



NATIONAL REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RAMSAR CONVENTION ON WETLANDS

**National Reports to be submitted to the 10th Meeting
of the Conference of the Contracting Parties,
Republic of Korea, 28 October – 4 November 2008**

Please submit the completed National Report, in electronic (Microsoft Word) format, and preferably by e-mail, to the Ramsar Secretariat by **31 March 2008**.

National Reports should be sent to: Alexia Dufour, Regional Affairs Officer, Ramsar Secretariat (dufour@ramsar.org)

Introduction & background

1. This Ramsar COP10 National Report Format (NRF) has been approved by the Standing Committee for the Ramsar Convention's Contracting Parties to complete as their national reporting to the 10th meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties of the Convention (Republic of Korea, October/November 2008).
2. Following Standing Committee discussions at its 35th meeting in February 2007, and its Decisions SC35-22, -23 and -24, this COP10 National Report Format has been significantly revised and simplified in comparison with the National Report Formats provided to previous recent COPs.
3. In particular this National Report Format provides a much smaller number (66) of implementation "indicator" questions, compared with the much larger suite of questions on all aspects of national implementation of the Convention's Strategic Plan 2003-2008 included in previous NRFs.
4. The COP10 NRF indicators include, with the agreement of the Standing Committee (Decision SC35-24), certain indicators specifically requested to be included by the Convention's Scientific & Technical Review Panel (STRP) and CEPA Oversight Panel, in order to facilitate their information gathering and reporting on key aspects of scientific, technical and CEPA implementation under the Convention.
5. The 66 indicator questions are grouped under each of the implementation "Strategies" approved by the Parties at COP9 (Resolution IX.8) in the Convention's "A Framework for the implementation of the Convention's Strategic Plan 2003-2008 in the 2006 -2008 period" (www.ramsar.org/res/key_res_ix_08_e.htm). The indicators have been selected so as to provide information on key aspects of the implementation of the Convention under each of its Strategies.
6. In addition, for each Strategy the option is provided for a Contracting Party, if it so wishes, to supply **additional information** concerning its implementation under each indicator and, more generally, on implementation of other aspects of each Strategy.

The purposes and uses of national reporting to the Conference of the Contracting Parties

7. National Reports from Contracting Parties are official documents of the Convention, and are made publicly available through their posting on the Convention's Web site.
8. There are six main purposes for the Convention's National Reports. These are to:
 - i) provide data and information on how the Convention is being implemented;
 - ii) capture lessons/experience, so as to allow Parties to develop future action;
 - iii) identify emerging issues and implementation challenges faced by Parties that may require further attention through Convention processes;
 - iv) provide a means for Parties to be accountable against their obligations under the Convention;
 - v) provide each Party with a tool to help it assess and monitor its progress in implementation, and plan for its future implementation and priorities; and
 - vi) provide an opportunity for Parties to draw attention to their achievements during the triennium.
9. In addition, the data and information provided by Parties in their COP10 National Reports now have another important purpose, since a number of the indicators in the National Reports on Parties' implementation will provide key sources of information for the analysis and assessment of the "ecological outcome-oriented indicators of effectiveness of the implementation of the Convention" currently being further developed by the Scientific and Technical Review Panel for Standing Committee and COP10 consideration.

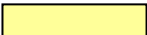
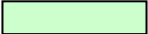
10. To facilitate the analysis and onward use of the data and information provided by Contracting Parties in their National Reports, once received and verified by the Ramsar Secretariat all information is entered and held by the Secretariat in a database, which then facilitates extraction and analysis of the information for a number of purposes.
11. The Convention's National Reports are used in a number of ways. These include:
 - i) providing the basis for reporting by the Secretariat to each COP on the global and regional implementation, and progress in implementation, of the Convention. This is provided to Parties at COP as a series of Information Papers including:
 - the Report of the Secretary General on the implementation of the Convention at the global level (see, e.g., COP9 DOC 5);
 - the Report of the Secretary General pursuant to Article 8.2 (b), (c), and (d) concerning the List of Wetlands of International Importance (see, e.g., COP9 DOC 6); and
 - the reports providing regional overviews of the implementation of the Convention and its Strategic Plan in each Ramsar region (see, e.g., COP9 DOCs 10-13);
 - ii) providing information on specific implementation issues in support of the provision of advice and decisions by Parties at COP. Examples at CO9 included:
 - Resolution IX.15, *The status of sites in the Ramsar List of Wetlands of International Importance*, and
 - Information Papers on *Issues and scenarios concerning Ramsar sites or parts of sites which cease to meet or never met the Ramsar Criteria* (COP9 DOC 15) and *Implementation of the Convention's CEPA Programme for the period 2003-2005* (COP9 DOC 25);
 - iii) providing the source of time-series assessments of progress on specific aspects in the implementation of the Convention, included in other Convention products. An example is the summary of progress since COP3 (Regina, 1997) in the development of National Wetland Policies, included as Table 1 in Ramsar Wise Use Handbook 2 (3rd edition, 2007); and
 - iv) providing information for reporting to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) on the national-level implementation of the CBD/Ramsar Joint Work Plan and the Ramsar Convention's lead implementation role for the CBD for wetlands.

The structure of the COP10 National Report Format

12. In line with Standing Committee Decisions SC35-21 and SC35-22, the COP10 National Report Format is in three sections.
13. **Section 1** provides the Institutional Information about the Administrative Authority and National Focal Points for the national implementation of the Convention.
14. **Section 2** is a "free-text" section in which to provide a summary of various aspects of national implementation progress and recommendations for the future.
15. **Section 3** provides the 66 implementation indicator questions, grouped under each Convention implementation strategy, and with a "free-text" section under each Strategy in which the Contracting Party may, if it wishes, add further information on national implementation of the Strategy and its indicators.

