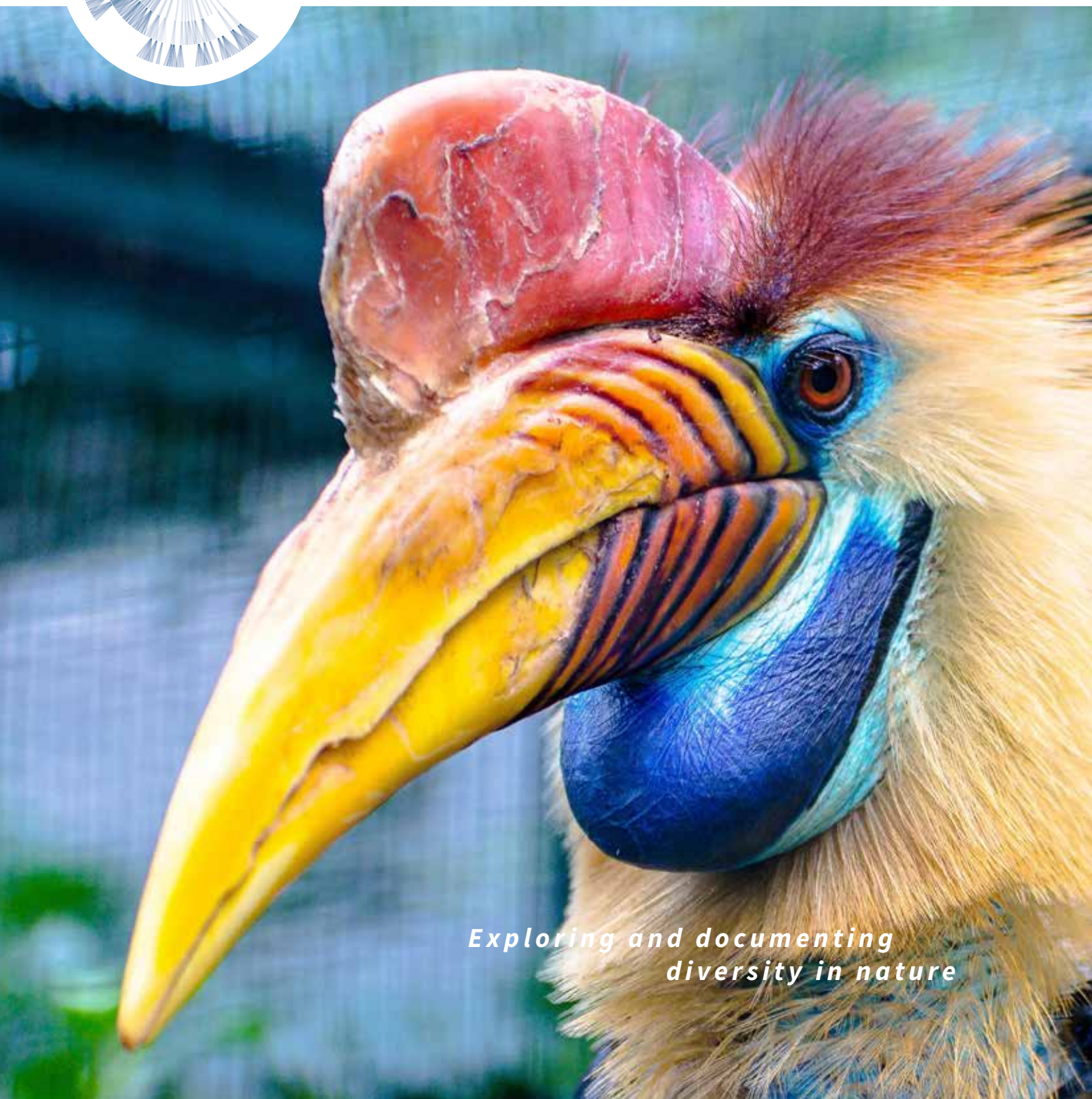


Consortium of European Taxonomic Facilities

BRATISLAVA DECLARATION ON THE 2050 VISION OF THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY



*Exploring and documenting
diversity in nature*

Signatories

AUSTRIA

Biology Centre of Upper Austria State Museums
Natural History Museum Vienna

BELGIUM

Meise Botanic Garden
Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences
Royal Museum for Central Africa

BULGARIA

Bulgarian Consortium: Bulgarian Academy of Sciences,
Institute of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Research
Bulgarian Consortium: National Museum of Natural History

CZECH REPUBLIC

Czech Consortium: Faculty of Science, Charles University in Prague
Czech Consortium: Institute of Botany, The Czech Academy of Sciences
Czech Consortium: National Museum, Prague

DENMARK

Natural History Museum of Denmark

ESTONIA

Estonian Consortium: Estonian Museum of Natural History
Estonian Consortium: Estonian University of Life Sciences
Estonian Consortium: Tallinn University of Technology
Estonian Consortium: University of Tartu Natural
History Museum and Botanical Garden

