

Name : Michelle J. Price

Position : Vice-Chair of CETAF

Institution : Conservatory and Botanical Garden of the City of Geneva, Switzerland

Statement : After having fulfilled two full mandates as the Chair of CETAF (2013-2016; 2016-2019) and overseeing the strategic development of CETAF during this time as well as the creation of the current CETAF secretariat, the flourishing of the CETAF working groups, the development of the CETAF portfolio of outcomes and products, the instigation of CETAF workshops on key topics, the increased visibility and recognition of CETAF at a European and international scale, and the forging of close strategic partnerships with GBIF, the BGCI, BHL, Species 2000 and SPNHC, I am pleased to be able to step out of the driving seat to a position where I can support the newly elected CETAF Chair over the course of the upcoming mandate (2019-2023). The next four years will be an exciting time for CETAF with the development of the *CETAF Joint Research Agenda for biodiversity and geodiversity sciences* currently underway, position papers on natural history collections and taxonomic research in the making, the realisation of the DiSSCo ESFRI, the launching of the new Horizon Europe funding programme and the rapid evolution of open access, open science and open data that will positively affect our domain. I foresee the creation of new and exciting opportunities for CETAF, for natural history collections, and more significantly, for research conducted within the sphere of taxonomy (broadly defined as also encompassing evolutionary relationships) that is directly related to natural science collections and the expertise housed in natural science intuitions. A strong Executive team, the enthusiastic support of CETAF member institutions of CETAF activities and the engagement of individuals in the collaborative and cooperative efforts of CETAF will ensure the expansion of CETAF's horizons over the next few years, guaranteeing thus that remains a strong force for the good of natural science institutions within and across Europe.