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

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| Meeting on the development of a prototype electronic form  Ninth Meeting Geneva, April 7, 2017 | UPOV/EAF/9/3  Original: English  Date: October 9, 2017 |

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 ninth meeting on the development of a prototype electronic form (EAF/9 meeting) was opened and chaired by Mr. Peter Button, Vice Secretary-General of UPOV, who welcomed the participants in Geneva and those who participated in the meeting by means of electronic conference.

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/9/1 Rev.

# Developments concerning the electronic application form project

The meeting considered document [UPOV/EAF/9/2 Corr.2](http://www.upov.int/meetings/en/details.jsp?meeting_id=42648) “Developments concerning the Electronic Application Form” and received a presentation by the Office of the Union on the latest developments in relation to the prototype electronic form, a copy of which is reproduced in Annex II to this document.

The participants agreed with the following proposed developments:

## New versions of the EAF

The current version of the EAF was Version 1.0. It was foreseen that the next version (Version 1.1) of the EAF would be released in July 2017. The subsequent version (Version 2.0) was anticipated to be released in 2018.

### Version 1.1

#### 

#### Participating UPOV members

The participants noted that the following additional UPOV members had provided the necessary information and had expressed their intention to participate in Version 1.1, for the indicated crops:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Authority | | GLYCI\_MAX  Soya Bean | LACTU\_SAT  Lettuce | MALUS\_DOM  Apple fruit varieties | ROSAA  Rose | SOLAN\_TUB  Potato | Languages accepted for submission |
|  | |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| China | CN |  | 🗸 |  | 🗸 |  | Chinese |
| Colombia | CO |  |  |  | 🗸 |  | Spanish |
| Paraguay | PY | 🗸 |  |  |  |  | Spanish |
| Republic of Moldova | MD | 🗸 | 🗸 | 🗸 | 🗸 | 🗸 | Romanian |
| United States of America | US | 🗸\* | 🗸\* |  |  | 🗸 | English |
| Turkey | TR | 🗸 | 🗸 | 🗸 | 🗸 | 🗸 | Turkish |

*\* already in EAF Version 1.0*

#### Languages

The participants noted that preparations were being made for the introduction of Chinese (China), Romanian (Republic of Moldova) and Turkish (Turkey), in Version 1.1, subject to the necessary information being provided by the members of the Union concerned.

#### Style sheet for the application form

The participants noted that, where requested by PVP Offices, it would be possible to have a customized format for the application form to be received by the PVP Office (e.g. addition of national coding reference to the form, PVP Office logo) if the relevant information was provided according to a specified format.

### Version 2.0

#### Participating UPOV members

The participants noted that only authorities participating in PV2 or in Version 1.1 (African Intellectual Property Organization (OAPI), Argentina, Australia, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Chile, China, Canada, Colombia, Czech Republic, European Union, France, Georgia, Japan, Kenya, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Paraguay, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, South Africa, Switzerland, Tunisia, Turkey, United States of America, Uruguay and Viet Nam) would be able to participate in Version 2.0. New participating members of the Union would be included after the release of Version 2.0.

## Crops/species

The participants noted that it had previously been agreed that it would be beneficial for the system to cover as many crops/ species as soon as possible. Therefore, at the EAF/8 meeting, the Office of the Union was requested to develop an approach to add new crops more rapidly and to increase the number of crops included in the EAF (see document [UPOV/EAF/8/3](http://www.upov.int/meetings/en/details.jsp?meeting_id=40045) “Report”, paragraph 6(j)).

It was noted that the main part of the application form was the same for all crops for a particular authority. However, the crop-specific technical information, typically provided in the technical questionnaire (TQ), differed between crops. Therefore, the challenge in adding new crops was to address the crop-specific part of the application.

In order to be able to cover as many crops/ species as rapidly as possible, it was proposed to develop three approaches. It would be a matter for each participating member of the Union to decide which of the approaches to apply on a crop-by-crop basis.

