

Technical Committee

TC/58/14

**Fifty-Eighth Session
Geneva, October 24 and 25, 2022**

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PREPARATORY WORKSHOPS

Document prepared by the Office of the Union

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. The purpose of this document is to provide a report on preparatory workshops in 2022 and present proposals for 2023.
2. The TC is invited to consider whether to organize preparatory workshops as a series of webinars, to be organized at suitable dates according to the schedule of TWP sessions in 2023, in conjunction with workshops with physical participation, where requested, as set out in paragraphs 15 to 18 of this document.
3. The following abbreviations are used in this document:

- TC: Technical Committee
- TWA: Technical Working Party for Agricultural Crops
- TWF: Technical Working Party for Fruit Crops
- TWM: Technical Working Party on Testing Methods and Techniques
- TWO: Technical Working Party for Ornamental Plants and Forest Trees
- TWPs: Technical Working Parties
- TWV: Technical Working Party for Vegetables

4. The structure of this document is as follows:

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BACKGROUND

5. The TC, at its thirty-eighth session¹, 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 (see document TC/38/16 “Report”, paragraphs 215 to 218).
6. The TC, at its fifty-fifth session², recalled that preparatory workshops were an opportunity for training local participants and agreed that TWP hosts should have the possibility to decide whether or not to organize a preparatory workshop prior to the TWP session (see document TC/55/25 “Report”, paragraphs 226 and 227).

¹ held in Geneva from April 15 to 17, 2002
² held in Geneva on October 28 and 29, 2019

7. The TC, at its fifty-fifth session, agreed that TWPs should be invited to discuss the possible organization of preparatory workshops when considering the date and place of their future sessions.
8. The TC, at its fifty-sixth session³, noted that the webinar presentations would be recorded and made available online, but not the discussions. The TC noted that the Office of the Union would provide content for the webinars and invite experts from members to act as panelists for discussions and to provide practical examples (see document TC/56/23 “Report”, paragraphs 71 and 75).
9. The TC, at its fifty-sixth session, noted that detailed arrangements concerning the webinars would be finalized by the Office of the Union in coordination with the chairpersons of the TC and TWPs.
10. The TC, at its fifty-sixth session, noted that, subject to a request by the hosts of the TWPs, workshops with physical participation could be organized in conjunction with the TWP sessions. In such cases, the content would be adapted to the particular context.

REPORT ON PREPARATORY WORKSHOPS IN 2022

11. A total of six preparatory webinars were conducted, on the morning and afternoon of April 12, 13 and 14, 2022.
12. The content of the webinars was as follows:
- Webinar 1: How to organize DUS examination with information provided by the applicant
 - Webinar 2: Disease resistance and physiological characteristics in DUS examination
 - Webinar 3: Data processing techniques in DUS examination
13. The following number of participants attended the webinars:

Combined numbers for both sessions (am/pm)	How to organize DUS examination with information provided by the applicant	Disease resistance and physiological characteristics in DUS examination	Data processing techniques in DUS examination
Total number of participants	233	211	210
Participants from UPOV Members	199	179	178
Participants from observer States	27	24	27
Participants from observer organizations	7	0	7
Participants that had not attended a TWP	90	72	73

14. Video recordings of the webinars, excluding the discussion sessions, were made available on the UPOV webpage for the TC and each TWP session in 2022 (https://www.upov.int/meetings/en/webinar_videos.html) and on the UPOV Youtube channel (<https://www.youtube.com/user/upov>). The UPOV Youtube channel provides the possibility to watch the videos with “closed caption” transcription and can generate subtitles automatically in different languages.

15. The following number of views were registered October 5, 2022:

UPOV TWP webpages:

Pageviews	Unique pageviews
274	238

³ held in Geneva on October 26 and 27, 2020

UPOV YouTube channel:

Webinar	Total views	Closed Caption/ Subtitles
TWP Webinar 1	74	9 (EN)
TWP Webinar 2	76	14 (EN)
TWP Webinar 3	103	6 (EN)

PROGRAM AND FORMAT FOR PREPARATORY WORK IN 2023

Proposal:

16. It is proposed that the preparatory workshops in 2023 are organized as webinars at suitable dates according to the schedule of TWP sessions. The webinar presentations and panel discussions would be recorded and made available online. The session on questions and answers would not be recorded and/or made available online.

17. Experts from members would be invited to make presentations on selected contents and participate as panelists for discussions.

18. The detailed arrangements concerning the webinars would be finalized by the Office of the Union in coordination with the chairpersons of the TC and TWPs.

19. If requested by the hosts of the TWPs, workshops with physical participation could be organized in conjunction with the TWP sessions. In such cases, the content would be adapted to the particular context.

20. The TC is invited to consider whether to organize preparatory workshops as a series of webinars, to be organized at suitable dates according to the schedule of TWP sessions in 2022, in conjunction with workshops with physical participation, where requested, as set out in paragraphs 15 to 18 of this document.

[Annex follows]

ANNEX

PROGRAM OF THE PREPARATORY WEBINARS IN 2022

Each webinar was delivered twice (8 a.m. and 3 p.m. Geneva time).

TUESDAY, APRIL 12, 2022: WEBINAR 1: HOW TO ORGANIZE DUS EXAMINATION WITH INFORMATION PROVIDED BY THE APPLICANT	Presenters / Panelists
<i>Introductory presentations</i>	
What are Technical Questionnaires in application forms: - characteristics used for grouping of varieties - breeding scheme and other useful information to distinguish varieties	Leontino Taveira
Selecting similar varieties to organize DUS examination: - constitution and maintenance of variety collections - using molecular information to support organization of trials	Manabu Suzuki
<i>Panel discussion</i>	Anthony Parker (Canada) Cecile Marchenay (Netherlands) Chris Barnaby (New Zealand) Leobigildo Cordova (Mexico) Liz Scott (United Kingdom), Malerotho Lekoane and Hennie Venter (South Africa)
<i>Question and answer session</i>	
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 13, 2022: WEBINAR 2: DISEASE RESISTANCE AND PHYSIOLOGICAL CHARACTERISTICS IN DUS EXAMINATION	Presenters / Panelists
<i>Introductory presentations</i>	
a) Basic requirements for characteristics in DUS examination	Nik Hulse
b) UPOV guidance on physiological characteristics in DUS examination	Leontino Taveira
<i>Panel discussion</i>	Chystelle Jouy (France), Gosia Blokker (Netherlands), Stefânia Palma (Brazil), Yoshiyuki Ohno (Japan)
<i>Question and answer session</i>	
THURSDAY, APRIL 14, 2022: WEBINAR 3: DATA PROCESSING TECHNIQUES IN DUS EXAMINATION	Presenters / Panelists
<i>Introductory presentations</i>	
a) Introduction to document TGP/8	Manabu Suzuki
b) Combined-over-years criterion	Sally Watson (GB)
c) GAIA methodology	Christelle Lavaud (FR)
d) Integrating statistical methods and techniques into software	Thomas Drobeck (DE)
<i>Panel discussion</i>	Samuel Ogola (Kenya); Yoshiyuki Ohno (Japan)
<i>Question and answer session</i>	

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