

Technical Committee

TC/59/5

**Fifty-Ninth Session
Geneva, October 23 and 24, 2023**

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INCREASING PARTICIPATION OF NEW MEMBERS OF THE UNION IN WORK OF THE TC AND RESTRUCTURING THE WORK OF THE TWPS

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 present recommendations from the Working Group on DUS Support (WG-DUS) on the proposals presented in TC/58/18 “Survey on the needs of members and observers in relation to TWPs” and consider possible measures to improve support provided for DUS examination.

2. The TC is invited to:

(a) consider the draft recommendations on the proposals presented in TC/58/18, as set out in paragraphs 11 to 54 of this document;

(b) Subject to agreement by the TC on the individual recommendations in this document, the TC is invited to consider the possible implementing measures, as set out in paragraphs 56 and 57 of this document; and

(c) note the satisfaction survey conducted with participants at the hybrid meetings of the TWV and TWF in 2023, as presented in Annex III to this document.

3. The structure of this document is as follows:

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY.....	1
OPTIONS TO IMPROVE SUPPORT PROVIDED FOR DUS EXAMINATION	2
Background	2
Working Group on DUS Support (WG-DUS)	2
RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE PROPOSALS IN DOCUMENT TC/58/18 “SURVEY ON THE NEEDS OF MEMBERS AND OBSERVERS IN RELATION TO TWPS”	2
Element 1: Technical Working Parties.....	3
Element 2: UPOV Test Guidelines	4
<i>Commissioning the drafting and revision of Test Guidelines</i>	5
<i>Procedure for the development of Test Guidelines</i>	5
<i>Role of the Office of the Union</i>	5
Element 3: UPOV members test guidelines.....	5
Element 4: TGP documents.....	6
Element 5: Training	6
Element 6: DUS report exchange platform (UPOV e-PVP)	6
PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	7
POSSIBLE IMPLEMENTING MEASURES	7
TWV AND TWF 2023 HYBRID MEETINGS PARTICIPANTS’ SATISFACTION SURVEY	8
Annex I Measures agreed by the TC for physical and virtual participation at TWP meetings	
Annex II Terms of reference of the Working Group on DUS Support (WG-DUS)	
Annex III TWV and TWF hybrid meetings in 2023: participants’ satisfaction survey	

4. 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
WG-DUS:	Working Group on DUS Support

OPTIONS TO IMPROVE SUPPORT PROVIDED FOR DUS EXAMINATION

Background

5. The TC, at its fifty-seventh session¹, agreed a series of measures for physical and virtual participation at TWP meetings, as reproduced in Annex I to this document. The TC agreed to request the Office of the Union to conduct a survey on the needs of members and observers in relation to TWPs and report to the TC at its fifty-eighth session (see document TC/57/25 “Report”, paragraphs 61 to 66).

6. The TC, at its fifty-eight session², considered document TC/58/18 “Survey on the needs of members and observers in relation to TWPs” and agreed to establish the Working Group on DUS Support (WG-DUS) (see document TC/57/25 “Report”, paragraphs 64). The terms of reference of the WG-DUS are reproduced in Annex II to this document.

Working Group on DUS Support (WG-DUS)

7. The Working Group on DUS Support (WG-DUS) met on the following dates:

- WG-DUS/1, on November 15, 2022;
- WG-DUS/2, on February 8, 2023;
- WG-DUS/3, on March 20, 2023; and
- WG-DUS/4, on September 5, 2023

8. The reports of the meetings are available at:
https://www.upov.int/meetings/en/topic.jsp?group_id=361

9. The draft recommendations agreed by the WG-DUS, at its third meeting, were presented to the TWV³, TWA⁴, TWO⁵ and TWF⁶, at their sessions in 2023. The comments provided by the TWPs were considered by the WG-DUS, at its fourth meeting (see document WG-DUS/4/2 “Recommendations on the proposals presented in document TC/58/18 ‘Survey on the needs of members and observers in relation to TWPs’”).

10. The WG-DUS, at its fourth meeting, agreed to present the draft recommendations on the proposals in TC/58/18 as presented in the following section of this document (see document WG-DUS/4/3 “Report”).

RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE PROPOSALS IN DOCUMENT TC/58/18 “SURVEY ON THE NEEDS OF MEMBERS AND OBSERVERS IN RELATION TO TWPs”

11. The following sections of this document propose recommendations based on the conclusions of the WG-DUS in relation to the proposals in document “Survey on the needs of members and observers in relation to TWPs” (see document WG-DUS/4/3 “Report”, Annex III).

¹ Held via electronic means, on October 25 and 26, 2021

² Held in Geneva, on October 24 and 25, 2022

³ At its fifty-seventh session, held in Antalya, Türkiye, from May 1 to 5, 2023

⁴ At its fifty-second session, held via electronic means, from May 22 to 26, 2023

⁵ At its fifty-fifth session, held via electronic means, from June 12 to 16, 2023

⁶ At its fifty-fourth session, held in Nîmes, France, from July 3 to 7, 2023

12. The following recommendations for improving support for DUS examination are provided on the basis of the current arrangements for TWPs (one year of physical meeting in hybrid format alternating with a fully virtual meeting the following year)⁷. The recommendations are also provided considering the current tasks of the Office of the Union supporting the organization of TWP meetings and discussion on Test Guidelines (TGs).

