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INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR THE PROTECTION OF NEW VARIETIES OF PLANTS

GENEVA

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE**Forty-Second Session
Geneva, April 3 to 5, 2006**

REPORT

*adopted by the Technical Committee*Opening of the Session

*1. The Technical Committee (TC) held its forty-second session in Geneva from April 3 to 5, 2006. The list of participants is reproduced in Annex I to this report.

*2. The session was opened by Mrs. Julia Borys (Poland), Chairperson of the TC, who welcomed the participants, especially those from the European Community and Albania, who had become members of the Union since the forty-first session of the TC, held in Geneva from April 4 to 6, 2005. In addition, she reported that Iceland had deposited its instrument of accession that morning, taking the number of members of the Union to 61.

3. The Delegation of the European Community expressed its thanks for the welcome it had received on attending the TC for the first time as a member of the Union. It recalled that it was the first intergovernmental organization to become a member of the Union. The Delegation looked forward to a long and productive relationship with the TC and hoped that its membership would lead to a strengthening of the UPOV system and to a broadening of international cooperation.

* The asterisked paragraphs in this report are reproduced from document TC/42/11 (Report on the Conclusions).

Adoption of the Agenda

*4. The TC adopted the agenda as presented in document TC/42/1.

Report on Developments in UPOV Including Relevant Matters Discussed in the Last Sessions of the Administrative and Legal Committee, the Consultative Committee and the Council

5. The Vice Secretary-General provided an oral report on the fifty-first and fifty-second sessions of the Administrative and Legal Committee (CAJ), the sixty-ninth and the seventieth sessions of the Consultative Committee and the twenty-second extraordinary session and the thirty-ninth ordinary session of the Council as follows:

Fifty-first and fifty-second sessions of the Administrative and Legal Committee

6. A substantial part of the CAJ discussions had been devoted to two matters raised by the TC in relation to molecular techniques: firstly, the document “Situation in UPOV concerning the possible use of molecular markers in DUS examination”, developed by the TC; and secondly, the possible use of molecular tools for variety identification in relation to the enforcement of plant breeders’ rights, technical verification of identity and the consideration of essential derivation. The Vice Secretary-General noted that those were matters which would be considered in detail in the current, forty-second session of the Technical Committee.

7. The CAJ had held discussions on Article 15(1)(i) and (2) of the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention: Acts done Privately and for Non-Commercial Purposes and Provisions on Farm-Saved Seed and also on the possibility of developing guidance concerning information, documents or material furnished by the breeder for examination purposes and for verifying the maintenance of varieties. Although those discussions did not lead to the development of a document for adoption, the Vice Secretary-General noted that the discussions had been very helpful to explore important issues and had provided useful information on aspects where there was consensus.

8. An important outcome of the fifty-second session, in October 2005, was an agreed program for the development of information materials concerning the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention. That program was linked to a decision to establish an Administrative and Legal Committee Advisory Group, the purpose of which was to assist the CAJ in the preparation of documents, particularly concerning those information materials. Also at its fifty-second session, the CAJ had considered the draft explanatory notes on Article 20 of the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention concerning variety denominations, which were to be reported in detail at the current, forty-second session of the TC.

9. The agenda for the fifty-third session of the CAJ included discussion of the draft explanatory notes on variety denominations, the development of information materials concerning the UPOV Convention and the enforcement of plant breeders’ rights. There were to be oral reports on developments concerning molecular techniques, TGP documents, publication of variety descriptions and UPOV information databases.

Sixty-ninth and the seventieth sessions of the Consultative Committee

10. The Vice Secretary-General noted that a matter which was of relevance for all UPOV Committees and Technical Working Parties was that the Consultative Committee had discussed and agreed a set of rules governing observer status in UPOV bodies. Those rules had been placed in the unrestricted area of the UPOV website.

11. At its seventieth session, in October 2005, the Consultative Committee had considered the proposals for the Program and Budget of the Union for the 2006-2007 Biennium and recommended their acceptance by the Council. In addition, the Committee had endorsed the recommendations of the Consultative Group on Long-term Financial Issues of UPOV, concerning certain long-term financial matters. At the same session, the Consultative Committee had received a report on the Meeting on Enforcement of Plant Breeders' Rights, which had taken place on the afternoon of October 25, 2005. A total of 106 participants had attended the meeting from 45 members of the Union, five observer States, two intergovernmental organizations and four international non-governmental organizations. Mr. Edgar Krieger, Executive Secretary of the International Community of Breeders of Asexually Reproduced Ornamental and Fruit-Tree Varieties (CIOPORA), and Mr. Bernard Le Buanec, Secretary-General of the International Seed Federation (ISF), had made presentations. The issues raised by the breeders' organizations at the Meeting on Enforcement of Plant Breeders' Rights were to be discussed further at the Consultative Committee at its seventy-first session, which was to be held on April 7, 2006. The Vice Secretary-General reported that a further important development at the session had been the Consultative Committee's endorsement for the publication of the UPOV Report on the Impact of Plant Variety Protection. A copy of the executive summary could be found on the UPOV website and five copies had been provided to all members of the Union.

12. In other developments, the Consultative Committee had agreed to a proposal to establish a UPOV Assistance Database to facilitate the most efficient and effective use of the resources which are available from the Office of the Union (the Office), the members of the Union and external sources. The Consultative Committee had also received a report on the first running of the UPOV distance learning course, which had taken place in September/October 2005.

The twenty-second extraordinary session and the thirty-ninth ordinary session of the Council

13. At its twenty-second extraordinary session, in April 2005, the Council had examined the law of Malaysia. At its thirty-ninth session, in October 2005, the Council had approved the Program and Budget of the Union for the 2006-2007 Biennium. The Vice Secretary-General noted that, of particular interest for the Technical Committee, the Council had approved the work of the Technical Committee, the Technical Working Parties (TWPs) and the BMT and approved the work programs for those groups. It had also elected the following Chairpersons:

Mrs. Beate Rücker (Germany), Chairperson of the TWP for Agricultural Crops;

Mrs. Sally Watson (United Kingdom), Chairperson of the TWP on Automation and Computer Programs;

Mr. Alejandro Barrientos Priego (Mexico), Chairman of the TWP for Fruit Crops;

Ms. Sandy Marshall (Canada), Chairperson of the TWP for Ornamental Plants and Forest Trees;

Mr. Niall Green (United Kingdom), Chairman of the TWP for Vegetables;

Mr. Henk Bonthuis (Netherlands), Chairman of the BMT.

14. The Vice Secretary-General congratulated the Chairpersons on their appointment and recalled the importance of the work of the TWPs, and therefore the importance of the role of the Chairperson, for UPOV as an organization. He emphasized that the Office would provide support to help the Chairpersons to achieve success in their role.

Progress Reports on the Work of the Technical Working Parties, Including the Working Group on Biochemical and Molecular Techniques, and DNA-Profiling in Particular

15. The TC received oral reports, from the Chairpersons, on the work of the Technical Working Party for Agricultural Crops (TWA), the Technical Working Party on Automation and Computer Programs (TWC), the Technical Working Party for Fruit Crops (TWF), the Technical Working Party for Ornamental Plants and Forest Trees (TWO), the Technical Working Party for Vegetables (TWV) and the Working Group on Biochemical and Molecular Techniques, and DNA-Profiling in Particular (BMT), as follows.

Technical Working Party for Agricultural Crops (TWA)

16. Mrs. Beate Rücker (Germany), Chairperson of the TWA, reported as follows:

17. The TWA held its thirty-fourth session in Christchurch, New Zealand, from October 31 to November 4, 2005. The report of the meeting is provided in document TWA/34/14.

18. The session was attended by 40 participants from 22 members of the Union, and one observer organization. The chairperson of the TWA, Mr. Luis Salaices (Spain), was not able to attend the session, and Mrs. Rücker was asked in her function as the next chairperson to chair the session. The preparatory workshop, held during the afternoon of Sunday, October 30, 2006, was attended by nine participants.

19. On the first morning, the TWA received a presentation on plant variety protection in New Zealand. The presentation was made by Mr. Maitland Maltby, Assistant Commissioner of Plant Variety Rights in the Plant Variety Rights Office. The TWA received short reports on developments in plant variety protection by the participants.

20. The TWA discussed developments on molecular techniques and received a report from Mr. Michael Camlin (United Kingdom), Chairman of the Crop Subgroup for Ryegrass, on an ongoing ISF sponsored study assessing essential derivation relationships between ryegrass varieties. The TWA agreed that meetings of the crop subgroups could be considered in conjunction with the TWA session in 2006, subject to the availability of new results.

21. The TWA considered the use of TGP/7 in the preparation of Test Guidelines and received a presentation from the Office on the use of the Test Guidelines drafters' kit. The group recalled the importance of respecting the deadlines for submission of documents and agreed that any document received after the deadline for submission to the Office should not

be considered by the TWA session. All draft Test Guidelines and TGP documents would be required to be made available to the members of the working group at least four weeks prior to the session.

22. The TWA discussed a number of draft TGP documents according to the program agreed by the TC. It proposed that the program set out in document TC/41/5 Add. be amended to allow an opportunity for the TWA to see new drafts of TGP/9/1, TGP/10/1, TGP/8/1 and TGP/13/1 at its session in 2006. It noted that there were practical advantages to adopting TGP/9, TGP/10 and TGP/8 at the same time.

23. The TWA discussed developments concerning UPOV information databases and agreed that the participants at the session should check the UPOV code amendments. The TWA considered document TWA/34/5 on variety denomination classes and agreed on the proposals for Helianthus, Brassica and grasses as set out in the Annex of that document.

24. The TWA discussed the project to consider the publication of variety descriptions and received presentations on progress in the model study on barley, from Mr. Gerhard Deneken (Denmark), and on potato, from Mr. Henk Bonthuis (Netherlands). It concluded that published variety descriptions might be used in a limited way for selecting varieties for the growing trial, but if the user of such an approach did not have detailed knowledge of the level of harmonization of descriptions there would be a high risk of making an incorrect assessment of distinctness.

25. The TWA noted progress in the development of regional sets of example varieties for the Test Guidelines for Rice and was informed of ring tests for other crops, involving various members of the Union.

26. The TWA agreed to submit to the TC for adoption the draft Test Guidelines for Ryegrass and Sheep's Fescue/Red Fescue, both of which were revisions, and for Medics and Hop, both of which were new. The Test Guidelines for Hop were developed jointly with the TWF. As agreed during the session, the Test Guidelines for Ryegrass and Fescues were modified by correspondence after the meeting. The TWA planned to continue discussions on eleven Test Guidelines in 2006, three were revisions and eight were new. Five Test Guidelines were expected to be at the final stage in 2006.

27. At the invitation of the experts from China, the TWA agreed to hold its thirty-fifth session in Beijing, China, from July 3 to 7, 2006. The TWA proposed to discuss the following items at its next session: Short reports on developments in plant variety protection from members and observers; Reports on developments within UPOV; Developments on Molecular Techniques; TGP documents; UPOV Information Databases; Project to consider the publication of variety descriptions; Project for exchanging seed of selected varieties between interested countries; Development of regional sets of example varieties for the Test Guidelines for Rice; Discussion on draft Test Guidelines; Recommendations on draft Test Guidelines; Date and place of the next session and Future program.

Technical Working Party on Automation and Computer Programs (TWC)

28. Mrs. Sally Watson (United Kingdom), Chairperson of the TWC, reported as follows:

29. The TWC held its twenty-third session in Ottawa, Canada, from June 13 to 16, 2005. The session was attended by 29 participants from 15 members of the Union. The TWC was

welcomed by Mr. Garry Koivisto, Executive Director of the Canadian Food Inspection Agency. He described how, following its joining of UPOV in 1991, Canada had experienced positive impacts of membership, and explained the plans to move towards ratifying the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention. The TWC meeting was chaired by Mr. Uwe Meyer. The report of the meeting is provided in document TWC/23/21. On the afternoon of June 12, 2005, prior to the TWC meeting, a preparatory workshop was held, and was attended by seven participants.

30. Mr. Mike Burvill, Examiner of the Plant Breeder's Rights Office, made a presentation on the plant breeder's right system in Canada, which was based on a breeder testing approach.

31. The TWC received a short report from the Office on new developments in the Council, the Administrative and Legal Committee, the Technical Committee, and other Technical Working Parties. Discussions followed an update on the possible use of molecular techniques in UPOV. There was emphasis on the need for databases to store and to help exchange data on molecular techniques, and to help develop statistical techniques. The database structures needed for inter-country data exchange were discussed, as well as the data to be exchanged, the importance of agreeing the data structure at the start, who should have access to the data and for which markers data would be included. It was noted that sharing systems was desirable because not all countries would necessarily have the resources to develop their own databases. However, it was noted that there could be significant problems in updating systems shared between countries.

32. The TWC discussed the project to consider the publication of variety descriptions. The TWC noted the variation between countries in the variety descriptions, and the suggestions to reduce this variation, and noted the possible use of the GAIA program on the comparison of variety descriptions.

33. The discussion of TGP documents formed an important part of the meeting. The TGP documents included: TGP/4 "Constitution and Management of Variety Collections", TGP/9 "Examining Distinctness", TGP/10 "Examining Uniformity", TGP/8 "Use of Statistical Procedures in DUS Testing", and TGP/14.3 "Statistical Terms". In particular, it was agreed that TGP/10 should be brought into line with TGP/9 in terms of its level of information, and that the detailed statistical content of both TGP/9 and TGP/10 should be moved to TGP/8. It was also agreed that a different structure be sought for TGP/8.

