

Council**C/59/1****Fifty-Ninth Ordinary Session
Geneva, October 24, 2025****Original:** English
Date: June 19, 2025**ANNOTATED DRAFT AGENDA***prepared by the Office of the Union**Disclaimer: this document does not represent UPOV policies or guidance***1. Opening of the session**

The Secretary-General will deliver opening remarks at the Council.
The Delegation of Nigeria will make an intervention at the Council as the 80th member of UPOV.

2. Adoption of the agenda**3. Developments in UPOV and overview of relevant matters for the Council**
(document SESSIONS/2025/1)

A presentation will be made on strategic matters with access to a video on developments in UPOV.

4. Examination of the conformity of the legislation or proposed legislation of any State or organization having submitted a request under Article 34(3) of the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention

If there are no requests by September 22, 2025, this agenda item will be deleted.

5. Report by the President on the work of the hundred and third session of the Consultative Committee; adoption of recommendations, if any, prepared by that Committee
(document CC/103/xx "Report")

As a result of the decision in 2024 to make publicly available the documents of the Consultative Committee, the document for this item will be the report of the CC/103 session.

6. Financial statements for 2024 (document C/59/9)

The Council will be invited to consider and approve the Financial Statements for 2024.

7. UPOV Performance Report 2024 (document C/59/2)

The Council will be invited to note the UPOV Performance Report for 2024 (UPR). The UPR will include an overview of the 2024 statistics of applications and titles granted in UPOV members.

8. Report of the External Auditor (document C/59/10)

The Swiss Federal Audit Office will present its report to the Council.
The Council will be invited to note the information contained in the Report of the External Auditor.

9. Procedure on the Appointment of the External Auditor (document C/59/18)

The Audit Board of Indonesia was designated by the Council as the UPOV External Auditor to audit the UPOV accounts for the calendar years 2025-2029. The Council requested the preparation by the Office of the Union of possible amendments to the provisions in the UPOV Financial Regulations and Rules (document UPOV/INF/4/6) relating to the appointment of the External Auditor for consideration of the Council at its session in October 2025. The Council will be invited to consider and approve a proposal to amend the UPOV Financial Regulations and Rules.

10. Arrears in contributions as of September 30, 2025 (document C/59/11)

The Consultative Committee will be invited to note the status of payments of contributions indicated in document C/59/11 as of September 30, 2025, and any additional payments made after September 30, 2025, and before October 24, 2025.

11. Program and Budget for the 2026-2027 Biennium (document C/59/4)

The Council will be invited to consider the Draft Program and Budget of the Union for the 2026-2027 Biennium, including:

- (i) the amount of contributions from members of the Union;
- (ii) the proposed maximum ceiling of expenditure in the regular budget or the income received in the biennium, whichever is the lower; and
- (iii) the total number of posts.

In the 2026-2027 biennium, UPOV will focus on priority areas, in accordance with UPOV's Strategic Business Plan. Communication and digitalization work will play a key role to achieve the expected results. To contain expenditure there will be a careful assessment of the activities to focus on and an increased use of virtual/hybrid meeting tools and online participation in events organized by third parties, resulting in a reduction in travel time and travel costs.

12. Strategic Business Plan 2026-2029 (documents C/59/14, C/59/15, C/59/16 and C/59/17)

The Council will be invited to consider and adopt UPOV's Strategic Business Plan 2026-2029 (draft SBP) that builds upon the SBP 2023-2027 and includes a new section with the findings of the Horizon Scanning exercise. The draft SBP refers to proposals for a UPOV Risk Appetite Statement, a Financial Resources Strategy and a Human Resources Strategy.

13. Development of guidance and documents proposed for adoption by the Council
(document SESSIONS/2025/2)

- (a) Information documents:

UPOV/INF/22 Software and Equipment Used by Members of the Union (Revision)
(document UPOV/INF/22/12 Draft 1)

- (b) TGP documents:

TGP/5 "Experience and Cooperation in DUS Testing"

Section 6 "UPOV Report on Technical Examination and UPOV Variety Description" (Revision):
Additional explanations for "UPOV report on technical examination and UPOV variety description" (document TGP/5, Section 6/5 Draft 2)

The Council will consider a revision of the explanations for the "UPOV Variety Description" on how to provide information to items 16 (Similar varieties / differences) and 17 (Additional information) and a revised document structure indicating section "Variety Description" as an annex to the "Report on Technical Examination" and explanations as an appendix.

TGP/7 “Development of Test Guidelines”, Guidance Note 36 “Example Varieties” (revision): Situations where illustrations could complement or replace example varieties (document SESSIONS/2025/2)

The Council will consider the proposal to clarify the situations when example varieties must be indicated in characteristics used in Test Guidelines and when illustrations could replace them.

14. Program of meetings:

- (a) Approval of work programs for the Administrative and Legal Committee, the Technical Committee and the Technical Working Parties (document C/59/12)
- (b) Calendar of meetings (document C/59/8)

14. Election of the new President and the new Vice-President of:

- (a) the Council
- (b) the Administrative and Legal Committee
- (c) the Technical Committee

15. Matters for information¹:

- (a) Report on activities during the first nine months of 2025 (document C/59/3)

The Council will receive a presentation on the implementation of a new website for UPOV.

- (b) Situation in the legislative, administrative and technical fields:

- (i) Reports by representatives of members and observers (document C/59/13)

The Council will be invited to note priority information collected in reply to Circular E-25/003 and receive an overview on where to find relevant data.

- (ii) Cooperation in examination (document C/59/5); List of the taxa protected by the members of the Union (document C/59/6); Plant variety protection statistics for the period 2020-2024 (document C/59/7)

16. Adoption of a document reflecting the decisions adopted in the session

17. Closing of the session

[End of document]

¹ Document SESSIONS/2025/INF/1 will contain the list of persons registered in advance for the session. The final list of persons who attended the session will be published as an annex to the adopted report of the session.