Administrative and Legal Committee

Eighty-Second Session Geneva, October 22, 2025 CAJ/82/1

Original: English Date: June 19, 2025

ANNOTATED DRAFT AGENDA

prepared by the Office of the Union

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- 1. Opening of the session
- 2. Adoption of the agenda
- 3. Developments in UPOV and overview of relevant matters for the Administrative and Legal Committee (document SESSIONS/2025/1)

A presentation will be made on strategic matters with access to a video on developments in UPOV.

Report on developments in the Technical Committee (document CAJ/82/2) 4.

The Chair of the TC will inform the CAJ of key developments at TC/61 relevant for the CAJ, including matters during the TC open discussion on "New Technologies in DUS Examination".

- 5. Development of guidance and documents proposed for adoption by the Council (document SESSIONS/2025/2)
 - Information documents:

Software and Equipment Used by Members of the Union (Revision) UPOV/INF/22 (document UPOV/INF/22/12 Draft 1)

(b) TGP documents:

TGP/5 "Experience and Cooperation in DUS Testing"

> Section 6 "UPOV Report on Technical Examination and UPOV Variety Description" (Revision): Additional explanations for "UPOV report on technical examination and UPOV variety description" (document TGP/5, Section 6/5 Draft 2)

> The CAJ will consider a revision of the explanations for the "UPOV Variety Description" on how to provide information to items 16 (Similar varieties / differences) and 17 (Additional information) and a revised document structure indicating section "Variety Description" as an annex to the "Report on Technical Examination" and explanations as an appendix.

TGP/7 "Development of Test Guidelines", Guidance Note 36 "Example Varieties" (revision): Situations where illustrations could complement or replace example varieties (document SESSIONS/2025/2)

The CAJ will consider the proposal to clarify the situations when example varieties must be indicated in characteristics used in Test Guidelines and when illustrations could replace them.

The session will take place at the headquarters of UPOV (34, chemin des Colombettes, Geneva, Switzerland) on Wednesday, October 22, 2025, from 9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. (Geneva time (CET)).

6. Measures to enhance cooperation in examination (document SESSIONS/2025/3)

The CAJ will receive a report on the background and preparatory work for a seminar to create awareness on cooperation with breeders in DUS examination, to be held in the afternoon on Wednesday, October 22, 2025, including the series of webinars preceding the seminar. Information collected might be used for future training purposes based on members' experiences and practices.

7. Updates from UPOV members and observers relating to the implementation of the concept of essentially derived varieties (document CAJ/82/3)

The CAJ will be invited to consider relevant developments, for instance, the role of molecular techniques in EDV assessment for wheat and soybeans which was presented at the TWM/3 in Beijing. ISF will inform on developments in relation to EDV in the document "ISF View on Intellectual Property". Following the revision of the Explanatory Notes on Essentially Derived Varieties under the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention (UPOV/EXN/EDV/3), the Council, at its fifty-seventh ordinary session, decided to add this matter as a standing item on the CAJ agenda.

8. Report on the Working Group on Harvested Material and Unauthorized use of Propagating Material (WG-HRV) (document CAJ/82/4)

The CAJ will receive a report on the progress made by the WG-HRV, and, in particular, on the study on the "Scope of the Breeder's Right" and the relationship with the "Exhaustion of the Breeder's Right" to support the work of the WG-HRV.

9. Meetings on Electronic Applications (EAM) (document SESSIONS/2025/4)

The CAJ will consider updates on UPOV e-PVP (UPOV's digitalized system for PVP offices to manage applications and grants, to communicate with applicants and holders, publish information and transmit data to the PLUTO Database). The CAJ will also be consulted on relevant initiatives for the sustainable development of UPOV e-PVP Modules (i.e. UPOV PRISMA, DUS Report Exchange Module, Administration Module).

10. UPOV information databases (document SESSIONS/2025/5)

The CAJ will be invited to consider the program for improvements of the PLUTO Database and the strategy to support UPOV members in their contributions to the PLUTO Database.

11. Molecular techniques (document SESSIONS/2025/6)

The CAJ will consider developments in UPOV bodies (TC and TWPs) in 2025, including:

- (a) Developments at the Technical Working Party on Testing Methods and Techniques (TWM) in relation to the use of molecular markers in DUS examination; variety identification; assessment of essential derivation; enforcement; and cooperation with international organizations.
- (b) Guidance proposals on (i) standard protocol harmonizing information to be provided in Test Guidelines when molecular markers are used as alternative method for characteristic assessment; and (ii) procedures for validating characteristic-specific molecular markers proposed for inclusion in Test Guidelines as alternative methods of characteristic assessment.
- (c) Policies on confidentiality and access to molecular data, including a proposed survey among UPOV members.
- (d) Joint initiatives with OECD and ISTA, including: (i) harmonization of terms, definitions and methods in relation to molecular techniques; (ii) Joint meeting with TWM, OECD Seed Schemes and ISTA Variety Committee participants to discuss cooperation on the use of molecular markers for the purposes of each organization; and (iii) establishing common sets of molecular markers for variety identification.

12.	Program	for the	eight	y-third	session
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- 13. Adoption of the report¹ (if time permits)
- 14. Closing of the session

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Document SESSIONS/2025/INF/1 will contain the list of persons registered in advance for the session. The final list of persons who attended the session will be published as an annex to the adopted report of the session.