RIO + 20: WHAT DIFFERENCE HAS TWO **DECADES MADE TO** STATE PRACTICE IN THE REGULATION OF INVASIVE **ALIEN SPECIES?**



"almost all nations observe almost all principles of international law and almost all of their obligations almost all of the time"

Louis Henkin,



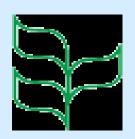
How Nations Behave

THE INTERNATIONAL LANDSCAPE IN 1968 DIFFERENT FROM THE PRESENT

In 1968 the environmental movement still lay in the future

Proliferation of treaty regimes from latter part of 20th century.











United NationsFramework Convention on Climate Change



1. STATES' OBLIGATIONS WITH RESPECT TO INVASIVE ALIEN **SPECIES**

2. WHETHER, AND HOW, STATES HAVE COMPLIED WITH THEIR OBLIGATIONS







Invasive Alien
Species (IAS) are
alien species that
threaten ecosystems,
habitats or other
species













Japanese star fish

Zebra mussel

Mongoose

prevent the introduction of or control or eradicate those alien species that threaten ecosystems, habitats or species

ARTICLE 8(h) CBD

- 15 principles designed to improve and harmonize state practice
 - Cornerstones are the ecosystem approach and precautionary approach.
 - Three-tiered approach that emphasizes preventing introductions, followed by eradication and control measures

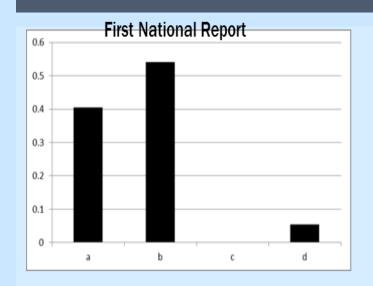
CBD
Guiding
Principles
(adopted
by COPs
2002)

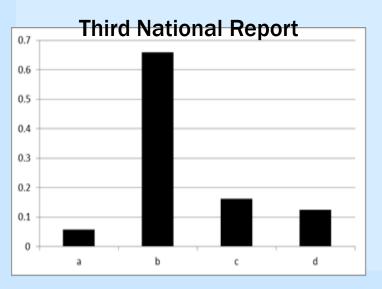
- Parties prepare and file reports at intervals determined by the COPs.
- To date four National Reports, due:
 - First National Report 1997
 - Second National Report 2001
 - Third National Report 2005
 - Fourth National Report 2009

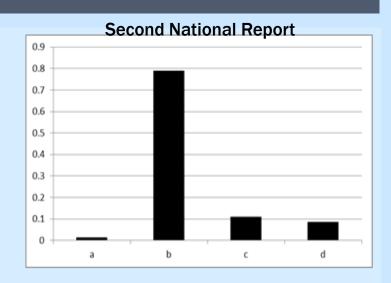
ARTICLE 26 CBD

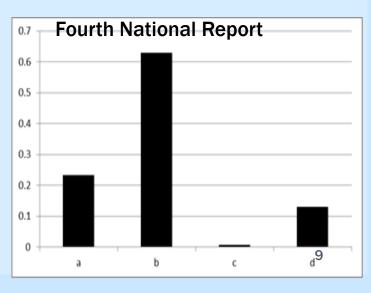


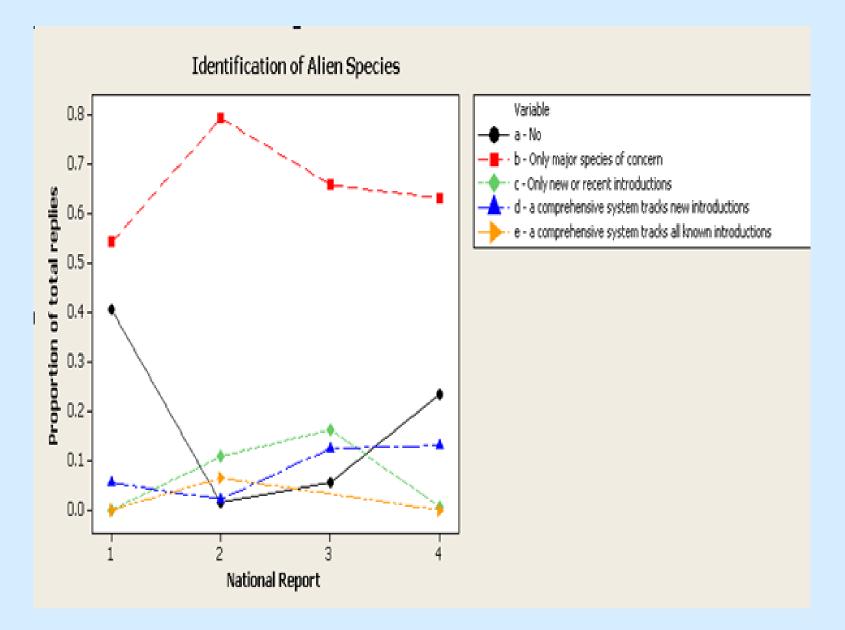
HAS YOUR COUNTRY IDENTIFIED ALIEN SPECIES INTRODUCED? (Q 88)



