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| Meeting on Electronic Applications  Fourth meeting  Geneva, October 22, 2024 | EAM/4/3  Original: English  Date: September 23, 2024 |

UPOV PRISMA

Document prepared by the Office of the Union

Disclaimer: this document does not represent UPOV policies or guidance

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this document is to report on the following developments and plans concerning UPOV PRISMA. In 2023, the volume of application data transferred via UPOV PRISMA amounted to 1,873, marking a 1.78% decrease compared to 2022. Notably, the United Kingdom received the highest number of applications, with 1,562 applications received in 2023 and 1,557 in 2022.

Scheduled for April 2024, Version 2.10 is set for release, featuring the addition of two new authorities: Ghana and the United Republic of Tanzania, and the extension of crop coverage for four authorities: China, Morocco, Serbia and the United States of America. Responding to user feedback from the UPOV PRISMA Task Force, development is underway for Version 3.0, planned for release in 2025.

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# Use of UPOV PRISMA (as of August 31, 2024)

Information on the use of UPOV PRISMA is provided below:

Number of submissions via UPOV PRISMA

|  | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| January | 1 | - | 7 | 18 | 107 | 232 | 206 | 235 |
| February | - | 3 | 9 | 5 | 107 | 95 | 107 | 122 |
| March | 2 | 3 | 6 | 21 | 67 | 121 | 54 | 42 |
| April | - | 3 | 22 | 11 | 105 | 96 | 102 | 74 |
| May | 1 | 1 | 33 | 11 | 65 | 67 | 123 | 76 |
| June | - | 7 | 10 | 18 | 819 | 78 | 59 | 94 |
| July | - | 7 | 3 | 9 | 58 | 83 | 57 | 94 |
| August | - | 1 | 7 | 11 | 379 | 435 | 442 | 460 |
| September | 3 | 8 | 16 | 29 | 154 | 91 | 104 |  |
| October | 1 | 19 | 29 | 16 | 68 | 53 | 58 |  |
| November | 3 | 16 | 26 | 41 | 407 | 353 | 341 |  |
| December | 3 | 9 | 51 | 32 | 174 | 204 | 220 |  |
| Total | **14** | **77** | **219** | **222** | **2,509** | **1,907** | **1,873** | **(1,197)** |

Number of submissions by participating Authority in UPOV PRISMA

| Authority | | Number of submissions in UPOV PRISMA in: | | | | | | | Total number of submissions in UPOV PRISMA  (as of end 2023) |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |
| African Intellectual Property Organization (OAPI) | OA |  |  | 3 | 1 |  | 2 |  | 6 |
| Argentina\* | AR |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 0 |
| Australia | AU | 2 | 10 | 17 | 36 | 27 | 15 | 17 | 124 |
| Bolivia (Plurinational State of)\* | BO |  |  | 2 |  |  |  |  | 2 |
| Canada | CA |  | 6 | 27 | 17 | 24 | 46 | 56 | 176 |
| Chile | CL | 3 |  | 3 | 1 | 9 | 3 |  | 19 |
| China | CN |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 0 |
| Colombia | CO |  |  | 4 | 2 | 4 | 1 |  | 11 |
| Costa Rica | CR |  |  | 4 | 1 | 2 |  |  | 7 |
| Dominican Republic | DO |  |  | 2 | 2 | 4 | 3 |  | 11 |
| Ecuador | EC |  |  |  | 2 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 8 |
| European Union | QZ |  | 8 | 38 | 13 | 123 | 89 | 78 | 349 |
| France | FR |  |  | 20 | - | 4 | 3 | 2 | 29 |
| Georgia | GE |  |  | 2 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 10 |
| Kenya | KE |  | 13 | 6 | 14 | 14 | 26 | 23 | 96 |
| Morocco | MA |  |  |  |  | 7 | 4 |  | 11 |
| Mexico | MX |  | 7 | 7 | 13 | 13 | 25 | 17 | 82 |
| Netherlands (Kingdom of the) | NL | 1 | 8 | 12 | 6 | 1 | 2 |  | 30 |
| New Zealand | NZ | 5 | 3 | 8 | 5 | 18 | 7 | 7 | 53 |
| Norway | NO | 1 |  | 5 | 7 | 6 | 6 | 1 | 26 |
| Paraguay\* | PY |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 0 |
| Peru | PE |  |  |  | 2 | 3 | 1 |  | 6 |
| Republic of Moldova | MD |  |  | 2 |  |  |  |  | 2 |
| Republic of Korea | KR |  |  | 1 | 1 |  |  |  | 2 |
| Saint Vincent and the Grenadines | VC |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 0 |
| Serbia | RS |  |  | 2 | 1 | 3 |  |  | 6 |
| South Africa | ZA |  | 2 | 3 | 2 | 12 | 17 | 24 | 60 |
| Sweden | SE |  |  | 1 |  |  |  |  | 1 |
| Switzerland | CH | 2 | 3 | 4 | 16 | 13 | 9 | 6 | 53 |
| Trinidad and Tobago | TT |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 0 |
| Tunisia | TN |  | 2 | 4 |  | 1 |  |  | 7 |
| Türkiye | TR |  | 6 | 23 | 54 | 65 | 63 | 57 | 268 |
| United Kingdom | GB |  | 3 | 18 | 22 | 2,138 | 1,557 | 1,562 | 5,300 |
| United States of America | US |  | 6 | 1 | 3 | 5 | 26 | 18 | 59 |
| Uruguay | UY |  |  |  |  | 6 |  |  | 6 |
| Viet Nam | VN |  |  |  |  |  |  | 1 | 1 |
| **Total:** | **36** | **14** | **77** | **219** | **222** | **2,509** | **1,907** | **1,873** | **6,821** |

