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**INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR THE PROTECTION OF NEW VARIETIES OF PLANTS**

Geneva

**ADMINISTRATIVE AND LEGAL COMMITTEE****Sixty-Ninth Session  
Geneva, April 10, 2014**

## ELECTRONIC APPLICATION SYSTEMS

*Document prepared by the Office of the Union**Disclaimer: this document does not represent UPOV policies or guidance*

1. The purpose of this document is to report on developments concerning the development of a prototype electronic form.

## BACKGROUND

2. The aim of the project on a prototype electronic form is to develop a multilingual, electronic form containing questions relevant for plant breeders' rights (PBRs) applications. The aim of the prototype would be to develop an electronic form covering all relevant information required for a PBR application in the members of the Union concerned and with questions translated in the relevant languages for the members of the Union concerned (see document CAJ/66/5 "Electronic Application Systems", paragraph 2).

## DEVELOPMENTS

3. The Administrative and Legal Committee (CAJ) at its sixty-sixth session in Geneva on October 29, 2012, endorsed the development of a prototype electronic form for interested members of the Union and agreed that the key aspects of the prototype from the perspective of members of the Union would be as follows (see document CAJ/66/8 "Report on the Conclusions", paragraphs 22 and 23):

**Form Content:** The UPOV electronic form would contain all items required by the participating members of the Union, i.e. it would contain all items in the UPOV Model Application Form and, in addition, items required for an application in the participating member of the Union concerned. Applicants would select the members of the Union in which they wish to make an application and all relevant items for the selected members of the Union would be presented for completion.

**Status:** Participating members of the Union would decide the status of any data provided via the UPOV electronic form for their own situation.

**Data format:** The UPOV electronic form would enable data to be transferred to participating members of the Union in Word, Excel, PDF or XML format. The participating members of the Union would decide in which format(s) to accept data. In the case of XML format, a standard format would be developed, based on WIPO standard ST.96.

Languages: The UPOV electronic form would present all items (questions) in English, French, German and Spanish. Translations for all items (questions) in other languages would be provided by the participating members of the Union, with a suitable disclaimer.

Crops/species: Crops/species for the prototype would be one or more of:

Wheat (*Triticum aestivum* L.); Maize (*Zea mays* L.);  
 Potato (*Solanum tuberosum* L.); Lettuce (*Lactuca sativa* L.);  
 Tomato (*Solanum lycopersicum* L.); Pea (*Pisum sativum* L.);  
 and Ryegrass (*Lolium* L.);

and one or more of:

Rose (*Rosa* L.); Chrysanthemum (*Chrysanthemum* L.);  
 Carnation (*Dianthus* L.); Pelargonium (*Pelargonium* L'Hér. ex Ait.);  
 Petunia (*Petunia* Juss.); Peach (*Prunus persica* (L.) Batsch);  
 and Apple (*Malus domestica* Borkh.).

Participating members of the Union would be able to select the crops/species in which to participate, i.e. the UPOV electronic form for each crop/species could have different participating members of the Union. The selection of the crops/species for the prototype would be made by the Office of the Union in consultation with the participating members of the Union, ISF and CIOPORA.

Partners: The partners in the development of the prototype would be the participating members of the Union (including the continued participation of the Community Plant Variety Office of the European Union (CPVO)), Office of the Union, WIPO Internet Services Section, WIPO Standards Section, WIPO Global Database Service, ISF and CIOPORA.

Meetings: Meetings for the development of the prototype would, in general, be held in Geneva with an option to participate by web conference.

4. The CAJ noted that, whilst the prototype would be based on selected crops / species the electronic application system project was intended to be relevant for all crops / species. The CAJ also noted that participation in the prototype did not require members of the Union to have electronic application systems in place (see document CAJ/66/8 "Report on the Conclusions", paragraph 24).

5. The following members of the Union, including the continued participation of the European Union, indicated their interest to be participating members of the Union in the prototype: Australia, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Mexico, New Zealand, Paraguay, Republic of Korea, United States of America and Viet Nam (see document CAJ/66/8 "Report on the Conclusions", paragraph 25).

6. The CAJ at its sixty-seventh session in Geneva on March 21, 2013, considered documents CAJ/67/8 "Electronic application systems" and CAJ/67/13 "Report on developments in the Technical Committee". The CAJ noted the oral report by the Office of the Union of the meeting on the development of a prototype electronic form, held in Geneva on the evening of March 20, 2013. In particular, it was informed that the prototype electronic form would be initially developed for lettuce, potato, rose and apple. It was also informed that it had been agreed, in the first instance, to prepare all questions in the form in English and in the languages of the members of the Union concerned for their own questions (see document CAJ/67/15 "Report", paragraph 66).

7. The CAJ at its sixty-eighth session, held in Geneva on October 21, 2013, considered document CAJ/68/8 "Electronic application systems". The CAJ noted the request of the Delegation of Switzerland to participate in the meetings on the development of a prototype electronic form. The CAJ noted that a report of the meeting on the development of a prototype electronic form which was planned to be held in Geneva on October 24, 2013, would be made to the CAJ at its sixty-ninth session, to be held in April 2014 (see document CAJ/68/10 "Report on the Conclusions", paragraphs 35 to 37).

8. At the meeting on the development of a prototype electronic form, held in Geneva on October 24, 2013, it was noted that Argentina, Japan and Switzerland had requested to participate in the development of the prototype. An illustrative "mock-up" of parts of the prototype electronic form was presented at the

meeting. It was agreed that a complete “mock-up” should be presented at the subsequent meeting on April 9, 2014, which would be the basis to develop a fully working prototype. It was further agreed that the prototype would be developed in English only and the Technical Questionnaire would be for Lettuce (*Lactuca sativa* L.).

9. The next meeting on the prototype electronic form, will take place in Geneva on April 9, 2014. An oral report on that meeting will be provided to the CAJ at its sixty-ninth session.

10. *The CAJ is invited to note:*

*(a) the developments concerning the development of a prototype electronic form as set out in this document; and*

*(b) that an oral report of the meeting on the prototype electronic form, to be held in Geneva on April 9, 2014, will be made to the CAJ at its sixty-ninth session.*

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