

**REPUBLIC OF SEYCHELLES**

**THIRD NATIONAL REPORT TO THE CONVENTION  
OF BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY**

**GOVERNMENT OF THE SEYCHELLES**

**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT**

**January 2010**

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## A. REPORTING PARTY

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### Information on the preparation of the report

#### Box I.

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

The 3<sup>rd</sup> National Report was due in 2004 and a national consultant was appointed to spearhead the process. Unfortunately disagreement and delays were encountered which was not suitably addressed at the time.

In October 2009, the Department of Environment decided to reassign the task to another consultant to complete the third report in order to fulfill the country's obligation under the Convention. Given the extreme delay and lack of comprehensive data sets, the task was significantly more difficult to undertake within the required timeframe. It was especially challenging to limit information to the reporting years. In accordance to instructions, the consultant has updated information only up to 2004 to the extent possible.

The first draft was prepared using existing literatures with inputs from expert interviews provided during a whole day stakeholders work session held on the 13<sup>th</sup> October 2009. The output of this workshop complemented one to one interviews with leading experts led to the development of the second draft of the country report. In view of the limited timeframe it was not possible to have one to one interview with all experts in the various fields; instead electronic dissemination was used for expert inputs. This was through circulation within the various sections within the Ministry for Environment which included Forestry Section, Botanical Gardens, Pollution Control and Climate and Environment Services. Consultations were also extended to the civil societies particularly to the Seychelles Island Foundation, Seychelles National Parks Authority and the Seychelles Marine Research and Technology (SCMRT), which are important actors in implementation of the Convention. In order to ensure the views of all national stakeholders, copy of the draft report was also sent to all environmental NGO's with significant expertise and experience in conservation. The final document was validated with experts from the Department of Environment during a 3 day work session held at the end of February 2010.

The literature review and desktop study was conducted using some key literatures used for the preparation of this report.

1. Aride Island Nature Reserve Seychelles, Annual Report;(2008) S. Mills & M. Yeandle, Island Conservation Society
2. Commentary on the Development of the Republic of Seychelles Access to Genetic Resources and Benefit Sharing Bill (2005); IPGRI ; *Robert J. Lewis-Lettington and Didier Dogley*
3. D'arros Research Centre (DRC) Annual Report 2008-2009 Udo Engelhardt;
4. Department of Environment / Biodiversity website
5. Desroches Conservation Management Plan 2009; Micheal Betts.
6. Economic Assessment of Seychelles Biodiversity; Lucy Emerton 1997
7. Genetic Resources Bill – Draft 2010; Ministry of Environment
8. Global Forest Resources Assessment Country report Seychelles for FAO; Ester B (2005)
9. Integrating Biodiversity in the Tourism Sector; A case study on the Republic Of Seychelles for UNDP/UNEP Biodiversity Planning Support Programme; Neville, J (March 2001)
10. Mainstreaming Biodiversity into Production Sectors Activities: Project Document
11. Mainstreaming Prevention and Control Measures for Invasive Alien Species into Trade, Transport and Travel across the Production Landscape; (Mainstreaming Bio-security Project) Document
12. Marine Biodiversity of the Seychelles archipelago: The known and unknown; Bijoux et al
13. National Report on Alien Invasive Species to the Convention on Biological Diversity (Nevill J 2000)
14. National Strategy for Plant Conservation PCA-BG (2005)
15. News Update 14; 2008-03-24 "Heritage Gardens Spans the Generations" Nature Seychelles
16. Report on implementation of GTI Work Programme (2004)
17. Report on Implementation of Programme of Work for the Global Taxonomy Initiative (Matatiken D, Aug 2004)
18. Review of EMPS 2000-2010; Thematic Report- Biodiversity, Forestry and Agriculture (Matatiken D, 2009)
19. Seychelles: a hotspot of sea cucumber fisheries in Africa and the Indian Ocean Region; Au-meeruddy, R; Conand C. 2008
20. Seychelles First National Report to the Convention on Biological Diversity
21. Seychelles Marine Conservation and Research Expedition; Coral Recruitment programme July – Sept 2008; Global Vision International
22. Seychelles National Biodiversity Strategy & Action Plan-Republic of Seychelles 1997
23. Seychelles National Wetland Policy 10/8/2003
24. Seychelles NCSA: Capacity Assessment Report; Rijma Jan (April 2005)
25. Seychelles NCSA: Strategic Overview of Obligations Under the Convention on Biological Diver-

- sity; CBD Thematic Working Group (June 2004)
26. Strategic Plan 2008 – 2012 Seychelles Centre for Marine Research & Technology – Marine Park Authority (2008)
  27. Seychelles National Plan of Action for the Conservation & Management of Sharks - Seychelles Fishing Authority (2007)
  28. Strengthening Seychelles' Protected Area System through NGO Management modalities-PIF June 2009
  29. SADC Regional Biodiversity Strategy 2006
  30. Thematic Report on Forest Ecosystem Nevill J 2001
  31. Tropical Depression Storm over Praslin and its satellite islands in Seychelles; UNEP OCHA Assessment Report (2003).

## B. PRIORITY SETTING, TARGETS AND OBSTACLES

### Box II.

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

The Seychelles archipelago consists of 115 islands distributed in an Exclusive economic zone of 1.3 million square kilometers. The islands have a total area of 452km<sup>2</sup> with unique biodiversity derived from evolution and isolation after millions of years in isolation. The islands are either composed mostly of granite or corals and these two different types of islands have their own unique biodiversity. The granitic islands are considered to be fragments of Gondwanaland. Because of the ancient origins of the islands, the Seychelles boast a spectacular diversity of flora and fauna with significant endemic species. As a result, the Seychelles archipelago is considered a biological hotspot with ecosystems recognized worldwide. It has two UNESCO world heritage sites being the Aldabra atoll designated in 1982 and the Vallee de Mai special reserve on Praslin. The Aldabra atoll is home to the biggest population of giant land tortoises on earth and home to a diversity of plants and animal of high endemism whilst the Vallee de Mai on Praslin comprises of the the natural habitat for the six endemic palms which include the gigantic coco de mer palm (*Lodoicea maldivica*).

### 1. Floral Biodiversity

#### 1.1 General description of Flora

The Seychelles currently have 46% of its total land area under legal protection. There are approximately 250 indigenous floral species, of which 54 taxa or almost 21 percent are now considered threatened. Most of these species are distributed in three different ecosystems which are related to altitude, namely coastal and lowland (<200m), intermediate (200-500m) and mountain mists forests (>500m). The mountain mists forests are richer in endemics with 85% of the total number of native species confined within the Morne Seychellois National Park. This ecosystem has been subjected to limited anthropogenic disturbance. The different endemic plant species found in those particular habitats are shown in Table 1:

Table 1: Scientific and local names of Seychelles's endemic plants.

Endemic Species	Local Name
<i>Memecylon eleagni</i>	Bwa Kalou
<i>Nephrosperma vanhoutteanum</i>	Latannyen milpat
<i>Roschenia melanochaetes</i>	Latannyen oban
<i>Verschaffeltia splendida</i>	Latannyen latte
<i>Phoenicophorium borsigianum</i>	Latannyen fey
<i>Pandanus hornei</i>	Vakwa parasol
<i>Pandanus balfourii</i>	Vakwa montany
<i>Pandanus seychellarum</i>	Vakwa maron
<i>Pandanus multispicatus</i>	Vakwa de rivyer
<i>Paragenipa wrightii</i>	Kafe maron gran fey
<i>Erythroxylon seychellarum</i>	Kafe maron pti fey
<i>Pittosporum wrightii senucia</i>	Bwa zoli ker
<i>Pouteria obovata sideroxylon</i>	Bwa mon per
<i>Psychotria pervillei</i>	Bwa koulev
<i>Soulamea terminaloides</i>	Kolofant
<i>Syzygium wrightii eugenia</i>	Bwa ponm
<i>Tarenna sechellensis</i>	Bwa dir blanc
<i>Viscum triflorum</i>	Bwa marmay
<i>Euphorbia pyrifolia</i>	Bwa dile
<i>Medusagyne oppositifolia</i>	Bwa mediz
<i>Premna serratifolia</i>	Bwa siro
<i>Timonius sechellensis</i>	Bwa kasan-d-montanny
<i>Angraecum eburneum</i>	Pay-en-ke
<i>Curculigo sechellensis</i>	Koko maron
<i>Cynura sechellensis</i>	Zakobe
<i>Secamone schimperiana</i>	Lalyann dile
<i>Vanilla phaaenopsis</i>	Lavannir maron
<i>Ficus bojeri</i>	Neant

<i>Begonia seychellensis</i>	Begonya sovaz
<i>Hypoxidia rhizophylla</i>	Pti koko maron
<i>Impatiens gordonii</i>	Belsamin sovaz
<i>Protarum sechellarum</i>	Larout de lenn maron
<i>Camptosperma seychellarum</i>	Bwa-d-montanny
<i>Deckenia nobilis</i>	Palmiste
<i>Dillenia feruginea</i>	Bwa rouz
<i>Imbricaria seychellarum</i>	Bwa-d-natte
<i>Northea Hornei</i>	Kapisen
<i>Vateria seychellarum</i>	Bwa-d-fer
<i>Achyrospermum seychellarum</i>	Bwa sevret
<i>Allophylus pervillei</i>	Bwa kafoul
<i>Aphloia theiformis</i>	Bwa merl
<i>Brexia madagascariensis</i>	Bwa kato
<i>Canthium bibracteatum</i>	Bwa dir rouz
<i>Canthium acuminatum</i>	Bwa dir blan
<i>Carissa edulis seychellensis</i>	Bwa sandal
<i>Colea seychellarum</i>	Bilenbi maron
<i>Craterispermum microdon</i>	Bwa dou
<i>Diospyros seychellarum</i>	Bwa sagay
<i>Dodonea viscosa</i>	Bwa de renet
<i>Dracaena reflexa</i>	Bwa sandel
<i>Drypetes riseleyi</i>	Bwa mare pti fey
<i>Excoecaria benthamiana</i>	Bwa zasmin
<i>Ficus lutea</i>	Lafous gran fey
<i>Gastonia crassa</i>	Bwa bannann
<i>Grisollea thomassetii</i>	Bwa grolapo
<i>Ixora pudica</i>	Ikzora blan
<i>Ludia mauritiana</i>	Prinn maron
<i>Nepenthes pervillei</i>	Lalyann potao
<i>Garnotia seychellensis</i>	Lerb montanny
<i>Lophoschoenus horneii</i>	Lerb razwar
<i>Rapanea sechellarum</i>	Bwa klate
<i>Scleria sieberi</i>	Zerb koupant
<i>Seychellaria thomassetii</i>	Lafisel mov
<i>Lodoicea maldivica</i>	Koko-d-mer
<i>Barringtonia racemosa</i>	Bonnen kare-d-rivyer
<i>Justicia gendarussa</i>	Ayapana sovaz
<i>Ochrosia oppositifolia</i>	Bwa sousouri
<i>Wielandia elegans</i>	Bwa fourmi
<i>Guettarda speciosa</i>	Bwa kasan bor-d-mer

## 2. Faunal Diversity

### 2.1 General description of Fauna

The Seychelles fauna is richer and more diverse than floral diversity. The granitic islands show greater diversity and higher endemism than the coralline islands. Key elements of faunal diversity of the Seychelles are as follows.

### 2.2 Vertebrates

#### 2.2.1 Birds

Thirteen endemic species of birds occur, with 8 that are classified as globally threatened. The endemic birds of the granitic islands, such as Magpie Robin (*Copsychus sechellarum*) and Seychelles White-eye (*Zosterops modestus*), have been studied extensively and are the focus of ongoing conservation programmes. Mahe has two Important Bird Areas (IBA); the Mahe highlands and surrounds (comprising Morne Seychellois National Park) and the Montagne Glacis. The Mahe highlands have an area of 4,600 ha., harbouring virtually the entire world population of the Seychelles bare-legged Scops Owl (*Otus insularis*), 10% of Seychelles White-eye (*Zosterops modestus*) and 25% of Seychelles Kestrel (*Falco araea*). They also host major populations of the endemic Cave Swiftlet (*Collocalia elaphra*), Blue Pigeon (*Alectroenas pulcherrima*), Seychelles Bulbul (*Hypsipetes crassirostris*) and Seychelles Sunbird (*Nectarinia dussumieri*). The Montagne Glacis is in the north mountains of Mahe and hosts the largest known colony of the Seychelles Cave Swiftlet (*Collocalia elaphra*)<sup>11</sup>. Praslin National Park is also a designated IBA because of the presence of the largest population of the Seychelles Black Parrot (*Coracopsis nigra*

*barklyi*) but also the Seychelles Kestrel (*Falco araea*) as well as significant populations of endemics such as the Seychelles Cave Swiftlet Seychelles Bulbul, Seychelles Blue Pigeon and Seychelles Sunbird.

The Seychelles Scops Owl was previously classified as critically endangered. Extensive research conducted between 1999 and 2001 to determine breeding biology, feeding ecology and population status. The nest, egg and chick were revealed for the first time. The most comprehensive baseline data set on population size was obtained resulting in the downlisting of the species to endangered status.

In order to increase population size of the critically endangered bird species, several species of birds were translocated to other islands. For example, the Seychelles white eye which was confined to two islands (less than 300 individuals), were successfully translocated to another island in 2001 and 2003.

The island of Cousin is a special reserve and an IBA managed by an NGO. The island currently supports three rare endemic land birds, being the Seychelles warbler (*Acrocephalus sechellensis*), Seychelles fody (*Foudia sechellarum*) and the Seychelles Magpie Robin (*Copsychus sechellarum*). The island was bought by the International Council for Bird Protection (ICBP) in 1968 in order to save the Seychelles warbler whose population was then less than 30 individuals. Through successful conservation programmes, the number is now in excess of 350 and translocation has been successfully carried out to other islands. Other important IBA's include Cousine, Aride, Bird and Aldabra; being important nesting sites for sea-birds.

### 2.1.2 Mammals

There are 5 endemic bat species. The Sheath-Tailed bat is currently classified as critically endangered.

Endemic Mammals	Common Name
<i>Coleura sechellensis</i>	Sheath-Tailed bat
<i>Pteropus sechellensis sechellensis</i>	Seychelles Fruit bat
<i>Triaenops furculus</i>	Free tailed bat
<i>Chaerophon pussilla</i>	Triple nose leafed bat
<i>Pteropus aldabrensis</i>	Aldabra fruit bat

The Seychelles Exclusive Economic Zone is also a sanctuary for many marine mammals including whales and dolphins. In 1979, the Seychelles initiated measures to protect marine mammals in the Indian Ocean which culminated in the formation of the Indian Ocean Whale Sanctuary by the International Whaling Commission (IWC).

### 2.1.3 Amphibians

The archipelago has the highest ratio of amphibian endemics of any island group in the world. There are 7 endemic caecilians and 5 endemic frogs amongst which is the smallest frog in the world (*Sooglossus gardineri*)

CAECILIANS	FROGS
<i>Grandisonia alternans</i>	<i>Tachycnemis sechellensis</i>
<i>Grandisonia brevis</i>	<i>Nesomantis thomasseti</i>
<i>Grandisonia diminutiva</i>	<i>Sooglossus gardineri</i>
<i>Grandisonia larvatae</i>	<i>Sooglossus sechellensis</i>
<i>Grandisonia sechellensis</i>	<i>Sooglossus pipilodryas</i>
<i>Hypogeophis rostratus</i>	
<i>Praslinia cooperi</i>	

### 2.1.4 Pisces

#### Freshwater

Two endemic freshwater fish, exists in the Seychelles namely Golden Panchax (*Pachypanchax playfairii*) and the newly discovered Larkansyel (*Parioglossus multiradiatus*) in 2004.



## Marine

There is approximately 1000 species of fish in the Seychelles of which 400 species confined to the reefs. Endemism in marine fish is low. Endemic marine species include the Seychelles Clown fish (*Amphiprion fuscaudatus*) and Seychelles squirrel fish (*Sargocentron Seychellense*).

## **2.3 Reptilia<sup>22</sup>**

### 2.4.1 Snakes

There are three species of terrestrial snakes restricted to the granitic islands. Of the three, two are endemics, namely the Seychelles wolf snake *Lycognathophis seychellensis* and the Seychelles house snake *Boaedon geometricus* both of which are harmless.

### 2.4.2 Lizards & chameleons

More than 20 species of lizards, skinks and geckos are present in the Seychelles. There are 14 species and subspecies of geckos and skinks, with one chameleon being endemic to the islands

### 2.4.3 Terrapins

Three endemic species of terrapins have been described in the genus *Pelusios* including *Pelusios seychellensis* which is believed to be extinct.

### 2.4.4. Sea turtles

Four species of endangered sea turtles occur in Seychelles waters. Hawksbill turtle (*Eretmochelys imbricate*) and green turtle (*Chelonia myda*) nest in the Seychelles islands.

### 2.4.5 Tortoises

Aldabra has the largest surviving and remaining wild population of giant land tortoises (*Aldabrachelys gigantea*) in the Indian Ocean (around 150,000). Aldabran tortoises have been introduced to other islands within the Seychelles.

## **2.2 Higher Invertebrates<sup>22</sup>**

### 2.2.1 Anthozoa

Around 55 species of sea anemones and 300 Scleractinian coral species within 16 families has been identified in the Seychelles.

### 2.2.2 Mollusca

The marine molluscan fauna is largely of West Indo-Pacific origin whilst the terrestrial mollusc have African and Asian affinities. The terrestrial molluscs show high endemism and greater morphological variation in view of the biogeographical isolation of the islands. About 62% of terrestrial molluscs are endemic to the granitic islands. On Aldabra, 55% of molluscs are endemic with some genera expressing primitive characteristics.

### 2.2.3 Arthropoda

Native arthropods are represented by endemic scorpions, spiders and insects. It also includes the world's largest millipede (*seychelleptus seychellarum*). Many of the endemic arthropods are restricted to particular islands.

- There are four species of scorpions and two species of whipspiders. One species of scorpions (*Lychas braueri*) is endemic to the granitic islands. There are 150 species of spiders with high endemism (85%) and about 22 species of sea spiders.
- There are 32 species of land and freshwater crabs and about 165 different species of shrimps. These include many endemics such as, *leander tenuicornis*, *Conchondytes pteriara*, *Coralliocaris macrophthalma*, *Eupontonia noctalba*, *Jocaste platysoma*, *Periclimenaeus manihinei*, *Periclimenes*

*compressus*, *Periclimenes difficilis*. The most familiar crustacean in Seychelles is the *Palinurus* spiny lobsters.

- Insects of the Seychelles show the most variability and high endemism. There has been however limited taxonomic work carried out so far. It is estimated that there are about 4000 species in the granitic and coral islands with the beetles (Coleoptera) forming the largest group of some 700 species. Many species have co evolved with endemic plant hosts. 75 species of insects found nowhere else in the world are known to be associated with leaf axils of endemic pandanus and palms.

#### 2.2.4 Echinodermata

About 150 species of Echinoderms are found in the Seychelles with 10 species of Crinoids, and the most primitive Echinoderms *Comissia ignota*. There are 32 species of sea stars including the coral eating Crown of Thorns starfish, *Acanthaster planci*. There are 44 species of Ophiuroidea being the largest of the major groups of Echinoderms.

There are 35 species of sea cucumber with *Holunthuria atra* and *Holunthuria nobilis* being most prevalent. Both of these are being exploited on a commercial basis by local fisherman.

### **3 Forest Biodiversity**

#### **3.1 General Description**

Since the establishment of the first human settlement (1770), native forests have undergone dramatic structural changes. The exploitation of forest resources and the deliberate or accidental introduction of species have resulted in the destruction and loss of pristine habitats.

#### **3.2 Threats**

##### **3.2.1 Habitat Destruction**

Development is an increasing factor contributing to the loss of forest biodiversity. Developments are increasingly being carried out in the mountains as coastal area become increasingly scarce and expensive. The Government has been implementing a no- development policy above the 50 m contour line on the island of Praslin (the second largest granitic island) which effectively preserve forest biodiversity. The State Land and Rivers reserves Act 1965 also affords protection to any species found within 30 feet of a river bank. Unsustainable agricultural practices is also a threat to forest biodiversity

##### **3.2.2 Forest fires**

Forest fires remain one of the greatest threats to forest ecosystem. There is on average 2-3 bush fires recorded per year. A forest fire contingency plan (1997) exists focusing on preparedness and response is now outdated. The Authorities maintain fire breaks on the granitic islands and continues to strengthen institutional capacity to combat forest fires. There is currently a control on fire lighting (Fire Lighting Act Year) in the Seychelles and involves a Fire permit issued by the Department of Environment. In all cases the officers ensure that the permit is issued to responsible individuals who have the means to stop fires from spreading should an accident result. This means access to water and observance of strict fire management principles.

##### **3.2.3 Invasive Alien Species**

Invasive Alien Species remain a serious threat to island biodiversity. A greater portion of the native plant species is being severely affected by invasive creepers. Native faunal diversity is also affected by IAS through direct competition for food and habitat. Several eradication programmes have been carried out. A number of invasive animals have been eliminated on specific islands which include House sparrows, barn owl, rats, cats. In contrast the eradication of invasive creepers on the granitic islands remains a challenge.

##### **3.2.4 Over exploitation**

There is concern that certain species of high commercial value such as the Coco de Mer (*Lodoicea*

*maldivica*) are being overexploited. The long life cycle of these species in some cases (as with Coco de Mer more than 25 years) poses certain difficulties in assessing this risk.

#### **4. Agricultural Biodiversity**

##### **4.1 General description**

Most variety of crops was introduced for agricultural purposes. Over the years these crops have developed traits and characteristics as a result of adaptation to local environmental condition. This has resulted in local varieties.

Major collections of agricultural crops were established and maintained by the Ministry of Agriculture but these were unfortunately lost as a result of development.

Some species of agricultural importance e.g. breadfruit is protected under legislation (Breadfruit & Other Trees Act 1917).

##### **4.2 Threats**

###### Development

Development pressure is an important threat to agricultural biodiversity. Prime agricultural land has in the past been lost to other developments and the limited land availability of the Seychelles puts pressure on land earmarked for agricultural use. The other important threat to agro-diversity is pests.

###### Pest

The accidental introduction of the melon fruit fly (*Bactrocera Curcubitae*) resulted in the loss of 60% of cucurbit crops, attacking around 125 species of fruits and vegetables. There has been recent infestation of Spiraling White fly (*Aleurodicus dispersus*) which impacts negatively on agro-biodiversity.

Although a system for controlling points of entry exists, it is felt that more needs to be done to establish a comprehensive programme of detection and abatement.

#### **5. Inland Water & Coastal**

##### **5.1 General description**

The Seychelles recognizes the importance of wetland ecosystems as ecologically sensitive areas under the Environment Protection Act 1994, in the NBSAP 1997 and the Seychelles National Wetland Conservation and Management Policy 2002.