13. Each recommendation has been numbered to facilitate identification (e.g. "...**recommended** [1]...").

Element 1: Technical Working Parties

14. It is **recommended** [1] that the UPOV Technical Working Parties should aim to deliver the following:

- (a) Harmonized procedures;
- (b) Information on developments;
- (c) Interaction between experts and integration of new experts in UPOV's work;
- (d) Practical guidance on DUS examination procedures, including use of Test Guidelines

15. The following issues to improve the technical support provided by UPOV also correlate to objectives in the WG-DUS Terms of Reference:

- (1) avoid unnecessary repetition of content across meetings;
- (2) increasing interaction among TWM experts and those at TWPs and TC, including DUS examiners;
- (3) time for members' presentations on DUS procedures;
- (4) visits to field trials with sufficient time for engagement (e.g. ring-tests);
- (5) providing opportunities for experts to meet and exchange views;
- (6) facilitating training;
- (7) to ensure that the work of the TWPs on Test Guidelines (TGs) is most effective;
- (8) TGs discussions as hybrid meetings during TWPs or as online meetings to increase the involvement of crop experts and members;
- (9) facilitate drafting national test guidelines through access to other members' test guidelines and experts who can assist drafting;
- (10) other cross-cutting matters historically considered by Technical Working Parties (TWP) (e.g. TGP documents, UPOV Codes etc.).

16. It is **recommended** [2] not to proceed with the proposal for replacing Technical Working Party meetings by a single Annual Technical Conference.

17. It is **recommended** [3] to take the following measures to address the issues raised in document TC/58/18 and the current arrangement of the technical work supporting DUS examination in UPOV:

(a) Periodicity and duration of TWP meetings

18. It is **recommended** [4] to organize hybrid TWP meetings each year. The duration of the meetings should be four days. If no UPOV member offers to organize a hybrid meeting for a TWP in a given year, that meeting would be held electronically.

(b) Discussions on DUS Procedures

19. It is **recommended** [5] that more time during TWP meetings should be dedicated to discussions on DUS procedures, including technical visits, calibration exercises and related discussions.

20. It is **recommended** [6] that the guidance provided to hosts should be for one full day of technical visits to demonstrate the model and arrangements for DUS examination used by the UPOV member hosting the TWP meeting.

⁷ "The TC, at its fifty-seventh session, agreed that the TWP sessions would be scheduled one year as a virtual meeting and the following year as a physical meeting (e.g. 2023: virtual; 2024: physical) (see document TC/57/25 "Report", paragraph 64 (c))

21. It is **recommended** [7] that the following elements be considered for inclusion in discussions on DUS procedures, according to the crops, facilities and procedures in the member of the Union hosting the TWP:

- Visit to trials to see trial layout
- Plots created to demonstrate particular characteristics or issues
- Calibration exercises
- Ring-tests
- Management of variety collections (physical material, databases, selection of varieties or other)
- Method for analyzing distinctness and uniformity
- Using molecular marker techniques in variety examination
- Demonstration of trial design and data analysis methodologies
- Data recording methods and technology

22. It is **recommended** [8] that any member of the Union should be eligible to host a TWP meeting. In particular, it is **recommended** [9] that there should be sufficient flexibility for hosts to organize technical visits according to local conditions.

23. It is **recommended** [10] that hosts enable virtual participation at technical visits whenever possible. It is **recommended** [11] that, where virtual participation is not possible, the host record particular aspects of the visits and presentations about the DUS examination procedures discussed during the technical visits, to be made available on the UPOV website.

(c) Matters for information

24. It is **recommended** [12] that matters for information be made available online on the UPOV website as documents or pre-recorded videos rather than being presented during the session.

(d) Presence of the Office of the Union

25. It is **recommended** [13] that the Office of the Union be physically present at hybrid TWP meetings. It is **recommended** [14] to acknowledge that the staff of the Office of the Union would not be involved in organizing the technical visits and their presence on-site for the visits would be agreed with the chair and the host of the TWP.

(e) Technical Working Party on Testing Methods and Techniques

26. It is **recommended** [15] to retain the TWM with its current terms of reference while providing the same meeting arrangement possibilities as the other TWPs. While acknowledging that the increased time for technical visits will increase the awareness of developments in testing methods and techniques, it is **recommended** [16] to explore additional means of increasing awareness of developments in testing methods and techniques, such as through seminars and exhibitions (see "(f) Technical Committee").

(f) Technical Committee

27. It is **recommended** [17] that hybrid seminars on testing methods and techniques and other developments in DUS examination are organized along with meetings of the Technical Committee as a means to increase awareness of developments.

28. It is **recommended** [18] that exhibitions of research with poster sessions be considered along with the seminars held in conjunction with the Technical Committee meetings as a means of increasing awareness of developments. Information from the poster sessions should also be made available to experts not physically present at the TC sessions.

Element 2: UPOV Test Guidelines

29. It is **recommended** [19] that discussions on Test Guidelines should continue as an important element of TWP meetings as a means of harmonizing DUS procedures and as a means of providing opportunities for interaction and sharing experiences between experts.

