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INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR THE PROTECTION OF NEW VARIETIES OF PLANTS
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ENLARGED EDITORIAL COMMITTEE

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INTRODUCTION TO TGP/7 DRAFT 4

Document prepared by the Office of the Union

1. At its thirty-ninth session held in Geneva from April 7 to 9, 2003, the Technical Committee (TC) considered document TGP/7 draft 2. It did not examine Section 4, GN18 to GN30 in Annex 3 and Annex 4 of the document and agreed that the highlighted text in these sections should remain highlighted in the later drafts of the document. That text remained highlighted in TGP/7 draft 3, which incorporated all the changes agreed by the TC and was considered by the Technical Working Parties (TWPs) during their sessions in 2003, and remains highlighted in TGP/7 draft 4. Additional parts of the text of TGP/7 draft 4 have been highlighted where amendments have been proposed by the TWPs. The endnotes provided at the end of the document provide background notes to the proposals and/or indicate the source of the proposal.

2. In addition to the proposals concerning new text (see, in particular: Footnote to TQ 4&7 (TG Template), GN 19.4; GN 20.3.4 and 20.3.5: “1-5” and “1-4” scales; GN 29: Example varieties: synonyms; and GN 30: Literature) or changes to the substance of the previous text, there has been some restructuring of the document, which has caused significant renumbering of the GN section (the numbers from TGP/7 draft 3 are indicated as “old” in TGP/7 draft 4). This restructuring is intended to present the document in a more logical sequence for users who may wish to read the document in its entirety, rather than using it as a series of notes to accompany the TG Template. In particular, the following changes have been made:

- (a) Section 4 “Presentation of characteristics according to their type of expression” has been incorporated into Annex 3 “guidance notes (GN) for the TG template”. This has been accompanied by the grouping together, in GN 17 to GN 20, of all aspects concerning the presentation of characteristics and some resultant consolidation of the text.

- (b) The guidance notes for Asterisked, Grouping and TQ characteristics have been combined into a single section to explain their roles and relationship with each other.
3. The text has been highlighted where the restructuring of the text has resulted in a change (including additions and deletions) to the substance of the text, but not where the text has simply been relocated.
4. A further general change has been to revert to the approach of referring to the 10 sections of the Test Guidelines as “Chapters”, rather than “Sections”.
5. It is intended that, subject to approval of TGP/7 by the TC at its fortieth session in March 2004, a drafters “kit” will be produced and placed on the (restricted area of the) UPOV Website. This will comprise three parts. The first part will be a Word document containing the TG Template (TGP/7 Annex 1) with all the additional standard wording (ASW) options included and a blank Table of Characteristics in the correct format (TGP/7 Annex 2). Drafters will use this Word document as their starting point and will delete the ASW which is not appropriate. The second part will be Annex 3 “Guidance notes for the TG Template”, which will provide general guidance. The third part will be a Word document containing the collection of approved characteristics (TGP/7 Annex 4), which the Office will start to compile after approval of TGP/7. It is further intended that, during the TWP sessions in 2004, the Office will provide a demonstration of how to use this “kit” to draft Test Guidelines.

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