in the Ministry of Telecommunications, Science and Technology and is supervised by the Environmental Services Unit in the Ministry of Health and the Environment. The URL of the CHM is www.biodiversity.vc.

266. The CHM steering Committee is the same as the Biodiversity Steering Committee; that is the National Environmental Advisory Board (NEAB).

Article 19 *Handling of biotechnology and distribution of its benefits*

268. What is the relative priority afforded to implementation of this Article and the associated decisions by your country?					
a) High	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	b) Medium		c) Low	
269. To what extent are the resources available adequate for meeting the obligations and recommendations made?					
a) Good		b) Adequate		c) Limiting	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Severely limiting					
Further comments on relative priority and on availability of resources					
<p align="center">Policy and administrative measures have been taken to ensure that access to biotechnology is given and received on a fair and equitable basis. Legislation regarding access to plant genetic material is under consideration.</p> <p align="center">The biosafety project outlined in Appendix E (page 112) is intended to address matters regarding biotechnology in more detail. Some of its expected outcomes are; the drafting of legal instruments, the establishment of systems for risk assessment and management, and the establishment of systems for compliance with the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety.</p>					

270. Has your country taken measures to provide for the effective participation in biotechnological research activities by those Contracting Parties which provide the genetic resources for such research (19 (1))?	
a) no measures	
b) some measures in place	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) potential measures under review	
d) comprehensive measures in place	
If so, are these measures	
a) Legislation?	
b) Statutory policy or subsidiary legislation?	
c) Policy and administrative measures?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
271. Has your country taken all practicable measures to promote and advance priority access on a fair and equitable basis by Contracting Parties to the results and benefits arising from biotechnologies based upon genetic resources provided by those Contracting Parties(19 (2))?	
a) no measures	
b) some measures in place	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) potential measures under review	
d) comprehensive measures in place	

272. Is your country a Contracting Party to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety?	
a) not a signatory	
b) signed, ratification in progress	
c) instrument of ratification deposited	✓

Further comments on implementation of this Article

272. St. Vincent and the Grenadines became a signatory to the Biosafety Protocol in 2002 and ratified it in 2003 and it was entered into force on 12th November, 2003. Enabling activities under this protocol have begun, particularly in the development of the National Biosafety Framework. The country is currently undertaking a biodiversity capacity assessment. This assessment will include information on the potential threats of GMOs/LMOs to the natural environment. See Appendix E for more information on the National Biosafety Framework.

Article 20

Financial resources

273. What is the relative priority afforded to implementation of this Article and the associated decisions by your country?					
a) High		b) Medium	✓	c) Low	
274. To what extent are the resources available adequate for meeting the obligations and recommendations made?					
a) Good		b) Adequate		c) Limiting	
				d) Severely limiting	✓
Further comments on relative priority and on availability of resources					
<p>While no funds have been provided specifically to achieve the objectives of the CBD, the sustainable use and conservation of biodiversity is incorporated into the operational plans of various agencies involved in biodiversity management. These agencies include the Forestry Department, Fisheries Division and the National Parks, Beaches and Rivers Authority. The operational plans of these agencies are funded under the national budget.</p> <p>While this article provides for assistance from developed countries, through the financial mechanism, it is important to note that in St. Vincent and the Grenadines, activities being implemented under this convention are primarily enabling activities.</p>					

275. Has your country provided financial support and incentives in respect of those national activities which are intended to achieve the objectives of the Convention (20 (1))?	
a) no	
b) yes – incentives only	
c) yes – financial support only	✓
d) yes – financial support and incentives	
<i>If a developed country Party –</i>	
276. Has your country provided new and additional financial resources to enable developing country Parties to meet the agreed incremental costs to them of implementing measures which fulfil the obligations of the Convention, as agreed between you and the interim financial mechanism (20(2))?	
a) no	
b) yes	
<i>If a developing country Party or Party with economy in transition –</i>	
277. Has your country received new and additional financial resources to enable you to meet the agreed full incremental costs of implementing measures which fulfil the obligation of the Convention (20 (2))?	
a) no	✓
b) yes	

If a developed country Party –

278. Has your country provided financial resources related to implementation of the Convention through bilateral, regional and other multilateral channels (20(3))?

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

279. Has your country used financial resources related to the Convention from bilateral, regional and other multilateral channels (20 (3))?

a) no	
b) yes	✓

Decision III/6

Additional financial resources

280. Is your country working to ensure all funding institutions (including bilateral assistance agencies) are striving to make their activities more supportive of the Convention?

a) no	
b) yes – limited extent	✓
c) yes – significant extent	

281. Is your country cooperating in any efforts to develop standardized information on financial support for the objectives of the Convention?

a) no	✓
c) yes (please attach information)	

Decision V/11

Additional financial resources

282. Has your country established a process to monitor financial support to biodiversity?

a) no	✓
b) procedures being established	
c) yes (please provide details)	

283. Are details available of your country's financial support to national biodiversity activities?

a) no	
b) not in standardized format	✓
c) yes (please provide details)	

284. Are details available of your country's financial support to biodiversity activities in other countries?

a) not applicable	✓
b) no	
c) not in a standardized format	
d) yes (please provide details)	

<i>Developed country Parties -</i>	
285. Does your country promote support for the implementation of the objectives of the Convention in the funding policy of its bilateral funding institutions and those of regional and multilateral funding institutions?	
a) no	
b) not relevant	
<i>Developing country Parties -</i>	
286. Does your country discuss ways and means to support implementation of the objectives of the Convention in its dialogue with funding institutions?	
a) no	
b) yes	✓
287. Has your country compiled information on the additional financial support provided by the private sector?	
a) no	✓
b) yes (please provide details)	
288. Has your considered tax exemptions on national taxation systems for biodiversity-related donations?	
a) no	✓
b) not appropriate to national conditions	
c) exemptions under development	
d) exemptions in place	

Further comments on implementation of this Article

275. Financial support from the Government is provided through annual budgets for the implementation of overall work plans, which incorporate the overall management of biodiversity.

279. Financial resources received from the GEF for enabling activity.

289. What is the relative priority afforded to implementation of this Article and the associated decisions by your country?					
a) High		b) Medium		c) Low	✓
290. To what extent are the resources available adequate for meeting the obligations and recommendations made?					
a) Good		b) Adequate		c) Limiting	
				d) Severely limiting	✓
Further comments on relative priority and on availability of resources					
<p>This article is more geared toward developed countries. As a developing country our resources are too limiting for us to be able to provide funds to other Contracting Parties. However the transfer of technical expertise is facilitated through various agencies such as the Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism (CRFM) and the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States Environmental and Sustainable Development Unit (OECS-ESDU).</p>					

Article 21

Financial mechanism

291. Has your country worked to strengthen existing financial institutions to provide financial resources for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity?	
a) no	
b) yes	✓

**Decision III/7
effectiveness of the financial mechanism**

Guidelines for the review of the

292. Has your country provided information on experiences gained through activities funded by the financial mechanism?	
a) no activities	
b) no, although there are activities	
c) yes, within the previous national report	
d) yes, through case-studies	
e) yes, through other means (please give details below)	✓

Further comments on implementation of this Article

<p>291. The Fisheries Division has seen a significant increase in its institutional capacity over the past year (2003). A number of vacant positions on the organisational chart have been filled and there are proposals to upgrade the Division to a Department with even more positions available. Environmental agencies are also making the most of opportunities for short-term capacity building programmes such as the Japan Overseas Corporation Volunteers and the Taiwan Overseas Volunteer Programme.</p> <p>292. Information provided to other Contracting Parties upon request and also through discussions at regional workshops.</p>
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Article 23

Conference of Parties

293. How many people from your country participated in each of the meetings of the Conference of Parties?	
a) COP 1 (Nassau)	0
b) COP 2 (Jakarta)	0
c) COP 3 (Buenos Aires)	0
d) COP 4 (Bratislava)	0
e) COP 5 (Nairobi)	0

Decision I/6, Decision II/10, Decision III/24 and Decision IV/17
Finance and budget

294. Has your country paid all of its contribution to the Trust Fund?	
a) no	✓
b) yes	

Decision IV/16 (part) Preparation for meetings of the Conference of the Parties

295. Has your country participated in regional meetings focused on discussing implementation of the Convention before any meetings of the Conference of Parties?	
a) no	✓
b) yes	
If a developed country Party -	
296. Has your country funded regional and sub-regional meetings to prepare for the COP, and facilitated the participation of developing countries in such meetings?	
a) no	
b) yes (please provide details below)	