*\*Until required information is provided, applicants will not be able to submit application data*

# Launch of Version 2.10 (September 2024)

UPOV PRISMA Version 2.10, incorporating the following developments, was deployed on September 3, 2024.

## Crop coverage

In Version 2.10, the following new UPOV Technical Questionnaires (TQs) have been added in UPOV PRISMA and applied to those UPOV members using UPOV TQ[[1]](#footnote-2) or UPOV TG characteristics[[2]](#footnote-3).

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Common Name | UPOV TG |
| Hardy Geranium, Crane's Bill | TG/330/1 |
| Calendula | TG/331/1 |
| Black Walnut | TG/332/1 Corr. |
| Gazania | TG/333/1 |
| Ranunculus | TG/334/1 |
| Brown Mustard | TG/335/1 |
| Coreopsis | TG/336/1 |
| Pistachio | TG/337/1 |
| Physic Nut | TG/338/1 |
| Zinnia | TG/339/1 |
| Oxypetalum | TG/340/1 |

In Version 2.10, the following UPOV TQs have been revised in UPOV PRISMA and applied to those UPOV members using UPOV TQ1 or UPOV TG characteristics2.

| Common Name | UPOV TG |
| --- | --- |
| Wheat | TG/3/12 Rev. |
| Field Bean | TG/8/7 |
| Lettuce | TG/13/11 Rev 2. |
| Apple Fruit Varieties | TG/14/10 |
| Barley | TG/19/11 |
| Oats | TG/20/11 |
| Freesia | TG/27/7 |
| Alstroemeria | TG/29/8 |
| Radish; Black Radish | TG/63/7-TG/64/7 Rev.2 |
| Pepper | TG/76/8 Rev. 2 |
| Japanese plum | TG/84/4 Corr. 2 Rev. 2 |
| Cotton | TG/88/7 |
| Macadamia | TG/111/4 |
| Mango | TG/112/4 Corr. |
| Chestnut | TG/124/4 |
| Broccoli, Calabrese, Sprouting Broccoli, Winter broccoli | TG/151/5 Rev. |
| Leaf Chicory | TG/154/4 Rev. Corr. |
| Witloof, Chicory | TG/173/4 |
| Guzmania | TG/182/4 |
| Fennel | TG/183/4 |
| Artichoke, Cardoon | TG/184/4 Rev. |
| Lavendula, Lavendar | TG/194/1 Rev. |
| Petunia | TG/212/2 |
| Agaricus | TG/259/2 |
| Papaya, Pawpaw | TG/264/2 |
| Urochloa | TG/322/1 Corr. |
| Blueberry | TG/137/5 Rev. |
| Portulaca | TG/242/2 |
| Triticale | TG/121/4 |
| Red Clover | TG/5/8 |
| Thimoty | TG/34/7 |
| Lagerstroemia | TG/95/4 |
| Hydrangea | TG/133/5 |
| Chickpea | TG/143/5 |
| Tea | TG/238/2 |
| Turnip | TG/37/11 |
| Berberis | TG/68/4 |
| Apricot | TG/70/5 |
| Eustoma | TG/197/2 |
| Echinacea | TG/281/2 |
| Banana | TG/123/4 |

In Version 2.10, the coverage for Morocco will be increased as follows:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Common Name | Botanical Name | UPOV TG |
| French Bean | Phaseolus vulgaris L. | TG/12/9 Rev.2 |
| Hot pepper | Capsicum annuum L | TG/76/8 |
| Lettuce | Lactuca sativa L. | TG/13/11 Rev. |
| Squash | Cucurbita pepo L. | TG/119/4 Corr.2 |
| Tomato | Solanum lycopersicum L. | TG/44/11 |

In Version 2.10, the coverage for Serbia has been increased to include lettuce (Lactuca sativa L.), maize (Zea mays L.) and potato (Solanum tuberosum L.).

