

Circular E-16/290

December 15, 2016

Distribution: designated persons of UPOV members in the Technical Committee

Subject: PREPARATION OF DOCUMENT TC/53/8 "EXCHANGE AND USE OF SOFTWARE AND EQUIPMENT"

Deadline for the submission of information: **January 30, 2017**

Madam,
Sir,

At its forty-ninth ordinary session held in Geneva on October 29, 2015, the Council adopted the revision of document UPOV/INF/16 "Exchangeable Software" (document UPOV/INF/16/5), and a new document UPOV/INF/22 "Software and Equipment Used by Members of the Union" (document UPOV/INF/22/2). Both documents are available at http://www.upov.int/information_documents/en/.

Background

Document **UPOV/INF/16** concerns software that has been developed or customized by a member of the Union for UPOV purposes (see document [TC/50/8](#) "Exchangeable Software", paragraph 4), and made available to other members of the Union.⁷

Document **UPOV/INF/22** concerns non-customized software and equipment (e.g. data loggers) that is used by members of the Union (see document [TC/50/8](#) "Exchangeable Software", paragraph 9), information on which is made available to other members of the Union.⁷

Information to be provided

You are invited to provide the following information:

- (a) your use of the customized software presented in document UPOV/INF/16, by completing columns 7 "Member(s) of the Union using the software" and 8 "Application by user(s)" in the table attached as **Annex I** to this circular; and
- (b) proposals for non-customized software and equipment that you are using for the purposes of plant variety protection to be included in document UPOV/INF/22, by completing the table attached as **Annex II** to this circular.

Please send the information no later than **January 30, 2017** to upov.mail@upov.int, with copy to ariane.besse@upov.int.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Yours sincerely,

Peter Button

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Notes

^{*/} The procedure to propose new software for inclusion in document UPOV/INF/16 is the following:

“2. Procedure for inclusion of software

“Software proposed for inclusion in document UPOV/INF/16 by members of the Union is, in the first instance, presented for review by the Technical Working Party on Automation and Computer Programs (TWC). On the basis of such presentations and the experience of members of the Union, the TWC makes a recommendation to the Technical Committee (TC) on whether to include that software in document UPOV/INF/16. In the case of a positive recommendation by the TC and by the Administrative and Legal Committee (CAJ), the software will be listed in a draft of document UPOV/INF/16, to be considered for adoption by the Council. Document UPOV/INF/16 is adopted by the Council.”

(see document UPOV/INF/16, section 2 - http://www.upov.int/information_documents/en/)

^{**/} The procedure to propose new software/equipment for inclusion in document UPOV/INF/22 is the following:

“2. Procedure for inclusion of software/equipment

“2.1 Software/equipment proposed for inclusion in this document by members of the Union is, in the first instance, presented to the Technical Committee (TC).

“2.2 The TC will decide whether to:

- (a) propose to include the information in the document;
- (b) request further guidance from other relevant bodies (e.g. the Administrative and Legal Committee (CAJ) and the Technical Working Parties (TWPs)); or
- (c) propose not to include the information in the document.

“2.3 In the case of a positive recommendation by the TC and, subsequently by the CAJ, the software/equipment will be listed in a draft of the document, to be considered for adoption by the Council.”

(see document UPOV/INF/22, section 2 - http://www.upov.int/information_documents/en/)