Decision V/22 Budget for the programme of work for the biennium 2001 – 2002

297. Did your country pay its contribution to the core budget (BY Trust Fund) for 2001 by 1 st January 2001?	
a) yes in advance	
b) yes on time	
c) no but subsequently paid	
d) not yet paid	✓
298. Has your country made additional voluntary contributions to the trust funds of the Convention?	
a) yes in the 1999 – 2000 biennium	
b) yes for the 2001 – 2002 biennium	
c) expect to do so for the 2001 – 2002 biennium	
d) no	✓

Further comments on implementation of this Article

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Article 24

Secretariat

299. Has your country provided direct support to the Secretariat in terms of seconded staff, financial contribution for Secretariat activities, etc?	
a) no	✓
b) yes	

Further comments on implementation of this Article

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Article 25 Subsidiary body on scientific, technical and technological advice

300. How many people from your country participated in each of the meetings of the SBSTTA?	
a) SBSTTA I (Paris)	0
b) SBSTTA II (Montreal)	0
c) SBSTTA III (Montreal)	0
d) SBSTTA IV (Montreal)	0
e) SBSTTA V (Montreal)	0

Further comments on implementation of this Article

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Article 26

Reports

301. What is the status of your first national report?	
a) not submitted	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) summary report submitted	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) interim/draft report submitted	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) final report submitted	<input type="checkbox"/>
If b), c) or d), was your report submitted:	
By the original deadline of 1.1.98 (Decision III/9)?	<input type="checkbox"/>
By the extended deadline of 31.12.98 (Decision IV/14)?	<input type="checkbox"/>
Later (please specify)	<input type="checkbox"/>

Decision IV/14

National reports

302. Did all relevant stakeholders participate in the preparation of this national report, or in the compilation of information used in the report?	
a) no	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
303. Has your country taken steps to ensure that its first and/or second national report is/are available for use by relevant stakeholders?	
a) no	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If yes, was this by:	
a) informal distribution?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) publishing the report?	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) making the report available on request?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) posting the report on the Internet?	<input type="checkbox"/>

Decision V/19

National reporting

304. Has your country prepared voluntary detailed thematic reports on one or more of the items for in-depth consideration at an ordinary meeting of the parties, following the guidelines provided?	
a) no	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) yes – forest ecosystems	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) yes – alien species	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) yes - benefit	<input type="checkbox"/>

Further comments on implementation of this Article

302 & 303. These answers pertain to this report (2nd National Report). In addition however various other biodiversity related reports have been produced and are available on request. These reports have also been circulated among appropriate agencies.

305. Is your country applying the ecosystem approach, taking into account the principles and guidance contained in the annex to decision V/6?	
a) no	
b) under consideration	
c) some aspects are being applied	✓
d) substantially implemented	
306. Is your country developing practical expressions of the ecosystem approach for national policies and legislation and for implementation activities, with adaptation to local, national, and regional conditions, in particular in the context of activities developed within the thematic areas of the Convention?	
a) no	
b) under consideration	
c) some aspects are being applied	✓
d) substantially implemented	
307. Is your country identifying case studies and implementing pilot projects that demonstrate the ecosystem approach, and using workshops and other mechanisms to enhance awareness and share experiences?	
a) no	
b) case-studies identified	
c) pilot projects underway	✓
d) workshops planned/held	✓
e) information available through CHM	
308. Is your country strengthening capacities for implementation of the ecosystem approach, and providing technical and financial support for capacity-building to implement the ecosystem approach?	
a) no	
b) yes within the country	
c) yes including support to other Parties	✓
309. Has your country promoted regional cooperation in applying the ecosystems approach across national borders?	
a) no	
b) informal co-operation	
c) formal co-operation (please give details)	✓

Further comments on implementation of this decision

305 - 309. The Fisheries Division is currently engaged in a regional initiative which aims to implement the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries (EAF). The initiative is being facilitated by FAO and will provide scientific advice on ecosystem interactions within the Lesser Antilles Pelagic Ecosystem. Fisheries related pilot projects and workshops are being implemented at a regional level. Technical and financial support provided for our country through the EAF project facilitated by FAO. Technical support also provided by Fisheries personnel in our country as part of this project. Other sectors are also considering the ecosystem approach in managing their resources.

Decision IV/4**Status and trends of the biological diversity of inland water ecosystems and options for conservation and sustainable use**

310. Has your country included information on biological diversity in wetlands when providing information and reports to the CSD, and considered including inland water biological diversity issues at meetings to further the recommendations of the CSD?	
a) no	✓
b) yes	
311. Has your country included inland water biological diversity consideration in its work with organisations, institutions and conventions affecting or working with inland water?	
a) no	
b) yes	✓
<i>If a developing country Party or country with economy in transition –</i>	
312. When requesting support for projects relating to inland water ecosystems from the GEF, has your country given priority to identifying important areas for conservation, preparing and implementing integrated watershed, catchment and river basin management plans, and investigating processes contributing to biodiversity loss?	
a) no	✓
b) yes	
313. Has your country reviewed the programme of work specified in annex 1 to the decision, and identified priorities for national action in implementing the programme?	
a) no	✓
b) under review	
c) yes	

Decision V/2. Progress report on the implementation of the programme of work on the biological diversity of inland water ecosystems (implementation of decision IV/4)

314. Is your country supporting and/or participating in the River Basin initiative?	
a) no	
b) yes	✓ (support in principle)
315. Is your country gathering information on the status of inland water biological diversity?	
a) no	
b) assessments ongoing	✓
c) assessments completed	
316. Is this information available to other Parties?	
a) no	

b) yes – national report	
c) yes – through the CHM	
d) yes - other means (please give details below)	✓ (upon request)
317. Has your country developed national and/or sectoral plans for the conservation and sustainable use of inland water ecosystems?	
a) no	
b) yes – national plans only	
c) yes – national plans and major sectors	✓
d) yes – national plans and all sectors	
318. Has your country implemented capacity-building measures for developing and implementing these plans?	
a) no	
b) yes	✓

***Decision III/21 Relationship of the Convention with the CSD
and biodiversity related conventions***

319. Is the conservation and sustainable use of wetlands, and of migratory species and their habitats, fully incorporated into your national strategies, plans and programmes for conserving biological diversity?	
a) no	
b) yes	✓

*Further comments on implementation of these decisions
and associated programme of work*

312. No support yet requested from GEF for national projects specifically relating to inland water ecosystems. However the country is benefiting from the project for Integrating Watershed and Coastal Area Management in Small Island Developing States of the Caribbean (IWCAM).

315 & 316. In the past, information has been gathered about the status of biodiversity in specific areas. One such assessment was undertaken by an NGO on the status of inland water biodiversity in the Buccament River. However, no comprehensive national assessments have been done. Ongoing observations are being carried out by a few agencies and sometimes by NGOs, but there is little collection of scientific data on biodiversity of inland water ecosystems. Various listings of freshwater species have been compiled and included in a number of reports, including the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan. However these lists are incomplete and there is a critical need for a national assessment.

317. Aspects of sustainable use of inland water ecosystems are included in the management plans of the Forestry Department, the Fisheries Division, National Parks Authority, and the Central Water and Sewage Authority (CWSA), which is a statutory organisation.

318. Recent capacity building measures include the establishment of the National Parks, Rivers and Beaches Authority (est. 2002), which is responsible for the development of such plans. Plans are in the early stages of development.

319. Conservation and sustainable use of wetlands and of migratory species is incorporated to some extent into the ongoing work programmes of appropriate agencies. A recent workshop (2004) focused on equipping environmental educators with information on the conservation of wetlands and the West Indian Whistling-Duck.

Marine and coastal biological diversity

Decision II/10 and Decision IV/5.

