

**Consultative Group on UPOV Resources Strategy****CG-URS/3/2****Third Meeting  
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**ADDITIONAL SCENARIO (SCENARIO 4) FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE STRATEGIC BUSINESS PLAN 2026-2029***Document prepared by the Office of the Union**Disclaimer: this document does not represent UPOV policies or guidance***INTRODUCTION**

1. The Consultative Group on UPOV Resources Strategy (CG-URS) held its second meeting in Geneva, on March 18, 2026.
2. The CG-URS agreed that the Office of the Union would develop a fourth budget scenario in-between scenarios 2 and 3 presented in document CG-URS/2/2. It was agreed that the new scenario would be made on the same basis as the previous ones, with priorities tied to the Strategic Business Plan for 2026-2029 (document C/59/14). Under the new scenario, the CG-URS agreed that first tier priorities would focus on the expansion of UPOV membership including the development of legislation, providing guidance and assistance on the UPOV Convention and its implementation, and enhancing harmonization and cooperation in examination processes.
3. The CG-URS agreed that the budgetary increase associated with the fourth scenario would be implemented in a phased approach over a two year period starting in 2027.
4. The CG-URS further agreed on the importance of continuing discussions on medium and long-term financial sustainability solutions.
5. The Annex to this document contains the additional requested scenario (Scenario 4) for the implementation of the Strategic Business Plan 2026-2029 (document C/59/14).

Background documentation:

- UPOV Resources Strategy (URS) (document [C/59/16](#))
- Strategic Business Plan 2026-2029 (document [C/59/14](#))

[Annex follows]

## ANNEX

### ADDITIONAL SCENARIO (SCENARIO 4) FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE STRATEGIC BUSINESS PLAN 2026-2029 (SBP) (DOCUMENT [C/59/14](#)) AND ASSOCIATED COST

1. The SBP approved by the Council on October 24, 2025, outlines UPOV's strategic direction and provides the basis for the preparation of the 2026-2027 and 2028-2029 Program and Budgets. The SBP is designed to ensure that UPOV remains at the forefront of plant variety protection, delivering value to its members and contributing to global food security and agricultural innovation.
2. The SBP identifies specific expected results and risk considerations for each strategic pillar:
  - **Pillar 1** focuses on governance, engagement, and shaping the future of the PVP system through strong collaboration with UPOV members and stakeholders.
  - **Pillar 2** strengthens communication, guidance, training, harmonization, and technical cooperation to support the implementation of the UPOV system and the expansion of UPOV membership.
  - **Pillar 3** advances high-quality digital services and databases, including UPOV e-PVP, to improve efficiency and alignment across UPOV.
3. The following budget scenario with its associated cost is presented in accordance with the Expected Results (ER) under the SBP Strategic Pillars and the Foundation (see paragraph 14 of the SBP).

ER 1.1	Governance by the UPOV Council and work of UPOV Committees and other bodies
ER 1.2	Development of legislation on plant variety protection in accordance with the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention
ER 2.1	Enhanced awareness of the role of the UPOV system
ER 2.2	Guidance and assistance on the UPOV Convention and its implementation
ER 2.3	Enhanced harmonization and cooperation in examination
ER 3.1	Development of UPOV e-PVP services
ER 4.1	Ensure financial sustainability
ER 4.2	A Secretariat that is empowered and is provided with the right resources and training to work effectively, collaboratively and innovatively

## SCENARIO 4 “CURTAILED IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SBP”: STRATEGIC PROGRESS WITH TARGETED COMPROMISES

### ***ER 1.1 Governance by the UPOV Council and work of UPOV Committees and other bodies***

- **UPOV delivers its strategic vision at a slower pace and with less ambition**, not achieving the full vision of a modern, harmonized, and globally trusted Plant Variety Protection (PVP) system aligned with technological, sustainability, and stakeholder trends by the end of the SBP 2026-2029 period. Some strategic and cooperative ambitions remain limited in scope.
- **UPOV is only partially able to position itself as a proactive global leader** facilitating policy discussions both within UPOV and in other international organizations relevant to its mandate because of the lack of resources for conducting data analysis to identify trends and impactful actions.

### ***ER 1.2 Development of legislation on plant variety protection in accordance with the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention***

- **Comprehensive legislative support** to accelerate membership expansion, including outreach activities targeted at relevant national stakeholders to demonstrate how UPOV membership contributes to agricultural development while supporting national development goals. To meet the growing demand for PVP legislative assistance, the engagement of a legal expert<sup>1</sup> (0.5 FTE<sup>2</sup>) would be required.

On-site engagement with future members is essential to fully understand policy objectives and local contexts, and to foster collaboration with policymakers and stakeholders. Desktop analysis and virtual exchanges alone are not sufficient to provide the level of effective assistance needed to achieve this objective. These implementation approaches will therefore be combined with on-site legislative support involving UPOV staff and experts, which would require 50,000 CHF in non-personnel resources (currently not budgeted).

### ***ER 2.1 Enhanced awareness of the role of the UPOV system***

- **Outreach and communication to reinforce UPOV’s legitimacy are strengthened**, but multilingual expansion and global presence are not fully realized due to resource constraints. Minimal improvement of website features is estimated at 15,000 CHF (currently not budgeted). The budget for the UPOV website maintenance and development is currently 21,000 CHF.

### ***ER 2.2 Guidance and assistance on the UPOV Convention and its implementation***

- **Capacity-building for Plant Variety Protection (PVP) implementation remains active**, but with fewer academic partnerships and limited knowledge transfer. There is reduced ability to support members or emerging breeders.

