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**CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE****Ninety-First Session  
Geneva, March 17, 2016**

## ELECTRONIC APPLICATION FORM

*Document prepared by the Office of the Union**Disclaimer: this document does not represent UPOV policies or guidance*

1. The purpose of this document is to report on developments concerning the development of a prototype electronic form and to consider proposals for the possible implementation of an electronic application form.
2. The Consultative Committee, at its ninety-first session, will be invited to:
  - (a) note the developments concerning the development of a prototype electronic form as set out in this document;
  - (b) consider the plans for the development of the prototype electronic application form Version 2 (PV2), as set out in paragraphs 33 to 36;
  - (c) note that a report of the Seventh Meeting on the Development of a Prototype Electronic Form ("EAF/7 meeting"), to be held on March 16, 2016, will be made to the Consultative Committee at its ninety-first session;
  - (d) consider matters in relation to the possible implementation of an operational system, as set out in paragraphs 37 to 47; and
  - (e) consider the proposed timetable for the launch of the EAF as set out in paragraph 48.

3. The structure of this document is as follows:

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## BACKGROUND

4. The Administrative and Legal Committee (CAJ), at its sixty-sixth session held in Geneva on October 29, 2012, endorsed the development of a prototype electronic form for interested members of the Union (see document CAJ/66/9 "Report", paragraph 26).

5. The aim of the project is to develop a multilingual electronic form containing questions relevant for plant breeders' rights (PBRs) applications. As a first step a prototype electronic form is being developed, covering all relevant information required for a PBR application 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).

6. The CAJ, at its sixty-sixth session, agreed that the key aspects of the prototype from the perspective of members of the Union would be as follows (see document CAJ/66/8 "Report", paragraphs 22 and 23):

Form Content: The UPOV electronic form would contain all items required by the participating members of the Union, i.e. it would contain all items in the UPOV Model Application Form and, in addition, items required for an application in the participating member of the Union concerned. Applicants would select the members of the Union in which they wish to make an application and all relevant items for the selected members of the Union would be presented for completion.

Status: Participating members of the Union would decide the status of any data provided via the UPOV electronic form for their own situation.

Data format: The UPOV electronic form would enable data to be transferred to participating members of the Union in Word, Excel, PDF or XML format. The participating members of the Union would decide in which format(s) to accept data. In the case of XML format, a standard format would be developed, based on WIPO standard ST.96.

Languages: 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.

Crops/species: Crops/species for the prototype would be one or more of:

Wheat (*Triticum aestivum* L.); Maize (*Zea mays* L.);  
Potato (*Solanum tuberosum* L.); Lettuce (*Lactuca sativa* L.);  
Tomato (*Solanum lycopersicum* L.); Pea (*Pisum sativum* L.);  
and Ryegrass (*Lolium* L.);

and one or more of:

Rose (*Rosa* L.); Chrysanthemum (*Chrysanthemum* L.);  
Carnation (*Dianthus* L.); Pelargonium (*Pelargonium* L'Hér. ex Ait.);  
Petunia (*Petunia* Juss.); Peach (*Prunus persica* (L.) Batsch);  
and Apple (*Malus domestica* Borkh.).

Participating members of the Union would be able to select the crops/species in which to participate, i.e. the UPOV electronic form for each crop/species could have different participating members of the Union. The selection of the crops/species for the prototype would be made by the Office of the Union in consultation with the participating members of the Union, the International Seed Federation (ISF) and the International Community of Breeders of Asexually Reproduced Ornamental and Fruit Varieties (CIOPORA).

Partners: The partners in the development of the prototype would be the participating members of the Union (including the continued participation of the Community Plant Variety Office of the European Union (CPVO)), the Office of the Union, the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) Internet Services Section, the WIPO Standards Section, the WIPO Global Database Service, ISF and CIOPORA.

Meetings: Meetings for the development of the prototype would, in general, be held in Geneva with an option to participate by web conference.