Conservation and sustainable use

of marine and coastal biological diversity

320. Does your national strategy and action plan promote the conservation and sustainable use of marine and coastal biological diversity?	
a) no	
b) yes – limited extent	✓
c) yes – significant extent	
321. Has your country established and/or strengthened institutional, administrative and legislative arrangements for the development of integrated management of marine and coastal ecosystems?	
a) no	
b) early stages of development	✓
c) advanced stages of development	
d) arrangements in place	
322. Has your country provided the Executive Secretary with advice and information on future options concerning the conservation and sustainable use of marine and coastal biological diversity?	
a) no	✓
b) yes	
323. Has your country undertaken and/or exchanged information on demonstration projects such as practical examples of integrated marine and coastal area management?	
a) no	
b) yes – previous national report	
c) yes – case-studies	
d) yes - other means (please give details below)	✓ (regional workshops)
324. Has your country programmes in place to enhance and improve knowledge on the genetic structure of local populations of marine species subjected to stock enhancement and/or sea-ranching activities?	
a) no	
b) programmes are being developed	✓
c) programmes are being implemented for some species	
d) programmes are being implemented for many species	
e) not a perceived problem	
325. Has your country previewed the programme of work specified in an annex to the decision, and identified priorities for national action in implementing the programme?	
a) no	
b) under review	✓
c) yes	

326. Is your country contributing to the implementation of the work plan on coral bleaching?	
a) no	✓
b) yes	
c) not relevant	
327. Is your country implementing other measures in response to coral bleaching?	
a) no	✓
b) yes (please provide detail below)	
c) not relevant	
328. Has your country submitted case-studies on the coral bleaching phenomenon to the Executive Secretary?	
a) no	✓
b) yes	
c) not relevant	

*Further comments on implementation of these decisions
and the associated programme of work*

General:

321. Institutional capacity of the Fisheries Division continues to be strengthened. Plans are in place for further strengthening through the expansion of the Fisheries Division into a Department with even more human and financial resources.

323. Information exchanged with other Caribbean countries through the Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism (CRFM).

326 & 327. Coral reef monitoring is a part of the ongoing work programme of the Fisheries Division, but the Division does not yet implement activities specific to coral bleaching. However the UNESCO Small Islands Voice, an NGO based on the Grenadine island of Bequia carries out coral reef monitoring activities, and pays special attention to coral bleaching.

Agricultural biological diversity

Decision III/11 and Decision IV/6. Conservation and sustainable use of agricultural biodiversity

329. Has your country identified and assessed relevant ongoing activities and existing instruments at the national level?	
a) no	
b) early stages of review and assessment	✓
c) advanced stages of review and assessment	
d) assessment completed	
330. Has your country identified issues and priorities that need to be addressed at the national level?	
a) no	
b) in progress	✓
c) yes	
331. Is your country using any methods and indicators to monitor the impacts of agricultural development projects, including the intensification and extensification of production systems, on biological diversity?	
a) no	
b) early stages of development	✓
c) advanced stages of development	
d) mechanisms in place	
332. Is your country taking steps to share experiences addressing the conservation and sustainable use of agricultural biological diversity?	
a) no	
b) yes – case-studies	
c) yes - other mechanisms (please specify)	✓ (regional workshops)
333. Has your country conducted case-studies on the issues identified by SBSTTA: i) pollinators, ii) soil biota, and iii) integrated landscape management and farming systems?	
a) no	✓
b) yes - pollinators	
c) yes – soil biota	
d) yes – integrated landscape management and farming systems	
334. Is your country establishing or enhancing mechanisms for increasing public awareness and understanding of the importance of the sustainable use of agrobiodiversity components?	
a) no	
b) early stages of development	
c) advanced stages of development	
d) mechanisms in place	✓ (but inadequate)

335. Does your country have national strategies, programmes and plans which ensure the development and successful implementation of policies and actions that lead to sustainable use of agrobiodiversity components?	
a) no	
b) early stages of development	
c) advanced stages of development	
d) mechanisms in place	✓
336. Is your country promoting the transformation of unsustainable agricultural practices into sustainable production practices adapted to local biotic and abiotic conditions?	
a) no	
b) yes – limited extent	
c) yes – significant extent	✓
337. Is your country promoting the use of farming practices that not only increase productivity but also arrest degradation as well as reclaim, rehabilitate, restore and enhance biological diversity?	
a) no	
b) yes – limited extent	
c) yes – significant extent	✓
338. Is your country promoting mobilization of farming communities for the development, maintenance and use of their knowledge and practices in the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity?	
a) no	
b) yes – limited extent	✓
c) yes - significant extent	
339. Is your country helping to implement the Global Plan of Action for the Conservation and Sustainable Utilization of Plant Genetic Resources?	
a) no	
b) yes	✓ (indirectly)
340. Is your country collaborating with other Contracting Parties to identify and promote sustainable agricultural practices and integrated landscape management?	
a) no	
b) yes	✓

Decision V/5 Agricultural biological diversity: review of phase I of the programme of work and adoption of a multi-year work programme

341. Has your country reviewed the programme of work annexed to the decision and identified how you can collaborate in its implementation?	
a) no	
b) yes	✓ (early stages)

342. Is your country promoting regional and thematic co-operation within this framework of the programme of work on agricultural biological diversity?	
a) no	
b) some co-operation	✓
c) widespread co-operation	
d) full co-operation in all areas	
343. Has your country provided financial support for implementation of the programme of work on agricultural biological diversity?	
a) no	✓
b) limited additional funds	
c) significant additional funds	
<i>If a developed country party</i>	
344. Has your country provided financial support for implementation of the programme of work on agricultural biodiversity, in particular capacity building and case-studies, in developing countries and countries with economies in transition?	
a) no	
b) yes, within existing cooperation programme(s)	
c) yes, including limited additional funds	
d) yes, with significant additional funds	
345. Has your country supported actions to raise public awareness in support of sustainable farming and food production systems that maintain agricultural biological diversity?	
a) no	
b) yes, to a limited extent	
c) yes, to a significant extent	✓
346. Is your country co-ordinating its position in both the Convention on Biological Diversity and the International Undertaking on Plant Genetic Resources?	
a) no	
b) taking steps to do so	
c) yes	✓
347. Is your country a Contracting Party to the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade?	
a) not a signatory	✓
b) signed – ratification in progress	
c) instrument of ratification deposited	
348. Is your country supporting the application of the Executive Secretary for observer status in the Committee on Agriculture of the World Trade Organisation?	
a) no	
b) yes	✓

349. Is your country collaborating with other Parties on the conservation and sustainable use of pollinators?	
a) no	✓ (not yet)
b) yes	
350. Is your country compiling case-studies and implementing pilot projects relevant to the conservation and sustainable use of pollinators?	
a) no	✓ (not yet)
b) yes (please provide details)	
351. Has information on scientific assessments relevant to genetic use restriction technologies been supplied to other Contracting Parties through media such as the Clearing House Mechanism?	
a) not applicable	
b) no	✓
c) yes – national report	
d) yes – through the CHM	
e) yes – other means (please give details below)	
352. Has your country considered how to address generic concerns regarding such technologies as genetic use restriction technologies under international and national approaches to the safe and sustainable use of germplasm?	
a) no	
b) yes – under consideration	✓
c) yes – measures under development	
353. Has your country carried out scientific assessments on <u>inter alia</u> ecological, social and economic effects of genetic use restriction technologies?	
a) no	✓ (not yet – early stages)
b) some assessments	
c) major programme of assessments	
354. Has your country disseminated the results of scientific assessments on <u>inter alia</u> ecological, social and economic effects of genetic use restriction technologies?	
a) no	✓
b) yes – through the CHM	
c) yes – other means (please give details below)	
355. Has your country identified ways and means to address the potential impacts of genetic use restriction technologies on the <u>in situ</u> and <u>ex situ</u> conservation and sustainable use, including food security, of agricultural biological diversity?	
a) no	
b) some measures identified	✓ (early stages)
c) potential measures under review	
d) comprehensive review completed	

356. Has your country assessed whether there is need for effective regulations at the national level with respect to genetic use restriction technologies to ensure the safety of human health, the environment, food security and the conservation and sustainable use of biological resources?	
a) no	
b) yes – regulations needed	✓
c) yes – regulations not needed (please give more details)	
357. Has your country developed and applied such regulations taking into account, <u>inter alia</u> , the specific nature of variety-specific and trait specific genetic use restriction technologies?	
a) no	✓ (early stages of dev.)
b) yes – developed but not yet applied	
c) yes – developed and applied	
358. Has information about these regulations been made available to other Contracting Parties?	
a) no	✓
b) yes – through CHM	
c) yes – other means (please give details below)	

***Further comments on implementation of these decisions
and the associated programme of work***

<p>338. Mobilization of farming communities promoted through the Windward Islands Farming Association (WINFA) and Farmers’ District Committees.</p> <p>342. Regional cooperation is being promoted on various aspects of agriculture, some of which complement elements in the CBD’s work programme on agricultural biodiversity. One of the agencies facilitating regional cooperation is the Caribbean Agricultural Research and Development Institute (CARDI).</p> <p>343. Some of the activities in the CBD’s programme of work on agricultural biodiversity overlap with the national agricultural management and development plan and funds are provided for these activities from the national budget. However no funds have been made available for the specific purpose of implementing the CBD’s work programme on agricultural biodiversity.</p> <p>352 & 35: Concerns about genetic use restriction technologies and how to address them are being considered as part of the National Biosafety Framework (Refer to Appendix E).</p>
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Forest biological diversity

