



world Fungi 2007

Fungi of the Earth

Declaration of
Cordoba

2007



JUNTA DE ANDALUCIA
CONSEJERÍA DE MEDIO AMBIENTE

Scientific Committee

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Presentation

This is a message aimed at all the inhabitants of the Earth; a message for the present and for the future in an attempt to learn from the past; a message that endeavours to promote activities and policies that assume responsibility for our collective future, and that preserve the unique and essential values for life on Earth that the Fungi Kingdom has to offer.

Basic Characteristics of the Cordoba Declaration

The document is about:

- **Creating Awareness** of the growing need for effective action to preserve the Fungi Kingdom on planet Earth.
- **Strategy**, in that it endeavours to promote an integrated planning and management process from which any shortcomings can be detected, together with the significant advantages derived from the management of these resources within the framework of sustainable development.
- **Context**, insofar as it endeavours to establish solid foundations arising from a social declaration and a global policy for sustainable development to serve as a guide or nexus for any initiative in this area.
- **Coordinating** any activities in favour of conservation and development based on the sustainable use of fungi, promoted by the different institutions and social and economic stakeholders.
- **Integration**, in order to promote a responsible consensus amongst the signatories, so that during the course of each generation the signatories always maintain an integrated, multifunctional and sustainable vision of the conservation and use of mycological resources.
- **Durability**, in the sense that no specific time limits have been defined and that the document has an indefinite character, insofar as it is understood as the origin of a process which, once initiated, will continue over future generations.
- **Consensus, participation and action** arising from a broad international forum, open to any future assessment and review required by the inhabitants of Earth.

Fungi of the Earth. Declaration of Cordoba

The participants in the First World Conference on Conservation and Sustainable Use of Wild Fungi, WorldFungi 2007, comprising 550 delegates and over 150 experts from 35 countries have committed themselves to promote, both with the governments and society of the countries and regions of the World, the achievement of the following principles:

A. Each and every form of life, however small, is unique. The equilibrium of the Earth depends on them being respected.

B. The kingdom of fungi, during its long evolution, has contributed to the formation of essential components of ecosystems, resulting in a valuable resource for human health and nutrition, for the environmental equilibrium of planet earth and the socio-economic development of rural communities.

C. The conservation and sustainable use of world fungi require integrated management of Education, Dissemination, Innovation and Development.

To this end they agree:

1. To foster research measures aimed at improving knowledge of fungi, and in particular, those measures that would contribute to their protection, conservation and sustainable use, and help innovation in their application as bio-sensors, and in the fields of food, biotechnology, environmental quality, global change and medicine.

2. To maintain the species and their habitats by promoting active and sustainable management measures in favour of natural and social systems in areas of mycological interest.

3. To promote actions that will guarantee the effective regulation of this resource, by putting in place initiatives aimed at the recovery and use of traditional knowledge on fungi, access to genetic resources of fungal species, and the proper sharing of the benefits herein, to the purpose of encouraging sustainable development of rural communities.

4. To adopt the words "World Fungi" as a mark of quality to distinguish sustainable environmental, economic and social initiatives in the scope of world fungi.

5. To adopt the word "Myco-Park" similarly to promote creation of a global network comprising those territories that would present a specific mycological diversity and would base their development model on sustainable conservation of fungi.

6. The Myco-Parks will cooperate through networking so that each territory would benefit from joint measures in the field of conservation, management and sustainable use of the mycological heritage.

7. To work with UNESCO and IUCN to sustain worldwide the achievement of the agreements adopted by means of this Statement, and cooperate with current Biosphere Reserve and Geoparks networks.

8. To enhance the development of international cooperation projects for progress in the field of dissemination, exchange of experience, and knowledge of the fungal kingdom. To this end, it is proposed to establish a series of these congresses, one every four years, which would constitute the foundations of this initiative.

9. To set up an international scientific-technical committee which will promote the work of cooperation, collaboration and agreement between relevant institutions and bodies to realize the objectives listed in this Declaration.

In Cordoba to December 14, 2007



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