34. In addition to the work on TGP documents, the TWC considered other important contributions concerning developments in COY statistical procedures and off-type assessments. The TWC discussed a number of approaches to the question of whether the number of plants on which characteristics are recorded could be reduced. In particular, one approach used variance components to investigate how far the number of plants within a plot could be reduced with, for example, a 1% increase in the LSD. For some characteristics, the number of plants recorded could be reduced to 10 instead of the usual 60. However, that would only apply for the reference varieties, because all 60 plants would need to be recorded for the candidate varieties. Also, the reduction would only be for characteristics that were stable in their variance components over time. The TWC planned to study this approach for more countries and more crops. There was also work to be done on assessing the impact of the reduced reference variety recording on uniformity and on the decisions made.

35. The TWC discussed an adjustment to the COYD method for use when varieties were grouped within the DUS trial. This was of particular benefit when the resulting groups were

small, as there were problems due to few degrees of freedom when the groups were analyzed separately.

36. There were a number of discussions on alternative approaches to uniformity testing that avoided the COYU moving average adjustment, which some experts considered to “over-fit” the mean-variance relationship. In particular, alternatives based on analysis of covariance and using either a LOESS smoother or linear/quadratic polynomials for the mean-variance relationship were suggested. An alternative to the COYU t-test which compared the mean uniformity of the reference varieties with the candidate mean uniformity was also suggested. The alternative test was based on estimating a quantile of the distribution of the uniformities of the reference varieties. The TWC planned further investigations with more crops, years and countries. There were also discussions on testing coefficients of variation instead of using the moving average mean-variance adjustment in within year uniformity testing.

37. The TWC discussed the development of a questionnaire on population standards used when assessing uniformity by off-types, the results of which were intended to be added to the results of the COYU questionnaire and circulated to other Technical Working Parties for discussion on the extent of harmonization in crops. There was also discussion on the calculation of relative tolerances in the number of off-types - for when there was not enough knowledge of the crop to set a fixed standard. Suggestions included the possible use of an over-year standard.

38. The TWC saw a demonstration of an access database of TWC papers and papers of interest to the TWC. The TWC heard that it would not be possible to place the database on the UPOV website because that only supported Oracle databases. However, it would be made available to members of the TWC in the form of a CD-ROM provided by experts from Germany.

39. At the invitation of the Kenya Plant Health Inspectorate Service (KEPHIS), it was agreed that the next meeting of the TWC should take place in Nairobi, Kenya, from June 19 to 22, 2006, with a preparatory workshop to be held on the afternoon of June 18.

40. During its forthcoming session, the TWC planned to discuss the items mentioned above plus generalized linear models, segregation ratios, image analysis, and DUS Examination in two locations.

41. At the end of the session, Mr. Uwe Meyer (Germany) was awarded a UPOV bronze medal in recognition of his chairmanship of the TWC from 2003 to 2005.

Technical Working Party for Fruit Crops (TWF)

42. Mr. Alejandro Barrientos Priego (Mexico), Chairman of the TWF, reported as follows:

43. The TWF held its thirty-sixth session in Kôfu, Japan, from September 5 to 9, 2005, with a preparatory workshop on the afternoon of September 4. The session was opened by Mr. Erik Schulte from Germany, Chairman of the TWF, and was welcomed by Mr. Keiji Terazawa, Director of the Seeds and Seedlings Division of the Japanese Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF). The report of the meeting is provided in document TWF/36/8.

44. The session was attended by 39 participants from 16 members of the Union and from three observer states. The preparatory workshop was attended by 26 participants. The participants included the trainees from the plant variety protection training course, organized by the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA).

45. The TWF received a presentation on plant breeders' rights in Japan and received oral reports from participants on developments in plant variety protection and from the Office of the Union on the latest developments within UPOV.

46. The TWF received an introduction to document TWF/36/2 on Molecular Techniques. The TWF supported the proposal from the BMT for the establishment of a crop subgroup for vegetatively propagated crops, on the basis that such a crop subgroup would include fruit species. Other documents received included TWF/36/3 and TC/41/5 Add. concerning the development of the TGP documents, and a presentation was also made on the use of TGP/5 "Experience and Cooperation in DUS Testing" Section 10 "Notification of Additional Characteristics".

47. The TWF discussed a number of draft TGP documents. In relation to TGP/4 "Constitution and Management of Variety Collections", the TWF discussed document TGP/4/1 Draft 4 and agreed to propose that the introduction should explain the logic and reasoning behind the process of narrowing-down of the varieties of common knowledge in a way which inexperienced readers would understand and, in particular, to explain that the process avoided the need for side-by-side comparisons. It also discussed and recommended possible amendments, mainly in the wording, on drafts of TGP/9 "Examining Distinctness", TGP/10 "Examining Uniformity", TGP/8 "Use of Statistical Procedures in DUS Testing", TGP/13 "Guidance for New Types and Species", TGP/14.2.1&2 "Botanical Terms: Plant Shapes & Hair Types", TGP/14.2.3 "Botanical Terms: Color". With regard to plant shapes in TGP/14.2, there was discussion of an approach to identify certain "core" or "basic" shapes which had a qualitative step between them, and to define ranges of shapes for certain "core" or "basic" shapes which could be obtained by simply changing the position of the maximum width or the length/width ratio in a quantitative progression.

48. The TWF considered documents TWF/36/3 "UPOV Information Databases" and received a presentation of the prototype GENIE, TWF/36/5 "Variety Denomination Classes", TWF/36/6 "Project to Consider the Publication of Variety Descriptions", TWF/36/8 "Definition of Maturity of Fruit", and TWF/36/7-TWO/38/9 "Criteria for Determining Off-Type Plants", introduced by Mr. Chris Barnaby, Chairman of the TWO.

49. The TWF finalized the draft Test Guidelines revision for Avocado, Blackberry, Mango, Opuntia and for Cherry, which was divided into two Test Guidelines for Sour and Sweet Cherry. In addition, the new draft Test Guidelines for Hop, that were developed jointly with the TWA, were also finalized.

50. The TWF planned to continue discussions on a total of 15 Test Guidelines in 2006: six being revisions and nine being new Test Guidelines. Of the 15 to be discussed, four of them were at the "final" draft stage. The TWF also decided to consider discussing draft Test Guidelines for Dragon-fruit, Durian, Rambutan, Pistachio, Pomegranate and Melon-pear at its thirty-eighth session, in 2007.

51. At the invitation of the expert from Brazil, the TWF agreed to hold its thirty-seventh session in Salvador, Bahia State, Brazil, from August 21 to 25, 2006, with a preparatory

workshop on August 20. During its thirty-seventh session, the TWF planned to discuss or re-discuss the following items: Short reports on developments in plant variety protection from members and observers as well as within UPOV; Developments on molecular techniques; TGP documents; UPOV information databases; Project to consider the publication of variety descriptions; Criteria for determining off-type plants; Variety denomination classes and Discussions and Recommendations on draft Test Guidelines.

52. At the end of the session, Mr. Erik Schulte (Germany) was awarded a UPOV bronze medal in recognition of his chairmanship of the TWF from 2003 to 2005.

Technical Working Party for Ornamental Plants and Forest Trees (TWO)

53. Ms. Sandy Marshall (Canada), Chairperson of the TWO, reported as follows:

54. The TWO held its thirty-eighth session in Seoul, Republic of Korea, from September 12 to 16, 2005, under the chairmanship of Mr. Chris Barnaby (New Zealand). The TWO was welcomed by Dr. Jae Chun Sim, Director General of the National Seed Management Office (NSMO), Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, and Mr. Eung-Bon Kim, Director of Plant Variety Protection Division (NSMO). The report of the meeting is provided in document TWO/38/12.

55. The meeting was attended by 59 participants from 18 members of the Union, one observer State and one observer organization. The TWO noted that the preparatory workshop held on September 11, 2005, prior to the TWO meeting, was attended by 44 participants, from 13 members of the Union.

56. The TWO received a presentation on the current situation of the flower industry and breeding in the Republic of Korea from Professor Ki Sun Kim, Seoul National University, and on the plant variety protection situation in the Republic of Korea, from Dr. Keun-Jin Choi, of the NSMO. The TWO also received short oral reports on developments in variety protection from participants and on the latest developments within UPOV from the UPOV Office.

57. The TWO discussed document TWO/38/2 concerning the possible use of molecular techniques in DUS Testing. The TWO supported a proposal from the BMT for the establishment of a crop subgroup for vegetatively propagated crops, on the basis that such a crop subgroup would then incorporate the Crop Subgroup for Rose.

58. Document TWO/38/9 “Criteria for Determining Off-type Plants” was introduced by the Chairman and discussed. The TWO concluded that guidance on the determination of off-types would be an important part of TGP/10 “Examining Uniformity” and agreed to develop guidance for inclusion in TGP/10. The guidance would include an explanation of the issues, value of harmonization, examples of different types of off-types and how to check whether atypical plants were caused by genetics or the environment. A guidance document was planned for discussion at the thirty-ninth session of the TWO. Associated with the discussion of TWO/38/9, the TWO also considered document TWO/38/10 “Transposon-induced Coloration Patterns in Ornamentals”, drafted by experts from the European Community. The TWO agreed that any guidance for determining off-types should seek to address the effects resulting from the presence of transposons.

59. A number of draft TGP documents were discussed. The TWO had particular interest in documents TGP/4/1 Draft 4 “Constitution and Management of Variety Collections”, TGP/9/1 Draft 4 “Examining Distinctness”, TGP/10/1 Draft 4 “Examining Uniformity”, and TGP/14/1 Draft 3 “Glossary of Technical, Botanical and Statistical Terms Used in UPOV Documents”.

60. The TWO discussed documents TWO/38/5 “Variety Denomination Classes” and TWO/38/5 Add. which contained proposals for the creation of new variety denomination classes for some ornamental genera. All proposals, with one exception, were rejected in favor of the general rule of one genus / one class. A new class containing *Jamesbrittenia* and *Sutera* and hybrids between them was recommended. Where hybrids between certain genera existed, the TWO recommended that a new denomination class should be created. It was noted that the GENIE database would contain links between the codes for the new genus and its parent genera. The TWO observed that the general rule of one genus / one class followed the general rule of the International Code of Nomenclature for Cultivated Plants (ICNCP). However, some of the recommendations of the TWO would diverge from ICNCP exceptional classes.

61. Documents TWO/38/6 and TWO/38/11 provided the basis for discussion of the project to consider the publication of variety descriptions. It was particularly interesting to note that the Model Study on *Alstroemeria* demonstrated that variations in the state of expression of plant characteristics could be attributed to differences in growing conditions as well as to problems with the previous version of the Test Guidelines. A revision of the Test Guidelines for *Alstroemeria* was finalized at the meeting, which included improvements in the observation of flower characteristics, an area highlighted as having difficulty by the project results.

62. The TWO received a presentation from Mr. Lars Jacobsen (Denmark) and Mr. Ton Kwakkenbos (European Community) on a co-financed research project on the impact of phytoplasma strains on the phenotypical expression of poinsettia varieties.

63. The TWO agreed to submit the Test Guidelines for *Alstroemeria*, *Chrysanthemum*, *Dahlia*, *New Guinea Impatiens*, *Rose*, *Tagetes*, *Tulip* and *Willow* to the TC. Discussion will continue on 11 other Test Guidelines, consisting of two revisions and nine new Test Guidelines. The TWO will begin discussion on another 14 draft Test Guidelines in 2006.

64. At the invitation of Brazil, the TWO will hold its thirty-ninth session in Fortaleza, Ceará State, Brazil, from August 28 to September 1, 2006. During its thirty-ninth session, the TWO plans to discuss or re-discuss the following items: short reports on developments in plant variety protection from members, observers and within UPOV; molecular techniques; the project to consider the publication of variety descriptions; UPOV information databases; criteria for determining off-types; TGP documents and discussion of and recommendations for draft Test Guidelines.

65. At the close of the session, Mr. Chris Barnaby (New Zealand) was awarded a UPOV bronze medal in recognition of his chairmanship of the TWO from 2003 to 2005.

Technical Working Party for Vegetables (TWV)

66. Mr. Niall Green (United Kingdom), Chairman of the TWV, reported as follows:

67. The TWV held its thirty-ninth session in Nitra, Slovakia, from June 6 to 10, 2005, with a preparatory workshop held on the afternoon of June 5. The TWV session was chaired by Mr. Kees van Ettekovén (Netherlands). The report of the meeting is provided in document TWV/39/9.

68. The session was attended by 45 participants from 19 members of the Union and two observer organizations. The preparatory workshop was attended by 28 participants.

69. There were oral reports from the participants on developments in plant variety protection in their countries. In particular, the TWV received a presentation on agriculture and DUS testing in Slovakia, which included information on vegetable PBR tests, breeding and production.

70. During the session, drafts of documents TGP/4 “Constitution and Management of Variety Collections”, TGP/8 “Use of Statistics in DUS Testing”, TGP/9 “Examining Distinctness”, TGP/10 “Examining Uniformity” and TGP/13 “Guidance for New Types and Species”, were discussed.

71. No meetings of the crop subgroups on molecular techniques had taken place. However, experts provided information on the current use of biomolecular techniques for testing disease resistance and management of reference collections.

72. Results from a comparison of Chinese Cabbage and Lettuce variety descriptions were discussed as part of the project to consider the publication of variety descriptions. Although variation between descriptions for the same variety could be due to environmental factors, it was recognized that differences in recording were also a contributing factor, and that ring testing could address the issue of harmonization. The TWV concluded that the availability of descriptions in a database would be beneficial, but accepted that descriptions would vary. As a first step, the addition of grouping characteristics would be useful, but would require the extraction of data from descriptions. Interpretation of the information for use in DUS testing would require caution. The TWV noted that it would be difficult to publish variety descriptions at the UPOV level for the foreseeable future.