### UPOV Technical Questionnaire (Approach 1)

The TQ in the EAF would need to be identical to the TQ in the adopted UPOV Test Guidelines (TG). The web‑based TG Template would be the source of the TG TQ information; therefore, the introduction of crops/species under this approach would require the relevant TGs to be included in the web-based TG Template.

For crops/species for which there is no adopted UPOV TG, the TQ in the EAF would be based on the structure of the TQ in document TGP/7 “Development of Test Guidelines”. This would allow users to provide information, in a standardized way, for the following:

* Breeding history: breeding scheme; method of propagating the variety;
* TQ characteristics : free text characteristics and states of expression;
* Similar varieties and differences from those varieties;
* Additional information.

### Customized characteristics (Approach 2)

The TQ in the EAF would be the same for all crops (non-crop specific) except for “characteristics of the variety” (Section 5 of the UPOV TQ or equivalent) and “similar varieties and differences from these varieties” (Section 6 of the UPOV TQ or equivalent)). The characteristics in the TQ in the EAF would be:

1. UPOV TG characteristics;
2. Authority specific characteristics
3. Free text information.

### Customized TQ (Approach 3)

The TQ in the EAF would contain crop-specific sections other than those specified in Approach 2.

The table below summarizes the approaches that would currently cover the participating members in the EAF Version 1.0:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Authority (for existing crops/species) | | Approach 1 | Approach 2 | Approach 3 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Argentina | AR |  | 🗸 |  |
| Australia | AU |  | 🗸 |  |
| Chile | CL | 🗸 |  |  |
| France | FR |  |  | 🗸 |
| Kenya | KE | 🗸 |  |  |
| Netherlands | NL |  |  | 🗸 |
| New Zealand | NZ |  |  | 🗸 |
| Norway | NO |  |  | 🗸 |
| Switzerland | CH |  |  | 🗸 |
| Tunisia | TN | 🗸 |  |  |
| United States of America | US |  | 🗸 |  |
| Uruguay | UY |  | 🗸 |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Total | 12 | 3 | 4 | 5 |

The participants noted that on the basis that resources would be allocated equally to the three approaches, it would be possible to cover all crops/species for Approaches 1 and 2 by the end of 2018. In the case of Approach 3, the process would continue indefinitely according to an agreed prioritization.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | … |
| Approach 1\* complete |  | |  |
| Approach 2\* complete |  | |  |
| Approach 3 | | | … |

*\*  depending on the number of Test Guidelines adopted and included in the Test Guidelines Template Database*

For all approaches, the order of priority for addition of crops/species would be decided in consultation with the EAF participants.

## Functionalities

### Information for official variety list purposes

The participants agreed that, with regard to information for official variety list purposes, the requirements would be discussed individually with each of the participating members of the Union that had expressed a wish to include such information. In that regard, the participating member of the Union may also be invited to consider providing resources, in order to implement such requirements.

### Payment

The participants noted that additional payment methods may be introduced in Version 2.0, e.g. current account or e-wallet. It was proposed to investigate those different possibilities and to report on their possible development at a subsequent EAF meeting.

### Link to information available in the GENIE Database

The participants noted the proposal to make a link in the EAF website to the information available in GENIE, in particular with regard to experience and cooperation in DUS examination.

## Communication

The participants noted that:

1. at the launch of the EAF, the Office of the Union had informed breeders’ organizations and PVP Offices on the availability of the system (see Circulars E-17/007, E-17/008 and E-17/009), also inviting those parties to inform all their relevant stakeholders;
2. a series of communication materials (e.g. posters and flyers) would be developed for UPOV members and breeders’ organizations;
3. meetings (including online sessions & webinars) would be organized for individual applicants or groups of applicants upon request, and training material (e.g. PowerPoint presentation, tutorials, e‑learning) would be developed.

The participants noted the proposal made by some participating PVP Offices in the EAF to add a link to the EAF on their own websites. It further agreed on the importance of PVP Offices to diffuse the information on the availability of the EAF tool to potential users (e.g. breeders, representatives, agents, etc.).

