



CAJ/57/4

ORIGINAL: English

DATE: February 8, 2008

INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR THE PROTECTION OF NEW VARIETIES OF PLANTS
GENEVA

ADMINISTRATIVE AND LEGAL COMMITTEE

Fifty-Seventh Session
Geneva, April 10, 2008

ELECTRONIC APPLICATION SYSTEMS

Document prepared by the Office of the Union

1. At its fifty-sixth session, held in Geneva on October 22 and 23, 2007, the Administrative and Legal Committee (CAJ) received presentations by a representative of the International Seed Federation (ISF) and by the Delegations of Brazil, Germany and the United Kingdom on experiences and initiatives for the development of electronic application forms and technical questionnaires. Those presentations (in English only) are reproduced in Annexes II to V of document CAJ/56/6 "Report", respectively.

2. The CAJ agreed that the Office of the Union should organize a meeting in order to explore possibilities:

(a) to provide a forum for exchanging information on electronic application systems and databasing of information;

(b) to investigate possibilities to facilitate harmonized electronic application systems and databasing of information, for interested members of the Union, by means of a standard electronic application form (including technical questionnaire), possibly with authority-specific annexes, to be made available for downloading from the UPOV website. Investigations would include:

(i) the development of a multilingual standard electronic application form in all languages provided by the relevant members of the Union (if not an official UPOV language);

(ii) options for transfer of data from the standard electronic application form for use in applications made with members of the Union (on-line transmission, e-mail, paper), including the sharing of software between members of the Union and the use of electronic signatures and verification;

(iii) means to facilitate the incorporation of data in electronic application systems in a format compatible with the UPOV-ROM Plant Variety Database;

(c) to identify legal and administrative aspects which should be considered in the development of electronic application systems by members of the Union.

3. The CAJ agreed that any standard electronic application form (including technical questionnaire) would need to be based on the UPOV model forms contained in document TGP/5 “Experience and Cooperation in DUS Testing” and document TGP/7 “Development of Test Guidelines” (see paragraphs 20 and 21 of document CAJ/56/6 “Report”).

4. The above meeting on electronic application systems will take place in Geneva, on Wednesday, April 9, 2008, starting at 6 p.m.. Invitations to that meeting have been sent to the Council, Consultative Committee, CAJ and Technical Committee, by Circular U 3635, of January 11, 2008.

5. An oral report on that meeting will be made at the fifty-seventh session of the CAJ, to be held in Geneva on April 10, 2008.

6. The CAJ is invited to consider the developments concerning electronic application systems, as set out in paragraphs 4 and 5.

[End of document]