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

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| Administrative and Legal Committee  Seventy-Fourth Session Geneva, October 23 and 24, 2017 | CAJ/74/5  Original: English  Date: October 5, 2017 |

UPOV information databases

Document prepared by the Office of the Union

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Executive summary

The purpose of this document is to provide an update on developments concerning the GENIE database; UPOV Codes; and the PLUTO database.

The CAJ is invited to note:

(a) that a specification document explaining the data structure and functions of the GENIE database is being developed by the Office of the Union in order that IT-related maintenance can be provided in the future;

(b) that 173 new UPOV codes were created in 2016 and the total of 8,149 UPOV codes are included in the GENIE database;

(c) that the Office of the Union received a request to create new UPOV codes for 191 forest tree species moving in international trade under the OECD certification schemes. The requested UPOV codes were introduced in GENIE by September 2017. DG SANTE has proposed the establishment of an administrative arrangement between the Office of the Union and the European Commission to cover collaboration in scientific names of plant species present in each other’s databases and, in particular, regarding the attribution of UPOV codes to plant species in FOREMATIS;

(d) the summary of contributions to the PLUTO database from 2013 to 2016 and the situation of members of the Union on data contribution, as presented in the Annex to this document; and

(e) that the WG-DEN, at its third meeting agreed that agenda item 5 “Expansion of the content of the PLUTO database” would be considered at a later meeting on the basis of the document presented at its second meeting.

The following abbreviations are used in this document:

CAJ: Administrative and Legal Committee

CPVO: Community Plant Variety Office

DG SANTE: Directorate General for Health and Food Safety - European Commission

FOREMATIS: Forest Reproductive Material Information System

OECD: Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development

TC: Technical Committee

WG-DEN: Working Group on Variety Denominations

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ANNEX REPORT ON DATA CONTRIBUTED TO THE PLANT VARIETY DATABASE BY MEMBERS OF THE UNION AND OTHER CONTRIBUTORS AND ASSISTANCE FOR DATA CONTRIBUTION

# GENIE DATABASE

## Background

It is recalled that the GENIE database (<http://www.upov.int/genie/en/>) has been developed to provide, for example, online information on the status of protection (see document C/[session]/6), cooperation in examination (see document C/[session]/5), experience in DUS testing (see document TC/[session]/4), and existence of UPOV Test Guidelines (see document TC/[session]/2) for different GENera and specIEs (hence GENIE), and is used to generate the relevant Council and TC documents concerning that information. In addition, the GENIE database is the repository of the UPOV codes and also provides information concerning alternative botanical and common names.

## Maintenance of the GENIE database

The GENIE database was created with the help of the Information Technology Department of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO). The IT-related maintenance of the GENIE database was also provided by WIPO. However, since 2016, WIPO no longer has staff to provide such maintenance work and UPOV is now responsible for IT-related maintenance of the GENIE database.

A specification document explaining the data structure and functions of the GENIE database is being developed by the Office of the Union in order that the IT-related maintenance can be provided in the future. In addition to corrective maintenance, a modification of the database is needed for uploading certain type of data when notes apply. Furthermore, improvements to the generation of reports for documents for the Council and relevant committees need to be made. This work is planned to be completed by the end of 2018.

*The CAJ is invited to note that a specification document explaining the data structure and functions of the GENIE database is being developed by the Office of the Union in order that IT-related maintenance can be provided in the future.*

# UPOV Code System

## Guide to the UPOV Code System

The “Guide to the UPOV Code System” is available on the UPOV website (see <http://www.upov.int/genie/en/pdf/upov_code_system.pdf>).

## UPOV code developments

In 2016, 173 new UPOV codes were created and amendments were made to 16 existing UPOV codes. The total number of UPOV codes in the GENIE database at the end of 2016 was 8,149.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Year | | | | | | | | | |
|  |  | | | | | | | | | |
|  | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 |
| New UPOV codes | 300 (approx.) | 148 | 114 | 173 | 212 | 209 | 577 | 188 | 173 |
| Amendments | 30 (approx.) | 17 | 6 | 12 | 5 | 47\* | 37 | 11 | 16 |
| Total UPOV Codes (at end of year) | 6,346 | 6,582 | 6,683 | 6,851 | 7,061 | 7,251 | 7,808 | 7,992 | 8,149 |

\* including changes to UPOV codes resulting from the amendment of the “Guide to the UPOV Code System” concerning hybrids (see document TC/49/6).

In March 2017, the Office of the Union received a request from the Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety of the European Commission (DG SANTE) to create UPOV codes for 191 forest tree species moving in international trade under the OECD certification scheme in the context of the extension of the European Commission Forest Reproductive Material Information System (FOREMATIS) to include data of the OECD Forest database. The requested UPOV codes were introduced in GENIE in September 2017. DG SANTE has proposed the establishment of an administrative arrangement between the Office of the Union and the European Commission to cover collaboration in scientific names of plant species present in each other’s databases and, in particular, regarding the attribution of UPOV codes to plant species in FOREMATIS.

