

Meeting on the development of an electronic application form

UPOV/EAF/19/2 Rev.

Nineteenth Meeting

Geneva, March 16, 2022 (virtual meeting)

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DEVELOPMENTS CONCERNING UPOV PRISMA

prepared by the Office of the Union

Disclaimer: this document does not represent UPOV policies or guidance

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. The purpose of this document is to report on developments since the eighteenth meeting on the development of an electronic application form ("EAF/18 meeting"), held by electronic means on October 21, 2021, and to present the planned future developments.

2. Participating members in the development of the electronic application form are invited to:

- (a) note the developments concerning UPOV PRISMA since the EAF/18 meeting;
- (b) note that a report on plans for improving CPVO TQ synchronization and the user-friendliness of UPOV PRISMA will be made at the EAF/19 meeting;
- (c) approve the procedure for utilizing authorities' TQs as presented in paragraphs 24 and 25;
- (d) note that the United Kingdom TQ would be circulated to the participating UPOV members that use the UPOV TQ for all genera and species to see if they would wish to use the United Kingdom TQ or to continue using the generic TQ;
- (e) note the plans for Version 2.8, as set out in paragraphs 27 to 30 of this document;
- (f) note the possible future developments of UPOV PRISMA as set out in paragraphs 32 to 37 of this document;
- (g) note that a presentation of the new organization of the UPOV PRISMA support and development team will be made at EAF/19 meeting.

3. The structure of this document is as follows:

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USE OF UPOV PRISMA (AS OF JANUARY 31, 2022)

4. Information on the use of UPOV PRISMA, is provided below:

Number of submissions via UPOV PRISMA

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
January	1		7	18	106	232
February		3	9	5	107	
March	2	3	6	21	67	
April		3	22	11	105	
May	1	1	32	11	65	
June		7	10	18	821	
July		7	3	9	58	
August		1	7	11	378	
September	3	8	16	29	154	
October	1	19	29	16	68	
November	3	16	26	41	406	
December	3	9	49	31	174	
Total	14	77	216	221	2509	232

LAUNCH OF VERSION 2.7

5. Version 2.7 of UPOV PRISMA (Version 2.7) was deployed in January 2022, which incorporated the following.

UPOV members

6. Saint Vincent and Grenadines was introduced in UPOV PRISMA as a new participating authority.

Crops/species

7. Forms were updated for the following participating PBR authorities: European Union, and the Netherlands.

New functionalities

8. The following new functionalities were introduced:

- Possibility to download the list of applications as displayed in the dashboard for PVP office in Excel format;
- Introduction of the WIPO IP Portal navigation bar;
- Bulk Upload (for maize, European Union);
- Provide the Co-agent with the right to view applications of other colleagues.

IT QUALITY SOFTWARE AUDIT

9. It was noted at the EAF/18 meeting that in order to reduce the risk of problems when introducing new versions and/ or new functionalities, the following steps would be taken (see document UPOV/EAF/18/3 "Report"):

- Appoint an external company to perform a software quality audit;
- Organize user acceptance testing (UAT) before going live with any new functionalities.

10. As reported at the EAF/18 meeting, an external company was appointed to perform a software quality audit and reported that according to the test maturity model, UPOV PRISMA had reached maturity level 2: "the organization has a fundamental test approach where some common test practices are implemented such as planning, monitoring and control over test activities". The following recommendations were provided to move to maturity level 3: "the organization is rather proactive and the test approach is documented and described in standards, procedures, tools and methods":

1. Know the users and how UPOV PRISMA is used;
2. Focus on what is important and urgent: Automate test cases for regression on the functionalities mostly used and the functionalities that generate 80% of the bugs;
3. Define a clear Test strategy document;
4. For each new requirement, an impact analysis should be made;
5. Define a standard process for test case creation;
6. Use a test repository tool.

11. A report on the progress on implementing each of the recommendations will be made at the EAF/19 meeting.

12. In relation to user acceptance testing (UAT), it is planned to consult the UPOV PRISMA "Task Force" Group before implementing new functionalities.

13. Further to the above measures to improve the quality of the UPOV PRISMA software, it was decided to organize a code audit, which produced the following recommendations:

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

14. It is planned to start the implementation of the recommendations in 2022. A report on progress on implementing the recommendations will be made at future EAF meetings.

IMPROVEMENT OF USER-FRIENDLINESS OF UPOV PRISMA

15. 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 document UPOV/EAF/17/3 "Report", paragraph 22 and document UPOV/EAF/18/3 "Report", paragraphs 15 and 16).

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.

17. A report on plans for improving user-friendliness of UPOV PRISMA will be made at the EAF/19 meeting.

CPVO PARTICIPATION IN UPOV PRISMA

18. Since EAF/18 meeting the following online meetings UPOV PRISMA Task Force Group were organized on CPVO participation in UPOV PRISMA:

- November 15, 2021, and February 15, 2022 with interim meetings between CPVO and UPOV.

19. In order to achieve and maintain synchronization of TQs between UPOV PRISMA and CPVO (see document UPOV/EAF/16/3 "Report" paragraph 18, document UPOV/EAF/17/3 "Report" paragraph 32 and document UPOV/EAF/18/3 "Report", paragraph 12) 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
- Project 2: Part A: Resolving current issues; Part B : Synchronizing changes by UPOV/CPVO
- Project 3: Implementation of Project 2 outcome: Bi-directional exchange of application data (lettuce, tomato, rose)
- Project 4: Bulk upload of Maize applications from UPOV to CPVO
- 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

20. A report on progress made for each project will be made at the EAF/19 meeting.

21. Participating members in the development of the electronic application form are invited to note:

(a) the developments concerning UPOV PRISMA since the EAF/18 meeting;

(b) that a report on plans for improving CPVO TQ synchronization and the user-friendliness of UPOV PRISMA will be made at the EAF/19 meeting.

COVERAGE OF TEST GUIDELINES: SUGAR BEET

22. In relation to the coverage of the Test Guidelines, the following was agreed at the EAF/13 meeting (see document UPOV/EAF/13/3 "Report", paragraphs 19 to 22):

"20. The participants received a presentation from the Office of the Union, as reproduced in the Annex II of document UPOV/EAF/12/3 "Report", and noted that, for UPOV members following the UPOV Test Guidelines, where there were no UPOV Test Guidelines for a particular crop/species, a generic TQ was available. Alternatively, UPOV members could link these crop/species to a suitable UPOV TG. It was explained that it would not be appropriate to use national TGs for such crops/species because of the high level of maintenance, the translation burden and lack of harmonization. However, it would be possible for UPOV members participating in UPOV PRISMA to agree a common TQ and thereby to retain harmonization and minimize translation work.

"21. The participants noted that, in cases where a participating authority used a national Technical Questionnaire for the Table of Characteristics, for a specific crop, where there was no UPOV Test Guidelines (TGs) and where the generic TQ was not appropriate, there would be a possibility to develop a specific UPOV PRISMA TQ for this crop, subject to a procedure for consultation with other UPOV participating members in UPOV PRISMA and under the condition to follow UPOV TGs TQ and UPOV characteristics.

"22. The participants noted the process of consultation for authorities who do not follow the general approach but follow UPOV TGs TQ and UPOV characteristics, as follows:

1. Request from Country A for a specific crop (Country A TQ)
2. Inform other participating authorities in UPOV PRISMA
3. Circulate the Country A TQ to see if there are any objections to use as UPOV PRISMA TQ
4. If no objections: Country A TQ becomes UPOV PRISMA TQ (subject to resources available)
5. If objections: discussion among interested authorities to explore possibilities to develop a harmonized TQ (and then back to 3)

Any new request would be reported at the subsequent EAF meeting."

23. There are no UPOV Test Guidelines for sugar beet and the approach above was considered but initial feedback indicated that it could be problematic to seek to apply a specific TQ for all UPOV members that use the UPOV TQ for all genera and species.

24. On the basis of the feedback received, it is proposed to amend the procedure above as follows:

1. Request from Authority A for a specific crop (Authority A TQ)
2. Inform other participating authorities in UPOV PRISMA
3. Circulate the Authority A TQ to see if participating UPOV members that use the UPOV TQ for all genera and species would prefer to:
 - (a) use Authority A TQ or
 - (b) continue using the generic TQ
4. Implement Authority A TQ for UPOV members who wish to use Authority A TQ (subject to available resources).

25. According to the above procedure, more than one authority could make their TQ available for use by other participating UPOV members that use the UPOV TQ for all genera and species.

