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REPORT OF THE SECRETARIAT OF THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY TO THE TENTH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION ON PHYTOSANITARY MEASURES

INTRODUCTION

1. This report provides information on decisions made by the Conference of the Parties at its twelfth meeting,¹ held in Pyeongchang, Republic of Korea, from 6 to 17 October 2014, and the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety at its seventh meeting,² held in Pyeongchang, Republic of Korea, from 29 September to 3 October 2014, that may be relevant to the work of the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC).

2. The collaborative activities between the Secretariats of the IPPC and the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) conducted since the ninth session of the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures are also included in this report.

RELEVANT DECISIONS ADOPTED BY THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES AT ITS TWELFTH MEETING AND BY THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES SERVING AS THE MEETING OF THE PARTIES TO THE CARTAGENA PROTOCOL ON BIOSAFETY AT ITS SEVENTH MEETING

A. *Progress on implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity*

3. At the twelfth meeting, in decision XII/1, the Conference of the Parties made a mid-term review of the progress in the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, which included the fourth edition of the *Global Biodiversity Outlook*,³ and actions to enhance implementation.

4. In that same decision, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to implement, in collaboration with relevant partners, as appropriate, and in cooperation with relevant stakeholders such as other sectors and youth, the communication strategy for the fourth edition of the *Global Biodiversity Outlook* with a focus on key audiences.

B. *Invasive alien species*

5. In decision XII/16, the Conference of the Parties adopted the Guidance on Devising and Implementing Measures to Address the Risks Associated with the Introduction of Alien Species as Pets, Aquarium and Terrarium Species, and Live Bait and Live Food, as annexed to this document.⁴ It provides elements that relevant authorities may use for the development of regulations or codes of conduct or that international organizations, industry or civil society organizations may use in voluntary codes of conduct and other guidance. This guidance is voluntary and is not intended to affect any existing national and international obligations. It is intended to be used in conjunction with other relevant guidance, for example the Guiding Principles for the Prevention, Introduction and Mitigation of Impacts of Alien Species that Threaten Ecosystems, Habitats and Species;⁵ standards, guidelines and recommendations developed under the International Plant Protection Convention or under the World Organisation for Animal Health and Codex Alimentarius Commission and other relevant organizations; as well as relevant voluntary codes.

¹ The decisions adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its twelfth meeting are available at <http://www.cbd.int/doc/decisions/cop-12/full/cop-12-dec-en.pdf>.

² The decisions adopted by the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety at its seventh meeting are accessible at <http://www.cbd.int/doc/meetings/bs/mop-07/official/mop-07-16-en.pdf>.

³ <http://apps.unep.org/publications/pmtdocuments/gbo4-en.pdf>.

⁴ <http://www.cbd.int/doc/decisions/cop-12/cop-12-dec-16-en.pdf>. All UN languages are available at <http://www.cbd.int/decisions/cop/?m=cop-12> (See decision XII/16)

⁵ <http://www.cbd.int/decision/cop/default.shtml?id=7197>.

6. In the same decision, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to explore ways and means to address the risks associated with trade in wildlife introduced as pets, aquarium and terrarium species, and as live bait and live food.

7. In decision XII/17, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary, subject to the availability of resources:

(a) To facilitate, through technical and scientific cooperation in line with Article 18 of the Convention, the development and implementation of regional projects to manage those pathways and invasive or potentially invasive species that have been identified as priorities at the regional level, for example, through the proposed International Islands Initiative for achieving Aichi Biodiversity Target 9 on Invasive Alien Species;

(b) To facilitate, in line with paragraph 19 of decision XI/28, capacity-building on identification of invasive and potentially invasive species, including on rapid approaches, in support of the Capacity-building Strategy for the Global Taxonomy Initiative;

(c) To develop in collaboration with relevant organizations, and taking into consideration the proposed assessment of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services on invasive alien species, decision-support tools for assessing and evaluating the social, economic and ecological consequences of invasive alien species; cost-benefit analyses for eradication, management and control measures; and tools for examining the impacts of climate change and land-use change on biological invasions;

(d) To explore with relevant partners, including the standard-setting bodies recognized by the World Trade Organization (the International Plant Protection Convention, the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE), and the Codex Alimentarius Commission) and other members of the inter-agency liaison group on invasive alien species, methods of alerting suppliers and potential buyers to the risk posed by invasive alien species sold via e-commerce,⁶ and report on progress to the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice prior to the thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties;

