THE XISHUANGBANNA DECLARATION ON PLANT CONSERVATION

THE PARTICIPANTS in the
Fourth Xishuangbanna International Symposium, Saving all the Plants in a Changing World,
held at the Xishuangbanna Tropical Botanical Garden, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Yunnan, China,
on January 3-5th, 2019

1. **Recognizing** that plant diversity forms the essential basis for natural ecosystems and human well-being.
2. **Recognizing** that the maintenance of plant diversity is essential for the achievement of important international objectives, including the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity, and the objectives of the U.N. Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), as well as National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs).
3. **Noting** in particular the contributions of plant diversity to the achievement of the following SDGs: eradicating poverty (SDG 1); preventing hunger (SDG 2); human health (SDG 3); clean water (SDG 6); affordable, clean energy (SDG 7); sustainable cities and communities (SDG 11); climate action (SDG 13); and life on land (SDG 15).
4. **Acknowledging** that there are continued and growing threats to plant diversity worldwide from many factors including habitat loss and degradation, unsustainable exploitation, pollution, invasive species, and climate change.
5. **Noting** that there are no technical reasons why any plant species should go extinct, since *in situ* conservation in protected areas and other sustainably managed habitats, complemented by *ex situ* conservation in seed banks, cryostorage, and living collections, is sufficient to conserve every known rare and threatened species.
6. **Consider**, therefore, that the extinction of any known plant species is inexcusable.
7. **Recognizing also** that the unique combination of expertise, experience, skills, and resources of the world's botanical gardens are available to undertake effective plant conservation, and represent the interface between scientific research, horticulture, conservation and public education.
8. **Acknowledge** that many botanical gardens are already making significant contributions to plant conservation, but accept that there is an urgent need to scale up existing activities both individually and through joint actions with partner networks, agencies, and other organisations.
9. **Pointing out** that the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation, adopted by the CBD in 2002 and updated in 2011, has provided an essential framework for plant conservation worldwide and achieved considerable progress towards the achievement of its objectives.

Therefore, the **participants of the Xishuangbanna International Symposium 2019:**

10. **Urge** botanical gardens and all other institutions involved in botanical research and plant conservation to use their individual and collective capabilities and resources to:
    a. **accelerate** completion of the global plant species inventory, since it is not possible to target conservation of unknown or undescribed species;
    b. **support** development of effective species identification tools to improve the protection of species threatened by illegal or unregulated trade;
    c. **complete** assessments of the risk of extinction for all known plant species, so that conservation efforts can be efficiently targeted towards those that are most in need of conservation action;
    d. **design, designate, protect, and manage** more protected areas and other sustainably managed habitats, especially those that represent important areas for plant diversity, in order to conserve

threatened plant species in nature, *in situ*, where they can continue to evolve as resilient populations and continue to support associated species;

e. **research and monitor** wild populations of rare, threatened, and declining species and ensure that they are subject to active conservation programmes aimed at achieving self-sustaining and viable populations in the wild;
f. **continue to develop** complementary measures to support the safeguarding and recovery of rare and threatened plant species, including *ex situ* measures such as genetically-diverse and complementary collections held in seed banks, cryobanks, and living collections;
g. **determine** seed storage capabilities and propagation methods for all known rare and threatened species in order to provide the most effective and efficient methods of *ex situ* conservation;
h. **undertake** new initiatives in conservation translocations and expand the scale of ecological restoration to support the recovery of threatened plants and their habitats;
i. **educate** the general public, decision-makers, and students of all ages about the importance of plants and their essential value for human wellbeing, as well as the need for plant conservation and the means by which this can be achieved;
j. **engage** local, regional, and global leaders in the development of policies and practices that secure the continued survival of all plant species;
k. **participate** in the development of active and collaborative plant conservation networks aimed at ensuring that gaps are filled in plant conservation and in the supporting research knowledge needed;

11. **Call for** all botanical gardens to place plant conservation as a top priority in their missions, and to engage with their management authorities, funding agencies, sponsors, visitors, local communities, and other stakeholders to increase the scale and effectiveness of plant conservation actions to ensure that no plant species goes extinct.
12. **Further call** for the establishment of new botanical gardens and greater support for existing botanical gardens in areas of high plant diversity and with climatic and biogeographical characteristics that are under-represented in the existing network as safehouses for plant biodiversity.
13. **Finally, the participants urge** the Parties to the CBD to give urgent attention to the development of an updated Global Strategy for Plant Conservation for the post-2020 period, containing agreed measurable outcome targets that contribute towards the proposed post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.

