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| International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants |  |

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| Technical Working Party for Vegetables  Fifty-Fifth Session  Antalya, Turkey, May 3 to 7, 2021  Technical Working Party for Ornamental Plants and Forest Trees  Fifty-Third Session  Roelofarendsveen, Netherlands, June 7 to 11, 2021  Technical Working Party for Agricultural Crops  Fiftieth Session  Arusha, United Republic of Tanzania, June 21 to 25, 2021  Technical Working Party for Fruit Crops  Fifty-Second Session  Zhengzhou, China, July 12 to 16, 2021  Technical Working Party on Automation and Computer Programs  Thirty-Ninth Session  Alexandria, United States of America, September 20 to 22, 2021 | TWP/5/3  Original: English  Date: April 8, 2021 |

UPOV PRISMA

Document prepared by the Office of the Union

Disclaimer: this document does not represent UPOV policies or guidance

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this document is to report on developments concerning the development of UPOV PRISMA.

The TWPs are invited to note the developments concerning UPOV PRISMA.

The structure of this document is as follows:

[EXECUTIVE SUMMARY 1](#_Toc68775283)

[Background 2](#_Toc68775284)

[Developments in 2020 2](#_Toc68775285)

[Developments at the sixteenth Meeting on the Development of an Electronic Application Form (“EAF/16 meeting) in October 2020 2](#_Toc68775286)

[Developments in the Technical Committee (TC) in October 2020 2](#_Toc68775287)

[Developments in the Administrative and Legal Committee (CAJ) in October 2020 3](#_Toc68775288)

[Developments in the Council in October 2020 3](#_Toc68775289)

[Latest Developments 3](#_Toc68775290)

[Version 2.5 3](#_Toc68775291)

[Functionalities 3](#_Toc68775292)

[Coverage 3](#_Toc68775293)

[Meeting on the development of an electronic application form (EAF/17) 4](#_Toc68775294)

[Feedback from Users 4](#_Toc68775295)

[Planned work for 2021 5](#_Toc68775296)

[Version 2.6 6](#_Toc68775297)

[Communication and promotion 7](#_Toc68775298)

[Possible developments after 2021 7](#_Toc68775299)

[Use of UPOV PRISMA (as of March 31, 2021) 8](#_Toc68775300)

# Background

The background to the development of the EAF (now known as UPOV PRISMA) prior to the Technical Working Parties in 2020 is provided in document TWP/4/3 “UPOVP PRISMA”.

# Developments in 2020

## Developments at the sixteenth Meeting on the Development of an Electronic Application Form (“EAF/16 meeting) in October 2020

At the Sixteenth Meeting on the Development of an Electronic Application Form (“EAF/16 meeting”), which was organized via electronic means on October 23, 2020, the participants considered document UPOV/EAF/16/2 “Developments concerning UPOV PRISMA” and received a presentation from the Office of the Union. The report of the meeting is provided in document EAF/16/3 “Report”.

At the EAF/16 meeting, participants noted the feedback received from users on IT matters and on the information in UPOV PRISMA, and agreed the following (see document UPOV/EAF/16/3 “Report” paragraphs 7 to 9):

1. Priority should be placed on working with participating PBR authorities to ensure that all related information is complete and updated in a timely way before extending UPOV PRISMA to additional UPOV members (see UPOV PRISMA Terms of Use available at: <https://www.upov.int/upovprisma/en/termsuse.html> “Provide the Office of the Union with the most recent and updated application forms”);
2. Need to increase coverage for important crops in participating PBR authorities that do not cover all crops/species in UPOV PRISMA;
3. Ensure that all participating PBR authorities in UPOV PRISMA acknowledge receipt of the application data submission within a reasonable amount of time (see UPOV PRISMA Terms of Use available at: <https://www.upov.int/upovprisma/en/termsuse.html> “Acknowledge receipt in UPOV PRISMA of any application data submitted via UPOV PRISMA within 7 days”);
4. Ensure that all requirements of participating PBR authorities are specified in UPOV PRISMA to avoid requests for additional information after data submission via UPOV PRISMA (see UPOV PRISMA Terms of Use available at: <https://www.upov.int/upovprisma/en/termsuse.html> “Specify all documents required for accepting a completed application and ensure all required information can be provided in UPOV PRISMA”);
5. Avoid loss of confidence in UPOV PRISMA by withdrawing PBR authority participation where the UPOV PRISMA Terms of Use are not fulfilled.

The EAF/16 participants noted that in order to ensure confidence in UPOV PRISMA, the Office of the Union would contact, individually, all participating PBR authorities.

