

Technical Working Party for Vegetables

Fifty-Fifth Session

Antalya, Turkey, May 3 to 7, 2021

TWP/5/3
Original: English

Date: April 8, 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

UPOV PRISMA
Document prepared by the Office of the Union
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. The purpose of this document is to report on developments concerning the development of UPOV PRISMA.
2. The TWPs are invited to note the developments concerning UPOV PRISMA.
3. The structure of this document is as follows:

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BACKGROUND

4. 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

5. 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".

6. 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):

- (a) 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");
- (b) Need to increase coverage for important crops in participating PBR authorities that do not cover all crops/species in UPOV PRISMA;
- (c) 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");
- (d) 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");
- (e) Avoid loss of confidence in UPOV PRISMA by withdrawing PBR authority participation where the UPOV PRISMA Terms of Use are not fulfilled.

7. 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.

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

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

9. 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

10. 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

11. 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

12. 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

13. 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

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

- Chile
- European Union
- Switzerland

15. 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

Authority		Crop coverage in Version 2.5
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)

16. 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

17. The following issues have been raised by users:

New version of payment interface (Epay V2)

18. 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

19. 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

20. 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

21. 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.

22. 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.

23. 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
2. Update of participating PBR authority information
3. Improve user-friendliness of UPOV PRISMA
4. Expand the coverage of UPOV PRISMA

Resolving user issues concerning Version 2.5

Auto-save function

24. 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.

25. 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

26. 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

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.

Updating of participating PBR authority information

27. 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).

28. 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

29. 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.

30. 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.

31. 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.

32. 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

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

Crops/ species

34. 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

35. 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

- a) Integrate UPOV PRISMA into the WIPO IP Portal
- b) Development of bulk upload functionality (Proof of Concept Version 2)
- c) UPOV TQ options for disease resistance characteristics

IT improvements

- a) Improve the performance of form generation

Communication and promotion

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

37. 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

38. 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).

39. 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

40. 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

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

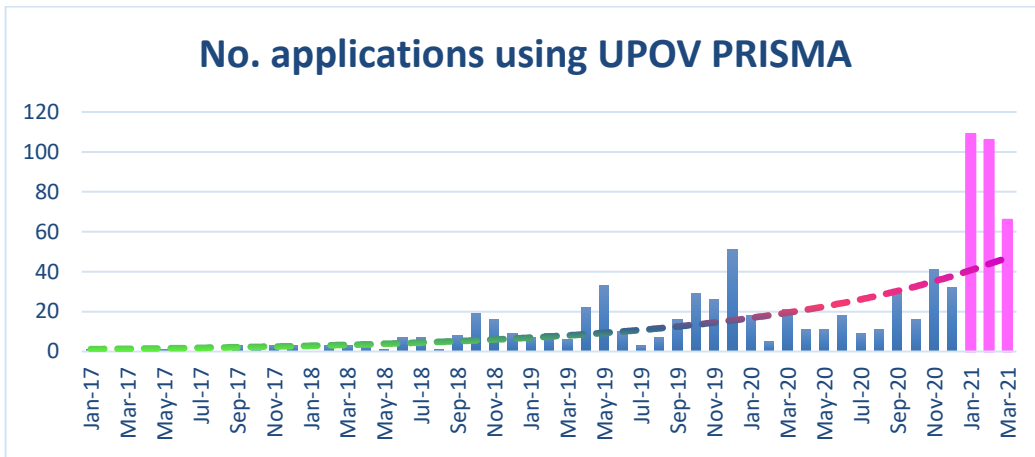
- Machine translation (see document EAF/16/3 “Report” paragraph 18);
- Information on DUS cooperation (DUS Arrangement Recommendation Tool (DART)) (see document EAF/16/3 “Report” paragraph 18).