Guidance for filling in and submitting the COP10 National Report Format

IMPORTANT – READ THIS SECTION OF GUIDANCE BEFORE STARTING TO FILL IN THE NATIONAL REPORT FORMAT

16. All three Sections of the COP10 National Report Format should be filled in, in one of the Convention's official languages (English, French, Spanish).
17. The deadline for submission of the completed National Report Format is **31 March 2008**. It will not be possible to include information from National Reports received from Parties after that date in the analysis and reporting on Convention implementation to COP10.
18. All fields with a pale yellow background  must be filled in.
19. Fields with a pale green background  are free-text fields in which to provide additional information, if the Contracting Party so wishes. Although providing information in these fields in the COP10 NRF is optional, Contracting Parties are encouraged to provide such additional information wherever possible and relevant, since it is the experience of the Secretariat that such explanatory information is very valuable in ensuring a full understanding of implementation progress and activity, notably in informing the preparation of global and regional implementation reports to COP.
20. In order to assist Contracting Parties in their provision of such additional information, for a number of indicator questions some particularly helpful types of such information are suggested. However, of course, Parties are free to add any other relevant information they wish in any of the "Additional implementation information" fields.
21. The Format is created as a "Form" in Microsoft Word. You are only able to move to, and between, each of the yellow or green boxes to give your replies and information. All other parts of the form are locked.
22. To go to a yellow or green field you wish to fill in, move the cursor over the relevant part of the form, and left-click the mouse. The cursor will automatically move to the next field available.
23. To move down the sequence of fields to fill in, you can also use the "Tab" key on the computer keyboard.
24. For a "free-text" field, you can type in whatever information you wish. If you wish to amend any of the text you have put in a green or yellow "free-text" box, it is recommended that you cut-and-paste the existing text into a separate file, make the amendments, and then cut-and-paste the revised text back into the green box. This is because within the "Form" format there is limited facility to make editorial changes within the "free-text" box once text has been entered.
25. For each of the "Indicator questions" in Section 3, a drop-down menu of answer options is provided. These vary between indicators, depending on the question asked in the indicator, but are in general of the form: "Yes", "No", "Partly", "In progress", etc.
26. For each indicator question you can choose only one answer. If you wish to provide further information or clarifications concerning your answer, you can provide this in the green additional information box below the relevant indicator question.
27. To select an answer to an indicator question, use the Tab key, or move the cursor over the relevant yellow box, and left-click the mouse. The drop-down menu of answer options will appear. Left-click the mouse on the answer option you choose, and this will appear in the centre of the yellow box.

28. The NRF is not intended normally to be filled in by one person alone – for many indicators it would seem best for the principal compiler to consult with colleagues in the same and other agencies within the government who might have fuller knowledge of the Party's overall implementation of the Convention. The principal compiler can save the work at any point in the process and return to it subsequently to continue or to amend answers previously given.
29. After each session working on the NRF, remember to save the file! A recommended filename structure is: COP10NRF [Country] [date].
30. After the NRF has been completed, please send the completed National Report to the Ramsar Secretariat, preferably by email, to Alexia Dufour, Regional Affairs Officer, Ramsar Convention Secretariat, email: dufour@ramsar.org. The Secretariat must receive your completed National Report in electronic (Microsoft Word) format.
31. When the completed National Report is submitted by the Party, **it must be accompanied by a letter or e-mail message in the name of the Administrative Authority, confirming that this is that Contracting Party's official submission of its COP10 National Report.**
32. If you have any questions or problems concerning filling in the COP10 NRF, please contact the Ramsar Secretariat for advice (e-mail as above).

SECTION 1: INSTITUTIONAL INFORMATION

NAME OF CONTRACTING PARTY: CZECH REPUBLIC	
DESIGNATED RAMSAR ADMINISTRATIVE AUTHORITY	
Name of Administrative Authority:	Ministry of Environment Department of International Conservation of Biodiversity
Head of Administrative Authority - name and title:	Dr. Petr Roth, director of Department of International Conservation of Biodiversity
Mailing address:	Ministry of Environment, Vršovická 65, Prague 10, 100 10, Czech Republic
Telephone/Fax:	+420 267 122 038 /+420 267 310 328
Email:	petr_roth@env.cz
DESIGNATED NATIONAL FOCAL POINT (DAILY CONTACT IN THE ADMINISTRATIVE AUTHORITY) FOR RAMSAR CONVENTION MATTERS	
Name and title:	Ms. Libuse Vlasakova
Mailing address:	Department of International Conservation of Biodiversity Ministry of Environment, Vršovická 65, Prague 10, 100 10, Czech Republic
Telephone/Fax:	+420 267 122 372 /+420 267 310 328
Email:	libuse_vlasakova@env.cz
DESIGNATED NATIONAL FOCAL POINT FOR MATTERS RELATING TO STRP (SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL REVIEW PANEL)	
Name and title of focal point:	Dr. David Pithart
Name of organisation:	Institute of System Biology and Ecology of the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic
Mailing address:	Dukelská 145, 379 01 Třeboň
Telephone/Fax:	+420 384706184/+420 384706183
Email:	d.pithart@usbe.trebon.cz
DESIGNATED GOVERNMENT NATIONAL FOCAL POINT FOR MATTERS RELATING TO THE CEPA PROGRAMME ON COMMUNICATION, EDUCATION AND PUBLIC AWARENESS	
Name and title of focal point:	not designated yet, responsible person is Ms. Libuse Vlasakova, NFP
Name of organisation:	Ministry of Environment
Mailing address:	Department of International Conservation of Biodiversity, Vršovická 65, Prague 10, 100 10
Telephone/Fax:	+420 267 122 372 /+420 267 310 328
Email:	libuse_vlasakova@env.cz
DESIGNATED NON-GOVERNMENT NATIONAL FOCAL POINT FOR MATTERS RELATING TO THE CEPA PROGRAMME ON COMMUNICATION, EDUCATION AND PUBLIC AWARENESS	
Name and title:	not designated yet
Name of organisation:	
Mailing address:	
Telephone/Fax:	
Email:	



SECTION 2: GENERAL SUMMARY OF NATIONAL IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS AND CHALLENGES

In your country, in the past triennium (i.e., since COP9 reporting):

A. What new steps have been taken to implement the Convention?

1. The Strategic plan of implementation of the Ramsar Convention in the Czech Republic for period 2004-2008 has been implemented. The SP had been prepared by the Czech Ramsar Committee according to the Strategic plan of Ramsar Convention (Res. VIII.25).
2. The Action plan for water and wetland ecosystems, the strategic document of wetlands conservation in the Czech Republic, will be completed in 2008.
3. Krušohorské Mountains Mires has designated as 12th Ramsar site of the Czech Republic.
4. Several projects that results are useful for implementation of the three conventions- Ramsar Convention, CMS and AEWA were financially supported by the MoE through the Fund for implementation of MEAs in the Czech Republic.
5. Several training seminars on wetland issues were organised in national level.
6. An international training course on ecohydrological approaches to wise use, restoration, management and conservation of wetlands was organised jointly by the MAB-CR, Czech Ramsar Committee and two NGOs.
7. New NFP of STRP has been designated.
8. The Czech Republic, as a member of Standing, has provided voluntary contributions to the Ramsar Convention (2006,2007).