## Support

The participants noted that a program of user-support and routine maintenance provisions for PVP Offices and users would be developed in consultation with EAF meetings, according to the needs expressed and resources available within the Office of the Union.

## Name

The EAF/9 meeting considered the name “PRISMA” (Plant variety data Routing Information System using Multilingual Application forms) as a new name for the EAF and the following logo, presented at the meeting:

N:\OrgUPOV\Shared\UPOV_EAF\logo_PRISMA\PRISMA_Logo_final\CR_logos\prisma-color-48px.png

The EAF/9 meeting agreed that the name “PRISMA” and the proposed logo should be proposed for approval at the fifty-first ordinary session of the Council, to be held in Geneva on October 26, 2017.

# Latest developments

The Office of the Union reported that Ecuador had indicated to the Office of the Union its interest to participate in the EAF.

The Office of the Union also explained that members of the Union that had not participated in PV2 or Version 1.1 would be able to be included after the release of Version 2.0. Such members of the Union would need to provide their forms for the selected crops (application form and technical questionnaire) in a UPOV language and, if appropriate, to provide translations of the questions of the application forms and technical questionnaires of the other languages used in the EAF. The timetable for addition of new members of the Union would be subject to available resources and would vary according to the content of the application forms and technical questionnaires.

# Date of next meeting

The next meeting of the EAF (EAF/10 meeting) was agreed to be held in Geneva on the afternoon of Friday October 27, 2017.

*This report was adopted by correspondence.*

[Annexes follow]

UPOV/EAF/9/3

ANNEX I

LISTE DES PARTICIPANTS / LIST OF PARTICIPANTS /  
TEILNEHMERLISTE / LISTA DE PARTICIPANTES  
  
(dans l’ordre alphabétique des noms français des membres /   
in the alphabetical order of the French names of the Members /   
in alphabetischer Reihenfolge der französischen Namen der Mitglieder /   
por orden alfabético de los nombres en francés de los miembros)

I. MEMBRES / MEMBERS / VERBANDSMITGLIEDER / MIEMBROS

ARGENTINE / ARGENTINA / ARGENTINIEN / ARGENTINA

Raimundo LAVIGNOLLE, Presidente del Directorio, Instituto Nacional de Semillas (INASE),   
Secretaría de Agricultura, Ganadería y Pesca, Ministerio de Economía, Buenos Aires   
(e-mail: rlavignolle@inase.gov.ar)

María Laura VILLAMAYOR (Sra.), Abogada, Unidad Presidencia, Instituto Nacional de Semillas (INASE), Secretaría de Agricultura, Ganadería y Pesca, Ministerio de Economía, Buenos Aires   
(e-mail: mlvillamayor@inase.gov.ar)

AUSTRALIE / AUSTRALIA / AUSTRALIEN / AUSTRALIA

Nik HULSE, Chief of Plant Breeders' Rights, Plant Breeder's Rights Office, IP Australia, Woden   
(e-mail: nik.hulse@ipaustralia.gov.au)

Tanvir HOSSAIN, Senior Examiner, Plant Breeder's Rights Office, IP Australia, Woden   
(e-mail: tanvir.hossain@ipaustralia.gov.au)

BÉLARUS / BELARUS / BELARUS / BELARÚS

Uladzimir BEINIA, Director, State Inspection for Testing and Protection of Plant Varieties, Minsk   
(e-mail: belsort@mail.ru)

Tatsiana SIAMASHKA (Mrs.), Deputy Director of DUS Testing, State Inspection for Testing and Protection of Plant Varieties, Minsk   
(e-mail: tatianasortr@mail.ru)

Maryna SALADUKHA (Ms.), Head, International Cooperation Department, State Inspection for Testing and Protection of Plant Varieties, Minsk   
(e-mail: belsort@mail.ru)

BELGIQUE / BELGIUM / BELGIEN / BÉLGICA

Björn COENE, Attaché, Office de la Propriété Intellectuelle, Direction générale de la Réglementation économique, Bruxelles   
(e-mail: bjorn.coene@economie.fgov.be)