FINLAND

Finnish Museum of Natural History – LUOMUS

FRANCE

National Museum of Natural History

GERMANY

Bavarian Natural History Collections
Natural History Museum Berlin
Botanic Garden and Botanical Museum Berlin, Freie Universität Berlin
Senckenberg Society for Nature Research
Stuttgart State Museum of Natural History
Zoological Research Museum Alexander Koenig - Bonn
NORe Consortium: CeNaK - Centre of Natural History - University of Hamburg
NORe Consortium: German Oceanographic Museum Stralsund
NORe Consortium: Müritzeum
NORe Consortium: Museum of Nature and Environment Lübeck
NORe Consortium: Natural History Museum Namu Bielefeld
NORe Consortium: State Museum of Natural History Braunschweig
NORe Consortium: State Museum Nature and Man Oldenburg
NORe Consortium: Übersee – Museum of Bremen
NORe Consortium: Zoological Collection of the University of Rostock
NORe Consortium: Zoological Institute and Museum Greifswald
NORe Consortium: Zoological Museum Kiel

GREECE

Natural History Museum of Crete

HUNGARY

Hungarian Natural History Museum

ISRAEL

The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, National Natural History Collections
The Steinhardt Museum of Natural History, Israel
National Center for Biodiversity Studies

ITALY

Italian Consortium: Natural History Museum, University of Florence
Italian Consortium: Natural History Museum of Genova

NETHERLANDS

Naturalis Biodiversity Center

NORWAY

Natural History Museum - University of Oslo

POLAND

Museum and Institute of Zoology - Polish Academy of Sciences

SLOVAKIA

Slovakian Consortium: Comenius University
- Faculty of Natural Sciences - Botany
Slovakian Consortium: Comenius University
- Faculty of Natural Sciences - Zoology
Slovakian Consortium: Pavol Jozef Šafárik
University in Košice - Faculty of Science
Slovakian Consortium: Plant Science and Biodiversity Centre,
Slovak Academy of Sciences, Institute of Botany
Slovakian Consortium: Slovak Academy of Sciences - Institute of Zoology
Slovakian Consortium: Slovak National Museum - Museum of National History

SPAIN

Spanish Consortium: CSIC. National Museum of Natural Sciences
Spanish Consortium: CSIC. Royal Botanic Garden of Madrid

SWEDEN

Swedish Museum of Natural History
Gothenburg Consortium: Department of Biology and
Environmental Sciences, Gothenburg University
Gothenburg Consortium: Gothenburg Botanic Garden
Gothenburg Consortium: Gothenburg Natural History Museum

SWITZERLAND

Geneva Consortium: Conservatory and Botanical Garden of the City of Geneva
Geneva Consortium: Natural History Museum of the City of Geneva

UNITED KINGDOM

Natural History Museum London
Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh

We, the Governing Board of the Consortium of European Taxonomic Facilities (CETAF), meeting in Bratislava, Slovakia:

Recognise the deep global concern about the increasing threats to biodiversity, arising from habitat loss and degradation, climate change, excessive nutrient loads and other forms of pollution, over-exploitation and unsustainable use, and invasive alien species, among other issues;

Recognise further that the current loss of species and ecosystems, and the concomitant damage to ecosystem services vital to sustaining a healthy planet and delivering benefits essential for all people, pose a clear threat;

Note that for many parts of the world and for many groups of organisms the majority of species are not yet known to science or, where known, cannot be easily identified, with the consequence that Parties find major difficulties in inventorying, protecting and preserving their biological diversity.

With this will in mind, we,

Recognise the continuing significance of the taxonomic impediment to the sound management and conservation of biodiversity, the removal of which is a crucial, rate-determining step in the proper implementation of the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity;

Note the importance of developing and applying taxonomic information to the needs of the Convention on Biological Diversity.

Recalling the decisions of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity that established the Global Taxonomy Initiative and set out the objectives, plans and a programme of work to address the taxonomic impediment and build capacity, to increase the availability of taxonomic expertise and knowledge, and to speed up the documenting and understanding of biodiversity;

We,

Highlight the global importance of the institutions that are members of the Consortium of European Taxonomic Facilities (CETAF), the scientific collections they hold, the taxonomic expertise of their staff and students, their programmes of geological and taxonomic discovery and training, and their principle of sharing taxonomic information openly to serve science and society;

Emphasise the partnerships developed by members of Consortium of European Taxonomic Facilities (CETAF) with organisations and countries around the world, their extensive taxonomic capacity-building activities, and members' engagement with regional and global initiatives, including the Global Biodiversity Information Facility, the Catalogue of Life, the International Barcode of Life, the Consortium of Scientific Partners of the Convention on Biological Diversity, and others;

Underline the 'taxonomic imperative' to develop and make available taxonomic expertise, taxonomic knowledge and biodiversity information to anyone contributing to the implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity in a timely and reliable manner.

The members of the Consortium of European Taxonomic Facilities pledge themselves to the support of the implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity, the attainment of the 2050 Vision, and the fostering of taxonomic contributions and expertise.

Bratislava, 15 November 2018



15 NOVEMBER 2018

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Close-up of *Morpho menelaus*
 @RBINS 2018