The EAF/16 participants noted that the following items would be addressed in Version 2.5:

1. Need to automatically save application data in case of inactivity period in the system/session;
2. Improve the speed of response of the system; and
3. Increase the maximum size of attachments (e.g. for pictures);

Participants in the EAF/16 meeting noted that increasing the use of machine-to-machine communication would be a matter for each participating PBR authority to decide when to proceed and would be subject to available resources.

## Developments in the Technical Committee (TC) in October 2020

The Technical Committee (TC), at its fifty-sixth session, organized via electronic means on October 26 and 27, 2020, noted the information provided in document TC/56/INF/2 in relation to recent developments in UPOV PRISMA (see document TC/56/23 “Report”, paragraph 80).

## Developments in the Administrative and Legal Committee (CAJ) in October 2020

The Administrative and Legal Committee (CAJ), at its seventy-seventh session, organized via electronic means on October 28, 2020, noted the information provided in document CAJ/77/INF/4 in relation to recent developments in UPOV PRISMA (see document CAJ/77/10 “Report”, paragraph 45).

## Developments in the Council in October 2020

The Council at its fifty-fourth ordinary session in Geneva, organized via electronic means on October 30, 2020, noted the work of the Consultative Committee at its ninety-seventh session, as reported in document C/54/13 Rev. “Report by the President on the work of the ninety- seventh session of the Consultative Committee”, including information concerning UPOV PRISMA (see document C/54/21 “Report”, paragraph 18).

# Latest Developments

## Version 2.5

### Functionalities

The current version of UPOV PRISMA (Version 2.5) was fully deployed on February 1, 2021, with the following new functionalities:

* New version of payment interface (Epay V2) to facilitate payment by PayPal, China Union Pay and Bulk payment;
* National Listing for United Kingdom;
* Bulk upload functionality (Proof Of Concept on a limited scope for restricted users);
* Automatically save the application data in case of a period of inactivity;
* Improve system performance for dashboard (further improvement for the generation of the forms performance is planned in Version 2.6);
* Avoid simultaneous access to the same application data by colleagues from the same organization (application data lock functionality);
* Allow co-agents to appear in the public list of agents available for breeders;
* Allow uploading of large attachments;
* When a PBR authority ask for a revision to the applicant, allow the possibility to attach documents.

### Coverage

In Version 2.5, application or technical questionnaire forms were updated for the following participating PBR authorities:

* Chile
* European Union
* Switzerland

No UPOV members were added in Version 2.5. Maize was added as new crop for the European Union. The coverage of UPOV PRISMA in Version 2.5 was as follows:

| Authority | | Crop coverage in Version 2.5 |
| --- | --- | --- |
| African Intellectual Property Organization (OAPI) | OA | All genera and species |
| Argentina | AR | Apple (Fruit Varieties), Barley, Black Radish, Broad Bean, Brussels Sprouts, Cauliflower, Chili, Chinese Cabbage, Cotton, Egg Plant, Fig, Grapevine, Green onion, Grey Shallot, Hot Pepper, Indian mustard, Japanese Bunching Onion, Maize, Melon, Oriental Radish, Papaya, Paprika, Potato, Rose, Salvia, Shallot, Soya Bean, Spinach, Sugarcane, Sweet Pepper, Tomato Rootstocks, Watermelon, Welsh Onion, Wheat, Witloof Chicory |
| Australia | AU | All genera and species |
| Bolivia (Plurinational State of) \* | BO | All genera and species |
| Canada | CA | All genera & species excluding algae, bacteria and fungi |
| Chile | CL | All genera and species |
| China | CN | Lettuce |
| Colombia | CO | All genera and species |
| Costa Rica | CR | All genera and species |
| Dominican Republic | DO | All genera and species |
| Ecuador | EC | All genera and species |
| European Union | QZ | All genera & species excluding agricultural crops apart from Bent, Cocksfoot, Fescue, Maize, Meadow Fescue, Potato, Soya Bean, Ryegrass, Timothy |
| France | FR | All genera & species |
| Georgia | GE | Apple (Fruit Varieties), Barley, Blackberry, Blueberry, Cherry (Sweet Cherry), Chick-Pea, Field Bean, French Bean, Hazelnut, Lentil, Maize, Oats, Peach, Pear, Potato, Raspberry, Soya Bean, Sunflower, Tomato, Walnut, Wheat |
| Kenya | KE | All genera and species |
| Morocco | MA | Melon |
| Mexico | MX | All genera and species |
| Netherlands | NL | All genera and species |
| New Zealand | NZ | All genera and species |
| Norway | NO | All genera and species |
| Paraguay \* | PY | Soya Bean |
| Peru | PE | All genera and species |
| Republic of Moldova | MD | Apple (Fruit Varieties), Barley, Blackberry, Chili, European Plum, Grapevine, Hot Pepper, Lettuce, Maize, Oats, Onion, Paprika, Pea, Pear, Potato, Raspberry, Rose, Rye, Sour cherry, Soya Bean, Strawberry, Sunflower, Sunflower, Sweet Pepper, Tomato, Walnut, Wheat |
| Republic of Korea | KR | Apple (Fruit Varieties), Lettuce, Potato, Rose, Soya Bean |
| Serbia | RS | Apple (Fruit Varieties), Blueberry, Raspberry, Rose |
| South Africa | ZA | All genera and species |
| Sweden | SE | All genera and species |
| Switzerland | CH | All genera and species |
| Trinidad and Tobago | TT | Anthuriums , Bromeliaceae, Heliconiaceae, Orchidaceae, Sterculiaceae, Cajanus cajans, Vigna sp., Theobroma cacao L. |
| Tunisia | TN | All genera and species |
| Turkey | TR | All genera and species |
| United Kingdom | GB | All genera and species |
| United States of America | US | 192 crops including Lettuce, Potato, Soya Bean, Wheat |
| Uruguay | UY | All genera & species |
| Viet Nam | VN | Anthurium, Carnation, Chrysanthemum, Cucumber, Dahlia, Dragon Fruit, Japanese Bunching, Onion, Kohlrabi, Maize, Mango, Oranges (Citrus L. - Group 2), Peanut, Poinsettia, Potato, Rice, Rose, Soya Bean, Sunflower, Tomato, Welsh Onion, White-Red and Savoy Cabbage |
| Total | 35 |  |

