

Annex VI

DRAFT ADDITIONAL ADVICE AND TECHNICAL GUIDANCE ON INVASIVE ALIEN SPECIES MANAGEMENT

A. Advice on the use of sanitary and phytosanitary measures

1. The application of sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) measures to regulate import/export of alien organisms at the national level requires close collaboration between national authorities and other relevant ministries and departments. Some countries closely coordinate their activities on import requirements for alien organisms among relevant ministries and agencies, including national plant protection organizations and the veterinary authorities (e.g., coordination in Australia between the Department of Agriculture and the Department of Environment and Energy).
2. Environmental authorities, national plant protection organizations and veterinary authorities should be advised to establish strong partnerships with national, regional and local governments in connection with mandates for alien species management. This will help prevent the introduction of invasive alien species and support early detection, rapid response and effective management. Such partnerships could include collaboration in setting national and regional priorities, completing risk assessments, carrying out surveillance, developing response plans, sharing information and exchanging expertise.
3. A large number of the international standards that are recognized by the World Trade Organization (WTO) Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS Agreement) are relevant for protecting biodiversity. These SPS measures should be applied more widely, not only in the context of agriculture, but also to protect the health of wild fauna and flora.
4. A number of guides, manuals and training materials have been developed under the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) to build capacity and support the implementation of international standards. These materials should be used to raise awareness and build capacity among partner organizations to address the issue of invasive alien species.
5. There is a need for capacity-building among developing countries, for implementing existing IPPC and the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) international guidelines and standards and for developing national regulatory frameworks to address the risks associated with invasive alien species.
6. Regional cooperation and partnerships should be further developed to support the achievement of Aichi Biodiversity Target 9 and beyond, through regular coordination and communication, identification of common priorities and alignment of efforts on a regional basis. This could be supported through IPPC by using the model of regional plant protection organizations to foster cooperation on invasive alien species.
7. A key gap that needs additional attention and guidance is pathogens affecting wildlife and invasive alien species that may be a vector or host of pathogens or parasites and other organisms that do not meet the IPPC definition of quarantine pests, the pathogens causing diseases listed under OIE and other organisms (e.g. invasive ants) that are not covered by IPPC or OIE.
8. As countries adopt different approaches in regulating invasive alien species (e.g., lists of restricted, prohibited and permitted species or hybrids), guidelines could be developed on how such approaches can be implemented in compliance with the SPS Agreement, with a view to facilitating the development of better regulation and ensure transparency.

B. Advice on management-specific pathways

1. Inter-basin water transfer and navigational canals

9. The ratification and application of relevant international maritime agreements (e.g. the International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships' Ballast Water and Sediments (BWM Convention), mentioned in paragraph 25 of decision VIII/27, and the Guidelines for the control and management of

biofouling mentioned in paragraphs 29 and 30 of decision VIII/27) should be promoted in order to diminish the spread of invasive alien species through new shipping routes opening up as a result of climate change.

10. Regional cooperation among States should be enhanced on planning, monitoring and data exchange on invasive alien species specifically related to inter-basin water channels to establish early warning and rapid response systems as well as researching and employing methodologies to reduce new invasions through these channels.

11. Measures to prevent the introduction and spread of invasive alien species in the procedures for planning, development and management of the inland waterway infrastructure should be promoted, as appropriate. Relevant organizations, indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth and other stakeholders, including local fishers and other groups that are dependent on the waterways (e.g., boaters, recreational boat users, outfitters), should be consulted and engaged when planning and designing such measures.

2. *International aid programmes*

12. Developing countries need capacity-building, resource mobilization and information sharing for assessing and managing the invasive alien species risks associated with international aid programmes.

13. Aid agencies should ensure that any initiatives/projects/programmes/agreements avoid the introduction of invasive alien species into the area.

Emergency relief, aid and response

14. Environmental authorities should consult the relevant enforcement agencies to comply with the SPS Agreement or the country's quarantine regulation to prevent risk of biological invasions associated with emergency relief, aid and response.

15. Documenting any case of invasive alien species in aid-recipient countries should be initiated across broad sectors.

16. The risk of invasive alien species should be incorporated into emergency response strategies.

17. The responsibilities of aid-providers and aid-recipients should be identified to avoid any invasive alien species introduction through contaminants in aid transports and transfers.