26. The United Kingdom has a specific TQ, a copy of which is provided in the Annex to this document. In accordance with the proposed new procedure, the United Kingdom TQ would be circulated to the following participating UPOV members that use the UPOV TQ for all genera and species to see if they would wish to use the United Kingdom TQ or to continue using the generic TQ:

Authority
African Intellectual Property Organization (OAPI)
Chile
Colombia
Dominican Republic
France
Georgia
Kenya
Mexico
Netherlands
New Zealand
Norway
Peru
Republic of Moldova
Saint Vincent and Grenadines
Serbia
South Africa
Sweden
Tunisia
Turkey
United Kingdom
Viet Nam

27. *Participating members in the development of the electronic application form are invited to*

(a) approve the procedure for utilizing authorities' TQs as presented in paragraphs 24 and 25; and

(b) note that the United Kingdom TQ would be circulated to the participating UPOV members that use the UPOV TQ for all genera and species to see if they would wish to use the United Kingdom TQ or to continue using the generic TQ.

VERSION 2.8

UPOV member coverage

28. No new participating authorities are anticipated for Version 2.8:

Updating of forms

29. The forms for France and the Netherlands will be updated.

Functionalities

30. The following functionalities are planned to be introduced in Version 2.8:

- Bulk Upload (Maize, United Kingdom);
- Bulk invoice upon request;
- Improve the download functionality for PVP Offices by including UPOV code information for crops not covered by UPOV TG and the addition of following columns (only for United Kingdom as Proof of Concept):
 - Country of Origin
 - NLI Maintainer
 - NLI Agent
 - NLI Applicant
 - PBR Breeder
 - PBR Applicant
 - PBR Agent
 - Date PBR application received
 - Date NL application Received
 - Provisional Marketing Authorisation Code
 - Provisional Marketing Authorisation Date
 - Seed Weight

Planned release date

31. It is planned to release Version 2.8 of UPOV PRISMA in October 2022.

32. Participating members in the development of the electronic application form are invited to note the plans for Version 2.8, as set out in paragraphs 27 to 30 of this document.

PLANNED FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS (AFTER VERSION 2.8)

Registered Users

33. The following requests have been received from users for new functionalities:

- Allow the possibility to upload multiple attachments for the same question;
- In the email notification message, remove the reference to the "applicant" since it is not correct when an agent submits the application data;
- For agents, accept invitations in bulk instead of clicking each one individually;
- Add an additional "notes" field to the agent profile to allow agents to provide further information to breeders/applicants, such as services offered and languages spoken.

34. It is planned to address these requests after Version 2.8 has been implemented.

Coverage

35. The following UPOV members have expressed an interest to join UPOV PRISMA in the future: Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Egypt, Japan, Nicaragua, Singapore, United Republic of Tanzania and Uzbekistan. The Office of the Union will consult the UPOV members concerned to discuss their requirements and timeline for joining UPOV PRISMA.

User-friendliness of the tool

36. The following elements would be considered at a later stage to increase the user-friendliness of UPOV PRISMA, according to resources available:

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

New functionalities

37. The following new functionalities will be considered for possible development:

- Machine translation (see document EAF/16/3 "Report" paragraph 18);
- Information on DUS cooperation (DUS Arrangement Recommendation Tool (DART)) (see document EAF/16/3 "Report" paragraph 18).

IT improvements

38. The following IT improvements will be considered for possible development at a later stage and according to resources available:

- Improve the performance of form generation.

39. Participating members in the development of the electronic application form are invited to note the possible future developments of UPOV PRISMA as set out in paragraphs 32 to 37 of this document.

UPOV PRISMA SUPPORT AND DEVELOPMENT TEAM

40. A presentation of the new organization of the UPOV PRISMA support and development team will be made at EAF/19 meeting.

41. Participating members in the development of the electronic application form are invited to note that a presentation of the new organization of the UPOV PRISMA support and development team will be made at EAF/19 meeting.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

42. The date of the twentieth meeting of the EAF (EAF/20 meeting) is proposed to be held by virtual means on October 20, 2022.

