

*Annex V*

**DRAFT USE OF EXISTING DATABASES ON INVASIVE ALIEN SPECIES AND THEIR IMPACTS, TO SUPPORT RISK COMMUNICATION**

**(PROVISIONAL ADVICE PURSUANT TO DECISION 14/11, ANNEX II, PARAGRAPH 1 (E))**

1. This advice is aimed at assisting Parties, other Governments and organizations in developing and maintaining efficient, timely and up-to-date data and information for management of invasive alien species.
2. Enhanced risk communication is essential to facilitate dialogue and understanding between and among indigenous peoples, local communities and relevant stakeholders. Risk communication seeks to reconcile the views of all interested Parties in order to achieve a common understanding of the risks posed by invasive alien species, develop credible risk management options and consistent regulations, and promote awareness of issues concerning invasive alien species.
3. It is essential that regularly updated and curated data is maintained on invasive alien species distribution, impact and management action and relevant knowledge. Relevant publicly available data should be shared with the key global data aggregators to support processes under the Convention on Biological Diversity and other international and regional agreements.
4. It is essential that Parties, other Governments and organizations engage with key global aggregators and data providers (e.g. Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF), Global Registry of Introduced and Invasive Species (GRIIS)) and ensure bidirectional data streams between data holders and generators through the national data portals (where applicable) to the global-level aggregators. Open access to data, seamless integration of this data between data tools and availability of the data to indigenous peoples, local communities and relevant stakeholders are imperative for better management and monitoring of invasive alien species. National or central coordination of data streams is essential for timely, comprehensive and fair availability of the occurrence data on invasive alien species from multiple sources. This will (a) increase data flows necessary for global and regional analysis and decision-making and (b) open opportunities for national capacity-building and resourcing.
5. It is important to facilitate data sharing and, where appropriate, use common international data standards, standard terminology in national, regional, local and thematic databases, even if languages differ between data portals.
6. It is also important to obtain free, prior and informed consent from indigenous peoples and local communities when using their traditional knowledge.
7. Real-time data sharing is recommended to allow access to up-to-date information to enable early detection and rapid response.
8. There is a great need for States, organizations and the scientific community to identify gaps in knowledge and information on alien species in existing databases and strive to improve knowledge and data, especially for organism groups on which knowledge is especially poor, such as alien marine species, invertebrates, microorganisms and fungi. Increased interaction between data generators, data providers and experts may provide improvements in the quality of data. Collaboration between experts in collating existing databases using existing standards could also contribute to filling these information gaps. Errors in current databases should be identified and corrected in existing databases.
9. Existing global invasive alien species data providers, such as the IUCN-Invasive Species Specialist Group (IUCN-ISSG), the Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF) and CABI, could be invited to provide a global platform for sharing information, experiences and analysis of the results of management activities for invasive alien species, best practices in policy and regulatory mechanisms and codes of conduct to address activities that lead to the introduction and spread of alien and invasive species, aquariums and local productive activities.

10. IUCN-ISSG and partners could be invited to index, collate and archive the development of policy response indicators within the Biodiversity Indicators Framework (BIP) and Sustainable Development Goal indicator 15.8.1.
11. States, organizations and experts are invited to continue supporting the ongoing development of the Global Registry of Introduced and Invasive Species (GRIIS) and other expert networks focused on collation and curation of new and existing data.
12. GBIF could be invited to include distribution data on invasive alien species in their global biodiversity databases.
13. States, sectoral authorities, international, regional and local organizations and relevant stakeholders could be invited to contribute to and use the CABI Invasive Species Compendium, which is an encyclopedic resource of scientific information on invasive alien species to help inform decision-making.
14. States, sectoral authorities, international, regional and local organizations, experts and relevant stakeholders are invited to use and further develop, as needed, impact assessment frameworks (e.g, EICAT and SEICAT) to develop science-based policies and prioritization of invasive alien species management actions.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> For more information on using these tools, see CBD/AHTEG/IAS/2019/1/2, pp. 31-35.