西双版纳宣言

中国科学院西双版纳热带植物园于 2019 年 1 月 3-5 日举行第四届西双版纳国际研讨会,会议主题是“在不断变化的世界中拯救植物”。所有参会人员经认真讨论，一致同意发布下列宣言。

1. 认识到植物多样性是支撑自然生态系统和人类福祉的关键基础。
2. 认识到维持植物多样性是实现许多重要国际公约所设目标的基石，包括《可持续发展目标》（Sustainable Development Goals）、《2011-2020 生物多样性战略计划》（the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020）、联合国《生物多样性公约》以及《国家生物多样性战略和行动计划》等。
3. 特别注意到植物多样性会对实现以下可持续发展目标的做出贡献：消除贫穷（目标 1）、防止饥饿（目标 2）、人类健康（目标 3）、清洁饮用水（目标 6）、经济适用的清洁能源（目标 7）、可持续城市和社区（目标 11）、气候行动（目标 13）和陆地生物（目标 15）等。
4. 认同世界各地的植物仍然面临着持续不断的威胁，这些威胁因素包括生境消失与退化、不可持续的开发、污染、物种入侵和气候变化。
5. 注意到当前技术水平已经可以做到防止任何一种植物物种的灭绝，通过在保护区和其他可持续管理的栖息地中进行的就地保护，和通过种子库、超低温保存和活植物收集区（或专类园）里的迁地保护，已经有能力保护所有已知的珍稀濒危物种。
6. 因此可以认为，任何一种已知植物物种的灭绝都是不可原谅的。
7. 也认识到植物园是一独特的保护机构，可以将专业知识、经验和技能及资源综合运用到有效的植物保护中，并实现科学研究、园林园艺、保护和公众教育之间的有效融合。
8. 注意到许多植物园已经对植物保护做出了重要贡献，但必须承认，仍急需扩大现有的植物保护行动的规模，包括各个植物园自身的行动以及通过与合作伙伴网络、机构及其他组织的联合行动。
9. 指出于 2002 年正式被《生物多样性公约》接受、2011 年更新的《全球植物保护战略》为全球植物多样性保护提供了极为重要的框架并取得了重要成绩。

因此，2019 年西双版纳第四次国际会议的参会人员倡议：

10. 极力主张植物园及其他相关植物研究和保护机构应利用个人和集体的资源和力量：

（1）加快完成全球植物物种编目，因为只有已知或描述过的物种方可进行保护；

（2）支持开发有效的物种鉴定工具，以加强对受非法或无管制交易威胁物种的保护；

（3）完成对所有已知物种的灭绝风险评估，以便对最需要保护的物种进行有针对性的有效保护；

（4）设计、设立、保护和管理更多的保护区及其他可持续管理的栖息地， 尤其是生物多样性的重点区域，以便在自然环境中保护受威胁的植物物种，即就地保护，使得它们在野外成为一稳定的种群并支撑与之相关系的其它物种；

（5）研究和监测珍稀濒危和衰退的植物野生种群，确保它们是有效保护项目的对象，实现种群的野外自我繁衍；

（6）继续发展配套措施，支持珍稀濒危植物物种的保护和种群恢复，包括迁地保护措施，如：在种子库、超低温冷库和活植物收集区，开展基因多样化和补充性的种质收集；

（7）弄清所有已知珍稀濒危物种的种子储存能力和繁殖方法，以便提供最及时有效的迁地保护方法；

（8）发起保护迁移（conservation translocations）的新计划，扩大生态恢复的规模，以支持濒危物种及其生境的恢复；

（9）对普通大众、决策者和所有年龄段的学生进行科普，包括植物的重要性及对人类福祉的重要价值，植物保护的重要性及方法。

（10）让当地、区域及世界各国的领导者参与到制定植物保护的政策和行动中来，确保植物物种的永久存在；

（11）积极参与构建活跃的植物保护网络，填补植物保护的空白区域、发展相关知识。

11. 呼吁所有植物园将植物保护列为其使命的重中之重，与主管机构、资助机构、赞助商、游客、当地社区及其他利益相关者一道，扩大植物保护行动的规模并提高其有效性，以确保植物物种零灭绝。

12. 进一步呼吁建立新的植物园，并加大对现有植物园的支持，尤其是处于植物多样性富集的地区和具有气候和生物地理独特性的植物园，以弥补现有植物园网络中分布不够合理的不足。

13. 最后，与会者敦促生物多样性公约缔约方关注并制定新的 2020 年之后的《全球植物保护战略》，其中包括确定新的可衡量的目标，进而支撑 2020 年后《全球生物多样性框架》和《可持续发展目标》的实现。