

Administrative and Legal Committee

CAJ/74/5

**Seventy-Fourth Session
Geneva, October 23 and 24, 2017****Original:** English
Date: October 5, 2017**UPOV INFORMATION DATABASES***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 provide an update on developments concerning the GENIE database; UPOV Codes; and the PLUTO database.

2. The CAJ is invited to note:

(a) that a specification document explaining the data structure and functions of the GENIE database is being developed by the Office of the Union in order that IT-related maintenance can be provided in the future;

(b) that 173 new UPOV codes were created in 2016 and the total of 8,149 UPOV codes are included in the GENIE database;

(c) that the Office of the Union received a request to create new UPOV codes for 191 forest tree species moving in international trade under the OECD certification schemes. The requested UPOV codes were introduced in GENIE by September 2017. DG SANTE has proposed the establishment of an administrative arrangement between the Office of the Union and the European Commission to cover collaboration in scientific names of plant species present in each other's databases and, in particular, regarding the attribution of UPOV codes to plant species in FOREMATIS;

(d) the summary of contributions to the PLUTO database from 2013 to 2016 and the situation of members of the Union on data contribution, as presented in the Annex to this document; and

(e) that the WG-DEN, at its third meeting agreed that agenda item 5 "Expansion of the content of the PLUTO database" would be considered at a later meeting on the basis of the document presented at its second meeting.

3. The following abbreviations are used in this document:

CAJ:	Administrative and Legal Committee
CPVO:	Community Plant Variety Office
DG SANTE:	Directorate General for Health and Food Safety - European Commission
FOREMATIS:	Forest Reproductive Material Information System
OECD:	Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development
TC:	Technical Committee
WG-DEN:	Working Group on Variety Denominations

4. The structure of this document is as follows:

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GENIE DATABASE

Background

5. It is recalled that the GENIE database (<http://www.upov.int/genie/en/>) has been developed to provide, for example, online information on the status of protection (see document C/[session]/6), cooperation in examination (see document C/[session]/5), experience in DUS testing (see document TC/[session]/4), and existence of UPOV Test Guidelines (see document TC/[session]/2) for different GENera and specIEs (hence GENIE), and is used to generate the relevant Council and TC documents concerning that information. In addition, the GENIE database is the repository of the UPOV codes and also provides information concerning alternative botanical and common names.

Maintenance of the GENIE database

6. The GENIE database was created with the help of the Information Technology Department of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO). The IT-related maintenance of the GENIE database was also provided by WIPO. However, since 2016, WIPO no longer has staff to provide such maintenance work and UPOV is now responsible for IT-related maintenance of the GENIE database.

7. A specification document explaining the data structure and functions of the GENIE database is being developed by the Office of the Union in order that the IT-related maintenance can be provided in the future. In addition to corrective maintenance, a modification of the database is needed for uploading certain type of data when notes apply. Furthermore, improvements to the generation of reports for documents for the Council and relevant committees need to be made. This work is planned to be completed by the end of 2018.

8. The CAJ is invited to note that a specification document explaining the data structure and functions of the GENIE database is being developed by the Office of the Union in order that IT-related maintenance can be provided in the future.

UPOV CODE SYSTEM

Guide to the UPOV Code System

9. The “Guide to the UPOV Code System” is available on the UPOV website (see http://www.upov.int/genie/en/pdf/upov_code_system.pdf).

UPOV code developments

10. In 2016, 173 new UPOV codes were created and amendments were made to 16 existing UPOV codes. The total number of UPOV codes in the GENIE database at the end of 2016 was 8,149.

	Year								
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
New UPOV codes	300 (approx.)	148	114	173	212	209	577	188	173
Amendments	30 (approx.)	17	6	12	5	47*	37	11	16
Total UPOV Codes (at end of year)	6,346	6,582	6,683	6,851	7,061	7,251	7,808	7,992	8,149

* including changes to UPOV codes resulting from the amendment of the “Guide to the UPOV Code System” concerning hybrids (see document TC/49/6).

11. In March 2017, the Office of the Union received a request from the Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety of the European Commission (DG SANTE) to create UPOV codes for 191 forest tree species moving in international trade under the OECD certification scheme in the context of the extension of the European Commission Forest Reproductive Material Information System (FOREMATIS) to include data of the OECD Forest database. The requested UPOV codes were introduced in GENIE in September 2017. DG SANTE has proposed the establishment of an administrative arrangement between the Office of the Union and the European Commission to cover collaboration in scientific names of plant species present in each other’s databases and, in particular, regarding the attribution of UPOV codes to plant species in FOREMATIS.