Decision II/9 and Decision IV/7 Forest biological diversity

359. Has your country included expertise on forest biodiversity in its delegations to the Intergovernmental Panel of Forests?	
a) no	
b) yes	
c) not relevant	✓ (no delegation)
360. Has your country reviewed the programme of work annexed to the decision and identified how you can collaborate in its implementation?	
a) no	
b) under review	✓
c) yes	
361. Has your country integrated forest biological considerations in its participation and collaboration with organizations, institutions and conventions affecting or working with forest biological diversity?	
a) no	
b) yes – limited extent	✓
c) yes – significant extent	
362. Does your country give high priority to allocation of resources to activities that advance the objectives of the Convention in respect of forest biological diversity?	
a) no	✓
b) yes	
For developing country Parties or Parties with economies in transition -	
363. When requesting assistance through the GEF, is your country proposing projects which promote the implementation of the programme of work?	
a) no	
b) yes	✓

Decision V/4

Progress report on the

implementation of the programme of work for forest biological diversity

364. Do the actions that your country is taking to address the conservation and sustainable use of forest biological diversity conform with the ecosystem approach?	
a) no	
b) yes	✓
365. Do the actions that your country is taking to address the conservation and sustainable use of forest biological diversity take into consideration the outcome of the fourth session of the Intergovernmental Forum on Forests?	
a) no	
b) yes	✓ (indirectly)

366. Will your country contribute to the future work of the UN Forum on Forests?	
a) no	
b) yes	✓
367. Has your country provided relevant information on the implementation of this work programme?	
a) no	✓
b) yes - submission of case-studies	
c) yes – thematic national report submitted	
d) yes – other means (please give details below)	
368. Has your country integrated forest programmes into its national biodiversity strategies and action plans applying the ecosystem approach and sustainable forest management?	
a) no	
b) yes – limited extent	✓
c) yes – significant extent	
369. Has your country undertaken measures to ensure participation by the forest sector, private sector, indigenous and local communities and non-governmental organisations in the implementation of the programme of work?	
a) no	
b) yes – some stakeholders	✓
c) yes – all stakeholders	
370. Has your country taken measures to strengthen national capacities including local capacities, to enhance the effectiveness and functions of forest protected area networks, as well as national and local capacities for implementation of sustainable forest management, including restoration?	
a) no	
b) some programmes covering some needs	✓
c) many programmes covering some needs	
d) programmes cover all perceived needs	
e) no perceived need	
371. Has your country taken measures to implement the proposals for action of the Intergovernmental Panel on Forests on valuation of forest goods and services?	
a) no	✓
b) under consideration	
c) measures taken	

Biological diversity of dry and sub-humid lands

Decision V/23 Consideration for options for conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity in dryland, Mediterranean, arid, semi-arid, grassland and savannah ecosystems

372. Has your country reviewed the programme of work annexed to the decision and identified how you will implement it?	
a) no	
b) under review	✓
c) yes	
373. Is your country supporting scientifically, technically and financially, at the national and regional levels, the activities identified in the programme of work?	
a) no	
b) to a limited extent	✓
c) to a significant extent	
374. Is your country fostering cooperation for the regional or subregional implementation of the programme of work among countries sharing similar biomes?	
a) no	
b) to a limited extent	✓
c) to a significant extent	

Further comments on implementation of these decisions and the associated programme of work

362. Some priority (medium perhaps – refer to questions 7 & 8) is given to the allocation of resources to activities that advance the objectives of the convention. However such allocation is directly related to the national Forestry Management and Development Plan (FMDP), rather than the Convention itself. It is important to note though that the FMDP shares some of the objectives of the Convention’s work programme for Forest Biodiversity.

375. Does your country take into consideration gender balance, involvement of indigenous people and members of local communities, and the range of relevant disciplines and expertise, when nominating experts for inclusion in the roster?	
a) no	✓ (not applicable)
b) yes	
376. Has your country actively participated in subregional and regional activities in order to prepare for the Convention meetings and enhance implementation of the Convention?	
a) no	
b) to a limited extent	✓
c) to a significant extent	
377. Has your country undertaken a review of national programmes and needs related to the implementation of the Convention and, if appropriate, informed the Executive Secretary?	
a) no	
b) underway	✓
c) yes	

Further comments on implementation of this decision

375. St. Vincent and the Grenadines has not yet nominated experts for inclusion in the roster.
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Please use this box to identify what specific activities your country has carried out as a direct result of becoming a Contracting Party to the Convention, referring back to previous questions as appropriate:

Activities include:

- ◆ The formulation and submission of a NBSAP
- ◆ The facilitation of public consultations as part of the preparation of the NBSAP
- ◆ The implementation of school programmes which focus on biodiversity management
- ◆ The development of a biodiversity CHM
- ◆ The preparation of a number of biodiversity related reports (refer to page 92)
- ◆ Ratification of the Protocol on Biosafety and the commencement of activities in the formulation of a National Biosafety Framework.

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

Joint initiatives are facilitated through regional protocols and projects such as those outlined on page 3. These include:

- Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife (SPA) Protocol (*Refer to Appendix A – pg. 93*)
- The Amenity Areas Demonstration Project coordinated by the Caribbean Regional Environmental Programme (CREP) (*refer to Appendix B – pg. 97*)
- The OECS Environmental Management Strategy (*Refer to Appendix C – pg. 102*)
- The Barbados Programme of Action (BPoA) (*Refer to Appendix D – pg. 108*)

An additional regional project is referred to as IWCAM – Integrating Watershed and Coastal Area Management in Small Island Developing States of the Caribbean.

Please note that this list of regional initiatives/projects is not exhaustive. In some cases projects are implemented with direct participation of local communities and NGOs, rather

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

As can be gathered from the various answers in this report, direct implementation of the CBD is in its early stages. While activities, such as those outlined on page 88 have been implemented, there needs to be increased urgency regarding the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity. Among the many areas that need more attention are, the loss of traditional knowledge, degradation of natural habitats, participation of local communities in biodiversity management and the development of indicators. Nonetheless, even with limited human and financial resources, priority can be increased so that optimum use can be made of available resources.

It is heartening however to see that many managers and local communities are gradually becoming more aware of biodiversity issues and the CBD. The recent (2004) World Food Day activities served to highlight some of these issues since the theme was “Biodiversity for Food Security”.

There is now more discussion on environmental conventions such as the CBD at local and regional environmental workshops, and environmental managers are beginning to realize the need to incorporate the various work programmes of the CBD into the day to day operational plans of appropriate agencies. The Environmental Services Unit is also coordinating projects to develop synergies among the various environmental conventions. A recent (2004) workshop was held to discuss such synergies in the implementation of the UNCCD, UNFCCC and the UNCBD.

Despite increased discussions about the CBD, many biodiversity managers are still not acquainted with the CBD programmes of work that relate to their management area, even though these programmes of work share similarities with national management plans. Through improved coordinated and integrated approaches to biodiversity management, managers and administrators can become more aware of the convention and its requirements. Furthermore, all biodiversity managers and stakeholders must become convinced of the importance of implementing the various articles and should put pressure on decision-makers to develop and enforce legislation which would support the sustainable use and conservation of biodiversity.

Direct efforts must also be made to incorporate the CBD’s programmes of work into the operational plans of the appropriate agencies. While overlaps already exist, there are many gaps in the national plans that need attention. It is therefore essential that these agencies begin to consult the CBD when addressing issues specific to biodiversity management.

There is urgent need for more public awareness and stakeholder participation as it relates to the implementation of the CBD. NGOs, the private sector and the general public can contribute more to biodiversity management if they are better educated.

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

(Continued from page 89)

With the numerous environmentally-related conventions being signed by developing countries such as St. Vincent and the Grenadines, a coordinated and integrated approach to implementation activities is critical. As a result, more resources need to be allocated to coordinating agencies such as the Environmental Services Unit, particularly in the area of capacity building. This unit is currently coordinating national biodiversity activities and is the focal point for the CBD. Unfortunately it remains critically understaffed.

Furthermore, regular meetings of the National Environmental Advisory Board (NEAB) should be resumed since this Board acts as the Steering Committee for the implementation of the CBD., which should have been facilitating integrated management among the environmental agencies, is barely functional. Lack of integrated biodiversity management leads to loss of valuable information, some of which could have been included in this very report. The Government of St. Vincent and the Grenadines should take another look at continuous recommendations to institutionally integrate all environmental agencies and to mainstream overall environmental management.

