



CC/92/6

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**INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR THE PROTECTION OF NEW VARIETIES OF PLANTS**

Geneva

**CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE****Ninety-Second Session  
Geneva, October 27, 2016**

## COMMUNICATION STRATEGY

*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 make a proposal for adoption of a new UPOV logo and to report on developments and make certain proposals concerning the communication strategy workplan.

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2. The Consultative Committee will be invited to:

- (a) note that the new UPOV logo will be presented to the UPOV Council at its fiftieth ordinary session and will be introduced on the UPOV website in conjunction with the introduction of the stakeholder-focused features on the UPOV website, as set out in paragraphs 8 to 12, at which time a press release will be issued;

- (b) note that a demonstration of the redesigned UPOV website, containing stakeholder features as set out in paragraph 12, will be made at the ninety-second session of the Consultative Committee and, if appropriate, the fiftieth ordinary session of the UPOV Council;

- (c) propose an FAQ concerning information on the situation in UPOV with regard to the use of molecular techniques for a wider audience ("FAQ on molecular techniques"), including the public in general, as set out in paragraph 15, in conjunction with the comments of the CAJ at its seventy-third session, for consideration by the Council at its fiftieth ordinary session;

- (d) propose an FAQ on how the UPOV system of plant variety protection contributes to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), as set out in paragraph 20, for consideration by the Council at its fiftieth ordinary session;

- (e) note that the Office of the Union will make a report on its plans to develop a brief, illustrative explanation of the benefits of the UPOV system at the ninety-second session of the Consultative Committee;

- (f) consider inviting the Office of the Union to prepare a timetable for publishing an updated version of the Impact Study in 2020, subject to sufficient participation by members of the Union and subject to available resources of the Office of the Union;

- (g) note the report on the use of web conferencing and e-workshops as presented in the Annex to this document;

(h) note that a demonstration of the planned UPOV channel on YouTube will be made to the Consultative Committee at its ninety-second session and will be launched in conjunction with the introduction of the new UPOV logo and stakeholder features on the UPOV website; and

(i) note that the results of the communication strategy will continue to be reported as a part of the annual report of the Secretary-General and performance report for the biennium.

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## UPOV LOGO

4. At its eighty-ninth session, held in Geneva on March 27, 2015, the Consultative Committee expressed its approval of the new UPOV logo as presented to the Consultative Committee.

5. At its ninetieth session, held in Geneva on October 28 and 29, 2015, the Consultative Committee noted the developments concerning the new UPOV logo provided in paragraph 13 of document CC/90/8 and agreed that the new UPOV logo should be presented to the UPOV Council at its fiftieth ordinary session. The Consultative Committee agreed that the new UPOV logo should be introduced on the UPOV website in conjunction with the fiftieth ordinary session of the Council, and with the introduction of the stakeholder-focused features on the UPOV website (see paragraphs 8 to 12), at which time a press release would be issued to publicize the launch.

*6. The Consultative Committee is invited to note that the new UPOV logo will be presented to the UPOV Council at its fiftieth ordinary session and will be introduced on the UPOV website in conjunction with the introduction of the stakeholder-focused features on the UPOV website, as set out in paragraphs 8 to 12, at which time a press release will be issued.*

## WORKPLAN

7. At its eighty-sixth session, held in Geneva on October 23 and 24, 2013, the Consultative Committee approved a communication strategy (Communication Strategy), which was reproduced in the Annex to document CC/89/8. The following paragraphs report on developments concerning each element of the workplan that was agreed as a part of the communication strategy.

### Communication materials

#### *Stakeholder-focused features on UPOV website*

8. In order to facilitate use of the UPOV system and to improve the level of understanding of the UPOV system, the Communication Strategy anticipated that stakeholder-focused features, based on existing information, would be introduced on the UPOV website for: Breeders (priority); Seed producers / plant propagators (priority); Farmers (priority); Processors, wholesalers and retailers; Policy-makers; and the General public.