73. The TWV received a presentation of the prototype GENIE database and proposed links between GENIE and Test Guidelines on the website, and to e-mail or website details of individuals or authorities with relevant experience.

74. The TWV agreed to send draft Test Guidelines for Calabrese and Sprouting Broccoli (Revision), Lettuce (partial revision), Cornsalad (Revision), Pepper (Revision), Melon (Revision), and Peppermint (New) for adoption by the Technical Committee. The draft Test Guidelines for Melon and Pepper were modified by correspondence after the meeting.

75. The TWV agreed to discuss a total of 16 Test Guidelines at its fortieth session, seven of which were final drafts. Of the others, six were revisions and three were new drafts: Bitter Gourd, *Hypericum perforatum* and *Rumex*. New Test Guidelines would be considered for *Portulaca*(Purslane) jointly with the TWO.

76. At the invitation of the expert from Mexico, the TWV agreed to hold its fortieth session in Guanajuato, Mexico, from June 12 to 16, 2006, with a preparatory workshop on June 11.

77. During its fortieth session, the TWV planned to discuss or re-discuss: Short reports on developments in plant variety protection; Molecular Techniques; Project to consider the Publication of Variety Descriptions; Review of UPOV Information Databases; TGP Documents; Additional characteristics; Discussion on draft Test Guidelines; Date and place of next session; Future program and the Report on the conclusions of the session.

78. At the end of the session, Mr. Kees van Ettehoven (Netherlands) was awarded a UPOV bronze medal in recognition of his chairmanship of the TWV from 2003 to 2005.

Working Group on Biochemical and Molecular Techniques, and DNA-Profiling in Particular (BMT)

79. Mr. Gerhard Deneken (Denmark), the former Chairman of the BMT, reported as follows:

80. The BMT held its ninth session in Washington, D.C., United States of America, from June 21 to 23, 2005, with a preparatory workshop on the afternoon of June 20 under the chairmanship of Gerhard Deneken. The report of the meeting is provided in document BMT/9/14.

81. The session was hosted by the Office of International Relations, United States Patent & Trademark Office (USPTO) and the Plant Variety Protection Office, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). Mrs. Karen Hauda, from the US Patent and Trademark Office, provided an overview of the plant variety protection systems available in the United States of America to the 49 participants from 16 members of the Union and five observer organizations. At the preparatory workshop, there were 24 participants.

82. The BMT received an oral report on the work of the Crop Subgroups for: Sugarcane by Mr. Luis Salaices (Spain); Potato by Mrs. Beate Rücker (Germany); and Wheat by Mr. Robert Cooke (United Kingdom). During the reporting the importance and potential power of molecular techniques for variety identification was stressed and the need for harmonization of methods and exchange of data was clearly demonstrated. Furthermore, the BMT received information on variety identification and enforcement of PBR from participants.

83. Regarding Option 1 (Use of molecular characteristics which are directly linked to traditional characteristics), the BMT received several presentations. The presentations were based on different techniques and one presentation given by an expert from the Netherlands discussed further aspects and possibilities of an Option 1 approach. Other experts examined the possibilities of an Option 1 approach with different techniques, in different species identifying different genes, primarily disease resistance.

84. The BMT also received presentations in relation to an Option 2 approach (Calibration of threshold levels for molecular characteristics against the minimum distance in traditional characteristics). For example, in the Republic of Korea, work had been done on hot pepper and chestnut. The BMT received a presentation from experts from the Netherlands, based on rose. The conclusions of that study showed that it was unlikely that it would be possible to establish a relation/correlation/association between morphological and genetic distance.

85. The BMT received a presentation by experts from Spain based on grapevine, a vegetatively propagated crop, where the possibility of an Option 3 approach (development of

new approach) was discussed in respect of DUS testing, variety identification and infringement. The BMT considered that the approach should be considered further by the interested parties, including in particular the breeders, in the form of a specific crop subgroup or jointly with other vegetatively propagated species, as there were many similarities to other vegetatively propagated species. During the meeting it became evident that several aspects for particular crops were often similar to approaches for crops of the same type (vegetatively propagated, self- or cross-pollinated types). Those crops could often benefit from the work done in the other crops. The BMT therefore proposed the establishment of a Crop Subgroup for Vegetatively Propagated Varieties and the extension of the Crop Subgroup for Wheat to form a Crop Subgroup for Wheat and Barley.

86. The BMT worked on the BMT Guidelines. To validate the robustness of the BMT Guidelines, the experts from the United Kingdom and the Netherlands, involved in the projects “Research project co-financed by the Community Plant Variety Office (CPVO): Management of winter oilseed rape reference collections”, “Analysis of a database of DNA profiles of 734 hybrid tea rose (*Rosa hybrida*) varieties” and the project to characterize all the varieties of potatoes on the Common Catalogue of the European Union by 2007 (see paragraph 24 of document BMT/9/14), indicated their willingness to participate in a pilot database project. Experts from the United States of America also expressed their interest in participating in these pilot projects.

87. In response to the invitation received from the Republic of Korea, the BMT agreed to hold its tenth session in Seoul, Republic of Korea. During its tenth session, the BMT planned to discuss: Short presentations on new developments in biochemical and molecular techniques by DUS experts, biochemical and molecular specialists, and plant breeders; Reports from the BMT Review Group, Technical Committee and Crop Subgroups; Report of work on molecular techniques on a crop-by crop basis; BMT Guidelines; Construction and standardization of databases of molecular characteristics of plant varieties; Statistical methods for data produced by biochemical and molecular techniques; The use of molecular techniques in examining essential derivation; Recommendations on the establishment of new crop specific subgroups; Date and place of next session; Future program; and the Report of the session (if time permits).

88. At the end of the session, Mr. Gerhard Deneken (Denmark) was awarded a UPOV bronze medal in recognition of his chairmanship of the BMT from 2003 to 2005.

89. Following the session, on the morning of June 24, 2005, the BMT participants were given the possibility to visit the laboratory of Dr. Perry Cregan (United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Agricultural Research Center (ARS), Beltsville) and the National Center for Biotechnology Information.

Matters Arising from the Technical Working Parties

*90. The TC considered document TC/42/3.

*91. The TC agreed to request the relevant Technical Working Parties (TWPs) to consider the results of the information provided by members of the Union responding to a questionnaire on probability levels used in COY, as presented in document TWC/23/10, and to explain the reasons where different probability levels are used to those indicated in the COY recommendations.

*92. The TC agreed that the TWPs should be informed that the TWC is working on a questionnaire seeking information on population standards used in the assessment of uniformity by off-types, in particular when tests from more than one year were used.

TGP Documents

*93. The TC discussed the development of the TGP documents on the basis of document TC/42/5.

(a) *TGP documents to which the Technical Committee has given highest priority:*

TGP/4: Constitution and Management of Variety Collections

*94. The TC agreed the following amendments to document TGP/4/1 Draft 6:

<i>Section</i>	<i>Comment</i>
2.1.1	to explain that more complete information is more useful and that the source of the information will also have a bearing on its usefulness. In addition, to explain that the completeness of information can be improved by reference to plant experts
2.1.2.1	to reword the first sentence to read “Documented descriptions can provide information to assist with the grouping of varieties and reducing the number of varieties of common knowledge which need to be included in a growing trial. The most effective means of examining distinctness is to conduct a growing trial or other test containing the candidate variety and the relevant varieties of common knowledge.”
3.2.2.2	to make reference to the particular situation concerning parent lines submitted as a part of the examination of a candidate hybrid variety as set out in Section 3.1.2.2.2.

TGP/9: Examining Distinctness

*95. The TC agreed the following amendments to document TGP/9/1 Draft 6:

<i>Section</i>	<i>Comment</i>
2.3.2.4	to clarify which of the criteria in Sections 2.3.3 to 2.3.6 relate only to characteristics not specified in the UPOV Test Guidelines, or where there are no UPOV Test Guidelines
2.3.3.2	to read “... as a general rule, qualitative characteristics are less likely to be influenced by the environment ...”
2.3.4 Example	to amend reference to read “Section 2.3.3”

<i>Section</i>	<i>Comment</i>
2.4.1	to add color patterns as another example of characteristics which are not easy for breeders to describe by means of Notes in the Table of Characteristics
2.4.2	(a) to add the inclusion of a color scale as another example to enhance the usefulness of photographs; and (b) to clarify the use of photographs in situations where the photographs do not accurately reflect the characteristics of the variety, despite the best endeavors of the applicant (e.g. difficulties of accurately recording colors in photographs). In particular, to clarify that such a situation would not be a basis for rejecting the application
3.1 to 3.6.1	the information provided in Sections 3.1 to 3.6.1 to be repeated in document TGP/10, or those Sections to be moved to document TGP/8
3.3.2	it was agreed that when the section was completed, consideration should be given to whether the section should be moved to Section 5
4.3.2, 4.3.4	to read "... for a group of plants ..."
5.2.1.1	consideration to be given to adding "or a combination of characteristics" at the end of 5.2.1.1 (b) according to the outcome of discussions of Section 5.4.2 (see below)
5.2.1.2	to read "The choice of approach or combination of approaches ..."
5.2.3.5	to retain the text, but to explain the circumstances where varieties described by the same state of expression may be clearly distinguishable, indicating that this was not the normal situation
5.2.4.12	to explain that COYD can be used in cases of visual observations where the data fulfill the necessary requirements and to provide an example
5.4.2	consideration to be given to the use of a combination of characteristics, including consideration of the stability of results. Examples of the use of a combination of characteristics to be provided by the European Community. To review whether Section 5.4.2 should be included in Section 5.2
6.2	to be further elaborated and to provide an explanation of the limitations arising from variations in variety descriptions resulting from different environments and sources
6.4.5	to consider replacing "applicant" with "breeder", as defined in the General Introduction
6.5	to consider changing the title to "The advice of panels of experts"

*96. The TC agreed the following amendments to document TGP/10/1 Draft 3:

<i>Section</i>	<i>Comment</i>
General	(a) to explain cases where a combination of standard deviations and off-types might be appropriate; (b) to provide guidance for new intergeneric / interspecific varieties
2.3.1, 2.5 (table)	to list truly self-pollinated and mainly self-pollinated types separately
3	(a) to provide guidance concerning bulk samples; (b) to provide information on the assessment of uniformity when multiple locations are used
4	to add a section for setting standards for new types and species
4.2	it was agreed that the section on the determination of off-types should be included in the next draft of TGP/10/1, to be considered by all Technical Working Parties in 2006
5.2.1.1	to explain “comparable varieties”
5.3	the explanation to include the particular example of cross-pollinated varieties being bred for a species where the varieties were normally vegetatively propagated

(b) *Other TGP documents:*

TGP/8: Use of Statistical Procedures in DUS Testing (document TGP/8/1 Draft 3)

*97. The TC heard that consideration of the comments made by the TWPs at their sessions in 2005 and by the Enlarged Editorial Committee (TC-EDC) at its meeting on January 10, 2006, had led the Chairperson of the TWC and Coordinator of TGP/8, Mrs. Sally Watson (United Kingdom), in conjunction with the Office of the Union (Office), to conclude that a re-structuring of the document and a review of the content in conjunction with the TWC would be appropriate before the document was considered in detail by the TC. Therefore, in order to avoid unnecessary cost and with the agreement of the Chairperson of the TC, Mrs. Julia Borys (Poland), document TGP/8/1 Draft 3 had not been translated into all UPOV languages. The TC agreed that Mrs. Watson and the Office should prepare a new draft for consideration by the TWC, taking into account the comments of the TWPs and the TC-EDC, on the basis of the notes in document TGP/8/1 Draft 3.

*98. The TC did not consider document TGP/8/1 Draft 3 in detail, but agreed that, as a result of its broadened scope, the title of TGP/8 should be changed to “Trial Design and Techniques Used in the Examination of Distinctness, Uniformity and Stability”. It also agreed that consideration should be given to splitting the document into two separate documents (Part I document and Part II document) in order to facilitate its consideration.

TGP/12: Special Characteristics: Section 1: Characteristics Expressed in Response to External Factors

*99. The TC considered document TGP/12 Section 1 Draft 2 and endorsed the proposals made by the TWA in Section 3, Section 3.3.2 and endnotes a, c and d. In addition, the TC requested that the definitions provided in Section 2.3.2 should be compared with the definitions previously agreed by the TC.

TGP/13: Guidance for New Types and Species

*100. The TC agreed the following amendments to document TGP/13/1 Draft 5:

<i>Section</i>	<i>Comment</i>
1.2	to replace “sophisticated” with a term which was less likely to become outdated
2.1	to provide guidance on checking to ensure that claimed new types, e.g. inter-specific hybrids were, in fact, new types where this had a bearing on the consideration of distinctness
2.3.3	to redraft the third sentence to explain that it may not always be possible for parent varieties to be submitted by the breeder
2.5	to provide guidance on how to ensure that the uniformity requirement for new species was not set too low such that it would inhibit consideration of distinctness for subsequent varieties
3, 4	to add a section for testing stability

101. The Delegation of Colombia proposed to consider the examination of a single application for a plant breeder's right for a variety formed by a combination of different lines. She reported the case of an application for a coffee variety formed by a combination of more than 40 different lines. In response to that request for clarification of how to address a single application for a plant breeder's right for a combination of different lines, the TC agreed that a document should be prepared for consideration at the forty-third session of the TC.

Proposed Revision to document TGP/7/1 “Development of Test Guidelines”

102. The TC noted the proposals made with regard to the revision of document TGP/7/1 as set out in Annex I to document TC/42/5.