BRÉSIL / BRAZIL / BRASILIEN / BRASIL

Ricardo ZANATTA MACHADO, Fiscal Federal Agropecuário, Coordinador do SNPC, Serviço Nacional de Proteção de Cultivares (SNPC), Ministério da Agricultura, Pecuária e Abastecimento, Brasilia , D.F.   
(e-mail: ricardo.machado@agricultura.gov.br)

Samo Sergio GONÇALVES, Diplomate, Permanent Mission of Brazil, Geneva  
(e-mail: samogoncalves@gmail.com)

Rosana DE LIMA BEZERRA (Ms.), Trainee, Permanent Mission of Brazil, Geneva  
(e-mail: rosana.bezerra@itamaraty.gov.br)

CANADA / canada / KANADA / CANADÁ

Anthony PARKER, Commissioner, Plant Breeders' Rights Office, Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA), Ottawa   
(e-mail: anthony.parker@inspection.gc.ca)

Marc DE WIT, Examiner, Plant Breeders' Rights Office, Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA), Ottawa   
(e-mail: Marc.deWit@inspection.gc.ca)

Ashley BALCHIN (Ms.), Examiner, Plant Breeders' Rights Office, Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA), Ottawa   
(e-mail: ashley.balchin@inspection.gc.ca)   
[via WebEx]

Jennifer ROACH (Ms.), Examiner, Plant Breeders' Rights Office, Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA), Ottawa   
(e-mail: Jennifer.Roach@inspection.gc.ca)   
[via WebEx]

CHILI / CHILE / CHILE / CHILE

Natalia SOTOMAYOR CABRERA (Sra.), Abogado, Departamento de Asesoría Jurídica, Oficina de Estudios y Politicas Agrarias (ODEPA), Santiago de Chile   
(e-mail: nsotomayor@odepa.gob.cl)

Alvaro ULLOA, Encargado Área Frutales, Servicio Agrícola y Ganadero, Ministerio de Agricultura, Santiago de Chile   
(e-mail: alvaro.ulloa@sag.gob.cl)

CHINE / CHINA / CHINA / CHINA

Wenjun CHEN, Project Officer, State Intellectual Property Office, Beijing   
(e-mail: chenwenjun@sipo.gov.cn)

Chao DENG, Principal Staff Member, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Agriculture, Beijing   
(e-mail: dengchaowin@sina.com)

Faji HUANG, Officer, Office for the Protection of New Plant Varieties, State Forestry Administration, Beijing   
(e-mail: huangfaji@sina.com)

COLOMBIE / COLOMBIA / KOLUMBIEN / COLOMBIA

Ana Luisa DÍAZ JIMÉNEZ (Sra.), Directora, Dirección Técnica de Semillas, Instituto Colombiano Agropecuario (ICA), Bogotá D.C.   
(e-mail: analuisadiazj@gmail.com)

Juan Camilo SARETZKI-FORERO, Consejero, Misión Permanente, Ginebra   
(e-mail: juan.saretzki@misioncolombia.ch)

Daniela Carolina PEREZ MAHECHA (Ms.), Intern, Misión Permanente, Ginebra   
(e-mail: daniela.perez@misioncolombia.ch)

ESTONIE / ESTONIA / ESTLAND / ESTONIA

Laima PUUR (Ms.), Head, Variety Department, Estonian Agricultural Board, Viljandi   
(e-mail: laima.puur@pma.agri.ee)

Evelin SIMER (Ms.), Councelor, Permanent Mission, Geneva  
(e-mail: evelin.simer@mfa.ee)

ÉTATS-UNIS D'AMÉRIQUE / UNITED STATES OF AMERICA / VEREINIGTE STAATEN VON AMERIKA /   
ESTADOS UNIDOS DE AMÉRICA

Kitisri SUKHAPINDA (Ms.), Patent Attorney, Office of Policy and International Affairs, United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), Department of Commerce, Department of Commerce, Alexandria   
(e-mail: kitisri.sukhapinda@uspto.gov)

Elaine WU (Ms.), Attorney - Advisor, United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), Department of Commerce, Alexandria   
(e-mail: elaine.wu@uspto.gov)