Since the resources of Small Island Developing States (SIDS) are inadequate to meet their needs as it relates to the implementation of the CBD, mechanisms for regional implementation are imperative. The Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife (SPAW) Protocol provides an excellent framework for such implementation (refer to Appendix A) and other avenues need to be explored to assist in the implementation of the convention.

The wording of these questions is based on the Articles of the Convention and the decisions of the Conference of the Parties. Please provide information on any difficulties that you have encountered in interpreting the wording of these questions:

No difficulties were encountered with interpreting the wording of the questions. However a number of the questions seemed to be lacking answer choices. For example there were questions that needed an outright “yes” or “no” choice. These include questions 27, 55, 122 and 198.

For some questions it was necessary to state that implementation was being done *in some cases*, but the answer choices applied to “across the board” implementation. One such question was #39.

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

Date of Completion:	May, 2000
If the NBSAP has been adopted by the Government	
By which authority?	
On what date?	
If the NBSAP has been published please give	
Title:	Not applicable
Name and address of publisher:	Not applicable
ISBN:	Not applicable
Price (if applicable):	Not applicable
Other information on ordering:	Not applicable
If NBSAP has not been published	
Please give full details on how copies can be obtained:	<p>Requests can be made through the CHM (www.biodiversity.vc) or by contacting the</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Environmental Services Unit Ministry of Health and the Environment St. Vincent and the Grenadines Tel. (784) 485-6992 Fax. (784) 456-1785 E-mail: svgenv@caribsuf.com</p>
If the NBSAP has been posted on a national website	
Please give full URL:	
If the NBSAP has been lodged with an implementing agency of the GEF	
Please indicate which agency:	
Has a copy of the NBSAP been lodged with the Convention Secretariat?	
Yes	No

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

Apart from this report and the NBSAP, a number of other CBD related reports have been completed. These are:

- ◆ Biodiversity Important to Agriculture
- ◆ Institutional Capacity Related to Biodiversity Management
- ◆ Traditional Knowledge Important to Biodiversity
- ◆ National Biodiversity Assessment Report

Please provide details of any national body (e.g. national audit office) that has or will review the implementation of the Convention in your country:

The National Environmental Advisory Board (NEAB) will review this report before it is submitted to the Secretariat. This Board was instituted by the Cabinet to advise on matters related to the environment. The Board comprises representatives from a number of governmental and non-governmental agencies/organisations responsible for various aspects of environmental management.

Appendix A

The Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife (SPAW) Protocol

(Adopted from the Caribbean Environment Programme (CEP) website
www.cep.unep.org)

The Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region (the Cartagena Convention) is the only legally binding environmental treaty for the Wider Caribbean. The Convention and its Protocols constitute a legal commitment by the participating governments to protect, develop and manage their common waters individually or jointly.

The SPAW Programme supports activities for the protection and management of sensitive and highly valuable natural marine resources. This Sub-Programme is responsible for the regionalization of global conventions and initiatives such as the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the International Coral Reef Initiative (ICRI) and the Global Coral Reef Monitoring Network (GCRMN). A Memorandum of Cooperation exists between the CBD and UNEP-CAR/RCU to assist with the implementation of the CBD at the regional level.

The Protocol Concerning Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife (the SPAW Protocol) has been internationally recognized as the most comprehensive treaty of its kind. Adopted in Kingston, Jamaica by the member governments of the Caribbean Environment Programme on 18 January 1990, the SPAW Protocol preceded other international environmental agreements in utilizing an ecosystem approach to conservation. The Protocol acts as a vehicle to assist with regional implementation of the broader and more demanding global Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD).

The objectives of SPAW are:

- To significantly increase the number of and improve the management of national protected areas and species in the region, including the development of biosphere reserves, where appropriate.
- To develop a strong regional capability for the co-ordination of information exchange, training and technical assistance in support of national biodiversity conservation efforts.
- To coordinate activities with the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, as well as other biodiversity-related treaties, such as the CITES, Ramsar, Bonn and Western Hemisphere Conventions.
- To assist the Governments of the region, upon their request, in the development of guidelines regarding the application of regulations and economic steering

instruments in the decision-making process toward the establishment and enforcement of measures necessary to prevent, reduce and control marine pollution and to provide them with the relevant information.

Advantages:

- 1) The only regional environmental legal agreement addressing biodiversity conservation issues of the Wider Caribbean.
- 2) Its provisions provide specific and concrete guidance for the implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), in particular regarding protected area establishment and management, as well as species and coastal ecosystems management and conservation. (The CBD is very demanding on those issues but does not provide guidance which SPAW does).
- 3) SPAW was developed *by* the governments of the region and *for* the region. In this way is more appropriate and specific to the Wider Caribbean than other global treaties.
- 4) It is supported by an operational programme, which is currently supporting for example: marine protected areas in the region, countries with coral reef conservation and management, countries in implementing sustainable tourism practices, etc.
- 5) It has no direct financial implications for the countries as the Trust Fund is independent from the Convention (Dominica has been paying to the Trust Fund anyway and they are not fully benefiting from SPAW as they have not become Parties).
- 6) Being a Party to SPAW sends a clear message to the region and donors about the commitment of a country (Dominica) towards biodiversity conservation. This could particularly relevant a Dominica develops as a "Green Globe" destination.
- 7) SPAW provides for the establishment of a Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC) to address issues and identify priorities. The STAC could be used by the region to address CBD issues and form consensus. The participation of the region in CBD meetings has been very poor and the STAC could be used as a mechanism to carry a unified voice from the region to CBD.
- 8) A Party to SPAW will benefit from the activities of the SPAW Programme and from regional cooperation opportunities in the management of coastal and marine resources.
- 9) A Party to SPAW will also benefit from the Memorandum of Cooperation which exists between CBD and SPAW Secretariats.
- 10) A Party to SPAW will benefit from technical assistance from the SPAW Regional Activity Centre to be established in 1999 in the National park of Guadeloupe.

Appendix B

(Adopted from the Caribbean Conservation Association (CCA) website www.ccanet.net)

Crep Set to Launch Demonstration Project

The Caribbean Regional Environmental Programme (CREP) is now set to launch two very important phases of a million dollar project that involves 13 CARICOM states. CREP's work-plan for the launching of a Demonstration Project at specific sites in the participating countries and for raising Regional Environmental Awareness (REA) has been approved, and a total of 2.7 million Euro has been committed towards these Programme components.

The Demonstration Project has identified a number of Amenity Areas in the region of significant ecological and economic value, and through a process of training and capacity building it is envisioned that these sites will serve as examples of how similar areas can be better managed by strengthening collaboration between governments and civil society organizations.

“The objective is to set into motion a long-term sustainable development process where resident communities derive social and economic benefits from activities which internalize environmental conservation as the basis for their value,” said Cathal Healy-Singh the Programme Manager at CREP.

The Amenity Areas are: Codrington Lagoon in Antigua and Barbuda, Central Andros National Park in the Bahamas, Scotland District in Barbados, Port Honduras Marine Reserve and Payne's Creek National Park in Belize, the Carib Territory in Dominica, Sandy Island/Oyster Bed Marine Protected Area in Grenada, Upper Corentyne Coast – villages 43-74 in Guyana, Negril Environmental Protection Area in Jamaica, Bath House/Bogs Area in St. Kitts/Nevis, Fond D'or Nature and Historic Park in St. Lucia, North Leeward Communities – Richmond & Lashum in St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Brownsberg Nature Park and Brownsweg Community in Suriname, and Galleons Passage which comprises of northeast Trinidad from Matura to Matelot and the Buccoo area in South West Tobago. Healy-Singh also believes the Demonstration Project will assist national governments in formulating policies that would focus on the sustainable use of resources.

“CREP can put good food on the table of the Caribbean Single Market and Economy, by demonstrating how key stakeholders in Demonstration Sites can turn the corner towards sustainable use of their natural resources, by striking a balance between economic activity, social well-being and environmental management. Ultimately the lessons learnt are intended to inform Government policy on future development planning,” he said. The Demonstration Projects will be launched in each country during the period from September to December this year.

The REA component foresees production and dissemination of five elements; two commercial video productions, a regional syndicated newspaper column titled Conversations with the Earth, a CD compiled of songs and poetry on environmental and integration themes by a variety of Caribbean ‘culture producers’, and a radio comedy-drama series set in a typical Caribbean household, are also foreseen. Additionally, the prototype for a ‘one-cent money tree’ will be designed for public spaces. The video productions will highlight the challenges and goals of the Demonstration Projects narrated by children, and the values and lifestyles of indigenous Caribbean Peoples, emphasizing their knowledge and respect for Earth.