7. The CAJ, at its sixty-sixth session noted that, whilst the prototype would be based on selected crops / species the electronic application form project was intended to be relevant for all crops / species. The CAJ also noted that participation in the prototype did not require members of the Union to have electronic application systems in place (see document CAJ/66/8 "Report", paragraph 24).

8. Since the sixty-sixth session of the CAJ, a series of meetings with participating members in the project on the development of a prototype electronic form have been held in Geneva, with the possibility to join by electronic means.

9. At the Second Meeting on the Development of a Prototype Electronic Form ("EAF/2 meeting"), held in Geneva on October 24, 2013, it was agreed that the prototype would be developed in English only and the Technical Questionnaire would be for Lettuce (*Lactuca sativa* L.).

10. At the Fourth Meeting on the Development of a Prototype Electronic Form ("EAF/4 meeting"), held in Geneva on October 14, 2014, it was confirmed that the participating members of the Union were: Argentina; Australia; Brazil; Canada; Colombia; Dominican Republic; Ecuador; European Union; France, Germany, Japan; Mexico; Netherlands; New Zealand; Paraguay; Republic of Korea; Switzerland; United States of America and Viet Nam (see document EAF/4/5 "Report", paragraph 22), with other partners being: the Community Plant Variety Office of the European Union (CPVO), the Office of the Union, the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), the International Seed Federation (ISF) and the International Community of Breeders of Asexually Reproduced Ornamental and Fruit-Tree Varieties (CIOPORA).

11. At the Fifth Meeting on the Development of a Prototype Electronic Form, held in Geneva on March 25, 2015 ("EAF/5 meeting"), participants were informed that participating members would be invited to test the system in stages, through different interim releases, in order to obtain regular feedback. Comments would be taken into consideration for the development of following releases in order to have a full,

functioning prototype by August 2015 for a final test campaign in September 2015, before presentation at the sessions of the CAJ and the Consultative Committee in October 2015.

12. With regard to the possible operation of an electronic form, a request to WIPO for a two-letter code "XU" to represent the name of UPOV was accepted and included in the revised version of WIPO ST.3 "Recommended Standard on Two-Letter Codes for the Representation of States, Other Entities and Intergovernmental Organizations" (see document CAJ/71/10 "Report on the Conclusions", paragraph 42).

13. At the Sixth Meeting on the Development of a Prototype Electronic Form ("EAF/6 meeting"), held in Geneva on October 26, 2015, it was agreed by the participating members that the prototype electronic application form Version 1 (PV1) 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 (see document CC/90/19 "Report on the Conclusions", paragraph 62).

#### PROTOTYPE ELECTRONIC APPLICATION FORM VERSION 1 (PV1)

14. PV1 is composed of the online form, and a data transfer facility through web services according to an agreed format (i.e. PVP-XML schema). PV1 allows:

(a) users to select the language in which the items in the Application Form for PBR would be presented (Input Template language) (restricted to English for PV1);

(b) users to select the crop for which they wish to make an application (restricted to lettuce (*Lactuca sativa* L.) for PV1);

(c) users to select the authority in which they wish to make an application (one PVP Office at a time, but with the possibility to reuse data already provided). The selection is restricted to the participating members who submitted their forms and data for PV1;

(d) users to complete a blank form or a prefilled form based on existing PBR application data uploaded using an agreed format (PVP-XML);

(e) users to reuse the data in other applications;

(f) users to send/submit the input data to the selected PVP Office.

#### PROTOTYPE ELECTRONIC APPLICATION FORM VERSION 2 (PV2)

15. At the Sixth Meeting on the Development of a Prototype Electronic Form ("EAF/6 meeting"), held in Geneva on October 26, 2015, it was agreed that the prototype electronic application form Version 1 (PV1) 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. On that basis, it was agreed that the development of a prototype electronic application form version 2 (PV2) should proceed as follows:

##### Prototype Version 2 (PV2)

(a) The aim of the Prototype Version 2 (PV2) will 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) The following items to be addressed in PV2:

(i) Different languages;

(ii) Addition of other crops:

to add 3 or 4 of: 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;

- (c) Addition of other PVP Offices;
- (d) Payment modalities and user authentication;
- (e) Possibility for participating UPOV members to introduce or modify their questions in the form using an online interface;
- (f) Legal aspects;
- (g) Compliance with Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG);
- (h) Security requirements such as:
  - (i) Data confidentiality;
  - (ii) Access rights management;
- (i) High availability (HA) of the system;
- (j) Communication with existing and external systems such as the GENIE Database, WIPO Users Account and existing systems in PVP Offices;
- (k) Architecture of the system.