3. *Air transport*

18. Relevant organizations should engage indigenous peoples, local communities and relevant stakeholders at all levels to develop standards to prevent hitchhiker or stowaway species arriving by air.

19. Relevant organizations, including IPPC, OIE, ICAO, WCO and IATA, should collaborate to develop harmonized operating standards related to air cargo, with input from indigenous peoples, local communities and relevant stakeholders.

20. States should avoid the introduction and spread of invasive alien species through the transport of living organisms, in accordance with the guidance annexed to decisions XII/16 and 14/11.

4. *Tourism*

21. Parties, in collaboration with travel operators and non-governmental organizations, should develop awareness programmes and campaigns to educate tourists, tourism agencies, local communities and policymakers on the risk and management of invasive alien species, and strategies and techniques to minimize risks.

22. Minimizing the impact of touristic activity to prevent the introduction and spread of invasive alien species should be prioritized, taking into account vulnerable ecosystems, such as in protected areas, and island ecosystems.

23. The Secretariat should collaborate with the World Tourism Organization to consider joint efforts in addressing tourism as a major possibility for introducing invasive alien species and the management thereof.

5. *Sea containers and cargos*

24. Parties and other Governments should be aware that sea containers may carry invasive alien species with any cargoes, including industrial products, not only cargoes containing living organisms.

25. Relevant organizations should engage indigenous peoples, local communities and relevant stakeholders at all levels to develop guidelines to prevent invasions of hitchhiker or stowaway species through sea containers.

26. Relevant organizations, including IPPC, OIE, IMO and WCO, should further collaborate to develop harmonized operational standards to address the pathways of biological invasion (contaminants and stowaway) via sea containers, in close cooperation with the relevant business sector and input from indigenous peoples, local communities and relevant stakeholders, taking into account the appropriate treatment of sea containers prior to loading cargos.

27. The introduction and spread of invasive alien species through the transport of sea containers should be avoided, in accordance with the guidance annexed to decision XIII/13 and take appropriate actions to prevent the unintentional spread of invasive alien species via sea containers, taking into account paragraphs 10, 34, 35 and 36 of the guidance annexed to decision 14/11 and other relevant international guidance, for example, the IPPC Guidance from the International Plant Protection Convention's Sea Container Task Force.¹

28. Trade partners involved in operation of sea containers should act proactively to prevent unintentional introduction and spread of invasive alien species.

C. *Advice on capacity-building activities*

29. The capacity-building programme under the Convention, should include capacity-building in invasive alien species management.

30. Training programmes at the international, national, subnational or local level should be established by inviting broad sectors, especially academics and scientific expert organizations and other relevant organizations, including indigenous peoples and local communities and women and youth.

31. The evaluation of existing capacity and the development of training packages for relevant topics, such as taxonomy, ecology, invasion biology, risk analysis – in particular horizon scanning, biological control, management of priority species and pathways should be considered within the long-term strategic framework for capacity-building.

32. There is a need to develop technical resources, including technical manuals for broad sectors, as follows:

(a) Taxonomic identification of organisms, including identification keys based on morphology, and the link to databases with images and to lists of specialists, DNA barcoding, artificial-intelligence-aided identification and citizen science;

(b) How to apply sanitary and phytosanitary measures to prevent spread of invasive alien species;

(c) How to publish and use data on invasive alien species using international data standards to ensure cross-linking national, subnational and regional and global thematic databases;

(d) Best practices published on successful eradications, and other useful information resources on technical advice on websites;

¹ Reducing the spread of invasive pests by sea containers (<http://www.fao.org/3/ca7670en/CA7670EN.pdf>).

(e) How to use shared information on invasive alien species for national and subnational policy-setting and implementation;

(f) How to apply classical biological control agents against invasive alien species and under what circumstances;

(g) How to apply an ecosystem-based approach to control invasive alien species;

(h) Multi-criteria decision support manual for policymakers;

(i) If needed, a model regulatory act on invasive alien species with shared responsibility among broad sectors;

(j) Management manuals for broad sectors to communicate on invasive alien species among different stakeholders, including indigenous peoples and local communities and women and youth.
