

TWC/27/8 Add.
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INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR THE PROTECTION OF NEW VARIETIES OF PLANTS GENEVA

TECHNICAL WORKING PARTY ON AUTOMATION AND COMPUTER PROGRAMS

Twenty-Seventh Session Alexandria, Virginia, United States of America June 16 to 19, 2009

ADDENDUM ELECTRONIC APPLICATION SYSTEMS

Document prepared by the Office of the Union

At the twenty-seventh session of the Technical Working Party for Computers and Automation Systems (TWC), under agenda item "Electronic application systems", the TWC received the following presentations:

Brazil: Experience on the Development of Electronic Application Forms

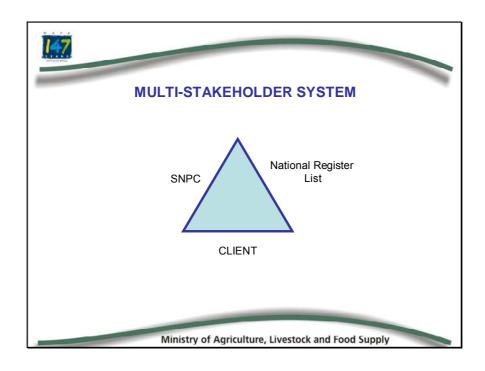
European Community: Online Application Project

A copy of those presentations are provided in Annex I and Annex II to this document respectively.

[Annexes follow]

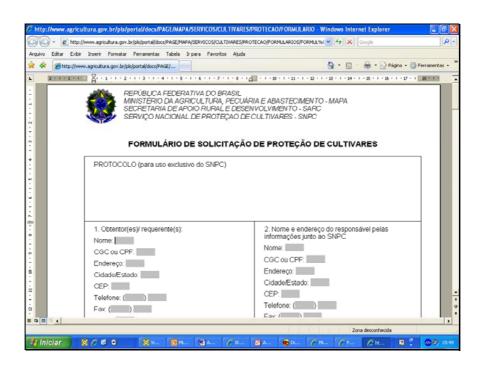
ANNEX I



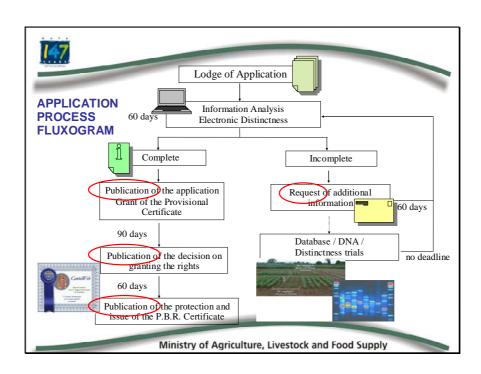


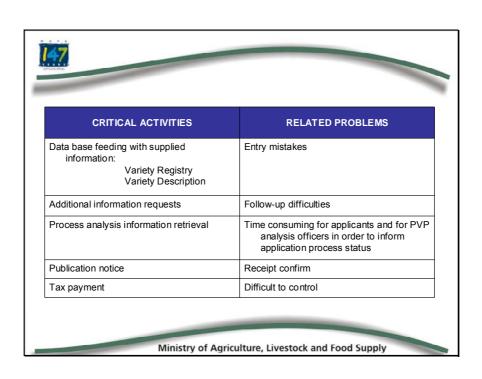
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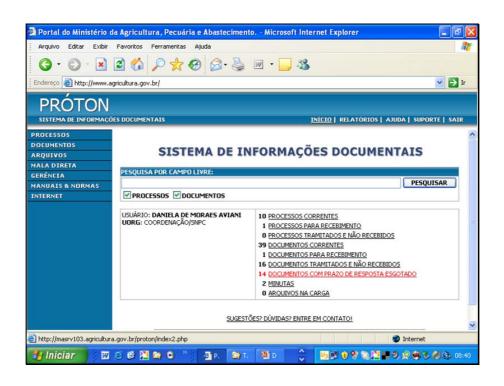