B. What have been the most successful aspects of implementation of the Convention?

1. We have implemented and completed most of the goals setting by the Strategic plan of implementation of the Ramsar Convention in the Czech Republic for period 2004-2008.
2. Several projects for implementation of the Ramsar Convention were supported by the Fund for implementation of MEAs in the Czech Republic.
3. The Czech Republic is a member of the Standing Committee for triennium 2005-2008. The membership has allowed to provide voluntary contributions to the Ramsar Convention (2006,2007).
4. An organisation of the study tour around transboundary RSs in Europe.

C. What have been the greatest difficulties in implementing the Convention?

1. To fulfil the task 'remove the Czech RS from Montreux Record'.
2. To find needed human capacities.
There is the Czech Ramsar Committee and its Expert group however a NFP for Ramsar Convention is responsible for agenda of Convention and coordination of all activities and projects in the framework of the Ramsar Convention.
3. To ensure financial sources for implementation of the Strategic plan and for realisation projects under the Ramsar Convention.

D. What proposals and priorities are there for future implementation of the Convention?

The main priority is to prepare, approve and fully implement the Strategic plan of implementation of the Ramsar Convention in the Czech Republic for period 2009-2014. The main objectives are in general:

RSs monitoring, development of CEPA activities, establishment and development of cooperation with scientific partners, Czech RSs in Montreaux Record, development of a bilateral and multilateral international cooperation on wetland issues, development of the Initiative for transboundary RS.

E. Does the Contracting Party have any recommendations concerning implementation assistance from the Ramsar Secretariat?

No.

F. Does the Contracting Party have any recommendations concerning implementation assistance from the Convention's International Organisation Partners (IOPs)?

No.

G. How can national implementation of the Ramsar Convention be better linked with implementation of other multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs), especially those in the "Biodiversity cluster" (Ramsar, Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), Convention on Migratory Species (CMS), CITES, and World Heritage Convention), and UNCCD and UNFCCC?

We have experience with national implementation of the MEAs mentioned above so we can propose following recommendations:

1. Each of MEAs should have its strategic plan of implementation at national level.

2. The working group composed of NFPs of MEAs should be established.

It allows to exchange experience and inform mutually and regularly about the progress in implementation of the Strategic plans of individual agreements. Simultaneously it allows preparation of a common long term strategy of implementation of MEAs and short term (annual) working plans. Targets of both strategy and annual working plans must respect targets of individual MEAs however some common aspects are necessary as well.

3. To prepare common projects to implement conventions and their resolutions at national level is necessary. Following our experience the close cooperation and common projects can be established and implemented mainly among Ramsar Convention, CMS and AEWA because of a common objective - waterfowl. (Also there is the same NFP for all of three agreements in the Czech Republic and it makes the linkage much easier).

H. How can Ramsar Convention implementation be better linked with the implementation of water policy/strategy and other strategies in the country (e.g., sustainable development, energy, extractive industry, poverty reduction, sanitation, food security, biodiversity)?

NFP of Ramsar Convention (or other responsible body for Ramsar Convention in national level) should be a member of relevant working groups and should participate or be invited to the preparation of important strategic documents in national level. It allows them to promote the wetland issues to all important policy or strategic documents.

Wetland issues should be an integral part of national legislation as well.

I. Does the Contracting Party have any other general comments on the implementation of the Convention?

The Ramsar Convention should collaborate with others MEAs, develop cooperation with scientific and research institutions and become a respected partner of governments including EU however it is necessary to keep an independence and its very specific and unique issue that are wetlands. To be a honour partner of other conventions, not their part.

SECTION 3: INDICATOR QUESTIONS & FURTHER IMPLEMENTATION INFORMATION

Guidance for filling in this section

1. For each “indicator question”, please select one answer from the “drop-down” list in the yellow box.
2. If you wish to add any additional information on either one or more of the specific indicators for each strategy, and/or for other aspects of the national implementation of this strategy, please provide this information in the green “free-text” boxes below the indicator questions for each Strategy.
3. If you wish to amend any of the text you have put in a green “free-text” box, it is recommended that you cut-and-paste the existing text into a separate file, make the amendments, and then cut-and-paste the revised text back into the green box.
4. So as to assist Contracting Parties in referring to relevant information they provided in their National Report to COP9, for each indicator below (where appropriate) a cross-reference is provided to the equivalent indicator(s) in the COP9 NRF, shown thus: {x.x.x}

GOAL 1. THE WISE USE OF WETLANDS

STRATEGY 1.1: *Describe, assess and monitor the extent and condition of wetland resources at relevant scales, in order to inform and underpin implementation of the Convention, in particular in the application of the wise use principle.*

Indicator questions:

1.1.1 Does your country have a comprehensive National Wetland Inventory? {1.1.1}	A - Yes
1.1.2 Is the wetland inventory data and information maintained and made accessible to all stakeholders? {1.1.3; 1.1.6}	A - Yes
1.1.3 Does your country have information about the status and trends of the ecological character of wetlands (Ramsar sites and/or wetlands generally)? {1.2.2} [if “Yes”, please indicate in Additional implementation information below, from where or from whom this information can be accessed]	D - Planned
1.1.4 If the answer is “Yes” in 1.1.3, does this information indicate that the need to address adverse change in the ecological character of wetlands is now greater, the same, or less than in the previous triennium, for: a) Ramsar sites b) wetlands generally	--- ---

Additional implementation information:

A): on Indicators 1.1.1 – 1.1.4 For each piece of additional information text, please clearly identify to which indicator number it refers – e.g. “1.1.3: [.. additional information ...]”

1.1.1 National Wetland Inventory had been made by Czech Ramsar Committee and collaborators in period 1995-1998 and the complete list of wetlands and inland water ecosystems of the Czech Republic was published in 1999 in the Czech version (Mokřady České republiky, 1999). The list includes and describes all Czech wetlands on international, regional and local importance.

