

EAF/6/4

ORIGINAL: English **DATE**: March 15, 2016

INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR THE PROTECTION OF NEW VARIETIES OF PLANTS

Geneva

MEETING ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF A PROTOTYPE ELECTRONIC FORM

Sixth Meeting Geneva, October 26, 2015

REPORT

adopted by the Meeting on the development of a prototype electronic form

Disclaimer: this document does not represent UPOV policies or guidance

Welcome and opening

- 1. The Sixth meeting on the development of a prototype electronic form ("EAF/6 meeting") was opened and chaired by Mr. Peter Button, Vice Secretary-General, UPOV, who welcomed the participants in Geneva and those who participated in the meeting by means of electronic conference.
- 2. The list of participants is reproduced in Annex I to this report.

Approval of the agenda

3. The meeting adopted the draft agenda as proposed in document EAF/6/1.

Overview of the prototype electronic form project

- 4. The meeting considered documents EAF/6/2 "Overview of the prototype electronic form project" and EAF/6/3 "EAS questionnaire".
- 5. The participants received a presentation by the Office of the Union on the latest developments in relation to the prototype electronic form, a copy of which is reproduced in Annex II to this document.

Validation of prototype electronic application form Version 1 (PV1)

- 6. The participants were informed that during the test campaigns for the development of a prototype electronic application form Version 1 (PV1) from May to October 2015, the following PVP Offices received application or tested EAF PV1: Australia, Brazil, European Union, Japan, Netherlands, New Zealand, Republic of Korea, Switzerland, United states of America and Viet Nam. It was also noted that the following breeders tested the EAF PV1: Nuhhems, RijkZwan, Limagrain, Syngenta, Monsanto, Pioneer, Meilland and Grapaes.
- 7. The participants received a presentation by the Office of the Union of PV1 and its functionalities and agreed that the prototype had demonstrated the feasibility of the project, including the validation on the data transfer from breeders to the participating PVP Offices, in terms of data completeness and in conformity with the agreed data model.
- 8. The meeting noted that participating members had received a questionnaire to obtain information on possible requirements that PVP Offices might have with regard to legal, administrative and technical matters

concerning a UPOV electronic application system (Circular E-15/168 of August 7, 2015). The results of the questionnaire were presented in document EAF/6/3 "EAS Questionnaire".

Development of prototype electronic application form Version 2 (PV2)

- 9. On the basis of the previous discussions, including during the test campaigns of PV1, and the results of the questionnaire (see document EAF/6/3 "EAS Questionnaire), it was agreed that the development of a prototype electronic application form version 2 (PV2), should proceed as follows:
 - (a) Aim of PV2
- 10. The aim of PV2 would be to demonstrate the scalability of the system, i.e. addition of further crops, languages and PVP Offices, and also to demonstrate the feasibility of implementation by PVP Offices.
 - (b) Different languages
- 11. The participating members for PV2 would be requested to provide their application forms in their original languages and, in the case of PVP Offices using forms in languages other than English, French, German or Spanish, the PVP Offices would be requested to provide translations of the forms of all participating members of the Union in the language concerned. It was further agreed that each participating PVP Office would be requested to provide information on the language(s) in which answers could be provided.
 - (c) Addition of other crops and new PVP Offices
- 12. It was agreed to cover in PV2, three or four of: lettuce, apple; potato; rose; soybean, in an order of priority to be established according to the interest of participating PVP Offices and breeders, and the ability of the participating PVP Offices to provide relevant Technical Questionnaire information.
 - (d) Payment modalities
- 13. In relation to payments for PVP Offices, it was agreed that two different options would be developed in PV2:
 - (i) payment to PVP Offices via UPOV;
 - (ii) direct payment to PVP Offices.
- 14. It was agreed that it would be necessary to provide the possibility for applicants to pay in different currencies.
- 15. In relation to payment for the UPOV service charge, it was agreed that there would be a possibility of a UPOV service charge to be integrated in PV2.
 - (e) User authentication;
- 16. Two different options would be developed in PV2:
 - (i) via web service at the EAF level (i.e. authorization for signature to be done in the EAF system):
 - (ii) after receipt of the application by the PVP Office (i.e. authorization for signature to be done by the selected PVP Office).
 - (f) Possibility for participating UPOV members to introduce or modify their questions in the form using an online interface;
- 17. PV2 would be developed on the basis that questions could be added or modified once a month. New Authorities' forms would need to be added by March 2016.