The Seychelles wetlands support many endemic aquatic species including the endemic crab *Seychellum alluaudi*, terrapins, certain species of mayflies, caddisflies, and the snail *Paludomus ajanensis*. Endemic fishes found in the freshwater habitats are *Pachypanchax playfairii* and *Parioglossus multiradiatus*, a new species recently discovered in 2004.

##### **5.1.1 Mangroves**

Seychelles acceded to the Ramsar Convention on 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2004 and designated Port Launay Wetland on the main granitic island of Mahe as a Ramsar site. The site is composed of 29 hectares of wetland supporting all seven species of mangroves of the Seychelles. It also provides habitat for the endemic Golden Panchax (*Pachypanchax playfairii*). Important mangrove habitats are also found in the lagoons of certain coral islands such as Aldabra, Cosmoledo and Astove Island groups, where they provide important nesting, nursery and resting habitats for a variety of seabird species, as well as nursery grounds for fish. The seven species of mangroves found in the Seycelles are listed below

<b>Species name</b>	<b>Common name</b>
<i>Bruguiera gymnorrhiza</i>	Mangliye latte
<i>Ceriops tagal</i>	Mangiyé zonn
<i>Lumnitzera racemosa</i>	Mangliye pti fey
<i>Rhizophora mucronata</i>	Mangliye rouge
<i>Sonneratia alba</i>	Mangliye fler
<i>Xylocarpus granatum</i>	Mangliye ponm
<i>Avicennia marina</i>	Mangliye blan

## **5.2 Threats**

Development is the main threat to wetlands with many marshes reclaimed due to unavailability of sufficient useable land along the coastal zone.

Polluted runoff, sediment and waste are detrimental to the ecological function of wetland ecosystem. Wetland in the Seychelles are fragmented due to pressure from development and degraded through over exploitation for wood products.

## **6 Marine Biodiversity**

### **6.1 General Description**

The Seychelles has an exclusive economic zone (EEZ) of 1.3 million square km compared to 453 square km of land. Despite this, marine biodiversity is not as adequately studied as terrestrial biodiversity despite the fact that it represents the most important natural resource for the country. The following are important elements of marine biodiversity of the Seychelles

- Extensive seagrass beds occur around the Outer Islands.
- An estimated 18% of sponges known to occur in the Seychelles are regional endemics.
- More than 300 species of Scleractinian corals have been recorded.
- 55 bivalve species of molluscs, of which 10 were only recently described.

#### Tuna

One of the most important resources in the ocean is tuna which exceeds tourism revenue for the local Economy. In 2003 the number of tuna caught in Seychelles territorial waters was 358,261 MT. The revenue in 2004 for the fisheries sector was SR 1.398 billion.

#### Sea Cucumber and Shark fins

Besides tuna, income was received from export of sea cucumber and shark fins. Export statistics for fins and sea cucumbers in 2004 indicated a total of 32.4 MT comprising 11.36 MT of shark fins and 21.04 MT of sea cucumbers.

#### Whale Shark

The Seychelles EEZ is effectively a whale shark sanctuary following ratification of the convention on migratory species and afforded legal protection through national legislation in 2003. The Seychelles also imposed a ban on shark finning by foreign vessels in its waters.

#### Sea turtles

Seychelles hosts one of the largest remaining nesting populations of hawksbill in the world and also significant nesting populations of green turtles.

### **6.1.1 Marine Protected Areas**

There are 14 marine reserves in the Seychelles which includes six Marine National Parks. These are the St. Anne Marine Park, Baie Ternay Marine Park, Port Launay Marine Park, Curieuse Marine Park, Ile Coco Marine Park and Silhouette Marine park. The Marine park comprises a total area of 61.77Km<sup>2</sup>.

## **6.2 Threats**

### Climate change

Climate change represents the most serious threat to marine biodiversity. In 1998 a major coral bleaching event as a result of increased ocean temperature (*El Nino*) which lead to significant loss of coral in Seychelles.

### Pollution

As well as pollution from Land based sources, the Seychelles EEZ is an important zone for commercial shipping, and ship based pollution remains a hazard to marine biodiversity. Development pressure as well as increased agricultural activity along the coastal zone also contributes to increased pollution.

## Priority Setting

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

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

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

### Challenges and Obstacles to Implementation

2. Please use the scale indicated below to reflect the level of challenges faced by your country in implementing the provisions of the Articles of the Convention (5, 6,7, 8, 8h, 8j, 9, 10, 11,12, 13, 14, 15,16, 17, 18, 19 and 20)

3 = High Challenge	1 = Low Challenge
2 = Medium Challenge	0 = Challenge has been successfully overcome
N/A = Not applicable	

Challenges	Articles																	
	5	6	7	8	8h	8j	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
a) Lack of political will and support	0	1	1	1	0	2	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
b) Limited public participation and stakeholder involvement	0	2	2	2	3	1	3	2	0	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	2	1
c) Lack of mainstreaming and integration of biodiversity issues into other sectors	0	2	0	0	0	1	1	2	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1
d) Lack of precautionary and proactive measures	1	2	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	2	2	1	1	1	1
e) Inadequate capacity to act, caused by institutional weakness	2	3	2	2	1	3	3	3	0	2	0	1	2	2	1	1	2	1
f) Lack of transfer of technology and expertise	3	1	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	3	2	1	1	3	1	1	2	1
g) Loss of	2	1	1	2	1	2	1	3	1	2	1	0	2	2	1	1	1	1

traditional knowledge																		
h) Lack of adequate scientific research capacities to support all the objectives	0	2	2	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	2	1	1	1	2	2
i) Lack of accessible knowledge and information	0	2	2	2	3	2	1	2	1	1	1	0	1	2	1	1	2	2
j) Lack of public education and awareness at all levels	1	1	0	0	1	2	2	1	0	2	0	0	2	1	1	1	2	1
k) Existing scientific and traditional knowledge not fully utilized	1	2	2	1	2	1	1	2	2	1	0	1	2	1	1	1	1	2
l) Loss of biodiversity and the corresponding goods and services it provides not properly understood and documented	1	3	2	2	2	2	2	1	2	1	0	1	2	1	1	2	1	2
m) Lack of financial, human, technical resources	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	3	2	1	3	3	2	2	3	3
n) Lack of economic incentive measures	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	3	2	3	2	1	2	2	1	1	2	2
o) Lack of benefit-sharing	2	0	3	2	2	2	2	3	2	2	3	1	2	2	3	1	2	2
p) Lack of synergies at national and international levels	1	2	0	0	0	1	0	1	2	1	1	1	2	2	1	1	1	1
q) Lack of horizontal cooperation among stakeholders	1	3	2	2	1	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	2
r) Lack of effective partnerships	1	3	2	2	1	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	2	2
s) Lack of engagement of scientific	0	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	1	1	0	1	2	1	1	1	1	2



community																		
t) Lack of appropriate policies and laws	0	1	1	1	2	2	1	1	2	2	1	0	2	2	1	1	1	1
u) Poverty	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1
v) Population pressure	1	2	2	1	1	0	0	3	1	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
w) Unsustainable consumption and production patterns	1	2	1	1	1	1	3	2	2	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
x) Lack of capacities for local communities	2	2	2	1	1	1	2	3	2	3	2	2	2	1	1	1	2	3
y) Lack of knowledge and practice of ecosystem-based approaches to management	1	1	2	1	1	3	3	3	2	1	2	2	2	2	2	1	2	2
z) Weak law enforcement capacity	1	2	2	2	2	3	3	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	2
aa) Natural disasters and environmental change	2	1	3	3	3	3	1	3	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2

### 2010 Target

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

#### Box III.

<b>Goal 1</b>	<b>Promote the conservation of the biological diversity of ecosystems, habitats and biomes.</b>	
<b>Target 1.1</b>	<b>At least ten percent of each of the world's ecological regions effectively conserved</b>	
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?		
a) No		<b>X</b>
b) Yes, the same as the global target		
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established		
Please provide details below.		
Although a national target has not been set for the conservation of ecosystems, the Seychelles is considered a biodiversity hotspot. It remains committed to the conservation of biological diversity.		

The conservation of biological diversity of ecosystems, is integrated within the various thematic areas of the EMPS 2000-2010.

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

Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural	X	*	No policy is place
b) Inland water	X		Integrated in the EMPS and Wetland Policy
c) Marine and coastal	X		Thematic area under the EMPS.
d) Dry and subhumid land			Not applicable
e) Forest	X		Specific thematic area under the EMPS; Forestry Management Plan, Morne Seychellois National Park Management Plan.
f) Mountain			As e) above.

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

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

Please provide details below.

The Environment Management Plan of Seychelles (EMPS 2000-2010) is the framework for development of conservation programmes. Conservation programmes are found within the thematic area of Biodiversity, Forestry and Agriculture. Besides the EMPS, there are other policies in place which contributes to this target. These include the Fisheries Policy, Forestry Policy and Wetland Policy, all of which incorporates elements of the global target

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

46% of the total land areas of the Seychelles are currently under legal protection. The Morne Seychellois National Park (MSNP) created in 1979, is the largest terrestrial Park in the Seychelles with an area of 3,045 ha, which represents more than 20% the total area of Mahé. The second largest park, Praslin National Park also created in 1979, is almost a tenth the size of the MSNP. The Park contains the six species of endemic palms, amongst which is the world famous Coco de Mer (*Lodoicea maldivica*). It is also home to various species of birds including the unique Black Parrot (*Coracopsis (nigra) barklyi*) which is unique to Praslin and its surrounding islets.

There are 14 Marine Protected Areas (MPA) in the Seychelles representing less than 1% of the Exclusive Economic Zone. The Indian ocean also provides protection to cetaceans by being declared an international Whale Sanctuary in (1979). It also provides protection to several Migratory species such as Whale Shark (*Rhincodon typus*) which is listed under CITES and CMS.

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

Area of protected areas, water quality, data on proliferation of endemic species, seagrass and coral cover, fish diversity and number in marine protected area.

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

Outdated legislation means that penalties for infringements do not reflect current prices. It has been

relatively difficult to initiate a comprehensive review of the legislation in view of shortage of manpower and commitment of the office of the Attorney General.

Development pressure poses a risk to the conservation of sensitive areas. The Seychelles have limited flat land as population continues to grow. As a result, most development are moving further inland. Therefore, Government must look for innovative ways to ensure a comfortable standard of living is achieved which does not impact negatively on the Environment. More areas along the coast will need to be reclaimed in order to create more space but at great cost to sustain economic growth. The reclamation activity has negative impact on the environment.

Capacity (financial and human resources) is the biggest challenge to overcome in order to consistently achieve national and global targets. With insufficient funding and limited capacity, it is difficult to achieve a comprehensive monitoring programme. In order to make sufficient progress to these targets, adequate resources are required.

IAS remains a serious threat to the ecosystem of the Seychelles. Endemic species biodiversity will be severely affected if IAS programmes are not sustained effectively and this will impact on the achievement of the global targets.

**Box IV.**

<b>Target 1.2</b>	<b>Areas of particular importance to biodiversity protected</b>		
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?			
a) No			
b) Yes, the same as the global target			
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established			<b>X</b>
Please provide details below.			
Refer to target 1.1			
II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).			
Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural		<b>X</b>	
b) Inland water	<b>X</b>		Protection of Wetlands under the Ramsar Convention
c) Marine and coastal	<b>X</b>		14 Marine Protected Areas
d) Dry and subhumid land		<b>X</b>	Not applicable
e) Forest	<b>X</b>		46% of the land is protected.
f) Mountain	<b>X</b>		Most of the high altitudes of the granitic islands are legally protected
III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?			
a) No			
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan			<b>X</b>
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes			<b>X</b>
Please provide details below.			
Protected areas have been designated under the law and its monitoring including further identification is contained in the EMPS 2000 -2010. There are plans to also include other areas that are rich into biodiversity under the network of protected areas.			
IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.			
Seychelles is a committed leader in protection of its unique biological diversity. With almost half of the total area of land under protection, Government plans to increase this figure as more areas of high biodiversity are identified. Mechanisms of sustainable financing will have to be explored to ensure that they become sustainable.			
V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.			
Extent of proliferation of endemics, new protected areas, increased areas under legal protection.			
VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.			
The main challenges include funding, capacity building and emerging threats such as IAS and Climate change.			

**Box V.**

<b>Goal 2</b>	<b>Promote the conservation of species diversity</b>		
<b>Target 2.1</b>	<b>Restore, maintain, or reduce the decline of populations of species of selected taxonomic groups</b>		
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?			
a) No			
b) Yes, the same as the global target			
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established			<b>X</b>
Please provide details below.			
Management plans for several endemic avian fauna have been established, e.g. Seychelles Whiteeye, Flycatcher, Warbler, Black parrot, Seychelles Sheath-tailed bat, Scops owl, etc. There are also various conservation programmes to translocate endemic bird species to other granitic islands. Similarly, propagations programmes exist for plant and these will be used either for habitat restoration or reintroduction to historical area			
II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).			
<b>Programme of work</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Details</b>
a) Agricultural		<b>X</b>	No policy in place
b) Inland water		<b>X</b>	
c) Marine and coastal	<b>X</b>		Different programme in place for turtles, birds, bats etc.
d) Dry and subhumid land		<b>X</b>	Not applicable
e) Forest	<b>X</b>		Restoration of native habitats
f) Mountain	<b>X</b>		As in e) above
III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?			
a) No			
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan			<b>X</b>
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes			<b>X</b>
Please provide details below.			
The NBSAP provides the strategy and action plan for the conservation of species diversity and includes measures to restore and maintain the populations of selected taxonomic groups. Other targets for selected species are also included in the Environment Management Plan of Seychelles (EMPS 2000-2010) under the Forestry Biodiversity, and Agriculture Thematic areas,			
IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.			
Increase population size of critically endangered species as a result of successful translocation and			

habitat restoration. Therefore this may lead to the down list status of the species.

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

Number of species within the relevant taxonomic groups, number of islands restored, number of successful reintroduction, number of species downlisted

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

Lack of funding and capacity to sustain and undertake conservation activities on remote islands.

**Box VI.**

<b>Target 2.2</b>		<b>Status of threatened species improved</b>	
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?			
a) No			
b) Yes, the same as the global target			
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established		<b>X</b>	
Please provide details below.			
EMPS 2000-2010 support programmes in Biodiversity contributes towards this target. This involves increasing the number of species <i>ex situ</i> and protecting the habitat of the species <i>in situ</i> . Species management plans have been developed for Seychelles faunal endemics.			
II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).			
<b>Programme of work</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Details</b>
a) Agricultural		<b>X</b>	
b) Inland water		<b>X</b>	
c) Marine and coastal		<b>X</b>	
d) Dry and subhumid land		<b>X</b>	
e) Forest	<b>X</b>		Endemic species protected in protected areas
f) Mountain			
III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?			
a) No			
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan		<b>X</b>	
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes		<b>X</b>	
Please provide details below.			
Government has plans to formulate its National Strategy for plant conservation in 2005.			
IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.			
The endemic flora and fauna are threatened by a number of factors which threaten the habitats of those species. Therefore, Government are planning to protect areas where critically endangered			

species occur. There are also numerous conservation programmes in place to help improve the status of the species.

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

Population size

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

It is vital to improve knowledge and understanding on the threatened species by developing action plans of which many have already been developed for bird species (e.g. Black Parrot, Seychelles White Eye). It is also important for conservation action plans to be reviewed to take into consideration the emerging threats.

No conservation plans exist for endemic plants and amphibians, two groups which are vulnerable to the change in climate.

VII) Please provide any other relevant information.

Under the Darwin initiative a nursery was established and propagation was carried out to strengthen *ex situ* conservation at Barbarons Biodiversity Centre. A protocol for conservation of Seychelles endemic plants was also developed.

#### Box VII.

<b>Goal 3</b>	<b>Promote the conservation of genetic diversity</b>		
<b>Target 3.1</b>	<b>Genetic diversity of crops, livestock, and of harvested species of trees, fish and wildlife and other valuable species conserved, and associated indigenous and local knowledge maintained</b>		
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?			
a) No			
b) Yes, the same as the global target			
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established			<b>X</b>
Please provide details below.			
The Ministry responsible for Agriculture has established a number of germplasm collections and areas for livestock with pure breeding lines.			
II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).			
Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural		<b>X</b>	
b) Inland water		<b>X</b>	
c) Marine and coastal	<b>X</b>		Tuna tagging project
d) Dry and subhumid land			N/A
e) Forest	<b>X</b>		Forest Management plans
f) Mountain			N/A

III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?	
a) No	
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan	<b>X</b>
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes	
Please provide details below.	
There is target set under the thematic area of the EMPS, which contributes to the overall target of the Convention. For example the sustainable use of timber is part of management plan for forests. Whilst the Tuna tagging project is a COI –regional project to assess tuna fish stocks and ensure sustainable use.	
IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.	
The Ministry responsible for Agriculture is presently involved in the conservation of crops and most of these are represented in germplasm collection. Special unit also carry outbreeding programmes to maintain the genetic diversity of livestock.	
V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.	
Number of tagged fish caught under the tuna tagging project Number of trees felled. Number of species of crops and livestock.	
VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.	
Lack of effective linkages of conservation of agro-biodiversity under the EMPS 2000-2010.	



**Box VIII.**

<b>Goal 4</b>	<b>Promote sustainable use and consumption.</b>		
<b>Target 4.1</b>	<b>Biodiversity-based products derived from sources that are sustainably managed, and production areas managed consistent with the conservation of biodiversity</b>		
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?			
a) No			
b) Yes, the same as the global target			
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established			<b>X</b>
Please provide details below.			
<b>Plant biodiversity</b>			
Policy in place for the sustainable production of Coco de Mer, endemic palms (leaves) and timber.			
<b>Fauna</b>			
For selective fish species (e.g. Tuna) a quota for total allowable catch is in place and permits for sea cucumber and seasonal restriction on lobsters are enforced. The harvesting of Sooty tern eggs is restricted to once a year and harvesting is done on only half of the selected islands.			
II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).			
<b>Programme of work</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Details</b>
a) Agricultural	<b>X</b>		Agricultural development strategy
b) Inland water		<b>X</b>	There are no significant consumption of freshwater resources
c) Marine and coastal	<b>X</b>		Fisheries policy (sea cucumber, lobster )
d) Dry and subhumid land			Not applicable
e) Forest	<b>X</b>		Timber used are sustainably produced
f) Mountain			Same as Forest
III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?			
a) No			
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan			
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes			<b>X</b>
Please provide details below.			
The target was part of sector specific programmes, however not linked directly with a support programme of the EMPS 2000-2010			
IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.			
Additional to previous, several measures are in place to ensure sustainable consumption e.g. the banning of harpoons, shark finning by foreign vessels and the seasonality for certain fishery. Laws are being reviewed to ensure the sustainable management of particular species (e. Coco de			

mer).

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

Number of licenses issued for fishery; commercial exports

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

Precise data on stock for some species is difficult to obtain and therefore not easy to assess sustainable use.

#### Box IX.

<b>Target 4.2</b>	<b>Unsustainable consumption, of biological resources, or that impacts upon biodiversity, reduced</b>	
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?		
a) No		<b>X</b>
b) Yes, the same as the global target		
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established		
Please provide details below.		
Although there is no National Target, several initiatives are being carried out to reduce unsustainable consumption of biological resources. The trade of certain species such as the Coco de Mer is being closely regulated.		
III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?		
a) No		
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan		
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes		<b>X</b>
Please provide details below.		
There is limited unsustainable consumption of terrestrial biological resources in the Seychelles thus the lack of clear measures integrated in national plans and strategies. The targets that exist relate to marine resources which are especially at risk of overexploitation. The Seychelles Fishing Authority (SFA) is mandated with monitoring of fishery and has in place specific species management controls.		
IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.		
Quotas and permits in place for sea cucumbers. Lobster harvesting is restricted to seasons as determined by the SFA. Selective harvesting of sooty tern eggs and non harvesting of reserve areas.		
V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.		
Number of licenses issued, Number of court cases for illegal use (poaching)		
VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.		
Lack of capacity for enforcement of the legislation against illegal exploitation.		

#### Box X.

<b>Target 4.3</b>	<b>No species of wild flora or fauna endangered by international trade</b>	
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?		

a) No	
b) Yes, the same as the global target	
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established	<b>X</b>
Please provide details below.	
Certain species such as giant land tortoises and the Coco de Mer are traded internationally on commercial basis. As a result, Government has developed legislation to regulate the trade in these species.	
III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?	
a) No	
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan	
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes	<b>X</b>

**Box XI.**

<b>Goal 5</b>	<b>Pressures from habitat loss, land use change and degradation, and unsustainable water use, reduced.</b>		
<b>Target 5.1</b>	<b>Rate of loss and degradation of natural habitats decreased</b>		
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?			
a) No			
b) Yes, the same as the global target			
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established			<b>X</b>
Please provide details below.			
Although there are no specific targets, Seychelles is signatory to various International Conventions which addresses habitat loss land degradation issues.			
II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).			
<b>Programme of work</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Details</b>
a) Agricultural		<b>X</b>	
b) Inland water			Not applicable
c) Marine and coastal	<b>X</b>		Designation of new protected areas
d) Dry and subhumid land			Not applicable
e) Forest	<b>X</b>		Forest Management Plan; National Parks
f) Mountain			As in e) above
III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?			
a) No			

b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan	<b>X</b>
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes	<b>X</b>
Please provide details below.	
The target has been incorporated under species and habitat management plans.	
IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.	
Several habitats are already protected under the law and this is adequately incorporated in the NBSAP. Other efforts include restorative work carried out by NGOs to restore certain degraded ecosystems. Several Coastal restoration project has been conducted by the Environment and Engineering Section of the Ministry of Environment. Vegetation rehabilitation works have been initiated on certain islands.	
V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.	
Number of National Parks, Number of Special reserves, Rehabilitated areas,	
VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.	
Development pressure and the lack of a land use plan is the main challenge for implementation of this target. Seychelles is a small country and therefore has to undertake a fine balancing act between development and conservation and sustainable use within its limited land territory.	