*\*Until required information is provided, applicants will not be able to submit application data for the concerned authorities*

## Meeting on the development of an electronic application form (EAF/17)

At the seventeenth Meeting on the Development of an Electronic Application Form (“EAF/17 meeting”), held by electronic means on March 25, 2021, the participants noted the following (the meeting report will be available as document UPOV/EAF/17/3 “ Report”):

### Feedback from Users

The following issues have been raised by users:

#### New version of payment interface (Epay V2)

The new version of Epay (Epay V2), required by WIPO, resulted in certain problems at the time of launch but have since been resolved.

#### Auto-save functionality

In Version 2.5, a new “Auto-save” functionality was introduced to address loss of data when data were not saved after a period of inactivity in the system. The introduction of this new functionality created some new issues where different users were working on the same application (within the same company, with third parties and/or at different times). The consequence of the issue was that certain data could not be retrieved by users and needed to be recovered by the UPOV PRISMA IT team.

#### Lack of options for certain TQ information (Section 5) in relation to Disease Resistance

In relation to the information requested in the UPOV Technical Questionnaire for certain disease resistance characteristics, it was reported that there is a need to have “Not tested” as an option.

### Planned work for 2021

In order to reduce the risk of problems when introducing new versions and/ or new functionalities, the following steps will be taken:

* Appoint an external company to perform a software quality audit;
* Automate regression tests (to limit the risk of negative impact when introducing new functionalities);
* Organize user acceptance testing (UAT) before going live with any new functionalities.

With regard to receiving feedback and organizing user acceptance tests, it is proposed to work with a “Task Force” of users to be identified by CIOPORA and ISF.

In accordance with the feedback from users and on the basis of the strong growth in the number of applications made using UPOV PRISMA in 2021, the order of priority in 2021 will be as follows:

1. Resolve user issues concerning Version 2.5:

* Auto-save functionality
* UPOV TQ options for disease resistance characteristics

1. Update of participating PBR authority information
2. Improve user-friendliness of UPOV PRISMA
3. Expand the coverage of UPOV PRISMA

#### Resolving user issues concerning Version 2.5

##### Auto-save function

In order to resolve the auto-save issue, the previous auto-save functionality will be removed and a new auto-save version introduced. In the interim, users concerned have been advised to save data manually rather than relying on the auto-save function.

User acceptance tests of the new auto-save functionality are planned, to ensure that everything is fully tested before introducing the new functionality.

##### UPOV TQ options for disease resistance characteristics

For newly adopted revisions of Test Guidelines a “not tested” option had been implemented, meaning this change will be reflected in the system for all new TGs, once approved by the relevant UPOV bodies and once synchronized in UPOV PRISMA. The EAF/17 participants noted the comment made by the representative from the Netherlands that as far as possible, all required information should be provided in UPOV PRISMA, in order to avoid the need to ask applicants for additional information. It noted that it was not intended to add “not tested” as an option in UPOV PRISMA for disease resistance questions in the TQ5 if that option was not specified in the UPOV TG. The EAF/17 participants agreed to wait for the adopted Version of the UPOV Test Guidelines, before making any changes in UPOV PRISMA.[[1]](#footnote-2)

#### Updating of participating PBR authority information

Participating PBR authorities have been reminded to inform the Office of the Union if there was a need to update requirements in UPOV PRISMA (e.g. update of the forms, additional information).