UPOV distance learning programs remain as they currently are, with no content and/or design updates. The UPOV Executive Program<sup>3</sup> cannot be organized.

Limited strengthening of members’ capacities in the implementation of the PVP system (30,000 CHF for events) resulting in reduced knowledge transfer and practical support. Currently, this is not budgeted.

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<sup>1</sup> The legal expert would focus on activities under ER 1.2 but would also carry out tasks relevant for ER 1.1, 2.1 and 2.2.

<sup>2</sup> FTE: Full-time equivalent

<sup>3</sup> In the past the program was hosted annually and was funded by extrabudgetary resources.

### ***ER 2.3 Enhanced harmonization and cooperation in examination***

- **Harmonization and cooperation improve**, including broader sharing of DUS examination guidance to support PVP implementation. However, progress on the UPOV PRISMA plus project<sup>4</sup> is severely limited.
- **TG (Test Guidelines) Template updates for DUS examination and cooperation**, including support for Technical Working Parties (TWPs), can be achieved with TWP participation through a combination of virtual means and in-person attendance. However, the development of new features for individual authorities developing national and regional test guidelines using UPOV guidance will be postponed.

The TG Template updates require an additional 70,000 CHF. Currently, only maintenance is budgeted at 37,500 CHF. To meet some of the demands for technical assistance, engagement of a technical expert (0.5 FTE) would be required. Furthermore, to enable UPOV staff to provide onsite technical support, an additional 25,000 CHF would be required.

### ***ER 3.1 Development of UPOV e-PVP services***

- **Digital tools and databases remain functional but are not improved** with important new functionalities in line with technological advancement. Maintenance-only approaches will prevail for the DUS Exchange Module, PLUTO and UPOV PRISMA.

UPOV PRISMA will need maintenance, currently budgeted at 77,500 CHF. No additional amount is allocated to cover development, testing and project management nor promotion and training, including missions.

The maintenance of the UPOV e-PVP Administration Module is entirely dependent on extra-budgetary resources. There will be no onboarding of additional authorities using UPOV's budget.

Rudimentary maintenance of UPOV e-PVP DUS Exchange Module would require 35,000 CHF (currently not budgeted under the regular budget<sup>5</sup>) covering only critical security patches. Response times would be slower, system reliability might be compromised, and no new functionalities would be implemented to share DUS procedures and quality management systems.

The PLUTO Database will be maintained (currently budgeted at 40,000 CHF). No further improvements to the user-friendliness of the search interface and data contribution are possible.

### ***ER 4.1 Ensure financial sustainability***

- **Financial situation improves slightly**, enabling UPOV to make progress in the implementation of the SBP 2026–2029, in particular ER 1.1, ER 1.2, ER 2.2 and ER 2.3. However, many strategic and key initiatives identified during the horizon scanning exercise will be postponed or cancelled.

### ***ER 4.2 A Secretariat that is empowered and is provided with the right resources and training to work effectively, collaboratively and innovatively***

- UPOV reinforces managing-for-results (RBM) and upholds fiscal discipline and prudent financial management in its operations.
- Business continuity is compromised. Inadequate workforce is not fully aligned to strategic needs.
- UPOV benefits from seamless WIPO services. Additional funding requirements amount to 368,054 CHF.

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<sup>4</sup> The aim of the project is to identify common core information to streamline the filing of applications and facilitate further harmonization and cooperation in examination.

<sup>5</sup> Currently the maintenance of the Administration Module and the DUS Exchange Module is not covered by the UPOV regular budget but funded by extrabudgetary resources.

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Description	Additional - Scenario 4 (in thousands of Swiss francs)				P&B 26/27	Total Biennium	Total SBP (2 biennium)
	Personnel		Non- personnel	Total			
	FTE	Cost					
<b>1.1 Governance by the UPOV Council and work of UPOV Committees and other bodies</b>	-	-	-	-	722	722	1,443
<i>Sub-Total</i>	-	-	-	-	722	722	1,443
<b>1.2 Development of legislation on plant variety protection in accordance with the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention</b>							
Comprehensive legislative support	0.50	54	-	54	-	54	109
Support for future members	-	-	50	50	-	50	100
<i>Sub-Total</i>	0.50	54	50	104	325	325	650
<b>2.1 Enhanced awareness of the role of the UPOV system</b>							
Minimal improvement of web site features, content and social media presence	-	-	15	15	-	15	30
<i>Sub-Total</i>	-	-	15	15	555	555	1,110
<b>2.2 Guidance and assistance on the UPOV Convention and its implementation</b>							
Limited strengthening members' capacities in the implementation of the PVP system	-	-	30	30	-	30	60
<i>Sub-Total</i>	-	-	30	30	1,910	1,910	3,820
<b>2.3 Enhanced harmonization and cooperation in examination</b>							
TG Template (updates and technical expert) and TWP participation	0.50	54	95	149	-	149	299
<i>Sub-Total</i>	0.50	54	95	149	1,209	1,209	2,418
<b>3.1 Development of e PVP services</b>							
DUS Exchange Module (rudimentary maintenance)	-	-	35	35	-	35	70
<i>Sub-Total</i>	-	-	35	35	1,083	1,083	2,165
<b>4.1 Ensure financial sustainability</b>							
<i>Sub-Total</i>	-	-	-	-	422	422	845
<b>4.2 A Secretariat that is empowered and is provided with the right resources and training to work effectively, collaboratively and innovatively</b>							
WIPO Services	-	-	368	368	-	368	736
<i>Sub-Total</i>	-	-	368	368	1,390	1,390	2,779
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>593</b>	<b>702</b>	<b>7,616</b>	<b>8,318</b>	<b>16,635</b>

[End of Annex and of document]