Another CREP component - strengthening of Regional Environmental Information Networks (REIN) - using computer workstations to link fifteen Government departments and thirteen NGOs with environmental responsibilities to each other, across the Region, is already underway.

Also underway is a Capacity Building component through which the Caribbean Conservation Association (CCA) and the Caribbean Natural Resources Institute (CANARI) are developing training modules for Government and NGO focal point organizations who are directly involved in implementing the Demonstration Projects in the thirteen CARICOM States. The training is in Protected Areas Management and Collaborative Management and Participatory Planning. These institutional Capacity Building initiatives are intended to deepen the Regional integration process between government and civil society. CREP is a milestone sustainable development initiative authorized by the Caribbean Forum of African, Caribbean & Pacific States (CARIFORUM) which is represented by the Division of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance & Economic Affairs in Barbados.

CREP is implemented by the CCA through a Programme Management Unit (PMU) established at the Secretariat in Barbados. Current Programme financing comes from the European Commission with a commitment of 9.1 million Euros.

For more information on CREP visit the CCA website: www.ccanet.net or contact Collin Cunningham at crepinformation@ccanet.net or Cathal Healy-Singh at crepmanager@ccanet.net.

About CREP

(Adopted from the Caribbean Regional Environment Programme website
www.crep.ccanet.net)

CREP is a programme designed to strengthen Regional cooperation and build greater awareness of environmental issues in The Caribbean Forum of African, Caribbean and Pacific States (CARIFORUM)* - Haiti and the Dominican Republic are covered under a separate programme.

At specific sites, CREP will demonstrate that the Region's natural resources and biodiversity can be better protected and managed to bring greater social, economic, environmental, aesthetic and other benefits to this and succeeding generations.

CREP commenced in January 2001. It is constituted as a four year programme but recognised as a dynamic process whose mission and activities are to be sustained by Regional and national environmental stakeholders.

CREP has four areas of focus:

- Developing and strengthening Regional Environmental Information Networks;
- Promoting environmental public education and awareness
- Building the capacity of regional environment institutions;
- Establishing sustainable living demonstration sites in "Amenity Areas" – natural areas having significant ecological, social, recreational and economic value

*** CARIFORUM Member States**

Antigua and Barbuda, the Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, the Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, St Kitts & Nevis, St Lucia, St Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad & Tobago

Why is CREP necessary?

A major reason for the establishment of the Programme was that CARIFORUM recognised that "major stakeholders in the Region are not sufficiently alarmed nor fully appreciate the social and economic values at risk if environmental protection is ignored."

CREP is therefore addressing the crucial issues of awareness and consciousness raising as well as practical demonstration.

How CREP is managed

CREP is being implemented by the Caribbean Conservation Association (CCA) with the assistance of a Programme Management Unit (PMU). The PMU comprises a programme manager, technical officer, information officer, programme administrator, administrative assistant and a secretary.

The PMU is overseen by a Joint Executive Committee (JEC), which meets twice per year to receive, review and approve the Annual Work Plans prepared by the PMU, as well as regular technical and progress reports.

The JEC comprises:

- CARIFORUM;
- The Delegation of the European Commission in Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean;
- The Implementing Agency (Caribbean Conservation Association);
- The Caribbean Environmental Health Institute (CEHI);
- Caribbean Natural Resources Institute (CANARI);
- The Government of Guyana;
- The Government of Belize;
- The Government of Dominica;
- The Deputy Regional Authorising Officer (DRAO) – the Permanent Secretary, Economic Planning, Ministry of Economic Development, Barbados.

The Programme Manager of CREP is the *ex-officio* Secretary of the JEC

How CREP works

Implementation will be based on a first year of consultation with governmental and non-governmental stakeholders for assessment of needs, identification of priorities and recommended action. Professionals will be engaged from ACP states and the EU to execute specific tasks.

Implementation considerations of CREP are that it:

- Avoids duplication of previous assessments;
- Does not create new structures but supports existing institutions;
- Promotes decentralised co-operation between governments, communities and partners in civil society;
- Seeks equity between all stakeholders at all levels of implementation;
- Carries out specific activities towards programme sustainability during implementation phase;
- Seeks collaboration with other similar programmes and projects.

CREP's Objectives

What will CREP achieve?

1. Development of co-management models for greater cooperation between governments and civil society to manage natural assets;
2. Greater integration in approach to protection and management of Regional biodiversity;
3. Development of new and/or expansion of existing protected areas;
4. Better environmental quality at selected demonstration sites;
5. Improved income and quality of life for communities in and around demonstration sites;
6. Increased capacity of Regional/national non-governmental institutions to contribute to sustainable development;
7. Promotion of public awareness and support for environmental protection imperatives;
8. Strengthened Regional environmental information networking.

Appendix C

**The OECS Environmental Management Strategy & the
St. Georges Declaration of Principles for Environmental Sustainability in the OECS**

(Adopted from the Development Gateway website)

<http://topics.developmentgateway.org/oeccsaid/rc/filedownload.do~itemld=270681>
<http://topics.developmentgateway.org/oeccsaid/rc/filedownload.do~itemld=270681>

THE OECS ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

“To protect, conserve and enhance or restore, where appropriate, the quality and value of the region’s natural resources in order to sustain social and economic development for present and future generations.”

**Vision Statement to guide implementation of The St George’s
Declaration Of Principles For Environmental Sustainability In The
OECS**

At the Third Meeting of the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) Environment Policy Committee (September 1999) OECS Ministers of The Environment requested that the OECS Natural Resources Management Unit (NRMU) prepare an "OECS Charter for Environmental Management" and "a regional strategy...that will become the framework for environmental management" in the region. In accordance with the Ministers' request, OECS NRMU developed the *St. George's Declaration Of Principles For Environmental Sustainability In The OECS*, which was signed by Ministers in April 2001 and which sets out the broad framework to be pursued for environmental management in the OECS region.

The St. George's Declaration of Principles for Environmental Sustainability in the OECS comprises twenty one principles. They are:

Principle 1

Foster Improvement in the Quality of Life

Principle 2

Integrate Social, Economic and Environmental Considerations into National Development Policies, Plans and Programmes

Principle 3

Improve on Legal and Institutional Frameworks

Principle 4

Ensure Meaningful Participation by Civil Society in Decision Making

Principle 5

Ensure Meaningful Participation By The Private Sector

Principle 6

Use Economic Instruments for Sustainable Environmental Management

Principle 7

Foster Broad-based Environmental Education, Training and Awareness

Principle 8

Address the Causes and Impacts of Climate Change

Principle 9

Prevent and Manage the Causes and Impacts of Disaster

Principle 10

Prevent and Control Pollution and Manage Waste

Principle 11

Ensure the Sustainable Use of Natural Resources

Principle 12

Protect Cultural and Natural Heritage

Principle 13

Protect and Conserve Biological Diversity

Principle 14

Recognise Relationships between Trade and Environment

Principle 15

Promote Cooperation in Science and Technology

Principle 16

Manage and Conserve Energy

Principle 17

Negotiate and Implement Multi-lateral Environmental Agreements

Principle 18

Coordinate Assistance from the International Community towards the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States

Principle 19

Implementation and Monitoring

Principle 20
Obligations of Member States

Principle 21
Review

Following is a description of some of the principles of the St. George's Declaration for Environmental Sustainability in the OECS that complement various elements of the Convention on Biodiversity (CBD).

PRINCIPLE 11

Ensure the Sustainable Use of Natural Resources

Each Member State agrees to:

- (a) Manage terrestrial, marine and atmospheric resources, organisms and eco-systems in an appropriate manner to obtain the optimum sustainable productivity, while maintaining the integrity of natural and ecological processes and inter-relationships between such systems and processes;
- (b) Design, promote and implement measures to prevent, mitigate and control degradation of aquatic, terrestrial and atmospheric environmental quality and processes conducive to desertification;
- (c) Cooperate in the conservation, management and restoration of natural resources existing in areas under the jurisdiction of more than one State, or which may exist in areas that are fully or partially beyond the limits of its national jurisdiction;
- (d) Work together, in collaboration with Civil Society, to promote and facilitate improved national and regional capability for the management of natural resources;
- (e) Collaborate in the implementation of appropriate precautionary approaches aimed at managing and avoiding environmental degradation and over-exploitation of natural resources within the sub-region;
- (f) Take all necessary measures within its legal and policy framework, including enactment of new legislation where appropriate, to ensure that conservation and management of natural resources are treated as an integral part of development planning at all stages and levels;

- (g) Develop a schedule of development activities for which environmental impact assessment will be required as part of project definition and design, and the results of which will be considered in determining whether and how a project will proceed.