- (g) Legal aspects;
- 18. With regard to legal aspects, it was agreed that the EAF would need to conform to the legal requirements of the PVP Offices concerned.
- 19. It was agreed that the terms and conditions for PVP Offices would be provided by the PVP Offices concerned and acknowledgement would be integrated within the EAF terms and conditions, where appropriate. In other cases, a separate procedure would be required at the level of Authority. At the EAF system level, the terms and conditions would be included separately, with the user being requested to accept the terms and conditions at the first connection. At the application level, the terms and conditions would be included in the application form (i.e. specific to each application and completed in the declaration chapter).
 - (h) Compliance with Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG);
- 20. Consideration would be given to the extent to which the system in PV2 should be compliant with Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG).
 - (i) Security requirements in terms of Data confidentiality and Access rights management
- 21. In relation to the information to be transmitted from the applicants to the selected PVP Offices, and in order to comply with WIPO and PVP Offices' security policies, it was agreed that all data would be encrypted and considered confidential.
 - (j) High availability (HA) of the system;
- 22. It was agreed that the system would work continuously, with a tolerance of one day for the system to be out of operation.
 - (k) Communication with existing and external systems such as the GENIE Database, WIPO Users Account and existing systems in PVP Offices;
- 23. It was agreed that it would be possible to use different communication channels as specified by the receiving PVP Office (web service, email, SFTP: Secure File Transfer Protocol).
 - (I) Architecture of the system.
- 24. All the preceding items ((a) to (k)) would be considered when drafting the architecture of the system, in consultation with participating members, in the scope of the implementation of an operational system.
 - (m) International Reference Number (IRN) and unique Breeder's reference
- 25. A unique International Reference Number IRN would be allocated to a particular variety. All submissions of data to participating PVP Offices, for the same variety, would be attributed the same IRN. It was agreed that Technical Questionnaire data could only be copied when the same IRN was used. Consideration would also need to be given to whether it should be possible for the user to change the breeder's reference after a variety file had been copied, in order to allow the user to provide a different breeder's reference for the same variety in a different PVP Office. It was agreed to verify the functioning of the system during the development of PV2.

Future actions and program

Test campaigns PV2

26. The EAF/6 noted that the participating members in the EAF would be invited to test the system in stages, through different interim test releases, in order to obtain regular feedback. Comments would be taken into consideration for the development of subsequent test releases in order to have a fully functioning prototype (PV2) by August 2016, for a final test campaign in September 2016, before presentation at the sessions of the CAJ, the Consultative Committee and the Council in October 2016, as appropriate.

- 27. The EAF/6 agreed that all members of the Union should have the opportunity to participate in the development of PV2, whilst noting that, in order to be able to participate, the following information would need to be provided to the Office of the Union by November 30, 2015:
 - (a) Applications forms and other application information requirements for PVP Offices that did not provide their forms for PV1;
 - (b) Technical Questionnaire information for apple, potato, rose and soybean;
 - (c) Payment procedures;
 - (d) Application authorization procedures;
 - (e) Security requirements for data transfer and receipt;
 - (f) Communication protocols for those PVP Offices that wish:
 - (i) to receive application data from the EAF system;
 - (ii) to enable breeders to retrieve data from their PVP Offices via the EAF system.
- 28. Participating members noted that the program for development of the second version of PV2 and the dates for the different releases would be communicated to the participating members at a later stage.
- 29. The EAF/6 agreed with the plan to make a presentation of PV2 to the CAJ, the Consultative Committee and the Council, as appropriate, at their sessions in October 2016 and to invite the CAJ and Consultative Committee and the Council, to consider proposals for the ways forward for the project and to consider proposals for a launch of the electronic form.

