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| International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants |  |

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| Meeting on the development of a prototype electronic formNinth MeetingGeneva, April 7, 2017 | UPOV/EAF/9/3Original: EnglishDate: October 9, 2017 |

REPORT

adopted by the Meeting on the development of an electronic application form

Disclaimer: this document does not represent UPOV policies or guidance

# Welcome and opening

 The ninth meeting on the development of a prototype electronic form (EAF/9 meeting) was opened and chaired by Mr. Peter Button, Vice Secretary-General of 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 UPOV/EAF/9/1 Rev.

# Developments concerning the electronic application form project

 The meeting considered document [UPOV/EAF/9/2 Corr.2](http://www.upov.int/meetings/en/details.jsp?meeting_id=42648) “Developments concerning the Electronic Application Form” and received a presentation by the Office of the Union on the latest developments in relation to the prototype electronic form, a copy of which is reproduced in Annex II to this document.

 The participants agreed with the following proposed developments:

## New versions of the EAF

 The current version of the EAF was Version 1.0. It was foreseen that the next version (Version 1.1) of the EAF would be released in July 2017. The subsequent version (Version 2.0) was anticipated to be released in 2018.

### Version 1.1

####

#### Participating UPOV members

 The participants noted that the following additional UPOV members had provided the necessary information and had expressed their intention to participate in Version 1.1, for the indicated crops:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Authority | GLYCI\_MAXSoya Bean | LACTU\_SATLettuce | MALUS\_DOMApple fruit varieties | ROSAARose | SOLAN\_TUBPotato | Languages accepted for submission |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| China | CN |  | 🗸 |  | 🗸 |  | Chinese |
| Colombia | CO |  |  |  | 🗸 |  | Spanish |
| Paraguay | PY | 🗸 |  |  |  |  | Spanish |
| Republic of Moldova | MD | 🗸 | 🗸 | 🗸 | 🗸 | 🗸 | Romanian |
| United States of America | US | 🗸\* | 🗸\* |  |  | 🗸 | English |
| Turkey | TR | 🗸 | 🗸 | 🗸 | 🗸 | 🗸 | Turkish |

*\* already in EAF Version 1.0*

#### Languages

 The participants noted that preparations were being made for the introduction of Chinese (China), Romanian (Republic of Moldova) and Turkish (Turkey), in Version 1.1, subject to the necessary information being provided by the members of the Union concerned.

#### Style sheet for the application form

 The participants noted that, where requested by PVP Offices, it would be possible to have a customized format for the application form to be received by the PVP Office (e.g. addition of national coding reference to the form, PVP Office logo) if the relevant information was provided according to a specified format.

### Version 2.0

#### Participating UPOV members

 The participants noted that only authorities participating in PV2 or in Version 1.1 (African Intellectual Property Organization (OAPI), Argentina, Australia, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Chile, China, Canada, Colombia, Czech Republic, European Union, France, Georgia, Japan, Kenya, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Paraguay, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, South Africa, Switzerland, Tunisia, Turkey, United States of America, Uruguay and Viet Nam) would be able to participate in Version 2.0. New participating members of the Union would be included after the release of Version 2.0.

## Crops/species

 The participants noted that it had previously been agreed that it would be beneficial for the system to cover as many crops/ species as soon as possible. Therefore, at the EAF/8 meeting, the Office of the Union was requested to develop an approach to add new crops more rapidly and to increase the number of crops included in the EAF (see document [UPOV/EAF/8/3](http://www.upov.int/meetings/en/details.jsp?meeting_id=40045) “Report”, paragraph 6(j)).

 It was noted that the main part of the application form was the same for all crops for a particular authority. However, the crop-specific technical information, typically provided in the technical questionnaire (TQ), differed between crops. Therefore, the challenge in adding new crops was to address the crop-specific part of the application.

 In order to be able to cover as many crops/ species as rapidly as possible, it was proposed to develop three approaches. It would be a matter for each participating member of the Union to decide which of the approaches to apply on a crop-by-crop basis.

### UPOV Technical Questionnaire (Approach 1)

 The TQ in the EAF would need to be identical to the TQ in the adopted UPOV Test Guidelines (TG). The web‑based TG Template would be the source of the TG TQ information; therefore, the introduction of crops/species under this approach would require the relevant TGs to be included in the web-based TG Template.

 For crops/species for which there is no adopted UPOV TG, the TQ in the EAF would be based on the structure of the TQ in document TGP/7 “Development of Test Guidelines”. This would allow users to provide information, in a standardized way, for the following:

* Breeding history: breeding scheme; method of propagating the variety;
* TQ characteristics : free text characteristics and states of expression;
* Similar varieties and differences from those varieties;
* Additional information.

