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INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR THE PROTECTION OF NEW VARIETIES OF PLANTS
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ENLARGED EDITORIAL COMMITTEE

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TGP DOCUMENTS

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1. The purpose of this document is to provide an overview of developments concerning Test Guidelines' Procedures (TGP documents).
2. 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
TWF:	Technical Working Party for Ornamental Plants and Forest Trees
TWV:	Technical Working Party for Vegetables
TWPs:	Technical Working Parties

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I. MATTERS FOR ADOPTION BY THE COUNCIL IN 2015

4. The TC, at its fiftieth session, and the CAJ, at its sixty-ninth session, approved the program for the development of TGP documents, as set out in the Annex to documents TC/50/5 and CAJ/69/3, respectively (see document TC/50/36 "Report on the Conclusions", paragraph 75, and document CAJ/69/13 "Report", paragraph 66, respectively).

5. The following revisions of TGP documents were agreed to be proposed for adoption by the Council at its forty-eighth ordinary session, to be held in Geneva on October 29, 2015:

TGP/9: Examining Distinctness

6. Annex I to this document contains a new section already agreed by the TC for document TGP/9 "Examining Distinctness".

7. The following proposals for revision of document TGP/9 will be considered on the basis of document TC-EDC/jan15/13:

- (i) *Revision of document TGP/9: Section 1.6: Schematic Overview of TGP Documents Concerning Distinctness*
- (ii) *Revision of document TGP/9: Section 2.5: Photographs*
- (iii) *Revision of document TGP/9: Sections 4.3.2 and 4.3.4 Method of Observation (Single Measurement – MG)*

TGP/14: Glossary of Terms Used in UPOV Documents

8. The following proposal for revision of document TGP/14 will be considered on the basis of the indicated document:

- (i) *Revision of document TGP/14: Section 2.4: Apex/Tip Shape Characteristics*
See document TC-EDC/jan15/24

TGP/0: List of TGP Documents and Latest Issue Dates

9. Document TGP/0/7, adopted by the Council at its forty-seventh session, held on October 16, 2014, will need to be updated (to become document TGP/0/8) to reflect any adoptions or revisions of TGP documents by the Council at its forty-ninth session.

II. FUTURE REVISION OF TGP DOCUMENTS

10. The following future revisions of TGP documents were agreed to be considered by the TC at its fifty-first session:

TGP/7: Development of Test Guidelines

- (i) *Revision of document TGP/7: Drafter's Kit for Test Guidelines*

11. The TC, at its fiftieth session, held in Geneva, from April 7 to 9, 2014, agreed that document TGP/7 Section 4.3: "Drafter's Kit for Test Guidelines" and Annex 4 "Collection of Approved Characteristics" should be revised, subject to the introduction of the web-based TG Template in 2014 (see document TC/50/36 "Report on the Conclusions", paragraph 70).

12. It is proposed that a detailed proposal for a revision of document TGP/7 be presented to the TWPs, at their sessions in 2015.

- (ii) *Revision of document TGP/7: Plant Material Submitted for Examination*
See document TC-EDC/jan15/3
- (iii) *Revision of document TGP/7: Coverage of the Test Guidelines*
See document TC-EDC/jan15/4

TGP/8: Trial Design and Techniques Used in the Examination of Distinctness, Uniformity and Stability

- (i) *Revision of document TGP/8: Part I: DUS Trial Design and Data Analysis, New Section: Minimizing the Variation due to Different Observers*
See document TC-EDC/jan15/6
 - (ii) *Revision of document TGP/8: Part II: Selected Techniques Used in DUS Examination, Section 9: the Combined-Over-Years Uniformity Criterion (COYU)*
See document TC-EDC/jan15/7
 - (iii) *Revision of document TGP/8: Part II: Selected Techniques used in DUS Examination, New Section 11: Examining DUS in Bulk Samples*
See document TC-EDC/jan15/8
 - (iv) *Revision of document TGP/8: Part II: Selected Techniques Used in DUS Examination, New Section: Data Processing for the Assessment of Distinctness and for Producing Variety Descriptions*
See document TC-EDC/jan15/9
 - (v) *Revision of document TGP/8: Part II: Selected Techniques Used in DUS Examination, New Section: Guidance of Data Analysis for Blind Randomized Trials*
See document TC-EDC/jan15/10
 - (vi) *Revision of document TGP/8: Part II: Selected Techniques Used in DUS Examination, New Section 12: Examining Characteristics Using Image Analysis*
See document TC-EDC/jan15/11
- Revision of document TGP/8: Part II: Selected Techniques Used in DUS Examination, New Section: Statistical Methods for Visually Observed Characteristics*
See document TC-EDC/Jan15/12

TGP/10: Examining uniformity

- (i) *Revision of document TGP/10: New section: Assessing Uniformity by Off-Types on Basis of More than One Sample or Sub-Samples*
See document TC-EDC/Jan15/25

III. POSSIBLE FUTURE REVISION OF TGP DOCUMENTS

13. New proposals for possible future revision of TGP documents have been developed for consideration by the TC as follows:

TGP/5: Experience and Cooperation in DUS Testing

- (i) *Revision of document TGP/5: Section 3: Technical Questionnaire to be Completed in Connection with an Application for Plant Breeders' Rights*

14. Document TGP/5: Section 3 currently states that:

"A model Technical Questionnaire is provided in document TGP/7 "Development of Test Guidelines": Annex 1: TG Template: Chapter 10. The UPOV Test Guidelines (<http://www.upov.int/en/publications/tg-rom/index.html>) contain, in Chapter 10, a specific Technical Questionnaire for varieties covered by those Test Guidelines.

