

Bx. № 229 HO-05-06/11.03.2024

STATEMENT

for the academic position „Assoc. Prof.“ in the area of higher education 4. Natural sciences, mathematics and informatics, professional field 4.3. Biological Sciences, scientific specialty Botany

for the needs of Research group “Plant diversity and local development”, Division “Applied Botany”, department „Plant and Fungal Diversity and Resources“, Institute of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Research, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences

by Gana Minkova Gecheva, PhD, Assoc. Prof., Faculty of Biology, PU „P. Hilendarski

In the competition for the academic position " Assoc. Prof.", announced in the State Gazette, no. 98/24.11.2023, one candidate submitted documents – Assistant Prof. Dr. Teodora Angelova Ivanova, Division “Applied Botany”, department „Plant and Fungal Diversity and Resources“, Institute of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Research, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences (IBER, BAS). The presented materials are in accordance with the regulations set in PPZRASRB and PURPONSZAD, as well as the regulations for the terms and conditions for acquiring scientific degrees and for holding academic positions of BAS and IBER.

The candidate holds a master's degree in "Plant Biotechnologies" from SU "St. Kl. Ohridski". In 2013, she obtained the educational and scientific degree PhD with a thesis „*In vitro* cultivation of *Ruscus aculeatus* L. and *Ruscus hypoglossum* L. (*Liliaceae*)”. Currently holds the position of Assistant Prof. at Research group “Plant diversity and local development”, Division “Applied Botany”, IBER, BAS.

The list of scientific publications presented by the Assistant Prof. Dr. Teodora Ivanova includes a total of 32 titles, of which 1 PhD abstract and 5 publications for the educational and scientific degree PhD, Group “A” (50 points).

Twenty-six publications are included for the needs of the current competition, grouped following the national requirements for the professional field 4.3. Biological Sciences. Group of indicators „B“ includes 3 publications in journals with Q1, 1 with Q2, 1 with Q3 and 1 without SJR and IF. Group „G“ contains 20 scientific publications (5 – in Q1, 2 in Q2, 3 in

Q3, 2 in Q4, 4 without SJR and IF, 4 book chapters) with a total value from the respective quartiles 277 points (required 220). The candidate is first author in 11 publications from groups “B” and “G” (more than 40%). The list of 37 citations indexed in Web of Science and/or Scopus has a total value of 70 points (required 60). **In summary, the presented report on compliance with the minimum scientometric requirements shows that Assis. Prof. Dr. Teodora Ivanova exceeds them by a total number of points 507 (required 430).**

The submitted statement of contributions is evidence of the candidate's clearly defined profile in the field of ethnobotanical studies. Plant diversity and the services it provides are the main focus of the publications. An important contribution is the created database of 10,113 Bulgarian folk songs and 4,788 Bulgarian phytonyms. Emphasis is also placed on the plant diversity of home gardens in rural areas in over 60 settlements in Bulgaria. Determining the main factors and threats to the conservation of inherited local plant genetic resources has a significant practical application.

In addition, under indicator "G", a clear focus on biologically active substances and biological activity of extracts of plant origin is outlined.

The candidate has participated in a number of international projects directly related to plant diversity.

CONCLUSION

Presented by Assistant Professor Teodora Ivanova materials are **in accordance with the national requirements laid down in PPZRASRB and requirements in PURPONSZAD, as well as in the regulations for the terms and conditions for acquiring scientific degrees and for holding academic positions of BAS and IBER.** The candidate meets and exceeds the national requirements and the requirements of BAS and IBER for the degree “Assoc. Prof.” in the area of higher education 4. Natural sciences, mathematics and informatics, professional field 4.3. Biological Sciences. A significant number of publications at a high scientific level and with an indisputable personal contribution are presented.

Based on the above, as a member of SJ, Order №16/23.01.2024 of the Director of IBER-BAS, **I convincingly give my positive evaluation** for Dr. Teodora Angelova Ivanova, participant in a competition, State Gazette 98/24.11.2023 and recommend to the Scientific Jury to vote “**YES**” for the awarding of the academic ‘Associate Professor’.

06.03.2024 г.

Assessor:
(Gana Gecheva, PhD, Assoc. Prof.)