

**Technical Working Party for Agricultural Crops**

Forty-Sixth Session

Hanover, Germany, June 19 to 23, 2017

**TWP/1/14****Original:** English**Date:** June 9, 2017**Technical Working Party for Vegetables**

Fifty-First Session

Roelofarendsveen, Netherlands, July 3 to 7, 2017

**Technical Working Party for Ornamental Plants and Forest Trees**

Fiftieth Session

Victoria, Canada, September 11 to 15, 2017

**Technical Working Party for Fruit Crops**

Forty-Eighth Session

Kelowna, Canada, September 18 to 22, 2017

**Technical Working Party on Automation and Computer Programs**

Thirty-Fifth Session

Buenos Aires, Argentina, November 14 to 17, 2017

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

1. The purpose of this document is to report on developments concerning the management of variety collections for the examination of distinctness, uniformity and stability (DUS).
2. The TWPs are invited to note the developments reported to the TWC, at its session in 2016, and the TC, at its session in 2017, on management of variety collections.

## DEVELOPMENTS IN 2016

Technical Working Party on Automation and Computer Programs (TWC)*A tool to define reference collection*

3. The TWC, at its thirty-fourth session, held in Shanghai, China, from June 7 to 10, 2016, received a presentation by an expert from France on "A tool to define reference collection", a copy of which is reproduced in the Annex to document TWC/34/28, including a demonstration of the prototype software (see document TWC/34/32 "Report", paragraphs 90 and 91).

4. The TWC noted the series of functions performed by the software automating searches from a theoretical collection of all varieties of common knowledge to the identification of most similar varieties for comparison in growing trials. The TWC noted that development of the software was expected to be completed in 2017.

## DEVELOPMENTS IN 2017

Technical Committee (TC)

5. The TC, at its fifty-third session, held in Geneva from April 3 to 5, 2017, received the following presentations on the management of variety collections (in order of presentation) (see document TC/53/31 "Report", paragraph 213):

How we use molecular techniques in France <a href="http://www.upov.int/edocs/mdocs/upov/en/tc_53/tc_53_presentation_5.pdf">http://www.upov.int/edocs/mdocs/upov/en/tc_53/tc_53_presentation_5.pdf</a>	France (Ms. Clarisse Leclair)
Variety collections - Harmonized DNA databases <a href="http://www.upov.int/edocs/mdocs/upov/en/tc_53/tc_53_presentation_6.pdf">http://www.upov.int/edocs/mdocs/upov/en/tc_53/tc_53_presentation_6.pdf</a>	Netherlands (Mr. Bert Scholte)
The management of variety collections by Cyclic Planting of Established Varieties <a href="http://www.upov.int/edocs/mdocs/upov/en/tc_53/tc_53_presentation_7.pdf">http://www.upov.int/edocs/mdocs/upov/en/tc_53/tc_53_presentation_7.pdf</a>	United Kingdom (Ms. Sally Watson)

6. *The TWPs are invited to note the developments reported to the TWC, at its session in 2016, and the TC, at its session in 2017, on management of variety collections.*

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