103. The Delegation of France observed that Additional Standard Wording ASW 9 “(TG Template: Chapter 4.3.2) – Stability assessment: general” needed to be modified because it would not be appropriate to test stability by growing a further generation for cross-pollinated varieties. It also proposed that the text “... to ensure that it exhibits the same characteristics as those shown by the previous material supplied.” should be amended to read “... to ensure that it exhibits the same characteristics as those shown by the initial material supplied.”

Program for the Development of TGP Documents

*104. The TC approved the program for the development of TGP documents, as set out in Annex II to document TC/42/5, with the following amendments:

(a) the title of document TGP/4 to be confirmed as “Constitution and Management of Variety Collections” (without brackets); and

(b) the title of document TGP/8 would be changed to “Trial Design and Techniques Used in the Examination of Distinctness, Uniformity and Stability”;

*105. The TC noted, in particular, that:

(a) the Administrative and Legal Committee Advisory Group (CAJ-AG) will be invited to consider the development of document TGP/3 and the revision of document TGP/5, in preparation for submission of documents to the CAJ;

(b) documents TGP/4, TGP/9 and TGP/10 are scheduled to be approved in parallel;

(c) revision of document TGP/5 is scheduled to allow a review of Section 10 in parallel with revisions of Sections 1 to 7;

(d) revision of document TGP/7 is scheduled to start in 2008, after document TGP/9 has been approved by the TC and in anticipation of document TGP/14 attaining a good level of agreement; and

(e) finalization of document TGP/13 is scheduled after the approval of documents TGP/4, TGP/9 and TGP/10.

UPOV Information Databases

*106. The TC considered document TC/42/6.

GENIE Database

107. The Delegation of the European Community expressed its appreciation for the work on the introduction of UPOV codes, which it explained were important for the operation of the Community Plant Variety Office (CPVO) centralized database on variety denominations. With respect to the procedure for the updating of the variety denomination classes in the GENIE database, it noted that there were rapid developments in taxonomy, particularly in the ornamental sector, and wondered if it might be useful to have a procedure for updating variety denomination classes independently of the UPOV recommendations on variety denominations. The Technical Director noted that the draft “Explanatory Notes on Variety Denominations under the UPOV Convention”, which were intended to supersede the “UPOV Recommendations on Variety Denominations” (document UPOV/INF/12 Rev.), clearly established the principle of “one genus / one class”. Thus, a new genus would automatically constitute a new variety denomination class. With regard to the exceptional classes (e.g. for Brassica), he observed that there had not been a rapid evolution of such classes and suggested that the necessary amendments to the “Explanatory Notes on Variety Denominations

under the UPOV Convention” could be made in a timely fashion. In particular, it would be possible to revise only the list of classes in the explanatory notes if that was appropriate.

108. The Delegation of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) welcomed the work which had been done on UPOV databases. It explained that the greater access to information concerning genera and species, including the UPOV Test Guidelines, was also of interest to authorities responsible for seed certification. For that reason, it requested clarification of the accessibility of the GENIE database and the Plant Variety Database. The Technical Director confirmed that the GENIE database would be made available on the freely accessible area of the UPOV website. He recalled that the UPOV-ROM version of the Plant Variety Database was available free-of-charge to UPOV-ROM contributors and was available to all others on a subscription basis. He confirmed that the access arrangements for a web-based version of the Plant Variety Database would be considered in conjunction with the presentation of a prototype.

109. The Delegation of Argentina expressed its appreciation of the work on the UPOV databases. With respect to the use of categories for “plant/fungus” and “plant/algae”, it recalled the importance of harmonization within UPOV. The Technical Director confirmed that the creation of those categories was not intended to detract from the importance of harmonization and noted that the availability of more information might help to increase the level of harmonization.

*110. The TC agreed that the following features would be introduced into the GENIE database when available on the UPOV website:

(i) a link from the Test Guidelines references in the GENIE database to the relevant UPOV Test Guidelines on the UPOV website;

(ii) a link to the relevant e-mail or website address for authorities in relation to experience and protection information;

(iii) a field for “Family”;

(iv) attribution of each genus to a “Category”: Plant; Plant/Fungus; or Plant/Algae within the administrative features of the database;

(v) the possibility for a UPOV code to have more than one denomination class; and

(vi) the variety denomination classes to be updated according to any revision of document UPOV/INF/12 Rev.

*111. The TC noted that the design of the web-based version of the GENIE database was underway and its launch on the freely accessible area of the UPOV website was planned for later in 2006. It noted that it was hoped that the new variety denomination classes would be finalized before GENIE was launched.

UPOV Code System

*112. The TC agreed the guiding criteria for identifying the most appropriate authorities to check UPOV code amendments, as set out in paragraph 7 of document TC/42/6, and agreed that the procedure for the introduction and amendment of UPOV codes should be updated

accordingly. It also agreed that the checking of the 2005 amendments to the UPOV code should be combined with the checking of the 2006 amendments, to be considered by the TWPs in 2006.

Plant Variety Database

113. Following an introduction to the section on the Plant Variety Database, the Office informed the TC that there would be a demonstration of the prototype data submission table for participants during the lunch break on April 4, 2006.

114. The Delegation of Mexico commented that it would be very helpful to have a simplified system for the submission of data to the UPOV-ROM.

115. The Delegation of Kenya noted that the submission of data to the UPOV-ROM posed particular difficulties for the newer members of the Union and welcomed the development of the data submission table as a means of assisting those members of the Union.

116. The Delegation of the European Community reported that, during the use of its data submission table in connection with the CPVO centralized database on variety denominations, it had identified some aspects where that table might be improved. It noted that UPOV planned to use that table as the basis for the UPOV-ROM data submission table and offered to cooperate in order to improve the table.

117. The representative of the European Seed Association (ESA) noted the importance of the UPOV-ROM as a source of variety data and suggested that the general notice and disclaimer might be revised to indicate that members of the Union were encouraged to supply data to the UPOV-ROM.

118. The representative of the OECD recalled that the List of Varieties Eligible for Certification was provided to UPOV on an annual basis for inclusion in the UPOV-ROM. The policy of the OECD was to disseminate that list as widely as possible and, in addition, the list was also made available in paper form, on a CD-ROM and on the OECD website. The list issued at the end of 2005 represented more than 190 species and approximately 37,000 varieties. It was also reported that the seed certification authorities had requested that the list be updated on a more frequent basis, with a possible future development being a continuous process of updating. Therefore, with regard to the development of a common searching platform for certain databases relevant for variety denomination searching purposes, the representative of OECD indicated that the OECD website containing the List of Varieties Eligible for Certification would be a relevant database for those purposes.

119. The TC noted the developments and planned program concerning improvements to the UPOV-ROM and the plans for the development of a web-based Plant Variety Database, as set out in paragraphs 12 to 14 of document TC/42/6.

120. The TC noted the updating of the general notice and disclaimer in the UPOV-ROM User Guide, as reproduced in document TC/42/6, paragraph 15, and noted the situation concerning the development of a web-based Plant Variety Database, as set out in paragraph 17 of document TC/42/6.

Molecular Techniques

Document “Situation in UPOV Concerning the Possible Use of Molecular Markers in DUS Examination”

*121. The TC considered document TC/42/7, paragraphs 2 to 9. It concluded that it would not be appropriate to undertake a reworking of the Annex to document TC/40/9 Add. (Annex to document CAJ/50/4) on the basis of the comments made in the CAJ. It reaffirmed its support for the presentation of the situation, set out in documents TC/38/14 -CAJ/45/5 and TC/38/14 Add.-CAJ/45/5 Add., which presented the proposals developed in the *Ad hoc* Crop Subgroups, the recommendations of the BMT Review Group concerning those proposals and the opinion of the TC and the CAJ regarding the recommendations of the BMT Review Group. In addition, it considered that any proposals to reconsider the situation should be referred to the BMT Review Group.

Guidelines for Molecular Marker Selection and Database Construction (BMT Guidelines)

*122. The TC considered document BMT Guidelines (proj.5) and document TC/42/7, paragraphs 11 to 15.

*123. The TC agreed the following amendments to document BMT Guidelines (proj.5):

<i>Section</i>	<i>Comment</i>
4.3.3	the last two sentences to be deleted on the basis that this could limit the possible use of data
6.2	to provide an explanation for the database model for readers not familiar with database construction, based on the information provided in document TWC/23/7-BMT/9/3

*124. The TC agreed to request the BMT to review a new draft of the BMT Guidelines, incorporating the comments of the TC, above, at its tenth session, to be held in Seoul, Republic of Korea, from November 21 to 23, 2006, and to invite the TWC to consider that draft at its twenty-fourth session, to be held in Nairobi, Kenya, from June 19 to 22, 2006.

*125. The TC agreed to investigate the possibility of a practical exercise, involving a small number of crops, in the development of an exchangeable database, as set out in paragraphs 14 and 15 of document TC/42/7. It agreed that it would be necessary to set clear terms of reference for that work and agreed that such terms of reference should be considered at its forty-third session. In the meantime, it agreed to invite the BMT, at its tenth session, to suggest suitable crops where such a practical exercise might be appropriate.

Possible Use of Molecular Tools for Variety Identification in Relation to the Enforcement of Plant Breeders' Rights, Technical Verification and the Consideration of Essential Derivation

*126. The TC noted the developments concerning the possible use of molecular tools for variety identification in relation to the enforcement of plant breeders' rights, technical verification and the consideration of essential derivation, as reported in document TC/42/7, paragraphs 17 to 20.

Ad Hoc Crop Subgroups on Molecular Techniques (Crop Subgroups)

*127. The TC considered document TC/42/7, paragraphs 22 to 29, and agreed to the establishment of a crop subgroup for vegetatively propagated varieties, which was expected to meet in conjunction with the sessions of the BMT to consider horizontal matters concerning vegetatively propagated crops. It agreed that the existing Crop Subgroups for Potato, Rose and Sugarcane might continue to meet as individual crop subgroups, in particular in conjunction with the sessions of the relevant Technical Working Parties, where considered useful.

*128. The TC agreed to the extension of the Crop Subgroup for Wheat to cover both wheat and barley.

Variety Denominations

*129. The TC considered document TC/42/8 and noted the comments made by the TWP's to the CAJ concerning variety denomination classes and the developments in the CAJ.

Publication of Variety Descriptions

130. The Delegation of the Republic of Korea expressed its support for the importance which the TWV attached to ring tests in conjunction with a trial-based meeting as a means for developing a clear interpretation of Test Guidelines and for preparing revisions to Test Guidelines. China, Japan and the Republic of Korea had organized a ring test for Chinese Cabbage which had demonstrated differences in their data and in their methods of observation. Those countries were looking to harmonize their work and would be holding a trial-based meeting in 2006.

131. The Delegation of the Czech Republic reported on a ring test for pea involving 22 varieties with participation by 11 countries. A trial-based meeting would be held at the Central Institute for Supervising and Testing in Agriculture from June 22 to 26, 2006.

132. The Delegation of Argentina expressed its support for the conclusions drawn by the TWA, as presented in paragraph 29 of document TC/42/9.

*133. The TC noted the information provided in document TC/42/9 and, in particular, the aspects, set out in paragraph 31, which might be considered as part of a revision of document TGP/7/1 "Development of Test Guidelines".

134. The Delegation of France requested information on the matters to be considered by the *Ad hoc* Working Group on the Publication of Variety Descriptions (WG-PVD) at its meeting

on April 5, 2006. The Vice Secretary-General recalled that the agenda included a report of progress in the Model Studies and discussions / conclusions of the TWPs, based on document TC/42/9, a report of discussions in the Technical Committee, which would be followed by the development of recommendations of the WG-PVD.

Preparatory Workshops

135. The Delegation of Spain offered its congratulations for the success of the preparatory workshops. It recalled that those workshops had arisen as a result of a suggestion by Spain and it was very pleased that they had proved to be such a success. It noted that they had proved to be very useful for new experts in promoting the work of UPOV and clarifying its objectives. Therefore, it wished to express its support for the preparatory workshops to continue.

136. The Delegation of Brazil informed the TC that, in addition to the preparatory workshop, it would organize a national workshop on molecular techniques in conjunction with the thirty-ninth session of the TWO, to be held in Fortaleza, Ceará State, Brazil, from August 28 to September 1, 2006.

137. The Delegation of Argentina reported that its experts had participated in the preparatory workshops and endorsed the comments made by the Delegation of Spain. It noted that the workshops were not only useful for new experts and provided an additional opportunity for more experienced to receive an update on developments. It expressed its support for the continuation of the workshops and offered its assistance.

138. The Delegation of the Republic of Korea thanked the Office for its assistance in identifying speakers for its “Technical Workshop on the Examination of Distinctness, Uniformity and Stability According to UPOV Principles”, held in conjunction with the preparatory workshop for the thirty-eighth session of the TWO in Seoul in September 2005. It also expressed its thanks to the speakers from the members of the Union. The technical workshop had been very useful in explaining how UPOV worked and explaining procedures for DUS testing employed by members of the Union. It was announced that a national workshop was being organized by National Seed Management Office (NSMO) of the Republic of Korea, in conjunction with the Office of the Union, for November 20, 2006, immediately prior to the tenth session of the BMT, to be held in Seoul, Republic of Korea, from November 21 to 23, 2006, in order to benefit from the presence of experts from the members of the Union. Following the tenth session of the BMT, on November 24, an international symposium “Application of Molecular Technologies for Plant Breeding and Testing for Plant Variety Protection”, was being organized jointly by the Korean Society for Seed Science and Industry (KOSID) and the NSMO, in cooperation with UPOV. The Delegation invited all members of the TC to attend that event.

139. The Delegation of Kenya considered that the preparatory workshops were very useful for both new and more experienced experts and thanked the Office for organizing those activities. It confirmed that a preparatory workshop would be held in conjunction with the twenty-fourth session of the TWC, to be held in Nairobi, Kenya, from June 19 to 22, 2006.