Other matters for consideration

- 30. In parallel with the development of PV2, the EAF/6 agreed that the following items would be addressed prior to launch of the EAF:
- (a) Operations such as:
 - (i) users support;
 - (ii) routine maintenance provisions;
- (b) integration with PVP Offices systems;
- (c) training for PVP Offices and applicants; and
- (d) publicity of the availability of the system for breeders.
- 31. The EAF/6 noted that the Council would need to approve the launch of an EAF system and charges to be paid by applicants.

Date of next meeting

- 32. It was agreed that the seventh meeting would be held in Geneva on the evening of March 16, 2016, at 18.00, with the possibility of participation by means of electronic conference.
- 33. It was agreed to organize an interim meeting by means of electronic conference, on January 8, 2016, to report on latest developments and to update the future actions and program, as appropriate.
 - 34. This report was adopted by correspondence.

[Annexes follow]

EAF/6/4

ANNEX I

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

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Leontino TAVEIRA, Technical/Regional Officer (Latin America, Caribbean countries)
Hend MADHOUR (Ms.), Data Modeler and Business Needs Analyst
Ariane Besse (Ms.), Administrative Assistant
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Erika Giachino (Ms.), Agency Worker
Fanny Berger (Ms.), Agency Worker

[Annex II follows]

EAF/6 meeting

Electronic Application System Project

Documents EAF/6/2 and EAF/6/3

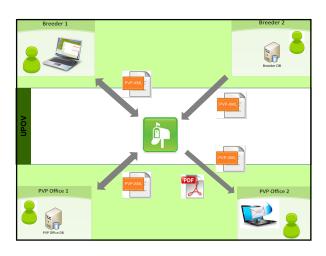
Geneva, October 26, 2015



OVERVIEW

- Background
- Presentation of the prototype 1 (PV1)
- Scope of the prototype 2 (PV2)
- Other matters for consideration
- Next steps and Timetable

2



Background

The original description of the aim of the project on a prototype electronic form was to develop a multilingual, electronic form containing questions relevant for plant breeders' rights (PBRs) applications.

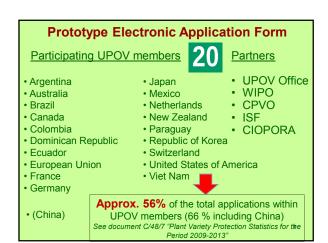
The aim of the prototype would be to develop an electronic form covering all relevant information required for a PBR application (including Technical Questionnaire) in the members of the Union concerned and with questions translated in the relevant languages for the members of the Union concerned.

(see document CAJ/66/5 "Electronic Application Systems", paragraph 2).

3

Benefits of the EAF system

- Multilingual system: possibility to read all questions in all languages of participating members
- Provide and electronic PVP system for participating members who don't have one
- 3. Facilitate exchange of data in a standard format (PVP-XML)
- 4. Offer the possibility to reuse existing application data

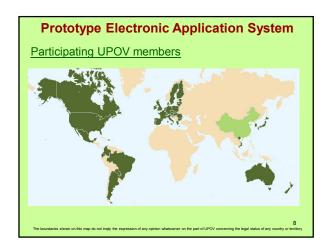




Functioning Prototype by October 2015

Data can be transferred (and reused) from participating breeders to participating PVP Offices

according to the specific information that they require for an application in the requested format