In Version 2.10, the coverage for the United States of America has been increased to cover all crops and species.

A full list of the crop coverage can be found in the UPOV PRISMA webpage: <https://www.upov.int/upovprisma>.

In a second phase of Version 2.10 planned in October 2024, it is anticipated to expand the coverage of China:

| Common Name | Botanical Name | UPOV TG |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Soya bean | Glycine max (L.) Merrill | TG/80/7 |
| Kiwifruit | Actinidia Lindl. | TG/98/7 Rev.2 |
| Sunflower | Helianthus annuus L. | TG/81/7 |
| Tomato | Solanum lycopersicum L. | TG/44/11 Rev.3 |
| Hot pepper | Capsicum annuum L | TG/76/8 |
| Anthurium | Anthurium Schott | TG/86/6 |
| Guzmania | Guzmania Ruiz et Pav. | TG/182/4 |
| Cucumber | Cucumis sativus L. | TG/61/7 Rev.3 |
| Melon | Cucumis melo L. | TG/104/5 Rev.2 |

## Functionalities

To enhance PDF accessibility in line with WCAG 2.1 guidelines, both the title and language have been included in the document properties as of Version 2.10.

# Other developments

## IT Quality Software Audit

A code audit was organized to improve the quality of the UPOV PRISMA software, resulting in the following recommendations:

1. to implement best practices in terms of coding to avoid concurrency and performance issues;
2. to move to the cloud for a better resource management at infrastructure level and keep following the highest security standards;
3. to develop a dedicated configuration interface for a controlled management of the forms.

Recommendation (a) (best practices in terms of coding) was implemented in Version 2.8. A new tool to assess security at code level is used since Version 2.9.

Recommendations (b) (migration to the cloud) and (c) (development of a dedicated configuration interface) will be implemented in Version 3.0, subject to available resources.

After the deployment of Version 2.8, certain issues were reported by users. Those issues were not identified at the time of regression testing, mainly because the tests were made on test data and not on real data. In version 2.9, the automatic regression tests were performed on a copy of production data as agreed at the EAM/1 Meeting.

The deployment of version 2.10 was supported by automatic testing of the new integrated Test Guidelines.

In version 2.10, the database was migrated to the cloud as a first step of the full migration to the cloud.

Following the implementation of automated regression testing for form generation, it is planned to implement automated tests for all functionalities by the end of 2024 to expand the test coverage.

## Improvement of user-friendliness of UPOV PRISMA

In order to improve the user-friendliness of UPOV PRISMA, consultations were organized with users to review certain current existing functionalities (copy functionality, assignment of roles) (see documents UPOV/EAF/17/3 “Report”, paragraph 22, and UPOV/EAF/18/3 “Report”, paragraphs 15 and 16).

Participants in the UPOV PRISMA Task Force Group were consulted on the proposals made to improve the interface and the navigation through the system.

Two design thinking workshops on user management were organized on December 4 and 7, 2023. After an online consultation, a final version was presented on January 30, 2024. The result of the workshops is being implemented and will be evaluated during a specific test campaign.

During the UPOV PRISMA Task Force meeting on May 15, 2024, the Office of the Union gave a summary of the progress of updating the PVP office procedure. 84% of the procedures have been updated.

The participating authorities have been requested to provide information about their national fees and whether or not those fees are subsidized. A Summary of the outcome is presented in the Annex.

It is proposed to include information on national fees as a new section in the PVP Office Procedure.

A finance-related information session was held on June 12, 2024, to address frequent finance-related questions that UPVO PRISMA mailbox receives. There were 22 UPOV PRISMA users who attended the session.

New videos and a dedicated webpage have been developed to guide the user through the payment process.

In addition, to address the challenges that discourage some applicants from using UPOV PRISMA when filing applications, one-to-one meetings were organized with two authorities of the top 5 receiving application data from UPOV PRISMA, namely Canada and South Africa.

