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INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR THE PROTECTION OF NEW VARIETIES OF PLANTS

Geneva

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Fiftieth Session
Geneva, April 7 to 9, 2014

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE TECHNICAL WORKING PARTIES

Document prepared by the Office of the Union

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1. This document summarizes matters arising from the 2013 sessions of the Technical Working Parties (TWPs) which are not expressly covered by specific agenda items. The matters arising are presented in two sections. The first section, "Matters for information and for a possible decision to be taken by the Technical Committee (TC)", identifies matters raised by the TWPs, which may require a decision to be taken by the TC. The Office of the Union (Office) has highlighted aspects where the TC may wish to take a decision by introducing a proposed decision paragraph. The second section, "Matters for information", is provided for the information of the TC but does not require decisions at this stage.

2. The structure of this document is as follows:

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3. The following abbreviations are used in this document:

CAJ:	Administrative and Legal Committee
TC:	Technical Committee
TC-EDC:	Enlarged Editorial 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
TWPs:	Technical Working Parties
TWV:	Technical Working Party for Vegetables

MATTERS FOR INFORMATION AND FOR A POSSIBLE DECISION TO BE TAKEN BY THE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE (TC)

Guidance for drafters of Test Guidelines

4. At their sessions in 2013, the TWPs noted the information provided in the TG Drafters' webpage of the UPOV website, including the Revised Practical Guide for Drafters (Leading Experts) of UPOV Test Guidelines, and the file "Summary information on quantity of plant material required on adopted Test Guidelines" available on the TG Drafters' webpage of the UPOV website (see document TWO/46/29 "Report", paragraphs 86 and 89, document TWF/44/31 "Report", paragraphs 84 and 87, document TWV/47/34 "Report", paragraphs 98 and 102, document TWC/31/32 "Report", paragraphs 98 and 100 and document TWA/42/31 "Report", paragraphs 94 and 98).

5. The TWO noted the difficulties experienced in using the TG Template available on UPOV website and proposed to include a demonstration of its use during the Preparatory Workshop. The TWO requested to have a short document with the standard wording applicable for the types of Test Guidelines discussed in each TWP (see document TWO/46/29 "Report", paragraph 87).

6. The TWF proposed to include a template for a grid for shape and ratio in the future web-based TG Template that leading experts might use when drafting Test Guidelines (see document TWF/44/31 "Report", paragraph 86).

7. The TWV and the TWA agreed with the proposal of the TWO at its forty-sixth session and the TWF at its forty-fourth session, to receive a demonstration during the Preparatory Workshop on how to use the TG Template available on UPOV website, and to include a template for a grid for shape and ratio in the future web-based TG Template that leading experts might use when drafting Test Guidelines (see document TWV/47/34 "Report", paragraph 101 and document TWA/42/31 "Report", paragraph 97).

8. The TWV and the TWA requested the Office of the Union to investigate the possibility of using a different way of sharing draft Test Guidelines between interested experts (e.g. SharePoint or restricted area on the TG Drafters' webpage of the UPOV website), as the size of the documents could be an issue when using regular email addresses (see document TWV/47/34 "Report", paragraph 100 and document TWA/42/31 "Report", paragraph 96).

9. Document TC/50/10 "Report on developments in UPOV including relevant matters discussed in the last sessions of the Administrative and Legal Committee, the Consultative Committee and the Council" will present developments on the new web-based TG Template.

10. With regard to the proposal to organize training in the use of the new web-based TG Template during the Preparatory Workshops, it is recalled that the purpose of the Preparatory Workshops is to help some of the delegates to participate more actively at the meeting and, furthermore, it is anticipated that training on the drafting of Test Guidelines would be most effective if it took place shortly before Leading Experts would start works on drafting Test Guidelines. Therefore, it is proposed to organize a series of electronic workshops (e-workshops) to demonstrate the use of the new web-based TG template. The e-workshops would be organized to coincide with the start of drafting work by Leading Experts.

11. The Office of the Union will prepare a template for a grid for shape and ratio characteristics to be used by drafters of Test Guidelines.

12. *The TC is invited to:*

(a) *note that developments concerning the new web based TG Template will be reported in document TC/50/10 "Report on developments in UPOV including relevant matters discussed in the last sessions of the Administrative and Legal Committee, the Consultative Committee and the Council";*

(b) *agree to the organization of e-workshops to demonstrate the use of the new web-based TG template; and*

(c) note that the Office of the Union will prepare a template for a grid for shape and ratio characteristics to be used by drafters of Test Guidelines.

Data loggers

13. The TWC, at its thirty-first session, noted the information provided on the updated survey on hand-held data capture devices in the Annex to document TWC/31/28 Rev. and agreed that a new circular should be issued by the Office of the Union inviting further entries in advance of the thirty-second session of the TWC (see document TWC/31/32 "Report", paragraphs 76 and 77).

14. *The TC is invited to request the Office of the Union to issue a new circular concerning hand held data capture devices, inviting further entries in advance of the thirty-second session of the TWC.*

MATTERS FOR INFORMATION

Subject for discussion

15. The TWF, at its forty-fourth session, proposed that a suitable agenda item be added to the program of its forty-fifth session, under which the following items would be discussed (see document TWF/44/31 "Report", paragraph 107):

- (a) Management of reference collections for DUS examination (document to be prepared by France and the European Union)
- (b) Duration of DUS tests in the fruit sector (document to be prepared by the European Union)
- (c) Harmonized example varieties for Apple: historical data and possible new developments (document to be prepared by Germany, New Zealand and the Office of the Union)

16. The TWV, at its forty-seventh session, proposed that suitable agenda items be added to the program at its forty-eighth session, under which the following items would be presented and discussed (see document TWV/47/34 "Report", paragraph 122):

- (a) molecular techniques in DUS examination (document to be prepared by the Netherlands and presentations invited from members of the Union)
- (b) use of statistical approaches in DUS examination (document to be prepared by the Netherlands and presentations invited from members of the Union)
- (c) use of disease resistance characteristics in DUS examination (document to be prepared by the European Union and presentations invited from members of the Union)
- (d) Management of reference collections (document to be prepared by France and presentations invited from members of the Union)
- (e) New issues arising for DUS examination (presentations invited from members of the Union)

17. *The TC is invited to note the addition of subjects for discussion during the TWF and the TWV at their session in 2014, as set out in paragraphs 15 and 16.*

Experiences with new types and species

18. The TWO, at its forty-sixth session received a presentation by an expert from Australia on a new inter-generic hybrid variety between *Disphyma crassifolium* ssp. *clavellatum* and *Glottiphyllum longum*. A copy of the presentation was included in document TWO/46/28 "Reports on Developments in Plant Variety Protection from Members and Observers" (see document TWO/46/29 "Report", paragraph 103).

19. The TWA, at its forty-second session, received a presentation by an expert from Ukraine on experiences with new types and species, including *Sorghum oryzoidum*, which is an intergeneric hybrid between *Sorghum bicolor* and *Oryza sativa*. The presentation was included as an annex to document TWA/42/28 "Reports on Developments in Plant Variety Protection from Members and Observers" (see document TWA/42/31 "Report", paragraph 73).

20. *The TC is invited to note the information on experiences with new types and species presented to the TWO and the TWA at their sessions in 2013, as set out in paragraphs 18 and 19.*

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