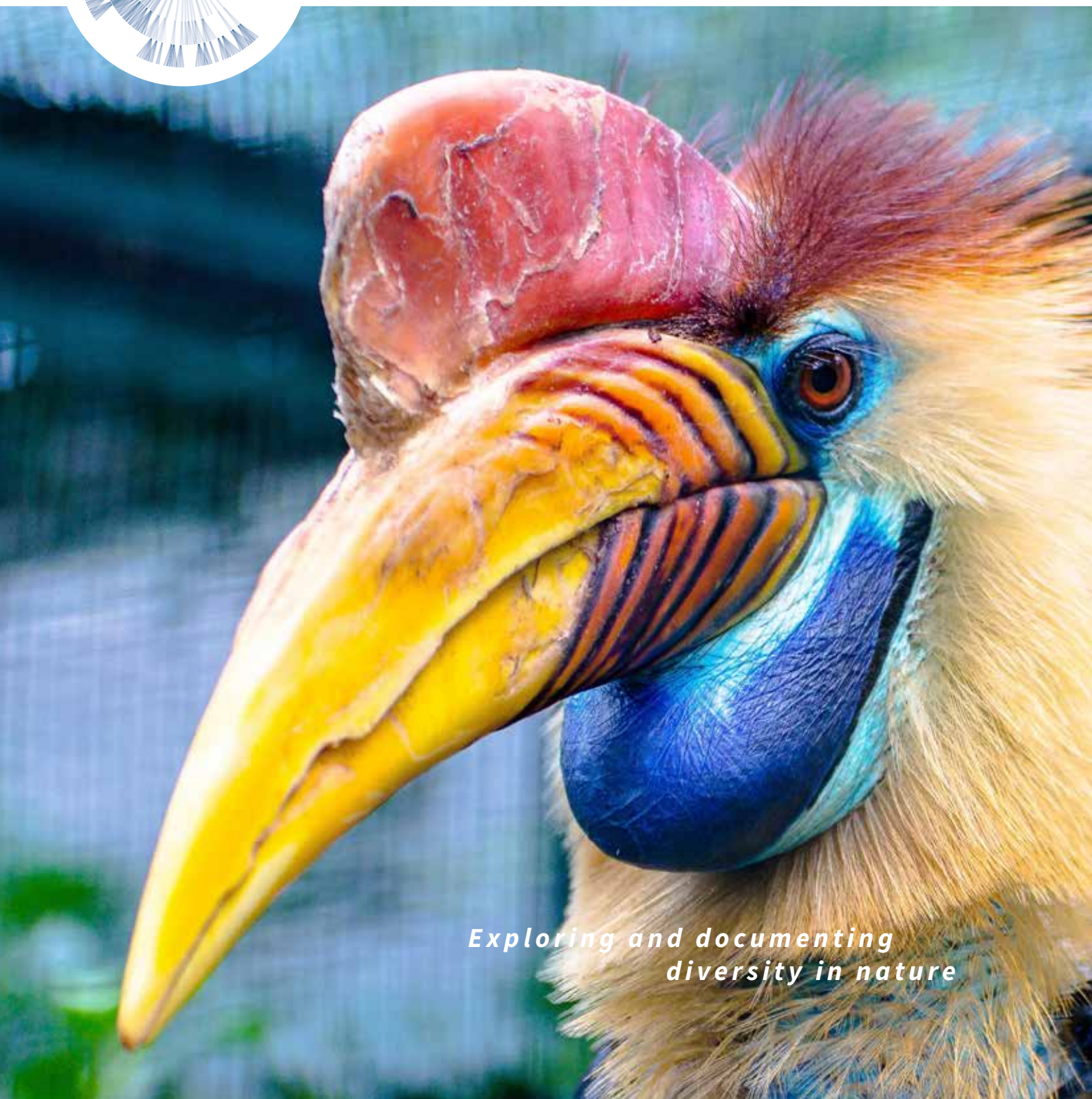


*Consortium of European Taxonomic Facilities*

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

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*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

Consortium of European Taxonomic Facilities AISBL  
**General Secretariat**  
 c/o Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences  
 Rue Vautier 29 — 1000 Brussels, Belgium  
 E info@cetaf.org T +32 (0)2 627 42 51  
 www.cetaf.org



Close-up of *Morpho menelaus*  
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