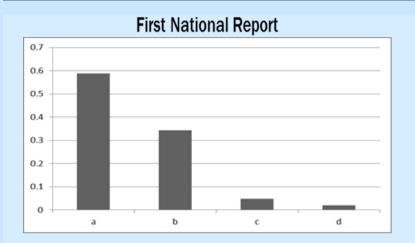


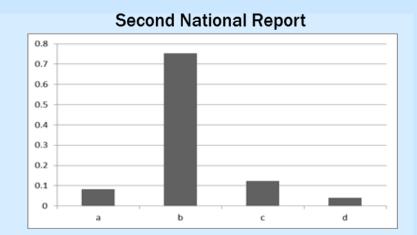




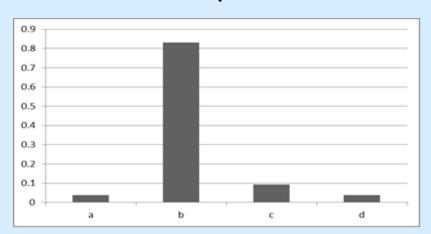


MEASURES WITH RESPECT TO IAS (Q90)

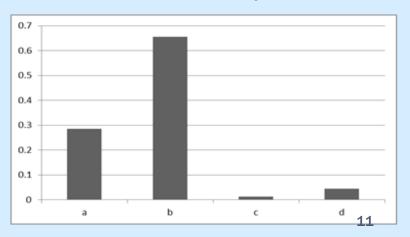


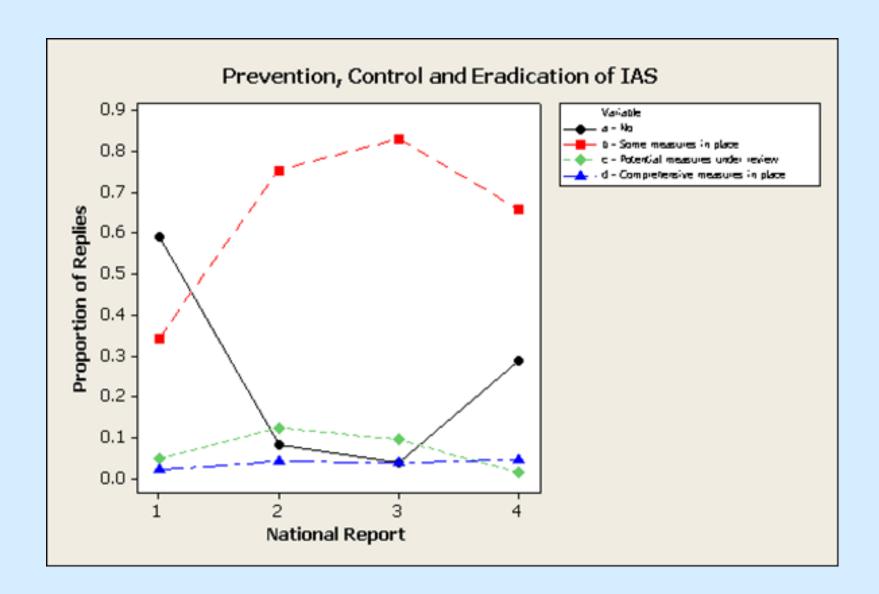


Third National Report



Fourth National Report





USE OF CBD GUIDING PRINCIPLES

3RD NATIONAL REPORT

Question 52: Has your country reviewed relevant policies, legislation and institutions in the light of the Guiding Principles, and adjusted or developed policies, legislation and institutions? (Decision VI/23).:

a No	b No, but review under way.	c Yes, review completed and adjustment proposed.	d Yes, adjustment and development ongoing.	e Yes, some adjustment and development completed.	Total responses to this question	Not addressed/no response
43	30	11	15	6	105	9
41%	28.5%	10.5%	14.3%	5.7	100%	

WHAT DIFFERENCE HAS RIO + 20 MADE?

