

**Technical Committee**

**TC/54/13**

**Fifty-Fourth Session  
Geneva, October 29 and 30, 2018**

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**PREPARATORY WORKSHOPS**

*Document prepared by the Office of the Union*

*Disclaimer: this document does not represent UPOV policies or guidance*

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

1. The purpose of this document is to provide a report on the preparatory workshops held in 2017 and in 2018 and to present proposals for 2019.
2. The TC is invited to:
  - (a) note the report of the preparatory workshops held in 2017 and in 2018; and
  - (b) consider the proposed program for preparatory workshops in 2019, as set out in paragraphs 17 and 18 of this document.
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
  - TWPs: Technical Working Parties

**BACKGROUND**

4. 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 fifty-third session, held in Geneva, from April 3 to 5, 2017, the TC noted the report of the preparatory workshops held in 2016. It approved the proposed program for 2017, as set out in document TC/53/13 (see document TC/53/31 “Report”, paragraphs 227 to 231).
5. The structure of this document is as follows:

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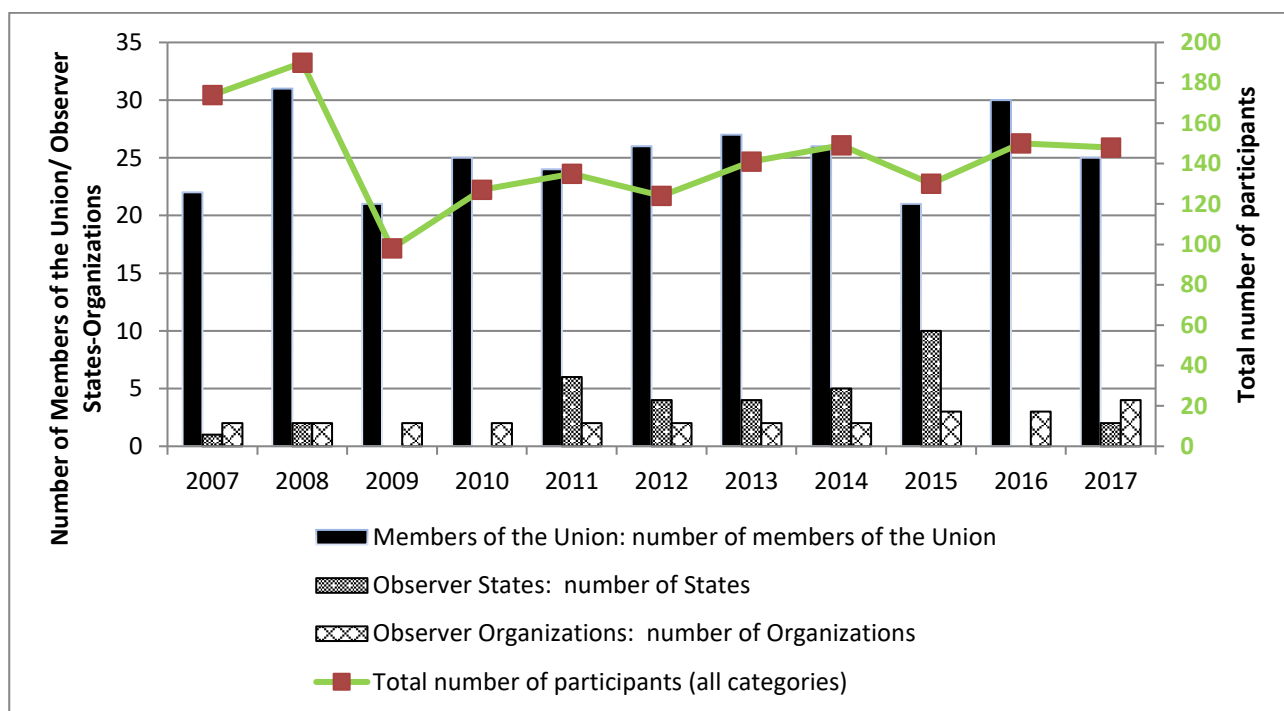
## REPORT ON THE PREPARATORY WORKSHOPS AND ASSOCIATED ACTIVITIES HELD IN 2017