1.1.2 Stakeholders can find all necessary information in the book Mokřady České republiky which was distributed to all relevant institutions, administrations, agencies and libraries. An electronic version is planned.

1.1.3: We are planning to determine and specify indicators of the status and trends of the ecological character of the Czech Ramsar sites. The relevant study will be processed by the Expert group of the Czech Ramsar Committee in collaboration with other experts and scientists on wetlands issues and guarantors of the Ramsar sites as well. The study will start in 2008 and should be finished in 2009.

B): on any other aspects of Strategy 1.1 national implementation:

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STRATEGY 1.2: *Develop, review, amend when necessary, and implement national or supranational policies, legislation, institutions and practices, including impact assessment and valuation, in all Contracting Parties, to ensure that the wise use principle of the Convention is being effectively applied, where possible specifying the appropriate policy instrument(s) in each Contracting Party which ensures wise use of wetlands.*

Indicator questions:

1.2.1 Is a National Wetland Policy (or equivalent instrument) in place? {2.1.1} [If "Yes", please give the title and date of the policy in Additional implementation information]	C - In preparation
1.2.2 Does the National Wetland Policy (or equivalent instrument) incorporate any World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) targets and actions? {2.1.2}	A - Yes
1.2.3 Have wetland issues been incorporated into national strategies for sustainable development (including National Poverty Reduction Plans called for by the WSSD and water resources management and water efficiency plans)? {2.1.2}	C - Partly
1.2.4 Has the quantity and quality of water available to, and required by, wetlands been assessed?	A - Yes
1.2.5 Are Strategic Environmental Assessment practices applied when reviewing policies, programmes and plans that may impact upon wetlands? {2.2.2}	A - Yes

Additional implementation information:

A): on Indicators 1.2.1 – 1.2.5 For each piece of additional information text, please clearly identify to which indicator number it refers – e.g. "1.2.3: [.. additional information ...]"

1.2.1: NWP is in preparation as an Action Plan for Inland Water and Wetland Ecosystems of the National Biodiversity Strategy of the Czech Republic. Preparation of the document will finish in 2008.

B): on any other aspects of Strategy 1.2 national implementation:

STRATEGY 1.3: *Increase recognition of the significance of wetlands for reasons of water supply, coastal protection, flood defence, climate change mitigation, food security, poverty reduction, cultural heritage, and scientific research, with a focus on under-represented ecosystem types, through developing and disseminating methodology to achieve wise use of wetlands.*

Indicator questions:

1.3.1 Has an assessment been conducted of the ecosystem benefits/services provided by Ramsar sites? {3.3.1} [If “Yes” or “Partly”, please indicate in the Additional implementation information below, the year of assessment and from where or from whom this information can be obtained]	E - Planned
1.3.2 Have wise use wetland programmes and/or projects that contribute to poverty alleviation objectives and/or food and water security plans been implemented? {3.3.4}	F - Not applicable
1.3.3 Has national action been taken to implement the Guidelines for Global Action on Peatlands (Resolution VIII.17)? {3.2.1}	D - Planned
1.3.4 Has national action been taken to apply the guiding principles on cultural values of wetlands (Resolutions VIII.19 and IX.21)? {3.3.3}	B - No

Additional implementation information:

A): on Indicators 1.3.1 – 1.3.4 For each piece of additional information text, please clearly identify to which indicator number it refers – e.g. “1.3.3: [.. additional information ...]”

B): on any other aspects of Strategy 1.3 national implementation:

STRATEGY 1.4: *Integrate policies on the conservation and wise use of wetlands in the planning activities in all Contracting Parties and in decision-making processes at national, regional, provincial and local levels, particularly concerning territorial management, groundwater management, catchment/river basin management, coastal and marine zone planning, and responses to climate change, all in the context of implementing Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM).*

Indicator questions:

1.4.1 Has the Convention’s water-related guidance (see Resolution IX.1. Annex C) been used/applied in decision-making related to water resource planning and management? {3.4.2 – r3.4.xiv}	B - No
1.4.2 Have CEPA expertise and tools been incorporated into catchment/river basin planning and management?	A - Yes
1.4.3 Has the Convention’s guidance on wetlands and coastal zone management (Annex to Resolution VIII.4) been used/applied in Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) planning and decision-making? {3.4.5}	E - Not applicable

1.4.4 Have the implications for wetland conservation and wise use of national implementation of the Kyoto Protocol been assessed? {3.4.9}	B - No
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Additional implementation information:

A): on Indicators 1.4.1 – 1.4.4 For each piece of additional information text, please clearly identify to which indicator number it refers – e.g. “1.4.3: [.. additional information ...]”

[Green bar for additional information]

B): on any other aspects of Strategy 1.4 national implementation:

[Green bar for additional information]

STRATEGY 1.5: *Identify priority wetlands where restoration or rehabilitation would be beneficial and yield long-term environmental, social or economic benefits, and implement the necessary measures to recover these sites.*

Indicator questions:

1.5.1 Have wetland restoration/rehabilitation programmes or projects been implemented? {4.1.2} [If “Yes”, please identify any major programmes or projects in Additional implementation information]	A - Yes
1.5.2 Has the Convention’s guidance on wetland restoration (Annex to Resolution VIII.16; Wise Use Handbook 15, 3rd edition) been used/applied in designing and implementing wetland restoration/rehabilitation programmes or projects? {4.1.2}	C - Partly

Additional implementation information:

A): on Indicators 1.5.1 – 1.5.2 For each piece of additional information text, please clearly identify to which indicator number it refers – e.g. “1.5.2: [.. additional information ...]”

1.5.1 There is a Program for Revitalisation of River Systems in the framework of the Ministry of Environment of the Czech Republic. The program consist in the implementation of measures on water courses, reservoir and their watersheds that leas to gradual and stabilisation of the water regime in the landscape and renewal and creation of elements of a system of environmental stability bound to the water regime. The goal of the program is also increase of biodiversity.