PRINCIPLE 13

Protect and Conserve Biological Diversity

Each Member State agrees to:

- (a) Pursue appropriate measures to conserve and, where necessary, restore biological diversity, including species diversity, genetic diversity within species and ecosystem diversity;
- (b) Manage biological resources to ensure their conservation, sustainable use and possible restoration;
- (c) Establish appropriate legal and institutional structures to control and licence the prospecting for, or harvesting and export of cultural and ecological resources;
- (d) Take necessary precautionary measures to avoid or minimize, the intentional or accidental introduction or escape, into or from the environment, of alien or modified organisms that are likely to impact adversely on other organisms or the environment;
- (e) Take appropriate measures to control or eradicate alien or modified organisms having the potential to impact adversely on other organisms the environment or human health;
- (f) Take appropriate measures to ensure that activities within its jurisdiction, do not damage the biological diversity and the environment of another State, within or beyond the limits of that other State's national jurisdiction.
- (a) Assess and where appropriate, adopt new technologies, techniques and methodologies for achieving effective environmental management.

PRINCIPLE 15

Promote Cooperation in Science and Technology

Each Member State agrees to:

- (b) Promote directly or through competent regional or other international agencies cooperation in the fields of science, technology and other research in support of sound and sustainable natural resource and environmental management , and the sustainable development of human resources;**
- (c) Promote scientific and technical cooperation in the field of environmental conservation and the sustainable use of natural resources;**
- (d) Cooperate to establish, adopt and implement comparable or standardized research techniques and harmonized methods to measure environmental parameters, and promoting widespread and effective participation of all States in establishing such methodologies;
- (e) Assess and where appropriate, adopt new technologies, techniques and methodologies for achieving effective environmental management.

PRINCIPLE 17

Negotiate and Implement Multi-lateral Environmental Agreements

Each Member State agrees to:

- (a) Endeavour to become and remain parties to multi-lateral environmental agreements relating to the subject-matter of this Declaration;
- (b) Collaborate to establish or better utilise existing sub-regional negotiating mechanisms for multi-lateral environmental agreements;
- (c) Cooperate to the degree feasible in formulating common positions in the negotiation and implementation of multi-lateral environmental agreements;
- (d) Establish appropriate mechanisms to facilitate the exchange of information relating to the negotiation, implementation and compliance with multi-lateral environmental agreements;

- (e) Ensure, to the extent feasible, that the Principles contained in this Declaration are fully integrated into the negotiation and implementation of multi-lateral environmental agreements;
- (f) Reserve the right of Member States, whether individually or together, to adopt and implement measures, where necessary, beyond the provisions of multi-lateral agreements for the purpose of meeting the needs of this Declaration while maintaining compliance with the multi-lateral agreements to which they are signatories.

PRINCIPLE 19

Implementation and Monitoring

Each Member State agrees to:

- (a) Ensure that all new national policies and programs are undertaken in a manner that is consistent with the principles contained in the Declaration;***
- (b) Cooperate in good faith with each other to achieve optimal results from their environmental policies and actions relating to the use of trans-boundary natural resources, and in the effective prevention or abatement of trans-boundary environmental problems;
- (c) Work concertedly together to implement the Principles enunciated in this Declaration;
- (d) Implement the commitments contained in Annex A to this agreement in a timely and expeditious manner, and with all due diligence, and report periodically on measures undertaken to satisfy this requirement;***
- (e) Work concertedly together to develop the OECS Environmental Management Strategy that will give effect to this Declaration;***
- (f) Undertake to apply minimum acceptable standards at all times in respect of addressing issues concerning the impact or adverse effects of trans-boundary natural resources on the environment;
- (g) Develop a national environmental management strategy within two (2) years of the date this Declaration comes into force;

- (h) Designate an entity comprised of each Member State to monitor and facilitate the compliance of each Member State with this Declaration, and to report on measures undertaken to implement this Agreement;
- (i) Communicate timely and relevant information on all aspects of the St George's Declaration's Principles to other interested States.

Appendix D

Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

(Selected Passage)

Adopted from the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs website, from the Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States (Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 April-6 May 1994). Full text available at www.un.org/documents/ga/conf167/aconf167-9.htm.

IX. BIODIVERSITY RESOURCES

Basis for action

41. Small island developing States are renowned for their species diversity and endemism. However, due to the small size, isolation and fragility of island ecosystems, their biological diversity is among the most threatened in the world. Deforestation, coral reef deterioration, habitat degradation and loss, and the introduction of certain non-indigenous species are the most significant causes of the loss of biodiversity in small island developing States.

42. In the past, there has been a strong emphasis on the collection of more information. In small island developing States where limited and biologically precious resources are being threatened, while the lack of sufficient information is often cited as a rationale for inaction, there is often enough information to identify areas requiring in situ conservation. Although more information will be required in order to develop appropriate management plans, information collection should no longer be a prior condition for in situ conservation projects.

43. The nature of traditional, often communal land and marine resource ownership in many island countries requires community support for the conservation effort. Without that local support and commitment and the opportunity to integrate sustainable income generation into the conservation effort, even the most highly studied and well planned conservation area will not be sustainable.

44. Some of the most precious biological resources for islanders, environmentally, economically and culturally, are marine and coastal rather than terrestrial. This requires a conservation focus that takes into account customary land and reef tenure systems and practices, which may differ from that usually found in the larger developed countries. Other considerations include the adequacy of basic institutional support for conservation

efforts (staff, vehicles etc.) and access to financial resources to help start innovative projects.

45. A number of international and regional conventions exist concerning the conservation and sustainable utilization of biological resources, which are expected to provide a sound legal framework of potential benefit to the sustainable development of small island developing States.

A. National action, policies and measures

(i) Formulate and implement integrated strategies for the conservation and sustainable use of terrestrial and marine biodiversity, in particular endemic species, including protection from the introduction of certain non-indigenous species and the identification of sites of high biological significance for the conservation of biological diversity and/or for eco-tourism and other sustainable development opportunities, such as sustainable agriculture, training and research.

(ii) Ratify and implement the Convention on Biological Diversity, 10/ the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora 11/ and other relevant international and regional conventions.

(iii) Promote community support for the conservation of biological diversity and the designation of protected areas by concentrating on educational strategies that increase awareness of the significance of biodiversity conservation, in particular the fundamental importance to resource-owning communities of a diverse biological resource base.

(iv) Generate and maintain buffer stocks or gene banks of biogenetic resources for reintroduction into their natural habitat, especially in the case of post-disaster restoration and rehabilitation.

(v) Develop or continue studies and research on biological resources, their management and their intrinsic socio-economic and cultural value, including biotechnology.

(vi) Conduct detailed inventories of existing flora, fauna and ecosystems to provide basic data needed for the preservation of biodiversity.

(vii) Ensure that the ownership of intellectual property rights is adequately and effectively protected. Ensure, subject to national legislation and policies, that the technology, knowledge, and customary and traditional practices of local and indigenous people, including resource owners and custodians, are adequately and effectively protected, and that they thereby benefit directly, on an equitable basis and on mutually agreed terms, from any utilization of such technologies, knowledge and practices, or from any technological development directly derived therefrom.

(viii) Support the involvement of non-governmental organizations, women, indigenous people and other major groups, as well as fishing communities and farmers, in the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and biotechnology.

B. Regional action

(i) Encourage countries to give priority to known, existing sites of biological significance - while recognizing that there are many important sites whose biological significance remains unknown and to build up community support for the protection of those areas including their protection from the introduction of non-indigenous species.

(ii) Promote regional studies of the socio-economic and cultural value of biological resources, including genetic engineering, intellectual property rights and access to biotechnology, with the participation of existing or strengthened scientific institutions, relevant international agencies and non-governmental organizations.

(iii) Promote the establishment of regional gene-bank centres for research, seeking the development and introduction of more resistant and productive varieties of species, and provide the appropriate legal and technical procedures for the use of those biological resources.

(iv) Coordinate information exchange, training and technical assistance in support of national efforts to establish and manage conservation areas and for species conservation, including the identification and use of traditional knowledge and techniques for resource management that assist the conservation of biological resources and diversity.

(v) Promote and/or strengthen already existing regional scientific institutions that can operate as reference centres for problems related to the conservation and sustainable management of biodiversity.

(vi) Strengthen the capacity of regional organizations to provide technical support and coordination in the development of inventories of flora, fauna and ecosystems and, where feasible, to establish regional databases and gene banks.

(vii) Support the development of adequate and effective legal mechanisms for the protection of intellectual property rights.