(e) To assess progress towards the achievement of Aichi Biodiversity Target 9 and to report to the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice prior to the thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties;

(f) To develop a user-friendly guide to existing decisions of the Conference of the Parties on invasive alien species and the relevant guidance and standards developed by other relevant organizations, as requested in paragraphs 3 and 17 of decision IX/4 B;

(g) To compile, in collaboration with the International Union for Conservation of Nature and through the Global Invasive Alien Species Information Partnership, information from Parties, scientific institutions, and other relevant organizations, on experiences in the use of biological control agents against invasive alien species, in particular the release in the wild of alien species for this purpose, including positive and negative cases and cases of the application of appropriate risk assessment, and to submit a synthesis of this information to the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice prior to the thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, and to make this information available through the clearing-house mechanism.

8. In decision XII/15, the Conference of the Parties undertook a mid-term review of the implementation of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation 2011-2020 and recognized a need to enhance efforts to implement the Strategy by promoting and facilitating communication, coordination and partnerships between all relevant sectors. For Target 10 on biological invasions, the Conference of the

⁶ See CPM Recommendation CPM-9/2014/2 - Internet Trade (E-Commerce) in Plants and other Regulated Articles.

Parties recommended focusing implementation by pursuing and supporting activities critical for the achievement of the corresponding Aichi Biodiversity Target, i.e. Target 9 of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020.

C. Synthetic biology

9. In decision XII/24, the Conference of the Parties decided to establish an Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group (AHTEG) on Synthetic Biology,⁷ and adopted terms of reference for it. It then requested the Executive Secretary to convene a moderated open-ended online forum to support the work of the AHTEG in meeting its terms of reference.

10. In that same decision, the Conference of the Parties invited Parties, other Governments, relevant organizations and stakeholders to submit information to the Executive Secretary relevant to the work of the AHTEG, as well as on measures undertaken in accordance with paragraph 3 of the decision, including the identification of needs for guidance. A notification⁸ was sent inviting such submissions.

11. A tentative calendar outlining a way forward for the implementation of the synthetic biology process is available online at <http://bch.cbd.int/synbio/calendar.shtml>.

D. Cooperation with other conventions, including enhancing programmatic synergies among the biodiversity-related conventions

Cooperation among the biodiversity-related conventions

12. In decision XII/6,⁹ the Conference of the Parties welcomed the International Plant Protection Convention as a member of the Liaison Group of the Biodiversity-related Conventions (see note in section II below), and noted with appreciation the role of the International Plant Protection Convention in helping to achieve Aichi Biodiversity Target 9.

13. Through the same decision, the Conference of the Parties initiated some work to be undertaken during the intersessional period with a view to enabling Parties to the biodiversity-related conventions, without prejudice to the specific objectives and recognizing the respective mandates of the conventions, to enhance synergies, improve efficiency among them and enhance their implementation.

14. To this end, decision XII/6 provides for the establishment of a regionally balanced informal advisory group that will comprise representatives of CBD Parties selected by the COP Bureau from nominations received and in which the members of the BLG are invited to participate. The purpose of the informal advisory group is “to prepare...a workshop with the task to prepare options which could include elements for a possible road map, for Parties of the various biodiversity-related conventions to enhance synergies and improve efficiency among them, without prejudice to the specific objectives and recognizing the respective mandates and subject to the availability of resources of these conventions, with a view to enhancing their implementation at all levels”.

15. With a view to engaging the other biodiversity-related conventions in the workshop, while recognizing the respective mandates of these conventions, the decision invites the executive heads of the other biodiversity-related conventions to facilitate the participation of representatives of Parties to their conventions, through their standing committees, bureaux or other processes, as appropriate.

⁷ While there is no internationally agreed definition of “synthetic biology”, key features of synthetic biology include the “de novo” synthesis of genetic material and an engineering-based approach to develop components, organisms and products. Background information on synthetic biology is available at : <http://www.cbd.int/doc/meetings/cop/cop-12/information/cop-12-inf-11-en.pdf> ; <http://www.cbd.int/doc/meetings/cop/cop-12/information/cop-12-inf-12-en.pdf>.