Commissioning the drafting and revision of Test Guidelines

30. It is recalled that the procedures to prioritize work and nominate leading experts in charge of revising and drafting new TGs is set out in document TGP/7 “Development of Test Guidelines” and continues to be appropriate. It is **recommended** [20] that these procedures continue to be applied to ensure that the work of the TWPs on TGs is most effective (see document TGP/7, Section 2.2 “Procedure for the introduction of Test Guidelines”).

Procedure for the development of Test Guidelines

Web-based TG Template

31. It is **recommended** [21] to provide more flexibility for the leading expert to decide on the use of the web-based TG Template in the process of drafting TGs, while requiring that the draft for adoption by the TC would need to be prepared in the web-based TG template format, and to amend document TGP/7 as appropriate.

Subgroup meetings

32. Document TGP/7, section 2.2.4.5 “Subgroup meetings” provides that:

“The relevant TWP may enhance the consultation of interested experts for certain TGs by the arrangement of TG Subgroup meetings. These Subgroup meetings may be held in conjunction with other UPOV meetings or may be organized as a separate meeting, with or without the Office being present. [...]”

33. TWP meetings provide limited amount of time for Test Guidelines discussions. While TG Subgroup meetings can continue to be arranged during TWP meetings, it is **recommended** [22] that subgroup discussions should also be encouraged outside TWP meetings (e.g. online meetings, email) to increase the involvement of crop experts, broader participation of UPOV members and reducing the time required to complete Test Guidelines. It is **recommended** [23] that leading experts have flexibility to agree the frequency and duration of TG subgroup meetings, while reporting discussions back at the respective TWP.

Role of the Office of the Union

34. It is **recommended** [24] that the Office of the Union provide administrative support of TG subgroup meetings as follows:

- For meetings arranged during TWP meetings, the involvement of the Office of the Union would be agreed between the leading expert and the Office of the Union (e.g. facilitating discussions and/or reporting decisions).
- For meetings arranged outside TWP meetings, administrative support would not be provided (leading experts to facilitate discussions and record decisions). Participation by the Office of the Union would be agreed between the leading expert and the Office of the Union.

Element 3: UPOV members test guidelines

35. It is **recommended** [25] to consider expanding the web-based TG template or another UPOV tool to enable drafting of individual authorities’ test guidelines.

36. It is **recommended** [26] to direct members seeking assistance to develop their national test guidelines to the list of contact persons for international cooperation in DUS examination. It is **recommended** [27] to expand the list to include information on members willing to provide mentoring to others on drafting national test guidelines (see: https://www.upov.int/databases/en/contact_cooperation.html).

37. It is **recommended** [28] that options for enabling UPOV members to make their national test guidelines available to other UPOV members would be investigated, including through the web-based TG Template or other options. The number of accesses to individual authorities’ test guidelines information could be monitored as an indicator for possible development of new UPOV Test Guidelines.

38. It is **recommended** [29] that the Office of the Union review the requesting of information on practical knowledge and cooperation in DUS examination. Information on practical experience can be derived by searching the PLUTO database for members receiving recent applications. It is **recommended** [30] that guidance be developed to instruct users to use the PLUTO database to obtain that information.

Element 4: TGP documents

39. It is **recommended** [31] that matters that would require amending or developing guidance in TGP documents would be dealt with by subgroups established by the Technical Committee (TC). These subgroups would meet online and/or as hybrid meetings along with other UPOV meetings and would report to the TC any proposals.

40. It is **recommended** [32] that the TGP subgroups established by the TC would have a leading expert that would chair the discussions. The leading expert would be in charge of presenting the findings of the subgroup and any proposals to the TC and TWPs.

41. It is **recommended** [33] that the TWPs are kept informed about subgroups established by the TC for amending or developing guidance in TGP documents and are provided opportunities to participate in discussions.

42. It is **recommended** [34] that the Office of the Union provides administrative support for TGP subgroup meetings as follows:

- For meetings arranged during the TWPs, the involvement of the Office of the Union would be agreed between the leading expert and the Office of the Union.
- For meetings arranged outside the TWPs, administrative support would not be provided. The leading expert would facilitate the meetings and record any decisions. Participation by the Office of the Union would be agreed between the leading expert and the Office of the Union.

Element 5: Training

43. It is **recommended** [35] to conduct training webinars to address topics of particular relevance, as defined by the TC in response to requests from members and/or observers, using a similar structure as the preparatory webinars held prior to TWP meetings. It is **recommended** [36] that the Office of the Union organize the training webinars in conjunction with the members providing information.

44. It is **recommended** [37] to update the distance learning courses. Consideration could also be given to increasing awareness of distance learning courses by plant breeders and PVP applicants.

45. It is **recommended** [38] to further investigate the development of a new course on using UPOV guidance for DUS examination (e.g. developing national test guidelines), including in which format could the content be offered (e.g. workshop; videos).

46. It is **recommended** [39] to provide further information on the UPOV website on possibilities for training provided by members and to use that training website to promote requests and offers for training and related cooperation, as proposed by members and relevant organizations.