15. Following the launching of the redesigned UPOV website on November 1, 2011, the web link provided in document TGP/5: Section 3 needs to be amended to read as follows:

“A model Technical Questionnaire is provided in document TGP/7 “Development of Test Guidelines”: Annex 1: TG Template: Chapter 10. The UPOV Test Guidelines (http://www.upov.int/edocs/tgpdocs/en/tgp_7.pdf) contain, in Chapter 10, a specific Technical Questionnaire for varieties covered by those Test Guidelines.”

(ii) *Revision of document TGP/5: Section 8: Cooperation in Examination*

16. Document TGP/5: Section 8 currently states that:

“A synopsis of cooperation in examination between authorities is provided in the form of a Council document:

“C/[session]/5 (e.g. C/38/5), (http://www.upov.int/en/documents/index_c.htm).”

17. Following the launching of the redesigned UPOV website on November 1, 2011, the web link provided in document TGP/5: Section 8 needs to be amended to read as follows:

“A synopsis of cooperation in examination between authorities is provided in the form of a Council document:

“C/[session]/5 (e.g. C/49/5), (http://www.upov.int/meetings/en/topic.jsp?group_id=251).”

(iii) *Revision of document TGP/5: Section 9: List of Species in Which Practical Knowledge has Been Acquired or for Which National Test Guidelines Have Been Established*

18. Document TGP/5: Section 9 currently states that:

“A list of genera and species in which practical knowledge has been acquired or for which national test guidelines have been established is provided in the Technical Committee document:

“TC/[session]/4 (e.g. TC/41/4), (http://www.upov.int/restrict/en/tc/index_tc.htm).

19. Following the launching of the redesigned UPOV website on November 1, 2011, the web link provided in document TGP/5: Section 9 needs to be amended to read as follows:

“A list of genera and species in which practical knowledge has been acquired or for which national test guidelines have been established is provided in the Technical Committee document:

“TC/[session]/4 (e.g. TC/51/4), (http://www.upov.int/meetings/en/topic.jsp?group_id=254).

IV. PROGRAM FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF TGP DOCUMENTS

20. Annex II to this document presents the program for the development of TGP documents on the basis of the conclusions by the TC, as its fiftieth session, the CAJ, at its sixty-ninth session and proposals made by the TWPs, at their sessions in 2014 (see document TC/50/36 “Report on the Conclusions”, paragraph 75, and document CAJ/69/12 “Report on the Conclusions”, paragraph 64, respectively).

21. *The TC-EDC is invited to note the information in this document to be presented to the TC and propose any improvements to the document in that regard.*

[Annexes follow]

REVISION OF DOCUMENT TGP/9: MATTERS APPROVED BY THE TC

Section 5.5 (New): Guidance on Number of Plants to be Examined (for Distinctness)

To add new Section 5.5 as follows (see document TC/49/41 "Report on the Conclusions", paragraph 84):

"Number of Plants / Parts of Plants to be Examined (for distinctness)

"1. The observation of the '*typical*' expression of characteristics of a variety in a given environment is essential for the assessment of distinctness. The precision of the observed (mean) expression of the varieties to be compared is a critical element for the consideration of whether a difference is a clear difference.

"2. In the case of qualitative characteristics, a low number is sufficient to identify the expression of a variety. In general, the number of plants for the assessment of distinctness is not a limiting factor for the number of plants in the trial. Thus, the number of plants for the assessment of qualitative characteristics is not essential for harmonization.

"3. In case of quantitative characteristics (and pseudo-qualitative characteristics), the variation within the variety has to be taken into account for defining a clear difference (by expert judgment or exact statistics). Due to the relation between variation within the varieties and the required difference to be considered as a clear difference for the establishment of distinctness the precision of records is important. The precision of records (mean values) is influenced by the sample size. Therefore, the appropriate sample size should be indicated in the Test Guidelines for the purpose of harmonization.

"4. The following general principals should be taken into account:

"Considerations for the number of plants to be observed for distinctness in case of QN (in some cases PQ)

- (a) Observation on the plot as a whole (VG/MG)
 - the indicated number should be considered as minimum number
- (b) Observation on subsample from plot (VG/MG)
 - the indicated number should be considered as minimum number
- (c) Observations on individual plants (VS/MS)
 - the number of plants is important for precision of record
 - the specific number should be indicated

"Considerations for the number of plants for candidate varieties and varieties to be compared with the candidate varieties

"5. The required precision of records depends on the size of the difference between the candidate variety and the varieties of common knowledge. If two varieties are very similar it is important to ensure the same precision of the records for both varieties. The number of plants indicated in the Test Guidelines applies to both the candidate variety and the similar variety of common knowledge. In other cases, it may be possible to include in the trial a lower number of plants for the variety of common knowledge, provided that uniformity does not have to be assessed for that variety, i.e. varieties in the variety collection."

[Annex II follows]

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ANNEX II

See Excel spreadsheet.

[Appendix follows]

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ANNEX II, APPENDIX

See Excel spreadsheet.

[End of Annex II and of document]