



TC/52/13

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INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR THE PROTECTION OF NEW VARIETIES OF PLANTS

Geneva

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE**Fifty-Second Session
Geneva, March 14 to 16, 2016**

PREPARATORY WORKSHOPS

*Document prepared by the Office of the Union**Disclaimer: this document does not represent UPOV policies or guidance*

1. At its thirty-eighth session, held in Geneva from April 15 to 17, 2002, the Technical Committee (TC) agreed, on the basis of document TC/38/12, to the holding of a preparatory workshop before each Technical Working Party (TWP) meeting, with the aim of helping some of the delegates to participate more actively at the meeting. At its fifty-first session, held in Geneva, from March 23 to 25, 2015, the TC noted the report of the preparatory workshops held in 2014. It approved the proposed program for 2015, as set out in document TC/51/13 (see document TC/51/39 "Report", paragraphs 226 to 228).
2. The purpose of this document is to provide a report on the preparatory workshops held in 2015 and set out proposals for 2016.
3. The following abbreviations are used in this document:

TC:	Technical Committee
TWA:	Technical Working Party for Agricultural Crops
TWC:	Technical Working Party on Automation and Computer Programs
TWF:	Technical Working Party for Fruit Crops
TWO:	Technical Working Party for Ornamental Plants and Forest Trees
TWV:	Technical Working Party for Vegetables
BMT:	Working Group on Biochemical and Molecular Techniques, and DNA-Profiling in Particular
TWP:	Technical Working Party

Report on the Preparatory Workshops and associated activities held in 2015

4. In 2015, the preparatory workshops were held on the day preceding the first day of the TWP session and were organized in a similar way for the TWA, TWF, TWO, TWV, covering the following items:

1. *Introduction to UPOV and the role of UPOV Technical Working Parties (TWPs)*
2. *Overview of the General Introduction (document TG/1/3 and TGP documents)*
 - *Characteristics as the Basis for DUS Examination and Selection of Characteristics.*
3. *Guidance on drafting Test Guidelines (document TGP/7)*
 - (a) *Subject of the Test Guidelines, Material Required and Method of Examination;*
 - (b) *Method of Observation (MS, MG, VS, VG);*
 - (c) *Types of Expression (QL, PQ, QN), notes and distinctness;*
 - (d) *Shape and Color Characteristics;*
 - (e) *Example Varieties;*
 - (f) *The process for developing UPOV Test Guidelines, including: TG Template; Additional Standard Wording; and Guidance Notes;*
4. *Agenda for the TWP Session*
5. *Feedback from participants*

5. The preparatory workshop for the TWC, covered the following items:

1. *Introduction to UPOV and the role of UPOV Technical Working Parties (TWPs)*
2. *Overview of DUS trials and Test Guidelines*
 - (a) *Method of observation and type of record (MS, MG, VS, VG)*
 - (b) *Types of expression of characteristics (QL, PQ and QN) and types of scales of data*
3. *Methods used for DUS data analysis and development of variety descriptions*
 - (a) *Methods of management used in the DUS examination for transformation of observations and measurements into notes for distinctness and for variety descriptions*
 - (b) *Method used for DUS trial design and data analysis*
4. *Image analysis*
5. *The UPOV website*
 - (a) *Databases (UPOV Code, GENIE, PLUTO, Test Guidelines and UPOV Lex)*
 - (b) *Other available resources (publications, members, UPOV collection, calendar of meetings)*
6. *Agenda for the TWC session*
7. *Feedback from participants*

6. The preparatory workshops took the form of a half-day event.

7. The table below summarizes the participation in the preparatory workshops from 2003 to 2015. The participants include experts who made presentations at the preparatory workshop.

	<u>Participation</u>												
	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>
<i>Members of the Union</i> number of participants / (number of members of the Union)	55 (23)	69 (20)	130 (25)	136 (19)	167 (22)	162 (31)	95 (21)	117 (25)	115 (24)	114 (26)	125 (27)	132 (26)	103 (21)
<i>Observer States / Authorities</i> number of participants / (number of States / Authorities)	10 (9)	2 (1)	3 (3)	-	3 (1)	3 (2)	-	-	15 (6)	8 (4)	12 (4)	15 (5)	24 (10)
<i>Observer Organizations</i> number of participants / (number of Organizations)	3	2	5 (3)	2 (2)	4 (2)	25 (2)	3 (2)	10 (2)	5 (2)	2 (2)	4 (2)	2 (2)	3 (3)

8. With regard to the individual preparatory workshops held in 2015, the numbers of participants were as follows (including local participants):

TWA (Mexico):	37
TWC (Brazil):	11
TWF (South Africa):	20
TWO (United Kingdom):	40
TWV (European Union - France):	22
BMT	No meeting

Program for the Preparatory Workshops in 2016

9. It is proposed to hold half-day preparatory workshops in association with the sessions of TWA, TWF, TWO and TWV in 2016, according to the following program:

1. *Introduction to UPOV and the role of UPOV Technical Working Parties (TWPs)*
2. *Overview of the General Introduction (document TG/1/3 and TGP documents)*
 - *Characteristics as the Basis for DUS Examination and Selection of Characteristics.*
3. *Guidance on drafting Test Guidelines (document TGP/7)*
 - (a) *Subject of the Test Guidelines, Material Required and Method of Examination;*
 - (b) *Method of Observation (MS, MG, VS, VG);*
 - (c) *Types of Expression (QL, PQ, QN), notes and distinctness;*
 - (d) *Shape and Color Characteristics;*
 - (e) *Example Varieties;*
 - (f) *The process for developing UPOV Test Guidelines, including: TG Template; Additional Standard Wording; and Guidance Notes;*
4. *Agenda for the TWP Session*
5. *Feedback from participants*

10. It is proposed to hold a half-day preparatory workshop in association with the 2016 session of the TWC, according to the following program:

1. *Introduction to UPOV and the role of UPOV Technical Working Parties (TWPs);*
2. *Overview of the General Introduction (document TG/1/3 and TGP documents)*
3. *Overview of DUS trials and Test Guidelines;*
 - (a) *Method of Observation and type of record (MS, MG, VS, VG);*
 - (b) *Types of Expression of Characteristics (QL, PQ and QN) and Types of Scales of Data;*
4. *UPOV online resources*
 - (a) *Databases (UPOV Code, GENIE, PLUTO and UPOV Lex)*
 - (b) *Other resources (UPOV Electronic Application Form project, Test Guidelines Template)*
5. *Agenda for the TWP Session*
6. *Feedback from participants*

11. It is proposed to hold a half-day preparatory Workshop in association with the 2016 session of the BMT, according to the following program:

1. *Introduction to UPOV*
2. *Overview of the Technical Working Parties (TWPs)*
3. *Guidance for DUS Examination*
4. *Role of the TWPs and BMT*
5. *Situation in UPOV Concerning the Possible Use of Molecular Techniques in the DUS Examination*
6. *The Concept of Essentially Derived Varieties*
7. *The Role of UPOV in Variety Identification*
8. *The UPOV Website*
9. *Agenda for the BMT Session*

12. *The TC is invited to:*

(a) *note the report of the preparatory workshops held in 2015;*

(b) *consider the proposed program for preparatory workshops for 2016, as set out in paragraphs 9 to 11 of this document.*

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