16. 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.

17. 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.

18. The EAF/6 noted that, in the case of PVP Offices using forms in languages other than English, French, German or Spanish, the PVP Offices would need to arrange for translation of the forms of all participating members of the Union in the language concerned.

19. In parallel with the development of PV2, it was 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.

20. The EAF/6 noted that the Council would need to approve the launch of an EAF system and charges to be paid by applicants.

DEVELOPMENTS IN THE ADMINISTRATIVE AND LEGAL COMMITTEE AND IN THE CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE IN OCTOBER 2015

21. The Administrative and Legal Committee (CAJ) at its seventy-second session, held in Geneva on October 26 and 27, 2015, considered document CAJ/72/5 "Electronic application systems" and received an oral report by the Vice Secretary-General on the EAF/6 meeting, held in Geneva on October 26, 2015 (see document CAJ/72/9 "Report on the Conclusions", paragraph 28).

22. The Consultative Committee at its ninetieth session, held in Geneva on October 28, 2015, considered document CC/90/9 "Electronic application form project" and a presentation by the Office of the Union, including a report by the Office of the Union on the EAF/6 meeting, and the conclusion of the CAJ, at its the seventy-second session. The Consultative Committee at its ninetieth session, noted the developments concerning the prototype electronic form and received a demonstration of the prototype electronic application form Version 1 (PV1) (see document CC/90/19 "Report on the Conclusions", paragraphs 59 to 61).

23. The CAJ at its seventy-second session and the Consultative Committee at its ninetieth session, noted that the EAF/6 meeting had agreed that the prototype electronic application form Version 1 (PV1) 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. The Consultative Committee at its ninetieth session, agreed with the proposals made by the EAF/6 meeting and endorsed by the CAJ at its seventy-second session with regard to the development of prototype application form version 2 (PV2), as follows (see documents CAJ/72/9 "Report on the Conclusions", paragraphs 28 and 29 and CC/90/19 "Report on the Conclusions", paragraph 62):

- (a) The aim of the Prototype Version 2 (PV2) will 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) The following items to be addressed in PV2:
  1. Different languages;
  2. Addition of other crops:
    - to add 3 or 4 of: 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;
  3. Addition of other PVP Offices;
  4. Payment modalities and user authentication;
  5. Possibility for participating UPOV members to introduce or modify their questions in the form using an online interface;
  6. Legal aspects;
  7. Compliance with Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG);
  8. Security requirements such as:
    - a. Data confidentiality;
    - b. Access rights management;
  9. High availability (HA) of the system;
  10. Communication with existing and external systems such as the GENIE Database, WIPO Users Account and existing systems in PVP Offices;
  11. Architecture of the system.

24. The CAJ at its seventy-second session, and the Consultative Committee, at its ninetieth session, 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 (see documents CAJ/72/9 "Report on the Conclusions", paragraph 30 and CC/90/19 "Report on the Conclusions", paragraph 63).

25. The CAJ and the Consultative Committee 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 needed information would have been provided to the Office of the Union (see documents CAJ/72/9 "Report on the Conclusions", paragraph 31 and CC/90/19 "Report on the Conclusions", paragraph 64).

26. The CAJ and the Consultative Committee noted that, in the case of PVP Offices using forms in languages other than English, French, German or Spanish, the PVP Offices would need to arrange for translation of the forms of all participating members of the Union in the language concerned (see documents CAJ/72/9 "Report on the Conclusions", paragraph 32 and CC/90/19 "Report on the Conclusions", paragraph 65).