Application or technical questionnaire forms will be updated for the following participating PBR authorities as soon as possible: Mexico and Norway.

#### Improve user-friendliness of UPOV PRISMA

As a first step, it is proposed to organize online workshops with users to review certain functionalities (e.g. copy functionality, assignment of roles), in order to identify ways to improve the user-friendliness of UPOV PRISMA.

A further step to improve user-friendliness will be to introduce a bulk upload feature, which will enable applicants to enter data in a pre-defined template (available for download in UPOV PRISMA) as a means of transmitting multiple applications, at one time, for the same authority and the same crop. A proof of concept has been tested for Maize with the CPVO, with real application data. The next step will be to extend the concept to other crops and authorities and with different user profiles. The scope of bulk upload feature and timeline for deployment will be discussed with breeders and authorities.

The EAF/17 participants noted the support expressed by a representative from ISF for the development of a bulk upload functionality and the importance it attached to the functionality.

The EAF/17 participants noted that WIPO had developed a new interface for online WIPO IP services (WIPO IP Portal - see <https://ipportal.wipo.int/>). It noted the plans to integrate UPOV PRISMA into this platform, so that WIPO client users (e.g. agents) could also:

* access UPOV PRISMA from the IP Portal Menu;
* navigate to and from UPOV PRISMA to other IP services offered by WIPO (e.g. e-PCT, eHague, Madrid) and use a common dashboard for payment services.

#### Expanding the Coverage

##### UPOV members

No new additional participating PBR authorities are planned to be included in 2021.

##### Crops/ species

The following participating PBR authority have informed the Office of the Union of their intention to extend the crop coverage in UPOV PRISMA. The anticipated changes will be implemented in 2021.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Authority | | Anticipated new crop coverage |
| Morocco | MA | Blackberry, blueberry, raspberry, strawberry |

### Version 2.6

On the basis of the priorities set out above (see paragraph 23 of this document), the following new functionalities are planned to be introduced in 2021 (Version 2.6):

#### New functionalities

1. Integrate UPOV PRISMA into the WIPO IP Portal
2. Development of bulk upload functionality (Proof of Concept Version 2)
3. UPOV TQ options for disease resistance characteristics

#### IT improvements

1. Improve the performance of form generation

### Communication and promotion

The focus for communication in 2021 will continue to be on individual support via direct contacts and training sessions for existing UPOV PRISMA users.

The EAF/17 participants noted the report by a representative of ISF, on the ISF Seed Talks Exclusive web event on “Get to know UPOV PRISMA”, held on March 17, 2021 on the World Seed Channel to promote the use of the Tool by providing testimonials from active users. The representative of ISF agreed to consider the possibility to make the user’s interview available more widely.

### Possible developments after 2021

#### Coverage

The Office of the Union will consult relevant participating PBR authorities concerning their requirements and timeline to:

* include National Listing in UPOV PRISMA (see document EAF/15/3 “Report” paragraph 12);
* introduce machine-to-machine links/ communication to UPOV PRISMA (see document EAF/15/3 “Report” paragraph 12).

The following UPOV members have expressed an interest to join UPOV PRISMA in the future: Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Japan, Nicaragua, Singapore, United Republic of Tanzania and Uzbekistan. The Office of the Union will consult the UPOV members concerned to discuss their requirements and timeline for joining UPOV PRISMA.

#### User-friendliness of the tool

The following elements will be considered after 2021 to increase the user-friendliness of UPOV PRISMA:

* Addition of non UPOV TQ characteristics in TQ Section 7 instead of TQ Section 5 (see document EAF/17/3 “Report” paragraph 19);
* Crop-specific TQs beyond Test Guidelines (see document EAF/16/3 “Report” paragraph 18).
* TQ Synchronization between UPOV PRISMA and CPVO (see document EAF/16/3 “Report” paragraph 18);
* Improvement of the copy functionality (according to the outcomes of the workshops organized with users).

#### New functionalities

The following new functionalities will be considered for possible development after 2021:

* Machine translation (see document EAF/16/3 “Report” paragraph 18);
* Information on DUS cooperation (DUS Arrangement Recommendation Tool (DART)) (see document EAF/16/3 “Report” paragraph 18).