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

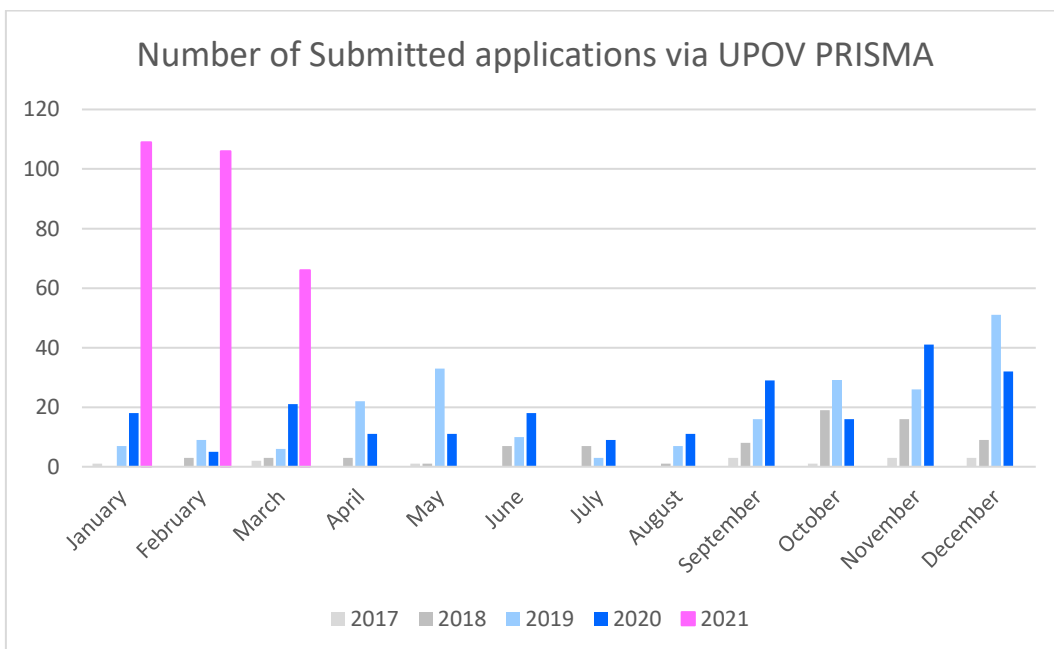
42. Information on the use of UPOV PRISMA (as of March 31, 2021), is provided below:

Number of submissions via UPOV PRISMA

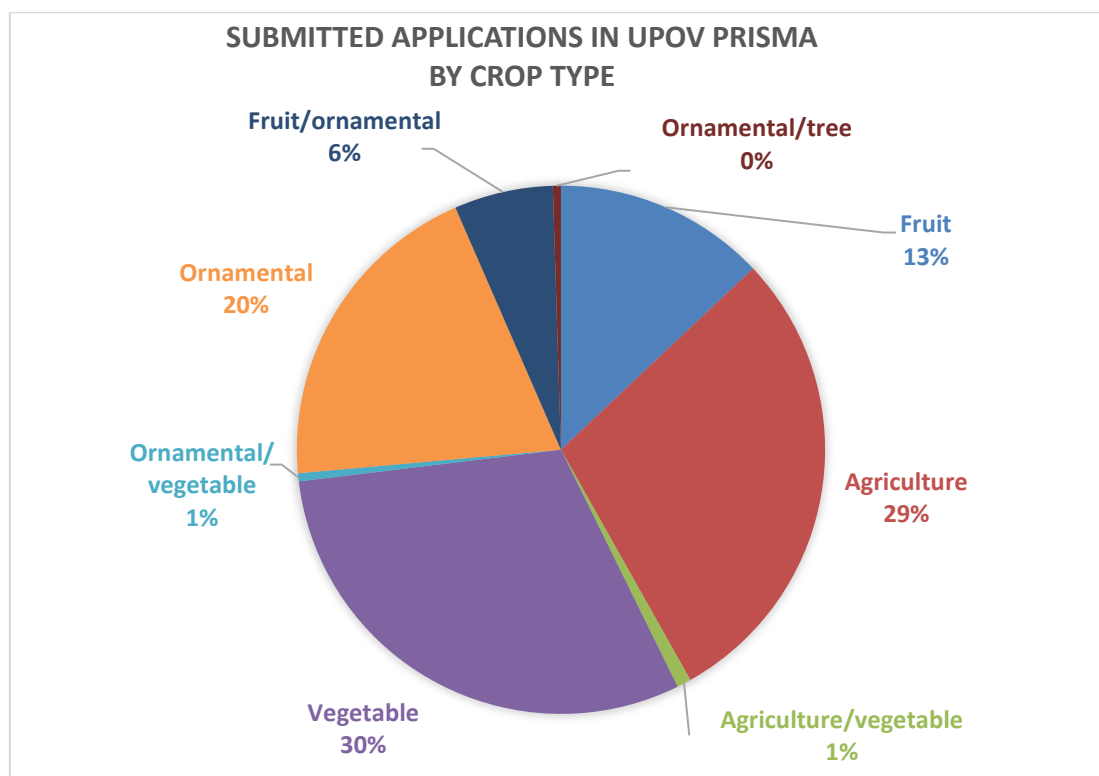
	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
January	1		7	18	109
February		3	9	5	106
March	2	3	6	21	66
April		3	22	11	
May	1	1	33	11	
June		7	10	18	
July		7	3	9	
August		1	7	11	
September	3	8	16	29	
October	1	19	29	16	
November	3	16	26	41	
December	3	9	51	32	
Total	14	77	219	222	281



Number of submissions via UPOV PRISMA (comparison by month)



Submissions in UPOV PRISMA by crop type



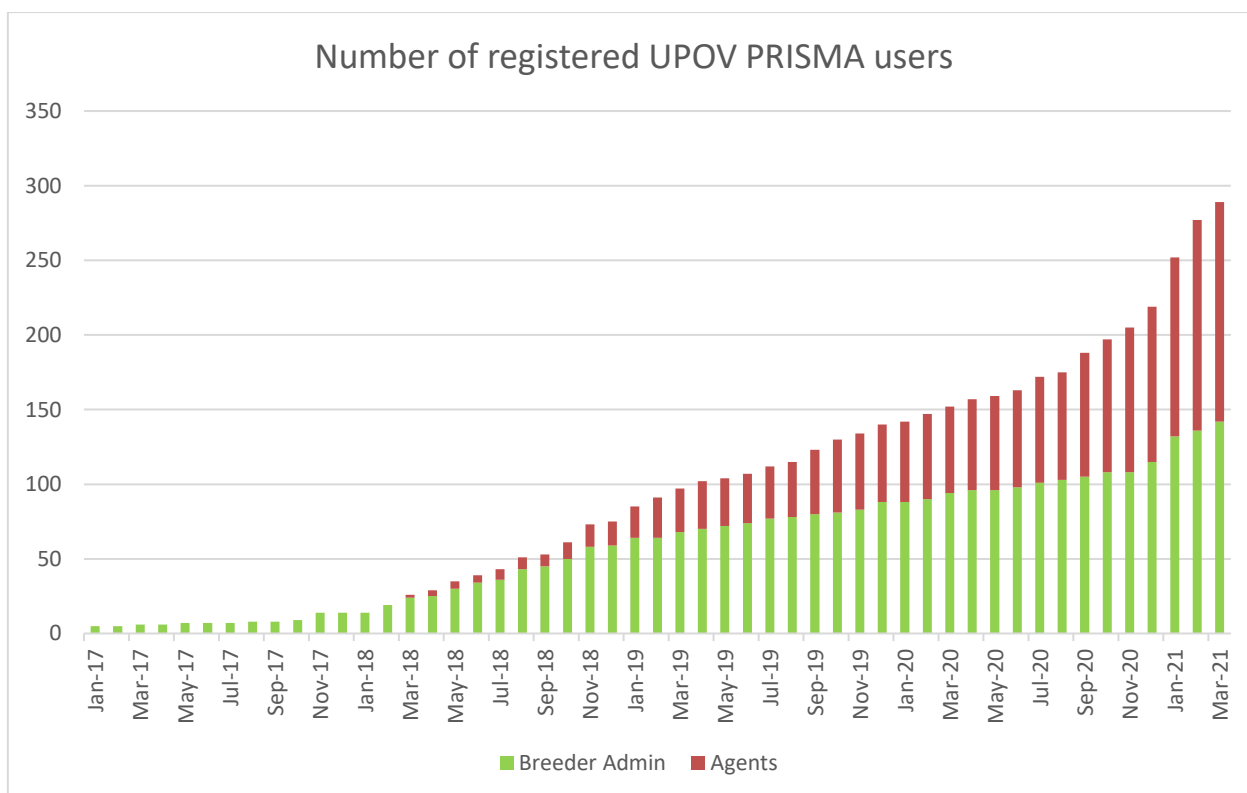
Number of submissions by participating Authority in UPOV PRISMA

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

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)
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



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

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

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