47. It is recalled that the UPOV International Certificate on Plant Variety Protection⁸ will provide a basis to demonstrate the level of expertise on plant variety protection according to the UPOV principles.

Element 6: DUS report exchange platform (UPOV e-PVP)

48. It is **recommended** [40] that the development of a DUS report exchange platform (UPOV e-PVP) is supported to enable exchange of existing DUS reports for:

⁸ The Consultative Committee, at its ninety-eighth session, approved the proposals for the development of an international program on plant variety protection with the aim to obtain an International Certificate on Plant Variety Protection recognized by UPOV (see document C/55/13 "Report by the president on the work of the ninety-eighth session of the Consultative Committee; adoption of recommendations, if any, prepared by that Committee", paragraph 26.

- (1) UPOV members to make existing DUS reports available for download
- (2) UPOV members to request DUS reports

49. It is **recommended** [41] that the DUS Report Exchange Platform also enable UPOV members to make their documented DUS procedures and information on their quality systems available.

50. It is **recommended** [42] to propose not to pursue the development of a UPOV quality accreditation system at this time.

PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

51. In relation to assessing the impact of the recommended proposals, the following performance indicators are **recommended** [43]:

(a) Harmonized procedures

- Number of UPOV members using UPOV Technical Questionnaires
- Percentage of PVP applications in UPOV members covered by Test Guidelines
- Use of UPOV member test guidelines by other UPOV members to develop national test guidelines where there are no UPOV Test Guidelines
- Number of DUS reports produced by UPOV members that are used by other members
- Time required for TWPs to approve new TGs or revisions of TGs

(b) Training

- Number of DUS examiners and administrators that have the UPOV International Certificate on Plant Variety Protection

52. The development of further performance indicators could be considered along with the implementation of the recommendations in this document.

53. It is **recommended** [44] that the work of the TWPs is periodically reviewed on the basis of the performance indicators above.

54. It is **recommended** [45] that UPOV members and observer organizations are regularly surveyed on their satisfaction with the support for DUS examination provided by UPOV through the TC and TWPs.

55. The TC is invited to consider the draft recommendations on the proposals presented in TC/58/18, as set out in paragraphs 11 to 54 of this document.

POSSIBLE IMPLEMENTING MEASURES

56. The recommendations in this document can be grouped by affinity and implemented through similar measures. Subject to agreement by the TC on the individual recommendations, the following implementing measures may be considered:

- (a) Already implemented: [40]
- (b) No action required: [2]; [3]; [8]; [9]; [19]; [20]; [42]
- (c) UPOV Office will implement: [4]; [12]; [33]; [34]
- (d) UPOV Office will implement with TWP host and document "guidance for hosts of TWPs": [5]; [6]; [7]; [10]; [11]; [13]; [14]; [15];
- (e) UPOV Office will implement with TC chairperson: [16]; [17]; [18];
- (f) UPOV Office will implement with TC and TWP chairpersons: [35]; [36]; [37]
- (g) UPOV Office to provide reports to TC on annual basis starting in 2024: [43]
- (h) UPOV Office to invite TC to consider on annual basis starting in 2024: [44]; [45]
- (i) UPOV Office to develop proposals for TC in 2024: [27]; [29]; [30]; [31]; [32]; [38]; [39]; [41]
- (j) Test Guidelines*: [21]; [22]; [23]; [24]; [25]; [26]; [28]

57. Recommendations on Test Guidelines ([21]; [22]; [23]; [24]; [25]; [26] and [28]) encompass a range of aspects, including the nature and structure of the online tool for drafting Test Guidelines (web-based TG template) and the structure of the Test Guidelines themselves. The TC may wish to consider how to address these matters.

58. Subject to agreement by the TC on the individual recommendations in this document, the TC is invited to consider the possible implementing measures, as set out in paragraphs 56 and 57 of this document.

TWV AND TWF 2023 HYBRID MEETINGS PARTICIPANTS' SATISFACTION SURVEY

59. The TC, at its fifty-eighth session⁹, agreed to conduct a participant satisfaction survey for the TWPs held in hybrid format in 2023, based on the survey issued to the TWA in 2022 (see document TC/58/31 "Report", paragraph 69).

60. The results of the participants' satisfaction survey at the hybrid meetings of the TWV and TWF held in 2023 are provided as Annex III to this document.

61. The TC is invited to note the satisfaction survey conducted with participants at the hybrid meetings of the TWV and TWF in 2023, as presented in Annex III to this document.

[Annexes follow]

⁹ Held in Geneva, on October 24 and 25, 2022

MEASURES FOR PHYSICAL AND VIRTUAL PARTICIPATION AT TWP MEETINGS AGREED BY THE TC
AT ITS FIFTY-SEVENTH SESSION

The TC, at its fifty-seventh session, agreed the following measures for physical and virtual participation at TWP meetings (extract from document TC/57/25 "Report", paragraphs 64 to 66):

(a) Virtual preparatory workshops prior to the TWPs

- The virtual preparatory workshops would be organized as a series of webinars.
- The content of the virtual preparatory workshops would be agreed by the TC under agenda item "Preparatory Workshops".
- The content would be organized according to themes (e.g. drafting of Test Guidelines, molecular techniques in DUS testing, DUS testing methods, image analysis).
- Arrangements for the webinars would be finalized by the Office of the Union in coordination with the chairpersons of the TC and TWPs (e.g. dates, number of webinars required to cover content, speakers and panelists).
- The virtual preparatory workshops would replace the preparatory workshops held before each individual TWP. The series of webinars would open for experts from all TWPs.
- The webinars would be recorded and maintained online until replaced by an updated version. The Office of the Union would organize a webpage to host the videos (e.g. UPOV YouTube channel).