27. In parallel with the development of PV2, the CAJ and the Consultative Committee agreed that the following items would be addressed prior to the launch of the EAF (see documents CAJ/72/9 "Report on the Conclusions", paragraph 33 and CC/90/19 "Report on the Conclusions", paragraph 66):

- (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.

28. The CAJ at its seventy-second session, noted that the Delegation of the African Intellectual Property Organization (OAPI) had expressed its support for the project and expressed its wish to take part into the development of PV2 (see document CAJ/72/9 "Report on the Conclusions", paragraph 34).

29. The CAJ, at its seventy-second session, noted that the Council would need to approve the launch of an EAF system and charges to be paid by applicants (see document CAJ/72/9 "Report on the Conclusions", paragraph 35).

30. Subject to a successful outcome of the testing of the PV2, the Consultative Committee agreed to consider the possible implementation of an operational system after October 2016. In parallel, the Consultative Committee agreed to consider legal, administrative and financial aspects in relation to the operation of a system on the basis of information to be provided by the Office of the Union, at its ninety-first session, to be held in March 2016. In particular, consideration would be given to the arrangements between the Office of the Union and the participating UPOV members for: (a) information to be collected by the Office of the Union from applicants and distributed to members of the Union; and (b) payment by applicants to cover the development and operation of an electronic form service (see document CC/90/19 "Report on the Conclusions", paragraph 67).

#### DEVELOPMENTS CONCERNING PROTOTYPE ELECTRONIC APPLICATION FORM VERSION 2 (PV2)

31. On November 4, 2015, the Office of the Union issued Circular E-15/258, inviting all UPOV members to provide information and application forms to be included in PV2. In reply to Circular E-15/258, the following 26 members of the Union provided the necessary information to be included in PV2: Argentina, Australia, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Czech Republic, European Union, France, Georgia, Japan, Kenya, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, OAPI, Republic of Korea, South Africa, Sweden, Switzerland, Tunisia, United States of America, Uruguay and Viet Nam.

32. On January 8, 2016, a WebEx meeting was organized to report on latest developments concerning PV2, including the crops to be tested in PV2, presentation of the technical architecture to be adopted for the system, and the tentative timetable for the test campaign.

#### Crops to be tested in PV2

33. At the WebEx meeting held on January 8, 2016, it was agreed to add the following crops, in the following order of priority according to the interest of participating PVP Offices and breeders and the ability of the participating PVP Offices to provide relevant Technical Questionnaire information:

- 1) Rose
- 2) Soybean
- 3) Lettuce
- 4) Apple
- 5) Potato

34. It was further agreed by the participants, that Rose and Soybean would be done as priority 1, while Lettuce, Apple and Potato would be incorporated in the prototype subject to the workload and comments received during the test campaign.

Technical Architecture and functionalities to be implemented in PV2 and test campaign

35. The technical architecture has been designed and shared with participating members during the Web Ex meeting held on January 8, 2016. The architecture was built on the basis of PVP Offices needs and WIPO's infrastructure's requirements. The functionalities will be developed and tested during the test campaign from March 2016 to October 2016, as follows:

Test Campaign	From/To	Milestone Release (MR) Contents/ Functionalities to be tested
Release 1	01/02/2016 to 12/02/2016	Updated PVP-XML Application Form (AF) for new participants and new crops
Release 2	29/02/2016 to 11/03/2016	Updated PVP-XML Technical Questionnaire (TQ) for new participants and new crops, User feedback from MR1
Release 3	29/03/2016 to 08/04/2016	Authentication/Authorization, Multi-language feature, Add new participants (except BO, MX), user feedback from MR2
Release 4	25/04/2016 to 06/05/2016	Manage forms interface, Add BO and MX, Add crops (Rose+Soybean), user feedback from MR3
Release 5	23/05/2016 to 03/06/2016	Reuse TQ, user feedback from MR4
Release 6	20/06/2016 to 01/07/2016	Add Lettuce*, Payment, user feedback from MR5
Release 7	18/07/2016 to 12/08/2016	Add Apple*, Office/Breeder Preference Interface, integration with Genie DB and CPVO authorization service, user feedback from MR6
Release 8	05/09/2016 to 16/09/2016	Encryption, Secure RESTful services, Add potato*. user feedback from MR7
Final Release	03/10/2016 to 14/10/2016	User feedback from MR8 and Full prototype

\*if time permits

36. At the Seventh Meeting on the Development of a Prototype Electronic Form ("EAF/7 meeting"), to be held on the evening of March 16, 2016, it is planned to discuss: the updated PVP-XML and the feedback received from release 1 and 2; technical aspects; and plans for launch of the EAF. The Consultative Committee, at its ninety-first session, will receive an oral report on the EAF/7 meeting.

**MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION**

37. In parallel with the development of PV2, the CAJ and the Consultative Committee agreed that the following items would be addressed prior to the launch of the EAF (see documents CAJ/72/9 "Report on the Conclusions", paragraph 33 and CC/90/19 "Report on the Conclusions", paragraph 66):

- (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.

38. Those matters above, together with proposals for the financing of the EAF are considered below.



#### Users support and routine maintenance provisions

39. The proposals for the financing of the EAF (see below) include the need to ensure that user support and maintenance are provided.

#### Integration with PVP Offices systems

40. In relation to integration with existing PVP Offices systems, two options will be implemented:

- (a) In the case of PVP Offices with no electronic system or who do not wish to integrate their existing system with the EAF, they will receive the submitted application data via an agreed route (e.g. email, regular mail);
- (b) In response to Circular E-15/258 of November 4, 2015 (see paragraphs 18 and 32 of this document), five authorities (Argentina, Czech Republic, European Union, Netherlands and Norway) expressed the interest to integrate their existing systems with the EAF. In this case, the synchronization for each submitted application data will be done automatically from machine-to-machine via a Web Service developed specifically for this functionality. The integration with existing PVP systems will be tested and assessed during the test campaign for PV2 and will be developed on an individual basis, upon request.

41. 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 is proposed that all data will be encrypted and considered confidential.

42. With regard to legal aspects, the EAF will conform with the legal requirements of the PVP Offices concerned.

#### Training for PVP Offices and applicants

43. A program of training for PVP Offices and applicants would be introduced in conjunction with the launch of the EAF and would be included in the work of the staff identified in the operation of the EAF, as well as other relevant staff of the Office of the Union.

#### Publicity of the availability of the system for breeders

44. A program of publicity of the availability of the system for breeders would be introduced in conjunction with the launch of the EAF and would be included in the work of the staff identified in the operation of the EAF, as well as other relevant staff of the Office of the Union.

#### Payment by applicants to PVP Offices

45. With regard to payment to PVP Offices, the implementation of the EAF would not affect the fees that PVP Offices would receive per application. However, if requested by a PVP Office, the EAF system may allow for the fees to be collected by UPOV and distributed to the PVP Offices in a form and currency determined by the PVP Office concerned.

#### Payment to cover the costs of the EAF

46. It is anticipated that applicants would be required to cover all the costs involved in the operation of the EAF system once it reaches its full capacity. It is anticipated that the initial development costs would not start to be covered, by a surplus of income over operational costs, until after the EAF system reaches full capacity, On that basis, the following proposal has been developed for consideration by the participants at the EAF/7 meeting:

- (i) Number of crops: it is anticipated to launch the system in late 2016 or early 2017 with the five crops developed for PV2. It is then foreseen to increase the number of crops available in the system annually, with the aim of covering 50 crops/species for which UPOV has developed Test Guidelines by 2022.
- (ii) Number of participating Offices: it is anticipated to launch the system in 2017 with the PVP Offices from within the 26 UPOV members participating in the development of PV2 that wish to participate. It is anticipated that the number of PVP Offices would increase to 50 UPOV members by 2022, on the

basis that participation in the EAF only requires PVP Offices to provide copies of their forms and prepare translations, if appropriate, and would enable PVP Offices to receive applications in their current formats.