B): on any other aspects of Strategy 1.5 national implementation:

[Green bar for additional information]

STRATEGY 1.6: *Develop guidance and promote protocols and actions to prevent, control or eradicate invasive alien species in wetland systems.*

Indicator questions:

1.6.1 Have national policies, strategies and management responses to threats from invasive species, particularly in wetlands, been developed and implemented? {r5.1.ii}	D - Planned
1.6.2 Have such policies, strategies and management responses been carried out in cooperation with the focal points of other conventions and international organisations/processes? {r5.1.ii}	A - Yes

Additional implementation information:

A): on Indicators 1.6.1 – 1.6.2 For each piece of additional information text, please clearly identify to which indicator number it refers – e.g. “1.6.2: [.. additional information ...]”

1.6.1 The strategy concerning invasive species in wetlands will be a part of the Action plan for Inland Water and Wetland Ecosystems that is in preparation.

B): on any other aspects of Strategy 1.6 national implementation:

[Empty green box for additional information]

GOAL 2. WETLANDS OF INTERNATIONAL IMPORTANCE

STRATEGY 2.1 *Apply the Strategic Framework and guidelines for the future development of the List of Wetlands of International Importance (Handbook 7, 2nd edition; Handbook 14, 3rd edition).*

Indicator questions:

2.1.1 Have a strategy and priorities been established for any further designation of Ramsar sites, using the Strategic Framework for the Ramsar List? {10.1.1}

[If further Ramsar site designations are planned, please indicate in Additional implementation information, the number of sites and anticipated year of designation]

E - All sites qualifying already designated

Additional implementation information:

A): on Indicator 2.1.1

B): on any other aspects of Strategy 2.1 national implementation:

STRATEGY 2.2 *Maintain the Ramsar Sites Information Service and constantly update it with the best available information, and use the Ramsar Sites Database as a tool for guiding the further designation of wetlands for the List of Wetlands of International Importance.*

Indicator questions:

2.2.1 Have all required updates of the Information Sheet on Ramsar Wetlands been submitted to the Ramsar Secretariat? {10.2.3}

B - No

2.2.2 Are the Ramsar Sites Information Service and its database used in national implementation of the Convention concerning Ramsar site issues?

C - Partly

Additional implementation information:

A): on Indicators 2.2.1 – 2.2.2 For each piece of additional information text, please clearly identify to which indicator number it refers – e.g. “2.2.1: [.. additional information ...]”

Nine RIS had been updated and sent to Ramsar Secretariat during last triennium, three RIS have not been updated up to now. However we wish to complete them in 2008.

B): on any other aspects of Strategy 2.2 national implementation:

STRATEGY 2.3 *Maintain the ecological character of all Ramsar sites.*

Indicator questions:

2.3.1 Have the measures required to maintain the ecological character of all Ramsar sites been defined and applied? {11.1.1}	E - Planned
2.3.2 Have management plans/strategies been developed and implemented at all Ramsar sites? {11.1.2} [If “Yes” or “Some sites”, please indicate, in Additional implementation information below, for how many sites have plans/strategies been developed but not implemented; for how many are plans/strategies in preparation; and for how many are plans/strategies being reviewed or revised]	C - Some sites
2.3.3 Have cross-sectoral site management committees been established at Ramsar sites? {11.1.5} [If “Yes” or “Some sites”, please name the sites in Additional implementation information]	B - No
2.3.4 Has any assessment of Ramsar site management effectiveness been carried out? [if “Yes” or “Some sites”, please indicate in Additional implementation information below the year of assessment and from whom, or from where, the information is available]	C - Some sites

Additional implementation information:

A): on Indicators 2.3.1 – 2.3.4 For each piece of additional information text, please clearly identify to which indicator number it refers – e.g. “2.3.3: [.. additional information ...]”

2.3.2. In compliance of the Czech legislation (Law of Nature and Landscape Conservation) management plans have being prepared for protected areas (national parks, landscape protected areas, national natural reserves and natural reserves). Ramsar sites are usually declared in some category of protected area and are mentioned in management plan together with other aspects of protection. It means there is no plans prepared directly for RS.

2.3.4. The Agency of nature Conservation and Landscape protection and Administrations of Landcape protected areas are responsible for assessment of management plans however the report from the assessment is not publish on web pages in general. It is used for preparation of next/new management plans.

B): on any other aspects of Strategy 2.3 national implementation:

STRATEGY 2.4 *Monitor the condition of Ramsar sites, notify the Ramsar Secretariat without delay of changes affecting Ramsar sites as required by Article 3.2, and apply the Montreux Record and Ramsar Advisory Mission as tools to address problems.*

Indicator questions:

<p>2.4.1 Are arrangements in place for the Administrative Authority to be informed of changes or likely changes in the ecological character of Ramsar sites, pursuant to Article 3.2? {r11.2.iv}</p> <p>[If “Yes” or “Some sites”, please summarise the mechanism(s) established in Additional implementation information]</p>	<p>A - Yes</p>
<p>2.4.2 Have all cases of change or likely change in the ecological character of Ramsar sites been reported to the Ramsar Secretariat, pursuant to Article 3.2,? {11.2.4}</p> <p>[If “Yes” or “Some sites”, please indicate in Additional implementation information below for which Ramsar sites Article 3.2 reports have been made by the Administrative Authority to the Secretariat, and for which sites such reports of change or likely change have not yet been made]</p>	<p>A - Yes</p>
<p>2.4.3 If applicable, have actions been taken to address the issues for which Ramsar sites have been listed on the Montreux Record? {r11.2.viii}</p> <p>[If “Yes” or “Partly”, please provide in Additional implementation information information about the actions taken]</p>	<p>A - Yes</p>

Additional implementation information:

A): on Indicators 2.4.1 – 2.4.3 For each piece of additional information text, please clearly identify to which indicator number it refers – e.g. “2.4.3: [.. additional information ...]”

2.4.1 To inform of changes or likely changes in the ecological character of the Ramsar Sites belongs to obligations of the guarantors designated for each of the Czech Ramsar sites. Guarantors are members of the Expert group of the Czech Ramsar Committee and they usually work at administrations of landscape protected areas in which (or near which) a Ramsar site is situated.

Once a year, before meeting of the Czech Ramsar Committee, the guarantors fill in the questionnaire concerning situation, changes and potential danger in Ramsar site that are responsible. Individual questionnaires are discussed at the meeting of Czech Ramsar Committee and some recommendations, resolutions or proposals of solutions are approved if necessary.

2.4.2. The secretariat was informed about likely change of the three of the Czech RSs together with request to list these RSs to the Montreux Record.

