

**Seminar on the role of plant breeding and plant variety protection in enabling agriculture to mitigate and adapt to climate change**

UPOV/SEM/GE/22/1 Rev.2

**Geneva, October 11 and 12, 2022 (virtual meetings)  
and October 26, 2022 (hybrid meeting)****Original:** English**Date:** October 5, 2022**REVISED DRAFT PROGRAM***prepared by the Office of the Union**Disclaimer: this document does not represent UPOV policies or guidance***Tuesday, October 11, 2022**

- 13.00        **Welcome and opening remarks**  
*Mr. Daren Tang, Secretary-General, UPOV*
- 13.10        **Program and organization of the Seminar**  
*Ms. Yolanda Huerta, Legal Counsel and Director of  
Training and Assistance, UPOV*

**Thematic SESSION 1: Climate change and its impact on agricultural production**

- 13.15        **Introduction**  
*Moderator: Mr. Marien Valstar, President of the Council, UPOV*
- 13.20        **Key note presentation - Impacts and risks for agriculture from climate change:  
adaptation solutions and the role of new plant varieties**  
*Mr. John Derera, Senior Director, Plant Breeding and Pre-Breeding, Consultative  
Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR)*
- 13.40        **World Farmers' Organization perspective**  
*Ms. Arianna Giuliadori, Secretary-General, WFO*
- 13.50        **International Seed Federation perspective**  
*Mr. Michael Keller, Secretary-General, ISF*
- 14.00        **International Community of Breeders of Asexually Reproduced Horticultural  
Plants perspective**  
*Mr. Edgar Krieger, Secretary General, CIOPORA*
- 14.10        **Conclusion of the session**  
*Moderator: Mr. Marien Valstar, President of the Council, UPOV*

## **Thematic SESSION 2: Strategies to address climate change in agriculture**

- 15.00        **Introduction**  
*Moderator: Mr. Yehan Cui, Vice-President of the Council, UPOV*
- 15.05        **European Union strategy to address climate change in agriculture**  
*Mr. Herwig Ranner, Team Leader – Climate change and agriculture, Unit for Sustainable Agriculture, Directorate General for Agriculture and Rural Development (DG AGR), European Commission*
- 15.15        **Climate change: an opportunity for innovation in agriculture**  
*Mr. Solomon Gyan Ansah, Director of Agriculture & Head of the Seed Unit, Directorate of Crop Services, Ministry of Food and Agriculture, Ghana*
- 15.25        **The role of plant breeding for adaptation to climate change in Mexico**  
*Ms. Sol Ortíz García, General Director of Prospective Policies and Climate Change, Ministry of Agriculture, Mexico*
- 15.35        **Mitigation of climate change in agriculture**  
*Mr. Alexandre Lima Nepomuceno, Researcher, Brazilian Agricultural Research Corporation (EMBRAPA), Brazil*
- 15.45        **Adaptation of agriculture/ farming systems to climate change: exploring genetic options**  
*Mr. George Prah, Deputy Director, Directorate of Crop Services, Ministry of Food and Agriculture, Ghana*
- 15.55        **Questions**
- 16.15        **Conclusion of the session**  
*Moderator: Mr. Yehan Cui, Vice-President of the Council, UPOV*

## **Wednesday, October 12, 2022**

### **Thematic SESSION 3: Plant breeding for climate change adaptation and mitigation in agriculture: Crop perspectives**

- 09.00        **Introduction**  
*Moderator: Mr. Patrick Ngwediagi, Chair of the Administrative and Legal Committee, UPOV*
- 09.05        **Breeding targets to improve wheat performance in drying climates: adapting wheat cropping systems to current and future climate change**  
*Mr. Greg Rebetzke, Research Genetist, Canberra, Australia*
- 09.15        **New plant variety protection system and the cultivation of water-saving and drought-resistant rice**  
*Mr. Yu Zhang, Research Associate, Shanghai Academy of Agricultural Sciences, China*