**Box XII.**

<b>Goal 6</b>	<b>Control threats from invasive alien species.</b>		
<b>Target 6.1</b>	<b>Pathways for major potential alien invasive species controlled</b>		
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?			
a) No			
b) Yes, the same as the global target			
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established			<b>X</b>
Please provide details below.			
All importations of live flora and fauna require an import permit, issued by the authorities. Incinerators are present at the ports of entry to dispose of potential IAS.			
II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).			
<b>Programme of work</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Details</b>
a) Agricultural	<b>X</b>		Control of melon fruit fly, white fly
b) Inland water	<b>X</b>		Control measures for aquarium fish
c) Marine and coastal	<b>X</b>		Control measures in place at the port of entry
d) Dry and subhumid land			Not applicable
e) Forest	<b>X</b>		Control measures at port of entry
f) Mountain			As in e) above
III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?			
a) No			
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan			
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes			<b>X</b>
Please provide details below.			
IAS is treated under Goal 1 of the thematic area of Biodiversity in the EMPS 2000-2010. Incinerators were procured to destroy wastes arising from the two major entry pathway being sea port and the airport.			
IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.			
A Manual for border control was published and circulated but control of pathways has not been wholly satisfactory. Incinerators to destroy waste at the entry pathways are not being used as originally foreseen. As part of its IAS programme, the Department of Natural Resources maintain pest traps within fixed perimeter distance from the points of entry. These are checked on a weekly basis for introduced species.			
V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.			
Number of invasives			
Number of materials confiscated at port of entry.			
Number of alien pests trapped			

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

Treatment of waste arising from ships and planes is still a problem in view of the high costs for operating the incinerator. There is an IAS Committee which oversees matters pertaining to control of pathways.

**Box XIII.**

<b>Target 6.2</b>	<b>Management plans in place for major alien species that threaten ecosystems, habitats or species</b>		
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?			
a) No			
b) Yes, the same as the global target			
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established	<b>X</b>		
Please provide details below.			
There is no national target established. However, programmes are being developed to address the management of IAS.			
II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).			
<b>Programme of work</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Details</b>
a) Agricultural	<b>X</b>		Mellon fruit fly eradication project
b) Inland water	<b>X</b>		Eradication of water letter ,i red eared slider and aquarium fish
c) Marine and coastal	<b>X</b>		Ballast water project
d) Dry and subhumid land			Not applicable
e) Forest	<b>X</b>		Management plans for protected areas
f) Mountain			As in e)
III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?			
a) No			
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan			
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes	<b>X</b>		
Please provide details below.			
IAS is treated under Goal 1 of the EMPS. Although there have been many activities in this regard, IAS control and eradication of certain areas remain a challenge. Eradication of rats is a great success story for smaller islands like Cousin and North. Strict rules for loading and unloading cargo to and from the islands ensure that all the effort in rat eradication are not lost.			
IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.			

The trend is to develop IAS specific programme in the revised EMPS. A number of successful eradication projects were undertaken by NGOs in partnership with the private sector on inner and outer islands. These include the removal of exotic plants and eradication of rats on Fregate and Conception islands. Endemic birds and plants were later introduced on those islands which proved successful. Government has been instrumental in spearheading eradication programmes.

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

Presence of management programmes

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

IAS are difficult to eliminate and resurgence is common. Several management plans have failed in the past because implementation is costly and labour intensive.

VII) Please provide any other relevant information.

Funding should be made available for programme implementation.

#### Box XIV.

<b>Goal 7</b>	<b>Address challenges to biodiversity from climate change, and pollution.</b>	
<b>Target 7.1</b>	<b>Maintain and enhance resilience of the components of biodiversity to adapt to climate change</b>	
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?		
a) No		<b>X</b>
b) Yes, the same as the global target		
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established		
Please provide details below.		
There is no national target with respect to maintaining and enhancing resilience of components of biodiversity to climate change.		
III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?		
a) No		X
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan		
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes		
Please provide details below.		
IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.		
V) Please provide any other relevant information.		
The development of a national Strategy for climate change is vital. An initial step should be taken to develop this strategy with a corresponding action plan and an indication of priority and implementation arrangements.		
Biodiversity related project should also include a component for mitigation or adaptation to climate change.		

**Box XV.**

Target 7.2	Reduce pollution and its impacts on biodiversity	
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?		
a) No		
b) Yes, the same as the global target		
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established		<b>X</b>
Please provide details below.		
The Environment Protection Act 1994 and its amendments, is the main regulatory instrument for prevention and combating pollution. There is no specific national target for pollution and its impact with respect to biodiversity. However pollution standards in place for effluent discharge, air quality and solid waste management.		
III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?		
a) No		
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan		
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes		<b>X</b>
Please provide details below.		
The thematic area of "Water Sanitation and Waste" in the EMPS 2000-2010 reflects the global targets and provides a wide array of programmes to mitigate and eliminate pollution arising from sewage and solid waste.		
IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.		
With increasing development across all sectors, pollution is inevitable. Therefore, it is important to effectively manage and regulate pollution. Where possible, innovative ways are required to reduce the amount of waste in the natural environment.		
V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.		
Water quality parameters. Litter		
VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.		
Lack of funding for infrastructures such as sanitary landfills and leachate treatment stations. Lack of resources to sustain effective environmental testing programmes.		



**Box XVI.**

<b>Goal 8</b>	<b>Maintain capacity of ecosystems to deliver goods and services and support livelihoods.</b>	
<b>Target 8.1</b>	<b>Capacity of ecosystems to deliver goods and services maintained</b>	
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?		
a) No		
b) Yes, the same as the global target		
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established		<b>X</b>
Please provide details below.		
Certain legislation provide protection of ecosystems structure and functions to deliver good and services		
III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?		
a) No		
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan		
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes		<b>X</b>
Please provide details below.		
The Marine Park Authority and Department of Environment assesses development as part of the EIA (Environment Impact Assessment) process which is relevant to the target of maintaining ecosystem services, particularly of forest, seagrass and coral reefs in sensitive areas. Ecosystems are effectively conserved and maintained in all protected areas.		
IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.		
Government ensures that mitigation measures are integrated into development. Current policies promote the integration of ecosystem management into development processes (e.g. hotels allowed to maintain sensitive ecosystems found within or adjacent to their properties).		
V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.		
Number of Protected Areas		

**Box XVII.**

<b>Target 8.2</b>	<b>Biological resources that support sustainable livelihoods, local food security and health care, especially of poor people maintained</b>	
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?		
a) No		
b) Yes, the same as the global target		
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established		<b>X</b>
Please provide details below.		
There were programmes in place to supply agro biodiversity to local houses. This has proved very popular and the authorities has assisted residents with the supply of local fruit trees and other plants as well as improved access to fertilizer in order to promote this concept.		

II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).			
Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural	X		Production of germplasm
b) Inland water			Not applicable
c) Marine and coastal	X		Fishery management plan
d) Dry and subhumid land			Not applicable
e) Forest		X	
f) Mountain			As in e)
III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?			
a) No			
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan			
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes			X
Please provide details below.			
This particular target is spread across targets and policies in the Agricultural and Marine sector. Farmers and fisherman are the two major groups which use biological resources for their livelihood. In addition a significant amount of households now develop their own garden for consumptive use			
IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.			
Agricultural and fisheries incentives are in place to sustain livelihoods and ensure food security			
V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.			
Number of farmers, fisherman, presence of home gardens.			

**Box XVIII.**

Goal 9	Maintain socio-cultural diversity of indigenous and local communities.
Target 9.1	Protect traditional knowledge, innovations and practices
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?	
a) No	X
b) Yes, the same as the global target	
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established	
Please provide details below.	
There are no distinct indigenous communities within the Seychelles. However certain islands have defined identities.	

**Box XIX.**

<b>Target 9.2</b>	<b>Protect the rights of indigenous and local communities over their traditional knowledge, innovations and practices, including their rights to benefit sharing</b>
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?	
a) No	<b>X</b>
b) Yes, the same as the global target	
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established	
Please provide details below.	
Seychelles being a small country with the majority population located on three main islands do not have distinct indigenous practices. So far limited work has been done on traditional knowledge linked to medicinal plants.	

**Box XX.**

<b>Goal 10</b>	<b>Ensure the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the use of genetic resources.</b>	
<b>Target 10.1</b>	<b>All transfers of genetic resources are in line with the Convention on Biological Diversity, the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture and other applicable agreements</b>	
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?		
a) No		
b) Yes, the same as the global target		
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established		<b>X</b>
Please provide details below.		
The Seychelles is a party to the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (IT PGRFA). A draft Bill for commercial use of genetic materials is under consideration.		

**Box XXI.**

<b>Target 10.2</b>	<b>Benefits arising from the commercial and other utilization of genetic resources shared with the countries providing such resources</b>	
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?		
a) No		<b>X</b>
b) Yes, the same as the global target		
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established		
Please provide details below.		
No such agreements in place. Access to Benefit Sharing Bill is being developed.		

**Box XXII.**

<b>Goal 11</b>	<b>Parties have improved financial, human, scientific, technical and technological capacity to implement the Convention.</b>	
<b>Target 11.1</b>	<b>New and additional financial resources are transferred to developing country Parties, to allow for the effective implementation of their commitments under the Convention, in accordance with Article 20</b>	
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?		
a) No		<b>X</b>
b) Yes, the same as the global target		
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established		
Please provide details below.		
Seychelles is a developing country and does not have the financial capacity to transfer financial resources to other developing countries. In terms of receiving financial, human, scientific, technical and technological assistance, the country has managed to benefit from several overseas donors, as well as mobilize national counterpart funding. Additional proposal is being submitted to the GEF to provide funding for projects implementation.		

**Box XXIII.**

<b>Target 11.2</b>	<b>Technology is transferred to developing country Parties, to allow for the effective implementation of their commitments under the Convention, in accordance with its Article 20, paragraph 4</b>
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?	
a) No	<b>X</b>
b) Yes, the same as the global target	
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established	
Please provide details below.	
There has been some transfer of knowledge in the area of research, e.g. agriculture. These are in the form of scientific and technical Cooperation, with various other Parties	

## Global Strategy for Plant Conservation (GSPC)

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

### Box XXIV.

<b>Target 1. A widely accessible working list of known plant species, as a step towards a complete world flora.</b>	
I) Has your country established national target corresponding to the above global target?	
a) Yes	
b) No	<b>X</b>
Please specify	
The country has plans to develop its National Strategy in response to the Global target in 2005.	
II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?	
a) Yes	<b>X</b>
b) No	
Please specify	
The global target is integrated in the EMPS 2000-2010 under the thematic area " Biodiversity, Forestry and Agriculture.	
III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target)	
Literature exist for only dicotyledons. Other taxonomical group such as ferns and lichens are lacking.	
IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target)	
n/a	
V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target)	
n/a	
VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target	
No national strategy for implementing the GSPC in place. Lack of resources Lack of expertise	

**Box XXV.**

<b>Target 2. A preliminary assessment of the conservation status of all known plant species, at national, regional and international levels.</b>	
I) Has your country established national target corresponding to the above global target?	
a) Yes	<b>X</b>
b) No	
Please specify	
Vegetation assessments were carried out to determine the distribution of the endemic plant species on the granitic islands. The data were used to list the native species using the IUCN criteria.	
II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?	
a) Yes	
b) No	X
Please specify	
Government is considering developing its National Strategy for Plant Conservation.	
III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target)	
Meetings organized to initiate the formulation of a Plant Conservation Strategy.	
IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target)	
n/a	
V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target)	
n/a	
VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target	
Lack of resources	

**Box XXVI.**

<b>Target 3. Development of models with protocols for plant conservation and sustainable use, based on research and practical experience.</b>	
I) Has your country established national target corresponding to the above global target?	
a) Yes	
b) No	<b>X</b>
Please specify	
II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?	
a) Yes	<b>X</b>
b) No	
Please specify	
Partly implemented under the EMPS 2000-2010 and foreseen to be integrated into the NSPC.	
III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target)	
Under EMPS, several research programmes were undertaken	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• IUCN Red Data List Project; to review the status of woody endemics using the IUCN criteria</li> <li>• Production of a Research Agenda</li> <li>• Pollinators and genetics of Glacis Plants</li> <li>• Protocols for nursery and propagation of Seychelles Endemics plants; this included the capacity building in in-situ and ex-situ conservation, database for 90% of the endemics (2001-2003)</li> <li>• Conserving the unique plant endemics of the Seychelles. Identification of plant conservation needs within Seychelles by developing Science based conservation strategies.</li> <li>• Production of a restoration protocols by Plant Conservation Action Group (PCA).</li> </ul>	
IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target)	
n/a	
V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target)	
n/a	
VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target	
Lack of resources	



**Box XXVII.**

<b>Target 4. At least ten percent of each of the world's ecological regions effectively conserved.</b>	
I) Has your country established national target corresponding to the above global target?	
a) Yes	
b) No	<b>X</b>
Please specify	
n/a	
II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?	
a) Yes	
b) No	<b>X</b>
Please specify	
n/a	
III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target)	
n/a	
IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target)	
n/a	
V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target)	
n/a	
VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target	
n/a	
VII) Any other relevant information	
n/a	

**Box XXVIII. (Same as above)**

<b>Target 5. Protection of fifty percent of the most important areas for plant diversity assured.</b>	
I) Has your country established national target corresponding to the above global target?	
a) Yes	
b) No	<b>X</b>
Please specify	
n/a	
II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?	
a) Yes	<b>X</b>
b) No	
Please specify	
There are plans to increase the number of protected areas in Seychelles.	
III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target)	
There is already 46% of land area under legal protection in the country.	
IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target)	
n/a	
V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target)	
n/a	
VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target	
n/a	
VII) Any other relevant information	
n/a	

**Box XXIX.**

<b>Target 6. At least thirty percent of production lands managed consistent with the conservation of plant diversity.</b>	
I) Has your country established national target corresponding to the above global target?	
a) Yes	
b) No	<b>X</b>
Please specify	
n/a	
II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?	
a) Yes	
b) No	<b>X</b>
Please specify	
n/a	
III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target)	
n/a	
IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target)	
n/a	
V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target)	
n/a	
VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target	
n/a	
VII) Any other relevant information	
n/a	

**Box XXX.**

<b>Target 7. Sixty percent of the world's threatened species conserved <i>In-situ</i>.</b>	
I) Has your country established national target corresponding to the above global target?	
a) Yes	<b>X</b>
b) No	
Please specify	
Most of the threatened species are found in protected areas.	
II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?	
a) Yes	<b>X</b>
b) No	
Please specify	
Partly covered in the EMPS 2000-2010 under the goal of "increasing <i>in situ</i> conservation" and to be included in the NSPC.	
III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target)	
Assessment to determine distribution of endemic species is being considered. Targets to be included in the NSPC.	
IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target)	
n/a	
V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target)	
n/a	
VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target	
Financial Resources to conduct assessment.	

**Box XXXI.**

<b>Target 8. Sixty percent of threatened plant species in accessible <i>Ex-situ</i> collections, preferably in the country of origin, and 10 percent of them included in recovery and restoration programmes.</b>	
I) Has your country established national target corresponding to the above global target?	
a) Yes	<b>X</b>
b) No	
Please specify	
<i>Ex Situ</i> programmes are already established under the EMPS.	
II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?	
a) Yes	<b>X</b>
b) No	
Please specify	
To be included in the NSPC	
III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target)	
Nurseries are being established for various restoration projects. The Biodiversity Centre is presently carrying out research on the best method for propagating the different endemic species.	
IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target)	
Measures to eradicate exotic species so that native species could be reintroduced to restore degraded habitats.	
V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target)	
Involvement of private island owners and other stakeholders in plant conservation programmes.	
VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target	
Funding	

**Box XXXII.**

<b>Target 9. Seventy percent of the genetic diversity of crops and other major socio-economically valuable plant species conserved, and associated indigenous and local knowledge maintained.</b>	
I) Has your country established national target corresponding to the above global target?	
a) Yes	<b>X</b>
b) No	
Please specify	
Conservation centres (Nuseries) established for crop diversity.	
II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?	
a) Yes	
b) No	<b>X</b>
Please specify	
Policies are under development.	
III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target)	
Some work was carried out by the Department of Natural Resources in cataloging various agro crops. However this target has largely not been implemented	
IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target)	
n/a	
V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target)	
n/a	
VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target	
N/a	

**Box XXXIII.**

<b>Target 10. Management plans in place for at least 100 major alien species that threaten plants, plant communities and associated habitats and ecosystems.</b>	
I) Has your country established national target corresponding to the above global target?	
a) Yes	
b) No	<b>X</b>
Please specify	
Certain management programmes in place (e.g. Mellon Fruit Fly)	
II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?	
a) Yes	<b>X</b>
b) No	
Please specify	
Incorporated in the EMPS and being developed into projects.	
III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target)	
A project is being developed to control IAS in trade and production sectors.	
IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target)	
An Act will be developed to establish a Biosecurity service (agency).	
V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target)	
Project proposal submitted for funding.	
VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target	
Lack of expertise/experts in alien invasive species.	

**Box XXXIV.**

<b>Target 11. No species of wild flora endangered by international trade.</b>	
I) Has your country established national target corresponding to the above global target?	
a) Yes	
b) No	X
Please specify	
Plans to incorporate the species (Coco de Mer) under the Appendix of CITES	
II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?	
a) Yes	
b) No	X
Please specify	
n/a	



**Box XXXV.**

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

**Box XXXVI.**

<b>Target 13. The decline of plant resources, and associated indigenous and local knowledge, innovations and practices that support sustainable livelihoods, local food security and health care, halted.</b>	
I) Has your country established national target corresponding to the above global target?	
a) Yes	
b) No	<b>X</b>
Please specify	
n/a	

**Box XXXVII.**

<b>Target 14. The importance of plant diversity and the need for its conservation incorporated into communication, educational and public-awareness programmes.</b>	
I) Has your country established national target corresponding to the above global target?	
a) Yes	
b) No	<b>X</b>
Please specify	
There is no specific target but several educational programmes are centered on the need for plant conservation.	
II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?	
a) Yes	<b>X</b>
b) No	
Please specify	
Education and Sensitisation is a cross sectoral theme in the EMPS 2000-2010.	
III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target)	
Public awareness programmes are seen as a success in the Seychelles and there is a high coverage of plant biodiversity issues in print and on television.	
IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target)	
Most newspapers have an "Environment corner" with contributions from environmental Department staff as well as NGO's. Several NGO's have developed their own websites and blogs. Newsletters such as "Kapisen" (PCA) serve as good educational and information dissemination tool. Environmental education is mainstreamed into school curricula and creation of Wildlife clubs in schools, is a key initiative that has helped achieve the national target.	
V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target)	
Creation of an environmental education unit within the Ministry of Education and many environmental incentive schemes e.g. eco schools competition. There is very little work done in assessing the level of education awareness of the population.	
VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target	
Capacity in terms of human resources and finance is limited. Ongoing programmes are difficult to sustain. The level of success of education programmes has not been adequately studied.	
VII) Any other relevant information	

**Box XXXVIII.**

<b>Target 15. The number of trained people working with appropriate facilities in plant conservation increased, according to national needs, to achieve the targets of this Strategy.</b>	
I) Has your country established national target corresponding to the above global target?	
a) Yes	<b>X</b>
b) No	
Please specify	
The need has been addressed under the EMPS 2000-2010.	
II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?	
a) Yes	<b>X</b>
b) No	
Please specify	
Incorporated under the EMPS 2000-2010.	
III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target)	
There has been little success in meeting this target. Capacity in this sector has been hampered with relatively high staff turnover and lack of suitably qualified individuals.	
IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target)	
Lack of sufficient measures means that this component was not implemented. Training programmes were held but not specifically related to this target.	
V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target)	
There is still no local plant pathologist, taxonomist and botanist.	
VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target	
Incentives for staff retention need to be considered.	
VII) Any other relevant information	
No particular training on Plant Conservation. Training was carried out as part of the Department training programme, not necessarily in connection to this target.	

**Box XXXIX.**

<b>Target 16. Networks for plant conservation activities established or strengthened at national, regional and international levels.</b>	
I) Has your country established national target corresponding to the above global target?	
a) Yes	<b>X</b>
b) No	
Please specify	
National Network established locally with various NGO's involved in conservation activities.	
II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?	
a) Yes	
b) No	X
Please specify	
III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target)	
Private island owners, NGOs and Department of Environment are working together at National level. Various workshops were conducted with regional institutions in order to strengthen plant conservation works. There is generally good collaboration between National and International Institutions	
IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target)	
Regional and local workshops organized to strengthen collaboration.	
V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target)	
Network strengthened through the participation of various stakeholders	
VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target	
Funding	
VII) Any other relevant information	
n/a	

## Ecosystem Approach

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

<b>3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/><sup>1</sup></b> Is your country applying the ecosystem approach, taking into account the principles and guidance contained in the annex to decision V/6? (decision V/6)	
a) No	
b) No, but application is under consideration	
c) Yes, some aspects are being applied	
d) Yes, substantially implemented	<b>X</b>

<b>4. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></b> Is your country developing practical expressions of the ecosystem approach for national policies and legislation and for implementation activities, with adaptation to local, national, and regional conditions? (decision V/6)	
a) No	
b) No, but development is under consideration	
c) Yes, practical expressions have been developed for applying some principles of the ecosystem approach	
d) Yes, practical expressions have been developed for applying most principles of the ecosystem approach	<b>X</b>

<b>5.</b> Is your country strengthening capacities for the application of the ecosystem approach, and providing technical and financial support for capacity-building to apply the ecosystem approach? (decision V/6)	
a) No	
b) Yes, within the country	<b>X</b>
c) Yes, including providing support to other Parties	

<b>6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></b> Has your country promoted regional cooperation in applying the ecosystem approach across national borders? (decision V/6)	
a) No	
b) Yes, informal cooperation (please provide details below)	

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

c) Yes, formal cooperation (please provide details below)	<b>X</b>
Further comments on regional cooperation in applying the ecosystem approach across national borders.	
The Seychelles is participating in several regional projects which apply the ecosystem approach. These include the WioLab project for the western Indian Ocean region, as well as the COI project for the monitoring of coral reef ecosystems.	

<b>7. Is your country facilitating the exchange of experiences, capacity building, technology transfer and awareness raising to assist with the implementation of the ecosystem approach? (decisions VI/12 and VII/11)</b>	
a) No	
b) No, some programmes are under development	
c) Yes, some programmes are being implemented (please provide details below)	<b>X</b>
d) Yes, comprehensive programmes are being implemented (please provide details below)	
Further comments on facilitating the exchange of experiences, capacity building, technology transfer and awareness raising to assist with the implementation of the ecosystem approach.	
Training programmes conducted as part of regional projects, as above.	

<b>8. Is your country creating an enabling environment for the implementation of the ecosystem approach, including through development of appropriate institutional frameworks? (decision VII/11)</b>	
a) No	
b) No, but relevant policies and programmes are under development	
c) Yes, some policies and programmes are in place (please provide details below)	<b>X</b>
d) Yes, comprehensive policies and programmes are in place (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the creation of an enabling environment for the implementation of the ecosystem approach.	
The Seychelles is implementing the Integrated Ecosystem Management Programme (IEM) which is being supported by the GEF. The programme has several biodiversity projects which incorporates the development of appropriate institutional frameworks in accordance to decision VII/11. Government is seeding conservation work to NGO's and thus decentralizing its operations.	