- Most states complying to some extent.
- By 4th National Report only 7 states had comprehensive measures.

CONSTRAINED BY:

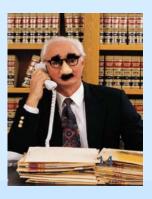
- RESOURCING
- POLITICAL WILL



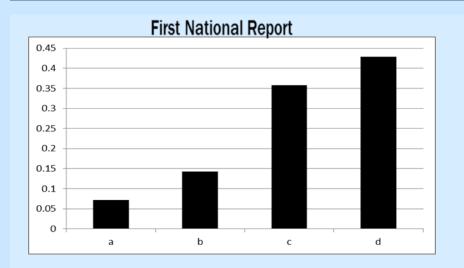


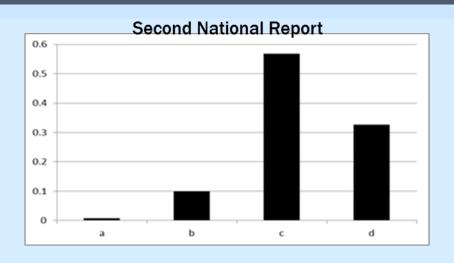




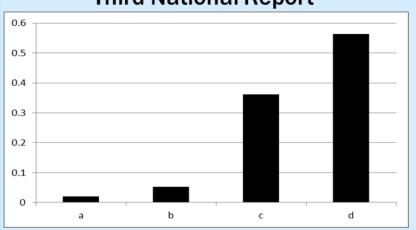


ADEQUACY OF RESOURCING

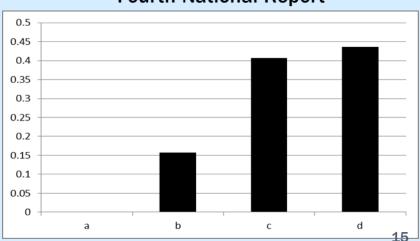




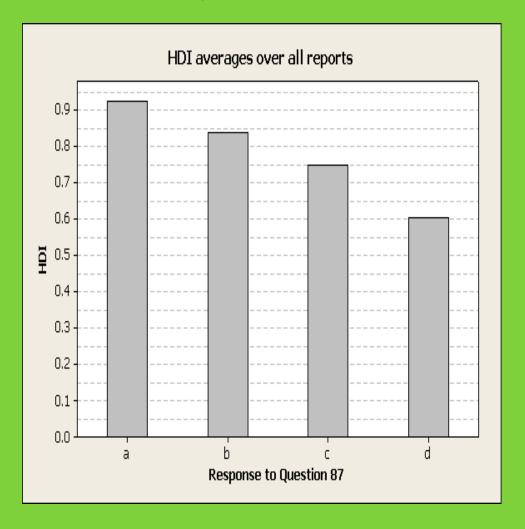
Third National Report



Fourth National Report



Resourcing Correlated with the HDI



Resourcing is:

- (a) Good
- (b) Adequate
- (c) Limiting
- (d) Severely Limiting

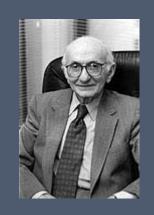
HDI = Human Development Index



Robyn Eckersley

'The Big Chill: The WTO and Multilateral Environmental Agreements' MORE STATES ARE
WORKING TOWARDS
COMPLIANCE THAN STATES
THAT ARE NOT.

GREATER EFFORT,
HOWEVER, IS REQUIRED TO
IMPROVE THE QUALITY AND
EFFECTIVENESS OF IAS
REGIMES.





CONCLUSION

- IAS is a global issue
- Regime only as strong as weakest link
- Without stronger regulation the mistakes of today may not materialize for several generations, laying the foundation for ever-increasing future problems.

