INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR THE PROTECTION OF NEW VARIETIES OF PLANTS

GENEVA

TECHNICAL WORKING PARTY ON AUTOMATION AND COMPUTER PROGRAMS

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EXCHANGEABLE SOFTWARE

Document prepared by the Office of the Union

1.   At the forty-fourth session of the Technical Committee (TC), held in Geneva from April 7 to 9, 2008, the Chairman of the TC proposed that, in order for information on exchangeable software to be more accessible to members of the Union and to facilitate regular updating, it might be appropriate to present information, on an annual basis, in a TC document similar to document TC/44/4 "List of genera and species for which authorities have practical experience in the examination of distinctness, uniformity and stability". That document could provide members of the Union with information on the existence and availability of software. He proposed that the document should include software concerning, for example, databases of images / photographs, image analysis etc.. It was further proposed that the software should be presented and discussed at a session of the Technical Working Party on Automation and Computer Programs (TWC) prior to inclusion in the document.

2.   The TC agreed with the proposal above and requested the TWC to formulate the structure and content of the document for consideration by the TC at its forty-fifth session.

3.   In accordance with the request of the TC, and on the basis of the information provided in document TWC/25/19, the Office of the Union, in conjunction with the TWC Chairperson has developed the following proposal as a basis for discussion by the TWC:

<u>Review of software by the Technical Working Party on Automation and Computer Programs
and the Technical Committee</u>

4.   The TWC could invite members of the Union to propose software for inclusion in the
document on exchangeable software, on the basis that that software would be made available
to other members of the Union, subject to any conditions which would be clearly specified
(e.g. software to be supplied, but no provision of installation or on-going maintenance).

5.   The TWC could review the proposed software on the basis of a presentation(s) at the
TWC and the experience of members of the Union with that software and decide whether to
recommend to the TC to include that software in the document. The TC would then decide
whether to include a reference to the software in the TC document.

Categories of software application

6.   In order to assist users to find relevant software, it is proposed to have the following
categories of software application:

        (a)   Administration of applications;
        (b)   On-line application systems;
        (c)   DUS testing;
        (d)   Data recording and transfer;
        (e)   Image analysis;
        (h)   Biochemical and molecular data.

<u>Information to be provided</u>

7.   The table in the annex to this document indicates the information which might be
provided. With regard to the indication of "Application by user(s)", members of the Union
would be invited to indicate, for example, crops or types of crop for which the software was
used. In the same way as for document TC/[44]/4, the Office of the Union could issue a
circular to all members of the Union inviting them to provide / update that information on an
annual basis.

                                                                        [Annex follows]

ANNEX

EXCHANGEABLE SOFTWARE

(a) Administration of applications

[…]

(b) On-line application systems

[…]

(c) DUS trial design

Example:

Date added	Program name	Programming language	Function (brief summary)	Source & contact details	Condition for supply	Member(s) of the Union using the software	Application by user(s)
	DUSTNT	FORTRAN 90	General program for analysis of data from DUS trials. Includes facilities for COY analysis and a wide range of multivariate analysis techniques.	United Kingdom: Dr. Sally Watson […] Email: sally.watson@afbini.gov.uk		User 1	xxxx
						User 2	yyy
						etc.	
	GAIA	Windev	Computes comparisons of varieties for management of reference collections	France: Cristophe.chevalier@geves.fr			

(d) Data recording and transfer

[…]

(e) Image analysis

[…]

(f) Biochemical and molecular data

[End of Annex and of document]