6. In 2017, the preparatory workshops were held on the day preceding the first day of the TWP session and were organized in a similar way for the TWA, TWF, TWO, TWV, covering the following items:
  1. Introduction to UPOV and the role of UPOV Technical Working Parties (TWPs)
  2. Overview of the General Introduction (document TG/1/3 and TGP documents)
    - Characteristics as the Basis for DUS Examination and Selection of Characteristics.
  3. Guidance on drafting Test Guidelines (document TGP/7)
    - (a) Subject of the Test Guidelines, Material Required and Method of Examination;
    - (b) Method of Observation (MS, MG, VS, VG);
    - (c) Types of Expression (QL, PQ, QN), notes and distinctness;
    - (d) Shape and Color Characteristics;
    - (e) Example Varieties;
    - (f) The process for developing UPOV Test Guidelines, including: TG Template; Additional Standard Wording; and Guidance Notes;
  4. Agenda for the TWP Session
  5. Feedback from participants
7. The preparatory workshop for the TWC covered the following items:
  1. Introduction to UPOV and the role of UPOV Technical Working Parties (TWPs)
  2. Overview of the General Introduction (document TG/1/3 and TGP documents)
  3. Overview of DUS examination and Test Guidelines
    - (a) Method of observation and type of record (MS, MG, VS, VG)
    - (b) Types of expression of characteristics (QL, PQ and QN) and types of scales of data
  4. The UPOV online resources
    - (a) Databases (UPOV Code, GENIE, PLUTO and UPOV Lex)
    - (b) Other resources (UPOV Electronic Application Form project, Test Guidelines Template)
  5. Agenda for the TWC session
  6. Feedback from participants
8. 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
9. The preparatory workshops took the form of a half-day event.

10. The table below summarizes the participation in the preparatory workshops from 2007 to 2017. The participants include experts who made presentations at the preparatory workshop.

Participation in the preparatory workshops prior to 2007 is available in document TC/53/13.

	Participation										
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
<i>Members of the Union</i> number of participants / (number of members of the Union)	167 (22)	162 (31)	95 (21)	117 (25)	115 (24)	114 (26)	125 (27)	132 (26)	103 (21)	145 (30)	136 (25)
<i>Observer States</i> number of participants / (number of States)	3 (1)	3 (2)	-	-	15 (6)	8 (4)	12 (4)	15 (5)	24 (10)	-	4 (2)
<i>Observer Organizations</i> number of participants / (number of Organizations)	4 (2)	25 (2)	3 (2)	10 (2)	5 (2)	2 (2)	4 (2)	2 (2)	3 (3)	5 (3)	8 (4)



Graph 1: participation in the preparatory workshops from 2007 to 2017- total number of participants and Members of the Union compared to Observer States and Observer Organizations

11. With regard to the individual preparatory workshops held in 2017, the numbers of participants were as follows (including local participants):

TWA	(Germany):	22
TWC	(Argentina):	23
TWF	(Canada):	21
TWO	(Canada):	27
TWV	(Netherlands):	19
BMT	(France):	36

## REPORT ON THE PREPARATORY WORKSHOPS IN 2018

12. At the fifty-third session of the TC, it was agreed that the preparatory workshops in 2018 should be organized on the Monday/ Tuesday of the TWP session to encourage participation by all TWP participants (see document TC/53/31 "Report", paragraph 230).