9. The Consultative Committee, at its ninetieth session held in Geneva on October 28 and 29, 2015, noted that stakeholder-focused features on the UPOV website would be introduced in conjunction with the fiftieth ordinary session of the Council (see document CC/90/20 "Report", paragraph 64).

10. In preparing material to be featured for the various stakeholder groups, it became apparent that it would be difficult to develop features for "Seed producers / plant propagators" that were significantly differentiated from the features for "Breeders" and "Farmers". Therefore, for the time being, a section on "Seed producers / plant propagators" has not been developed. A feature for "Seed producers / plant propagators" will be developed in conjunction with stakeholders concerned, if appropriate.

11. Similarly, in preparing material to be featured for "Processors, wholesalers and retailers", it became apparent that it would be difficult to develop particular, differentiated features. Therefore, for the time being, a section on "Processors, wholesalers and retailers" has not been developed.

12. A demonstration of the redesigned UPOV website homepage, containing links to the stakeholder-focused features, and the following stakeholder features, will be made at the ninety-second session of the Consultative Committee and, if appropriate, the fiftieth ordinary session of the Council:

- Breeders
- Farmers
- Policy-makers
- General public

*General Information**(a) Answers to frequently-asked questions (FAQ) about the UPOV system**(i) Molecular techniques*

13. The Consultative Committee, at its ninetieth session, agreed that a draft FAQ concerning information on the situation in UPOV with regard to the use of molecular techniques for a wider audience ("FAQ on molecular techniques"), including the public in general, should be referred to the Technical Committee (TC) for consideration. The conclusions of the TC would be reported to the Consultative Committee for consideration at its ninety-first session, to be held in March 2016.

14. It is recalled that the Administrative and Legal Committee (CAJ) was also invited to approve the draft FAQ on molecular techniques before consideration by the Consultative Committee and adoption by the Council. In that regard, the CAJ did not have a session in March 2016, meaning that the Consultative Committee could not consider the draft FAQ on molecular techniques in March 2016.

15. The TC, at its fifty-second session, held in Geneva, from March 14 to 16, 2016, agreed a draft FAQ concerning the information on the situation in UPOV with regard to the use of molecular techniques for a wider audience, including the public in general, to read as follows (see document TC/52/29 Rev. "Revised Report", paragraph 131):

"Is it possible to obtain protection of a variety on the basis of its DNA-profile?

"For a variety to be protected, it needs to be clearly distinguishable from all existing varieties on the basis of characteristics that are physically expressed, e.g. plant height, time of flowering, fruit color, disease resistance etc. The DNA-profile is not the basis for obtaining the protection of a variety, although this information may be used as supporting information.

"A more detailed explanation is provided in the FAQ 'Does UPOV allow molecular techniques (DNA profiles) in the examination of Distinctness, Uniformity and Stability ("DUS")?'

"See also:

"What are the requirements for protecting a new plant variety?"

16. The CAJ will be invited to consider the draft FAQ on molecular techniques, as set out in paragraph 15, at its seventy-third session, to be held in Geneva on October 25, 2016. The comments of the CAJ will be reported to the Consultative Committee at its ninety-second session.

*(ii) United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)*

17. The Consultative Committee, at its ninety-first session, held in Geneva on March 17, 2016, requested the Office of the Union to prepare a draft FAQ on the relevance of the UPOV system of plant variety protection for the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), as set out in document CC/91/7, paragraph 39 (see document CC/91/10 "Report on the Conclusions", paragraph 47).

18. The 17 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which are reproduced below, are an integrated part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development adopted at the United Nations Sustainable Development Summit on 25 September, 2015. Further information on the SDGs can be found at <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/sdgs>.

