



**TWC/17/4**

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**INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR THE PROTECTION OF NEW VARIETIES OF PLANTS**  
GENEVA

**TECHNICAL WORKING PARTY  
ON  
AUTOMATION AND COMPUTER PROGRAMS**

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DEVELOPMENTS IN TELECOMMUNICATIONS WITHIN UPOV

*Document prepared by experts from the United Kingdom*

## DEVELOPMENTS IN TELECOMMUNICATIONS

### WITHIN UPOV

#### INTRODUCTION

This note reports to the UPOV TWC on developments over the past year (1998/99) in respect of electronic communications and UPOV.

#### WEB SITES

The web site of the office of UPOV ([www.upov.int/eng/index.htm](http://www.upov.int/eng/index.htm)) now includes links to web sites for a number of national plant variety protection offices.

The web site that is run from BioSS, Edinburgh on behalf of the TWC ([www.bioss.sari.ac.uk/upov/](http://www.bioss.sari.ac.uk/upov/)) has been updated:

- it now includes almost 200 email addresses of persons with an interest in the work of the TWPs;
- the list of TWC papers includes those from the 1998 meeting;
- database and exchangeable software details have been brought up to date according to information provided by TWC members at 1 May 1999.

To meet the wishes of the UPOV secretariat a Java version of the COYD program has been incorporated in the TWC web pages at [www.bioss.sari.ac.uk/upov/upcoyd.html](http://www.bioss.sari.ac.uk/upov/upcoyd.html). This facility allows those interested to explore the COYD method on-line.

#### PLANS FOR OTHER TWP WEB PAGES

The Chairman of the TWF contacted us during the year for advice on how that group might benefit from the work on the TWC site. It was suggested that the best course might be for someone from the TWF to be appointed to take responsibility for setting up and managing a web site for that group. TWC members could help if necessary. Subsequently, links could be made between the TWC, TWF and UPOV pages.

#### EMAIL BULLETIN BOARD

A 'plant-varieties-seeds' bulletin board has been established and currently has 37 members. There have been no messages sent to the bulletin board since its inception. It will continue to be maintained but if there are no active users over the next year perhaps the facility is not serving a useful purpose and should be discontinued?

To join the plant-varieties-seeds bulletin board, simply send an email to:

mailbase@mailbase.ac.uk

with a one line message

join plant-varieties-seeds *firstname lastname*

where *firstname* and *lastname* is replaced with your own personal names.

There is a web site at

[www.mailbase.ac.uk/lists/plant-varieties-seeds/](http://www.mailbase.ac.uk/lists/plant-varieties-seeds/)

where more details about the bulletin board can be found

#### FEEDBACK

Feedback from members of the TWC on these developments would be much appreciated.

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