Yasmine Nicole FULENA (Mme), Intellectual Property Assistant, Permanent Mission, Geneva   
(e-mail: fulenayn@state.gov)

Jeffery HAYNES, Deputy Commissioner, U.S. Plant Variety Protection Office, USDA, AMS, S&T, Plant Variety Protection Office, Washington D.C.   
(e-mail: Jeffery.Haynes@ams.usda.gov)   
[via WebEx]

Paul M. ZANKOWSKI, Commissioner, Plant Variety Protection Office, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), AMS, S&T, Washington D.C.   
(e-mail: paul.zankowski@ams.usda.gov)   
[via WebEx]

FRANCE / France / FRANKREICH / FRANCIA

Yvane MERESSE (Mme), Responsable juridique / Legal Expert, Groupe d'Etude et de Contrôle des Variétés et des Semences (GEVES), Beaucouzé   
(e-mail: yvane.meresse@geves.fr)

Catherine MALATIER (Mme), Assistante INOV, Groupe d’étude et de contrôle des variétés et des semences (GEVES), Beaucouzé   
(e-mail: catherine.malatier@geves.fr)

ISRAËL / ISRAEL / ISRAEL / ISRAEL

Dikla DABBY-NAOR (Ms.), Chairperson, Plant Breeders' Rights Council, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Beit-Dagan   
(e-mail: diklad@moag.gov.il)

MAROC / MOROCCO / MAROKKO / MARRUECOS

Zoubida TAOUSSI (Mrs.), Chargée de la protection des obtentions végétales, Office National de Sécurité de Produits Alimentaires, Rabat   
(e-mail: ztaoussi67@gmail.com)

NORVÈGE / NORWAY / NORWEGEN / NORUEGA

Tor Erik JØRGENSEN, Head of Section, National Approvals, Norwegian Food Safety Authority, Brumunddal   
(e-mail: tor.erik.jorgensen@mattilsynet.no)

NOUVELLE-ZÉLANDE / NEW ZEALAND / NEUSEELAND / NUEVA ZELANDIA

Christopher J. BARNABY, Assistant Commissioner / Principal Examiner for Plant Variety Rights, Plant Variety Rights Office, Intellectual Property Office of New Zealand, Intellectual Property Office of New Zealand, Plant Variety Rights, Ministry of Economic Development, Christchurch   
(e-mail: Chris.Barnaby@pvr.govt.nz)

OMAN / oman / OMAN / OMÁN

Ali AL LAWATI, Plant Genetic Resources Expert, Oman Animal and Plant Genetic Resources Center, The Research Council, Muscat   
(e-mail: ali.allawati@trc.gov.om)

Khalid Ali ALBUSAIDI, International Relations Specialist, Oman Animal and Plant Genetic Resources Center, Al-Athaiba   
(e-mail: khalid.albusaidi@oapgrc.gov.om)

Mohammed AL-BALUSHI, First Secretary, Permanent Mission, Geneva   
(e-mail: oman\_wto@bluewin.ch)

ORGANISATION AFRICAINE DE LA PROPRIÉTÉ INTELLECTUELLE /   
OAPI - AFRICAN INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION /   
AFRIKANISCHE ORGANISATION FÜR GEISTIGES EIGENTUM /   
ORGANIZACIÓN AFRICANA DE LA PROPIEDAD INTELECTUAL

Dosso MÉMASSI, Directeur, Département de la protection de la propriété industrielle,   
Organisation africaine de la propriété intellectuelle (OAPI), Yaoundé   
(e-mail: dossomemassi@gmail.com)

Vladimir Ludovic MEZUI ONO, Examinateur Brevet chimie, Organisation africaine de la propriété intellectuelle (OAPI), Yaoundé   
(e-mail: mezuiono@hotmail.com)