31. The following possibilities were discussed:

1. Whether or not it is possible to make UPOV PRISMA mandatory: the main challenge is how to convince the applicants to add the extra UPOV fees to their costs. What are the incentives of doing that from applicant and PVP office perspective?

2. Whether or not to add National Listing in the coverage

3. Raise awareness of UPOV PRISMA: it is suggested to arrange joint information sessions with the authority focal points, UPOV PRISMA users and local agents. The time will be decided jointly and will be communicated to all interested parties.

## Form Synchronization

UPOV PRISMA ought to ensure that the most recent versions of its forms are accessible, thereby ensuring that the data submitted in applications is complete and mitigating the need for revisions due to any missing information.

Maintaining up-to-date synchronization between the PVP Offices and their most recent forms is essential. Therefore, it is advised to promptly inform the UPOV PRISMA Team of any alterations in application forms or national technical questionnaires once implemented. Additionally, an annual verification with UPOV PRISMA focal points is recommended to ensure the application forms in UPOV PRISMA are up to date.

In order to achieve and maintain synchronization of TQs between UPOV PRISMA and CPVO, the following projects have been agreed with CPVO:

* Project 1: “Audit” (current issues/ states of affairs) for exchange of data between UPOV PRISMA and CPVO in both directions (Status: completed);
* Project 2: Part A: Resolving current issues; Part B: Synchronizing changes by UPOV/CPVO (Status: ongoing on the basis of information provided in Project 1);
* Project 3: Implementation of Project 2 outcome: Bi-directional exchange of application data (lettuce, tomato, rose) (Status: ongoing on the basis of information provided in Project 1);
* Project 4: Bulk upload of Maize applications from UPOV to CPVO (Status: ongoing on the basis of information provided in Project 1); and
* Project 5: “Transitional arrangements”, to communicate to applicants about the situations in which they can use UPOV PRISMA for applications at the CPVO and the measures that need to be taken until all issues have been resolved (Status: ongoing).

CPVO and UPOV are discussing the timelines in relation to the above projects taking into account the available resources. The agreed timelines will be presented at the EAM/5 Meeting.

For PVP Offices that use UPOV Technical Questionnaires, keeping the TQ forms up to date is UPOV’s responsibility. In version 2.10, various TQ forms have been revised to align with the most current version available.

To ensure the TQ forms are updated promptly following the publication of a Test Guidelines (TG), we suggest adhering to the following procedure:

* After the Technical Committee (TC) adopts a TG, the UPOV PRISMA Team will distribute the necessary translations to the PVP Offices charged with handling each non-UPOV language.
* Some four months later, upon the publication of the TG, the respective TQ will become accessible in all the languages provided.
* Should a PVP Office be unable to complete the translation, it is expected that they would agree to use the English version.

# Plans for Version 3.0

## Release of Version 3.0

It is planned to release Version 3.0 of UPOV PRISMA in March 2025.

## Crop Coverage

China:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Morchella | Morchella Dill. ex Pers. | National TG |

Morocco:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Tomato Rootstocks | Solanum habrochaites S. Knapp & D.M. Spooner;  Solanum lycopersicum L. x Solanum habrochaites S. Knapp & D.M. Spooner;  Solanum lycopersicum L. x  Solanum peruvianum (L.) Mill.;  Solanum lycopersicum L. x  Solanum cheesmaniae (L. Ridley) Fosberg;  Solanum pimpinellifolium L. x Solanum habrochaites S. Knapp & D.M. Spooner | TG/294/1 Rev.3 |

The coverage for Serbia will be increased to include sunflower (Helianthus annuus L.).

## Functionalities

The following functionalities are planned to being introduced in Version 3.0:

1. Migration of UPOV PRISMA to the cloud;
2. Bulk invoice upon request;
3. Notification/alert when a change is made to the application form or the technical questionnaire of the United Kingdom;
4. Restriction on the selection of crops for National listing according to the list provided by the authority: (United Kingdom and Netherlands (Kingdom of the));
5. PDF accessibility: all elements should be tagged and follow a proper reading order;
6. Implement the new screen design for Start New Application and Copy Application;
7. Improve user management functionality;
8. Add a “floating” menu for chapters in the generated form page; and
9. Bulk upload improvements:
10. fix pending issues: stage, language, dropdown validation,
11. simplify the template: reuse of applicant/breeder/agent correspondence address,
12. add the possibility to use Purdy’s notation for hybrids,
13. implement validation after upload to minimize errors.