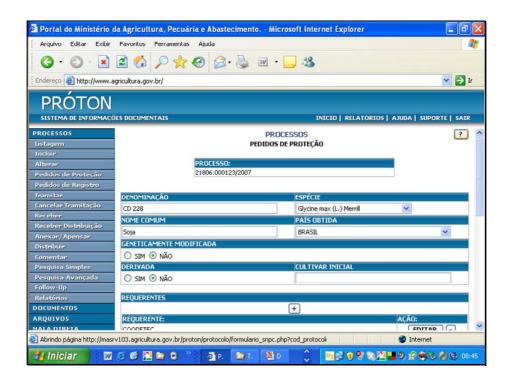


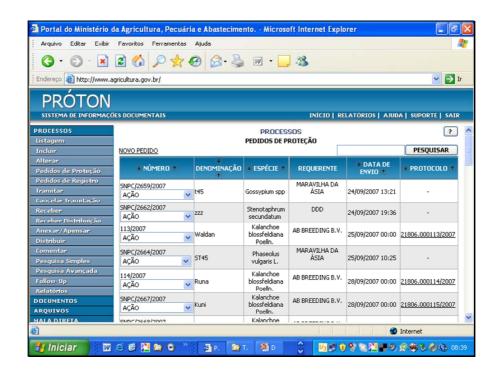
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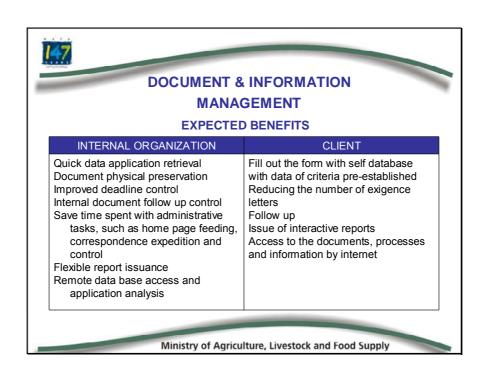


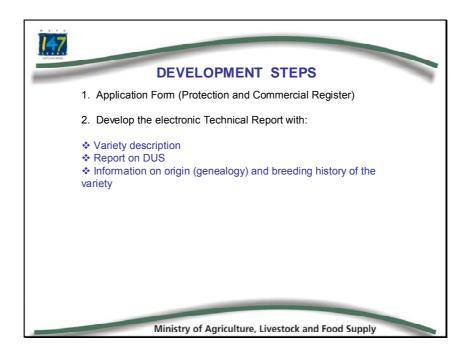


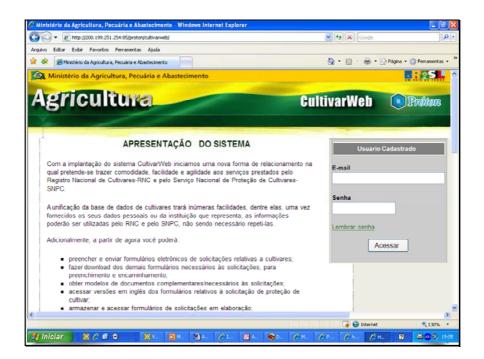




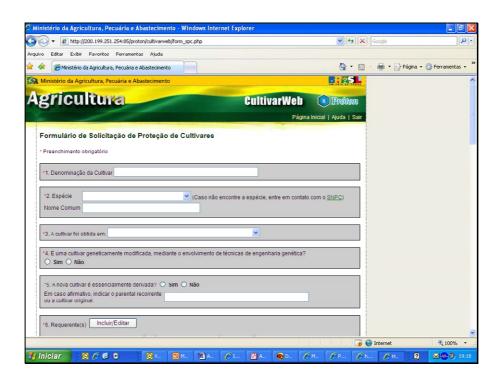


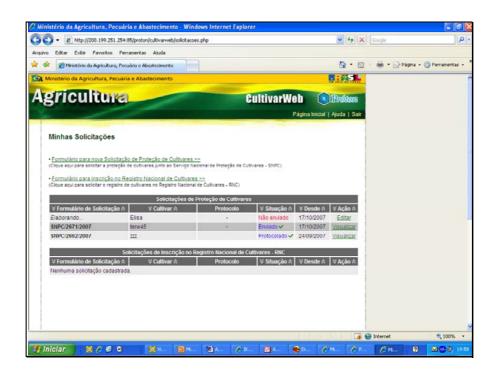






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ACQUIRED BENEFITS

Decrease the number of letters of exigences
Transparency on following up the applications
Facilitate the applications analisys
Allows access to the variety information to examiners and inspectors from their own state offices
Improve the organization and control under the generated forward and received documents

Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Food Supply



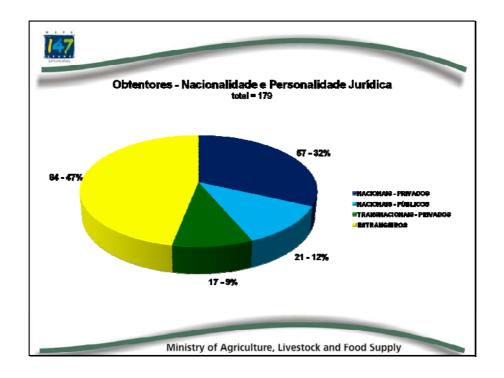
PROBLEM

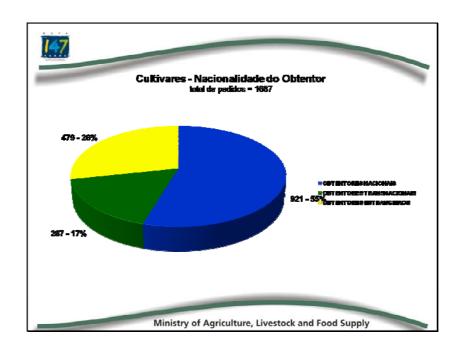
Current Federal Legislation still doesn't allow the use of electronic signature for this purpose the forms must be printed out, signed and sent by mail;

