

Administrative and Legal Committee**CAJ/74/4****Seventy-Fourth Session
Geneva, October 23 and 24, 2017****Original:** English
Date: October 5, 2017

ELECTRONIC APPLICATION FORM*Document prepared by the Office of the Union**Disclaimer: this document does not represent UPOV policies or guidance***EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

1. The purpose of this document is to report on developments concerning the electronic application form, since the seventy-third session of the Administrative and Legal Committee (CAJ), held in Geneva on October 25, 2016.

2. The CAJ is invited to note:

(a) the developments concerning EAF Version 1.1 and the plans for the development of Version 2.0, as set out in this document;

(b) the strategy for the addition of new crops/species, as set out in paragraphs 18 to 21 of this document;

(c) that the name PRISMA and the logo, as set out in paragraph 26 of this document, will be proposed for approval at the fifty-first ordinary session of the Council, to be held in Geneva on October 26, 2017; and

(d) that proposals concerning financial aspects of the EAF will be considered by the Consultative Committee at its ninety-fourth session and, if appropriate, by the Council at its fifty-first ordinary session.

3. The following abbreviations are used in this document:

CAJ:	Administrative and Legal Committee
EAF:	Electronic Application Form
PRISMA:	Plant variety data Routing Information System using Multilingual Application forms
TG:	Test Guidelines
TQ:	Technical Questionnaire

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BACKGROUND

5. The aim of the electronic application form (EAF) project is to develop a multilingual electronic form containing questions relevant for plant breeders' rights (PBRs) applications (see document CAJ/66/5 "Electronic Application Systems", paragraph 2).

6. The background to the development of a prototype electronic form and developments prior to the seventy-second session of the CAJ are provided in document CAJ/73/4 "Electronic application form" and CAJ/73/10 "Report on the conclusions", paragraphs 30 to 36.

DEVELOPMENTS IN THE COUNCIL

Developments at the fiftieth ordinary session of the Council (October 2016)

7. At its fiftieth ordinary session, held in Geneva on October 28, 2016, the Council approved the launch of the EAF in January 2017 for rose, soya bean, lettuce, apple fruit varieties and potato, as set out in document C/50/17 "Report by the Vice-President on the work of the ninety-second session of the Consultative Committee; adoption of recommendations, if any, prepared by that Committee", paragraphs 40 to 47.

8. In accordance with the decision of the Council at its fiftieth ordinary session (see document C/50/17, paragraph 47), the EAF was launched on January 16, 2017 for rose, soya bean, lettuce, apple fruit varieties and potato.

Developments at the thirty-fourth extraordinary session of the Council (April 2017)

9. The Council, at its thirty-fourth extraordinary session, decided to allow the Office of the Union to have flexibility in the charge to be made for use of the EAF in 2017, but not to make the EAF free of charge (see document C(Extr.)/34/6 "Report on the decisions", paragraph 15).

LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

Versions of the EAF

10. The current version of the EAF, released in July 2017, is Version 1.1. Version 2.0 is anticipated to be released in early 2018.

Version 1.1

Participating UPOV members and crops/species covered

11. The table below summarizes the participating PVP Offices and the crops supported in EAF Version 1.1:

Authority	Soya Bean	Lettuce	Apple fruit varieties	Rose	Potato	Total
Argentina	✓	-	✓	✓	✓	4
Australia	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	5
Chile	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	5
China	-	✓	-	✓	-	2
Colombia	-	-	-	✓	-	1
France	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	5
Kenya	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	5
Netherlands	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	5
New Zealand	-	✓	✓	✓	✓	4
Norway	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	5
Republic of Moldova	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	5
Switzerland	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	5
Tunisia	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	5
Turkey	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	5
United States of America	✓	✓	-	-	✓	3
Uruguay	✓	-	✓	-	✓	3
16	13	13	13	14	14	

Languages

12. EAF Version 1.0 presented all webpages and items (questions) for all application forms and technical questionnaires for all participating PVP Offices in English, French, German and Spanish (“navigation languages”). Chinese was added as a navigation language in EAF Version 1.1.

13. EAF Version 1.1 generates application forms and technical questionnaires in the languages required by the participating PVP Offices (“output form languages”). For Version 1.1 the output form languages were English, French, German, Spanish, Chinese, Norwegian, Romanian and Turkish.

14. It is recalled that the information must be completed by the applicant in an acceptable language for the PVP Office concerned, although answers selected from drop-down lists (e.g. characteristics and states of expression) will be automatically translated for the navigation languages.

Version 2.0

Participating UPOV members

15. Participation in EAF Version 2.0 is possible for authorities that participated in the development of Prototype Electronic Form (PV2) and in the development of the Electronic Application Form Versions 1.0 or 1.1 (African Intellectual Property Organization (OAPI), Argentina, Australia, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Chile, China, Canada, Colombia, Czech Republic, European Union, France, Georgia, Japan, Kenya, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Paraguay, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, South Africa, Switzerland, Tunisia, Turkey, United States of America, Uruguay and Viet Nam), according to available resources.

16. Members of the Union that did not participate in the development of a Prototype Electronic Form (PV2) or in the development of the Electronic Application Form Versions 1.0 or 1.1 will need to provide their forms for relevant crops (application form and technical questionnaire) in a UPOV language and, if appropriate, to provide translations of the questions of the application forms and technical questionnaires of the other languages used in the EAF. The timetable for addition of new members of the Union will be developed according to available resources and will vary according to the content of the application forms and technical questionnaires.

