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

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| Working Group on Biochemical and Molecular Techniques  and DNA-Profiling in Particular  Eighteenth Session Hangzhou, China, October 16 to 18, 2019 | BMT/18/20  Original: English  Date: October 9, 2019 |

OECD Seed schemes An International seed varietal certification system

Document prepared by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)

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The OECD Schemes for the Varietal Certification of Seed promotes the use of certified agriculture seed that is of consistently high quality. These seeds are produced and officially controlled according to a set of harmonised procedures put in place in the 61 participating countries.

The varietal identity and purity is evaluated during field inspection and additionaly there are pre- and post- control plots. It means that inspection is done only visually. OECD Seed Schemes do recognise that there are occasions where these traditional techniques limit the certainty of the varietal determination, and in certain cases varieties of some species cannot be identified with certainty using these traditional techniques. In these specific circumstances, it might be beneficial to use non-field based tests, which must be seen as supplementing and not replacing the more traditional techniques.

There were not possibility to use during seed certification process a biochemical and molecular techniques and to reject lot in accordance on those results. Participating countries use some methods but just to get additional information.

The OECD 2019 Annual Meeting approved the Revised draft proposal for the revision of Part III of the Guidelines for Control Plot Tests and Field Inspection of Seed Crops.

[Annex follows]

*Please see the PDF version*

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