(b) Comments and questions on TWP meeting documents to be provided in advance of the sessions

- Participants would be invited to provide written comments on meeting documents in advance of the sessions, in the same way as in 2020 and 2021.
- The compilation of written comments would be circulated to registered participants one week prior to the session.
- Comments received in advance would be included in the discussions on the respective agenda item during the session.

(c) Alternating one year of physical meeting with one year of virtual meeting

- The TWP sessions would be scheduled one year as a virtual meeting and the following year as a physical meeting (e.g. 2023: virtual; 2024: physical).
- There would be at least two virtual TWP meetings in a calendar year, thereby ensuring that experts would be able to participate electronically in all discussions on Test Guidelines, TGP and TWP documents.
- Technical visits via virtual means: there would be an open invitation for any UPOV member to make a presentation on aspects of their testing systems through presentations, videos or live online demonstrations (e.g. DUS examination for particular crops, testing procedures, image analysis, trial layout).
- The timing of a particular virtual TWP session would be discussed by the TWP when planning the agenda for the forthcoming session.

(d) Electronic participation at physical TWP sessions

- The TWP host or the Office of the Union should provide a meeting platform for electronic participation in Test Guidelines subgroup meetings at physical TWP sessions. This measure should enable participation of crop experts otherwise not attending TWP sessions.

- The hosts of TWP physical meetings should participate in deciding how to organize virtual participation in Test Guidelines subgroup discussions.

(e) Technical Working Party on Testing Methods and Techniques (TWM)

- The TWM will meet electronically in 2022 and will assess the need to meet physically in the future, according to the range of topics to be covered.

(f) Reporting and review of measures

The TC agreed to invite the Office of the Union to report on the measures adopted for review and consideration by the TC, at its fifty-eighth session.

The TC agreed to request the Office of the Union to conduct a survey on the needs of members and observers in relation to TWPs and report to the TC at its fifty-eighth session.

[Annex II follows]

TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE
WORKING GROUP ON DUS SUPPORT (WG-DUS)

PURPOSE

The purpose of the WG-DUS is to make recommendations to the Technical Committee at its fifty-ninth session on the proposals presented in TC/58/18 "Survey on the needs of members and observers in relation to TWPs".

COMPOSITION

(a) the following members of the Union and observers that expressed an interest to be part of the WG-DUS: Argentina, Australia, Belarus, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, the Czech Republic, the European Union, France, Germany, Ghana, Hungary, Japan, Kenya, Morocco, the Netherlands, New Zealand, the Republic of Korea, Romania, Slovakia, South Africa, Spain, the United Kingdom, the United Republic of Tanzania, the United States of America, CIOFORA, CropLife International, ISF and SAA;

(b) other members of the Union would be free to participate at any meeting of the WG-DUS; and

(c) meetings to be chaired by the Vice Secretary-General.

MODUS OPERANDI

(a) The WG-DUS to:

(i) draft recommendations on the proposals presented in TC/58/18 "Survey on the needs of members and observers in relation to TWPs", including the possibility to present new proposals that would address the issues identified by participants in the interviews;

(ii) specify the objectives of each of the recommended proposals and identify performance indicators that would enable an objective measurement of the success of those proposals;

(iii) clarify the role of the Office of the Union, as appropriate, in each of the proposals;

(iv) present draft recommendations at the Technical Working Parties at their meetings in 2023; and

(v) present recommendations to the Technical Committee at its fifty-ninth session.

(b) the WG-DUS to meet at a time and frequency to address its mandate, by physical and/or virtual means, as agreed by the WG-DUS; and

(c) the documents of the WG-DUS to be made available to the TC.

[Annex III follows]