*140. The TC noted the report of the Preparatory Workshops held in 2005 and agreed the proposed program for 2006, as set out in document TC/42/10.

Test Guidelines

*141. The TC adopted the Test Guidelines listed in the table below on the basis of the amendments, as specified in Annex II to this document, which was circulated in advance, the linguistic changes recommended by the TC-EDC, and the following amendments:

Document No.	English	Français	Deutsch	Español	Botanical name
TG/4/8(proj.3)	Ryegrass	Ray-grass	Weidelgras	Ballico, Raygrás	<i>Lolium perenne</i> L.; <i>Lolium multiflorum</i> Lam. ssp. <i>italicum</i> (A. Br.) Volkart; <i>Lolium multiflorum</i> Lam. var. <i>westerwoldicum</i> Wittm; <i>Lolium boucheanum</i> Kunth; <i>Lolium rigidum</i> Gaudin.
TG/11/8(proj.5)	Rose	Rosier	Rose	Rosal	<i>Rosa</i> L.
TG/13/10(proj.2)	Lettuce	Laitue	Salat	Lechuga	<i>Lactuca sativa</i> L.
TG/26/5(proj.3)	Chrysanthemum	Chrysanthème	Chrysantheme	Crisantemo	<i>Chrysanthemum ×morifolium</i> Ramat. (<i>Chrysanthemum ×grandiflorum</i> Ramat.); <i>Chrysanthemum pacificum</i> Nakai (<i>Ajania pacifica</i> Bremer and Humphries) and hybrids between them
TG/29/7(proj.4)	Alstroemeria, Herb Lily	Alströmère, Lis des Incas	Inkalilie	Alstroemeria	<i>Alstroemeria</i> L.
TG/35/6 (Rev.) TG/CHERRY-SW(proj.4)	Sweet cherry	Cerisier doux	Süßkirsche	Cerezo dulce	<i>Prunus avium</i> L. (<i>Cerasus avium</i> (L.) Moench)
TG/35/6 (Rev.) TG/CHERRY-SO(proj.4)	Sour cherry; Duke cherry	Cerisier acide; Griotte	Sauerkirsche; -	Cerezo ácido, Guindo; Cerezo Duke	<i>Prunus cerasus</i> L.; <i>Prunus ×gondouinii</i> (Poit. & Turpin) Rehder
TG/67/5(proj.3)	Red Fescue; Sheep's Fescue; Hair Fescue; Reliant Hard Fescue; Shade Fescue; Pseudovina	Fétuque rouge; Fétuque ovine, Fétuque des moutons, Fétuque durette, Poil de chien; -; -; Fétuque hétérophylle; -	Rotschwengel; Schafschwengel; Feinblättriger Schwengel, Haar-Schaf-Schwengel; Härlicher Schwengel; Borstenschwengel, Verschiedenblättriger Schwengel; -	Cañuela roja, Festuca roja; Cañuela de oveja, Cañuela ovina, Festuca ovina; -; -; -	<i>Festuca rubra</i> L.; <i>Festuca ovina</i> L.; <i>Festuca filiformis</i> Pourr.; <i>Festuca brevipila</i> R. Tracey; <i>Festuca heterophylla</i> Lam.; <i>Festuca pseudovina</i> Hack. ex Wiesb.
TG/72/6(proj.3)	Willow	Saule	Weide	Sauce	<i>Salix</i> L.
TG/73/7(proj.5)	Blackberry & hybrids	Ronce fruitière et hybrides	Brombeere und Hybriden	Zarzamora e híbridos	<i>Rubus</i> L. subg. <i>Eubatus</i> sect. <i>Moriferi</i> et <i>Ursini</i> et hybridi
TG/75/7(proj.3)	Cornsalad; -	Mâche; -	Feldsalat; -	Hierba de los canónigos ; -	<i>Valerianella locusta</i> L.; <i>Valerianella eriocarpa</i> Desv.
TG/76/8(proj.6)	Sweet Pepper, Hot Pepper, Paprika, Chili	Piment, Poivron	Paprika	Aji, Chile, Pimiento	<i>Capsicum annum</i> L.
TG/97/4(proj.6)	Avocado	Avocatier	Avocado	Aguacate, Palta	<i>Persea americana</i> Mill.
TG/104/5(proj.5)	Melon	Melon	Melone	Melón	<i>Cucumis melo</i> L.
TG/112/4(proj.5)	Mango	Manguier	Mango	Mango	<i>Mangifera indica</i> L.
TG/115/4(proj.4)	Tulip	Tulipe	Tulpe	Tulipán	<i>Tulipa</i> L.
TG/151/4(proj.3)	Calabrese, Sprouting Broccoli	Broccoli	Brokkoli	Brócoli, Bróculi,	<i>Brassica oleracea</i> L. convar. <i>botrytis</i> (L.) Alef. var. <i>cymosa</i> Duch.
TG/196/2(proj.3)	New Guinea Impatiens	Impatiante de Nouvelle-Guinée	Neuguinea-Impatiens	Impatiens de Nueva Guinea	<i>Impatiens</i> New Guinea Group

Document No.	English	Français	Deutsch	Español	Botanical name
TG/217/2(proj.3)	Cactus Pear; Xoconostles	Figuier de Barbarie; Xoconostles	Feigenkaktus; Xoconostles	Chumbera, Tuna; Xoconostles	Opuntia Group 1; Group 2
TG/DAHLIA(proj.5)	Dahlia	Dahlia	Dahlie	Dalia	Dahlia Cav.
TG/HOP(proj.3)	Hop	Houblon	Hopfen	Lúpulo	Humulus lupulus L.
TG/MEDICS(proj.4)	Medics	-	-	-	Medicago L. (excl. M. sativa L.)
TG/PMINT(proj.2)	Peppermint	Menthe poivrée	Pfefferminze	Menta piperita	Mentha ×piperita L.

*142. It was agreed that, in the French version of the Test Guidelines for Rose, document TG/11/8(proj.5), “feuille” should be changed to “fleur”. It was also agreed that the name for Mentha ×piperita L. in Spanish should be changed to “Menta piperita”.

*143. The TC agreed the references for the Test Guidelines for Sour Cherry and Sweet Cherry, as set out in paragraph 2 of document TC/42/2.

*144. The TC-EDC reported that there were technical issues to be resolved with the Test Guidelines for Marigold, document TG/TAGETE(proj.4), in particular in relation to characteristics concerning the florets, which it had not been possible to resolve, and recommended that the TC refer the Test Guidelines back to the TWO. The TC agreed with that recommendation.

*145. The TC-EDC recommended that the characteristics in the Test Guidelines for Melon, document TG/104/5(proj.5), should not be included in document TGP/7 Annex 4 “Collection of approved characteristics” without further consideration. The TC agreed with that recommendation.

*146. The TC agreed to the plans for the development of new Test Guidelines and the revision of existing ones, as shown in Annex II to document TC/42/2, subject to an amendment concerning the Test Guidelines for Grain Amaranth (TG/AMARA), which will not cover ornamental types and will not be discussed by the TWO. The TC noted, in particular, those Test Guidelines which were considered by the relevant TWPs to be at a final draft stage.

*147. The TC noted the status of the existing Test Guidelines, as listed in document TC/42/2, Annex III.

*148. The TC noted the corrections to be made to the Test Guidelines for Celeriac, Dendrobium and Petunia, as set out in paragraph 6 of document TC/42/2. It noted that the third sentence of paragraph 6 (b) should read “Therefore, characteristic 76 will revert to its original wording “Lip: type of curving” and characteristic 77 will be changed from “Lip: presence of eye” to “Lip: eye”.”

List of Genera and Species for which Authorities have Practical Experience in the Examination of Distinctness, Uniformity and Stability

*149. The TC considered document TC/42/4 and noted that the title of the document had been amended, as agreed by the TC at its forty-first session. The TC further noted that the information received from members of the Union had been cascaded in the GENIE database

and in document TC/42/4. For example, if an authority indicated experience for a genus, experience would be indicated for all species, within that genus, contained in the GENIE database. However, in such cases, it was indicated that the experience was “derived” through experience at a higher level.

*150. The TC heard that the number of genera and species for which members of the Union had practical experience had increased from 1,721 in 2005 to 1,906 in 2006. It was agreed that the document should be updated for the forty-third session of the TC.

Program for the Forty-Third Session

*151. The following draft agenda was agreed for the forty-third session of the TC to be held in Geneva in 2007:

1. Opening of the session
2. Adoption of the agenda
3. Report on relevant matters discussed in the last sessions of the Administrative and Legal Committee, the Consultative Committee and the Council (oral report by the Vice Secretary-General)
4. Progress reports on the work of the Technical Working Parties, including the Working Group on Biochemical and Molecular Techniques, and DNA-Profiling in Particular (BMT) and Crop Subgroups
5. Matters arising from the Technical Working Parties
6. TGP documents
7. Publication of variety descriptions
8. UPOV information databases
9. Molecular techniques
10. Variety denominations
11. Preparatory workshops
12. Applications covering a combination of lines
13. Test Guidelines
14. List of genera and species for which authorities have practical experience in the examination of distinctness, uniformity and stability
15. Program for the forty-fourth session
16. Adoption of the report on the conclusions reached in the session (if time permits)
17. Closing of the session.

Retirement

152. The Chairperson noted that Mr. José Elena, a previous Chairman of the TC and member of the Editorial Committee, would be retiring shortly and this would be his last attendance of the TC. On behalf of the TC, the Chairperson thanked him for his valuable contribution to the work of the TC.

153. The Chairperson informed the TC that Mrs. Pia Huber would be retiring before the forty-third session of the TC. On behalf of the TC, she thanked Mrs. Huber for her excellent work during the more than 25 years she had been working for UPOV and wished her a happy retirement.

UPOV Medal

154. At the end of the session, the Vice Secretary-General awarded Mr. Luis Salaices (Spain) a UPOV bronze medal in recognition of his chairmanship of the TWA in 2004 and 2005.

155. The present report has been adopted by correspondence.

[Annexes follow]

ANNEXE I / ANNEX I / ANLAGE I / ANEXO I

LISTE DES PARTICIPANTS / LIST OF PARTICIPANTS /
TEILNEHMERLISTE / LISTA DE PARTICIPANTES

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(dans l'ordre alphabétique des noms français des membres/
in the alphabetical order of the names in French of the members/
in alphabetischer Reihenfolge der französischen Namen der Mitglieder/
por orden alfabético de los nombres en francés de los miembros)

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[L'annexe II suit/
Annex II follows/
Anlage II folgt/
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ANNEX II

AMENDMENTS TO THE UPOV DRAFT TEST GUIDELINES
PRIOR TO THEIR ADOPTION AT THE FORTY-SECOND SESSION OF THE
TECHNICAL COMMITTEE (TC)

GENERAL:

- (a) the TC-EDC has worked on the basis that where a three-state range is used for weak/medium/strong, i.e. there is no fixed point, then the second state should read “intermediate”;
- (b) Chapter 6.5: to delete full explanation of MG, MS, VG, VS and refer to Chapter 3.3 for the explanation;
- (c) in cases where more than one method of observation is indicated for a characteristic (e.g. MS A and VS A), to present as, e.g. “MS A / VS A”.

INDIVIDUAL TEST GUIDELINES:

Ryegrass (Revision)	TG/4/8(proj.3)
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Changes proposed by the Enlarged Editorial Committee in April 2006, which are to be included in the Test Guidelines submitted to the TC:

Alternative names	alternative names in French to be checked
4.3.2	to delete “, either by growing a further generation, or by” and to change “previous” to “initial”
8.1 (b)	to delete “Characteristic 9:”
8.1 (b)	<u>Row plots:</u> to read “The time of inflorescence emergence is the date at which the average plot stage DC 54 has been reached. This date should – if necessary – be obtained by interpolation. At each observation date, the average plot stage should be expressed in one of the following growth stages: ...”
8.1 (b), (c)	to reverse the order of the notes to follow the order they occur in the Table of Characteristics
8.1(e)	to replace “measurements” with “observations”
9.	to add reference for Meier, 1997, as in document TG/67/5(proj.3)

Rose (Revision)	TG/11/8(proj.5)
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- (a) Changes to document TG/11/8(proj.4), proposed by the Enlarged Editorial Committee at its meeting on January 10, 2006, which are already incorporated in the draft Test Guidelines (document TG/11/8(proj.5)), submitted to the TC:

General	Definition of cut-flower type, garden type and pot type to be provided in a way which ensures that candidate varieties are compared with all relevant varieties of common knowledge, or Test Guidelines to be re-structured in a way which does not require such a division.
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	<i>Leading Expert Proposal:</i> <i>Chapters 3.3 and 5.5 have been amended and a new Chapter 8.3 added</i>
General	To harmonize the terms: “cut-flower type”, “garden type” and “pot type” <i>Leading Expert: agreed</i>
3.4.2	to correct spelling of “plants”
3.5.1, 3.5.2	To delete “on single plants” and “and any other observations made on all the plants in the test”
Table of Characteristics	to correct the names of Example Varieties: ‘Evera107’ (Char. 2), ‘Evera102’ (Char. 4), ‘Poulra019’ (Char. 7) and ‘Ruiy5451’ (Char. 49): all without space
Table of Characteristics	to correct the name of Example Variety: ‘TAN00125’ (Char. 22)
Table of Characteristics	to check the use of “;” after example varieties
Char. 7	“predominant” on one line; note (a) to be in bold
Char. 22	to explain the term “main division” or delete <i>Leading Expert: to be deleted</i>
Chars. 23, 41, 42, 45 to 47, 50	word “the” to be deleted from headings and states
Char. 27	state 3: to correct writing of ‘Anakissi’ and to add “;” after ‘Anakissi’ “(G)”
Char. 32	to consider referring to the “reflexing” of the petals and to check if note (c) should be deleted. <i>Leading Expert:</i> <i>to replace “opening” with “reflexing” and note (c) to be deleted</i>
Char. 40	state 1: example variety to read ‘TAN98130’ and to be kept on one line
Char. 41	space to be added between “... color” and “(basal spot excluded)”
Char. 43	“secondary” to be kept on one line
Char. 45	to check if “the upper” should be replaced with “inner” <i>Leading Expert: agreed</i>
Char. 45	to read: “at base” (state 1); “at apex” (state 2)
Char. 46	to check if “the upper” should be replaced with “inner” <i>Leading Expert: agreed</i>
8.1 (c)	to add “on” after “made”
Ad. 4, 5	first sentence to read: Observations should be made on the distal third of a shoot with a length of approximately 20 cm
Ad. 16	quality of illustration to be improved <i>provided by Leading Expert</i>
Ad. 17, 18, 19	quality of illustration to be improved <i>provided by Leading Expert</i>
Ad. 22	spaces to be added between “ <u>Flower:</u> ” and “ <u>color group (main division)</u> ”
Ad. 22	explanation to clarify that there is a smooth transition between colors in the blends, but not in the multicolored varieties (15). Examples of the hues to be provided for 4, 6, 8 and 10, in the same way as for 13 and 14 <i>provided by Leading Expert</i>
Ad. 23	spelling of “center” to be corrected
Ad. 32	quality of photographs to be improved and to indicate in the explanation that the photographs are of the same flower taken over time <i>provided by Leading Expert</i>
Ad. 45, 46	heading spacings to be amended

Ad. 48	to change “spot at the base” to “basal spot”
9.	format of references to be standardized and information to be completed <i>provided by Leading Expert</i>

(b) Changes proposed by the Enlarged Editorial Committee in April 2006, which are to be included in the Test Guidelines, submitted to the TC:

2.2	to replace “on” with “with” in both cases
Char. 2	to be indicated as QN and to use states of expression ranging from upright to spreading
Char. 7	name of example variety “Magical Fantasy” to be corrected to “Kolmag”
Char. 11	“Korcilmo (G)” to be changed to “Meilauron”
Char. 21	to be indicated as QN. To add (+) with the following explanation: single: maximum of 7 petals; semi-double: 8 to 20 petals; double: more than 20 petals
Char. 22	to add new state “white blend” after state 1 with the relevant information to be provided for Chapter 8
Char. 23	underlined wording to be deleted
Char. 24	to be moved after Char. 21. Underlined wording to be deleted and example varieties to be amended to reflect the new range including single flower types
Char. 25	underlined wording to be deleted and example varieties to be amended to reflect the new range including single flower types
Char. 45	“the” to be deleted from states 1 and 2
Ad. 14	missing illustrations to be reinstated
Ad. 22	15: to delete “which are primarily contrasting multicolored only”

Lettuce (Revision)	TG/13/10(proj.2)
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(a) Changes to document TG/13/10(proj.1), proposed by the Enlarged Editorial Committee at its meeting on January 10, 2006, which are already incorporated in the draft Test Guidelines (TG/13/10(proj.2)), submitted to the TC:

General	presentation of Bl races to read Bl:1, Bl:2 etc., as presented in the first column of the “Table of <i>Bremia</i> differentials” in Ad. 39
Char. 4	state 5 to read “medium elliptic”
Char. 13	state 1 to read “narrow elliptic”
Char. 16	state 6 to read “transverse narrow elliptic”

Char. 17	to be indicated as PQ or QN and to have an intermediate state between rounded and acute, with acute being the first state (e.g. acute (1); obtuse (2); rounded (3)). Example varieties to be revised accordingly. <i>Leading Expert proposal, agreed (by correspondence) by the Technical Working Party for Vegetables: to be indicated as PQ, with the following states:</i> <i>acute (1) (example varieties: Celtuce, Deer Tongue, Karola, Tempra 2);</i> <i>obtuse (2) (example varieties: Chicon des Charentes, Grise maraîchère);</i> <i>rounded (3) (example varieties: Blonde Maraîchère, Maserati 1).</i>
Char. 39.15	to have an (*) if included as TQ 5.6, but see note to TQ 5.6 below <i>Leading Expert: Char. 39.15 to be deleted from TQ 5</i>
Ad.16	missing drawings to be reinstated
Ad. 18, 19	heading to be presented in standard way
Ad. 39	isolate B1 25 to be included in the list under <u>Bremia races</u>
Ad 39, Table	To add legend for +, -, (+), (-) from the previous version (document TG/13/9)
TQ 5.6	to check if Char. 39.15 (Isolate B1:25) should be replaced by Char. 39.7 (Isolate B1:16) since Char. 39.7 is a grouping characteristic but Char. 39.15 is not <i>Leading Expert proposal, agreed (by correspondence) by the Technical Working Party for Vegetables: to be indicated as PQ, with the following states: Char. 39.15 (Isolate B1:25) to be replaced by Char. 39.7 (Isolate B1:16)</i>

(b) Changes proposed by the Enlarged Editorial Committee in April 2006, which are to be included in the Test Guidelines, submitted to the TC:

Char. 17	to read “Leaf: shape of tip”
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Chrysanthemum (Revision)	TG/26/5(proj.3)
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(a) Changes to document TG/26/5(proj.2) which are already incorporated in the draft Test Guidelines (document TG/26/5(proj.3)), submitted to the TC:

Char. 39	<i>Leading Expert: to replace “semi double” with “double”</i>
Char. 51	<i>Leading Expert: to add new state “triangular” as note 4, with the example variety “Chatora”</i>

(b) Changes proposed by the Enlarged Editorial Committee in April 2006, which are to be included in the Test Guidelines, submitted to the TC:

General	missing information to be provided
Title and TQ 1	to correct spelling of “Nakai”
Char. 2	to read “Plant: type”
Char. 3	to read “... Plant: growth habit” and to replace “hemispherical” with “semi-spreading” or another suitable term for growth habit. Alignment of notes to be corrected.

Char. 13	to replace “length” with “depth” and to have the states: shallow (3); medium (5); deep (7)
Char. 16	to check if the states should read: absent or weak (1); medium (2); strong (3)
Chars. 18, 19, 20	to use either “surface” or “side” consistently
Char. 21	to have the states: few (3); medium (5); many (7)
Char. 23	the order of the states to be changed to note 4, 5, 3, 2, 1
Char. 26	to change “nodding” to “drooping”, unless nodding has a different meaning than drooping. If the meaning of nodding is not drooping, to provide an explanation of nodding and to review the type of expression
Char. 27	to have the states: few (3); medium (5); many (7)
Char. 28	to have the states: few (3); medium (5); many (7)
Char. 32	to add “(non-disbudded plants)”
Char. 34	to add “(non-disbudded plants)”
Char. 37	to have the states: few (3); medium (5); many (7)
Char. 38	to have the states: few (3); medium (5); many (7)
Char. 40	to add a (+) with an explanation that the types of florets are identified in Char. 41
Char. 44	to check if the states could read “moderately erect” (3) and “moderately drooping” (7)
Chars. 48, 49	to check if should be indicated as QN
Char. 51	to check if the characteristic also applies to varieties with funnel-shaped florets
Char. 53	to replace “proportion” with “part”
Chars. 55 to 57, 72, 73	to clarify the meaning of majority, including whether the calculation of the majority includes or excludes the outer row. Note (f) to be deleted.
Char. 56	to replace “proportion” with “part”
Char. 61	to add (+) with illustration
Chars. 65, 68	to replace “widthways” with “transverse” and “lengthways zone” with “bar”
Chars. 66, 69	to replace “so” with “solid”
Char. 70	to check if the characteristic also applies to varieties with funnel-shaped florets
Char. 85	the order of the states to be changed to note 4, 3, 2, 1, 5
Char. 87	spelling of “color” to be corrected
Char. 89	to present only states 3, 5 and 7
8.1 (b)	to check if should read “Stem and stipule characteristics ...”
8.1 (d), (e)	to reverse order to follow order in Table of Characteristics
8.1 (e)	to replace “ laterals” with “lateral branches”
8.1 (g)	explanation to be improved
Ad. 76, 77, 85	to amend the heading to correspond to the Table of Characteristics
TQ 5.5	to add “(33)”

Alstroemeria (Revision)	TG/29/7(proj.4)
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(a) Changes to document TG/29/7(proj.3), made on the basis of comments received from members of the Enlarged Editorial Committee in January 2006, which are already incorporated in the draft Test Guidelines (document TG/29/7(proj.4)), submitted to the TC:

3.5.1, 3.5.2	To delete “on single plants” and “and any other observations made on all the plants in the test”
Char. 8	to check whether example variety ‘Tesamad’ should be attributed to state 11 or state 14 (and amend TQ accordingly) <i>Leading Expert: state 11 to have the example variety “Tesamad” and state 14 to have the example variety “Napoli”</i>
Char. 25	to improve wording (e.g. Inner median tepal: difference of striped pattern compared to inner lateral tepal) <i>Leading Expert: to read “Inner median tepal: difference of striped pattern compared to inner lateral tepal”</i>
Char. 28	delete “the”
Char. 28	to check if note (a) applies <i>Leading Expert: to change characteristic to read “Anther: color just before the start of dehiscence”</i>
Ad. 29, 30	heading to be corrected

(b) Changes proposed by the Enlarged Editorial Committee in April 2006, which are to be included in the Test Guidelines, submitted to the TC:

Char. 26	spelling of “color” to be corrected
Char. 30	spelling of “anthocyanin” to be corrected and state 5 to read “medium”

Sour Cherry (Revision of TG/35/6)	TG/CHERRY-SO(proj.4)
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Changes to document TG/CHERRY-SO(proj.3), proposed by the Enlarged Editorial Committee at its meeting on January 10, 2006, which are already incorporated in the draft Test Guidelines (document TG/CHERRY-SO(proj.4)), submitted to the TC:

Cover page	name in French for <i>Prunus cerasus</i> L. to be corrected to “Cerisier acide”
5.3 (b)	should read “(characteristic 39)”. <i>Leading Expert: to be deleted (see TQ 5 comment).</i>
Char. 4	state 2: word “the” to be deleted
Char. 7	to check if note (a) applies (<i>one-year-old</i> shoot) and review title of 8.1(a) or heading of characteristic. <i>Leading Expert: to read “One-year-old shoot: length of internode”, with the states: normal (1), short (2)</i>
Char.13	notes to be changed to 1, 2, 3, subject to confirmation by the Leading Expert LEADING EXPERT: AGREED

Chars. 20, 21, 22	to consider deleting the (+) or note (b) <i>Leading Expert: note (b) to be deleted</i>
Char. 28	the illustration of state 4 looks like an elliptic shape. To amend state 4 to read “elliptic” or amend the illustration. <i>Leading Expert: state 4 to read “elliptic”</i>
Ad. 47	to change “ripen” to “ripe”
9.	all authors to be given, avoiding the use of <i>et al.</i> , <i>Leading Expert provided the requested information</i>
TQ 1	“ <i>Botanical name</i> ” not in italics
TQ 5	to check whether to add Char. 39 (grouping characteristic) <i>Leading Expert: The TWF agreed that in the case of Sweet Cherry “Fruit: firmness” should be accepted in Section 5.3 (grouping) and TQ 5. The same proposal was rejected in the case of Sour Cherry because the differences between sour cherry varieties were not so clear and not so great as those between sweet cherry varieties. Therefore, Section 5.3 (b) Fruit: firmness (characteristic 33), should be deleted.</i>

Sweet Cherry (Revision of TG/35/6)	TG/CHERRY-SW(proj.4)
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Changes to document TG/CHERRY-SW(proj.3), proposed by the Enlarged Editorial Committee at its meeting on January 10, 2006, which are already incorporated in the draft Test Guidelines (document TG/CHERRY-SW(proj.4)), submitted to the TC:

Cover page	to add “,” after <i>Prunus avium</i> L.
Cover page	name in French for <i>Prunus avium</i> L. to be “Cerisier doux”
3.5	to read “... In particular, in the case of fruit and stone characteristics, observations should be ...”
Char. 6	<i>Leading Expert: to address comments on Ad. 6 and, in accordance with Test Guidelines for Sour Cherry, to read “One-year-old shoot: length of internode”, with the states: normal (1); short (2)</i>
Char. 15	to consider changing to read “Leaf: presence of nectaries” for consistency with document TG/CHERRY-SO(proj.4) <i>Leading Expert: agreed. Also, to add (+), to be included with Ad. 16.</i>
Char. 16	to consider changing to read “Nectaries: color” for consistency with document TG/CHERRY-SO(proj.4) <i>Leading Expert: agreed</i>
Char. 16	to consider deleting the (+) or note (b) <i>Leading Expert: note (b) to be deleted</i>
Char. 19	to check if should be indicated as QN, for consistency with TG/CHERRY-SO(proj.4) (Char. 24) <i>Leading Expert: agreed</i>

Char. 21	the illustration of state 4 looks like an elliptic shape. To amend state 4 to read “elliptic” or amend the illustration. <i>Leading Expert: to amend state 4 to read “elliptic”</i>
Char. 21	to consider putting state 5 before state 1 (start with position of widest point at base) <i>Leading Expert: agreed</i>
Char. 30	state 2 to read “intermediate” if 1, 2, 3 scale to be retained <i>Leading Expert: agreed</i>
8.1 (b)	to read “ <u>Leaf</u> : Unless otherwise stated, all observations of the leaf should be made on the middle fully developed leaves of a spur in summer.” as for TG/CHERRY-SO Chapter 8.1 (b)
8.1 (d)	to check if should read “ <u>Fruit and Stone</u> :... <i>Leading Expert: agreed</i>
Ad. 6	illustration to be improved to clarify what a “spur type” shoot is, perhaps by an illustration of the whole shoot in relation to the tree <i>Leading Expert: see comment for Char. 6</i>
9	all authors to be given, avoiding the use of <i>et al.</i> , To consider adding literature to be provided by Poland. <i>Leading Expert provided the requested information</i>
TQ 5.3	state 4: example variety to be kept on one line
TQ 5.6	state 3: example variety to be kept on one line

Sheep’s Fescue, Red Fescue and other Fescues (Revision)	TG/67/5(proj.3)
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Changes proposed by the Enlarged Editorial Committee in April 2006, which are to be included in the Test Guidelines, submitted to the TC:

Alternative names	alternative names in French to be checked
Char. 9	to check if the characteristic only applies to certain species
8.1 (b)	to become Ad. 4
Ad. 10	B: to read “The time of inflorescence emergence is the date at which the average plot stage DC 54 has been reached. This date should – if necessary – be obtained by interpolation. At each observation date, the average plot stage should be expressed in one of the following growth stages: ...”