## C. ARTICLES OF THE CONVENTION

### Article 5 – Cooperation

<b>9. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></b> Is your country actively cooperating with other Parties in respect of areas beyond national jurisdiction for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity?	
a) No	
b) Yes, bilateral cooperation (please give details below)	
c) Yes, multilateral cooperation (please give details below)	<b>X</b>
d) Yes, regional and/or subregional cooperation (please give details below)	<b>X</b>
e) Yes, other forms of cooperation (please give details below)	
Further comments on cooperation with other Parties in respect of areas beyond national jurisdiction for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.	
<p>The following are regional projects which involve cooperation beyond national borders for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Western Indian Ocean Land Based Pollution Control project, (WIO-Lab)</li> <li>2. Maritime Highway Project</li> <li>3. IOC project – Tuna Assessment and Tagging Project</li> <li>4. Implementation of the IOSEA turtle’s MOU</li> <li>5. IOC Coral Reef Network Project</li> <li>6. IOC project on Marines Protected Areas network for the western Indian Ocean countries</li> <li>7. SADEC wildlife protocol, Forestry Protocol, SADC Regional Biodiversity Strategy.</li> <li>8. Nairobi Convention Wildlife Protocol,</li> <li>9. Party to Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES).</li> </ol>	

<b>10.</b> Is your country working with other Parties to develop regional, subregional or bioregional mechanisms and networks to support implementation of the Convention? (decision VI/27 A)	
a) No	
b) No, but consultations are under way	
c) Yes, some mechanisms and networks have been established (please provide details below)	<b>X</b>
d) Yes, existing mechanisms have been strengthened (please provide details below)	
Further comments on development of regional, subregional or bioregional mechanisms and networks to support implementation of the Convention.	
As indicated under 9 above.	



**11.** Is your country taking steps to harmonize national policies and programmes, with a view to optimizing policy coherence, synergies and efficiency in the implementation of various multilateral environment agreements (MEAs) and relevant regional initiatives at the national level? (decision VI/20)

a) No	
b) No, but steps are under consideration	
c) Yes, some steps are being taken (please specify below)	<b>X</b>
d) Yes, comprehensive steps are being taken (please specify below)	

Further comments on the harmonization of policies and programmes at the national level.

The National Capacity Needs Self Assessment (NCSA) provided an assessment of capacity for implementation of three main MEA's (CBD, UNFCCC, CCD). The NCSA objective which was "*To determine the priority needs, and establish a plan of action, for developing Seychelles' capacity to meet its MEA commitments*" was successful in its outcome. Implementation of the action plan intended to improve policy coherence, synergies and efficiency of national policies and programmes was not sufficiently implemented for lack of resources.

In terms of institutional mechanisms, a national conventions unit was established in 2004 within the Department of Environment to coordinate Multilateral Agreements. However the unit requires strengthening and functions more at coordination level between the different focal points.

**Box XL.**

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

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

Limited actions undertaken to harmonize national actions with MEA,s. The National Biodiversity Action Plan is being continually implemented by the Department of Environment. Integration of Millennium Development Goals has so far not been integrated.

The main constraint experienced is lack of resources for implementation.

## Article 6 - General measures for conservation and sustainable use

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

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

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

Environment Management Plan Of Seychelles (EMPS) 2000 -2010, sets out clear strategies, programmes and actions that reinforce the objectives of the Convention.

Under the EMPS thematic area of Biodiversity the following goals are being achieved;

Increasing In Situ Conservation

Strengthening Identification and Monitoring of Biodiversity


Conserving Biological diversity of inland water ecosystems

Strengthening ex-situ Biodiversity Conservation

Strengthening Biodiversity Capacity-building, Community Partnership and Networking.

Development of National Biodiversity Policy

These programmes and other sectoral plans are comprehensive but only address two of the three objectives of the Convention. So far limited action has been undertaken in developing strategic plans for the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources.

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

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

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

Measurable targets exist within the main strategic action plan namely the EMPS 2000-2010. The action plan contains OVI for each work element.

<b>14. Has your country identified priority actions in its national biodiversity strategy and action plan? (decision VI/27 A)</b>	
a) No	
b) No, but priority actions are being identified	
c) Yes, priority actions identified (please provide details below)	<b>X</b>
<b>Further comments on priority actions identified in the national biodiversity strategy and action plan.</b>	
<p><u>NBSAP</u></p> <p>The Seychelles NBSAP incorporates a priority ranking system as follows:</p> <p>Code 1: Projects that intend solving very urgent problems to do with Biodiversity conservation and sustainable use, or because their completion is a pre-requisite for the success of other projects.</p> <p>Code 2: Projects that may not be as urgent as Code 1 projects, but propose addressing issues of high Biodiversity significance and global priority.</p> <p>Code 3: Projects, although bearing an intrinsic priority intend to address longer-term issues than Code 2 projects.</p> <p>Code 4: Projects that should be included in the NBSAP but which could be phased</p> <p><u>EMPS</u></p> <p>The biodiversity strategy and actions under the EMPS is essentially priority actions for the country. Seychelles has developed a comprehensive list of priority actions. The next stage is to prioritise programmes and activities in the EMPS 2011-2020.</p>	

<b>15. Has your country integrated the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity as well as benefit sharing into relevant sectoral or cross-sectoral plans, programmes and policies? (decision VI/27 A)</b>	
a) No	
b) Yes, in some sectors (please provide details below)	
c) Yes, in major sectors (please provide details below)	<b>X</b>
d) Yes, in all sectors (please provide details below)	
<b>Further information on integration of the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and benefit-sharing into relevant sectoral or cross-sectoral plans, programmes and policies.</b>	
<p>Conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity is well integrated within the plans of all sectors of the Country. The EMPS and its committee serve as the framework for the mainstreaming of biodiversity issues into other sectors of society. This is particularly the case for Tourism Sector where hotels and exclusive island destinations are supporting and undertaking conservation work. The Department of Environment has a strong say in planning applications for all developments in the Country. Therefore policies relating to Land Use, Tourism and Agriculture are inextricably linked to conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.</p> <p>Access to benefit sharing is however not effectively established within the national framework. This aspect should be appropriately integrated within the development of the next generation EMPS.</p>	


<b>16.</b> Are migratory species and their habitats addressed by your country's national biodiversity strategy or action plan (NBSAP)? (decision VI/20)	
a) Yes	<b>X</b>
b) No	
<b>I) If <b>YES</b>, please briefly describe the extent to which it addresses</b>	
(a) Conservation, sustainable use and/or restoration of migratory species	Turtle conservation plans.
(b) Conservation, sustainable use and/or restoration of migratory species' habitats, including protected areas	Habitat protection for turtles and sharks.
(c) Minimizing or eliminating barriers or obstacles to migration	Specific actions are carried out in the absence of a national strategy. E.g., Roche Caiman Bird Sanctuary.
(d) Research and monitoring for migratory species	Turtle and shark monitoring programmes.
(e) Transboundary movement	Regional Whale shark project
<b>II) If <b>NO</b>, please briefly indicate below</b>	
(a) The extent to which your country addresses migratory species at national level	
(b) Cooperation with other Range States since 2000	

## Biodiversity and Climate Change

<b>17.</b> Has your country implemented projects aimed at mitigating and adapting to climate change that incorporate biodiversity conservation and sustainable use? (decision VII/15)	
a) No	
b) No, but some projects or programs are under development	<b>X</b>
c) Yes, some projects have been implemented (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the projects aimed at mitigating and adapting to climate change that incorporate biodiversity conservation and sustainable use.	
<p>Seychelles have a National Climate Change Committee (NCCC) which encompasses different representatives of government agencies and private sector. Its mandate is to coordinate the development and implementation of the national climate change programme.</p> <p>With respect to climate change and biodiversity, projects were carried out in the assessment of coral bleaching following El Nino events. More recently the NCCC developed several projects being;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 "Integrated Coastal Zone Management in the Seychelles" which included monitoring of coastal sea-circulation and beach erosion. Monitoring changes in plankton and benthic communities of coral reef ecosystem and assessment of cost-effective adaptation options (policy and technical) for sea level rise.</li> <li>2 "Monitoring and assessment of the effects of climate change on fisheries in the Seychelles". This project; implemented by Seychelles Fishing Authority (SFA) aims to reinforce coral reef monitoring and fish stocks as well as sea surface temperature.</li> </ol> <p>There has not been any project looking at Agricultural biodiversity and its adaption to climate change. However plans are underway to establish an insurance scheme for the agricultural sector and to carry out an index of crops.</p>	

<b>18.</b> Has your country facilitated coordination to ensure that climate change mitigation and adaptation projects are in line with commitments made under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification? (decision VII/15)	
a) No	
b) No, but relevant mechanisms are under development	
c) Yes, relevant mechanisms are in place (please provide details below)	<b>X</b>
Further comments on the coordination to ensure that climate change mitigation and adaptation projects are in line with commitments made under the UNFCCC and the UNCCD.	
<p>The National Climate Change Committee coordinates climate change mitigation and adaptation projects in the Seychelles. The Climate Change Strategy brings the Government policy in line with commitments of the UNFCCC and CCD.</p>	

## Article 7 - Identification and monitoring

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

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

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

There are many programmes to identify components of biological diversity. This is being done primarily by NGO's at the species level. Including

- Indian Ocean Biodiversity Assessment (2000-2005)
- Benthic mapping of Marine National Parks
- Tortoise census on Curieuse Island
- Curieuse Coco-de-mer census
- Coral Reef Monitoring Programme in COI member countries
- Plankton Biodiversity; Training, sampling, taxonomy and data evaluation in Seychelles and Mauritius (Darwin/9004)
- Monitoring and tagging of whale Shark
- Population status and habitat preferences of the Seychelles black parrot *Coracopsis nigra barklyi* on Praslin
- Remote sensing of Aldabra Atoll lagoon and terrestrial areas
- Initial survey of population status and distribution of the Madagascar pond-heron *Ardeola idae* on Aldabra Atoll
- Sustainable harvesting of the coco de mer *Lodoicea maldivica* (CdM)
- Long-term demographic monitoring of the coco de mer *Lodoicea maldivica* (CdM)
- Studies of gecko ecology in the Vallée de Mai
- Species Conservation and Action Plan for Seychelles Black Paradise Flycatcher, Vev, Veuve, *Terpsiphone corvine*
- Species Conservation and Action Plan 2001-2006 for Seychelles Fodym Tok Tok
- Species Conservation and Action Plan 2001-2006 for Seychelles Magpie Robin, Pi Santez, *Copsychus sechellarum*
- Species Conservation and Action Plan 2001-2006 for Seychelles, Seychelles (bare-legged) scops owl, Syer, *Otus insularis*
- Species Conservation and Action Plan 2000 – 2006 for Seychelles white eye, Oiseau-lunettes des Seychelles, Zwazo linet Sesel, *Zosterops modestus*

<b>20. ◊</b> On Article 7(b), which components of biological diversity identified in accordance with Annex I of the Convention, have ongoing, systematic monitoring programmes?	
a) at ecosystem level (please provide percentage based on area covered)	<b>X</b>
b) at species level (please provide number of species per taxonomic group and percentage of total known number of species in each group)	<b>X</b>
c) at genetic level (please indicate number and focus of monitoring programmes )	
Further comments on ongoing monitoring programmes at the genetic, species and ecosystem level.	
<p>Monitoring programmes are being undertaken by the Department of Environment and Environmental NGO's. Mostly done at species level, monitoring programmes are integrated in island management plans. Specific programmes are</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Marine species database</li> <li>• Silhouette Island Conservation Project (sheath-tailed bat population, sooglossid frogs, sea-turtle nesting, snails, litter invertebrates, hawkmoths)</li> <li>• The monitoring of Seychelles Endemic species</li> <li>• Conception Vegetation Management Plan 2001-2006 ,</li> <li>• Vegetation Management for North Island, Aride Island</li> <li>• Cousin Island Management plan</li> <li>• Coral monitoring programme (SCMRT /GVI)</li> <li>• Whale shark, turtle, cetaceans and plankton monitoring programme( MCSS)</li> <li>• Fisheries assessment of Lobsters, Octopus and Sea Cucumber ; SFA / GVI</li> </ul>	

<b>21. ◊</b> On Article 7(c), does your country have ongoing, systematic monitoring programmes on any of the following key threats to biodiversity?	
a) No	
b) Yes, invasive alien species (please provide details below)	<b>X</b>
c) Yes, climate change (please provide details below)	<b>X</b>
d) Yes, pollution/eutrophication (please provide details below)	<b>X</b>
e) Yes, land use change/land degradation (please provide details below)	<b>X</b>
f) Yes, overexploitation or unsustainable use (please provide details below)	<b>X</b>
Further comments on monitoring programmes on key threats to biodiversity.	
<p><u>Invasive alien species</u></p> <p>Under the main goal for in situ conservation under the EMPS; "Objective 1.1: To control invasive exotic species". Eradications of AIS were conducted on several islands on such as Fregate. Where the species could not be eradicated, a control programme was put it place (e.g. Control of feral goats on Aldabra (SIF)</p> <p>Eradication of Invasive Exotic plants were carried out and several islands rehabilitated.</p> <p><u>Climate Change</u></p> <p>The Seychelles Meteorological office has weather monitoring programmes. The following activities were undertaken;</p> <p>Monitoring of coastal sea-circulation and coastal beach erosion</p> <p>Monitoring of changes in plankton</p>	

Monitoring of benthic communities of coral reef ecosystem

Assessment of cost-effective adaptation options (policy and technical) for sea level rise.

Coral reef monitoring

Monitoring of Fish stocks

Pollution /Eutrophication


The Pollution Section within the Department of Environment undertakes routine monitoring of water quality, air and land based pollution.

Land use change / Land degradation

The Coastal Zone Unit undertakes regular monitoring of coastal zone, particularly beach monitoring programme and rehabilitation work.

Overexploitation or unsustainable use

There are controls in place to mitigate over exploitation of certain species in Seychelles. This relates to tuna under the regional IOTC project. Seasonal and license controls have been applied on certain species e.g. lobster and sea cucumbers.

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


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

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

The EMPS Steering Committee is the national forum for such information exchange. Results from monitoring programme are directed to the committee and the secretariat acts as the main repository of such information. The information is distributed to interested parties and members of the committee and is used for developing policies at the National level.

A data management unit was set up in the Ministry of Environment to collate and share information from species inventories and monitoring.

There are inventories and monitoring data from other organizations and interest groups such as the Bird records committee. It remains a challenge to consolidate all inventory and monitoring.

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

a) No	
b) No, but identification of potential indicators is under way (please describe)	
c) Yes, some indicators identified and in use (please describe and, if available, provide website address, where data are summarized and	<b>x</b>



presented)	
d) Yes, a relatively complete set of indicators identified and in use (please describe and, if available, provide website address, where data are summarized and presented)	
Further comments on the indicators identified and in use.	
The OVI used in the EMPS programme of action represents indicators for national monitoring of biodiversity.	

### Decisions on Taxonomy

<b>24.</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Has your country developed a plan to implement the suggested actions as annexed to decision IV/1? (decision IV/1)	
a) No	
b) No, but a plan is under development	
c) Yes, a plan is in place (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, reports on implementation available (please provide details below)	<b>X</b>
Further information on a plan to implement the suggested actions as annexed to decision IV/1.	
See (19 above).	

<b>25.</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Is your country investing on a long-term basis in the development of appropriate infrastructure for your national taxonomic collections? (decision IV/1)	
a) No	
b) Yes (please provide details below)	<b>X</b>
Further information on investment on a long-term basis in the development of appropriate infrastructure for your national taxonomic collections.	
The Barbarons Biodiversity Centre is the main infrastructure for national plant taxonomic collection. However due to lack of funding the centre is not able to achieve its full purpose.	

<b>26.</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Does your country provide training programmes in taxonomy and work to increase its capacity of taxonomic research? (decision IV/1)	
a) No	<b>X</b>
b) Yes (please provide details below)	
Further information on training programmes in taxonomy and efforts to increase the capacity of taxonomic research.	
No capacity exists locally. Although the country does not provide training. Increasing capacity in taxonomic work is planned under the EMPS 2000-2010.	

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

**28.\*** <sup>2</sup> Is your country collaborating with the existing regional, subregional and global initiatives, partnerships and institutions in carrying out the programme of work, including assessing regional taxonomic needs and identifying regional-level priorities? (decision VI/8)

a) No	
b) No, but collaborative programmes are under development	
c) Yes, some collaborative programmes are being implemented (please provide details about collaborative programmes, including results of regional needs assessments)	<b>X</b>
d) Yes, comprehensive collaborative programmes are being implemented (please provide details about collaborative programmes, including results of regional needs assessment and priority identification)	

Further information on the collaboration your country is carrying out to implement the programme of work for the GTI, including regional needs assessment and priority identification.

The Indian Ocean Expedition 2000-2005 undertook collective representations of all animals, plants and fungi on each island in the Seychelles. There is ongoing collaboration between the Seychelles Botanical Garden and the Botanic Garden Conservation International (BGCI).

**29. \*** Has your country made an assessment of taxonomic needs and capacities at the national level for the implementation of the Convention? (annex to decision VI/8)

a) No	
b) Yes, basic assessment made (please provide below a list of needs and capacities identified)	<b>X</b>
c) Yes, thorough assessment made (please provide below a list of needs and capacities identified)	

Further comments on national assessment of taxonomic needs and capacities.

Capacity Assessments found little ability in undertaking taxonomic work in the Seychelles due to lack of qualified taxonomist.

**30. \*** Is your country working on regional or global capacity building to support access to, and generation of, taxonomic information in collaboration with other Parties? (annex to decision VI/8)

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

a) No	
b) Yes, relevant programmes are under development	
c) Yes, some activities are being undertaken for this purpose (please provide details below)	<b>X</b>
d) Yes, many activities are being undertaken for this purpose (please provide details below)	
Further comments on regional or global capacity-building to support access to, and generation of, taxonomic information in collaboration with other Parties.	
<p>Seychelles collaborated with Botanic Garden Conservation International (BGCI) under the "Darwin Initiative - Eden Project" 2004. The Department of Environment collaborated with NERC Centre for coastal Marine Science and the Royal Geographical Society for the project which undertook training, sampling, taxonomy and data evaluation of Plankton Biodiversity in Seychelles. Outputs included plankton monographs, a sampling manual and key plankton species guide.</p> <p>Also some Seychelles biodiversity experts are members of Bionet (<a href="http://www.bionet-intl.org">http://www.bionet-intl.org</a>). An international not-for-profit initiative dedicated to promoting taxonomy, and work towards global capacity building and access to taxonomic information.</p>	

<b>31. *</b> Has your country developed taxonomic support for the implementation of the programmes of work under the Convention as called upon in decision VI/8? (annex to decision VI/8)	
a) No	
b) Yes, for forest biodiversity (please provide details below)	<b>X</b>
c) Yes, for marine and coastal biodiversity (please provide details below)	<b>X</b>
d) Yes, for dry and sub-humid lands (please provide details below)	Na
e) Yes, for inland waters biodiversity (please provide details below)	<b>X</b>
f) Yes, for mountain biodiversity (please provide details below)	<b>X</b>
g) Yes, for protected areas (please provide details below)	x
h) Yes, for agricultural biodiversity (please provide details below)	x
i) Yes, for island biodiversity (please provide details below)	<b>X</b>
Further comments on the development of taxonomic support for the implementation of the programmes of work under the Convention.	
<p>Freshwater assessment was carried out by ARDA in collaboration with Parish Natural History Museum and a new species of freshwater fish was discovered. A report on ferns of the Seychelles was produced by research students attached to the Department of Environment. Taxonomic work on forest/mountain biodiversity has been undertaken by NGOs.</p>	

<b>32. *</b> Has your country developed taxonomic support for the implementation of the cross-cutting issues under the Convention as called upon in decision VI/8?	
a) No	
b) Yes, for access and benefit-sharing (please provide details below)	
c) Yes, for Article 8(j) (please provide details below)	

d) Yes, for the ecosystem approach (please provide details below)	<b>X</b>
e) Yes, for impact assessment, monitoring and indicators (please provide details below)	
f) Yes, for invasive alien species (please provide details below)	<b>X</b>
g) Yes, for others (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the development of taxonomic support for the implementation of the cross-cutting issues under the Convention.	
A Biosecurity project is being developed which will provide taxonomic support and threat analysis for invasive alien species. This project will be part of the ongoing Integrated Ecosystem Management programme.	

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

<b>33. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></b> On Article 8(i), has your country endeavored to provide the conditions needed for compatibility between present uses and the conservation of biological diversity and sustainable use of its components?	
a) No	
b) No, but potential measures are being identified	
c) Yes, some measures undertaken (please provide details below)	<b>X</b>
d) Yes, comprehensive measures undertaken (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the measures taken to provide the conditions needed for compatibility between present uses and the conservation of biological diversity and sustainable use of its components.	
Development pressure and overexploitation is the main threat to biological diversity in the country. The Department of Environment has developed a high status for approving planning applications which ensure compatibility between uses and conservation. The creation of protected areas and management methods e.g., quotas on exploitation of selected species and strict control on endemic species (Coco de Mer, tortoises), have all contributed to ensuring compatibility of present uses .	

<b>34. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></b> On Article 8(k), has your country developed or maintained the necessary legislation and/or other regulatory provisions for the protection of threatened species and populations?	
a) No	
b) No, but legislation is being developed	
c) Yes, legislation or other measures are in place (please provide details below)	<b>X</b>
Further information on the legislation and/or regulations for the protection of threatened species and populations.	
The following legislation deals specifically with protection of threatened species in the Seychelles	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wild Animals and Birds Protection Act,</li> <li>• National Parks and Nature Conservancy Act,</li> <li>• State Land and River Reserves Act,</li> <li>• Breadfruit and Other Trees Act.</li> <li>• Fisheries Act</li> <li>• Birds Egg Act</li> <li>• Coco de mer (Management Decree) of 1979, amended in 1994</li> </ul>	
Furthermore the Environmental Protection Act (EPA), includes several regulations that serve similar purposes e.g. Environment Impact Assessment Regulations which requires developments to have an Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) conducted. EPA also regulates all forms of pollution.	

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

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

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

Illegal activity affecting biological biodiversity

The authorities have brought a number of successful cases to court for the poaching of turtles and birds.

Overexploitation

Stock assessment is routinely carried out for selected marine species by the Seychelles Fishing Authority and continues to regulate threatened marine species.

Pollution

Pollution control section actively regulates land and marine based pollution. There has been several court cases and out of court settlements, for illegal discharge of bilge oil from ships.

Land degradation

A project to look at land degradation issues is under development. There have been attempts to rehabilitate areas damaged by fires, de-silting of rivers and the rehabilitation of severely eroded coastal areas.

Regulatory Instruments

The EIA regulation is the main pathway for identification of impacts to biodiversity due to construction activities. The EIA process in Seychelles is relatively successful and specific experts are scoped particularly for large coastal developments.