- (iii) Number of applications covered by EAF: This number is estimated on the basis of total number of plant breeders' rights applications in 2014 (14,436) (see document C/49/7 "Plant Variety Protection Statistics for the Period 2010-2014"), the number of crops covered by the EAF and the number of participating PVP Offices in the EAF.
- (iv) Percentage of applications expected via EAF: It is anticipated that 10 % of the potential number of applications that could be made via the EAF will use the EAF in 2017, rising to 15% in 2018 as breeders become more aware of the EAF.
- (v) Number of applications expected via EAF: This is calculated on the basis of (iii) "Number of total applications covered in by the EAF", multiplied by (iv) "(iv) Percentage of applications expected via the EAF". In 2017, it is anticipated that around 180 applications would be made via the EAF, corresponding to an income of about 25,000 Swiss francs, as projected in the Program and Budget for the 2016-2017 Biennium (see document C/49/4 Rev., Section 3. "Proposed Budget" paragraph 3.18). By 2020-2021 it is anticipated that around 1,500 applications per annum would be made via the EAF system, corresponding to 10% of the total number of plant breeders' rights applications in 2014 (14,436), as presented in document C/49/7 "Plant Variety Protection Statistics for the Period 2010-2014".
- (vi) UPOV charge: A charge of 150 Swiss francs per application is proposed for the first two years of the system (2017-2018) to encourage participation, to reflect the limited number of crops available and the limited number of PVP offices. It is anticipated to increase this charge to 250 Swiss francs by 2019 in order to cover all costs for the operation of the EAF by 2020.
- (vii) EAF operation costs: The costs for the development and operation of the EAF are budgeted in the Program and Budget for the 2016-2017 Biennium (document C/49/4 Rev.). The EAF operation costs are forecast to be the following, from 2017:

Item	Cost/annum (Swiss francs)
IT Officer (one person)	160,000
Administrative Officer (one person)- part time	60,000
IT Development/ infrastructure/ maintenance costs and user support	70,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>290,000</b>

- (viii) Income: The estimated income for 2017 (27,405 Swiss francs) corresponds closely to the 25,000 Swiss francs income budgeted in the Program and Budget for the 2016-2017 Biennium (see document C/49/4 Rev., Section 3. "Proposed Budget" paragraph 3.18)

47. The following proposal will be presented for consideration at the EAF/7 meeting and the comments of the EAF/7 will be reported to the Consultative Committee, at its ninety-first session.

	(i)	(ii)	(iii)	(iv)	((iv)*(v))	(vi)	(vii)	(viii)	(ix)
Year	Number of crops	Number of participating Offices	Number of applications covered by EAF	Percentage of applications expected via EAF	Number of applications expected via EAF	UPOV charge (CHF)	EAF operation costs (CHF)	Income (CHF)	Balance
2017	5	26	1827	10	183	150	290'000	27'405	-262'595
2018	10	30	4676	15	701	150	290'000	105'216	-184'784
2019	15	35	6786	15	1018	250	290'000	254'475	-35'525
2020	30	40	8841	15	1326	250	290'000	331'524	41'524
2021	40	50	10272	15	1541	250	290'000	385'193	95'193
2022	50	50	11296	15	1694	250	290'000	423'581	133'581

Tentative timetable for the launch of the EAF

48. Subject to approval of the above proposals by EAF participants, CAJ and Consultative Committee, it is proposed to seek the approval by the Council at its fiftieth session, to be held in Geneva on October 28, 2016, to approve the launch of the EAF at the end of 2016 or beginning of 2017.

49. *The Consultative Committee is invited to:*

(a) *note the developments concerning the development of a prototype electronic form as set out in this document;*

(b) *consider the plans for the development of the prototype electronic application form Version 2 (PV2), as set out in paragraphs 33 to 36;*

(c) *note that a report of the Seventh Meeting on the Development of a Prototype Electronic Form ("EAF/7 meeting"), to be held on March 16, 2016, will be made to the Consultative Committee at its ninety-first session;*

(d) *consider matters in relation to the possible implementation of an operational system, as set out in paragraphs 37 to 47; and*

(e) *consider the proposed timetable for the launch of the EAF as set out in paragraph 48.*

[End of document]