[Annex follows]

ANNEX

United Kingdom Technical Questionnaire for Sugar beet (generated from UPOV PRISMA)

Technical Questionnaire

Crop/Species
Beta vulgaris L. ssp. vulgaris var. saccharifera
Alef. (Sugar Beet)

Authority
GB

IRN
XU_30202200000082
Submission Date

Technical Questionnaire

INFORMATION ON THE BREEDING SCHEME AND PROPAGATION OF THE VARIETY

Do you wish the details and data relating to components of hybrid varieties including

☐ Yes ☒ No

data related to their cultivation to be treated as confidential?

If 'no', please give information on data relating to the components of hybrid varieties including data related to their cultivation.

Breeding scheme (indicate female component first)

Breeding scheme

The ploidy of both seed-bearing and pollen-shedding components of seed producing crops of sugar beet

- ☐ 1_Diploid without male sterility 2N
- ☐ 2_Male sterile diploid with a male diploid 2N X 2N
- ☐ 3_Male sterile tetraploid with a male diploid 4N X 2N
- ☐ 4_Male sterile diploid with a male tetraploid 2N X 4N
- ☐ 5_Male sterile diploid with a male anisoploid 2N X (2N+4N)
- ☐ 6_Tetraploid without male sterility 4N
- ☐ 7_Diploid and tetraploid without male sterility 2N + 4N

Type of material

- ☐ Inbred line
- ☐ single-cross
- ☐ synthetic
- ☐ other

Origin

- ☐ Seedling
- ☐ Mutation
- ☐ Other

Method of propagation

- ☐ Cuttings
- ☐ In vitro propagation
- ☐ Seed
- ☐ Self-pollination
- ☐ Cross-pollination
- ☐ Hybrid
- ☐ Other

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE VARIETY TO BE INDICATED

Germity: percentage of monogerm seeds

- ☐ 1_Monogerm (>95%)
- ☐ 2_Partially monogerm/ partly multigerm (<95% and >15%)
- ☐ 3_Multigerm

Ploidy

- ☐ 2_Diploid
- ☐ 4_Tetraploid

Seedling: percentage of seedlings with anthocyanin colouration of hypocotyl

- ☐ 0 – 19%
- ☐ 30 – 39%
- ☐ 40 – 59%
- ☐ 60 – 79%
- ☐ 80 – 100%

Plant: height

- ☐ 1_Very short
- ☐ 2.0
- ☐ 3_Short
- ☐ 4.0
- ☐ 5_Medium
- ☐ 6.0
- ☐ 7_Tall
- ☐ 8.0
- ☐ 9_Very Tall

SIMILAR VARIETIES AND DIFFERENCES FROM THESE VARIETIES

Similar varieties and differences from these varieties

Please note that information on similar varieties may help to identify comparable varieties and can avoid an additional period of testing.

Are there any similar variety(ies) known? Yes/No

☐ Yes ☐ No

Similar varieties and differences from these varieties:

Denomination of similar variety	Characteristic in which the similar variety is different	State of expression of similar variety	State of expression of candidate variety
var			

INFORMATION ON PLANT MATERIAL TO BE EXAMINED OR SUBMITTED FOR EXAMINATION

The expression of a characteristic or several characteristics of a variety may be affected by factors, such as pests and disease, chemical treatment (e.g. growth retardants or pesticides), effects of tissue culture, different rootstocks, scions taken from different growth phases of a tree, etc. Consequently the plant material to be examined should not have undergone any treatment which would affect the expression of the characteristics of the variety, unless the competent authorities allow or request such treatment. If the plant material has undergone such treatment, full details of the treatment must be given. In this respect, please indicate below, to the best of your knowledge, if the plant material to be examined has been subjected to:

Micro-organisms (e.g. virus, bacteria, phytoplasma). Yes/No	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
Chemical treatment (e.g. growth retardant or pesticide). Yes/No	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
Tissue culture. Yes/No	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
Other factors. Yes/No	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION WHICH MAY HELP IN THE EXAMINATION OF THE VARIETY

Resistance to pests and diseases. Yes/No ☐ Yes ☐ No

Are there any special conditions for growing the variety or conducting the examination? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Special DUS Tests

If after two years' distinctness has not been established please indicate whether special hypocotyl and/or cotyledon tests should be undertaken if a third year of DUS Testing has been agreed.

A fee will be charged for these tests.

Hypocotyl Test	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
Cotyledon Test	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
Other information. Yes/No	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No