17. Circular E-17/132, issued on July 26, 2017, invited all participating members in the development of an Electronic Application Form (PV2 and Version 1.0 and 1.1) to inform the Office of the Union of their wish to participate in Version 2.0 of the EAF. After the launch of Version 2.0, other members of the Union will be invited to indicate their wish to participate in a subsequent release of the EAF.

Crops/species

18. There are three possible approaches for including crop/species for participating members of the Union:

(a) Approach 1: UPOV Technical Questionnaire (TQ)

The TQ in the EAF is identical to the TQ in the adopted UPOV Test Guidelines (TGs). For crops/species for which there is no adopted UPOV TG, the TQ in the EAF will be based on the structure of the TQ in document TGP/7 "Development of Test Guidelines".

(b) Approach 2: Customized characteristics

The TQ in the EAF is the same for all crops (non-crop specific) except for "characteristics of the variety" (Section 5 of the UPOV TQ or equivalent) and "similar varieties and differences from these varieties" (Section 6 of the UPOV TQ or equivalent). The characteristics in the TQ in the EAF would be:

- (i) UPOV TG characteristics
- (ii) Authority specific characteristics
- (iii) Free text information

(c) Approach 3: Customized TQ

The TQ in the EAF will contain crop-specific sections, other than those specified in Approach 2.

19. According to the approach, the number of crop and species to be covered by each authority in Version 2.0 of the EAF will be different. For Approach 1, all crops will be available in Version 2.0 if the PVP Office so requests. For Approaches 2 and 3, new crops will be added at the request of the PVP Offices concerned according to available resources and the degree of customization that is required.

20. For Approach 1 (UPOV TQ), it is proposed that the date of update of the EAF after revision of a UPOV TG would be the date of publication of the corresponding UPOV TG on the website.

21. For Approach 3 (Customized TQ), each new form will be included in the system for subsequent versions (twice a year) according to resources allocated.

Anticipated coverage

22. The following UPOV members expressed their intention to participate in the Version 2.0 of the EAF (Circular E-17/132) as of September 15, 2017:

Authority		currently participating in Version 1.0 or 1.1	intention to participate in Version 2.0	Anticipated crops coverage
Argentina	AR	✓	✓	Apple Fruit Varieties, Potato, Rose, Soyabean and Wheat, Barley, Maize, Grapevine
Australia	AU	✓	✓	All genera & species
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	BO		✓	Rice, wheat
Canada	CA		✓	All genera & species excluding algae, bacteria and fungi
Chile	CL	✓	✓	All genera & species
China	CN	✓	✓	Lettuce, Rose
Colombia	CO	✓	✓	Rose, Carnation, Alstroemeria, Chrysanthemum, Gypsophila
European Union	QZ		✓	Apple Fruit Varieties, Lettuce, Potato, Rose, Soyabean
France	FR	✓	✓	All genera & species
Georgia	GE		✓	Maize, Wheat, Field Bean, French Bean, Apple (fruit varieties), Pear, Barley, Oats, Potato, Cherry (Sweet Cherry), Raspberry, Tomato, Peach, Hazelnut, Blackberry, Soya Bean, Sunflower, Walnut, Blueberry, Chick-Pea, Lentil
Japan	JP		✓	to be confirmed
Kenya	KE	✓	✓	All genera & species
Mexico	MX		✓	87 selected crops
Netherlands	NL	✓	✓	All genera & species
New Zealand	NZ	✓	✓	All genera & species
Norway	NO	✓	✓	All genera & species
Paraguay	PY		✓	Soyabean
Republic of Moldova	MD	✓	✓	Maize, Wheat, Pea, Barley, European Plum, Tomato, Grapevine, Sweet Pepper, Hot Pepper, Paprika, Chili, Sunflower, Walnut, Apple Fruit Varieties, Lettuce, Potato, Rose, Soyabean
Switzerland	CH	✓	✓	All genera & species
Tunisia	TN	✓	✓	All genera & species
Turkey	TR	✓	✓	All genera & species
United States of America	US	✓	✓	Lettuce, Potato, Soyabean and Wheat
Uruguay	UY	✓	✓	All genera & species
Total		16	23	

Languages

23. EAF Version 2.0 will continue to present all items (questions) in English, French, German and Spanish. Translations for items (questions) for new PVP offices and new crops/species in other languages (e.g. Chinese) will be made available if provided by the participating members of the Union, with a suitable disclaimer.

24. Users are required to provide information (answers) in a language accepted by the PVP Office concerned, which will be indicated in the form.

Name and logo

25. The participants in the ninth meeting on the development of a prototype electronic form (EAF/9 meeting), held in Geneva on April 7, 2017, agreed the name "PRISMA" (Plant variety data Routing Information System using Multilingual Application forms) as a new name for the EAF and the following logo, presented at the meeting:



26. The EAF/9 meeting agreed that the name "PRISMA" and the proposed logo should be proposed for approval at the fifty-first ordinary session of the Council, to be held in Geneva on October 26, 2017.

Financing of the EAF

27. Proposals concerning financial aspects of the EAF will be considered by the Consultative Committee at its ninety-fourth session, to be held in Geneva, on October 25, 2017 and, if appropriate, by the Council at its fifty-first ordinary session, to be held in Geneva on October 26, 2017.

28. *The CAJ is invited to note:*

(a) the developments concerning EAF Version 1.1 and the plans for the development of Version 2.0, as set out in this document;

(b) the strategy for the addition of new crops/species, as set out in paragraphs 18 to 21 of this document;

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