2.4.3. The Czech Ramsar Committee has tried in compliance with the plan of activities for triennium 2006-2008 to remove RS from Montreux Record. Follows actions were made: meetings, negotiations, personal engagement of some members of the Committee and guarantors of RS.

B): on any other aspects of Strategy 2.4 national implementation:

STRATEGY 2.5 *Promote inventory and integrated management of shared wetlands and hydrological basins, including cooperative monitoring and management of shared wetland-dependent species.*

Indicator questions:

<p>2.5.1 Have all transboundary/shared wetland systems been identified? {12.1.1}</p>	<p>A - Yes</p>
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2.5.2 Is effective cooperative management in place for shared wetland systems (including regional site and waterbird flyway networks)? {12.1.2; 12.2.2}

[If “Yes” or “Partly”, please indicate in Additional implementation information below for which wetland systems such management is in place]

B - No

Additional implementation information:

A): on Indicators 2.5.1 – 2.5.2 For each piece of additional information text, please clearly identify to which indicator number it refers – e.g. “2.5.1: [.. additional information ...]”

2.5.1 - 2.5.2 Transboundary wetland system and potential transboundary Ramsar sites have been already identified however cooperative management has not been established in place for shared wetland systems so far.

B): on any other aspects of Strategy 2.5 national implementation:

STRATEGY 2.6 *Support existing regional arrangements under the Convention and promote additional arrangements.*

Indicator questions:

2.6.1 Has the Contracting Party been involved in the development of a regional initiative under the framework of the Convention? {12.3.2}

[If “Yes” or “Planned”, please indicate in Additional implementation information below the name(s) and collaborating countries of each regional initiative]

A - Yes

Additional implementation information:

A): on Indicator 2.6.1

The Czech Republic is a member of Carpathian Wetland Initiative and we cooperate in the framework of this initiative with Slovakia primarily. As a member of the Standing Committee, the CR participated at preparation of the list of activities of CWI for the next triennium.

B): on any other aspects of Strategy 2.6 national implementation:

GOAL 3. INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

STRATEGY 3.1 *Collaboration with other institutions: Work as partners with international and regional multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs) and other agencies.*

Indicator questions:

3.1.1 Are mechanisms in place at the national level for collaboration between the Ramsar Administrative Authority and the focal points of other multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs)? {13.1.1}	A - Yes
3.1.2 Are the national focal points of other MEAs invited to participate in the National Ramsar/Wetland Committee? {13.1.iii}	A - Yes
3.1.3 [For African Contracting Parties only] Has the Contracting Party participated in the implementation of the wetland programme under NEPAD? {13.1.6}	E - Not applicable

Additional implementation information:

A): on Indicators 3.1.1 – 3.1.3 For each piece of additional information text, please clearly identify to which indicator number it refers – e.g. “3.1.3: [.. additional information ...]”

3.1.1 There are several mechanisms for collaboration of NFPs at the national level:

- a) The working group consisting of NFPs of MEAs has been established at the Ministry of Environment and has regular meetings once or twice a year to share and exchange information and relevant experience in the field of implementation of MEAs. Also the document providing a complete information about implementation of MEAs has been prepared by NFPs at the Ministry of Environment every year. It allows NFPs to share all needed info.
- b) NFP of Ramsar Convention is simultaneously a NFP of CMS and AEWA
- c) NFPs of CBD, Ramsar, CMS, AEWA, EUROBATS, Carpathian Convention, Bern Convention and CITES work together at the same department of the Ministry of Environment (Department of International Conservation of Biodiversity).

3.1.2 A NFP for Convention on Desertification is a member of the Czech Ramsar Committee.

NFP of Ramsar Convention is an Executive Secretary of the Czech Ramsar Committee and is a NFP of CMS and AEWA as well.

B): on any other aspects of Strategy 3.1 national implementation:

STRATEGY 3.2 *Sharing of expertise and information: Promote the sharing of expertise and information.*

Indicator questions:

3.2.1 Have networks, including twinning arrangements, been established, nationally or internationally, for knowledge sharing and training for wetlands that share common features? {14.1.3} [If “Yes” or “Partly”, please indicate in Additional implementation information below the networks and wetlands involved]	D - Planned
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3.2.2 Has information about the country's wetlands and/or Ramsar sites and their status been made publicly available (e.g., through publications or a Web site)?
{14.1.1}

C - Partly

Additional implementation information:

A): on Indicators 3.2.1-3.2.2

3.2.1 It is planned in the framework of Trilateral Ramsar Platform (Czech Republic, Austria, the Slovak Republic) and in the framework of Carpathian Wetland Initiative.

B): on any other aspects of Strategy 3.2 national implementation:

GOAL 4. IMPLEMENTATION CAPACITY

STRATEGY 4.1 *Local communities, indigenous people, and cultural values: Encourage active and informed participation of local communities and indigenous people, including women and youth, in the conservation and wise use of wetlands, including in relation to understanding the dynamics of cultural values.*

Indicator questions:

4.1.1 Has resource information been compiled on local communities' and indigenous people's participation in wetland management? {6.1.5}	B - No
4.1.2 Have traditional knowledge and management practices in relation to wetlands been documented and their application encouraged? {6.1.2}	C - Partly
4.1.3 Does the Contracting Party promote public participation in decision-making (with respect to wetlands), especially with local stakeholder involvement in the selection of new Ramsar sites and in Ramsar site management? {6.1.4}	B - No
4.1.4 Have educational and training activities been developed concerning cultural aspects of wetlands? {r6.1.vii}	B - No
4.1.5 Have cultural values of wetlands been included in the management planning of Ramsar sites and other wetlands? {r.6.1.vi} <small>[if "Yes" or "Partly", please indicate, if known, how many Ramsar sites and their names in Additional implementation information below]</small>	B - No

Additional implementation information:

A): on Indicators 4.1.1 – 4.1.5 For each piece of additional information text, please clearly identify to which indicator number it refers – e.g. "4.1.3: [.. additional information ...]"