⁸ Notification 2015-013 (Ref. No. SCBD/BS/CG/MPM/DA/84279), dated 6 February 2015, available at <http://www.cbd.int/doc/notifications/2015/ntf-2015-013-synthetic-biology-en.pdf>.

⁹ Decision XII/6, Cooperation with other conventions, international organizations and initiatives, <http://www.cbd.int/doc/decisions/cop-12/cop-12-dec-06-en.doc>.

16. The workshop is to be held prior to the first meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation, which will convene in May 2016, so that its report may be submitted to the Subsidiary Body at its first meeting to consider and make recommendations to the thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, which will convene in December 2016.

17. A second element of the work requested by the Conference of the Parties through this decision is for a study on key capacity-building and awareness-raising needs regarding cooperation with other multilateral environmental agreements at the national level, to be conducted as an input to the workshop.

Enhancing programmatic synergies among the biodiversity-related conventions

18. In decision XII/30¹⁰ on the financial mechanism of the Convention, the Conference of the Parties aimed at enhancing programmatic synergies among the biodiversity-related conventions as reproduced below.

“The Conference of the Parties

“A. Enhancing programmatic synergies among the biodiversity-related conventions

“1. Invites Parties to enhance coordination among their respective biodiversity-related convention national focal points, in order to identify national priorities in support of the implementation of the various biodiversity-related conventions that are aligned with the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and with the implementation of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, and incorporate them into their national biodiversity strategies and action plans;

“2. Invites the governing bodies of the various biodiversity-related conventions:

(a) To provide elements of advice, as appropriate, concerning the funding of the national priorities referred to in the paragraph above, within their respective mandates and in accordance with the mandate of the Global Environment Facility, and the Memorandum of Understanding between the Conference of the Parties to the Convention and the Council of the Global Environment Facility as per decision III/8, that may be referred to the Global Environment Facility through the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity;

(b) To request their respective secretariats to transmit such advice in a timely manner to the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity;

“3. Requests the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity to include any advice received in accordance with paragraph 2 above into the documentation for the appropriate agenda item, for consideration by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity at its next meeting;

“4. Also requests the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity to further liaise with the various biodiversity-related conventions and the Global Environment Facility in order to find ways to facilitate the efforts of Parties as indicated in paragraph 1 above;”

19. The decision has two aspects. One aspect involves Parties identifying national priorities in support of the implementation of the various biodiversity-related conventions aligned with the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets. The second aspect involves advice concerning the funding of such priorities to be provided by the governing bodies of the other biodiversity-related conventions to the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, which would consider incorporating such advice into the guidance that it provides to the Global Environment Facility.

¹⁰ See <http://www.cbd.int/doc/decisions/cop-12/cop-12-dec-30-en.doc>.

20. A crucial milestone in the CBD calendar will be the first meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation, which is to be held in early May 2016. Inputs for guidance would therefore need to be received by the Secretariat of the Convention by the end of 2015 in order that it might be included in the pre-session documents that will be submitted to the Subsidiary Body on Implementation.

E Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety

21. The following is an overview of decisions adopted by the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (COP-MOP) at its seventh meeting and which may be relevant to the work of the IPPC.¹¹

22. In decision BS-VII/12 on Risk Assessment and Risk Management, the COP-MOP extended the Open-ended Online Expert Forum and the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group (AHTEG) on Risk Assessment and Risk Management with the revised terms of reference, and expanded the composition of the AHTEG by adding one new member from each region. The two expert groups are expected to develop a revised and improved version of the Guidance on Risk Assessment of Living Modified Organisms for consideration at eighth meeting of the COP-MOP.

23. In decision BS-VII/10 on Unintentional Transboundary Movements and Emergency Measures, the COP-MOP requested the Executive Secretary of the Convention, inter alia, (i) to organize, in cooperation with relevant organizations, subject to the availability of funds, capacity-building activities such as online and face-to-face training workshops on sampling, detection and identification of living modified organisms to assist Parties in fulfilling the requirements under Article 17 of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety and towards achieving the relevant outcomes of the Strategic Plan; and (ii) to continue organizing online discussions through the Network of Laboratories focusing on the detection and identification of living modified organisms.