Willow (Revision)	TG/72/6(proj.3)
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Changes to document TG/72/6(proj.2), proposed by the Enlarged Editorial Committee at its meeting on January 10, 2006, which are already incorporated in the draft Test Guidelines (document TG/72/6(proj.3)), submitted to the TC:

Cover page	to delete “s” from “UPOV Codes”
2.2	to read “The material is to be supplied in the form of hardwood cuttings with a diameter of at least 1 cm and a length of 20 cm, or well rooted one-year-old plants. Hardwood cuttings should be taken from one-year-old main shoots from stools.”
2.4	to be deleted
3.1	second sentence to be deleted
3.3.2	to be deleted
Char. 4	word “the” to be deleted
Char. 6	To read: “Main shoot: protrusion of lenticels”
Char. 7	state 2 to read “medium green”
Char. 10	to delete text in brackets
Char. 11	to consider using the term “decumbent” for state 4 <i>Leading Expert: no change</i>
Char. 15	all states: word “the” to be deleted
Char. 18	to underline “ <u>upper</u> ”
Char. 19	to underline “ <u>lower</u> ”
Chars. 20 to 23	to check if should have note (d) <i>Leading Expert: to add note (d)</i>
8.1 (a)	to read “observations on plant sex and spring foliation ...”
8.1 (c)	note (c) to be added to Chars. 17, 18, 19, 21 or wording changed <i>Leading Expert: wording for note (c) to read “Hairiness and color of the main shoot and the leaf bud should be observed at 20 cm from the tip of the main shoot.”</i>
Ad. 6	heading to read “Ad. 6” ... and explanation to read “To be observed in the middle third of the main shoot”
9.	references to be presented in standard format
TQ 1	to consider if species information should be requested <i>Leading Expert: species information to be requested</i>

Blackberry and Hybrid Berries	TG/73/7(proj.5)
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(a) Changes to document TG/73/7(proj.4), made on the basis of comments received from members of the Enlarged Editorial Committee in January 2006, which are already incorporated in the draft Test Guidelines (document TG/73/7(proj.5)), submitted to the TC:

2.3	to read “5 plants”
5.3	to review consistency of grouping and TQ characteristics with regard to Chars. 42 and 44, noting the requirement for example varieties for grouping / TQ / asterisked characteristics. <i>Leading Experts:</i> <i>delete (e) (Char. 42) and (g) (Char. 44) and add Char. 41.</i>
Char. 1	state 2: “semi-upright” to be on kept on one line
Char. 7	to consider replacing “position” with “distribution” or “location”? <i>Leading Experts: replace “position” with “distribution”</i>
Char. 40	to provide explanation of “bearing” (does it mean observing presence of flowers or presence of fruit?: if fruit, to consider moving after Char. 42.) <i>Leading Experts: to read “Fruiting on current year’s cane”</i>
Char. 41	to underline “on previous year’s cane” and add (+)
Char. 42	to add (*) and example varieties if included as grouping and/or TQ characteristic <i>Leading Experts:</i> <i>Char. 42 to be removed from Section 5.3 and TQ Section 5.</i>
Chars. 42, 44	to consider introducing “ <u>Only varieties which bear on current year’s cane: ...</u> ” at beginning of heading <i>Leading Experts: to add “<u>Only varieties which fruit on current year’s cane:...</u>” at beginning of heading</i>
Char. 44	to add example varieties if included as grouping and/or TQ characteristic <i>Leading Experts:</i> (*) to be deleted and Char. 44 to be removed from Section 5.3
Ad. 42, 43	to read Ad. 41, 42
Ad. 44	to add Ad. 43
9 (3)	to read “... State of New York ...”
9 (4)	year and author(s) to be provided or reference to be deleted <i>Leading Experts: reference to be deleted</i>
TQ 1.1	1.1 to read “ <i>Rubus</i> subgenus <i>Eubatus</i> sect. <i>Moriferi & Ursini</i> ”. To consider adding a new box (1.2) for hybrids with a request for details of the hybrid. <i>Leading Experts: agreed</i>
TQ 5	to review consistency of grouping and TQ characteristics with regard to Chars. 42 and 44, noting the requirement for example varieties for grouping / TQ / asterisked characteristics <i>Leading Experts: Char. 42 to be replaced by Char. 40. (*) to be added to Char. 40.</i>
TQ 5.7	state 3: example variety to be kept on one line

(b) Changes proposed by the Enlarged Editorial Committee in April 2006, which are to be included in the Test Guidelines, submitted to the TC:

Title	to add the UPOV code “RUBUS_I EU”
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Cornsalad (Revision)	TG/75/7(proj.3)
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Changes to document TG/75/7(proj.2), proposed by the Enlarged Editorial Committee at its meeting on January 10, 2006, which are already incorporated in the draft Test Guidelines (document TG/75/7(proj.3)), submitted to the TC:

3.4.1	to correct spelling of “two”
Char. 2	to be indicated as VG
Char. 5	to read “Leaf: ratio length/width”
Char. 9	“longitudinal” to be kept on one line. Example variety for state 2 to be kept on one line (also TQ 5.2)
Char. 16	to be indicated as MG
Char. 19	to be indicated as VG
Char. 20	to read “Seed: collar” with states: absent (1): present (9). To be checked with Leading Expert. <i>Leading Expert: agreed</i>
Char. 21	to be indicated as VG, QL
Ad. 21	<u>Sowing</u> section to read “Sowing in plugs (5 x 5 cm), at a rate of 2 to 3 seeds per plug, in order to obtain one seedling per plug.”
Ad. 21	Cultivation conditions: light conditions to be provided <i>Leading Expert: reference to light conditions to be deleted</i>
Ad. 21	<u>Differential hosts to be used</u> : Row in table containing “Verte d’Etampes” to be deleted and key “Tol=Tolerant” to be deleted
9.	references for methods to test resistance to <i>Peronospora valerianella</i> to be provided <i>Leading Expert: provided</i>
TQ 5.2	wording to be corrected according to Table of Characteristics

Sweet Pepper (Revision)	TG/76/8(proj.6)
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Changes proposed by the Enlarged Editorial Committee in April 2006, which are to be included in the Test Guidelines, submitted to the TC:

Table of Chars.	to amend “VS” to “VG” throughout
Char. 2	to be indicated as QN
Char. 7	to be indicated as VG
Char. 14	all translations to be checked
Char. 21	example variety to read “Blanc d’Espagne”
Char. 22	(*) to be deleted (no example varieties provided)
Char. 26	to replace “ small” with “narrow” and “large” with “broad”

Char. 28	to amend the following states to: circular (2); trapezoidal (6); moderately triangular (7); narrowly triangular (8)
Char. 30	to check whether note (b) should be added
Char. 31	to add “excluding basal part”
Char. 32	state 1 to read “smooth or very slightly wrinkled”
Char. 40	to be indicated as QN, MG
Char. 45	to be indicated as VG
Char. 51	to check spelling of Mozaic / Mosaic throughout
Char. 53	name to be corrected
8.1 (a), (b)	to add “Fruit” before “characteristics”
Ad. 17	notes to be corrected
Ad. 48	highlighted cells in table to be deleted. Legend for “S” to read “susceptible”. To correct abbreviation to “PMMoV”
TQ 5.5	to be deleted (see comments to Char. 22)
TQ 5.6	example variety “Yolo Wonder” to be kept on one line
TQ 9	to be corrected to standard wording

Avocado (Revision)	TG/97/4(proj.6)
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Changes to document TG/97/4(proj.5), made on the basis of comments received from members of the Enlarged Editorial Committee in January 2006, which are already incorporated in the draft Test Guidelines (document TG/97/4(proj.6)), submitted to the TC:

3.3.2	to consider deleting <i>Leading Expert: agreed</i>
Char. 1	to check if note (a) should be deleted <i>Leading Expert: agreed</i>
Char. 1	to consider changing state 3 to “semi drooping” and state 4 to “drooping” (see Ad. 1). To consider if notes 1, 3, 5, 7 would be more appropriate (to be indicated as QN) <i>Leading Expert: change state 3 to “semi drooping” and state 4 to “drooping”</i>
Char. 5	to have notes 3, 5, 7 or change state 2 to read “intermediate” <i>Leading Expert: change state 2 to read “intermediate”</i>
Char. 12	to underline “ <u>along whole length</u> ”
Char. 16	to have notes 3, 5, 7 or change state 2 to read “intermediate” <i>Leading Expert: change state 2 to read “intermediate”</i>
Char. 29	to consider deleting “maximum” <i>Leading Expert: agreed</i>
Char. 30	to consider deleting “maximum” <i>Leading Expert: agreed</i>
Char. 52	to have notes 3, 5, 7 or change state 2 to read “intermediate” <i>Leading Expert: change state 2 to read “intermediate”</i>

Char. 60	order of states to be reviewed: possibly 1, 3, 2, 4, 5, 6. (from overall narrowest to broadest and starting with broadest point below the middle, e.g. triangular, ovate, oblong, elliptic, circular, oblate, obovate, oblique rhombic.) <i>Leading Expert: to have the order 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 3.</i>
Char. 60	According to Ad. 60 it is not “depressed ovate”: to consider changing to “kidney shaped”, “reniform” or “depressed oblate” <i>Leading Expert: to read “depressed oblate”</i>
Char. 62	To delete “degree of”
Char. 63	To delete “degree of”
Ad 1	illustrations for states 2 and 3 to be improved <i>Leading Expert : provided</i>

Melon (Revision)	TG/104/5(proj.5)
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(a) Changes to document TG/104/5(proj.4), made on the basis of comments received from members of the Enlarged Editorial Committee in January 2006, which are already incorporated in the draft Test Guidelines (document TG/104/5(proj.5)), submitted to the TC:

4.2.3	to consider deleting “(inbred lines)” <i>Leading Expert: agreed</i>
6.5	to add methods of observation
Char. 23	word “the” to be deleted and states to read: early in fruit development (1); late in fruit development (2); very late in fruit development or no change (3))
Char. 31	to check if should read “Fruit: hue of <i>ground</i> color of skin” to correspond to Char. 29. <i>Leading Expert: agreed</i>
Char. 34	to be indicated as PQ, subject to confirmation by Leading Expert <i>Leading Expert: agreed</i>
Char. 39	to consider changing to read “Fruit: <i>strength of attachment ...</i> ” <i>Leading Expert: agreed</i>
Chars. 44-46	to check if Chars. 44 to 46 apply to all varieties or only to varieties which always have grooves and, if necessary, amend the headings <i>Leading Expert: to add “<u>Only varieties with grooves always present</u>”</i>
Char. 46	to be indicated as PQ, subject to confirmation by Leading Expert <i>Leading Expert: agreed</i>
Char. 52	to consider changing to read “Fruit: <i>speed (or rate) of change of skin color ...</i> ” <i>Leading Expert: to read “Fruit: <i>rate of change of skin color ...</i>”</i>
Char. 53	to improve the illustration in order that the maximum width of flesh is in the area indicated (currently, the width of flesh is greater at the top of the fruit) <i>Leading Expert: to change characteristic to “Fruit: <i>width of flesh in longitudinal section (at position of maximum fruit diameter)</i>”</i>
Char. 54	to consider deleting “and hue” (Chars. 55 and 56 to be modified accordingly) <i>Leading Expert: agreed</i>
Char. 60	to be indicated as MS <i>Leading Expert: agreed</i>

Char. 61	to be indicated as MS <i>Leading Expert: agreed</i>
Ad. 7	illustration to be improved to: (i) show the difference between Char. 6 and Char. 7; and (ii) clarify the reference points of where to measure <i>Leading Expert: new illustrations provided</i>
Ad. 47	to use the same shape of fruit for state 7 as for other states and to indicate a clearer difference between states 7 and 9. <i>Leading Expert: new illustrations provided</i>
Ad. 57	explanation to be clarified, in particular, with regard to the meaning of “and similar distance between the skin and the mucilage” <i>Leading Expert: to amend to read “Firmness of the flesh should be assessed in the central third of the fruit. The assessment can be made by pressing the flesh with the blunt end of a pencil, or similar instrument, midway between the skin and the mucilage.”</i>
Ad. 62	to consider deleting the photographs: the drawings and explanations are sufficient. <i>Leading Expert: agreed</i>
Ad. 69.1-69.3	to replace “C” with “°C”
Ad. 70 and 71	to read “9 to 11 days ...”
Ad. 70, 71	<u>Scoring:</u> (i) to explain how to classify varieties with scores of 2, 4 and 6; (ii) difference between scores 1 and 3 to be clarified (less than 10% can also be along the nerves); (iii) to clarify what is meant by “along nerves and blade”. <i>Leading Expert / Disease Experts (France): amended to 1-5 scale, in accordance with testing procedure. “Along nerves and blade” to be deleted.</i>
Ad. 73, 74, 75	to consider providing a general method for all virus characteristics, using Ad. 76 as a basis. <i>Leading Expert / Disease Experts (France): method amended</i>
Ad. 73, 74, 75	Maintenance: to clarify the meaning of “dried” <i>Leading Expert / Disease Experts (France): to read “5°C and kept dry using anhydrous calcium chloride”</i>
Ad. 74, 75	Manner of inoculation: to clarify what the cotyledons are rubbed with <i>Leading Expert / Disease Experts (France): to add “with incolum”</i>
TQ 5.2	to be updated according to Table of Characteristics
TQ 5.11	to have the notes 1, 3, 5, 7, 9

(b) Changes proposed by the Enlarged Editorial Committee in April 2006, which are to be included in the Test Guidelines, submitted to the TC:

3.3, 6.5	to add “MS” with explanation
Chars. 11, 20, 21, 24, 25, 26,	to be indicated as VG/MS
Char. 31	indications of ground color of example varieties in Spanish to be deleted from Table of Characteristics and presented in Ad. 29, 31

Char. 43	to have the states: absent or very weakly expressed (1); weakly expressed (2); strongly expressed (3) and example varieties to be amended
Chars. 44 to 46	“ <u>Only varieties with grooves always present:</u> ” to be deleted
Char. 61	state 9 to read “very broad”
Chars. 70, 71	to be indicated as QN
8.1 (d)	third sentence to be deleted
Ad. 29, 31	to provide an explanation that ochre is pale brownish yellow
Ad. 52	to add a heading for Ad. 52 after Ad. 47 with a cross reference to Ad. 23, Ad. 52.