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

<b>36.</b> Has your country established suitable time bound and measurable national-level protected areas targets and indicators? (decision VII/28)	
a) No (please specify reasons)	
b) No, but relevant work is under way	
c) Yes, some targets and indicators established (please provide details below)	<b>X</b>
d) Yes, comprehensive targets and indicators established (please provide details below)	
Further comments on targets and indicators for protected areas.	
Management plan for Marine Parks are in place. The targets are however not time bound. Management plans for some islands have been developed.	

<b>37.</b> Has your country taken action to establish or expand protected areas in any large or relatively unfragmented natural area or areas under high threat, including securing threatened species? (decision VII/28)	
a) No	
b) No, but relevant programmes are under development	
c) Yes, limited actions taken (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, significant actions taken (please provide details below)	<b>X</b>
Further comments on actions taken to establish or expand protected areas.	
There are significant protected areas established in the Seychelles with marine parks, special reserves, and terrestrial nature parks. There is currently a no development policy above the 50m contour line on the island of Praslin. The Government has purchased private land on La Digue, in an attempt to prevent development and thus maintain habitats for the endemic bird species.	

<b>38.</b> Has your country taken any action to address the under representation of marine and inland water ecosystems in the existing national or regional systems of protected areas? (decision VII/28)	
a) No	
b) Not applicable	
c) No, but relevant actions are being considered	
d) Yes, limited actions taken (please provide details below)	<b>X</b>
e) Yes, significant actions taken (please provide details below)	
Further comments on actions taken to address the under representation of marine and inland water ecosystems in the existing national or regional systems of protected areas.	
The Seychelles developed its wetlands policy integrating the protection and management of wetlands within its national action plan. Sensitive marine and inland water ecosystems are protected from developments as part of the EIA process.  The Seychelles also has legislated shell reserves and has undertaken leading role in the protection of migratory species such as the whale shark.	

<b>39.</b> Has your country identified and implemented practical steps for improving the integration of protected areas into broader land and seascapes, including policy, planning and other measures? (decision VII/28)	
a) No	
b) No, but some programmes are under development	
c) Yes, some steps identified and implemented (please provide details below)	<b>X</b>
d) Yes, many steps identified and implemented (please provide details below)	
Further comments on practical steps for improving integration of protected areas into broader land and seascapes, including policy, planning and other measures.	
There are plans to integrate biodiversity into production landscape under a new GEF project. The Protected Area project under development will enhance the integration of PA's into broader land and seascapes, including policy, legislative review and management approach.	

<b>40.</b> Is your country applying environmental impact assessment guidelines to projects or plans for evaluating effects on protected areas? (decision VII/28)	
a) No	
b) No, but relevant EIA guidelines are under development	
c) Yes, EIA guidelines are applied to some projects or plans (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, EIA guidelines are applied to all relevant projects or plans (please provide details below)	<b>X</b>
Further comments on application of environmental impact assessment guidelines to projects or plans for evaluating effects on protected areas.	
The EIA regulation specifies the legal requirement for developers to carry out an assessment on the impact that the development will have on the environment. EIA can be class I or class II, depending on the scale of the project. This is determined by the Department of Environment based on information about the project. Public consultations is a key component of all Class I EIA, and this has been carried out successfully, particularly for hotel developments.	

<b>41.</b> Has your country identified legislative and institutional gaps and barriers that impede effective establishment and management of protected areas? (decision VII/28)	
a) No	
b) No, but relevant work is under way	
c) Yes, some gaps and barriers identified (please provide details below))	<b>X</b>
d) Yes, many gaps and barriers identified (please provide details below)	
Further comments on identification of legislative and institutional gaps and barriers that impede effective establishment and management of protected areas.	
The country has identified some gaps and barriers which impede effective establishment and management of protected areas. In particular the criteria for the designation and characterization of Protected Areas under the National Parks and Nature Conservancy Act, needs to be updated (based	



on IUCN categories) taking into account factors such as ecological criteria, coverage of key ecosystems, ownership and management structures.

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

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

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

National Capacity Needs Assessment was carried out in 2004. The assessment was for the implementation of the three major conventions being CBD, UNFCCC and CCD and not specifically for protected areas. The assessment provided clear programmes to be followed to build capacity. Detailed information on these programmes can be found on the environment website (<http://www.env.gov.sc>).

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

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

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

The EMPS is the high level management plan including mechanisms for financing the management of PA through Government budget and donor funding. Most PA's operate a fee structure for entry and the money is used to maintain the different reserves and national parks.

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

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

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

A review was conducted by IUCN for evaluating the effectiveness of protected areas management.

### Article 8(h) - Alien species

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

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

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

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

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

Some assessment were done e.g. Spiraling White fly (*Aleurodicus dispersus*); melon fruit fly (*Bactrocera cucurbitae*), coconut disease (*Melitoma insularae*), takamaka wilt disease (*Verticillium calophylli*), invasive plants (*Philodendron bipinnatifidum*) and water lettuce (*Pista Statoites*). Impact assessment is available for crested tree lizard found on Ste Anne, the algae *Caulerpa Spp* detected around the island of Astove and the three marine IAS found in Port of Victoria (*Erichthonius braziliensis*, *Stenothoe valida*, *Mycale cf. Cecilia*).

No assessment of the impact from deliberate introduction of aquarium fish into freshwater ecosystem has been conducted.

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

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

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

Prevention controls are in place by law (Quarantine Act 1948, Animals Diseases and Import Act 1981. amended 1999, Plant Protection Act 1996). Environmental health inspectors routinely enforce these regulations at the Port of entries. Aircrafts to and from the Seychelles are sprayed with insecticides

to mitigate the risk of IAS's.

Solid waste from ships and aircrafts are collected separately however not treated before disposal. A National Invasive Species Committee oversees all IAS management in the country.

Eradication of alien species particularly for plants has been more difficult. Certain invasive plants have taken over a greater part of the granitic islands. This is particularly the case for vines and creepers particularly *Philodendron* (*Philodendron bipinnatifidum*), Lialiane d'argent, *Thumbergia* and water lettuce (*Pista Statoites*). There are distributed actions to control these plants and sometimes clean up exercises are conducted at selected locations. There have been measures to control invasive woody plants e.g. *Albizia* (*Paraserianthes falcataria*). However the resources available are not adequate to completely eliminate the problem.

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

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

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

a) No	
b) Yes (please provide details below)	<b>x</b>

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

Bio-geographical approach is very relevant to the Seychelles since it is an archipelago comprising of many islands. This means that the spreading of invasive species can be contained. A project under development will aim to develop a National Alien Species Strategy using the ecosystem and precautionary approach.

**50.** Has your country identified national needs and priorities for the implementation of the Guiding Principles? (decision VI/23)

a) No	
b) No, but needs and priorities are being identified	<b>x</b>
c) Yes, national needs and priorities have been identified (please provide below a list of needs and priorities identified)	

Further comments on the identification of national needs and priorities for the implementation of the Guiding Principles.

The guiding principle is integrated into national needs and priorities as part of the EMPS and sector plans. There is no particular plan to implement specifically the guiding principles.

<b>51. Has your country created mechanisms to coordinate national programmes for applying the Guiding Principles? (decision VI/23)</b>	
a) No	
b) No, but mechanisms are under development	<b>x</b>
c) Yes, mechanisms are in place (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the mechanisms created to coordinate national programmes for implementing the Guiding Principles.	
<p>The Biosecurity project will implement key facets of the guiding principles including the Precautionary approach; Ecosystem approach; Research and monitoring; Education and public awareness; Border control and quarantine measures; Exchange of information; Cooperation and capacity-building; 10 Intentional and Unintentional introductions; Mitigation of impacts, Eradication; Containment and Control.</p> <p>The Seychelles is party to the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) and has established the Plant Protection Section as the National Plant Protection Organisation (NPPO) under the convention. The plant protection section undertakes import and export clearances for plants and plant products in accordance to elements of the Guiding principles.</p>	

<b>52. Has your country reviewed relevant policies, legislation and institutions in the light of the Guiding Principles, and adjusted or developed policies, legislation and institutions? (decision VI/23)</b>	
a) No	
b) No, but review under way	
c) Yes, review completed and adjustment proposed (please provide details below)	<b>x</b>
d) Yes, adjustment and development ongoing	
e) Yes, some adjustments and development completed (please provide details below)	
Further information on the review, adjustment or development of policies, legislation and institutions in light of the Guiding Principles.	
Will be undertaken under the Biosecurity Project. See Q 56 below.	

<b>53. Is your country enhancing cooperation between various sectors in order to improve prevention, early detection, eradication and/or control of invasive alien species? (decision VI/23)</b>	
a) No	
b) No, but potential coordination mechanisms are under consideration	
c) Yes, mechanisms are in place (please provide details below)	<b>x</b>
Further comments on cooperation between various sectors.	
Mechanisms exist between the Department of Environment, the Plant Protection Section of the Department of Natural Resources, the Seychelles Aviation Authority and the Port Authority.	

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

a) No	
b) Yes, relevant collaborative programmes are under development	<b>X</b>
c) Yes, relevant programmes are in place (please specify below the measures taken for this purpose)	

Further comments on collaboration with trading partners and neighboring countries.

The Seychelles' huge EEZ means that marine alien species can easily be introduced. Measures were undertaken with respect to ballast sea water and currently ships are not allowed to discharge ballast water in close proximity to the islands. The Seychelles acceded to the International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships' Ballast Water and Sediments, which aims to prevent the spread of aquatic invasive alien organisms.

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

a) No	
b) No, but programmes for this purpose are under development	<b>X</b>
c) Yes, some activities for developing capacity in this field are being undertaken (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive activities are being undertaken (please provide details below)	

Further information on capacity development to address threats of invasive alien species.

At the moment there has not been significant work in ascertaining the risk for potential new IAS in the country.

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

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

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

Activities to control invasive species are in the current Environment Management Plan of Seychelles and financial resources were made available by Government and other donors. However resources are insufficient to completely eradicate certain problematic species. A number of successful attempts were achieved by NGO's and private island owners in the eradication of cats and rats on specific islands.

## Article 8(j) - Traditional knowledge and related provisions

### GURTS

<b>57.</b> Has your country created and developed capacity-building programmes to involve and enable smallholder farmers, indigenous and local communities, and other relevant stakeholders to effectively participate in decision-making processes related to genetic use restriction technologies?	
a) No	<b>X</b>
b) No, but some programmes are under development	
c) Yes, some programmes are in place (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive programmes are in place (please provide details below)	
Further comments on capacity-building programmes to involve and enable smallholder farmers, indigenous and local communities and other relevant stakeholders to effectively participate in decision-making processes related to GURTs.	
Not applicable	

### Status and Trends

<b>58.</b> Has your country supported indigenous and local communities in undertaking field studies to determine the status, trends and threats related to the knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities? (decision VII/16)	
a) No	<b>X</b>
b) No, but support to relevant studies is being considered	
c) Yes (please provide information on the studies undertaken)	
Further information on the studies undertaken to determine the status, trends and threats related to the knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities, and priority actions identified.	
Not applicable	

### Akwé:Kon Guidelines

<b>59.</b> Has your country initiated a legal and institutional review of matters related to cultural, environmental and social impact assessment, with a view to incorporating the Akwé:Kon Guidelines into national legislation, policies, and procedures?	
a) No	<b>X</b>
b) No, but review is under way	
c) Yes, a review undertaken (please provide details on the review)	
Further information on the review.	
Not applicable	

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

a) No	<b>X</b>
b) No, but a review of the Akwé: Kon guidelines is under way	
c) Yes, to some extent (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, to a significant extent (please provide details below)	
Further information on the projects where the Akwé:Kon Guidelines are applied.	
Not applicable	

## Capacity Building and Participation of Indigenous and Local Communities

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

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

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

There have been activities carried out with respect to Medicinal plants of the Seychelles. Television documentaries with interviews of practitioners were carried out. Books have been written on the subject.

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

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

Further information on the mechanisms, guidelines and legislation developed.

Not Applicable

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

a) No	
b) No, but relevant mechanisms are being developed	<b>X</b>
c) Yes, mechanisms are in place (please provide details below)	

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

There is a Gender work programme under the EMPS 2000-2010 which aims to strengthen the role of women in environmental management. The objectives under this programme are to increase the number of professional women in environmental fields and promote cottage industries. There are now in Seychelles a high number of women working in the field of environment.



### Support to implementation

<b>64.</b> Has your country established national, subregional and/or regional indigenous and local community biodiversity advisory committees?	
a) No	<b>X</b>
b) No, but relevant work is under way	
c) Yes	

<b>65.</b> Has your country assisted indigenous and local community organizations to hold regional meetings to discuss the outcomes of the decisions of the Conference of the Parties and to prepare for meetings under the Convention?	
a) No	<b>X</b>
b) Yes (please provide details about the outcome of meetings)	
Further information on the outcome of regional meetings.	
Not Applicable	

<b>66.</b> Has your country supported, financially and otherwise, indigenous and local communities in formulating their own community development and biodiversity conservation plans that will enable such communities to adopt a culturally appropriate strategic, integrated and phased approach to their development needs in line with community goals and objectives?	
a) No	
b) Yes, to some extent (please provide details below)	<b>X</b>
c) Yes, to a significant extent (please provide details below)	
Further information on the support provided.	
Communities are supported through Government budget to formulate and implement district management plans.	

## Article 9 - *Ex-situ* conservation

<b>67. ◊</b> On Article 9(a) and (b), has your country adopted measures for the <i>ex-situ</i> conservation of components of biological diversity native to your country and originating outside your country?	
a) No	
b) No, but potential measures are under review	
c) Yes, some measures are in place (please provide details below)	<b>X</b>
d) Yes, comprehensive measures are in place (please provide details below)	
Further information on the measures adopted for the <i>ex-situ</i> conservation of components of biodiversity native to your country and originating outside your country.	
The Barbarons Biodiversity centre and Botanical Gardens is the main centre for <i>ex-situ</i> plant management in the Country. There has been several translocation programmes, involving endangered species from one island to another. There has been little focus on maintaining <i>ex situ</i> conservation on species originating outside of the country.	

<b>68. ◊</b> On Article 9(c), has your country adopted measures for the reintroduction of threatened species into their natural habitats under appropriate conditions?	
a) No	
b) No, but potential measures are under review	
c) Yes, some measures are in place (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive measures are in place (please provide details below)	<b>X</b>
Further comments on the measures for the reintroduction of threatened species into their natural habitats under appropriate conditions.	
There have been several programmes on Curieuse for the re-introduction of tortoises through captive breeding programme. Similarly the Nature Protection Trust of Seychelles carries out similar work on Silhouette.	
Several plant species have been reintroduced on islands as part of island restoration programmes.	

<b>69. ◊</b> On Article 9(d), 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?	
a) No	
b) No, but potential measures are under review	
c) Yes, some measures are in place (please provide details below)	<b>X</b>
d) Yes, comprehensive measures are in place (please provide details below)	
Further information on the measures to regulate and manage the collection of biological resources from natural habitats for <i>ex-situ</i> conservation purposes so as not to threaten ecosystems and <i>in-situ</i> populations of species.	
The competent authority is the Department of Environment who regulates and manages conservation programmes in the country. Permission is sought from the Department particularly for species regulated by law. All environmental research requires a license and all research applications are submitted to the EMPS Steering Committee.	
Additionally the Plant protection Act provides for the control of the import of plants and plant	

products into the country and establishes provisions for inspections of goods and persons.

## Article 10 - Sustainable use of components of biological diversity

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

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

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

The main vehicle for protection of biodiversity in Seychelles is through the Environment Protection Act - EIA regulation. This creates the main mechanism for mainstreaming conservation and sustainable use into the national decision making process. The Ministry of Environment has a strong voice in the planning authority.

Conservation and Sustainable use of biodiversity is mainstreamed in various Department policy documents, namely the EMPS, Fisheries policy, Tourism & eco-tourism policy.

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

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

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

The harvesting of sooty tern eggs is carried out in such a way as to minimize adverse impact on the population. Only certain islands are chosen and harvesting is done on a portion of the island with the other half set aside as reserve.

**72.**  On Article 10(c), has your country put in place measures that protect and encourage customary use of biological resources that is compatible with conservation or sustainable use requirements?

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

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

Consumption of sooty tern eggs is traditionally carried out. The Department of Environment with assistance of Island Development Company (IDC) demarcates special areas on islands designated for harvesting the collection of eggs once a year allowing for sustainable harvesting. The authorities also actively monitor against poaching and illegal harvesting.

**73.**  On Article 10(d), has your country put in place measures that help local populations develop and implement remedial action in degraded areas where biological diversity has been reduced?

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

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

There are a number of environmental groups involved in remedial action of degraded areas. Communities and school children participate with relevant agencies in works to restore degraded areas around the country.

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

a) No	
b) No, but assessment of potential indicators and incentive measures is under way	<b>x</b>
c) Yes, indicators and incentive measures identified (please describe below)	<b>x</b>

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

The Environment Trust Fund (ETF) is a financial incentive for sectors relevant to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.

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

a) No	
b) No, but potential practices, programmes and policies are under review	
c) Yes, some policies and programmes are in place (please provide details below)	<b>X</b>
d) Yes, comprehensive policies and programmes are in place (please provide details below)	

Further information on sustainable use programmes and policies.

Fisheries policy relating to ban on drift nets, size of traps leads to conservation and sustainable use of fish species. The Seychelles Fishing Authority issues license quotas (by boats) on sea cucumbers and currently there are 25 active licenses. Furthermore all sea cucumber fishermen are required to register their catch with the Seychelles Fishing Authority. Sea cucumber processors can only buy from licensed fishers under their licensing condition. For each sale, the seller and the buyer have to complete a form stating the amount of sea cucumbers in the transaction, which is then submitted to the SFA. This information helps the authority check the sale against the catch declared by the fishers and exports by the processors.

The Forestry Section of the Department of Environment undertakes tree planting activities and oversees the sustainable harvesting of trees on state land.

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

a) No	
b) No, but mechanisms are under development	
c) Yes, mechanisms are in place (please describe below)	<b>X</b>

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

The management of private islands of the Seychelles have taken certain key initiatives in sustainable use of biodiversity e.g. Bird island.

**77.** Has your country initiated a process to apply the Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines for the Sustainable Use of Biodiversity? (decision VII/12)

a) No	
b) No, but the principles and guidelines are under review	<b>X</b>
c) Yes, a process is being planned	
d) Yes, a process has been initiated (please provide detailed information)	


Further information on the process to apply the Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines for the Sustainable Use of Biodiversity.

The guidelines will be better integrated into the biodiversity programme under the new EMPS 2011-2010.

**78.** Has your country taken any initiative or action to develop and transfer technologies and provide financial resources to assist in the application of the Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines for the

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

### Biodiversity and Tourism

79.  Has your country established mechanisms to assess, monitor and measure the impact of tourism on biodiversity?	
a) No	
b) No, but mechanisms are under development	
c) Yes, mechanisms are in place (please specify below)	<b>X</b>
d) Yes, existing mechanisms are under review	
Further comments on the establishment of mechanisms to assess, monitor and measure the impact of tourism on biodiversity.	
<p>Seychelles has a well developed tourism infrastructure. There has not been any study carried out on the impact of tourism activities on biodiversity, however various ways and means were developed to integrate biodiversity conservation and sustainable use in this sector.</p> <p>A sector report entitled "Integrating Biodiversity in the Tourism Sector; A case study on the Republic Of Seychelles" was completed in 2001. Beside this, the following are important institutional mechanisms for ongoing prevention, monitoring and assessment of adverse impacts on biodiversity of tourism related activities.</p> <p><u>EMPS 2000-2010</u></p> <p>The EMPS itself through its support programmes provides the framework for assessing the impact of tourism on biodiversity. The Thematic Area "Tourism and Aesthetics" has as management priorities;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Develop and implement national eco-tourism policies, codes of conduct and products.</li> <li>- Limit and control the negative impact of tourism on the environment.</li> <li>- Limit natural resource consumption and encourage cleaner production in tourism establishments.</li> <li>- Develop and strengthen institutional capacity to assist in improving tourism environmental management.</li> </ul> <p><u>Tourism Master Plan (Vision 21)</u></p> <p>The tourism sector has its own Master plan which links closely with environmental management for tourism development. The Plan makes repeated reference to the necessity of sound environmental planning so as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- not to generate any serious environmental problems.</li> <li>- to determine and not exceed carrying capacities of resorts and tourist sites.</li> <li>- to give utmost consideration to continuing and expanding application of environmental protection measures to protected areas and the environment in general.</li> <li>- to develop and promote ecotourism and nature/adventure tourism (diving, yachting,</li> </ul>	

fishing etc....) in order to expand the tourist market and encourage environmental conservation, by imbuing value to the resource.

- the tourism plan makes frequent reference to the NBSAP and EMPS 2000-2010 and states that it is imperative that they be implemented.

EIA regulations and Monitoring

The Department of Environment not only enforces the requirement for EIA in connection to developments but also assumes a monitoring role to ensure that proponents remain within the ambit of their approved development plan. The environment around tourism developments particularly those built in sensitive areas e.g. close to marine parks, are continually monitored by various agencies including the Marine and National Parks Authority.

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

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

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

The tourism operators in the country have a high level of environmental awareness in view that their business depends heavily on the environment. Environmental issues is quite prevalent in the local media particularly television spots and newspaper articles and therefore environmental awareness of the population is quite high.

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

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

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

The input of the local community is currently through the EIA process where the opportunity to influence development is available. There are no particular financial resources made available to support community participation in tourism policy.

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

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

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

See 79 above. The guidelines have been incorporated in the Tourism Policy (Vision 21) 2002 and Ecotourism strategy (2003). The policy and strategy shares a vision that *"Tourism in Seychelles shall continue to be developed to the highest standards for the optimum social and economic benefit of the Seychellois people while maintaining a commitment to the protection and conservation of the natural environment and biodiversity"*.

The strategy incorporates key elements of the guidelines on Biodiversity and Tourism Development and highlights the need for compilation of baseline information, goal setting, and developing capacity, education and awareness.

However, certain elements of the guidelines are not represented in the strategy e.g. monitoring of impacts and reporting.



## Article 11 - Incentive measures

<b>83. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></b> Has your country established programmes to identify and adopt economically and socially sound measures that act as incentives for the conservation and sustainable use of components of biological diversity?	
a) No	
b) No, but relevant programmes are under development	
c) Yes, some programmes are in place (please provide details below)	<b>X</b>
d) Yes, comprehensive programmes are in place (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the programmes to identify and adopt incentives for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.	
Environment Trust Fund provides funding for environmental projects. Financial rewards were given as incentives to control exotic invasives such as crows, as well as rats. These measures impacted positively on conservation efforts.	