Panama / panama / panama / panamá

Rafael Ernesto MONTERREY GONZÁLEZ, Jefe del Departamento de Variedades Vegetales, Dirección General del Registro de la Propiedad Intelectual, Ministerio de Comercio e Industrias, Dirección General del Registro de la Propiedad Industrial, Ciudad de Panamá   
(e-mail: rmonterrey@mici.gob.pa)

PARAGUAY / PARAGUAY / PARAGUAY / PARAGUAY

Nidia Concepción TALAVERA GODOY (Sra.), Directora, Dirección de Semillas, Servicio Nacional de Calidad y Sanidad Vegetal y de Semillas (SENAVE), San Lorenzo   
(e-mail: nidia.talavera@senave.gov.py)

PAYS-BAS / NETHERLANDS / NIEDERLANDE / PAÍSES BAJOS

Marien VALSTAR, Senior Policy Officer, Seeds and Plant Propagation Material, Ministry of Economic Affairs, DG AGRO & NATURE, The Hague   
(e-mail: m.valstar@minez.nl)

Kees Jan GROENEWOUD, Secretary, Dutch Board for Plant Variety (Raad voor Plantenrassen), Naktuinbouw, Roelofarendsveen   
(e-mail: c.j.a.groenewoud@naktuinbouw.nl)

Marcel RIJSBERGEN, Team DUS vegetables, DUS testing department, Naktuinbouw, Roelofarendsveen,   
(e-mail: m.rijsbergen@naktuinbouw.nl)   
[via WebEx]

Wim SANGSTER, Team DUS Vegetables, Naktuinbouw, Roelofarendsveen   
(e-mail: w.sangster@naktuinbouw.nl)   
[via WebEx]

PORTUGAL / portugal / PORTUGAL / PORTUGAL

João PINTA DE MORAIS, First Secretary, Permanent Mission, Geneva   
(e-mail: trade1@missionportugal.ch)

Inês DOS SANTOS (Ms.), Intern, Permanent Mission, Geneva   
(e-mail: ines.dossantos@outlook.fr)

RÉPUBLIQUE DE CORÉE / REPUBLIC OF KOREA / REPUBLIK KOREA / REPÚBLICA DE COREA

Jino YOO, Deputy Director, Senior Examiner, Korean Intellectual Property Office (KIPO), Daejeon Metropolitan City   
(e-mail: jino0524@kipo.go.kr)

RÉPUBLIQUE DE MOLDOVA / REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA / REPUBLIK MOLDAU /   
REPÚBLICA DE MOLDOVA

Mihail MACHIDON, Chairman, State Commission for Crops Variety Testing and Registration (SCCVTR), Chisinau   
(e-mail: info@cstsp.md)

Ala GUSAN (Ms.), Head, Patents Division, Inventions and Plant Varieties Department, State Agency on Intellectual Property of the Republic of Moldova (AGEPI), Chisinau   
(e-mail: ala.gusan@agepi.gov.md)

RÉPUBLIQUE-UNIE DE TANZANIE / UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA /   
VEREINIGTE REPUBLIK TANSANIA / REPÚBLICA UNIDA DE TANZANÍA

Asia Filfil THANI (Ms.), Registrar of Plant Breeders' Rights, Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Darajani, Zanzibar   
(e-mail: asiathani@yahoo.com)

RÉPUBLIQUE Dominicaine / dominican REPUBLIC / dominikanische REPUBLIK /   
REPÚBLICA Dominicana

Rafael COLÓN NUÑEZ, Enc. Producción, BIO-ARROZ, Ministerio de Agricultura, Santo Domingo   
(e-mail: ing.rafaelcolon@hotmail.com)

Antonio FERNÁNDEZ ACOSTA, Inspector de certificación de semilla, BIO-ARROZ, Ministerio de Agricultura, Santo Domingo   
(e-mail: ing-antoniofedez-08@hotmail.com)

ROUMANIE / ROMANIA / RUMÄNIEN / RUMANIA

Cristian Irinel MOCANU, Head of Legal Department, State Institute for Variety Testing and Registration, Bucarest   
(e-mail: irinel\_mocanu@istis.ro)