Mango (Revision)	TG/112/4(proj.5)
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Changes proposed by the Enlarged Editorial Committee in April 2006, which are to be included in the Test Guidelines, submitted to the TC:

Char. 46	(*) to be deleted (no example varieties)
Char. 48	to have the states: low (3); medium (5); high (7)
Char. 52	to check the type of expression and illustration to be provided
8.1 (c)	last sentence to be deleted
Ad. 40	illustration for states 2 and 3 to clarify difference between the states
TQ 6	example to be provided
TQ 9	to be corrected to standard wording

Tulip (Revision)	TG/115/4(proj.4)
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(a) Changes to document TG/115/4(proj.3), made on the basis of comments received from members of the Enlarged Editorial Committee in January 2006, which are already incorporated in the draft Test Guidelines (document TG/115/4(proj.4)), submitted to the TC:

Chapter 5	<u>Comment from Leading Expert:</u> <i>current grouping could cause confusion as there can be Fringed Greigii or Fringed Lily flowered tulips.</i> With the agreement of the Technical Working Party for Ornamental Plants and Forest Trees (TWO): Chapter 5 revised and corresponding changes made to Technical Questionnaire Section 5. Chapter 8.3 deleted.
Table of Characteristics	to write botanical names of species with a space after “T.” (e.g. Chars. 1, 5, 11, 36)
Char. 7	to consider changing to read “Leaf: <i>distribution</i> of variegation” (“margin” is not a pattern) <i>Leading Expert: agreed</i>
Char. 7	to explain the difference between “picotee” and “margin”. <i>Leading Expert: to replace “picotee” with “edged”</i>
Char. 12	to insert a space between “Double and Lily flowered types excluded:” and “Flower: shape” and to delete “,” in state 2 after “Purple States”

Chars. 14, 18, 26, 28, 30	to consider if there is any additional information in comparison to the RHS Colour Chart number and, if not, these characteristics and the Annex could be deleted <i>Leading Expert and Technical Working Party for Ornamental Plants and Forest Trees: agreed</i>
Char. 20	to check if state 1 should read “weak” (see Char. 19: state 1). If state 1 is changed to weak, the notes should be changed to 3, 5, 7 or state 2 should be changed to “intermediate” <i>Leading Expert: to have the states: weak (1); intermediate (2); strong (3).</i>
Char. 21	state 2: word “the” to be deleted
Chars. 33, 34	example varieties to be provided or (*) to be deleted <i>Leading Expert: (*) to be deleted</i>
Char. 36	to check example variety ‘Temple of Beauty’ indicated as “late”. The TWO report, document TWO/38/12 Prov., recorded that this variety was “very late” <i>Leading Expert proposal agreed by the Technical Working Party for Ornamental Plants and Forest Trees: to have the following example varieties:</i> <i>very early (1): Love Song, Showwinner, Early Harvest</i> <i>early (3): Bestseller, Apricot Beauty, Flair</i> <i>medium (5): Apeldoorn, Prinses Irene</i> <i>late(7): Temple of Beauty, Renown, Queen of Night</i> <i>very late(9): Dillenburg, Princess Margaret Rose</i>
8.1 (a)	to be deleted (reference to Annex is made for each characteristic) <i>Leading Expert: agreed</i>
8.3	Greigii group: to modify “Flower shape variable or striped” <i>Leading Expert: to read “Flower shape variable.”</i>
9.	to modify the following: (1) ... E. Sweeney, ... (to add space) (8) ... ‘Cultivar groups in the genus <i>Tulipa</i> L. (<i>Liliaceae</i>)’ , ... (to add ‘ ... ’) (9) ... ‘Classified List and International Register of Tulip Names’, ... (to add ‘ ... ’) <i>Leading Expert: to modify also</i> (4) <i>Grunert, Chr (to add space)</i> (9) <i>Scheepen, J. van ... (to add space) and to add ISBN 90-73350-026</i> (10) <i>to add: Bodegom S. and J. van Scheepen (eds.) 2005: Supplement 2005 Classified List and International Register of Tulip Names, KAVB, Hillegom, NL</i> <i>ISBN-10: 9073350034</i> <i>ISBN-13: 9789073350038</i>
TQ 5	see comments to Chapter 5
Annex	see comments to Chars. 14, 18, 26, 28

(b) Changes proposed by the Enlarged Editorial Committee in April 2006, which are to be included in the Test Guidelines, submitted to the TC:

5.4	to correct the spelling of “Cairo”
5.4	to number the second paragraph of Chapter 5.4 as 5.5
5.4	2 nd paragraph: to provide illustrations of characteristics (b) and (c) in Chapter 8
Table of Chars.	to delete indication of the species from the example varieties and provide the information in a table in Chapter 8
Char. 7	state 1 to read “on margin” and state 2 to read “marginal zone”
Char. 12	to read “ <u>Only single flower type varieties:</u> Flower shape” and to add a new state 3: “lily flower”, with example varieties to be provided. To add (+) with an illustration and to be indicated as PQ.
Char. 15	state 1 to read “on margin” and state 2 to read “marginal zone”

Calabrese, Sprouting Broccoli	TG/151/4(proj.3)
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Changes to document TG/151/4(proj.2), proposed by the Enlarged Editorial Committee at its meeting on January 10, 2006, which are already incorporated in the draft Test Guidelines (document TG/151/4(proj.3)), submitted to the TC:

General	spelling of “ <i>oleracea</i> ” and “ <i>botrytis</i> ” to be checked in all cases (including cover page, Chapter 1, TQ 1)
Chapter 1	to delete the reference to Romanesco type or to provide a botanical name <i>Leading Expert: delete the reference to Romanesco type</i>
Char. 17	to have the states: circular (1) transverse broad elliptic (2) transverse medium elliptic (3) transverse narrow elliptic (4)
8.1, 8.2	formatting of titles to be corrected
8.1 (b)	to read “... observations on the leaf, the leaf blade and <i>the petiole</i> should ...”
Ad.15	state 3 to read “short”
Ad.17	to read “Head: ...”
9 (5)	to read “HortScience 20(2), pp. 193-195 ...”
9 (6)	to read “Sci. Hort. 3, pp. 95-101 ...”
TQ 5.4	example variety to read “Pollux” (state 7)

New Guinea Impatiens (Revision)	TG/196/2(proj.3)
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Changes to document TG/196/2(proj.2), proposed by the Enlarged Editorial Committee at its meeting on January 10, 2006, which are already incorporated in the draft Test Guidelines (document TG/196/2(proj.3)), submitted to the TC:

pp. 1, 3, 18	to amend the botanical name (according to Zander) to “Impatiens New Guinea Group” (German: “Impatiens Neuguinea Gruppe”)
2.3	to delete “for vegetatively propagated varieties:”

3.1	to delete “for vegetatively propagated varieties.”
3.3.1	to be deleted
3.5	to delete “on single plants” and “and any other observations made on all the plants in the test”
4.2.2	to insert a space between “,” and “1”
5.3	to review the consistency of the grouping characteristics and the TQ characteristics <i>Leading Expert: to add Char. 9 to the Technical Questionnaire</i>
Char. 1	to add a (+) with an explanation of what is meant by plant height (e.g. height where the foliage starts, height of the highest point of the foliage ...) <i>Leading Expert: explanation to read “The height of the foliage is the height from the substrate surface to the highest point of the foliage.”</i>

<i>Opuntia</i> Mill. (Revision)	TG/217/2(proj.3)
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Changes to document TG/217/2(proj.2), proposed by the Enlarged Editorial Committee at its meeting on January 10, 2006, which are already incorporated in the draft Test Guidelines (document TG/217/2(proj.3)), submitted to the TC:

6.4	to make reference to Table in Chapter 8.3
Char. 35	to check if note (e) should be added ? <i>Leading Expert: agreed</i>
Char. 37	state 3 to read “medium elliptic”
8.1 (c)	2 nd sentence to read “... on the flower ...”

Dahlia	TG/DAHLIA(proj.5)
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Changes proposed by the Enlarged Editorial Committee in April 2006, which are to be included in the Test Guidelines, submitted to the TC:

General	missing information to be provided
Table of Chars.	to check spelling of example variety “Jaimaica”
Char. 1	to replace “rounded” with “semi-spreading” or another suitable term for growth habit
Char. 13	to reverse the order of states 1 and 2
Char. 20	to change “nodding” to “drooping”, unless nodding has a different meaning than drooping. If the meaning of nodding is not drooping, to provide an explanation of nodding and to review the type of expression
Char. 22	to be indicated as QL or to have 3 states
Char. 24	to check if 9 states are appropriate
Char. 26	to add (+) with an explanation of the meaning of “height”
Char. 34	to have a space between “Mick’s” and “Peppermint”
Chars. 39, 40	underlined section to be deleted
Char. 39	to read “Ray floret: part of axis curved”
Char. 41	to be indicated as QN

Char. 42	to add (+) with illustration
Chars. 46, 49	to replace “widthways” with “transverse” and “lengthways zone” with “bar”
Char. 51	to be indicated as QN and to have the states: same or slightly different (1); moderately different (2); clearly different (3)
8.1 (b)	to review wording in relation to leaflets and simple leaves
8.1 (e)	explanation to be improved
Ad. 3	to read “The stem color should be observed on the middle third of the stem, excluding the peduncle.”
Ad. 4	to delete the notes and “predominantly”
Ad. 14	to improve the illustration

Hop	TG/HOP(proj.3)
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Changes proposed by the Enlarged Editorial Committee in April 2006, which are to be included in the Test Guidelines, submitted to the TC:

Char. 6	to delete the indication of growth stage 67 if that conflicts with Ad. 6
Char. 18	state 1 to read “cylindrical” and state 5 to read “globose”
Char. 19	state 2 to read “slightly open”
Char. 22	to read “Bract: ratio width/length”
Char. 23	to read “Bract: length of apex” and to add notes 1 and 9 (illustrations to be provided for increased clarity)
8.1 (c)	explanation to be improved
Ad. 23	dotted lines to be deleted and illustrations for states 1 and 9 to be added
8.3	to be aligned with published text

Medics (Medicago spp. other than <i>M. sativa</i>)	TG/MEDICS (proj.4)
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Changes proposed by the Enlarged Editorial Committee in April 2006, which are to be included in the Test Guidelines, submitted to the TC:

Title (and throughout)	reference to “ <i>Medicago ×varia</i> Martyn” to be deleted
Alternative names	French name to be provided
3.4.1	second sentence to read “The spaced plants should be arranged in at least 3 replicates”
Table of Chars.	to check method of observation
Char. 2	to be indicated as PQ. State 3 to read “spotted” and state 4 to read “flecked”
Chars. 4 to 9	to be indicated as QN
Chars. 4, 5	note (a) to be added
Chars. 7 to 9	note (b) to be added

Chars. 30 to 33	to add “ <u>Excluding varieties with sickle-shaped pods: ...</u> ”
Ad. 6	to read: “MS/A: The time of flowering of each single plant should be assessed. A single plant is considered to have flowered when it has at least 3 open flowers. From the single plant data a mean date per plot and a mean date per variety are obtained. “MG/B: The time of flowering of row plots should be assessed. Row plots are considered to have reached the time of flowering when 50% of the plants have at least 3 open flowers. From the row plant data, a mean date per variety is obtained.”

Peppermint	TG/PMINT (proj.2)
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Changes proposed by the Enlarged Editorial Committee in April 2006, which are to be included in the Test Guidelines, submitted to the TC:

3.5	to read “Unless otherwise indicated, all observations should be made on 10 plants or parts taken from each of 10 plants.”
Table of Chars.	to check example varieties, e.g. whether “Mitcham Dct Bomme” is one or two varieties
Char. 7	to read “...ratio length/width” and example varieties and illustrations to be amended accordingly
Char. 12	to swap order of states 1 and 2
Char. 17	to check if QL
TQ 7.3	to delete requirement for color photograph, subject to checking by the Leading Expert.

[End of Annex II and of document]