# Possible FUTURE developments

## User-friendliness of the tool

It was agreed at the EAF/19 meeting that the following elements would be considered to increase the user-friendliness of UPOV PRISMA:

* Addition of non-UPOV TQ characteristics in TQ Section 7 instead of TQ Section 5 (see document EAF/17/3 “Report”, paragraph 19); and
* Crop-specific TQs beyond Test Guidelines (see document EAF/16/3 “Report”, paragraph 18).

## New functionalities

The following new functionalities will be considered for possible development:

* Bulk Upload for Maize (United Kingdom); and
* Machine translation (see document EAF/16/3 “Report”, paragraph 18).

[Annex follows]

APPLICATION FEES OF UPOV PRISMA PARTICIPATING UPOV MEMBERS

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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| |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | UPOV member | Fee subsidized by the government | Application Fees in original currency | **Application Fees in Swiss francs [[3]](#footnote-4)** | **% increase when UPOV PRISMA fee (90** **Swiss francs) is added** | | African Intellectual Property Organization (OAPI) | NO | 590000 FCFA | **864.98** | **10%** | | Argentina |  |  |  |  | | Australia | NO | 345 AUD | **206.17** | **44%** | | Bolivia (Plurinational State of) |  |  |  |  | | Canada | NO | 287.22 CAD | **188.33** | **48%** | | Chile | NO | 503.7 USD | **451.82** | **20%** | | China | YES | 0 CNY | **0.00** | **undefined** | | Colombia | NO | 1653000 COP | **359.45** | **25%** | | Costa Rica | NO | 550 USD | **493.35** | **18%** | | Dominican Republic | NO | 8000 DOP | **121.63** | **74%** | | Ecuador | YES | 992.15 / 1240.19 USD | **1001.20** | **9%** | | European Union | NO | 450 euros (online) | **432.64** | **21%** | | France | NO | 100 euros | **96.14** | **94%** | | Georgia |  | GEL |  |  | | Kenya |  | 200 USD | **179.40** | **50%** | | Mexico | NO/YES | 22480 MXN | **1098.29** | **8%** | | Morocco | NO | 500 MAD | **45.18** | **199%** | | Netherlands (Kingdom of the) | NO | 539 EUR | **518.20** | **17%** | | |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | UPOV member | Fee subsidized by the government | Application Fees in original currency | **Application Fees in Swiss francs** | **% increase when UPOV PRISMA fee (90** **Swiss francs) is added** | | New Zealand | NO | 625 NZD | **342.05** | **26%** | | Norway | NO | 1705 NOK | **143.75** | **63%** | | Paraguay | NO | 476710 PYG | **56.78** | **159%** | | Peru | NO | 390.50 PEN | **91.84** | **98%** | | Republic of Moldova | YES | 200 EUR | **192.28** | **47%** | | Republic of Korea | NO | 38000 KRW | **24.60** | **366%** | | Saint Vincent and the Grenadines |  |  |  |  | | Serbia | NO | 8380 RSD | **68.88** | **31%** | | South Africa | NO | 3308 ZAR | **160.91** | **56%** | | Sweden | NO | 3000 SEK | **254.18** | **35%** | | Switzerland |  |  |  |  | | Trinidad and Tobago | NO | 1000 TTD | **132.75** | **68%** | | Tunisia | NO | 250 TND | **71.55** | **126%** | | Türkiye | NO | 7778.5 TRY | **212.41** | **42%** | | United Kingdom | NO | 598 GBP | **678.99** | **13%** | | Uruguay | NO | 110 USD | **98.67** | **91%** | | USDA (United States) | NO | 5150 USD | **4619.55** | **2%** | | Viet Nam | NO | 2000000 VND | **70.48** | **128%** | |

[End of Annex and of document]

1. African Intellectual Property Organization (OAPI), Argentina (Wheat, Barely, Black Radish, Pepper, Cotton, Witloof Chicory, Papaya), Chile, China (Lettuce), Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, France, Georgia (Wheat, Field Bean, Barley, Oats, Blueberry), Kenya, Morocco (Blueberry), Netherlands (Kingdom of the), New Zealand, Republic of Korea (Lettuce), Republic of Moldova (Wheat, Lettuce, Oats, Pepper), Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Serbia (Blueberry), South Africa, Sweden, Switzerland, Tunisia, Türkiye, United Kingdom, Viet Nam. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. Australia, European Union, Mexico, Norway, Peru, United States of America, Uruguay. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
3. The UN Operational Rates of Exchange for July 2024 are used to calculate the amount in CHF. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)