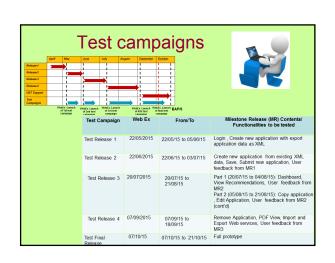


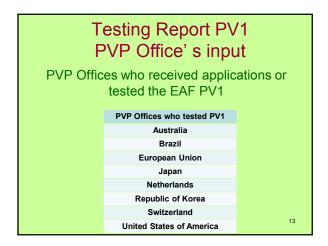
Prototype Electronic Application Form Participating UPOV members in the EAF who provided their forms on time (Application Form and Technical Questionnaire) used in the prototype electronic form PV Australia

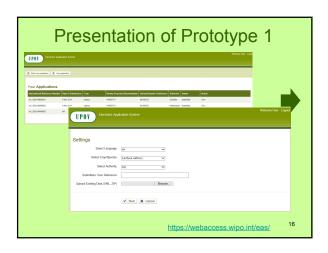
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- Canada
- European Union
- Japan
- Netherlands
- New Zealand
- · Republic of Korea · United States of America
- Viet Nam

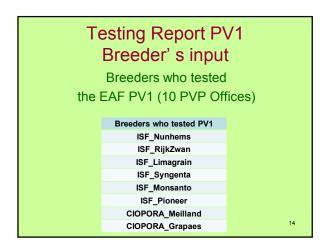


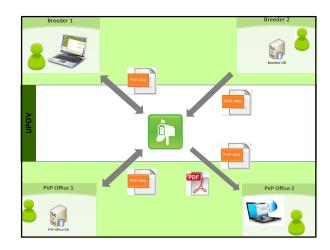
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Included (PV1)	NOT included in PV1
In English only	Different languages
For lettuce only (one crop)	Payment authorization and user authentication
Forms for 10 authorities: AU, NL, BR, NZ, QZ, JP, VN, US, KR, CA	Possibility to introduce or modify questions (update of the form)
Complete a blank form or a prefilled form based on existing PBR application data uploaded using an agreed format (PVP-XML)	Some technical and legal aspects
Store the input data in an associated database in order to allow its reuse in other applications	Confidentiality of data
Dashboard: Edit/ View options	View Application in Word/Excel format
Administration interface	High availability of the system
Export of XML information to selected authorities based on: 6 Office specific schemas: AU, NL, QZ, JP, US, KR and the Generic (combined) schema	Interaction with existing and external systems (GENIE DB, WIPO Accounts)





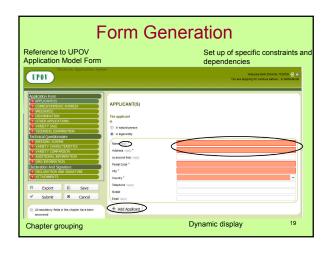






OVERVIEW Background Presentation of the prototype 1 (PV1) Scope of the prototype 2 (PV2) Other matters for consideration Next steps and Timetable