B): on any other aspects of Strategy 4.1 national implementation:

STRATEGY 4.2 *Promote the involvement of the private sector in the conservation and wise use of wetlands.*

Indicator questions:

4.2.1 Is the private sector encouraged to apply the wise use principle in activities and investments concerning wetlands? {7.1.1}	A - Yes
4.2.2 Have private-sector "Friends of Wetlands" fora or similar mechanisms been established? {7.1.4} <small>[If "Yes" or "Partly", please indicate in Additional implementation information below the private sector companies involved]</small>	B - No

Additional implementation information:

A): on Indicators 4.2.1 – 4.2.2 For each piece of additional information text, please clearly identify to which indicator number it refers – e.g. “4.2.2: [.. additional information ...]”

[Green bar for additional information]

B): on any other aspects of Strategy 4.2 national implementation:

[Green bar for additional information]

STRATEGY 4.3 *Promote measures which encourage the application of the wise use principle.*

Indicator questions:

4.3.1 Have actions been taken to promote incentive measures which encourage the conservation and wise use of wetlands? {8.1.1}	C - Partly
4.3.2 Have actions been taken to remove perverse incentive measures which discourage conservation and wise use of wetlands? {8.1.1}	B - No

Additional implementation information:

A): on Indicators 4.3.1 – 4.3.2 For each piece of additional information text, please clearly identify to which indicator number it refers – e.g. “4.3.2: [.. additional information ...]”

[Green bar for additional information]

B): on any other aspects of Strategy 4.3 national implementation:

[Green bar for additional information]

STRATEGY 4.4 *Support, and assist in implementing at all levels, the Convention’s Communication, Education, and Public Awareness Programme (Resolution VIII.31) for promoting the conservation and wise use of wetlands through public participation and communication, education, and public awareness (CEPA).*

Indicator questions:

4.4.1 Has a mechanism for planning and implementing wetland CEPA (National Ramsar/Wetland Committee or other mechanism) been established with both CEPA Government and NGO National Focal Point (NFP) involvement? {r9.iii.ii} [If “Yes” or “Partly”, please describe in Additional implementation information below the mechanism]	C - Partly
4.4.2 Has a National Action Plan (or plans at the subnational, catchment or local level) for wetland CEPA been developed? {r.9.iii.iii} [Even if a National Action Plan has not yet been developed, if broad CEPA objectives for national CEPA actions have been established please indicate this in the Additional implementation information section for Strategy 4.4]	B - No
4.4.3 Have actions been taken to communicate and share information cross-sectorally on wetland issues amongst relevant ministries, departments and agencies? {r9.iii.v}	B - No

<p>4.4.4 Have national campaigns, programmes, and projects been carried out to raise community awareness of the ecosystem benefits/services provided by wetlands? {r9.vi.i}</p> <p>[If: a) support has been provided for the delivery of these and other CEPA activities by other organisations; and/or b) these have included awareness-raising for social, economic and/or cultural values, please indicate this in the Additional implementation information section for Strategy 4.4 below]</p>	<p>D - Planned</p>
<p>4.4.5 Have World Wetlands Day activities in the country, either government and NGO-led or both, been carried out? {r9.vi.ii}</p>	<p>C - Planned</p>
<p>4.4.6 Have education centres been established at Ramsar sites and other wetlands? {r9.viii.i}</p> <p>[If any such centres are part of the Wetland Link International (WLI) Programme of the Wildfowl & Wetland Trust, UK, please indicate this in the Additional implementation information section for Strategy 4.4 below]</p>	<p>C - Some sites</p>

Additional implementation information:

A): on Indicators 4.4.1 – 4.4.6 For each piece of additional information text, please clearly identify to which indicator number it refers – e.g. “4.4.3: [.. additional information ...]”

4.4.1. There is no CEPA NGO NFP yet however contact and cooperation with NGOs is guaranteed by membership of representative of NGOs in the Czech Ramsar Committee. NGOs participate and cooperate with Ministry of the Environment in preparation and realisation of training courses on wetlands.

B): on any other aspects of Strategy 4.4 national implementation:

STRATEGY 4.5 *Promote international assistance to support the conservation and wise use of wetlands, while ensuring that environmental safeguards and assessments are an integral component of all development projects that affect wetlands, including foreign and domestic investments.*

Indicator questions:

<p>4.5.1 [For Contracting Parties with development assistance agencies only] Has funding support been provided from the development assistance agency for wetland conservation and management in other countries? {15.1.1}</p> <p>[If “Yes” or “Some countries”, please indicate in Additional implementation the countries supported since COP9]</p>	<p>D - Not applicable</p>
<p>4.5.2 [For Contracting Parties in receipt of development assistance only] Has funding support been mobilized from development assistance agencies specifically for in-country wetland conservation and management? {15.1.8}</p> <p>[If “Yes” or “Some countries”, please indicate in Additional implementation the agencies from which support has been received since COP9]</p>	<p>D - Not applicable</p>

Additional implementation information:

A): on Indicators 4.5.1 – 4.5.2 For each piece of additional information text, please clearly identify to which indicator number it refers – e.g. “4.5.2: [.. additional information ...]”

[Green bar for additional information]

B): on any other aspects of Strategy 4.5 national implementation:

[Green bar for additional information]

STRATEGY 4.6 *Provide the financial resources required for the Convention’s governance, mechanisms and programmes to achieve the expectations of the Conference of the Contracting Parties.*

Indicator questions:

4.6.1 {16.1.1}	A - Yes
a) For the last triennium have Ramsar contributions been paid in full and in a timely manner (by 31 March of calendar year)?	
b) If “No” in 4.6.1 a), please clarify what plan is in place to ensure future prompt payment:	
[Empty space for answer]	

4.6.2 {16.1.2}	A - Yes
a) Has any additional financial support been provided through voluntary contributions to the Ramsar Small Grants Fund or other non-core funded Convention activity?	
b) If yes, please state the amounts:	
The Czech Republic provided 10,000 EUR in 2007 /for 2008/ and 15,000 CHF in 2006 /for 2007/ as the voluntary contribution.	

Additional implementation information:

A): on Indicators 4.6.1 – 4.6.2 For each piece of additional information text, please clearly identify to which indicator number it refers – e.g. “4.6.2: [.. additional information ...]”