<b>84. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></b> Has your country developed the mechanisms or approaches to ensure adequate incorporation of both market and non-market values of biological diversity into relevant plans, policies and programmes and other relevant areas? (decisions III/18 and IV/10)	
a) No	
b) No, but relevant mechanisms are under development	<b>X</b>
c) Yes, mechanisms are in place (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, review of impact of mechanisms available (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the mechanism or approaches to incorporate market and non-market values of biodiversity into relevant plans, policies and programmes.	
Both market and non market values of biological diversity are incorporated into the EMPS in relation to incentive measures. The EMPS thematic area of "Environmental Economics, Mainstreaming and Sustainable Financing" includes economic valuation of biodiversity and capacity building for economic evaluation and legislating Economic Assessment (EA) into EIA process. EMPS activities in relation to capacity building and legislating EA, have so far not been implemented.	

<b>85. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></b> Has your country developed training and capacity-building programmes to implement incentive measures and promote private-sector initiatives? (decision III/18)	
a) No	<b>X</b>
b) No, but relevant programmes are under development	
c) Yes, some programmes are in place	
d) Yes, many programmes are in place	

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

a) No	<b>X</b>
b) Yes (please provide details below)	
Further information on the proposals considered when designing and implementing the incentive measures for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.	

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

a) No	<b>X</b>
b) No, but identification of such policies and practices is under way	
c) Yes, relevant policies and practices identified but not entirely removed or mitigated (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, relevant policies and practices identified and removed or mitigated (please provide details below)	
Further information on perverse incentives identified and/or removed or mitigated.	
No policies were in place to generate perverse incentives for biodiversity.	

## Article 12 - Research and training

**88.**  On Article 12(a), has your country established programmes for scientific and technical education and training in measures for the identification, conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity and its components?

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

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

The Seychelles Centre for Marine Research and Technology (SCMRT) is the main marine research agency. The Seychelles Bureau of Standards in collaboration with partner Ministries remains the main institution to conduct and approve research in the Seychelles.

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

a) No	
b) Yes (please provide details below)	<b>X</b>

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

The Seychelles Centre for Marine Research & Technology and Marine Park Authority (SCMRT-MPA) are mandated with carrying out scientific marine research and training. The Seychelles Fishing Authority also carries out research on selected species. NGO's also participate in research with collaboration from overseas research institutions.

There has been significant research conducted on biodiversity of Seychelles and new applications are continually being received. The results of research assist greatly with conservation measures.

**90.**  On Article 12(c), does your country promote and cooperate in the use of scientific advances in biological diversity research in developing methods for conservation and sustainable use of biological resources?

a) No	
b) Yes (please provide details below)	<b>X</b>

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

The country welcomes the use of scientific advances in biological diversity research and continues to attract top researchers.

## Article 13 - Public education and awareness

<b>91.</b> Is your country implementing a communication, education and public awareness strategy and promoting public participation in support of the Convention? (Goal 4.1 of the Strategic Plan)	
a) No	
b) No, but a CEPA strategy is under development	
c) Yes, a CEPA strategy developed and public participation promoted to a limited extent (please provide details below)	<b>X</b>
d) Yes, a CEPA strategy developed and public participation promoted to a significant extent (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the implementation of a CEPA strategy and the promotion of public participation in support of the Convention.	
<p>There is no CEPA that relates specifically to the Convention. Education Information and Communication is given attention as a cross cutting theme in the Environment Management Plan of Seychelles. The education and public awareness requirements of the convention are achieved through the implementation of a general environmental communication strategy for the country.</p> <p>The mandate for this overall communication strategy rests with the Ministry of Environment, Natural Resources and Transport which coordinates, education and public awareness of environmental topics through a specialized Education, Information and Communications (EIC) section. The section specializes in information dissemination communication and education.</p> <p>The section also liaises closely with the Ministry of Education where environmental education is very active at school level. The environmental education unit within the Ministry of Education mainstream environmental education in the school curricula.</p> <p>The means of distribution of environmental awareness is mainly through television, radio and newspaper articles. However there has been increased dissemination through the Ministry of Environment website and through emails issued by the EMPS secretariat. Several NGO's have their own leaflets, internet website and blogs.</p>	

<b>92.</b> Is your country undertaking any activities to facilitate the implementation of the programme of work on Communication, Education and Public Awareness as contained in the annex to decision VI/19? (decision VI/19)	
a) No	
b) No, but some programmes are under development	
c) Yes, some activities are being undertaken (please provide details below)	<b>X</b>
d) Yes, many activities are being undertaken (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the activities to facilitate the implementation of the programme of work on CEPA.	
See 91 above. Updating of the EMPS website so as to give better information on projects and publications (programme element 1)	

<b>93.</b> Is your country strongly and effectively promoting biodiversity-related issues through the press, the various media and public relations and communications networks at national level? (decision
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VI/19)	
a) No	
b) No, but some programmes are under development	
c) Yes, to a limited extent (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, to a significant extent (please provide details below)	<b>X</b>
Further comments on the promotion of biodiversity-related issues through the press, the various media and public relations and communications networks at national level.	
See 91 above	

<b>94.</b> Does your country promote the communication, education and public awareness of biodiversity at the local level? (decision VI/19)	
a) No	
b) Yes (please provide details below)	<b>X</b>
Further information on the efforts to promote the communication, education and public awareness of biodiversity at the local level.	
Communication strategies are significantly implemented at the national level. There have been special programmes focusing on biodiversity of selected islands and districts.	

<b>95.</b> Is your country supporting national, regional and international activities prioritized by the Global Initiative on Education and Public Awareness? (decision VI/19)	
a) No	
b) No, but some programmes are under development	
c) Yes, some activities supported (please provide details below)	<b>X</b>
d) Yes, many activities supported (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the support of national, regional and international activities prioritized by the Global Initiative on Education and Public Awareness.	
The Country is supporting national, regional and international activities with respect to education and awareness which reflects the Global Initiative. This relates to development of biodiversity clearing house mechanism which is accordance to programme element 1. Significant training and capacity building has been carried out in accordance to the GIEPA programme element 3 and implemented mostly at school level through Wildlife clubs in collaboration with Environmental Education Section. The Seychelles also hosts the annual underwater festival (SUBIOS) which raises awareness on components of marine biodiversity. Several documentaries have been produced in support of programme element 3 (exchange of knowledge and expertise).	

<b>96.</b> Has your country developed adequate capacity to deliver initiatives on communication, education and public awareness?	
a) No	
b) No, but some programmes are under development	
c) Yes, some programmes are being implemented (please provide details below)	<b>X</b>
d) Yes, comprehensive programmes are being implemented (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the development of adequate capacity to deliver initiatives on communication, education and public awareness.	
As 92 above. Being a Small Island Developing State (SIDS), resources (capacity and financial) are sometimes not available to sustain these programmes. Capacity building in relation to communication education and public awareness are not effectively integrated in the Department of Environment training plan.	

<b>97.</b> Does your country promote cooperation and exchange programmes for biodiversity education and awareness at the national, regional and international levels? (decisions IV /10 and VI/19)	
a) No	
b) Yes (please provide details below)	<b>X</b>
Further comments on the promotion of cooperation and exchange programmes for biodiversity education and awareness, at the national, regional and international levels.	
The Country promotes cooperation and exchange programmes for biodiversity education and awareness through collaboration with foreign research institutions. The Global Vision International (GVI) programme includes good exchange programme involving young researchers from around the world working in collaboration with SCMRT-MPA.	

<b>98.</b> Is your country undertaking some CEPA activities for implementation of cross-cutting issues and thematic programmes of work adopted under the Convention?	
a) No (please specify reasons below)	
b) Yes, some activities undertaken for some issues and thematic areas (please provide details below)	
c) Yes, many activities undertaken for most issues and thematic areas (please provide details below)	<b>X</b>
d) Yes, comprehensive activities undertaken for all issues and thematic areas (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the CEPA activities for implementation of cross-cutting issues and thematic programmes of work adopted under the Convention.	
The country undertakes CEPA activities for all elements of environmental protection ranging from all thematic programmes of work.	

**99.**  Does your country support initiatives by major groups, key actors and stakeholders that integrate biological diversity conservation matters in their practice and education programmes as well as into their relevant sectoral and cross-sectoral plans, programmes and policies? (decision IV/10 and Goal 4.4 of the Strategic Plan)

a) No	
b) Yes (please provide details below)	<b>X</b>
Further comments on the initiatives by major groups, key actors and stakeholders that integrate biodiversity conservation in their practice and education programmes as well as their relevant sectoral and cross-sectoral plans, programmes and policies.	
The country has actively supported adoption and maintenance of areas by developers in order to integrate conservation and education programmes.	

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

a) No	
b) No, but some programmes are under development	<b>X</b>
c) Yes, some programmes developed and activities undertaken for this purpose (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive programmes developed and many activities undertaken for this purpose (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the communication of the various elements of the 2010 biodiversity target and the establishment of linkages to the Decade on Education for Sustainable Development.	

## Article 14 - Impact assessment and minimizing adverse impacts

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

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

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

Environment Protection Act 1994 (EIA regulations) sets the legal mandate for impact assessment for developments in the Seychelles.

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

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

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

EMPS is the main instrument to mainstream environmental matters including biodiversity into national programmes and policies.

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

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

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

MOU for turtles (IOSEA)



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

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

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

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

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

A Department of Risk and Disaster Management (DRDM) was setup soon after the Tsunami event of 2004. DRDM has undertaken several risk assessments.

Fire breaks are routinely maintained by Forestry workers who are well trained and equipped.

A "green line" telephone number is available for the public to report any activity which is likely to affect, or is affecting biodiversity. There have been several instances where this has proved instrumental in dealing with poaching activities and forest fires.

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

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

Further comments on application of the guidelines.

The EIA Regulations uses the guidelines of the annex to decision VI/7 to the full extent. All projects are screened for either a class 1 or a class 2 EIA. The TOR of the EIA is given to the proponent who undertakes scoping followed by an Impacts Assessment. The assessment contains mitigative measures and monitoring aspects. The Authority performs monitoring of the development to ensure that it remains within the conditions of the EIA and any other conditions imposed by the Authority. These procedures are in line with the guideline as annexed to decision VI/7.

<b>107.</b> On Article 14 (2), has your country put in place national legislative, administrative or policy measures regarding liability and redress for damage to biological diversity? (decision VI/11)	
a) No	
b) Yes (please specify the measures)	<b>X</b>
Further comments on national legislative, administrative or policy measures regarding liability and redress for damage to biological diversity.	
Seychelles is a signatory to the Protocol on Liability of the Basel Convention. Liability for redress is yet to be integrated into national legislation. There are penalties under the law for offences relating to damage to biological diversity, most notably to pollution but these are not structured in terms of liability for damage. There is weakness in the field of "Environment Economics" for which capacity is limited and thus difficult to translate environmental damage into costs which can be used in court of law.	

<b>108.</b> Has your country put in place any measures to prevent damage to biological diversity?	
a) No	
b) No, but some measures are being developed	
c) Yes, some measures are in place (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive measures are in place (please provide details below)	<b>X</b>
Further information on the measures in place to prevent damage to biological diversity.	
The following are measure currently in place <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fire breaks on main islands</li> <li>• Staff trained to combat mountain fires</li> <li>• Measures against Invasive Alien species.</li> <li>• Forest Management Plan</li> <li>• Disaster Response plan.</li> <li>• Legislation and enforcement against poachers, arsonists.</li> </ul>	

<b>109.</b> Is your country cooperating with other Parties to strengthen capacities at the national level for the prevention of damage to biodiversity, establishment and implementation of national legislative regimes, policy and administrative measures on liability and redress? (decision VI/11)	
a) No	
b) No, but cooperation is under consideration	<b>X</b>
c) No, but cooperative programmes are under development	
d) Yes, some cooperative activities being undertaken (please provide details below)	
e) Yes, comprehensive cooperative activities being undertaken (please provide details below)	
Further comments on cooperation with other Parties to strengthen capacities for the prevention of damage to biodiversity.	
Cooperation under SADC regional strategy, Nairobi Convention and related protocols.	

## Article 15 - Access to genetic resources

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

a) No	
b) Yes (please provide details below)	<b>X</b>

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

An application process is available for all research in the Seychelles approved by the authorities. A Bill on Access to Benefit Sharing is being developed which will cover all aspect of access to genetic resources including prior informed consent.

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

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

Further information on the measures to ensure that any scientific research based on genetic resources provided by other Contracting Parties is developed and carried out with the full participation of such Contracting Parties.

This component is to be addressed in the ABS Bill

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

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

Further information on the type of measures taken.

A Material Transfer Agreement is in place for transfer of genetic materials. The ABS bill will cover all aspect of fair and equitable sharing including the setting up of an authority to develop further implementation arrangements.

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

a) No	
b) Yes (please provide details below)	<b>X</b>

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

Seychelles acceded to the International Treaty for Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (IT PGRFA). The ABS Bill will be developed in conformity to the multilateral system of access and benefit sharing as per the IT PGRFA.

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

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

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

Certain elements of the Bonn guidelines will be integrated in the ABS Bill

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

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

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

The issues will be covered under the ABS Bill.

Ownership of genetic materials is covered under the Material Transfer Agreement (MTA).

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

a) Yes (please provide details below)	<b>x</b>
b) No	

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

Certain capacity building activities were held.

## Article 16 - Access to and transfer of technology

**117.**  On Article 16(1), has your country taken measures to provide or facilitate access for and transfer to other Parties of technologies that are relevant to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity or make use of genetic resources and do not cause significant damage to the environment?

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

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

Being a SIDS the Seychelles have not developed innovative technologies that can be transferred to other parties. The Country has no impediments to transfer technologies to other parties.

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

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

**119.**  On Article 16(4), has your country taken measures so that the private sector facilitates access to joint development and transfer of relevant technology for the benefit of Government institutions and the private sector of developing countries?

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

Further information on the measures taken.

### Programme of Work on transfer of technology and technology cooperation

<b>120.</b> Has your country provided financial and technical support and training to assist in the implementation of the programme of work on transfer of technology and technology cooperation? (decision VII/29)	
a) No	<b>X</b>
b) No, but relevant programmes are under development	
c) Yes, some programmes being implemented (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive programmes being implemented (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the provision of financial and technical support and training to assist in the implementation of the programme of work on transfer of technology and technology cooperation.	

<b>121.</b> Is your country taking any measures to remove unnecessary impediments to funding of multi-country initiatives for technology transfer and for scientific and technical cooperation? (decision VII/29)	
a) No	
b) No, but some measures being considered	<b>X</b>
c) Yes, some measures are in place (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive measures are in place (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the measures to remove unnecessary impediments to funding of multi-country initiatives for technology transfer and for scientific and technical cooperation.	

<b>122.</b> Has your country made any technology assessments addressing technology needs, opportunities and barriers in relevant sectors as well as related needs in capacity building? (annex to decision VII/29)	
a) No	<b>X</b>
b) No, but assessments are under way	
c) Yes, basic assessments undertaken (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, thorough assessments undertaken (please provide details below)	
Further comments on technology assessments addressing technology needs, opportunities and barriers in relevant sectors as well as related needs in capacity building.	

<b>123.</b> Has your country made any assessments and risk analysis of the potential benefits, risks and associated costs with the introduction of new technologies? (annex to decision VII/29)	
a) No	<b>X</b>
b) No, but assessments are under way	
c) Yes, some assessments undertaken (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive assessments undertaken (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the assessments and risk analysis of the potential benefits, risks and associated costs with the introduction of new technologies.	

<b>124.</b> Has your country identified and implemented any measures to develop or strengthen appropriate information systems for technology transfer and cooperation, including assessing capacity building needs? (annex to decision VII/29)	
a) No	
b) No, but some programmes are under development	<b>X</b>
c) Yes, some programmes are in place and being implemented (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive programmes are being implemented (please provide details below)	
Further comments on measures to develop or strengthen appropriate information systems for technology transfer and cooperation.	

<b>125.</b> Has your country taken any of the measures specified under Target 3.2 of the programme of work as a preparatory phase to the development and implementation of national institutional, administrative, legislative and policy frameworks to facilitate cooperation as well as access to and adaptation of technologies of relevance to the Convention? (annex to decision VII/29)	
a) No	
b) No, but a few measures being considered	<b>X</b>
c) Yes, some measures taken (please specify below)	
d) Yes, many measures taken (please specify below)	
Further comments on the measures taken as a preparatory phase to the development and implementation of national institutional, administrative, legislative and policy frameworks to facilitate cooperation as well as access to and adaptation of technologies of relevance to the Convention.	



## Article 17 - Exchange of information

<b>126.</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On Article 17(1), has your country taken measures to facilitate the exchange of information from publicly available sources with a view to assist with the implementation of the Convention and promote technical and scientific cooperation?	
a) No	
b) No, but potential measures are under review	
c) Yes, some measures are in place	<b>X</b>
d) Yes, comprehensive measures are in place	

### *The following question (127) is for DEVELOPED COUNTRIES*

<b>127.</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On Article 17(1), do these measures take into account the special needs of developing countries and include the categories of information listed in Article 17(2), such as technical, scientific and socio-economic research, training and surveying programmes, specialized knowledge, repatriation of information and so on?	
a) No	NA
b) Yes, but they do not include the categories of information listed in Article 17(2), such as technical, scientific and socio-economic research, training and surveying programmes, specialized knowledge, repatriation of information and so on	NA
c) Yes, and they include categories of information listed in Article 17(2), such as technical, scientific and socio-economic research, training and surveying programmes, specialized knowledge, repatriation of information and so on	NA

## Article 18 - Technical and scientific cooperation

<b>128.</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On Article 18(1), has your country taken measures to promote international technical and scientific cooperation in the field of conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity?	
a) No	
b) No, but potential measures are under review	
c) Yes, some measures are in place (please provide details below)	<b>X</b>
d) Yes, comprehensive measures are in place (please provide details below)	

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

There are a number of agreements with international conservation organizations, international research centers, academic institutions, bilateral cooperation programme in the field of conservation of biodiversity.

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

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

**130.**  On Article 18(5), has your country promoted the establishment of joint research programmes and joint ventures for the development of technologies relevant to the objectives of the Convention?

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

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

Joint research programmes exists in the area of conservation research, monitoring but not specifically for development of technologies.

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

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

***The following question (132) is for DEVELOPED COUNTRIES***

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

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

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

Not applicable.

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

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

Further comments on development of relevant initiatives.

For decision making and biodiversity research purposes.

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

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

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

## Article 19 - Handling of biotechnology and distribution of its benefits

**135.**  On Article 19(1), has your country taken measures to provide for the effective participation in biotechnological research activities by those Contracting Parties which provide the genetic resources for such research?

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

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

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

## Article 20 – Financial resources

### Box XLI.

Please describe for each of the following items the quantity of financial resources, both internal and external, that have been utilized, received or provided, as applicable, to implement the Convention on Biological Diversity, on an annual basis, since your country became a Party to the Convention.	
a) Budgetary allocations by national and local Governments as well as different sectoral ministries	Government allocation of approximately USD 10 million per year including solid and liquid waste management, fisheries, management of protected areas, agricultural research and extension programmes.
b) Extra-budgetary resources (identified by donor agencies)	Under 7 <sup>th</sup> EDF Euro 350,000 for waste management and Euro 700,000 specifically for biodiversity 8 <sup>th</sup> EDF Euro 1.1million for melon fruit fly 9 <sup>th</sup> EDF contribution Euro 3 million for solid waste management programme.
c) Bilateral channels (identified by donor agencies)	Bilateral cooperation and in kind benefits.
d) Regional channels (identified by donor agencies)	Regional cooperation and in kind benefits.
e) Multilateral channels (identified by donor agencies)	Multilateral cooperation and in kind benefits.
f) Private sources (identified by donor agencies)	Through Environment Trust Fund (ETF). Figure for contribution to biodiversity not available
g) Resources generated through financial instruments, such as charges for use of biodiversity	Nature parks and special reserves collect modest revenue from gate fees and selling of resources e.g. Coco –de Mer. The revenue is used for maintenance. For some e.g. Botanical Gardens the revenue is channeled into the ETF

### Box XLII.

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

The Environment Trust Fund chaired by the Minister for Environment supports environmental projects and initiatives in the Seychelles.

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

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

Further comments on financial support and incentives provided.

Government through the Ministry of Environment provides financial support to the Conservation Section for its work programme in accordance to the objectives of the convention.

***The next question (138) is for DEVELOPED COUNTRIES***

**138.**  On Article 20(2), has your country provided new and additional financial resources to enable developing country Parties to meet the agreed incremental costs to them of implementing measures which fulfill the obligations of the Convention?

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

Further comments on new and additional financial resources provided.

Not applicable

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

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

a) No	
b) Yes	

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

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

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

The Ministry of Environment can monitor financial support to biodiversity from Government budgets and other national projects, as well as donations by private sector.

<b>141.</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Has your country considered any measures like tax exemptions in national taxation systems to encourage financial support to biodiversity? (decision V/11)	
a) No	
b) No, but exemptions are under development (please provide details below)	
c) Yes, exemptions are in place (please provide details below)	<b>X</b>
Further comments on tax exemptions for biodiversity-related donations.	
Tax exemptions are in place for environmental projects, for example on the importation of equipment. .	

<b>142.</b> Has your country reviewed national budgets and monetary policies, including the effectiveness of official development assistance allocated to biodiversity, with particular attention paid to positive incentives and their performance as well as perverse incentives and ways and means for their removal or mitigation? (decision VI/16)	
a) No	
b) No, but review is under way	
c) Yes (please provide results of review below)	<b>X</b>
Further comments on review of national budgets and monetary policies, including the effectiveness of official development assistance.	
The Government of Seychelles provides an annual budget for biodiversity related activities. The Environment Trust Fund serves as a financing tool for implementing biodiversity projects.	

<b>143.</b> Is your country taking concrete actions to review and further integrate biodiversity considerations in the development and implementation of major international development initiatives, as well as in national sustainable development plans and relevant sectoral policies and plans? (decisions VI/16 and VII/21)	
a) No	
b) No, but review is under way	
c) Yes, in some initiatives and plans (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, in major initiatives and plans (please provide details below)	<b>X</b>
Further comments on review and integration of biodiversity considerations in relevant initiatives, policies and plans.	
Biodiversity consideration is already integrated in the EMPS 2000-2010. The development of the EMPS 2011-2020 presents an opportunity to mainstream all major development initiatives to a greater extent.	

<b>144.</b> Is your country enhancing the integration of biological diversity into the sectoral development and assistance programmes? (decision VII/21)	
a) No	
b) No, but relevant programmes are under development	
c) Yes, into some sectoral development and assistance programmes (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, into major sectoral development and assistance programmes (please provide details below)	<b>X</b>
Further comments on the integration of biodiversity into sectoral development and assistance programmes	
Is achieved in the EMPS 2000-2010. Other sector programmes make specific reference to conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity e.g. tourism, fisheries.	