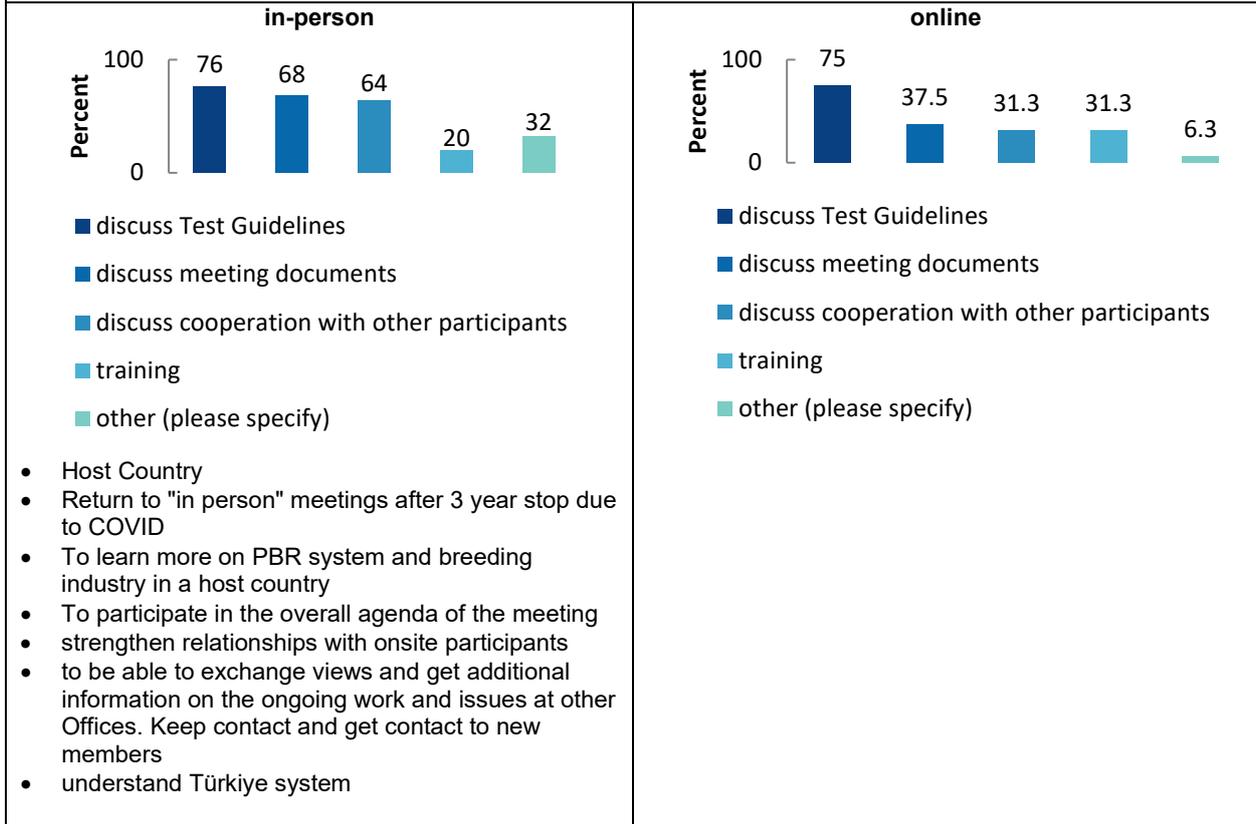
TWV AND TWF HYBRID MEETINGS IN 2023: PARTICIPANTS' SATISFACTION SURVEY

1. Did you attend the meeting in-person or on-line via video conference?	
TWV	TWF
<p>online via video conference 38%</p> <p>in-person 62%</p>	<p>online via video conference 45%</p> <p>in-person 55%</p>
2. Overall satisfaction of the week	
TWV	
in-person	online
<p>Satisfied 24%</p> <p>Very Satisfied 76%</p>	<p>Neither satisfied nor dissatis... 19%</p> <p>Satisfied 69%</p>
TWF	
in-person	online
<p>Satisfied 13%</p> <p>Very Satisfied 87%</p>	<p>Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied 14%</p> <p>Very Satisfied 43%</p> <p>Satisfied 43%</p>
3. Quality of the discussions	
TWV	
in-person	online
<p>Satisfied 48%</p> <p>Very Satisfied 52%</p>	<p>Very Satisfied 13%</p> <p>Dissatisfied 6%</p> <p>Satisfied 56%</p> <p>Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied 25%</p>
TWF	
in-person	online
<p>Satisfied 30%</p> <p>Very Satisfied 70%</p>	<p>Dissatisfied 7%</p> <p>Very Satisfied 43%</p> <p>Satisfied 50%</p>