13. The preparatory workshop of the TWA took place on the morning of Monday, May 21, 2018, with the following program:

1. Introduction to UPOV and the role of UPOV Technical Working Parties (TWPs)
2. Overview of the General Introduction (document TG/1/3 and TGP documents)
  - Characteristics as the Basis for DUS Examination and Selection of Characteristics.
3. Guidance on drafting Test Guidelines (document TGP/7)
  - (a) Subject of the Test Guidelines, Material Required and Method of Examination;
  - (b) Method of Observation (MS, MG, VS, VG);
  - (c) Types of Expression (QL, PQ, QN), notes and distinctness;
  - (d) Shape and Color Characteristics;
  - (e) Example Varieties;
  - (f) The process for developing UPOV Test Guidelines, including: Web-based TG Template; Additional Standard Wording; and Guidance Notes;
4. Agenda for the TWP Session
5. Feedback from participants

14. The preparatory workshop for the TWV and TWF will be organized on Monday September 17, 2018 and Monday November 19, 2018, respectively with the same program as the TWA. The TWA will not hold a session in 2018.

15. The preparatory workshop of the TWC took place on the Monday morning of July 2, 2018, with the following program:

1. Introduction to UPOV and the role of UPOV Technical Working Parties (TWPs);
2. Overview of the General Introduction (document TG/1/3 and TGP documents)
3. Overview of DUS trials and Test Guidelines;
  - (a) Method of Observation and type of record (MS, MG, VS, VG);
  - (b) Types of Expression of Characteristics (QL, PQ and QN) and Types of Scales of Data;
4. UPOV online resources
  - (a) Databases (UPOV Code, GENIE, PLUTO and UPOV Lex)
  - (b) Other resources (UPOV Electronic Application Form project, Web-based Test Guidelines Template)
5. Agenda for the TWC Session
6. Feedback from participants

16. The following elements of the preparatory Workshop will be presented in conjunction with the relevant agenda items of the 2018 session of the BMT:

1. Introduction to UPOV
2. Overview of the Technical Working Parties (TWPs)
3. Guidance on DUS Examination
4. Role of the TWPs and BMT
5. The UPOV Website
6. Agenda for the BMT Session

7. The Concept of Essentially Derived Varieties
8. The Role of UPOV in Variety Identification
9. UPOV PRISMA PBR Application Tool

#### PROGRAM FOR THE PREPARATORY WORKSHOPS IN 2019

17. It is proposed to hold half-day preparatory workshops in association with the sessions of TWA, TWF, TWO and TWV in 2019, according to the following program:

1. Introduction to UPOV and the role of UPOV Technical Working Parties (TWPs)
2. Overview of the General Introduction (document TG/1/3 and TGP documents)
  - Characteristics as the Basis for DUS Examination and Selection of Characteristics.
3. Guidance on drafting Test Guidelines (document TGP/7)
  - (g) Subject of the Test Guidelines, Material Required and Method of Examination;
  - (h) Method of Observation (MS, MG, VS, VG);
  - (i) Types of Expression (QL, PQ, QN), notes and distinctness;
  - (j) Shape and Color Characteristics;
  - (k) Example Varieties;
  - (l) The process for developing UPOV Test Guidelines, including: Web-based TG Template; Additional Standard Wording; and Guidance Notes;
4. Agenda for the TWP Session
5. Feedback from participants

18. It is proposed to hold a half-day joint TWC/BMT preparatory workshop in association with the 2019 sessions of the TWC and BMT, according to the following program:

1. Introduction to UPOV and the role of the TWPs and BMT;
2. Overview of the General Introduction (document TG/1/3 and TGP documents)
3. Overview of DUS trials and Test Guidelines;
4. UPOV online resources
  - (a) UPOV member laws: UPOV Lex, GENIE database
  - (b) PBR Applications: UPOV PRISMA PBR Application Tool
  - (c) DUS Examination: GENIE database, Web-based Test Guidelines Template, UPOV Code
  - (d) Variety denomination/novelty: PLUTO database
5. Situation in UPOV Concerning the Possible Use of Molecular Techniques in DUS Examination
6. The Concept of Essentially Derived Varieties
7. The Role of UPOV in Variety Identification
8. Agenda for the TWC and BMT

19. *The TC is invited to:*

*(a) note the report of the preparatory workshops held in 2017 and in 2018; and*

*(b) consider the proposed program for preparatory workshops for 2019, as set out in paragraphs 17 and 18 of this document.*