Aura Giorgiana MINDRUTA (Ms.), Expert, State Institute for Variety Testing and Registration (ISTIS), Bucarest   
(e-mail: aura\_mindruta@istis.ro)

SLOVAQUIE / SLOVAKIA / SLOWAKEI / ESLOVAQUIA

Bronislava BÁTOROVÁ (Ms.), National Coordinator for the Cooperation of the Slovak Republic with UPOV/ Senior Officer, Department of Variety Testing, Central Controlling and Testing Institute in Agriculture (ÚKSÚP), Nitra   
(e-mail: bronislava.batorova@uksup.sk)

Ľuba GASPAROVÁ (Ms.), Senior Officer, Deputy of the National Coordinator for the Cooperation of the Slovak Republic with UPOV, Central Controlling and Testing Institute in Agriculture (UKSUP), Bratislava   
(e-mail: Luba.Gasparova@uksup.sk)

SUISSE / SWITZERLAND / SCHWEIZ / SUIZA

Manuela BRAND (Ms.), Plant Variety Rights Office, Plant Health and Varieties, Office fédéral de l'agriculture (OFAG), Bern   
(e-mail: manuela.brand@blw.admin.ch)

TURQUIE / TURKEY / TÜRKEI / TURQUÍA

Mehmet ÇAKMAK, PBR Expert, Seed Department, General Directorate of Plant Production, Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock, Ankara, Turkey  
E-mail: mehmet.cakmak@tarim.gov.tr

Mehmet SIĞIRCI,Head, Seed Department, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs, Ankara, Turkey  
E-mail: mehmet.sigirci@tarim.gov.tr

UNION EUROPÉENNE / EUROPEAN UNION / EUROPÄISCHE UNION / UNIÓN EUROPEA

Bronislava BÁTOROVÁ (Ms.), National Coordinator for the Cooperation of the Slovak Republic with UPOV/ Senior Officer, Department of Variety Testing, Central Controlling and Testing Institute in Agriculture (ÚKSÚP), Nitra   
(e-mail: bronislava.batorova@uksup.sk)

Dirk THEOBALD, Head of the Technical Unit, Community Plant Variety Office (CPVO), Angers   
(e-mail: theobald@cpvo.europa.eu)

Jean MAISON, Deputy Head, Technical Unit, Community Plant Variety Office (CPVO), Angers   
(e-mail: maison@cpvo.europa.eu)

Marc ROUILLARD, Webmaster, Supporting Services, Community Plant Variety Office (CPVO), Angers   
(e-mail: rouillard@cpvo.europa.eu)   
[via WebEx]

II. OBSERVATEURS / OBSERVERS / BEOBACHTER / OBSERVADORES

ARABIE SAOUDITE / SAUDI ARABIA / SAUDI-ARABIEN / ARABIA SAUDITA

Bandar ALHOMED, Consultant Judge, KSA, Riyadh   
(e-mail: bandar8580@hotmail.com)

Badie Saud ALBADIE, Consultant Judge, KSA, Riyadh   
(e-mail: abosaud1384@hotmail.com)

iII. ORGANISATIONS / ORGANIZATIONS / ORGANISATIONEN / ORGANIZACIONES

COMMUNAUTÉ INTERNATIONALE DES OBTENTEURS DE PLANTES ORNEMENTALES ET FRUITIÈRES À REPRODUCTION ASEXUÉE (CIOPORA) / INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY OF BREEDERS OF ASEXUALLY REPRODUCED ORNAMENTAL AND FRUIT PLANTS (CIOPORA) / INTERNATIONALE GEMEINSCHAFT DER ZÜCHTER VEGETATIV VERMEHRBARER ZIERUND OBSTPFLANZEN (CIOPORA) / COMUNIDAD INTERNACIONAL DE OBTENTORES DE VARIEDADES ORNAMENTALES Y FRUTALES DE REPRODUCCIÓN ASEXUADA (CIOPORA)

Hélène JOURDAN (Madame), Secrétaire générale, AOHE, Responsible COV & Marques, Meilland International S.A., Association des Obtenteurs Horticoles Européens (AOHE), Le Luc en Provence   
(e-mail: licprot@meilland.com)