## Use of UPOV PRISMA (as of March 31, 2021)

Information on the use of UPOV PRISMA (as of March 31, 2021), is provided below:

#### Number of submissions via UPOV PRISMA

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 |
| January | 1 |  | 7 | 18 | 109 |
| February |  | 3 | 9 | 5 | 106 |
| March | 2 | 3 | 6 | 21 | 66 |
| April |  | 3 | 22 | 11 |  |
| May | 1 | 1 | 33 | 11 |  |
| June |  | 7 | 10 | 18 |  |
| July |  | 7 | 3 | 9 |  |
| August |  | 1 | 7 | 11 |  |
| September | 3 | 8 | 16 | 29 |  |
| October | 1 | 19 | 29 | 16 |  |
| November | 3 | 16 | 26 | 41 |  |
| December | 3 | 9 | 51 | 32 |  |
| Total | 14 | 77 | 219 | 222 | 281 |

#### Number of submissions via UPOV PRISMA (comparison by month)

#### Submissions in UPOV PRISMA by crop type

#### Number of submissions by participating Authority in UPOV PRISMA

| Authority |  | Number of submissions in UPOV PRISMA in 2017 | Number of submissions in UPOV PRISMA in 2018 | Number of submissions in UPOV PRISMA in 2019 | Number of submissions in UPOV PRISMA in 2020 | Number of submissions in UPOV PRISMA in 2021  (as of 31/03/2021) | Total Number of submissions in UPOV PRISMA  (as of 31/03/2021) |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| African Intellectual Property Organization (OAPI) | OA |  |  | 3 | 1 |  | 4 |
| Argentina | AR |  |  |  |  |  | - |
| Australia | AU |  | 10 | 17 | 36 | 10 | 75 |
| Bolivia (Plurinational State of)\* | BO |  |  | 2 |  |  | 2 |
| Canada | CA |  | 6 | 27 | 17 | 2 | 52 |
| Chile | CL | 3 |  | 3 | 1 |  | 7 |
| China | CN |  |  |  |  |  | - |
| Colombia | CO |  |  | 4 | 2 | 1 | 7 |
| Costa Rica | CR |  |  | 4 | 1 |  | 5 |
| Dominican Republic | DO |  |  | 2 | 2 |  | 4 |
| Ecuador | EC |  |  |  | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| European Union | QZ |  | 8 | 38 | 13 | 15 | 74 |
| France | FR |  |  | 20 | - | 1 | 21 |
| Georgia | GE |  |  | 2 | 1 |  | 3 |
| Kenya | KE |  | 13 | 6 | 14 | 2 | 35 |
| Morocco | MA |  |  |  |  |  | - |
| Mexico | MX |  | 7 | 7 | 13 | 4 | 31 |
| Netherlands | NL | 1 | 8 | 12 | 6 |  | 27 |
| New Zealand | NZ | 5 | 3 | 8 | 5 | 7 | 28 |
| Norway | NO | 1 |  | 5 | 7 |  | 13 |
| Paraguay\* | PY |  |  |  |  |  | - |
| Peru | PE |  |  |  | 2 |  | 2 |
| Republic of Moldova | MD |  |  | 2 |  |  | 2 |
| Republic of Korea | KR |  |  | 1 | 1 |  | 2 |
| Serbia | RS |  |  | 2 | 1 |  | 3 |
| South Africa | ZA |  | 2 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 8 |
| Sweden | SE |  |  | 1 |  |  | 1 |
| Switzerland | CH | 2 | 3 | 4 | 16 | 1 | 26 |
| Trinidad and Tobago | TT |  |  |  |  |  | - |
| Tunisia | TN |  | 2 | 4 |  | 1 | 7 |
| Turkey | TR |  | 6 | 23 | 54 | 18 | 101 |
| United Kingdom | GB |  | 3 | 18 | 22 | 213 | 258 |
| United States of America | US |  | 6 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 13 |
| Uruguay | UY |  |  |  |  | 1 | 1 |
| Viet Nam | VN |  |  |  |  |  | - |
| Total | 35 | 14 | 77 | 219 | 222 | 281 | 813 |

*\*Until required information is provided, applicants will not be able to submit application data*

#### Number of Registered Users

The TWPs, at their sessions in 2021, will receive an oral report on further developments.

The TWPs are invited to note the developments concerning UPOV PRISMA.

[End of document]

1. *As an interim solution until the TGs are revised, if the applicant is unable to provide the required information in the TQ and if the PBR authority agrees that the information is not necessary, on a case-by-case basis, an arrangement can be made to allow the applicant to submit the application data to the authority concerned without the information.* [↑](#footnote-ref-2)