24. In decision BS-VII/13, the COP-MOP decided to extend the AHTEG on Socio-economic Considerations to, inter alia, further develop conceptual clarity on socio-economic considerations arising from the impact of living modified organisms on biodiversity. In that same decision, the COP-MOP requested Parties and invited other Governments, relevant organizations and indigenous and local communities to submit views and comments on the “Elements of a Framework for Conceptual Clarity on Socio-Economic Considerations”.¹²

COLLABORATION BETWEEN THE TWO SECRETARIATS

A. Inter-agency Liaison Group on Invasive Alien Species

25. Through the Inter-agency Liaison Group on Invasive Alien Species, the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity received information on progress in setting international guidance relevant to invasive alien species. The Secretariat of the Convention reported to the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice at its eighteenth meeting, held in Montreal, Canada, from 23 to 28 June 2014, on information concerning: (a) inclusion of aquatic plants in International Standard for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPM) No. 11 on pest risk analysis for quarantine pests; (b) covering algae and fungi under the mandate of IPPC and including an indication of that coverage in ISPM No. 5 on glossary of terms; and (c) revised ISPM No. 3 on guidelines for the export, shipment, import and release of biological control agents and other beneficial organisms.

¹¹ The final report of the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, containing the decisions, is available at <http://www.cbd.int/doc/meetings/bs/mop-07/official/mop-07-16-en.pdf>.

¹² Contained in the annex to the report of the first meeting of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Socio-economic Considerations.

26. A prototype toolkit to assist Parties in achieving Aichi Biodiversity Target 9 on invasive alien species was submitted to the Conference of the Parties to the Convention at its twelfth meeting. The IPPC Secretariat formally reviewed its contents and the toolkit was updated in February 2015.

B. The Liaison Group of Biodiversity-Related Conventions

27. The IPPC Secretariat was invited to attend, as an observer, the ninth ordinary meeting of the Liaison Group of Biodiversity-related Conventions (BLG), held in Warth, Switzerland, on 16 August 2014, where it made a presentation of its mandate, focused primarily on preventing the introduction of plant pests. Through its standard-setting role on many issues related to plant health in agriculture, forests and ecosystems, including phytosanitary measures to address the issue of invasive alien species, the substantive contribution of IPPC to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity was recognized by the members of the BLG. The BLG further recognized that the work of the IPPC is closely linked to Aichi Biodiversity Target 9 on invasive alien species and unanimously agreed that the Secretariat of the IPPC be invited to join the BLG as its seventh member.

C. Capacity-building activities to achieve Aichi Biodiversity Target 9

28. A capacity-building workshop for small island developing States to achieve Aichi Biodiversity Target 9 on invasive alien species was organized in Montreal, Canada on 14 and 15 June 2014 by the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity to assist small island developing States Parties in making progress towards the achievement of Target 9 of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020. The workshop documents and its report are accessible at <http://www.cbd.int/doc/?meeting=IASWS-2014-01> and <http://www.cbd.int/doc/meetings/ais/iasws-2014-01/official/iasws-2014-01-02-en.doc>, respectively.

29. The outcome of the workshop includes the International Islands Initiative for Achieving Aichi Biodiversity Target 9, which was reported to the Conference of the Parties at its twelfth meeting as information on technical and scientific cooperation on invasive alien species in islands ([UNEP/CBD/COP/12/INF/8](#)) and the Conference of the Parties welcomed the initiative and requested the Executive Secretary to facilitate development and implementation of regional projects to manage those pathways and invasive or potentially invasive species that have been identified as priorities at the regional level, referring to the International Islands Initiative for achieving Aichi Biodiversity Target 9 on Invasive Alien Species.

30. A training course on rapid identification of invasive and potentially invasive species, including rapid approaches, in support of the Capacity-building Strategy for the Global Taxonomy Initiative was announced on the news site of the International Phytosanitary Portal of IPPC and by notifications to CBD national focal points.^{13,14} The training is scheduled to take place from 2 March to 31 December 2015, and will include distant education, hands-on training and technical assistance with setting DNA barcoding operations.

E. Capacity-building workshops to support implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the GEF-6 biodiversity strategy

31. In collaboration with the Secretariat of the Global Environment Facility (GEF), and taking advantage of the GEF Enhanced Constituency Workshops,¹⁵ the Secretariat of the Convention will organize a series of capacity-building, technical support and awareness-raising workshops in 2015 for representatives of over 150 developing countries and countries with economies in transition, with participation of both GEF and CBD national focal points.

¹³ See notification 2015-006 (Ref. No. SCBD/SAM/DC/JSH/CE/84194), dated 14 January 2015.