[Green bar for additional information]

B): on any other aspects of Strategy 4.6 national implementation:

[Green bar for additional information]

STRATEGY 4.7 *Ensure that the Conference of the Contracting Parties, Standing Committee, Scientific and Technical Review Panel, and Ramsar Secretariat are operating at a high level of efficiency and effectiveness to support implementation of this Framework.*

Indicator questions:

<p>4.7.1 Has the Contracting Party used its previous Ramsar National Reports in monitoring its implementation of the Convention? [If “Yes” or “Partly”, please indicate in Additional implementation information how the Reports have been used for monitoring]</p>	<p>B - No</p>
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Additional implementation information:

A): on Indicator 4.7.1

B): on any other aspects of Strategy 4.7 national implementation:

STRATEGY 4.8 *Develop the capacity within, and promote cooperation among, institutions in Contracting Parties to achieve conservation and wise use of wetlands.*

Indicator questions:

<p>4.8.1 Has a review of national institutions responsible for the conservation and wise use of wetlands been completed? {18.1.1} [If “Yes” or “Partly”, please indicate in Additional implementation information if this has led to proposals for, or implementation of, any changes in institutional responsibilities]</p>	<p>E - Planned</p>
<p>4.8.2 Is a National Ramsar/Wetlands cross-sectoral Committee (or equivalent body) in place and operational? {18.1.2} [If “Yes”, please summarise in Additional implementation information its membership and frequency of meetings]</p>	<p>A - Yes</p>

Additional implementation information:

A): on Indicators 4.8.1 – 4.8.2 For each piece of additional information text, please clearly identify to which indicator number it refers – e.g. “4.8.2: [.. additional information ...]”

4.8.2 There is the Czech Ramsar Committee, an advisory body of the Ministry of the Environment in wetlands issues. The main task of the Committee is to contribute to the effective implementation of the Ramsar Convention in the Czech Republic.

Competence of the Committee are:

1. deal with topical issues related to implementation of the Ramsar Convention in the Czech Republic and prepare recommendations for negotiations of the Ministry with the bodies of the Ramsar Convention and other contracting parties to the Ramsar Convention;
2. study the documents sent to the Ministry by the bodies of the Ramsar Convention and submit its recommendations to the Ministry on the basis of these documents;
3. propose to the Ministry delegates for conferences of the contracting parties to the Ramsar Convention and other events organized by the bodies of the Ramsar Convention;
4. participate in preparation of materials required for participation of the delegation of the Czech Republic in conferences of the contracting parties to the Ramsar Convention and other events organized by the bodies of the Ramsar Convention;
5. participate, in collaboration with the Ministry, in the preparation of the national reports on fulfillment of the obligations following from the Ramsar Convention in the Czech Republic;
6. propose supplementation of the list of wetlands of international, national and local importance;
7. coordinate the preparation of expert documents required for designation of wetlands of international importance;
8. participate in the preparation and updating of plans of management of specially protected territories encompassing wetlands of international importance;
9. propose to the Ministry measures in case of danger to wetlands of international importance;
10. participate in the preparation of bilateral and multilateral programs of cooperation between the Czech Republic and other contracting parties to the Ramsar Convention in conservation and wise use of wetlands;
11. participate in the preparation of information and educational materials for raising public awareness of conservation of wetlands and waterfowl;
12. fulfill other tasks as an advisory body in matters of Ramsar Convention, conservation of wetlands and their biodiversity.

The Committee shall have at least 7 and no more than 15 members. Employees of the Ministry and organizations of the Ministry, with the consent of their superiors, workers of scientific and research workplaces and members of public associations whose mission, according to their statutes, is to protect nature and the landscape may be members of the Committee. If necessary for activities of the Committee, its members may also include employees of the Ministry of Agriculture

At present the Czech Ramsar Committee has 10 members in total, an executive secretary is not a member of the Committee. A chair of the Committee is elected by members for triennium after COP of Ramsar Convention. At present the CRC is composed of representatives of governmental institutions (Ministry of the Environment, Agency for Nature Conservation and Landscape Protection and Water Research Institute) and representatives of NGOs deal with the nature protection (Czech Union of Nature Conservationists, Czech Society of Ornithology)

For support of its activities, the Committee has established an expert group from amongst persons who are professionally qualified in conservation of wetlands and waterfowl. Members shall be appointed to the expert group on the basis of their written consent. Members of the Expert group are also so called 'guarantors', i.e. staff members of the administrations of protected landscape areas and national parks hosting Ramsar sites.

The Czech Ramsar Committee prepared and approved the Strategic plan of wetlands conservation for the period 2004-2008 and one-year-working plans of the CRC for the period 2004-2008.

Meetings of the CRC are organised at least once annually.

B): on any other aspects of Strategy 4.8 national implementation:

STRATEGY 4.9 *Maximize the benefits of working with the Convention's International Organization Partners (IOPs*) and others.*

Indicator question:

4.9.1 Has your country received assistance from one or more of the Convention's IOPs* in its implementation of the Convention? [If "Yes", please provide in Additional implementation information the name(s) of the IOP(s) and the type of assistance provided]	B - No
4.9.2 Has your country provided assistance to one or more of the Convention's IOPs*? [If "Yes", please provide in Additional implementation information the name(s) of the IOP(s) and the type of assistance provided]	B - No

* The IOPs are: BirdLife International, International Water Management Institute (IWMI), Wetlands International, The World Conservation Union (IUCN), and WWF International.

Additional implementation information:

A): on Indicators 4.9.1-4.9.2

B): on any other aspects of Strategy 4.9 national implementation:

STRATEGY 4.10 *Identify the training needs of institutions and individuals concerned with the conservation and wise use of wetlands, particularly in developing countries and countries in transition, and implement appropriate responses.*

Indicator questions:

4.10.1 Has your country provided support to, or participated in, the development of regional (i.e., covering more than one country) wetland training and research centres? [If "Yes", please indicate in Additional implementation information the name(s) of the centre(s)]	B - No
4.10.2 Has an assessment of national and local training needs for the implementation of the Convention, including in the use of the Wise Use Handbooks, been made? {20.1.2}	D - In progress
4.10.3 Have opportunities for wetland site manager training in the country been provided? {20.1.6}	A - Yes

Additional implementation information:

A): on Indicators 4.10.1 – 4.10.3 For each piece of additional information text, please clearly identify to which indicator number it refers – e.g. "4.10.3: [.. additional information ...]"

4.10.2 Some of national needs had been identified and several training seminars were organised during the last triennium. However there is an intention to continue in the assessment of training needs and training seminars organising.

B): on any other aspects of Strategy 4.10 national implementation:

