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| Meeting on the development of an electronic application form  Nineteenth Meeting  March 16, 2022 (virtual meeting) | UPOV/EAF/19/3  Original: English  Date: April 25, 2022 |

REPORT

adopted by the Meeting on the Development of an Electronic Application Form

Disclaimer: this document does not represent UPOV policies or guidance

# Welcome and opening

The nineteenth meeting on the development of an electronic form (EAF/19 meeting), organized via electronic means, was opened and chaired by Mr. Peter Button, Vice Secretary-General of UPOV, who welcomed the participants.

The list of participants is reproduced in Annex I to this report.

# Approval of the agenda

The meeting adopted the draft agenda as proposed in document UPOV/EAF/19/1.

# Developments concerning UPOV PRISMA

The meeting considered document UPOV/EAF/19/2 Rev. (F) / UPOV/EAF/19/2 Rev. Corr. (E,S) “Developments concerning UPOV PRISMA” and received a presentation by the Office of the Union on the latest developments concerning UPOV PRISMA, a copy of which is reproduced in Annex II to this document.

## Use of UPOV PRISMA (as of January 31, 2022)

The EAF/19 participants noted the information on the use of UPOV PRISMA as of February 28, 2022, as reported in Annex II of this report.

## Launch of Version 2.7

The EAF/19 participants noted that UPOV PRISMA Version 2.7 was fully deployed in January 2022, with the following changes:

### Saint Vincent and Grenadines as additional participating PBR authorities;

* Forms updated for European Union and the Netherlands;
* Possibility to download the list of applications as displayed in the dashboard for PVP office in Excel format;
* Introduction of the WIPO IP Portal navigation bar;
* Bulk Upload (for maize, European Union);
* Provide the Co-agent with the right to view applications of other colleagues.

## Other developments

### IT Quality Software Audit

The EAF/19 participants noted that in order to reduce the risk of problems when introducing new versions and/or new functionalities, the following steps would be taken (see document UPOV/EAF/17/3 “Report”):

* Appoint an external company to perform a software quality audit;
* Organize user acceptance testing (UAT) before going live with new functionalities.

The EAF/19 participants noted that the Office of the Union had appointed an external company to perform a software quality audit, and that according to the test maturity model, UPOV PRISMA had reached maturity level 2: “the organization has a fundamental test approach where some common test practices are implemented such as planning, monitoring and control over test activities”. The following recommendations had been provided to move to maturity level 3: “the organization is rather proactive and the test approach is documented and described in standards, procedures, tools and methods”:

1. Know the users and how UPOV PRISMA is used;
2. Focus on what is important and urgent: Automate test cases for regression on the functionalities mostly used and the functionalities that generate 80% of the bugs;
3. Define a clear Test strategy document;
4. For each new requirement, an impact analysis should be made;
5. Define a standard process for test case creation;
6. Use a test repository tool.

The EAF/19 participants noted that the above recommendations had been implemented except for the second recommendation. In that regard, the EAF/19 participants noted the test case for regression tests which was being automated and would be deployed in June 2022.

Further to the above measures to improve the quality of the UPOV PRISMA software, the EAF/19 participants noted that a code audit had been organized, which produced the following recommendations:

1. Implement best practices in terms of coding in order to avoid concurrency and performance issues;
2. Move to the cloud for a better resource management at infrastructure level and keep following the highest security standards ;
3. Develop a dedicated configuration interface for a controlled management of the forms.

The EAF/19 participants noted that in relation to user acceptance testing (UAT) before going live with any new functionalities, it was planned to consult UPOV PRISMA “Task Force” Group before implementing the changes in the real environment.

### Improvement of user-friendliness of UPOV PRISMA

The EAF/19 participants noted the new proposals to improve “Start New Application” and “Copy Application” screens and the next steps as follows:

1. A first round discussion with UPOV PRISMA Task force group took place in February 2022;
2. The second round discussion will take place in June 2022;
3. The implementation will be done in 2023.

### CPVO participation in UPOV PRISMA

The EAF/19 participants noted that in order to achieve and maintain synchronization of TQs between UPOV PRISMA and CPVO (see documents UPOV/EAF/16/3 “Report” paragraph 18, UPOV/EAF/17/3 “Report” paragraph 32 and UPOV/EAF/18/3 “Report” paragraph 12) the following projects had been agreed with CPVO:

* Project 1: “Audit” (current issues/ states of affairs) for exchange of data between UPOV PRISMA and CPVO in both directions (Status: completed);
* Project 2: Part A: Resolving current issues; Part B : Synchronizing changes by UPOV/CPVO (Status: not started);
* Project 3: Implementation of Project 2 outcome: Bi-directional exchange of application data (lettuce, tomato, rose) (Status: ongoing but limited to lettuce and rose);
* Project 4: Bulk upload of Maize applications from UPOV to CPVO (Status: completed);
* Project 5: “Transitional arrangements”, to communicate to applicants about the situations in which they can use UPOV PRISMA for applications at the CPVO and the measures that need to be taken until all issues have been resolved (Status: ongoing).

The EAF/19 participants noted the report on each project (as of March 16, 2022), as reported in Annex II of this report.

The EAF/19 participants noted the transitional arrangements agreed by UPOV and CPVO in relation to Project 5, as reported in Annex II of this report.

## Coverage of Test Guidelines: Sugar Beet

The EAF/19 participants approved the procedure for utilizing authorities’ TQs as presented in document UPOV/EAF/19/2 Rev. Corr., paragraphs 24 and 25:

1. Request from Authority A for a specific crop (Authority A TQ)

2. Inform other participating authorities in UPOV PRISMA

3. Circulate the Authority A TQ to see if participating UPOV members that use the UPOV TQ for all genera and species would prefer to:

(a) use Authority A TQ or

(b) continue using the generic TQ

4. Implement Authority A TQ for UPOV members who wish to use Authority A TQ (subject to available resources).

The EAF/19 participants noted that the United Kingdom TQ for sugar beet would be circulated to the participating UPOV members that use the UPOV TQ for all genera and species to see if they would wish to use the United Kingdom TQ or to continue using the generic TQ.

## Version 2.8

The EAF/19 participants noted that on the basis of the request for new developments made by PVP Offices and registered users (see paragraph 29 to 31 of document UPOV/EAF/19/2 Rev. Corr.), the following new coverage and functionalities were planned to be introduced in Version 2.8:

* The forms for France and the Netherlands will be updated
* Bulk Upload (Maize, United Kingdom);
* Bulk invoice upon request;
* Improve the download functionality for PVP Offices by including UPOV code information for crops not covered by UPOV TG and the addition of following columns (only for United Kingdom as Proof of Concept):
  + Country of Origin
  + NLI Maintainer
  + NLI Agent
  + NLI Applicant
  + PBR Breeder
  + PBR Applicant
  + PBR Agent
  + Date PBR application received
  + Date NL application Received
  + Provisional Marketing Authorisation Code
  + Provisional Marketing Authorisation Date
  + Seed Weight
* Improve the loading performance of the dashboard

The EAF/19 participants noted that Version 2.8 was planned to be launched by the end of 2022, subject to available resources.

# Planned FUTURE developments (after version 2.8)

## Coverage

The EAF/19 participants noted the feedback received from registered users as following:

* Allow the possibility to upload multiple attachments for the same question;
* In the email notification message, remove the reference to the “applicant” since it is not correct when an agent submits the application data;
* For agents, accept invitations in bulk instead of clicking each one individually;
* Add an additional "notes" field to the agent profile to allow agents to provide further information to breeders/applicants, such as services offered and languages spoken.

The EAF/19 participants noted that the following UPOV members had previously expressed an interest in participating in UPOV PRISMA: Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Egypt, Japan, Nicaragua, Singapore, United Republic of Tanzania and Uzbekistan. The Office of the Union would consult the UPOV members concerned to discuss their requirements and timeline for joining UPOV PRISMA.

## User-friendliness of the tool

The EAF/19 participants noted that the following elements would 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 UPOV/EAF/17/3 “Report” paragraph 19);
* Crop-specific TQs beyond Test Guidelines (see document UPOV/EAF/16/3 “Report” paragraph 18);

## New functionalities

The EAF/19 participants noted that the following new functionalities would be considered for possible development:

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

## IT improvements

The EAF/19 participants noted that the following IT improvements would be considered for possible development after Version 2.8:

* Improve the performance of form generation.

## UPOV PRISMA support and development team

The EAF/19 participants noted the new organization of the UPOV PRISMA support and development team as reported in Annex II of this report.

# Date of next meeting

The next meeting of the EAF (EAF/20 meeting) was agreed to be held as a hybrid meeting (physical/virtual means) on the evening of October 25, 2022.

*This report was adopted by correspondence.*

[Annex I follows]

LISTE DES PARTICIPANTS / LIST OF PARTICIPANTS / LISTA DE PARTICIPANTES

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