**The next question (145) is for DEVELOPED COUNTRIES**

<b>145.</b> Please indicate with an "X" in the table below in which area your country has provided financial support to developing countries and/or countries with economies in transition. Please elaborate in the space below if necessary.	
A r e a s	Support provided
a) Undertaking national or regional assessments within the framework of MEA (decision VI/8)	
b) <i>In-situ</i> conservation (decision V/16)	
c) Enhance national capacity to establish and maintain the mechanisms to protect traditional knowledge (decision VI/10)	
d) <i>Ex-situ</i> conservation (decision V/26)	
e) Implementation of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation (decision VI/9)	
f) Implementation of the Bonn Guidelines (decision VI/24)	
g) Implementation of programme of work on agricultural biodiversity (decision V/5)	
h) Preparation of first report on the State of World's Animal Genetic Resources (decision VI/17)	
i) Support to work of existing regional coordination mechanisms and development of regional and sub regional networks or processes (decision VI/27)	
j) Development of partnerships and other means to provide the necessary support for the implementation of the programme of work on dry and subhumid lands biological diversity (decision VII/2)	
k) Financial support for the operations of the Coordination Mechanism of the Global Taxonomy Initiative (decision VII/9)	
l) Support to the implementation of the Action Plan on Capacity Building as	



contained in the annex to decision VII/19 (decision VII/19)	
m) Support to the implementation of the programme of work on mountain biological diversity (decision VII/27)	
n) Support to the implementation of the programme of work on protected areas (decision VII/28)	
o) Support to the development of national indicators (decision VII/30)	
p) Others (please specify)	
Further information on financial support provided to developing countries and countries with economies in transition.	
Not applicable.	

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

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

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

l) Implementation of the Global Taxonomy Initiative			
m) Implementation of the Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines for the Sustainable Use of Biodiversity			
n) Others (please specify)			
Further information on application for financial support.			
<p>The Seychelles Government provides significant funding for conservation programmes. The country also receives external support principally through GEF as well as other donors.</p>			

## D. THEMATIC AREAS

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

3 = High Challenge

1 = Low Challenge

2 = Medium Challenge

0 = Challenge has been successfully overcome

N/A = Not applicable

Challenges	Programme of Work					
	Agricultural	Forest	Marine and coastal	Inland water ecosystem	Dry and subhumid lands	Mountain
(a) Lack of political will and support	1	1	1	1	Not applicable to Seychelles	Same as Forest Program of work
(b) Limited public participation and stakeholder involvement	2	2	2	2		
(c) Lack of mainstreaming and integration of biodiversity issues into other sectors	1	1	1	1		
(d) Lack of precautionary and proactive measures	1	1	1	1		
(e) Inadequate capacity to act, caused by institutional weakness	2	2	3	1		
(f) Lack of transfer of technology and expertise	3	2	2	2		
(g) Loss of traditional knowledge	3	3	2	NA		
(h) Lack of adequate scientific research capacities to support all the objectives	2	2	1	2		
(i) Lack of accessible knowledge and information	2	1	2	2		
(j) Lack of public education and awareness at all levels	1	2	1	2		
(k) Existing scientific and traditional knowledge not fully utilized	2	1	1	1		

(l) Loss of biodiversity and the corresponding goods and services it provides not properly understood and documented	2	1	1	1		
(m) Lack of financial, human, technical resources	3	2	3	3		
(n) Lack of economic incentive measures	1	1	1	1		
(o) Lack of benefit-sharing	2	3	3	2		
(p) Lack of synergies at national and international levels	1	1	1	1		
(q) Lack of horizontal cooperation among stakeholders	1	1	1	1		
(r) Lack of effective partnerships	1	1	1	1		
(s) Lack of engagement of scientific community	1	1	1	1		
(t) Lack of appropriate policies and laws	1	2	2	1		
(u) Poverty	0	0	0	0		
(v) Population pressure	1	1	1	2		
(w) Unsustainable consumption and production patterns	1	1	2	2		
(x) Lack of capacities for local communities	2	2	2	2		
(y) Lack of knowledge and practice of ecosystem-based approaches to management	2	2	2	2		
(z) Weak law enforcement capacity	1	2	2	2		
(aa) Natural disasters and environmental change	2	2	2	2		

### Inland water ecosystems

<b>148.</b> Has your country incorporated the objectives and relevant activities of the programme of work into the following and implemented them? (decision VII/4)				
Strategies, policies, plans and activities	No	Yes, partially, integrated but not implemented	Yes, fully integrated and implemented	N/A
a) Your biodiversity strategies and action plans		<b>X</b>		
b) Wetland policies and strategies		<b>X</b>		
c) Integrated water resources management and water efficiency plans being developed in line with paragraph 25 of the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development		<b>X</b>		
d) Enhanced coordination and cooperation between national actors responsible for inland water ecosystems and biological diversity		<b>X</b>		
Further comments on incorporation of the objectives and activities of the programme of work				

<b>149.</b> Has your country identified priorities for each activity in the programme of work, including timescales, in relation to outcome oriented targets? (decision VII/4 )	
a) No	
b) Outcome oriented targets developed but priority activities not developed	
c) Priority activities developed but not outcome oriented targets	
d) Yes, comprehensive outcome oriented targets and priority activities developed	<b>X</b>
Further comments on the adoption of outcome oriented targets and priorities for activities, including providing a list of targets (if developed).	
<p>The Wetland Policy sets clear outcome orientated targets and ongoing activities reflect the programme of work and achieve the objective of the convention. However, this is not so for <u>each</u> activity of the programme of work and implementation remains inconsistent. The list of targets are as follows;</p> <p>1.1 To achieve 100% rejection of environmental authorization application concerning wetland Class A within 1 year of enacting the designation of Class A wetlands as "Wetland Reserves".</p> <p>1.2.To achieve 20% reduction in approving activities<sup>3</sup> for Class B wetlands using the average of 1995 to 2000 baseline data within 1 year of enacting the amendment<sup>4</sup> and by 10 year-period increased to 100%.</p> <p>1.3 To improve the assessment and reporting of wetland ecosystem health every two years.</p> <p>1.4 To improve management and supervision of development projects closely associated with</p>	

wetlands.

- 2.1 To develop a wetland inventory of Class A and B wetlands by July 2002.
  - 2.2 To prepare a GIS-based system to assist in decision-making for development within or close to important wetland areas.
  - 2.3 To make Regulation provisions under the Biodiversity Conservation Act (in progress) for eradication of invasive alien species and other activities deemed to contribute significant effects to Class A and B wetlands by 2004.
  - 2.4 To integrate wetland action and assessment of wetland benefits.
  - 2.5 To build capacity for the management and conservation of wetlands across all concerned sectors.
- 
- 3.1 To reverse pollution discharges within wetlands by implementing the National discharge standards and ensuring septic tanks are located within a set distance from wetland areas. All direct discharges of pollution effluents within wetland areas shall be eliminated by 2005.
  - 3.2 Strengthen the existing wetland management unit to be able to undertake routine and long-term maintenance and research of wetland habitats and outlets.
  - 3.3 Develop and implement a wetland rehabilitation programme for selected areas.
  - 3.4 Take into consideration indirect human pressure, including climate change, on wetlands.
- 
- 4.1 To put in place management plan for important wetlands Class A and B by January 2003.
  - 4.2 To promote the conservation and wise use of wetlands through communication, education and public awareness programs continually.

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

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

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

The wetland policy and action plan achieves synergy between the CBD and Ramsar.

**151.** Has your country taken steps to improve national data on: (decision VII/4 )

Issues	Yes	No	No, but development is under way
a) Goods and services provided by inland water ecosystems?		<b>X</b>	
b) The uses and related socioeconomic variables of such goods and services?		<b>X</b>	
c) Basic hydrological aspects of water supply as they relate to maintaining ecosystem function?	<b>X</b>		
d) Species and all taxonomic levels?	<b>X</b>		
e) On threats to which inland water ecosystems are subjected?		<b>X</b>	

Further comments on the development of data sets, in particular a list of data sets developed in case you have replied "YES" above.

The Public Utilities Company maintains data on water catchments and hydrological aspect of water supply. A monitoring activity is scheduled in the EMPS 2000-2010 under the thematic area "Water, Sanitation and Waste" but yet to be implemented. Comprehensive assessments relating to ecosystem function remains limited.

In 2003-2004, a complete inventory of aquatic ecosystems was carried out to determine species diversity and distribution. This provided baseline data for future monitoring.

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

**Box XLIII.**

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

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

**See 149 above;**

Inland water biodiversity achieves high importance in the Seychelles in as much as the need to maintain catchment areas for drinking water. The protection of inland water/catchment areas was carried out as an activity of the EMPS.

Monitoring work under the Water sector is yet to be fully implemented. Significant progress has been made with respect to classification, monitoring and protection of wetlands. A wetlands unit exists within the Department of Environment to oversee the maintenance of wetlands and the EIA section ensures protection of designated wetlands from development.

Rivers are protected under the State land and River Reserves Act and planning requirements dictate placing of soakaways not less than 16 metres from a water course. These measures are aimed at protecting inland water from pollution in order to reduce loss of inland water biodiversity.



## Marine and coastal biological diversity

### General

<b>153.</b> Do your country's strategies and action plans include the following? Please use an "X" to indicate your response. (decisions II/10 and IV/15)	
a) Developing new marine and coastal protected areas	<b>X</b>
b) Improving the management of existing marine and coastal protected areas	<b>X</b>
c) Building capacity within the country for management of marine and coastal resources, including through educational programmes and targeted research initiatives (if yes, please elaborate on types of initiatives in the box below)	<b>X</b>
d) Instituting improved integrated marine and coastal area management (including catchments management) in order to reduce sediment and nutrient loads into the marine environment	<b>X</b>
e) Protection of areas important for reproduction, such as spawning and nursery areas	<b>X</b>
f) Improving sewage and other waste treatment	<b>X</b>
g) Controlling excessive fishing and destructive fishing practices	<b>X</b>
h) Developing a comprehensive oceans policy (if yes, please indicate current stage of development in the box below)	
i) Incorporation of local and traditional knowledge into management of marine and coastal resources (if yes, please elaborate on types of management arrangements in the box below)	
j) Others (please specify below)	
k) Not applicable	
Please elaborate on the above activities and list any other priority actions relating to conservation and sustainable use of marine and coastal biodiversity.	
Marine and coastal biodiversity will be improved with the Protected Areas project which will review all aspect of PA management including legislation.	

### Implementation of Integrated Marine and Coastal Area Management

<b>154.</b> 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 (please provide details below)	<b>X</b>
e) Not applicable	
Further comments on the current status of implementation of integrated marine and coastal area management.	
An Authority (Marine Park Authority) was created to manage all marine protected areas.	

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

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

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

The country realizes the importance of applying ecosystem approach to the management of marine and coastal resources. In line with this several projects has been initiated to harmonise and modernize action with respect to the management of marine and coastal resources. As yet these projects are yet to reach full maturity in terms of output and therefore this is still at early stages of development.

### **Marine and Coastal Living Resources**

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

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

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

Following the 1998 coral reef bleaching event, assessments of coral ecosystem were jointly undertaken by Government, local and international marine NGO's (Shoals of Capricorn).

Programmes were carried out throughout the country to investigate the changes in beach profiles.

As part of the Marine Ecosystem Management Project (1999-2003) numerous assessments, monitoring and research were carried out on components of marine ecosystem including research on the effect of sea urchin (Crown of Thorns) on coral recruitment.

A project was implemented to determine the effect of land reclamation on the feeding ecology and roosting of the greater crested tern (rare seabird species occurring on the coral island) within the granitic islands.

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

<b>Activities</b>	<b>Not implemented nor a priority</b>	<b>Not implemented but a priority</b>	<b>Currently implemented</b>	<b>Not applicable</b>
a) Ecological assessment and monitoring of reefs			<b>X</b>	
b) Socio-economic assessment and monitoring of communities and stakeholders		<b>X</b>		
c) Management, particularly through application of integrated coastal management and marine and coastal protected areas in coral reef environments			<b>X</b>	
d) Identification and implementation of additional and alternative measures for securing livelihoods of people who directly depend on coral reef services		<b>X</b>		
e) Stakeholder partnerships, community participation programmes and public education campaigns			<b>X</b>	
f) Provision of training and career opportunities for marine taxonomists and ecologists			<b>X</b>	
g) Development of early warning systems of coral bleaching			<b>X</b>	
h) Development of a rapid response capability to document coral bleaching and mortality			<b>X</b>	
i) Restoration and rehabilitation of degraded coral reef habitats			<b>X</b>	
j) Others (please specify below)				
Please elaborate on ongoing activities.				
The Marine Park Authority carries out periodic monitoring programme for reefs which acts as indicator/warning system for coral bleaching / reef mortality. The same monitoring is used to assess the natural rejuvenation of degraded reef habitats.				

### **Marine and Coastal Protected Areas**

**158.** Which of the following statements can best describe the current status of marine and coastal protected areas in your country? Please use an "X" to indicate your response.

a) Marine and coastal protected areas have been declared and gazetted (please indicate below how many)	<b>X</b>
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b) Management plans for these marine and coastal protected areas have been developed with involvement of all stakeholders	<b>X</b>
c) Effective management with enforcement and monitoring has been put in place	<b>X</b>
d) A national system or network of marine and coastal protected areas is under development	<b>X</b>
e) A national system or network of marine and coastal protected areas has been put in place	<b>X</b>
f) The national system of marine and coastal protected areas includes areas managed for purpose of sustainable use, which may allow extractive activities	<b>X</b>
g) The national system of marine and coastal protected areas includes areas which exclude extractive uses	
h) The national system of marine and coastal protected areas is surrounded by sustainable management practices over the wider marine and coastal environment.	<b>X</b>
i) Other (please describe below)	
j) Not applicable	
Further comments on the current status of marine and coastal protected areas.	
Seychelles have 3 terrestrial PAs, 6 marine Parks, and many small reserves (totaling less than 30 ha) as well as 4 other PAs managed by private foundations or NGOs.	

### Mariculture

<b>159.</b> Is your country applying the following techniques aimed at minimizing adverse impacts of mariculture on marine and coastal biodiversity? Please check all that apply.	
a) Application of environmental impact assessments for mariculture developments	<b>X</b>
b) Development and application of effective site selection methods in the framework of integrated marine and coastal area management	<b>X</b>
c) Development of effective methods for effluent and waste control	<b>X</b>
d) Development of appropriate genetic resource management plans at the hatchery level	<b>X</b>
e) Development of controlled hatchery and genetically sound reproduction methods in order to avoid seed collection from nature.	
f) If seed collection from nature cannot be avoided, development of environmentally sound practices for spat collecting operations, including use of selective fishing gear to avoid by-catch	
g) Use of native species and subspecies in mariculture	
h) Implementation of effective measures to prevent the inadvertent release of mariculture species and fertile polyploids.	<b>X</b>
i) Use of proper methods of breeding and proper places of releasing in order to protect genetic diversity	<b>X</b>

j)	Minimizing the use of antibiotics through better husbandry techniques	<b>x</b>
k)	Use of selective methods in commercial fishing to avoid or minimize by-catch	<b>x</b>
l)	Considering traditional knowledge, where applicable, as a source to develop sustainable mariculture techniques	
m)	Not applicable	
Further comments on techniques that aim at minimizing adverse impacts of mariculture on marine and coastal biodiversity.		
<p>There are limited Mariculture activities in the Seychelles. The most significant is a prawn farm on Coetivy island operated by the Seychelles Marketing Board. This activity is now being phased out completely. Other projects are Pearl Oyster Farm and Giant Clam farm on Praslin island. All proposals for mariculture activities would have to follow an EIA by law and be approved by the Department of Environment and relevant agencies.</p>		

### Alien Species and Genotypes

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

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

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

Control over the import of aquarium fish is in place. Sensitisation activities conducted for existing fish owners not to release fish in the existing water course. An Invasive Alien Species National committee was established to design framework and oversee mechanisms for preventing, controlling and eradication of IAS.

### Agricultural biological diversity

<b>161.</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Has your country developed national strategies, programmes and plans that ensure the development and successful implementation of policies and actions that lead to the conservation and sustainable use of agrobiodiversity components? (decisions III/11 and IV/6)	
a) No	
b) No, but strategies, programmes and plans are under development	
c) Yes, some strategies, programmes and plans are in place (please provide details below)	<b>X</b>
d) Yes, comprehensive strategies, programmes and plans are in place (please provide details below)	
Further comments on agrobiodiversity components in national strategies, programmes and plans.	
National strategies exist and several programmes are being undertaken. However plans are underway to develop a more comprehensive Agricultural policy and Strategy.	

<b>162.</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Has your country identified ways and means to address the potential impacts of genetic use restriction technologies on the <i>In-situ</i> and <i>Ex-situ</i> conservation and sustainable use, including food security, of agricultural biological diversity? (decision V/5)	
a) No	<b>X</b>
b) No, but potential measures are under review	
c) Yes, some measures identified (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive measures identified (please provide details below)	
Further information on ways and means to address the potential impacts of genetic use restriction technologies on the <i>In-situ</i> and <i>Ex-situ</i> conservation and sustainable use of agricultural biodiversity.	
Not applicable	

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

Programme element 1 – Assessment	
<b>163.</b> Has your country undertaken specific assessments of components of agricultural biodiversity such as on plant genetic resources, animal genetic resources, pollinators, pest management and nutrient cycling?	
a) No	
b) Yes, assessments are in progress (please specify components below)	<b>X</b>
c) Yes, assessments completed (please specify components and results of assessments below)	
Further comments on specific assessments of components of agricultural biodiversity.	
Some assessments have been carried out on plant and animal genetic resources but none for pollinators and nutrient cycling. Extensive work is being carried out in pest management particularly introduced pest species.	

<b>164.</b> Is your country undertaking assessments of the interactions between agricultural practices and the conservation and sustainable use of the components of biodiversity referred to in Annex I of the Convention (e.g. ecosystems and habitats; species and communities; genomes and genes of social, scientific or economic importance)?	
a) No	<b>X</b>
b) Yes, assessments are under way	
c) Yes, some assessments completed (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive assessments completed (please provide details below)	
Further comments on assessment of biodiversity components (e.g. ecosystems and habitats; species and communities; genomes and genes of social, scientific or economic importance).	

<b>165.</b> Has your country carried out an assessment of the knowledge, innovations and practices of farmers and indigenous and local communities in sustaining agricultural biodiversity and agro-ecosystem services for food production and food security?	
a) No	
b) Yes, assessment is under way	<b>X</b>
c) Yes, assessment completed (please specify where information can be retrieved below)	
Further comments on assessment of the knowledge, innovations and practices of farmers and indigenous and local communities.	
Sharing of experiences is promulgated particularly for farm visits and knowledge exchange.	



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

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

Further comments on observations.

An extensive *ex situ* field gene bank of crop varieties was established in the nineties but this has since been virtually disseminated due to re-allocation of land for housing developments. There has been an overall degradation of agricultural biodiversity in the country due not only to these factors but also market forces for particular agricultural products or practice and lack of interest by stakeholders including farmers.

<b>Programme element 2 - Adaptive management</b>	
<b>167.</b> Has your country identified management practices, technologies and policies that promote the positive, and mitigate the negative, impacts of agriculture on biodiversity, and enhance productivity and the capacity to sustain livelihoods?	
a) No	
b) No, but potential practices, technologies and policies being identified	
c) Yes, some practices, technologies and policies identified (please provide details below)	<b>X</b>
d) Yes, comprehensive practices, technologies and policies identified (please provide details below)	
Further comments on identified management practices, technologies and policies.	
New production techniques such as hydroponics, integrated pests management, composting and cultivation are gradually being adopted.	

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

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

<b>170.</b> Has your country improved the policy environment, including benefit-sharing arrangements and incentive measures, to support local-level management of agricultural biodiversity?	
a) No	
b) No, but some measures and arrangements being identified	
c) No, but measures and arrangements are under development	<b>X</b>
d) Yes, measures and arrangements are being implemented (please specify below)	
Further comments on the measures taken to improve the policy environment.	
There are considerable incentives given to farmers to increase productivity and further incentives are being developed under a new Agriculture & Fisheries (Incentive) Act to support local-level management of agricultural biodiversity.	

<b>Programme element 4 – Mainstreaming</b>	
<b>171.</b> Is your country mainstreaming or integrating national plans or strategies for the conservation and sustainable use of agricultural biodiversity in sectoral and cross-sectoral plans and programmes?	
a) No	
b) No, but review is under way	
c) No, but potential frameworks and mechanisms are being identified	
d) Yes, some national plans or strategies mainstreamed and integrated into some sectoral plans and programmes (please provide details below)	<b>X</b>
e) Yes, some national plans or strategies mainstreamed into major sectoral plans and programmes (please provide details below)	
Further comments on mainstreaming and integrating national plans or strategies for the conservation and sustainable use of agricultural biodiversity in sectoral and cross-sectoral plans and programmes.	
Some programmes to achieve the conservation and sustainable use of agricultural biodiversity is currently mainstreamed in the EMPS 2000-2010. These relate to pest management programmes particularly against the coconut whitefly. The implementation has been mixed, with little achievements. Agricultural biodiversity in the Seychelles remains fragile in the light of previous practices which emphasised more on other production sectors e.g. tourism. The realisation of these practices has been appreciated and more agricultural issues are now being developed into national plans and policies updated.	

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

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

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

a) No

**X**

b) Yes (please provide details below)

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

**Box XLIV.**

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

No action undertaken so far.

**Box XLV.**

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

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

The Seychelles does not have heavy industrialized agricultural activity and relies on imports for most of its produce. The country is placing a greater emphasis on increasing food production and security. In view of limited land available in the country, technologies to make the most of the resources is being looked at rather than allocating more virgin land to agriculture. This is intended to reduce the impact of agriculture on biodiversity in accordance to the strategic plan of the convention.

**Constraints**

The main constraints have been lack of financial and human resources.

## Forest Biological Diversity

### General

<b>174.</b> Has your country incorporated relevant parts of the work programme into your national biodiversity strategies and action plans and national forest programmes?	
a) No	
b) Yes, please describe the process used	<b>X</b>
c) Yes, please describe constraints/obstacles encountered in the process	
d) Yes, please describe lessons learned	
e) Yes, please describe targets for priority actions in the programme of work	
Further comments on the incorporation of relevant parts of the work programme into your NBSAP and forest programmes	
<p>Relevant parts of the work programme have been incorporated in the NBSAP and the EMPS 2000-2010. The EMPS does cover all three programme elements to a great extent but not fully. The NBSAP is in need of updating and harmonising with the EMPS.</p> <p>A Forest Management Plan (1993) exists but is in need of updating.</p>	

#### Box XLVI.

Please indicate what recently applied tools (policy, planning, management, assessment and measurement) and measures, if any, your country is using to implement and assess the programme of work. Please indicate what tools and measures would assist the implementation.
The EMPS 2000-2010 have in built indicators for assessment but missing a framework for more periodic assessment. A review of the action plan is expected to be carried out before 2010.

