UPOV

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TECHNICAL WORKING PARTY FOR AGRICULTURAL CROPS

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ADDENDUM TO MOLECULAR TECHNIQUES

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1.   The purpose of this addendum to document TWA/45/2 "Molecular Techniques" is to report on further developments concerning the item "OECD/UPOV/ISTA Joint Workshop on Molecular Techniques".

2.   A Joint OECD/UPOV/ISTA/AOSA (Association of Official Seed Analysts) Workshop on Biochemical and Molecular Methods was held in Paris on June 8, 2016. The following recommendations of the Joint OECD/UPOV/ISTA/AOSA Workshop were approved by the Annual Meeting of the OECD Seed Schemes, held in Paris on June 9 and 10, 2016:

•   To develop a joint document explaining the principal features (e.g. DUS, variety identification, variety purity, etc.) of the systems of OECD, UPOV, AOSA and ISTA and, for mutual understanding, to repeat the joint workshop at relevant meetings of the OECD and ISTA;

•   To carry out a joint inventory by UPOV, OECD, AOSA and ISTA of the use of molecular marker techniques, by crop, with a view to developing a document containing that information. The OECD will contribute to the document by sharing the ongoing list of molecular techniques used by NDAs and continuously collected by the Secretariat;

•   To develop a list of terms and their definitions as used by OECD, UPOV, AOSA and ISTA and to make an attempt to harmonize these;

•   To consider organizing another similar workshop in three years' time; and

•   To consider replacing "internationally validated" by another term such as "internationally harmonized."

3.   The Annual Meeting of the OECD Seed Schemes endorsed the proposal of the Netherlands to organize a practical workshop in 2017, with support of the OECD, UPOV and ISTA, to explore how molecular techniques might be applied in an efficient way for UPOV, OECD and ISTA purposes.

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