The CAJ is invited to note that:

(a) 173 new UPOV codes were created in 2016 and the total of 8,149 UPOV codes are included in the GENIE database;

(b) the Office of the Union received a request to create new UPOV codes for 191 forest tree species moving in international trade under the OECD certification schemes. The requested UPOV codes were introduced in GENIE in September 2017. DG SANTE has proposed the establishment of an administrative arrangement between the Office of the Union and the European Commission to cover collaboration in scientific names of plant species present in each other’s databases and, in particular, regarding the attribution of UPOV codes to plant species in FOREMATIS;

# PLUTO DATABASE

## Program for improvements to the PLUTO database

The CAJ, at its sixty-eighth session[[1]](#footnote-1), considered document CAJ/68/6 “UPOV information databases” and approved the amendments to the Program for improvements to the PLUTO database (“Program”) as set out in document CAJ/68/6, Annex II, subject to certain further amendments agreed at that session[[2]](#footnote-2).

The program reflecting amendments approved at previous sessions is available in document CAJ/69/6 “UPOV Information Databases”, Annex I.

The following paragraph provides a summary of developments concerning the Program since the seventy-third session of the CAJ.[[3]](#footnote-3)

### Provision of assistance to contributors (Program: section 2)

The Annex to this document provides a summary of the contributions to the PLUTO database from 2013 to 2016 and the situation of members of the Union on data contribution, as provided to the TC, at its fifty-third session.

## Search tools

Matters concerning the possible development of a similarity search tool for variety denomination purposes are reported in document CAJ/74/3 “Variety Denominations”.

## Content of the PLUTO Database

The CAJ, at its seventy-third session, noted the work by the WG-DEN concerning the expansion of the content of the PLUTO database.[[4]](#footnote-4)

The TC, at its fifty-third session, noted that the WG-DEN, at its second meeting, had agreed that agenda item 5 “Expansion of the content of the PLUTO database” was not able to consider at its second meeting would be considered at its third meeting on the basis of the document presented at the second meeting.[[5]](#footnote-5)

The WG-DEN, at its third meeting,[[6]](#footnote-6) agreed that matters that agenda item 5 “Expansion of the content of the PLUTO database” would be considered at a later meeting on the basis of the document presented at the second meeting.

The fourth meeting of the WG-DEN will be held in Geneva, on October 27, 2017.

The CAJ is invited to note:

(a) the summary of contributions to the PLUTO database from 2013 to 2016 and the situation of members of the Union on data contribution, as presented in the Annex to this document; and

(b) that the WG-DEN, at its third meeting agreed that agenda item 5 “Expansion of the content of the PLUTO database” would be considered at a later meeting on the basis of the document presented at its second meeting.

[Annex follows]

REPORT ON DATA CONTRIBUTED TO THE PLANT VARIETY DATABASE BY MEMBERS OF THE UNION AND OTHER CONTRIBUTORS AND ASSISTANCE FOR DATA CONTRIBUTION