- 09.25 **Using crop genome dynamics for stress adaptation**  
*Mr. Etienne Bucher, Research group leader "Crop Genome Dynamics", Agroscope, Switzerland*
- 09.35 **SmartRice: a rice product grown using more sustainable methods to reduce the use of agricultural resources and provide more rice to meet the growing worldwide appetite**  
*Mr. José Ré, Vice President, Global New Products Development – Rice Tech USA, United States of America*
- 09.45 **Questions**
- 09.55 **Characterization of the flowering phenology of the varieties of the world olive tree collection in Morocco for the selection of genotypes adapted to climate change**  
*Ms. Hayat Zaher, Researcher, Marrakech Regional Agricultural Research Centre (CRRA), National Institute for Agricultural Research (INRA), Morocco*
- 10.05 **Climate change in the ornamental sector – A breeder's perspective**  
*Mr. Robert Boehm, Head of Biotechnology, Selecta One, Germany*
- 10.15 **Adapting cereal varieties to climate change in the Nordic countries – which traits can plant breeding work with and which ones are much more difficult?**  
*Ms. Tina Henriksson, Group Manager Breeding, Cereals & Pulses & Senior winter wheat breeder, Swedish Company Lantmännen, Sweden*
- 10.25 **Questions**
- 10.35 **Hot climate program: an apple breeding program for hot climate**  
*(Speaker to be confirmed), Institute of Agrifood Research and Technology (IRTA), Spain*
- 10.45 **Grassroots breeding of future smart crops, better adapted to climate change: Learnings from Nepal's experience**  
*Mr. Pitambar Shrestha, Programme Advisor, Local Initiatives for Biodiversity, Research and Development (LI-BIRD), Nepal*
- 10.55 **Vegetable company strategies to address the challenge of producing more food under increasingly harsh conditions and how the PBR system can help breeders to cope with such challenges**  
*Ms. Astrid Schenkeveld, Specialist Plant Breeder's Rights & Variety Registration, Rijk Zwaan, Netherlands*
- 11.05 **Questions**
- 11.15 **Conclusion of the session**  
*Moderator: Mr. Patrick Ngwediagi, Chair of the Administrative and Legal Committee, UPOV*

**Thematic SESSION 4: Plant breeding for climate change adaptation and mitigation in agriculture: breeding strategies and techniques**

- 12.30            **Introduction**  
*Moderator: Mr. Manuel Toro Ugalde, Vice-Chair of the Administrative and Legal Committee, UPOV*
- 12.35            **“A smart green future” and “climate resilience underpinning breeding programmes”**  
*Ms. Emma Brown, General Manager, Plant Varieties, and Mr. Zac Hanley, General Manager Science, Plant & Food Research, New Zealand*
- 12.45            **Use of new technologies (molecular markers and speed breeding) in the development of drought-tolerant cereal varieties in Morocco**  
*Mr. Moha Ferrahi, Head, Genetic Resources Improvement and Conservation Department (DACRG), Scientific Division, National Institute for Agricultural Research (INRA), Morocco*
- 12.55            **Breeding for the future**  
*Mr. Stefan van der Heijden, Associate, Innova Connect, Netherlands*
- 13.05            **The role of variety characteristics on climate footprint (disease resistance, nitrogen utilization and yield)**  
*Mr. Morten Lillemo, Professor, Norwegian University of Life Sciences Faculty of Biosciences, Norway*
- 13.15            **Questions**
- 13.25            **Research into market-driven and climate smart crop varieties: tolerance to biotic and abiotic stresses**  
*Mr. Francis Kusi, Acting Director and Mr. Joseph Adjebeng-Danquah, Senior Research Scientist, Savanna Agricultural Research Institute, Council for Scientific and Industrial Research Institute (CSIR-SARI), Principal Research Scientist (Host Plant Resistance), Ghana*
- 13.35            **Genetic improvement by mutagenesis of oilseed crops to cope with climate change: case of rapeseed and sesame**  
*Mr. Abdelghani Nabloussi, Researcher, Meknès Regional Agricultural Research Centre (CRRA), National Institute for Agricultural Research (INRA), Morocco*
- 13.45            **Connecting different research clusters with the aim to develop more accurate breeding**  
*Mr. Muath Alsheikh, Head of Research and Development, Graminor AS, Norway*
- 13.55            **Advances in the development of new varieties better adapted to climate change in crops and forages: a South American perspective**  
*Mr. Fernando Ortega Klose, Forage Plant Breeder, Chilean Agricultural Research Institute (INIA), Carillanca regional center, Chile*
- 14.05            **Breeding Program to mitigate climate change and environmental pressures on crops**  
*Mr. Dave Bubeck, Research Director, Corteva, United States of America*