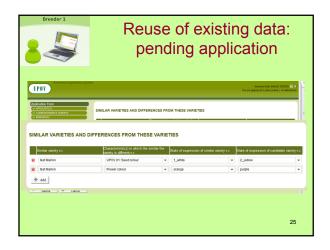




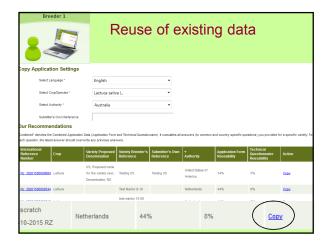




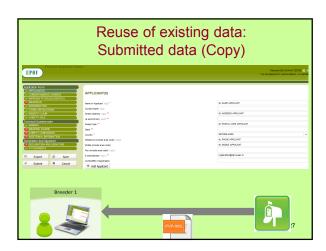






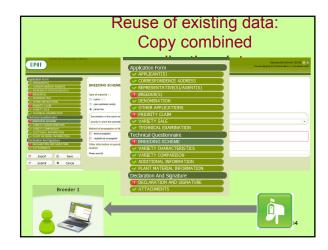




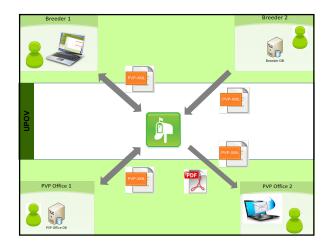


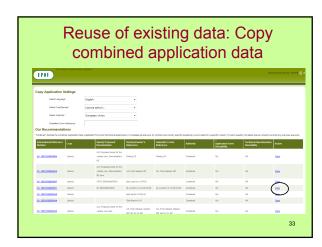


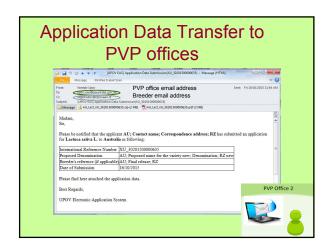


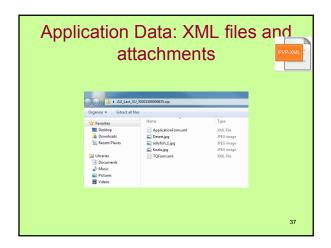




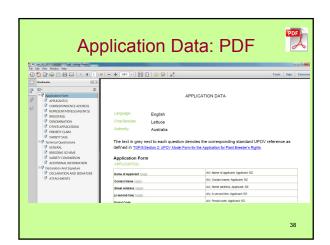


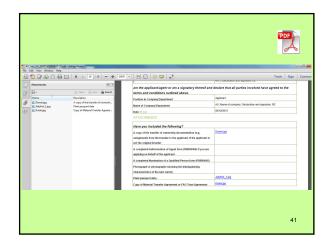


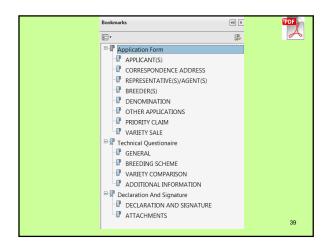








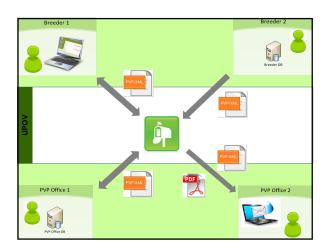


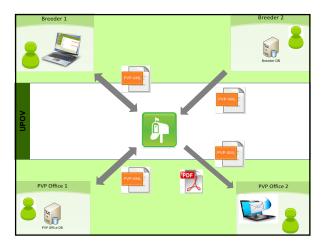




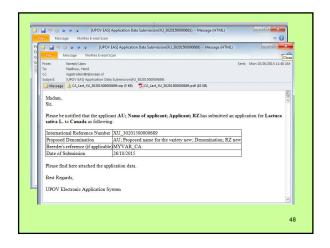




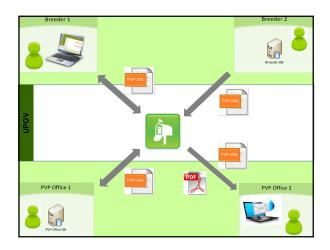






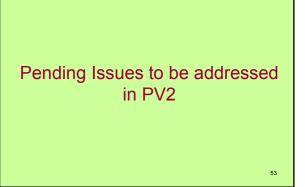


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OVERVIEW Background Presentation of the prototype 1 (PV1) Scope of the prototype 2 (PV2) Other matters for consideration Next steps and Timetable

Questionnaire On line Questionnaire has been sent, addressing the following: Legal aspects: Payment modalities Filing/Priority Date Data Confidentiality Technical aspects: Payment authorization and user authentication Electronic signature High Availability Integration with external systems: Genie DB/WIPO Accounts Maintenance and support 13 feedback received (US, CH, NZ, CL, NL, KR, JP, AU, EC, QZ, MX, PY) (ISF) See Document EAF/6/3

Next steps Agreement by EAF/6 meeting on the prototype V.2 (PV2)		
To be included in PV2 (agreement from EAF/5 meeting)	New Proposal on the scope/ functionalities to be added to PV2	
Different languages	Different languages: EN, FR, DE, ES and other	
New crops: Apple, Rose and Potato	New crops: Apple, Rose and Potato	
Payment authorization and user authentication	Payment modes and user authentication/authorization	
Possibility to introduce or modify questions (update of the form)	Possibility to introduce or modify questions (update of the form) and routine maintenance	
Confidentiality of data	Confidentiality of data and Security policies in terms of data transfer.	
View application in Word/ Excel format	View application in XML/ PDF format (possibility to generate Excel/Word from XML)	
High availability of the system	High availability of the system	
Interaction with existing and external systems (Genie DB, WIPO Accounts)	Interaction with external systems (Genie DB, WIPO Accounts, PVP Office)	

Questionnaire

- The purpose of the questionnaire was to make sure all issues will be addressed in the next Prototype (PV2)
- Proposals for PV2 have been made on the basis of the comments/ replies received for the development of an electronic application form

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Prototype 2 - Target

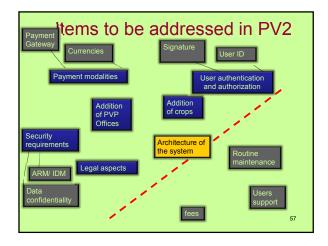
Functioning system by October 2016

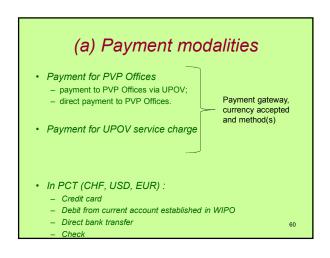
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The system will cover the whole application process (filing, authorization, payment, submission as appropriate for each participating member)

for the selected crops

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(a) user authentication and authorization

- · Authentication: The system should know who you are.
 - Username and password (WIPO Authentication System)
 - Electronic signature
 - » entrusted by Breeders and PVP offices
- Authorization: The system should make sure that you can perform only actions you are allowed to (roles).
 - Signature
 - » The person who can sign an application should be authorized by the PVP office
 - » Before application data transfer:
 - » A communication channel should be established to get the approval from the PVP office : e.g. Web service
 - » After application data transfer
 - The person who can sign an application is set by the breeder via EAF

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(c) Addition of other crops or other PVP Office

It was proposed at the EAF/5 meeting, to extend the prototype to cover potato, rose and apple (see document EAF/5/4 "Report")







Application and Technical Questionnaire information of new crops to be included in PV2, would need to be provided by participating members to the Office of the Union by November 30, 2015

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(b) Different languages

For the Questions:

The UPOV electronic form would present all items (questions) in English, French, German and Spanish.

Translations for all items (questions) in other languages would be provided by the participating members of the Union, with a suitable disclaimer (see document CAJ/66/8)

For the answers:

Each participating PVP Office would be requested to provide information on the language(s) in which answers could be provided

2

(d) Possibility for participating UPOV members to introduce or modify their questions in the form using an online interface

- P2 will be developed on the basis that questions can be added or modified once a month
- Functionalities will be tested in PV2 for editing via PVP office admin interface
- For addition of new PVP Office, it should be provided before <u>November 30, 2015</u> to be included in the scope after March 2016

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(b) Different languages APLICANTSI *** ANTAGSTELLER *** DEMANDEURS) *** IS DELICITANTE(S) *** Us prison for a second of 1 miles of 1 miles

(e) Legal aspects [and disclaimers]

- EAF would need to respect national or regional legislation (e.g. disclaimer, communication, correspondence route)
- · Terms and conditions
 - At System level:
 - » UPOV EAS Terms and Conditions
 - » PVP office Terms and Conditions
 - At Application level
 - » PVP office Terms and Conditions: included in the application form (i.e. specific to each application and completed in the declaration chapter)

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(g) Security requirements in terms of Data confidentiality and Access rights management

- EAF would need to comply with WIPO and PVP offices' security policies
 - Specific security constraints in relation to the transfer and receipt of application data should be communicated by November 30, 2015
- Data should be encrypted and processed as highly confidential

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(j) Architecture of the system

 The architecture of the system will be elaborated on the basis of all requirements by participating members in the scope of the implementation of an operational system

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(h) High availability (HA) of the system

• The system would work continuously, with a tolerance of 1 day for the system to be out of operation.

