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INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR THE PROTECTION OF NEW VARIETIES OF PLANTS

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WORKING GROUP ON BIOCHEMICAL AND MOLECULAR TECHNIQUES AND DNA PROFILING IN PARTICULAR

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INTERNATIONAL GUIDELINES ON MOLECULAR METHODOLOGIES

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1. This documents reports on developments concerning the Guidelines for DNA-Profiling: Molecular Marker Selection and Database Construction ("BMT Guidelines") and cooperation with other organizations in relation to molecular methodologies.
2. The developments concerning cooperation between OECD, UPOV and ISTA is reported in document BMT/15/5 "Cooperation between OECD, UPOV and ISTA".

BMT GUIDELINES

3. At its forty-fourth session, held in Geneva, Switzerland, October 21, 2010, the Council adopted document UPOV/INF/17/1 "Guidelines for DNA-Profiling: Molecular Marker Selection and Database Construction" ("BMT Guidelines") (see document C/44/17 "Report", paragraph 34).
4. It is recalled that the purpose of the BMT Guidelines is to provide guidance for developing harmonized methodologies with the aim of generating high quality molecular data for a range of applications as follows.

"A. INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this document (BMT Guidelines) is to provide guidance for developing harmonized methodologies with the aim of generating high quality molecular data for a range of applications. The BMT Guidelines are also intended to address the construction of databases containing molecular profiles of plant varieties, possibly produced in different laboratories using different technologies. In addition, the aim is to set high demands on the quality of the markers and on the desire for generating reproducible data using these markers in situations where equipment and/or reaction chemicals might change. Specific precautions need to be taken to ensure quality entry into a database."

COOPERATION WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

5. The International Organization for Standardization (ISO) will make a presentation on "UPOV and ISO TC 34/SC 16 From the US Technical Advisory Group and ANSI led host of ISO TC 34/SC 16: Food Products; horizontal methods for molecular biomarker analysis" (see document BMT/15/7), and the International Seed Testing Association (ISTA) on "DNA-based method for variety testing: ISTA approach"

(see document BMT/15/19) at the fifteenth session of the Working Group on Biochemical and Molecular Techniques and DNA-Profiling in particular (BMT).

6. The BMT is invited to note that a presentation on “UPOV and ISO TC 34/SC 16 From the US Technical Advisory Group and ANSI led host of ISO TC 34/SC 16: Food Products; horizontal methods for molecular biomarker analysis” and “DNA-based method for variety testing: ISTA approach” will be made by the ISO and ISTA, respectively.

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