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|  |  | **E**  **EAF/5/4**  **ORIGINAL**: English  **DATE:** October 22, 2015 |
| **INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR THE PROTECTION OF NEW VARIETIES OF PLANTS** | | |
| Geneva | | |

**MEETING ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF A PROTOTYPE ELECTRONIC FORM**

Fifth Meeting  
Geneva, March 25, 2015

Report

*adopted by the Meeting on the Development of a Prototype Electronic Form  
  
Disclaimer: this document does not represent UPOV policies or guidance*

## Welcome and opening

The fifth meeting on the development of a prototype electronic form (“EAF/5 meeting”) was opened and chaired by Mr. Peter Button, Vice Secretary‑General, UPOV, who welcomed the participants in Geneva and those who participated in the meeting by means of electronic conference.

The list of participants is reproduced in Annex I to this report.

## Approval of the agenda

The meeting adopted the draft agenda as proposed in document EAF/5/1 Rev.

## Overview of the prototype electronic form project

The meeting considered documents EAF/5/2 “Overview concerning the prototype electronic form project” and EAF/5/3 “Electronic form: user interface”.

The participants received a presentation by the Office of the Union on the latest developments in relation to the prototype electronic form, as reproduced in Annex II to this document.

The participants were informed that the next phase of the development of the prototype will start in April 2015 and would focus on the data exchange functionalities (import/export facility) and on the on-line electronic form (user interface). Participating members would be invited to test the system in stages, through different interim releases, in order to obtain regular feedback. Comments would be taken into consideration for the development of subsequent releases in order to have a fully functioning prototype by August 2015, for a final test campaign in September 2015, before presentation at the sessions of the CAJ and the Consultative Committee in October 2015, as appropriate.

## Two-letter code to represent UPOV

The meeting noted that the request to WIPO for a two-letter code “XU” to represent the name of UPOV had been accepted and included in the revised version of WIPO ST.3 “Recommended Standard on Two Letter Codes for the Representation of States, Other Entities and Intergovernmental Organizations”.

## Commonality of application forms and technical questionnaires

It was agreed that one of the main benefits of a UPOV electronic form would be to enable applicants to use data from one application in subsequent applications. The system would allow the reuse of data from a single application, with one authority, or to use a combined set of data for a variety for which applications had been made in several authorities. The table reproduced below, presented at the meeting, illustrates the percentage of elements used by all participating authorities or by at least two participating authorities1:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Indicators** | **Application Form** | **Technical Questionnaire (Lettuce)** |
| Percentage of Elements used by all participating authorities[[1]](#footnote-1) | 6% | 1% |
| Percentage of Elements used by at least two participating authorities1 | 67% | 18% |

The tables below provide the information in common for the application form and the technical questionnaire for lettuce for the authorities that provided information as part of the Electronic application form project:

Application Form

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | AU | BR | CA | JP | KR | NL | NZ | QZ | US | VN |
| AU |  | 40% | 39% | 39% | 17% | 44% | 24% | 29% | 34% | 33% |
| BR | 55% |  | 48% | 52% | 31% | 47% | 31% | 35% | 43% | 36% |
| CA | 50% | 51% |  | 33% | 29% | 44% | 37% | 30% | 34% | 37% |
| JP | 42% | 56% | 24% |  | 19% | 39% | 22% | 29% | 24% | 26% |
| KR | 46% | 59% | 51% | 46% |  | 51% | 31% | 38% | 41% | 44% |
| NL | 50% | 39% | 34% | 41% | 22% |  | 31% | 29% | 21% | 28% |
| NZ | 54% | 50% | 37% | 46% | 26% | 61% |  | 52% | 35% | 37% |
| QZ | 23% | 20% | 16% | 21% | 11% | 42% | 18% |  | 12% | 13% |
| US | 48% | 44% | 33% | 32% | 22% | 26% | 22% | 22% |  | 25% |
| VN | 53% | 42% | 41% | 39% | 27% | 39% | 27% | 27% | 28% |  |

Technical Questionnaire

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | AU | BR | CA | JP | KR | NL | NZ | QZ | US | VN |
| AU |  | 16% | 8% | 8% | 3% | 8% | 12% | 14% | 5% | 12% |
| BR | 27% |  | 16% | 13% | 9% | 16% | 18% | 24% | 11% | 18% |
| CA | 56% | 78% |  | 22% | 22% | 44% | 11% | 44% | 33% | 44% |
| JP | 8% | 67% | 3% |  | 6% | 8% | 18% | 14% | 3% | 14% |
| KR | 4% | 9% | 4% | 9% |  | 7% | 7% | 9% | 9% | 2% |
| NL | 15% | 18% | 10% | 15% | 8% |  | 35% | 39% | 5% | 25% |
| NZ | 25% | 22% | 11% | 36% | 8% | 39% |  | 42% | 8% | 75% |
| QZ | 19% | 20% | 7% | 19% | 7% | 53% | 28% |  | 6% | 30% |
| US | 2% | 2% | 1% | 1% | 2% | 1% | 1% | 1% |  | 1% |
| VN | 24% | 22% | 11% | 27% | 3% | 27% | 73% | 43% | 8% |  |

## Future actions and program

Participating members agreed the following program for development of the first version of the prototype electronic form:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Test Campaign | Milestone Release (MR) Contents/  Functionalities to be tested |
| Release 1 | Login , Create new application with export application data as XML |
| Release 2 | Create new application from existing XML data, Save, Submit new application, User feedback from MR1 |
| Release 3 | Dashboard, View Recommendations, Copy application, Edit Application, User feedback from MR2 |
| Release 4 | Remove Application, PDF View, User feedback from MR3 |
| Final Release | Full prototype |

It was agreed that the dates for the different releases would be communicated to the participating members at a later stage.

The meeting agreed the plan to make a presentation of version 1 of the prototype electronic application form to the CAJ and Consultative Committee at their sessions in October 2015 and to invite the CAJ and Consultative Committee to consider proposals for the ways forward for the project.

With regard to work after October 2015, subject to discussions at the CAJ and Consultative Committee, it was planned to extend the prototype to cover potato, rose and apple, to explore further harmonization and to consider proposals for a launch of the electronic form.

## Experiences of participating members of the Union with electronic application systems

Mr. Jeffery Haynes, Deputy Commissioner, Plant Variety Protection Office, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), made a presentation on “Update of U.S. ePVP System”, a copy of which is attached as Annex III to this report.

## Date of next meeting

It was agreed that the sixth meeting would be held in Geneva on October 26, 2015, at 18.00, with the possibility of participation by means of electronic conference.

The participants agreed that the following matters should be discussed at the sixth meeting:

1. review version 1 of the prototype electronic application form;
2. legal aspects, including payment modalities and authorization, filing/priority date, data confidentiality;
3. technical aspects, including payment authorization and user authentication, electronic signatures, high availability, interaction with existing systems (e.g. GENIE /WIPO accounts);
4. maintenance and support; and
5. the way forward for the project, including possible plans for implementation.

*This report was adopted by correspondence.*

[Annexes follow]

EAF/5/4

ANNEX I

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[Annex II follows]

EAF/5/4

ANNEXES II and III

*Please see the pdf version*

[End of Annex III and of document]

1. Participating members of the Union who provided their forms for the development of the prototype electronic form were: Australia; Brazil; Canada; European Union; Japan; Netherlands; New Zealand; Republic of Korea; United States of America and Viet Nam (see document EAF/3/3 “Report”, paragraph 11). [↑](#footnote-ref-1)