12. *The CAJ is invited to note that:*

(a) 173 new UPOV codes were created in 2016 and the total of 8,149 UPOV codes are included in the GENIE database;

(b) the Office of the Union received a request to create new UPOV codes for 191 forest tree species moving in international trade under the OECD certification schemes. The requested UPOV codes were introduced in GENIE in September 2017. DG SANTE has proposed the establishment of an administrative arrangement between the Office of the Union and the European Commission to cover collaboration in scientific names of plant species present in each other’s databases and, in particular, regarding the attribution of UPOV codes to plant species in FOREMATIS;

PLUTO DATABASE

Program for improvements to the PLUTO database

13. The CAJ, at its sixty-eighth session¹, considered document CAJ/68/6 “UPOV information databases” and approved the amendments to the Program for improvements to the PLUTO database (“Program”) as set out in document CAJ/68/6, Annex II, subject to certain further amendments agreed at that session².

14. The program reflecting amendments approved at previous sessions is available in document CAJ/69/6 “UPOV Information Databases”, Annex I.

15. The following paragraph provides a summary of developments concerning the Program since the seventy-third session of the CAJ.³

Provision of assistance to contributors (Program: section 2)

16. The Annex to this document provides a summary of the contributions to the PLUTO database from 2013 to 2016 and the situation of members of the Union on data contribution, as provided to the TC, at its fifty-third session.

Search tools

17. Matters concerning the possible development of a similarity search tool for variety denomination purposes are reported in document CAJ/74/3 “Variety Denominations”.

Content of the PLUTO Database

18. The CAJ, at its seventy-third session, noted the work by the WG-DEN concerning the expansion of the content of the PLUTO database.⁴

19. The TC, at its fifty-third session, noted that the WG-DEN, at its second meeting, had agreed that agenda item 5 “Expansion of the content of the PLUTO database” was not able to consider at its second meeting would be considered at its third meeting on the basis of the document presented at the second meeting.⁵

20. The WG-DEN, at its third meeting,⁶ agreed that matters that agenda item 5 “Expansion of the content of the PLUTO database” would be considered at a later meeting on the basis of the document presented at the second meeting.

21. The fourth meeting of the WG-DEN will be held in Geneva, on October 27, 2017.

22. *The CAJ is invited to note:*

(a) the summary of contributions to the PLUTO database from 2013 to 2016 and the situation of members of the Union on data contribution, as presented in the Annex to this document; and

(b) that the WG-DEN, at its third meeting agreed that agenda item 5 “Expansion of the content of the PLUTO database” would be considered at a later meeting on the basis of the document presented at its second meeting.

[Annex follows]

¹ Held in Geneva on October 21, 2013.

² See document CAJ/68/10 “Report on the Conclusions”, paragraphs 23 to 26.

³ Held in Geneva, on October 25, 2016

⁴ See document CAJ/73/10 “Report on the Conclusions”, paragraph 28.

⁵ See document TC/53/31 “Report”, paragraph 160.

⁶ Held in Geneva on April 7, 2017.

ANNEX

REPORT ON DATA CONTRIBUTED TO THE PLANT VARIETY DATABASE BY MEMBERS OF THE UNION AND OTHER CONTRIBUTORS AND ASSISTANCE FOR DATA CONTRIBUTION

Contributor	Number of applications for Plant Breeders' Rights in 2015	Number of new data submissions to the Plant Variety Database in 2013	Number of new data submissions to the Plant Variety Database in 2014	Number of new data submissions to the Plant Variety Database in 2015	Number of new data submissions to the Plant Variety Database in 2016	Situation at March 31, 2017
African Intellectual Property Organization	0	-	0	0	0	A reminder e-mail with instructions for contribution sent on February 23, 2017, following receipt of incomplete data.
Albania	0 (2013)	0	0	1	1	Contributing data verification
Argentina	285	1	0	0	1	[Contributing data]
Australia	359	6	3	5	7	[Contributing data]
*Austria	0	4	3	3	4	
Azerbaijan	19 (2014)	0	0	0	0	Awaiting reply to e-mail of November 4, 2016, inviting data.
Belarus	15	0	0	0	1	[Contributing data]
*Belgium	1	4	4	6	5	
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	5	0	0	0	1	[Contributing data]
Brazil	355	5	4	3	0	[Contributing data]
*Bulgaria	16	6	5	12	6	
Canada	273	5	5	7	11	[Contributing data]
Chile	107	3	2	4	6	[Contributing data]
China	2,342	0	1	2	1	[Contributing data] (State Forestry Administration)
Colombia	113	0	0	0	0	Data received on March 1, 2017. Received an e-mail on March 13, 2017, reporting that new data to replace the data of March 1, 2017 will be sent soon.
Costa Rica	2	0	2	1	3	[Contributing data]
*Croatia	7	0	0	3	2	
*Czech Republic	80	6	4	3	6	
*Denmark	1	6	8	12	11	
Dominican Republic	0 (2011)	0	0	0	0	Awaiting reply to e-mail of February 23, 2017, inviting data.
Ecuador	50 (2014)	2	1	0	0	Awaiting reply to e-mail of February 23, 2017, inviting data.
*Estonia	7 (2014)	4	4	9	3	
*European Union	3,111	6	6	10	13	
*Finland	13	3	2	2	2	
*France	119	5	6	13	11	
Georgia	24	2	1	0	2	[Contributing data]

() Parenthesis indicates that data are currently being processed.