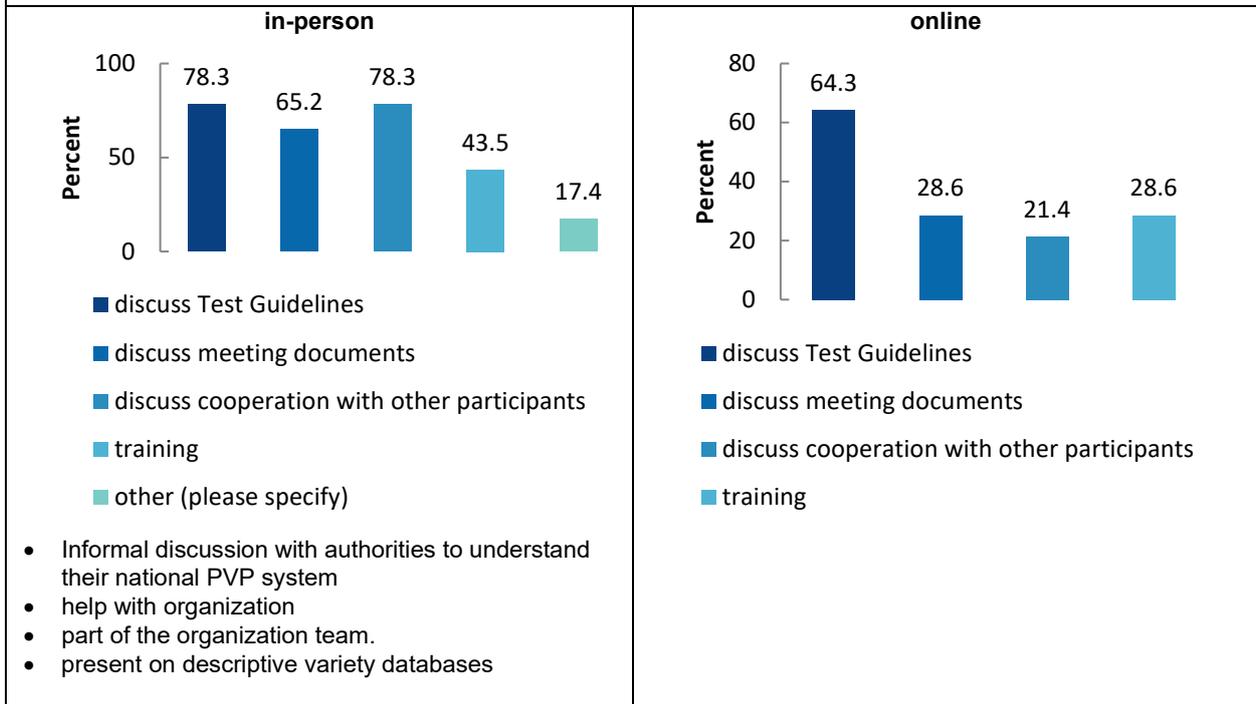
4. Quality of the Test Guidelines discussions	
TWV	
<p>in-person</p> <p>Very Satisfied 52%</p> <p>Satisfied 36%</p> <p>Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied 12%</p>	<p>online</p> <p>Very Satisfied 12%</p> <p>Satisfied 69%</p> <p>Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied 19%</p>
4. Quality of the Test Guidelines discussions	
TWF	
<p>in-person</p> <p>Very Satisfied 52%</p> <p>Satisfied 48%</p>	<p>online</p> <p>Very Satisfied 36%</p> <p>Satisfied 50%</p> <p>Dissatisfied 7%</p> <p>Don't know/Not applicable 7%</p>
5. Quality of the interaction with online participants / other participants	
TWV	
<p>in-person</p> <p>Very Satisfied 16%</p> <p>Satisfied 40%</p> <p>Dissatisfied 24%</p> <p>Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied 20%</p>	<p>online</p> <p>Very Satisfied 13%</p> <p>Satisfied 44%</p> <p>Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied 31%</p> <p>Don't know/Not applicable 6%</p> <p>Dissatisfied 6%</p>
TWF	
<p>in-person</p> <p>Very Satisfied 39%</p> <p>Satisfied 57%</p> <p>Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied 4%</p>	<p>online</p> <p>Very Satisfied 21%</p> <p>Satisfied 43%</p> <p>Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied 7%</p> <p>Don't know/Not applicable 7%</p>

6. What was the main purpose of your participation?

TWV



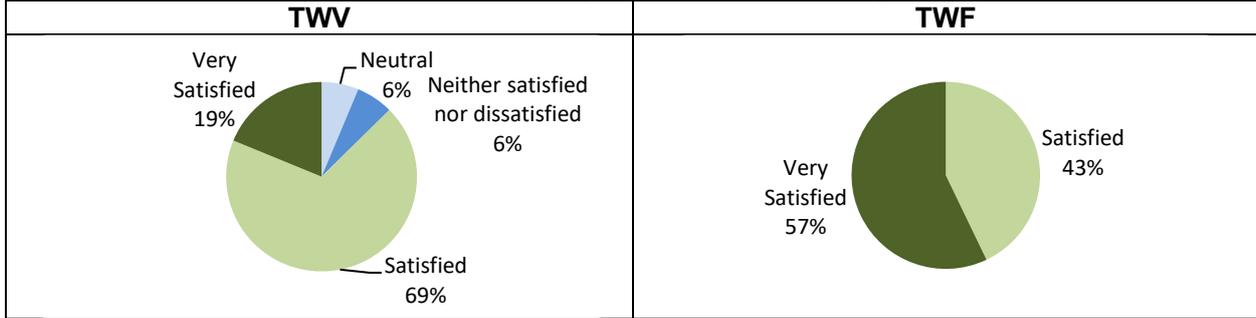
TWF



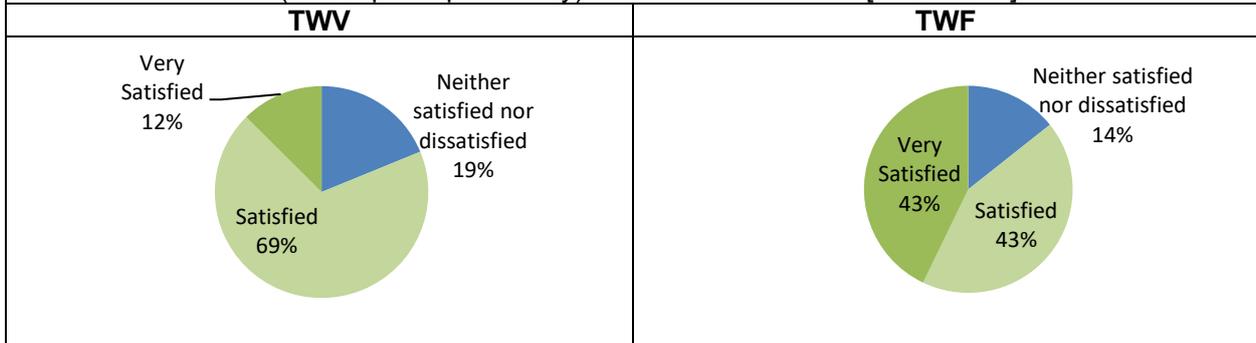
7. (online participants only) Quality of video conference tool (Zoom)