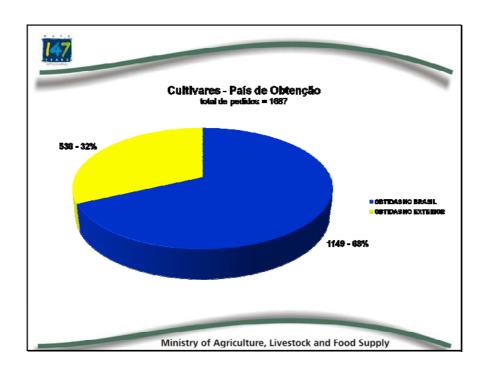
Besides there is no paper saving, all the information concerning the application is entered by the applicant direct on our database.

Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Food Supply

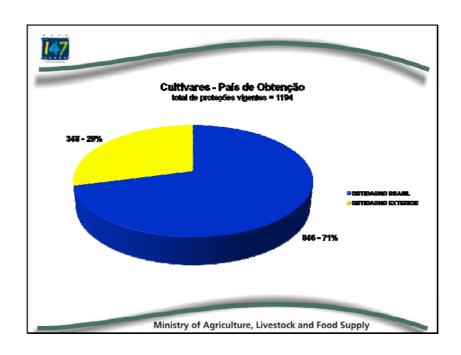


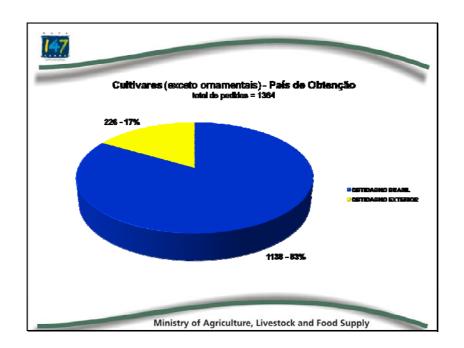




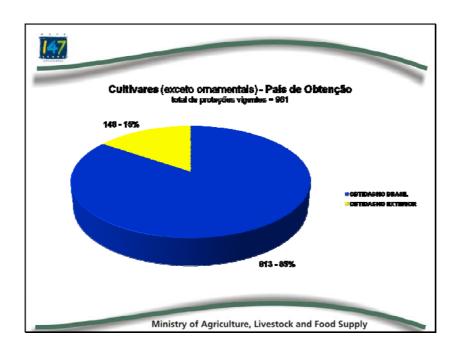


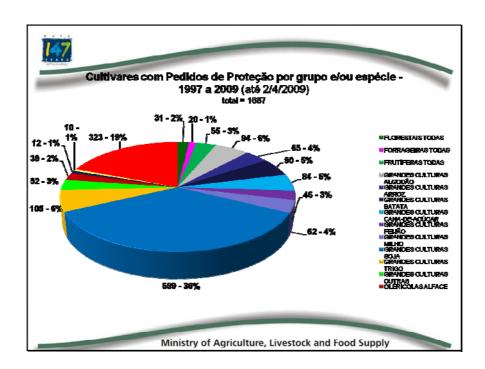
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ANNEX II



Online application project

TWC, Twenty-Seventh Session Alexandria, Virginia, United States of America June 16 to 19, 2009

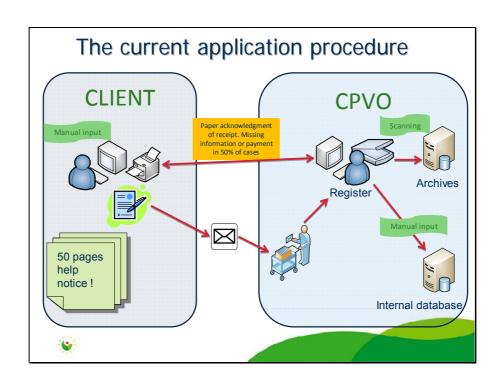
Presentation made by

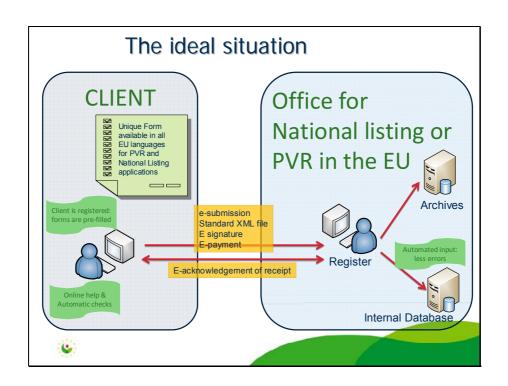
Jean Maison, Community Plant Variety Office

