



TC/47/10

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INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR THE PROTECTION OF NEW VARIETIES OF PLANTS
GENEVA

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Forty-Seventh Session
Geneva, April 4 to 6, 2011

PREPARATORY WORKSHOPS

Document prepared by the Office of the Union

1. At its thirty-eighth session, held in Geneva from April 15 to 17, 2002, the Technical Committee (TC) agreed, on the basis of document TC/38/12, to the holding of a preparatory workshop before each Technical Working Party (TWP) meeting, with the aim of helping some of the delegates to participate more actively at the meeting. At its forty-sixth session, held in Geneva from March 22 to 24, 2010, the TC agreed to the program for 2010, as set out in document TC/46/10. The Office of the Union also explained that there was flexibility in the program for the preparatory workshops in order to respond to the interests of the participants, including in particular the local participants (see document TC/46/16 "Report", paragraph 176).

2. The purpose of this document is to provide a report on the preparatory workshops held in 2010 and set out the proposals for 2011.

3. The following abbreviations are used in this document:

TC:	Technical Committee
TWA:	Technical Working Party for Agricultural Crops
TWC:	Technical Working Party on Automation and Computer Programs
TWF:	Technical Working Party for Fruit Crops
TWO:	Technical Working Party for Ornamental Plants and Forest Trees
TWV:	Technical Working Party for Vegetables
BMT:	Working Group on Biochemical and Molecular Techniques, and DNA-Profiling in Particular
TWP:	Technical Working Party

Report on the Preparatory Workshops and associated activities held in 2010

4. The preparatory workshops were in general held on the day preceding the first day of the TWP session and were organized in a similar way for each TWP, covering the following items:

1. Introduction to UPOV
2. Overview of the General Introduction (document TG/1/3 and TGP documents)
3. Guidance on drafting Test Guidelines (document TGP/7)
 - (a) Selection of characteristics
 - (b) Guidance on drafting characteristics
 - (i) Types of expression (QL, QN, PQ), notes and distinctness
 - (ii) Method of observation (V/M; G/S)
 - (iii) Asterisked, grouping and TQ characteristics
 - (iv) Example varieties
 - (c) The process for developing UPOV Test Guidelines

[For the TWC, item 3 was replaced by an item on Exchangeable Software]

4. UPOV databases (UPOV-ROM Plant Variety Database; GENIE database)
 5. The UPOV website
 6. Role of UPOV Technical Working Parties (TWPs)
 7. Agenda for the TWP Session
 8. Feedback from participants
5. The preparatory Workshop for the BMT covered the following items:
1. Introduction to UPOV
 2. Overview of the Technical Working Parties (TWPs)
 3. Guidance for DUS Examination
 4. Role of the TWPs and BMT
 5. Situation in UPOV Concerning the Possible Use of Molecular Techniques in the DUS Examination
 6. The Concept of Essentially Derived Varieties
 7. The Role of UPOV in Variety Identification
 8. The UPOV Website
 9. Agenda for the BMT Session
6. The preparatory workshops took the form of a half-day event.
7. The table below summarizes the participation in the preparatory workshops from 2003 to 2010. The participants include experts who made presentations at the preparatory workshop.

	Participation							
	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2010</u>
<i>Members of the Union</i>								
number of participants / (number of members of the Union)	55 (23)	69 (20)	130 (25)	136 (19)	167 (22)	162 (31)	95 (21)	117 (25)
<i>Observer States / Authorities</i>								
number of participants / (number of States / Authorities)	10 (9)	2 (1)	3 (3)	-	3 (1)	3 (2)	-	-
<i>Observer Organizations</i>								
number of participants / (number of Organizations)	3	2	5 (3)	2 (2)	4 (2)	25 (2)	3 (2*)	10 (2*)

* International Community of Breeders of Asexually Reproduced Ornamental and Fruit-Tree Varieties (CIOPORA);
International Seed Federation (ISF)

8. With regard to the individual preparatory workshops held in 2010, the numbers of participants were as follows:

TWA (Croatia)	15
TWC (France):	14
TWF (Mexico):	11
TWO (Mexico):	22
TWV (Bulgaria):	21
BMT (Canada):	44

Program for the Preparatory Workshops in 2011

9. It is proposed that preparatory workshops will be held in association with all TWP and BMT sessions in 2011, based on the same programs as set out in paragraphs 4 and 5.

10. The TC is invited to note the report of the preparatory workshops held in 2010 and to consider the proposed program for 2011.

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