| Contributor | Number of applications for Plant Breeders’ Rights in 2015 | Number of new data submissions to the Plant Variety Database in 2013 | Number of new data submissions to the Plant Variety Database in 2014 | Number of new data submissions to the  Plant Variety Database in 2015 | Number of new data submissions to the Plant Variety Database in 2016 | Situation at March 31, 2017 |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| African Intellectual Property Organization | 0 | - | 0 | 0 | 0 | A reminder e-mail with instructions for contribution sent on February 23, 2017, following receipt of incomplete data. |
| Albania | 0 (2013) | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | Contributing data verification |
| Argentina | 285 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | [Contributing data] |
| Australia | 359 | 6 | 3 | 5 | 7 | [Contributing data] |
| [[7]](#footnote-7)\*Austria | 0 | 4 | 3 | 3 | 4 |  |
| Azerbaijan | 19 (2014) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Awaiting reply to e-mail of November 4, 2016, inviting data. |
| Belarus | 15 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | [Contributing data] |
| \*Belgium | 1 | 4 | 4 | 6 | 5 |  |
| Bolivia (Plurinational State of) | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | [Contributing data] |
| Brazil | 355 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 0 | [Contributing data] |
| \*Bulgaria | 16 | 6 | 5 | 12 | 6 |  |
| Canada | 273 | 5 | 5 | 7 | 11 | [Contributing data] |
| Chile | 107 | 3 | 2 | 4 | 6 | [Contributing data] |
| China | 2,342 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 1 | [Contributing data] (State Forestry Administration) |
| Colombia | 113 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Data received on March 1, 2017. Received an e-mail on March 13, 2017, reporting that new data to replace the data of March 1, 2017 will be sent soon. |
| Costa Rica | 2 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 3 | [Contributing data] |
| \*Croatia | 7 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 2 |  |
| \*Czech Republic | 80 | 6 | 4 | 3 | 6 |  |
| \*Denmark | 1 | 6 | 8 | 12 | 11 |  |
| Dominican Republic | 0 (2011) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Awaiting reply to e-mail of February 23, 2017, inviting data. |
| Ecuador | 50 (2014) | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | Awaiting reply to e-mail of February 23, 2017, inviting data. |
| \*Estonia | 7 (2014) | 4 | 4 | 9 | 3 |  |
| \*European Union | 3,111 | 6 | 6 | 10 | 13 |  |
| \*Finland | 13 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 2 |  |
| \*France | 119 | 5 | 6 | 13 | 11 |  |
| Georgia | 24 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 2 | [Contributing data] |
| \*Germany | 66 | 6 | 8 | 11 | 12 |  |
| \*Hungary | 26 | 6 | 6 | 16 | 19 |  |
| \*Iceland | 0 (2012) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |  |
| \*Ireland | 2 (2014) | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 |  |
| Israel | 50 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 1 | [Contributing data] |
| \*Italy | 4 | 6 | 4 | 8 | 6 |  |
| Japan | 1,126 | 2 | 5 | 4 | 1 | [Contributing data] |
| Jordan | 12 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | [Contributing data] |
| Kenya | 71 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 1 | [Contributing data] |
| Kyrgyzstan | 3 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | Data in preparation |
| \*Latvia | 7 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 1 |  |
| \*Lithuania | 11 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 4 |  |
| Mexico | 193 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 | [Contributing data] |
| Montenegro | n/a | - | - | 0 | 0 | Awaiting reply to e-mail of March 1, 2017, inviting data. |
| Morocco | 50 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 0 | [Contributing data] |
| \*Netherlands | 799 | 6 | 2 | 10 | 11 |  |
| New Zealand | 123 | 3 | 5 | 6 | 5 | [Contributing data] |
| Nicaragua | 12 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Participated in the training course in 2015 and planned to submit data by end of November 2015. Awaiting reply to e-mail of February 23, 2017, inviting data. |
| \*Norway | 36 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 3 |  |
| Oman | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Received data on March 16, 2017. |
| Panama | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | [Contributing data] |
| Paraguay | 34 (2013) | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | [Contributing data] |
| Peru | 63 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | Planning to submit data by the end of April, 2017 |
| \*Poland | 97 | 5 | 5 | 3 | 5 |  |
| \*Portugal | 1 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 2 |  |
| Republic of Korea | 757 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 1 | [Contributing data] Clarifications needed with regard to latest data provided before uploading in PLUTO |
| Republic of Moldova | 37 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 3 | [Contributing data] |
| \*Romania | 27 | 3 | 4 | 4 | 4 |  |
| Russian Federation | 743 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 5 | [Contributing data] |
| Serbia | 46 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 4 | [Contributing data] |
| Singapore | 6 (2014) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | No data |
| \*Slovakia | 19 | 6 | 4 | 4 | 5 |  |
| \*Slovenia | 0 | 3 | 5 | 5 | 5 |  |
| South Africa | 350 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 1 | [Contributing data] |
| \*Spain | 68 | 4 | 5 | 5 | 5 |  |
| \*Sweden | 1 | 5 | 6 | 11 | 12 |  |
| \*Switzerland | 64 | 6 | 7 | 6 | 5 |  |
| The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia | n/a | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Participated in the training course in 2014 and planned to submit data upon receipt of applications. |
| Trinidad and Tobago | 0 (2013) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Participated in the training course in 2014. Awaiting reply to e-mail of February 23, 2017, inviting data. |
| Tunisia | 31 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Awaiting reply to e-mail February 23, 2017, inviting data submission |
| \*Turkey | 231 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 |  |
| Ukraine | 1,075 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Awaiting reply to e-mail of March 1, 2017, inviting data. |
| \*United Kingdom | 20 | 6 | 10 | 11 | 13 |  |
| United Republic of Tanzania | n/a | - | - | 0 | 0 |  |
| United States of America | 1,634 | 6 | 10 | 17 | 16 | [Contributing data] |
| Uruguay | 49 (2014) | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | [Contributing data] Clarifications needed with regard to latest data provided before uploading in PLUTO |
| Uzbekistan | 29 (2014) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Participated in the training course in 2014 and planned to submit data in 2015. Awaiting reply to e-mail of March 7, 2017. |
| Viet Nam | 148 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Participated in the training course in 2014 and planned to submit data in 2015. Data in preparation. |
| OECD | - | 1 | 1 | 0 | 2 | [Contributing data] |
| Number of UPOV members that contributed to the PLUTO database | | 44 | 48 | 45 | 52 |  |
| Percentage of UPOV members that contributed to the PLUTO database | | 62% | 67% | 61% | 70% |  |

[End of Annex and of document]

1. Held in Geneva on October 21, 2013. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. See document CAJ/68/10 “Report on the Conclusions”, paragraphs 23 to 26. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Held in Geneva, on October 25, 2016 [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. See document CAJ/73/10 “Report on the Conclusions”, paragraph 28. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. See document TC/53/31 “Report”, paragraph 160. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. Held in Geneva on April 7, 2017. [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
7. ( ) Parenthesis indicates that data are currently being processed.

   \* Data provided via the CPVO. [↑](#footnote-ref-7)