Online application project

- Exploration of the possibility of development of a harmonized system in the EU
- · Main issues considered in the study phase
- The development







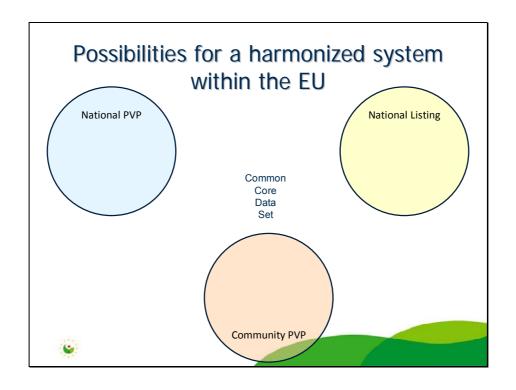
Request from breeders: one unique application form for Plant Variety Rights and National Listing Procedures

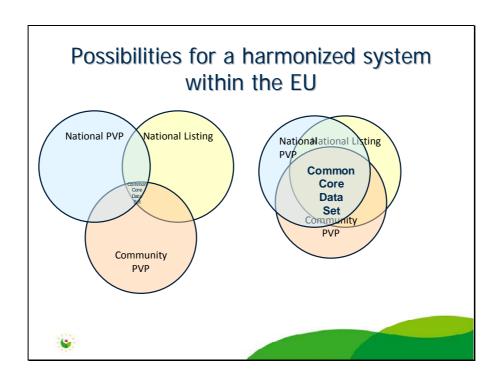


Possibilities for a harmonized system within the EU

A group of experts of the EU group has been organized by CPVO in order to investigate on the feasibility of a harmonized system within the EU







- ➤ The CPVO has started to define a data dictionary, based on the UPOV forms and its internal needs
- This proposal has been circulated in the expert group in order to define the core set of data



Possibilities for a harmonized system within the EU

➤ 4 countries commented the data dictionary. It
turns out that 90% of the question requested in
the application form and the TQ are in common



➤ Many member states in the EU are interested in making use of the CPVO on line application system

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Possibilities for a harmonized system within the EU

However, constraints exist:

- ➤ There is a great diversity in the internal databases at national level
- ➤ The competence of the CPVO is limited to the Community system and it will not be in a position to adapt its software for the purpose of use of other systems



However, constraints exist:

- Each Authority would like to keep its identity in the layout of forms
- Some countries have already developed an eapplication system



Possibilities for a harmonized system within the EU

The current situation

- > The CPVO is developing a system adapted to its specific needs
- This system will be made available to EU member states
- > The CPVO informs EU member states regularly about the developments of the project



The current situation

- During the development phase, technical options are chosen in order to make the system easily available, e.g.:
 - ✓ Web based system, fully developed by Office on the basis of freely available software
 - ✓ The system will operate on the basis of the exchange of xml files

Online application project

- Exploration of the possibility of development of a harmonized system in the EU
- Main issues considered in the study phase
- The development



The main issues considered in the study phase

- > Customer requests:
 - ✓ Forms that can be pre-filled with their own data
 - → Address, contact persons
 - ✓ Forms filled in by several persons and that can be exchanged before submission
 - → Forms in the course of being filled in available to anyone with a login and password
 - ✓ Forms that can be re-used
 - → Same data in case of a series of applications



The main issues considered in the study phase

- > IT requirements:
 - Link to our Information System
 - ➤ Easy management of forms versioning (forms generated each time from a database of questions)
 - Security (users identification)
 - ➤ Integration in our e-documents management system
 - Possibility to evolve towards data exchanges via web services



The main issues considered in the study phase

> Office requirements :

- ✓ Automatic recording of data to the internal database: interface to be developed
- ✓ Assistance in the reception procedure with automatic checks and information brought more efficiently to the knowledge of applicants (e.g. pictures in TQ)
- ✓ Information/warning system for applicants when they fill in their application forms (e.g. missing data, lack of consistency ...)



The main issues considered in the study phase

➤ Legal requirements :

- ✓ Acceptation of electronic signature in communications with applicants
 - → Modification of our proceedings regulation



Online application project

- Exploration of the possibility of development of a harmonized system in the EU
- Main issues considered in the study phase
- The development



The development

- ➤ CPVO forms have been redesigned in order to stick to the latest UPOV standards
- ➤ Technical questionnaires are being entered in a database from where forms will be generated
- ➤ A system of electronic signature has been put in place:
 - ✓ The identification of the applicant will take place with the access to the forms with a login and password



The development

- > The IT development takes place on the basis of web forms
- ➤ A testing phase with a few selected clients will take place in the autumn 2009
- ➤ The system should be in place at the end of the year/beginning of 2010



