



PLANTA EUROPA

KYIV DECLARATION 2017

The participants of the 8th Planta Europa Conference on the Conservation of European wild plants and fungi held in Kyiv, (Ukraine), 22-26 May 2017 with the theme "Save Plants for Earth's Future":

Know that plants are the basis of all life on Earth and that threatening the wild flora and undermining the fragile ecological balances of the Biotopes run counter to both Humanity and its well-being.

Emphasize the many interactions between human beings and all compartments of Biodiversity, and that there are many reasons to protect wild fauna, flora and fungal biota, all different but acceptable (natural heritage, food and care provider, ecological services, socio-economic role, ethical and religious meanings...).

Acknowledge that the loss of biodiversity has still not efficiently halted and that threats continue, leading to the scarcity of different populations and the extinction of species all over the world.

Acknowledge that climate extremes have severe and well documented effects on Environmental quality and biological conservation in the last decade.

Recall the need for binding Agendas at global, regional and national levels and emphasize the role that the Convention on Biological Diversity has been playing over the last few decades.

Emphasize that most of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation -GSPC- and European Plant Conservation Strategy -EPCS- targets provide a solution to Global Warming in terms of adaptation and mitigation, some of them could be labelled as "win-win-win" according to the 5th Assessment Report of the intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, e.g. Targets 3, 4, 5 and 6.

Welcome the conclusions of the Global Biodiversity Outlook "A mid-term assessment of progress towards the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020", edited by the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, delivering a concise overview of the progress towards Aichi Biodiversity targets.

Aware that, amongst the twenty Aichi Targets, Aichi Biodiversity Target 1 needs education efforts: By 2020, at the latest, people should be aware of the values of biodiversity and the steps they can take to conserve and use it sustainably. The International Day for Biodiversity and International Fascination of Plants day are important opportunities for public awareness.

Aware that, amongst the twenty Aichi Targets, Aichi Biodiversity Target 3 (Incentives reformed), Target 4 (Sustainable production and consumption), Target 5 (Habitat loss halved or reduced), Target 8 (Pollution reduced), Target 9 (Invasive alien species prevented and controlled), Target 10 (Ecosystems vulnerable to climate change), Target 12 (Reducing risk of extinction), Target 13 (Safeguarding genetic diversity) and Target 14 (Ecosystem services) show the lowest progress.

Welcome the conclusions of the Plant Conservation Report 2014 “A review of progress towards the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation 2011-2020”, edited by the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity and Botanic Gardens Conservation International.

Aware that, amongst the sixteen GSPC Targets, Target 7 (at least 75% of known threatened plant species conserved *in situ*), Target 10 (Effective management plans in place to prevent new biological invasions and to manage important areas for plant diversity that are invaded) and Target 15 (The number of trained people working with appropriate facilities sufficient to national needs, to achieve the target of this Strategy) show no significant progress.

Welcome the Summary Report on the Implementation of the European Strategy for Plant Conservation prepared for the 6th Planta Europa Conference, Krakow, Poland, May 2011.

Aware that efforts should be made at the European level to implement the ESPC, especially for Target 6 (at least 75% of the production lands in each sector managed sustainably, consistent with the conservation of plant diversity), Target 12 (All wild harvested plant-based products sourced sustainably) and Target 15 (The number of trained people working with appropriate facilities sufficient to national needs, to achieve the target of this Strategy).

Acknowledge the progress done at the global scale, for example the target 1 on track to be achieved, and at the regional scale for the implementation of the ESPC for the targets 1, 2, 5, 8, 9, 10 and 14 that show good progress, demonstrating the considerable values of the two Agendas relating to wild plants conservation.

Recall the SBSTTA 7 recommendation VII/8 (2001) that recognized regional initiatives such as European Conservation Plant Strategy developed by Council of Europe and Planta Europa as valuable contribution to GSPC.

Refer to the Recommendation No. 87 (2001) of the Standing Committee of the Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats on the European Plant Conservation Strategy, that recognized it as a valuable contribution to the Global Strategy on Plant Conservation adopted under the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)

Refer to the recommendation No. 138 (2008) of the Standing Committee of the Bern Convention, adopted on 27 November 2008, on the European Strategy for Plant Conservation 2008-2014, that highlighted contracting parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity on the need to take note of the European Strategy for Plant Conservation 2008-2014.

Recalling that the Conference of the Parties welcomed the efforts made by some parties in developing national responses and/or mainstreaming these targets, including the regional response from Europe to update the European Plant Conservation Strategy using the framework of the consolidated update of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation 2011-2020 (UNEP/CBD/COP/DEC/X/17).

Recall the importance of the European Plant Conservation Strategy and notes that this strategy is the most developed regional response to the GSPC.

Reiterate *the two-scale combination of Strategies as the best way to implement both GSPC and EPCS and to achieve the 16 Targets, particularly to fill the gap for the above-mentioned targets.*

Decide *to extend the current EPCS 2008-2017 until the next Planta Europa Conference in 2020.*

Decide *to produce by the end of 2019 the final review of the EPCS and request national, regional, and international authorities, as well as governments, conservation organizations, private companies, citizens, with the help of the Planta Europa members, to collaborate, help and support this review.*

Offer the Bern Convention Secretariat (European Council) to build a draft Strategy for the upcoming decade 2020-2030, with targets in line with the forthcoming international Agendas, and including easily measurable and concrete actions implemented by and/or under the supervision of the Planta Europa network.

Recall the need to continue the implementation of the recommendations of the Crete Declaration 2014, adopted by the participants of the 7th Planta Europa Conference in Chania (Crete, Greece).

Urge parties that have not yet developed National Strategies for plant conservation as part of their National Biodiversity Strategies to fill the gap, using the indicators for the CBD Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the indicators for the Sustainable Development Goals, and to update the existing ones in the framework of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Acknowledge the many efforts that have been done since the creation of Planta Europa in 1995, to implement the European Plant Conservation Strategy.

Express its appreciation to the former hosts of the Planta Europa Secretariats (Plantlife-UK, the Planta Europa Foundation based in The Hague-NL and the Swedish Species Information Centre in Uppsala-Sweden).

Welcome the participation of representatives of conservation organisations in Russia, New Zealand, Kazakhstan, Canada, Turkey, India, Ghana and Nigeria in the 8th Planta Europa Conference.

Written by Planta Europa and adopted by all the participants.

Done in Kyiv (Ukraine), 26th May 2017

Finally the participants of the 8th Planta Europa Conference warmly thank the O.V. Fomin Botanical Garden, the M.G. Kholodny Institute of Botany of NAS of Ukraine and the M.M. Gryshko National Botanical Garden of NAS of Ukraine for their excellent welcome and perfect organization.