CROPLIFE INTERNATIONAL

Marcel BRUINS, Consultant, CropLife International, Bruxelles   
(e-mail: mbruins1964@gmail.com)

François-Xavier MULLER, EU Corn Breeding IP/QMS Manager, Monsanto SAS, Monbéqui   
(e-mail: francois-xavier.muller@monsanto.com)

INTERNATIONAL SEED FEDERATION (ISF)

Szabolcs RUTHNER, Regulatory Affairs Executive, International Seed Federation (ISF), Nyon   
(e-mail: s.ruthner@worldseed.org)

Amy D. CURTIS (Ms.), Soybean & Cotton Patent Scientist, Monsanto US, St. Louis   
(e-mail: amy.curtis@monsanto.com)

Stevan MADJARAC, Germplasm IP Lead, American Seed Trade Association (ASTA), Alexandria   
(e-mail: s.madjarac@gmail.com)

Astrid M. SCHENKEVELD (Ms.), Specialist, Variety Registration & Protection, Rijk Zwaan Zaadteelt en Zaadhandel B.V., De Lier   
(e-mail: a.schenkeveld@rijkzwaan.nl)

Corien JEURISSEN (Mrs.), Manager Plant Variety Protection & Trademarks, Crop Science Division, Nunhem   
(e-mail: corien.jeurissen@bayer.com)   
[via WebEx]

Jan KNOL, Officer, Plant Variety Protection and Registration, Bayer CropScience Vegetable Seeds, Haelen   
(e-mail: jan.knol@bayer.com)   
[via WebEx]

Maria José VILLALÓN-ROBLES (Ms.), PVP Specialist EMEA, Monsanto, Wageningen   
(e-mail: maria.jose.villalon.robles@monsanto.com)   
[via WebEx]

Sietske WOUDA (Ms.), Lead Global Germplasm PVP/MA, Syngenta International AG, Basel   
(e-mail: sietske.wouda@syngenta.com)   
[via WebEx]

Veronique BEEREN (Ms.), Department Plant Variety Protection and Trademarks, Nunhems B.V.   
(e-mail: nunhems.varietyregistration.nl@bayer.com)   
[via WebEx]

Marymar BUTRUILLE (Ms.), Germplasm IP Stewardship Coordinator, Monsanto Company, Ankeny   
(e-mail: marymar.butruille@monsanto.com)   
[via WebEx]

Dominique QUENNEVAT (Ms.), Administrative Assistant, DuPont Pioneer Genetique, Aussonne   
(e-mail: dominique.quennevat@pioneer.com)   
[via WebEx]

Daniela RODRIGUES (Ms.), Syngenta International AG, Basel   
(e-mail: daniela.rodrigues@syngenta.com)  
[via WebEx]

Iv. BUREAU DE L’OMPI / OFFICE OF WIPO / BÜRO DER WIPO / OFICINA DE LA OMPI

Kelvin HAYES, Head, Finance Division

Young-Woo YUN, Head, International Classifications and Standards Division

Gaëtan BLUNIER, Manager, ERP Functional Team, Management and Administration Applications Section

V. BUREAU / OFFICER / VORSITZ / OFICINA

Peter BUTTON, Chair

Vi. BUREAU DE L’UPOV / OFFICE OF UPOV / BÜRO DER UPOV / OFICINA DE LA UPOV

Peter BUTTON, Vice Secretary-General

Yolanda HUERTA (Ms.), Legal Counsel

Tomochika MOTOMURA, Technical/Regional Officer (Asia)

Ben RIVOIRE, Technical/Regional Officer (Africa, Arab countries)

Leontino TAVEIRA, Technical/Regional Officer (Latin America, Caribbean countries)

Hend MADHOUR (Ms.), Data Modeler and Business Needs Analyst

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Annex II follows/

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Sigue el Anexo II]

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ANNEX II / ANNEXE II / ANLAGE II / ANEXO II

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Ende der Anlage II und des Dokuments/

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