14.15 **Questions**

14.25 **Conclusion of the session**

*Moderator: Mr. Manuel Toro Ugalde, Vice-Chair, Administrative and Legal Committee, UPOV*

**Thematic SESSION 5: Role of plant variety protection in the development of new varieties to mitigate and adapt to climate change**

15.30 **Introduction**

*Moderator: Ms. Kitisri Sukhapinda, Patent Attorney, Office of Policy and Affairs (OPIA), United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), United States of America*

15.35 **The role of PBR in plant breeding efforts to address climate change mitigation and adaptation. Example of Canada, including public sector breeding**

*Mr. Anthony Parker, Commissioner, Plant Breeders' Rights Office, Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA), Canada*

15.45 **Plant breeding and plant variety protection: a catalyst for developing climate smart crop varieties in Sub-Saharan Africa**

*Mr. Hans Adu-Dapaah, Expert, Crops Research Institute, Council for Scientific and Industrial Research Institute (CSIR), Ghana*

15.55 **Plant breeding and plant variety protection for variety adaptation to the Japanese climate**

*Mr. Yasunori Ebihara, Director of Plant Variety Office, Intellectual Property Division, Export and International Affairs Bureau, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF), Japan*

16.05 **Questions**

16.20 **The role of plant variety protection in promoting development of crop varieties that adapt to, and mitigate, climate change. Example of Kenya**

*Mr. Simon Mucheru Maina, Head, Seed Certification and Plant Variety Protection, Kenya Plant Health Inspectorate Service (KEPHIS)*

16.30 **Impact of the Community Plant Variety Rights system on the European Union economy and the environment**

*Mr. Francesco Mattina, President, Community Plant Variety Office (CPVO) and Mr. Nathan Wajzman, Chief Economist of the European Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO)*

16.40 **Questions**

16.55 **Conclusion of the session**

*Moderator: Ms. Kitisri Sukhapinda, Patent Attorney, Office of Policy and Affairs (OPIA), United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), United States of America*

17.00 **Concluding remarks**

*Mr. Marien Valstar, President of the Council, UPOV*

**Wednesday, October 26, 2022**

- 16.00        **Welcome and opening remarks**  
*Mr. Marien Valstar, President of the Council, UPOV*
- 16.05        **Report of the thematic sessions**  
*Moderator: Mr. Peter Button, Vice Secretary-General, UPOV*
- 16.10        **Report on thematic session 1: Climate change and its impact on agricultural production**  
*Mr. Marien Valstar, President of the Council, UPOV*
- 16.20        **Report on thematic session 2: Strategies to address climate change in agriculture**  
*Mr. Yehan Cui, Vice-President of the Council, UPOV*
- 16.30        **Report on thematic session 3: Plant breeding for climate change adaptation and mitigation in agriculture: crop perspectives**  
*Mr. Patrick Ngwediagi, Chair of the Administrative and Legal Committee, UPOV*
- 16.40        **Report on thematic session 4: Plant breeding for climate change adaptation and mitigation in agriculture: breeding strategies and techniques**  
*Mr. Manuel Toro Ugalde, Vice-Chair of the Administrative and Legal Committee, UPOV*
- 16.50        **Report on thematic session 5: Role of plant variety protection in the development of new varieties to mitigate and adapt to climate change**  
*Ms. Kitisri Sukhapinda, Patent Attorney, Office of Policy and Affairs (OPIA), United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), United States of America*
- 17.00        **Panel Discussion**  
*Moderator: Mr. Marien Valstar, President of the Council, UPOV*
- *Mr. John Derera, Keynote speaker*
  - *(speaker to be confirmed), WFO*
  - *Mr. Michael Keller, ISF*
  - *Mr. Edgar Krieger, CIOPORA*
  - *Mr. Yehan Cui, Moderator Session 2*
  - *Mr. Patrick Ngwediagi, Moderator Session 3*
  - *Mr. Manuel Toro Ugalde, Moderator Session 4*
  - *Ms. Kitisri Sukhapinda, Moderator Session 5*
- 17.50        **Concluding remarks**  
*Mr. Marien Valstar, President of the Council, UPOV*

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