C. International action

(i) Provide improved access to financial and technical resources for the conservation of biological diversity, including funds for basic institutional and logistic support for the conservation and management of biological diversity, with priority to be accorded to terrestrial as well as coastal and marine biodiversity, such as coral reef ecosystems.

(ii) Improve access to environmentally sound biotechnology, including know-how and delivery mechanisms.

(iii) Ensure that the activities of relevant international organizations, agencies and programmes of the United Nations as well as relevant non-governmental organizations are closely coordinated with and supportive of identified regional small island developing States centres or ongoing programmes in the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and biotechnology.

(iv) Make greater use of import restrictions under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora on products from endangered species endemic to small island developing States.

(v) Support national and regional actions for developing inventories of flora, fauna and ecosystems, including training and technical assistance.

(vi) Support strategies to protect small island developing States from the introduction of non-indigenous species.

(vii) Promote the full involvement of non-governmental organizations, women, indigenous people and other major groups, as well as fishing communities and farmers, in the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and biotechnology.

Appendix E

Brief Description of Project to Formulate the National Biosafety Framework

(Adopted from the UNEP/GEF Sub-Project Document)

Background of the UNEP-GEF Global National Project

In January 2000, agreement was reached on the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, which aims “to contribute to ensuring an adequate level of protection in the field of the safe transfer, handling and use of living modified organisms resulting from modern biotechnology that may have adverse effects on the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, taking also into account risks to human health and specifically focusing on transboundary movements”.

In November 2000, the 16th GEF council approved the “*Initial strategy for assisting countries to prepare for the entry into force of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety*” (GEF/C.16/4). The main objectives identified in the strategy were:

- (a) Assist countries in implementing Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety through the development and implementation of their national biosafety frameworks.
- (b) Promote information sharing and collaboration, especially at the regional and subregional level, and
- (c) Promote collaboration with other organizations to assist capacity-building for the implementation of the Cartagena Protocol Biosafety.

At the same meeting the GEF council also approved the UNEP/GEF global project entitled “Development of National Biosafety Frameworks”, aimed at

- Assisting up to 100 eligible countries to prepare their national biosafety frameworks.
- Promoting regional and sub-regional collaboration and exchange of experience on issues of relevance to the national biosafety frameworks.

The overall objectives of this UNEP/GEF global project is to prepare countries for the entry into force of the Protocol by, among others, assisting in the following activities:

- (1) Carrying out an assessment of current technological capacity to manage Biosafety issues and the implications of this on the implementation of a National Biosafety.
- (2) Strengthening national capacity to develop national regulatory biosafety framework.

(3) Strengthening national capacity for competent decision making on notification and requests related to Living Modified Organisms (LMOs), including the establishment of administrative systems to assist with:

- Screening notifications and requests for completeness.
- Risk assessment, including where appropriate, the consideration of risk management, and risk evaluation (as socio-economic issues may be taken into account in accordance with the Protocol).
- Decision making within the time limits specified in the regulatory framework and in accordance with the provisions of involvement of stakeholders
- A mechanism for feed back between these different steps.

(4) Applying other measures according to the protocol taking into account the work of the Inter-governmental Committee for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (ICCP).

(5) Supporting regional and sub-regional collaboration including harmonization of the implementation of national regulations.

(6) Raise public awareness and improve information flow to the public on the issues involved around the release of Living Modified Organisms to promote informed debate and to ensure transparency with respect to the regulation of LMOs.

(7) Provide all stakeholders with an opportunity to be involved in the design and implementation of a National Biosafety Framework.

The implementation of this National Project, described hereafter, is aimed at assisting St. Vincent and the Grenadines to develop its National Biosafety Framework, and will be undertaken in accordance with the overall objectives of the UNEP/GEF programme for development of National Biosafety Frameworks, as approved by the November 2000 GEF council meeting.

Country's Current Situation

The Government of St. Vincent and the Grenadines is cognizant of the fact that environmental conservation and human health are inextricably linked. Therefore, the country's involvement in programmes that support both is critical. To support this policy, the country became a signatory to the Biodiversity Convention in 1996 and to have full

ratification of the protocol in 2002. There is now commitment at a national level to have full ratification of the protocol.

Within the Last two years, the issue of Biosafety has risen to national importance. Despite this, St. Vincent's ability to deal with issues regarding Biosafety is inadequate. There is no detailed documentation of the human and resource needs of the country. There still remains a low level of awareness regarding Biosafety among the population.

The extent to which St. Vincent and the Grenadines is dependent on GMOs/LMOs and the real threat(s) posed by the introduction of GMOs/LMOs into the country, both in terms of human health and environment impacts, are not yet fully known or understood. Therefore in the basic data, it is not clear if any GMOs/LMOs have been released into the environment or marketed for feed processing.

The Ministry of Health and the Environment is the principal agency currently addressing Biosafety. Other agencies such as the Forestry Department and the Plant Protection Unit, both in the Ministry of Agriculture, provide a supportive function in addressing issues of regulation and administration. These agencies form the building block for the implementation of Biosafety framework mechanisms within the country.

Plans are being finalized for the establishment of an National Coordinating Committee (NCC). This requires the involvement of senior personnel from agencies with responsibilities for Biodiversity and Biosafety. The involvement of private sector representatives will be encouraged to ensure full national representation.

The country is currently undertaking a Biodiversity capacity assessment as it relates, among other things, the potential threats of GMOs/LMOs to the natural environment. This taken in context of the overall Biosafety programme provides an excellent opportunity to incorporate both approaches to more effectively address the development of national Biosafety frameworks.

1. Biosafety and Human Health and environmental conservation are interconnected.
2. In order to address Biosafety-related issues, the country possesses national capacities to address it.
3. There is need for effective dialogue between agencies in order to share information and approaches.
4. There must be improvement in public awareness, institutional capacities and an improved scientific position in order to develop strategies towards addressing Biosafety-related issues.

Based on the following the project will focus on the following:

- Greater public involvement and representation in Biosafety
- Establishment of a database
- Strengthening relationship between agencies with an interest in Biosafety
- Public education and training

The project will remain with the Ministry of Health and the Environment for implementation. This Ministry has the responsibility of coordinating and implementing all international environmental agreements and conventions and is the focal point for these agreements. The National Project Coordinator (NPC) will be within the Ministry of Agriculture. This is considered a reasonable arrangement recognizing the close working relationship existing between both agencies regarding issues of environmental matters.

Objective

The main Objective of this National Project is the preparation of a National Biosafety Framework in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety.

The main elements of this framework would be

- A regulatory system
- An administrative system
- A decision making system that includes risk assessment and management
- Mechanisms for public participation and information

Outputs

The following outputs will be required to achieve the objective of the National Project

Phase One of the national project (months 1-6). Which consists of preparatory activities and the gathering of necessary information will be expected to produce the following outputs:

- a. Inventories of the following:
 - i. Current use of modern biotechnology as defined in the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (including those techniques that are covered in the protocol excluded from the Advanced Informed Agreement procedure e.g. contained use, veterinary use and possibly human pharmaceuticals).
 - ii. Existing legislation or legal instruments related to biotechnology/biosafety, etc.
 - iii. Active or planned National Projects for capacity building related to the safe use of biotechnology.

- b. A report on existing sub-regional biosafety frameworks and mechanisms for harmonization of risk assessment/management.
- c. Rosters of relevant experts within the country, identifying their experience and expertise so that adequate coverage in all areas of expertise is obtained and potential gaps can be identified.

Phase Two of the national project (months 7-12) which includes the necessary analysis for the preparation of the NBF, will be expected to produce the following outputs:

- d. Access to relevant information for all stakeholders in accordance with the requirements of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety.
- e. Development of National Biosafety Database and linkages to the Biosafety Clearing House.
- f. Mechanisms for adequate involvement of all stakeholders, including public and private sectors, on issues related to biosafety.
- g. Identification of the components of the national Biosafety Framework, in consultation with relevant stakeholders.

Phase Three of the national project, (months 13-18), during which the draft NBF will be prepared, will be expected to produce the following outputs:

- h. Draft of legal instruments, including guidelines, as appropriate.
- i. Systems for risk assessment and management, including audit which take into account national and sub-regional/regional needs.
- j. Administrative systems for compliance with the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety.
- k. Mechanisms for public consultation in decision-making processes regarding LMOs.
- l. Mechanisms for sharing of scientific assessments at sub-regional levels, whilst allowing for decision-making at the national level.
- m. Identification of country needs and mechanisms for participation in the Biosafety Clearing House.
- n. Publication of inventories, reports of national meetings, draft and/or final national meetings, draft and/or final National Biosafety Framework, relevant regulations and guidelines.