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(k) International Reference Number (IRN) and unique Breeder's reference

- A unique IRN be allocated to a particular variety.
- Technical questionnaire data could only be copied when the same IRN is used.
- Consideration would also need to be given to whether it should be possible for the user to change the breeder's reference after a variety file has been copied, in order to allow the user to provide a different breeder's reference for the same variety to a different PVP Office.
- · Copy of a pending application

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(i) Communication with existing and external systems

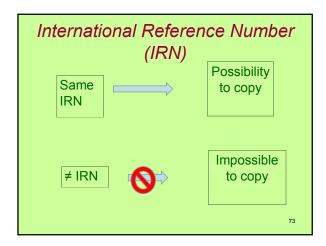
- It would be possible to use different communication channels as specified by the receiving PVP Office
 - Web service
 - Email
 - SFTP: Secure File Transfer Protocol
 - Other

International Reference Number (IRN)

1 IRN

1 Breeder's reference

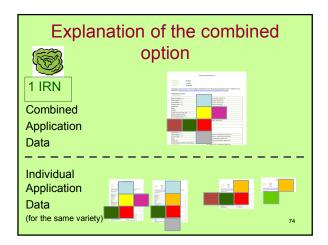
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Other matters to be considered in parallel of the development of PV2

- a) Agreement on fees;
- (b) Operations such as:
 - · application support;
 - · routine maintenance provisions;
- (c) Support for final users (e.g. training, guidelines)

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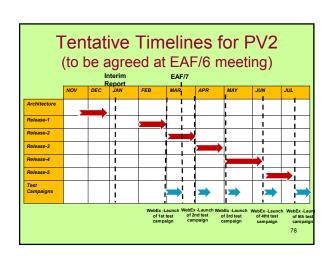


OVERVIEW

- Background
- Presentation of the prototype 1 (PV1)
- Scope of the prototype 2 (PV2)
- Other matters for consideration
- Next steps and Timetable

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OVERVIEW Background Presentation of the prototype 1 (PV1) Scope of the prototype 2 (PV2) Other matters for consideration Next steps and Timetable



Timetable for PV2					
Test Campaign	Web Ex	From/To	Milestone Release (MR) Contents/ Functionalities to be tested		
Test Release 1	29/02/2016	29/02/2016 to 11/03/2016	New Architecture (Security, High availability), Multi-language feature, TQ schema for Crop		
Test Release 2	30/03/2016	30/03/2016 to 15/04/2016	Manage forms, TQ schema for Crop 3, user feedback from MR1		
Test Release 3	02/05/2016	02/05/2016 to 20/05/2016	Import/Export Crop 2 applications, authentication, user feedback from MR2		
Test Release 4	13/06/2016	13/06/2016 to 24/06/2016	Import/Export Crop 3 Applications, Payment, user feedback from MR3		
Test Release 5	11/07/2016	11/07/2016 to 12/08/2016	Reuse TQ, user feedback from MR4		

Expected Inputs from participating members in the EAF by November 30, 2015			
Input	Condition		
Translated questions	Only when original language different from EN, FR, DE, ES		
New forms	Only for new crops and new PVP offices		
Payment procedure	Only if the existing payment system as used in PCT does not fit the PVP office requirements		
Authorization procedure	All		
Security requirements in terms of data transfer and receipt	Only if the office have specific requirements stricter than WIPO Security policies.		
Communication protocol	Only if the PVP office has already developed Web services or client interface to communicate with UPOV EAS.		