¹⁴ <https://www.ippc.int/news/standard-setting/cbd-and-its-global-taxonomy-initiative-calling-experts-training-course-rapid>.

¹⁵ <http://www.cbd.int/financial/2015gefworkshops.shtml>.

32. The workshops will examine the funding opportunities defined in the GEF-6 biodiversity focal area strategy for national and regional actions towards the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and Aichi Biodiversity Targets, and aim to promote the coherent and synergistic implementation of priorities identified in national biodiversity strategies and action plans as well as to contribute to the Aichi Biodiversity Targets that need greater attention in accordance with the findings of the fourth edition of the *Global Biodiversity Outlook* and decisions adopted at the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties. Participants in the workshops will have the opportunity to explore the potential for development of projects that address multiple objectives among the biodiversity-related conventions that contribute to the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and Aichi Biodiversity Targets, in line with the GEF-6 strategy.

Annex

GUIDANCE ON DEVISING AND IMPLEMENTING MEASURES TO ADDRESS THE RISKS ASSOCIATED WITH THE INTRODUCTION OF ALIEN SPECIES AS PETS, AQUARIUM AND TERRARIUM SPECIES, AND AS LIVE BAIT AND LIVE FOOD

Objectives and nature of this guidance

1. This guidance is intended to assist countries and relevant organizations in devising and implementing measures, at national, regional, subregional and other levels, to address the risks associated with the introduction of alien species as pets, aquarium and terrarium species, and as live bait and live food. It provides elements that relevant authorities may use for the development of regulations or codes of conduct, or that international organizations, industry and civil society organizations may use in voluntary codes of conduct and other guidance.
2. The introduction of invasive alien species as pets, aquarium and terrarium species, and as live bait and live food, is a subcategory of “escape” as a pathway. Escape is the movement of organisms from captivity or confined conditions into the natural environment. Through this pathway the organisms are initially intentionally imported or transported into the confined conditions, then escape. This may include intentional, accidental or careless release of live organisms into the environment, including cases such as the disposal of live food into the environment or the use of live bait in non-confined water systems.
3. For the purpose of this guidance, pets, aquarium and terrarium species, live bait and live food are understood to include lower taxa and hybrids (including hybrids between native organisms and organisms that are alien in the region to which they are intended to be imported or transported).
4. This guidance is intended to apply to the import or transport to a country or distinct biogeographical area within the country, of pets, aquarium and terrarium species, live bait and live food, including trade via the Internet. This guidance is relevant to States, relevant organizations, the industry and consumers, including all actors along the value chain (such as importers, breeders, wholesalers, retailers and customers). For the case of live food, this also includes restaurants and markets.
5. This guidance is voluntary and is not intended to affect any existing national and international obligations. It is intended to be used in conjunction and mutually supportive with other relevant guidance, for example the Guiding Principles for the Prevention, Introduction and Mitigation of Impacts of Alien Species that Threaten Ecosystems, Habitats and Species; standards, guidelines and recommendations developed under the International Plant Protection Convention or under the World Organisation for Animal Health and Codex Alimentarius Commission and other relevant organizations; and relevant voluntary codes.

Prevention and responsible conduct

6. Industry and all actors should be aware of the risk of alien organisms becoming invasive and their potential negative impacts on biodiversity at ecosystem, habitat, species and gene levels, and related impacts on human health, livelihoods and economies. States, industry and relevant organizations should undertake public awareness campaigns to this effect.
7. Generally, and as a priority, States, relevant organizations and the industry should promote the use of species that have been shown to be non-invasive in the case of species used as pets and aquarium and terrarium species.
8. States, relevant organizations and the industry should discourage or prohibit the use of live bait that may pose a risk of invasion and/or spread of pathogens or parasites.
9. States, relevant organizations and the industry should raise awareness of buyers, potential buyers, suppliers, sellers consumers, and potential consumers on the importance of safe handling of, and appropriate care for, live organisms as pets, aquarium and terrarium species and of the safe handling and disposal of invasive species used as live bait or live food.
10. States, relevant organizations, the industry and consumers should handle any potentially invasive pet, aquarium and terrarium species, or species used as live bait and live food, responsibly and with utmost care. They should undertake, where possible and appropriate, the measures listed in paragraph 18 below.