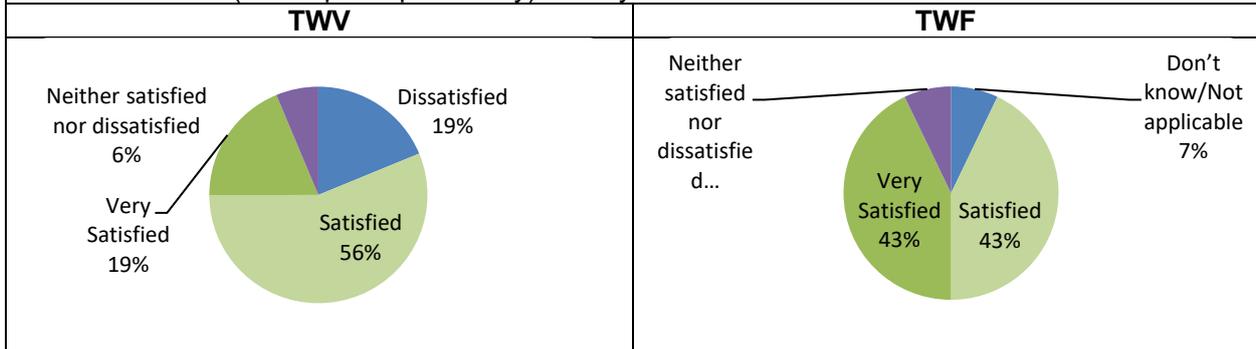
8. (online participants only) Access to the meetings on-line



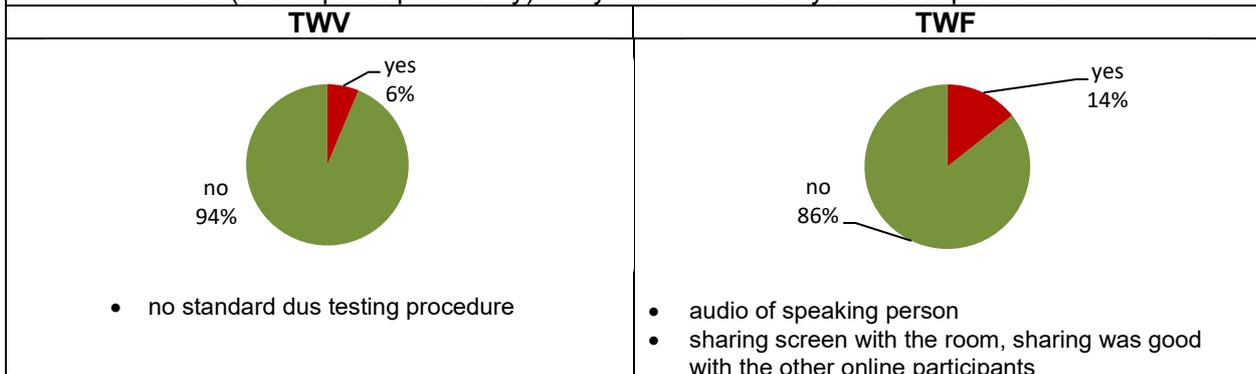
9. (online participants only) Schedule of sessions [time zones]



10. (online participants only) Facility to take the floor to make comments



11. (online participants only) Did you encounter any technical problems?



12. (online participants only) Will you be able to attend TWP meetings in person in the future?	
TWV	TWF
<p>A pie chart for TWV showing the following distribution: 'probably not' (red) at 19%, 'probably yes' (light green) at 37%, and 'yes' (dark green) at 44%.</p>	<p>A pie chart for TWF showing the following distribution: 'probably not' (red) at 36%, 'yes' (dark green) at 21%, and 'probably yes' (light green) at 43%.</p>
Do you have any additional comments?	
TWV	TWF
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide support for the participation of specialists from developing countries of UPOV members • not sure what will be travel policy and climate change measures in our company • I wanted things to proceed a little more quickly. • The sound quality of some physical participants was not good in the beginning of the meeting but this improved over the week. • for Zoom participants it is difficult to know when/if there is a discussion going on in the room with the microphones turned off; not sure if you lost the connection then; would be good to announce this or show in a different way that there is no technical reason for the ongoing silence • Sound on VC was not good, and it would be good if the camera can follow the speakers. Some zoom participants had their hands up for a long time before they were seen. Still great to have the option to VC into these meetings. • need more discussion on detailed methods or tools. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was a very interesting working meeting • Thank you, it was a very interesting meeting

[End of Annex III and of document]