* Data provided via the CPVO.

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Contributor	Number of applications for Plant Breeders' Rights in 2015	Number of new data submissions to the Plant Variety Database in 2013	Number of new data submissions to the Plant Variety Database in 2014	Number of new data submissions to the Plant Variety Database in 2015	Number of new data submissions to the Plant Variety Database in 2016	Situation at March 31, 2017
*Germany	66	6	8	11	12	
*Hungary	26	6	6	16	19	
*Iceland	0 (2012)	0	0	0	0	
*Ireland	2 (2014)	2	2	2	2	
Israel	50	0	2	1	1	[Contributing data]
*Italy	4	6	4	8	6	
Japan	1,126	2	5	4	1	[Contributing data]
Jordan	12	0	0	0	1	[Contributing data]
Kenya	71	1	2	0	1	[Contributing data]
Kyrgyzstan	3	0	1	0	0	Data in preparation
*Latvia	7	1	3	1	1	
*Lithuania	11	3	2	3	4	
Mexico	193	1	1	1	3	[Contributing data]
Montenegro	n/a	-	-	0	0	Awaiting reply to e-mail of March 1, 2017, inviting data.
Morocco	50	1	0	2	0	[Contributing data]
*Netherlands	799	6	2	10	11	
New Zealand	123	3	5	6	5	[Contributing data]
Nicaragua	12	0	0	0	0	Participated in the training course in 2015 and planned to submit data by end of November 2015. Awaiting reply to e-mail of February 23, 2017, inviting data.
*Norway	36	3	1	4	3	
Oman	0	0	0	0	0	Received data on March 16, 2017.
Panama	0	0	0	0	1	[Contributing data]
Paraguay	34 (2013)	0	0	1	1	[Contributing data]
Peru	63	0	2	0	0	Planning to submit data by the end of April, 2017
*Poland	97	5	5	3	5	
*Portugal	1	1	2	0	2	
Republic of Korea	757	2	1	0	1	[Contributing data] Clarifications needed with regard to latest data provided before uploading in PLUTO
Republic of Moldova	37	0	2	3	3	[Contributing data]
*Romania	27	3	4	4	4	
Russian Federation	743	4	2	5	5	[Contributing data]
Serbia	46	3	2	3	4	[Contributing data]
Singapore	6 (2014)	0	0	0	0	No data
*Slovakia	19	6	4	4	5	
*Slovenia	0	3	5	5	5	
South Africa	350	2	0	0	1	[Contributing data]
*Spain	68	4	5	5	5	
*Sweden	1	5	6	11	12	
*Switzerland	64	6	7	6	5	

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Contributor	Number of applications for Plant Breeders' Rights in 2015	Number of new data submissions to the Plant Variety Database in 2013	Number of new data submissions to the Plant Variety Database in 2014	Number of new data submissions to the Plant Variety Database in 2015	Number of new data submissions to the Plant Variety Database in 2016	Situation at March 31, 2017
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	n/a	0	0	0	0	Participated in the training course in 2014 and planned to submit data upon receipt of applications.
Trinidad and Tobago	0 (2013)	0	0	0	0	Participated in the training course in 2014. Awaiting reply to e-mail of February 23, 2017, inviting data.
Tunisia	31	0	0	0	0	Awaiting reply to e-mail February 23, 2017, inviting data submission
*Turkey	231	1	1	1	3	
Ukraine	1,075	0	0	0	0	Awaiting reply to e-mail of March 1, 2017, inviting data.
*United Kingdom	20	6	10	11	13	
United Republic of Tanzania	n/a	-	-	0	0	
United States of America	1,634	6	10	17	16	[Contributing data]
Uruguay	49 (2014)	0	1	1	0	[Contributing data] Clarifications needed with regard to latest data provided before uploading in PLUTO
Uzbekistan	29 (2014)	0	0	0	0	Participated in the training course in 2014 and planned to submit data in 2015. Awaiting reply to e-mail of March 7, 2017.
Viet Nam	148	0	0	0	0	Participated in the training course in 2014 and planned to submit data in 2015. Data in preparation.
OECD	-	1	1	0	2	[Contributing data]
Number of UPOV members that contributed to the PLUTO database		44	48	45	52	
Percentage of UPOV members that contributed to the PLUTO database		62%	67%	61%	70%	

[End of Annex and of document]