### Customized characteristics (Approach 2)

 The TQ in the EAF would be the same for all crops (non-crop specific) except for “characteristics of the variety” (Section 5 of the UPOV TQ or equivalent) and “similar varieties and differences from these varieties” (Section 6 of the UPOV TQ or equivalent)). The characteristics in the TQ in the EAF would be:

1. UPOV TG characteristics;
2. Authority specific characteristics
3. Free text information.

### Customized TQ (Approach 3)

 The TQ in the EAF would contain crop-specific sections other than those specified in Approach 2.

 The table below summarizes the approaches that would currently cover the participating members in the EAF Version 1.0:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Authority(for existing crops/species) | Approach 1 | Approach 2 | Approach 3 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Argentina | AR |  | 🗸 |  |
| Australia | AU |  | 🗸 |  |
| Chile | CL | 🗸 |  |  |
| France | FR |  |  | 🗸 |
| Kenya | KE | 🗸 |  |  |
| Netherlands | NL |  |  | 🗸 |
| New Zealand | NZ |  |  | 🗸 |
| Norway | NO |  |  | 🗸 |
| Switzerland | CH |  |  | 🗸 |
| Tunisia | TN | 🗸 |  |  |
| United States of America | US |  | 🗸 |  |
| Uruguay | UY |  | 🗸 |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Total | 12 | 3 | 4 | 5 |

 The participants noted that on the basis that resources would be allocated equally to the three approaches, it would be possible to cover all crops/species for Approaches 1 and 2 by the end of 2018. In the case of Approach 3, the process would continue indefinitely according to an agreed prioritization.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | … |
| Approach 1\* complete |  |  |
| Approach 2\* complete |  |  |
| Approach 3 | … |

*\*  depending on the number of Test Guidelines adopted and included in the Test Guidelines Template Database*

 For all approaches, the order of priority for addition of crops/species would be decided in consultation with the EAF participants.

## Functionalities

### Information for official variety list purposes

 The participants agreed that, with regard to information for official variety list purposes, the requirements would be discussed individually with each of the participating members of the Union that had expressed a wish to include such information. In that regard, the participating member of the Union may also be invited to consider providing resources, in order to implement such requirements.

### Payment

 The participants noted that additional payment methods may be introduced in Version 2.0, e.g. current account or e-wallet. It was proposed to investigate those different possibilities and to report on their possible development at a subsequent EAF meeting.

### Link to information available in the GENIE Database

 The participants noted the proposal to make a link in the EAF website to the information available in GENIE, in particular with regard to experience and cooperation in DUS examination.

## Communication

 The participants noted that:

1. at the launch of the EAF, the Office of the Union had informed breeders’ organizations and PVP Offices on the availability of the system (see Circulars E-17/007, E-17/008 and E-17/009), also inviting those parties to inform all their relevant stakeholders;
2. a series of communication materials (e.g. posters and flyers) would be developed for UPOV members and breeders’ organizations;
3. meetings (including online sessions & webinars) would be organized for individual applicants or groups of applicants upon request, and training material (e.g. PowerPoint presentation, tutorials, e‑learning) would be developed.

 The participants noted the proposal made by some participating PVP Offices in the EAF to add a link to the EAF on their own websites. It further agreed on the importance of PVP Offices to diffuse the information on the availability of the EAF tool to potential users (e.g. breeders, representatives, agents, etc.).

## Support

 The participants noted that a program of user-support and routine maintenance provisions for PVP Offices and users would be developed in consultation with EAF meetings, according to the needs expressed and resources available within the Office of the Union.

## Name

 The EAF/9 meeting considered the name “PRISMA” (Plant variety data Routing Information System using Multilingual Application forms) as a new name for the EAF and the following logo, presented at the meeting:



 The EAF/9 meeting agreed that the name “PRISMA” and the proposed logo should be proposed for approval at the fifty-first ordinary session of the Council, to be held in Geneva on October 26, 2017.

# Latest developments

 The Office of the Union reported that Ecuador had indicated to the Office of the Union its interest to participate in the EAF.

 The Office of the Union also explained that members of the Union that had not participated in PV2 or Version 1.1 would be able to be included after the release of Version 2.0. Such members of the Union would need to provide their forms for the selected crops (application form and technical questionnaire) in a UPOV language and, if appropriate, to provide translations of the questions of the application forms and technical questionnaires of the other languages used in the EAF. The timetable for addition of new members of the Union would be subject to available resources and would vary according to the content of the application forms and technical questionnaires.

# Date of next meeting

 The next meeting of the EAF (EAF/10 meeting) was agreed to be held in Geneva on the afternoon of Friday October 27, 2017.

 *This report was adopted by correspondence.*

[Annexes follow]

UPOV/EAF/9/3

ANNEX I

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

(dans l’ordre alphabétique des noms français des membres /
in the alphabetical order of the French names 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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ANNEX II / ANNEXE II / ANLAGE II / ANEXO II

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