#### Box XLVII.

Please indicate to what extent and how your country has involved indigenous and local communities, and respected their rights and interests, in implementing the programme of work.
Not applicable.

#### Box XLVIII.

Please indicate what efforts your country has made towards capacity building in human and capital resources for the implementation of the programme of work.
The EMPS goal in this sector was to have University trained Personnel in Forestry Science and Forestry Management. The specific objective was to train 5 ( 3 B.Sc., and 2 M.Sc) personnel at graduate and post graduate level in Forestry Science and Forestry Management. This has so far proved to be difficult as no funding was available for its implementation and no suitable candidates were obtained.

**Box XLIX.**

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

Collaboration has been with mostly international organizations.

British Forestry Commission assisted with combating Takamaka wilt disease.

ARPEGE -project for the promotion of environmental education programmes funded by 9<sup>th</sup> European Development Fund project for member countries of the Indian Ocean Commission

ETH Zurich –Ecosystem impacts of invasive woody plants on plant regeneration and soil properties.

Constraints have been attributed to high staff turnover and limited information management infrastructure within the Forestry Section.

### Expanded programme of work on forest biological diversity

#### Programme element 1 – Conservation, sustainable use and benefit-sharing

**175.** Is your country applying the ecosystem approach to the management of all types of forests?

a) No (please provide reasons below)

b) No, but potential measures being identified (please provide details below)

**X**

c) Yes (please provide details below)

Comments on application of the ecosystem approach to management of forests (including effectiveness of actions taken, lessons learned, impact on forest management, constraints, needs, tools, and targets).

Forest Management Plans exists but is outdated and require revision especially with the applicability for better integration of ecosystem approach into management plans.

**176.** Has your country undertaken measures to reduce the threats to, and mitigate its impacts on forest biodiversity?

Options	X	Details
a) Yes	X	<p>Please specify below the major threats identified in relation to each objective of goal 2 and the measures undertaken to address priority actions</p> <p><b><u>Objective 1 - Prevent the introduction of invasive alien species that threaten ecosystems, and mitigate their negative impacts on forest biological diversity in accordance with international law.</u></b></p> <p>Management measures in place at the SeaPort and Airport and inspection /protocol manual developed. These measures however require to be stepped up in order to be more effective. Certain rat free islands have their own protocol for preventing the re-introduction of rodents. Interisland transfer of timber is strictly controlled to prevent the spread of pathogens. Solid wastes from the port of entry are not being treated prior to disposal.</p> <p><b><u>Objective 2 -Mitigate the impact of pollution such as acidification and eutrophication on forest biodiversity</u></b></p> <p>No major threat identified so far.</p> <p><b><u>Objective 3 - Mitigate the negative impacts of climate change on forest biodiversity</u></b></p> <p>The threat on forest diversity by climate change has not been adequately addressed with most activities focusing on the coastal zone and mitigating the impacts of sea level rise. However it is seen that changes to hydrological cycle and changing rainfall patterns is likely to affect the forests.</p> <p><b><u>Objective 4 - To prevent and mitigate the adverse effects of forest fires and fire suppression</u></b></p> <p>The forestry staff has upgraded their fire fighting equipment and ability to respond to forest fires. Good collaboration exists with helicopter companies to assist in the case of remote areas. Fire breaks in sensitive areas are maintained by the Forestry section on a continuous basis.</p> <p><b><u>Objective 5 - To mitigate effects of the loss of natural disturbances necessary to maintain biodiversity in regions where these no longer occur</u></b></p> <p>Certain affected areas are being restored through re-vegetation with native species in areas prone to erosion.</p> <p><b><u>Objective 6 - To prevent and mitigate losses due to fragmentation and conversion to other land uses</u></b></p> <p>Creation of habitat corridors to reduce fragmentation is being undertaken.</p> <p>A project is being developed to look at Sustainable Land Management and development of Land Use Plan.</p> <p>A prohibition of construction above 50 metres contour line on Praslin is being enforced. Purchase of privately owned land by Government to maintain important woodlands. Maintenance of timber plantation as forested areas.</p>
b) No		<p>Please provide reasons below</p>

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

Options	X	Details
a) Yes	X	<p>Please identify priority actions in relation to each objective of goal 3 and describe measures undertaken to address these priorities</p> <p><b><u>Objective 1</u> - Restore forest biological diversity in degraded secondary forests and in forests established on former forestlands and other landscapes, including in plantations.</b></p> <p>Notable work has been done in habitat restoration of native species at Mare Aux cochons in the Morne Seychellois National park and on islands e.g. North island. Similar work is being done on other islands.</p> <p><b><u>Objective 2</u> - Promote forest management practices that further the conservation of endemic and threatened species.</b></p> <p>Endemic Species monitoring programme being carried out by the Department of Environment. Maintenance of fire breaks, and emergency preparedness ensures conservation of endemic species. Nursery for propagating native plants and replanting activities are being undertaken.</p> <p><b><u>Objective 3</u> -Ensure adequate and effective protected forest area networks</b></p> <p>There are 26,777 ha of the terrestrial landscape under protection in the Seychelles representing 46% of the total land area. A National Parks committee bring together all relevant stakeholders involved forest management in the country.</p>
b) No		<p>Please provide reasons below</p>

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

For the Seychelles context, protection of forest biodiversity is carried out as far as available resources dictate. It is clear that a greater NGO participation is required in forest management. Recovery and restoration programmes particularly of the native species affected by invasives are considerably more difficult.



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

Options	X	Details
a) Yes	X	<p>Please specify priority actions in relation to each objective of goal 4 and describe measures undertaken to address these priorities</p> <p><b><u>Objective 1 - Promote sustainable use of forest resources to enhance the conservation of forest biological diversity</u></b></p> <p>There is a prohibition on the consumption of endemic "palm heart". Control on the use of endemic palm leaves</p> <p><b><u>Objective 2 - Prevent losses caused by unsustainable harvesting of timber and non-timber forest resources</u></b></p> <p>In order to promote the sustainable use of forest resources, the price of timber needs to be reviewed to better reflect its value. This is an activity under the EMPS 2000-2010.</p> <p><b><u>Objective 3 - Enable indigenous and local communities to develop and implement adaptive community-management systems to conserve and sustainably use forest biological diversity.</u></b></p> <p>Community management systems still need to be fully developed in Seychelles although attempts are now being made in this direction.</p> <p><b><u>Objective 4 - Develop effective and equitable information systems and strategies and promote implementation of those strategies for <i>in situ</i> and <i>ex situ</i> conservation and sustainable use of forest genetic diversity, and support countries in their implementation and monitoring.</u></b></p> <p>Information management generally requires improvement and this objective has not been adequately addressed to date. There are plans to include this element in the National Strategy for Plant Conservation.</p>
b) No		<p>Please provide reasons below</p>

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

The Seychelles do not have major timber processing companies and have limited forest reserves to do so. Most of the timber for use is imported. Cinnamon being an invasive used to be exploited but with the decline in world prices the practice has reduced significantly. There has been a considerable shift towards eco tourism and several forest trails are open to tourists.

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

Options	X	Details
a) Yes	X	<p>Please specify priority actions in relation to each objective of goal 5 and describe measures undertaken</p> <p><b><u>Objective 1</u> - Promote the fair and equitable sharing of benefits resulting from the utilization of forest genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge</b></p> <p>There are procedures in place to access forest genetic resources. However the country has yet to address this in a systematic manner, the sharing of benefits from utilization of forest genetic resources. The matter will be addressed in an ABS bill which is under development.</p>
b) No		Please provide reasons below

**Programme element 2 – Institutional and socio-economic enabling environment**

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

Options	X	Details
a) Yes	X	<p>Please identify priority actions in relation to each objective of Goal 1 and describe measures undertaken to address these priorities</p> <p><b><u>Objective 1</u> - Improve the understanding of the various causes of forest biological diversity losses.</b></p> <p>The major cause of forest biological diversity loss in Seychelles is invasive creepers and forest fires. Government has put in place institutional mechanisms for addressing causes of forest biological losses.</p> <p><b><u>Objective 2</u>- Parties, Governments and organizations to integrate biological diversity conservation and sustainable use into forest and other sector policies and programmes.</b></p> <p>Seychelles have a history of integrated conservation and sustainable use programmes in its environment policy and those of other sectors in the EMPS 2000-2010. The authorities continue to enforce forest related laws including fire and tree felling permits.</p> <p><b><u>Objective 3</u> - Parties and Governments to develop good governance practices, review and revise and implement forest and forest-related laws, tenure and planning systems, to provide a sound basis for conservation and sustainable use of forest biological diversity.</b></p> <p>As under objective 2 above.</p> <p><b><u>Objective 4</u> - Promote forest law enforcement and address related trade</b></p> <p>Legislation is in place for protection of forests and enforcement is being carried out but with significant forest cover it is difficult to maintain an efficient enforcement regime.</p>
b) No		<p>Please provide reasons below</p>

181. Is your country undertaking any measures to address socio-economic failures and distortions that lead to decisions that result in loss of forest biological diversity?		
Options	X	Details
a) Yes		Please identify priority actions in relation to each objective of Goal 2 and describe measures undertaken to address these priorities
b) No	X	Please provide reasons below Low dependence on forest products.

182. Is your country undertaking any measures to increase public education, participation and awareness in relation to forest biological diversity?		
Options	X	Details
a) Yes	X	Please identify priority actions in relation to each objective of goal 3 and describe measures undertaken to address these priorities  <b><u>Objective 1</u> - Increase public support and understanding of the value of forest biological diversity and its goods and services at all levels.</b> The Department has an Environmental Education Section which undertakes public education, participation and awareness. There has been television programmes on medicinal plants, and one series dedicated to the unique ecosystem of mists forests. The Ministry for Education has undertaken significant education programmes on all aspect of environmental management.
b) No		Please provide reasons below

Further comments on measures to increase public education, participation and awareness in relation to forest biological diversity (including effectiveness of actions taken, lessons learned, impacts on forest biodiversity, constraints, needs, tools and targets).

Education activities are on the whole successfully applied in the Seychelles. It is not only the Government which is active in this arena but more so environmental NGO's.

With so many years in promulgating environmental education, it is important that educators consider innovative information dissemination techniques as people can get saturated with the conventional approach.

**Programme element 3 – Knowledge, assessment and monitoring**

**183.** Is your country undertaking any measures to characterize forest ecosystems at various scales in order to improve the assessment of the status and trends of forest biological diversity?

Options	X	Details
a) Yes	X	<p>Please identify priority actions in relation to each objective of Goal 1 and describe measures undertaken to address these priorities</p> <p><b><u>Objective 1</u> - Review and adopt a harmonized global to regional forest classification system, based on harmonized and accepted forest definitions and addressing key forest biological diversity elements.</b></p> <p>Seven national class of forest has been delineated namely, Albizia dominant, Mixed forests, Plantation forests, Coconut dominant forest, Bush vegetation , Deforested areas and Cultivated or built up areas</p> <p><b><u>Objective 2</u> - Develop national forest classification systems and maps (using agreed international standards and protocols to enable regional and global synthesis).</b></p> <p>See objective 1 above. GIS mapping has been carried out on forest systems in the Seychelles</p> <p><b><u>Objective 3</u> - To develop, where appropriate, specific forest ecosystems surveys in priority areas for conservation and sustainable use of forest biodiversity.</b></p> <p>Forest ecosystem surveys have been carried out for conservation and research purposes. Areas of high biological importance have been included in Atlas of sensitive zones.</p>
b) No		<p>Please provide reasons below</p>

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

Options	X	Details
a) Yes	X	<p>Please identify priority actions in relation to each objective of goal 2 and describe measures undertaken to address these priorities</p> <p><b><u>Objective 1</u> - Advance the development and implementation of international, regional and national criteria and indicators based on key regional, subregional and national measures within the framework of sustainable forest management.</b></p> <p>Seychelles participation in the Global Forest Resources Assessment made use of regional criteria and indicators for sustainable forest management. SADC Protocol on Forestry also makes use of regional criteria and indicators to which Seychelles is a party.</p>
b) No		<p>Please provide reasons below</p>

185. Is your country undertaking any measures to improve the understanding of the role of forest biodiversity and ecosystem functioning?		
Options	X	Details
a) Yes	X	<p>Please identify priority actions in relation to each objective of goal 3 and describe measures undertaken to address these priorities</p> <p><b><u>Objective 1</u> - Conduct key research programmes on the role of forest biodiversity and ecosystem functioning.</b></p> <p>There has not been significant research in forest ecosystem services but linkages has been made between floral and faunal endemics in forest ecosystems.</p>
b) No		<p>Please provide reasons below</p>

186. Is your country undertaking any measures at national level to improve the infrastructure for data and information management for accurate assessment and monitoring of global forest biodiversity?		
Options	X	Details
a) Yes	X	<p>Please identify priority actions in relation to each objective of goal 4 and describe measures undertaken to address these priorities</p> <p><b><u>Objective 1</u> - Enhance and improve the technical capacity at the national level to monitor forest biological diversity, benefiting from the opportunities offered through the clearing-house mechanism, and to develop associated databases as required on a global scale.</b></p> <p>There have been some actions to enhance technical capacity for monitoring forest biological diversity but these have not been consistent. With staff turnover it has been relatively difficult to retain capacity in forest management. The Country participated in associative database done on global scale through FAO global forest resources assessment.</p>
b) No		<p>Please provide reasons below</p>

### Biological diversity of dry and sub-humid lands

<b>187.</b> Is your country supporting scientifically, technically and financially, at the national and regional levels, the activities identified in the programme of work? (decisions V/23 and VII/2 )	
a) No	<b>NA</b>
b) Yes (please provide details below)	
Further comments on scientific, technical and financial support, at the national and regional levels, to the activities identified in the programme of work.	
Seychelles possesses no arid zone, and therefore no problem of desertification. This does not preclude issues of land degradation but there is as yet no dry land biodiversity identified.	

<b>188.</b> Has your country integrated actions under the programme of work of dry and sub-humid lands into its national biodiversity strategies and action plans or the National Action Programme (NAP) of the UNCCD? (decisions V/23, VI/4 and VII/2)	
a) No	<b>NA</b>
b) Yes (please provide details below)	
Further comments on actions under the programme of work of dry and sub-humid lands integrated into national biodiversity strategies and action plans or the National Action Programme (NAP) of the UNCCD.	

<b>189.</b> Has your country undertaken measures to ensure synergistic/collaborative implementation of the programme of work between the national UNCCD process and other processes under related environmental conventions? (decisions V/23, VI/4 and VII/2)	
a) No	<b>NA</b>
b) Yes, some linkages established (please provide details below)	
c) Yes, extensive linkages established (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the measures to ensure the synergistic/collaborative implementation of the programme of work between the national UNCCD processes and other processes under related environmental conventions.	

Programme Part A: Assessment	
<b>190.</b> Has your country assessed and analyzed information on the state of dryland biological diversity and the pressures on it, disseminated existing knowledge and best practices, and filled knowledge gaps in order to determine adequate activities? (Decision V/23, Part A: Assessment, Operational objective, activities 1 to 6)	
a) No	<b>NA</b>
b) No, but assessment is ongoing	
c) Yes, some assessments undertaken (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive assessment undertaken (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the relevant information on assessments of the status and trends and dissemination of existing knowledge and best practices.	



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<b>Programme Part B: Targeted Actions</b>	
<b>191.</b> Has your country taken measures to promote the conservation and sustainable use of the biological diversity of dry and sub-humid lands and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilization of its genetic resources, and to combat the loss of biological diversity in dry and sub-humid lands and its socio-economic consequences? (part B of annex I of decision V/23, activities 7 to 9)	
a) No	<b>NA</b>
b) Yes, some measures taken (please provide details below)	
c) Yes, many measures taken (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the measures taken to promote the conservation and sustainable use of the biological diversity of dry and sub-humid lands and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilization of its genetic resources, and to combat the loss of biological diversity in dry and sub-humid lands and its socio-economic consequences.	

<b>192.</b> Has your country taken measures to strengthen national capacities, including local capacities, to enhance the implementation of the programme of work?	
a) No	<b>NA</b>
b) Yes, some measures taken (please provide details below)	
c) Yes, comprehensive measures taken (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, all identified capacity needs met (please provide details below)	
Further comments on measures taken to strengthen national capacities, including local capacities, to enhance the implementation of the programme of work.	

**Box L.**

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this programme of work and associated decisions specifically focusing on: a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken; b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention; c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target; d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans; e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals; f) constraints encountered in implementation.
<b>NA</b>

## Mountain Biodiversity

<b>Programme Element 1. Direct actions for conservation, sustainable use and benefit sharing</b>	
<b>193.</b> Has your country taken any measures to prevent and mitigate the negative impacts of key threats to mountain biodiversity?	
a) No	
b) No, but relevant measures are being considered	
c) Yes, some measures taken (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, many measures taken (please provide details below)	<b>X</b>
Further comments on the measures taken to prevent and mitigate the negative impacts of key threats to mountain biodiversity	
<p>The Planning Authority which comprises of representatives of the Department of Environment is the body to oversee development processes in the country. Also EIA process under local legislation ensures that consultations are carried out and impacts to environment are mitigated.</p> <p>Management plans for designated areas are in place as well as Forest Fire contingency plan.</p> <p>District emergency brigade and other personnel from the local community are trained to respond to forest fires and other threats.</p> <p>A Sustainable Land Management Project is being developed to target actions to prevent and mitigate the negative impact of threats to mountain biodiversity. These include development of guidelines and protocols for best practices and toolkits in sustainable land management, Fire prevention and control action plan and Land risk zoning included in Land Use Plan.</p>	

<b>194.</b> Has your country taken any measures to protect, recover and restore mountain biodiversity?	
a) No	
b) No, but some measures are being considered	
c) Yes, some measures taken (please provide details below)	<b>X</b>
d) Yes, many measures taken (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the measures taken to protect, recover and restore mountain biodiversity	
<p>Rehabilitation of sites affected by forest fires is being carried out. The Forestry section undertakes tree planting in the terrestrial National Park and NGO's have undertaken natural habitat restoration activities.</p>	

<b>195.</b> Has your country taken any measures to promote the sustainable use of mountain biological resources and to maintain genetic diversity in mountain ecosystems?	
a) No	
b) No, but some measures are being considered	
c) Yes, some measures taken (please provide details below)	<b>X</b>
d) Yes, many measures taken (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the measures to promote the sustainable use of mountain biological resources and to maintain genetic diversity in mountain ecosystems	
<p>There is little consumptive use of mountain biodiversity in the Seychelles. Woody plants are harvested on a commercial basis regulated by the Department of Environment.</p>	

<b>196.</b> Has your country taken any measures for sharing the benefits arising from the utilization of mountain genetic resources, including preservation and maintenance of traditional knowledge?	
a) No	<b>X</b>
b) No, but some measures are being considered	
c) Yes, some measures taken (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, many measures taken (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the measures for sharing the benefits arising from the utilization of mountain genetic resources	
There is no mechanism in place to ensure equitable sharing of benefits arising from use of mountain genetic resources. The Seychelles will soon put in place a law to address this issue in its globality.	

<b>Programme Element 2. Means of implementation for conservation, sustainable use and benefit sharing</b>	
<b>197.</b> Has your country developed any legal, policy and institutional framework for conservation and sustainable use of mountain biodiversity and for implementing this programme of work?	
a) No	
b) No, but relevant frameworks are being developed	
c) Yes, some frameworks are in place (please provide details below)	<b>X</b>
d) Yes, comprehensive frameworks are in place (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the legal, policy and institutional frameworks for conservation and sustainable use of mountain biodiversity and for implementing the programme of work on mountain biodiversity.	
Comprehensive frameworks are in place mainly for conservation purposes and to an extent sustainable use but not comprehensive in terms of benefit sharing. Mountain biodiversity in Seychelles is equivalent to forest biodiversity since all mountains are covered with trees and therefore support a wide variety of plants and animals. The legal, policy and institutional frameworks is similar to those for the forestry thematic area.	

<b>198.</b> Has your country been involved in regional and/or transboundary cooperative agreements on mountain ecosystems for conservation and sustainable use of mountain biodiversity?	
a) No	<b>X</b>
b) No, but some cooperation frameworks are being considered	
c) Yes (please provide details below)	
Further information on the regional and/or transboundary cooperative agreements on mountain ecosystems for conservation and sustainable use of mountain biodiversity	

<b>Programme Element 3. Supporting actions for conservation, sustainable use and benefit sharing</b>	
<b>199.</b> Has your country taken any measures for identification, monitoring and assessment of mountain biological diversity?	
a) No	
b) No, but relevant programmes are under development	
c) Yes, some measures are in place (please provide details below)	<b>X</b>
d) Yes, comprehensive measures are in place (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the measures for identification, monitoring and assessment of mountain biodiversity	
See comments under Forest biodiversity	

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

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

**Box LI.**

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

a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;

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

See Forest biodiversity

## E. OPERATIONS OF THE CONVENTION

**202.** Has your country actively participated in subregional and regional activities in order to prepare for Convention meetings and enhance implementation of the Convention? (decision V/20)

a) No	
b) Yes (please provide details below)	<b>X</b>
Further comments on the regional and subregional activities in which your country has been involved.	
Regional participation in SADC meetings to enhance implementation of the Convention.	

**203.** Is your country strengthening regional and subregional cooperation, enhancing integration and promoting synergies with relevant regional and subregional processes? (decision VI/27 B)

a) No	
b) Yes (please provide details below)	<b>X</b>
Further comments on regional and subregional cooperation and processes.	
A regional cooperation under the auspices of the SADC is in place for enhancing integration and promoting synergies in the region.	

### *The following question (204) is for DEVELOPED COUNTRIES*

**204.** Is your country supporting the work of existing regional coordination mechanisms and the development of regional and subregional networks or processes? (decision VI/27 B)

a) No	<b>NA</b>
b) No, but programmes are under development	
c) Yes, included in existing cooperation frameworks (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, some cooperative activities ongoing (please provide details below)	

**205.** Is your country working with other Parties to strengthen the existing regional and subregional mechanisms and initiatives for capacity-building? (decision VI/27 B)

a) No	
b) Yes	<b>X</b>

**206.** Has your country contributed to the assessment of the regional and subregional mechanisms for implementation of the Convention? (decision VI/27 B)

a) No

**X**

b) Yes (please provide details below)

Further comments on contribution to the assessment of the regional and subregional mechanisms.

## F. COMMENTS ON THE FORMAT

### Box LII.

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

The file size constraints sharing by email. Some questions were found to be not applicable to the country and therefore the format is restrictive.

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