Risk assessment and management

11. When planning to import or transport pets, aquarium and terrarium species, live bait and live food to a country, or distinct biogeographical area within a country, where they are non-native, States, relevant organizations or the industry, should undertake a risk assessment. The risk assessment may draw on previously conducted assessments and other available information. The risk assessment should consider, *inter alia*:
 - (a) The probability of escape of organisms, at any stage of their life cycle, from confined conditions (including through accidental or careless release);
 - (b) The probability of establishment and spread of the species;
 - (c) The impacts of establishment and spread of the species on biodiversity, including hybridization with native species leading to loss of genetic diversity, and related impacts on productive activities and human health and the significance of these impacts;
 - (d) Risk regarding spread of pathogens and parasites.
12. The assessment of the probability of escape should take into account the specific characteristics of the species as well as existing measures in place to retain it within confined conditions.
13. Where the risk assessment indicates that the risk associated with the pet, aquarium and terrarium species, live bait or live food is acceptable, the species may be imported or transported to a country or distinct biogeographical area within a country. States, relevant organizations and the industry may need to repeat the risk assessment if new information becomes available that may change the outcome of the assessment.
14. Where the risk assessment indicates that the risk associated with the pet, aquarium and terrarium species, live bait or live food is not acceptable, measures to manage the risk should be taken. They could include the requirement to undertake one or more of the actions listed in paragraph 18 below.

15. Where the risk assessment indicates that the risk associated with the pet, aquarium and terrarium species, live bait or live food is not acceptable and risk management measures are not sufficient to lower the risk, the import or transport of the species as pets, aquarium and terrarium species, live bait or live food should not be permitted.
16. Alien species of pet, aquarium and terrarium species, live bait or live food that have not been subjected to a risk assessment should be treated as having the potential to become invasive.
17. The standards, guidelines and recommendations developed by the standard-setting organizations recognized by the Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures of the World Trade Organization may be relevant in the conduct of risk assessments.

Measures

18. A number of measures are available to address the risks associated with alien species introduced as pets, aquarium and terrarium species, live bait and live food. Examples of such measures include, inter alia:
 - (a) To ensure that efficient measures to prevent escape (for example, methods of secure confinement, handling, and transport) are in place;
 - (b) To raise awareness and develop capacity among all persons involved in transporting, handling, selling, using or keeping a species of its risk and appropriate measures to prevent escape (for example, methods of secure confinement, handling, and transport);
 - (c) To discourage or prohibit users, consumers, owners, traders, and keepers of live organisms from releasing the organisms into the natural environment and, in the event of an escape, to urge or require them to take immediate measures to recapture the organisms and, if appropriate, report the escape to the relevant authorities in order to facilitate a rapid response;
 - (d) To provide secure and humane services for the return, resale, rehoming or disposal of undesired species;
 - (e) To ensure that appropriate response measures, including eradication and control, are in place to address potential introduction, establishment and spread;
 - (f) To ensure that appropriate and safe methods of disposal for live bait and live food are used by buyers and sellers;
 - (g) To ensure that appropriate control measures are taken to prevent illegal import, transit and export or re-export;
 - (h) To encourage the use, where appropriate, of sterile organisms as pets, aquarium and terrarium species, as live bait and live food;
19. All consignments of pet, aquarium and terrarium species, live bait or live food should clearly indicate the taxon (at the lowest known taxonomic rank and if available, the genotype, using the scientific name and the Taxonomic Serial Number or alternatives to such numbers), as well as any relevant requirements on confinement, handling and transport.
20. Consignments may be labelled as a potential hazard to biodiversity unless the species has been shown to be safe for import to the particular country or biogeographical region within the country in question.

Information sharing

21. The results of risk assessments should be made publicly available and shared among Parties through the clearing-house mechanism or other appropriate means.
22. States could maintain lists of species shown to be safe for import into their territory or into particular biogeographical regions within their territory, and for specific sectors, including detailed information on their native range and a clear definition of the countries or biogeographical regions for which they are shown to be safe.
23. States should maintain lists of species with the assessed potential to become invasive and associated with unacceptable risks for biodiversity and make it available through the clearing-house mechanism or other appropriate means.

Consistency with other international obligations

24. Measures under this guidance should be undertaken in a manner that is consistent with applicable international obligations, for example, the Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures of the World Trade Organization, and the standard-setting organizations recognized by this agreement, as well as the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora.
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