1. End poverty in all its forms everywhere
2. End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture
3. Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages
4. Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all
5. Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls
6. Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all
7. Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all
8. Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all
9. Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation
10. Reduce inequality within and among countries

11. Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable
12. Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns
13. Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts\*
14. Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development
15. Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss
16. Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels
17. Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development

19. By means of Circular E-16/083, of April 14, 2016, sent to the designated persons of the Consultative Committee, the Office of the Union invited members of the Union to provide suggestions on an FAQ to explain the relevance of the UPOV system of plant variety protection for the SDGs. Replies were received from the following:

Denmark:	see Annex I
Kenya:	see Annex II
Netherlands:	see Annex III
Norway:	see Annex IV
United States of America:	see Annex V

20. On the basis of the contributions received and existing UPOV material, including FAQs, the draft FAQ in Annex VI has been developed for consideration by the Consultative Committee. The draft FAQ provides information in relation to the most relevant Goals, taking into consideration the Targets associated with each Goal. To assist the Consultative Committee, the Targets for each Goal are reproduced with highlighting of the elements for which UPOV is considered to be particularly relevant.

*(b) A brief, illustrative explanation of the benefits of the UPOV system aimed at an audience with no previous knowledge of plant breeding or plant variety protection and/or illustrative examples of the benefits of plant variety protection (e.g. case studies such as the Ashiro Rindo video, animated stories)*

21. The Consultative Committee, at its ninetieth session, noted that the Office of the Union would seek to develop a brief, illustrative explanation of the benefits of the UPOV system aimed at an audience with no previous knowledge of plant breeding or plant variety protection and/or illustrative examples of the benefits of plant variety protection, in 2016.

22. The Office of the Union will make a report on its plans for the development of illustrative materials at the ninety-second session of the Consultative Committee.

*(c) An update of the Impact Study*

23. At its eighty-eighth session, the Consultative Committee deferred plans for the updating of the Impact Study pending work to identify with the Secretary of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITPGRFA) and the Secretariat of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) possible areas of interrelations among the international instruments of the ITPGRFA, WIPO and UPOV with a view to a possible joint publication on interrelated issues regarding innovation and plant genetic resources. Document CC/90/11 "Interrelation with the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITPGRFA)" provides a report on the situation with regard to that matter.

24. At its ninetieth session, the Consultative Committee requested the Office of the Union to present a proposal for developing an updated version of the Impact Study for consideration at its ninety-second session.

25. In order to assess the potential for members of the Union to provide information for the updating of the Impact Study, the Office of the Union issued Circular E-16/099 on April 14, 2016, to the designated persons of the Consultative Committee. The circular explained as follows:

[...]

“The purpose of this circular is to invite members of the Union to indicate if they would be in a position to provide information for an update to the UPOV Report on the Impact of Plant Variety Protection (“Impact Study”) (see [http://www.upov.int/edocs/pubdocs/en/upov\\_pub\\_353.pdf](http://www.upov.int/edocs/pubdocs/en/upov_pub_353.pdf)).

“Background

“At its eighty-sixth session, held in Geneva on October 23 and 24, 2013, the Consultative Committee approved the communication strategy as reproduced in the Annex to document CC/89/8 (“Communication Strategy”). The communication strategy indicated that the objective to increase awareness of the objectives of the UPOV system of plant variety protection might be aided by an update of the Impact Study to incorporate new information including, for example, information from the Trilogy publication and on the development of regional systems of plant variety protection.

“The Consultative Committee, at its ninetieth session held in Geneva on October 28 and 29, 2015, requested the Office of the Union to present a proposal for developing an updated version of the Impact Study for consideration at its ninety-second session.

“To assist the Office of the Union in preparing a proposal for developing an updated version of the Impact Study, it would be helpful to know which members of the Union would be in a position to provide information for an update to the UPOV Report on the Impact of Plant Variety Protection.

“Please could you inform the Office of the Union at [upov.mail@upov.int](mailto:upov.mail@upov.int), by June 17, 2016, if you would be in a position to provide information for an update to the UPOV Report on the Impact of Plant Variety Protection.”

26. The following positive replies were received in response to Circular E-16/099:

- |             |   |
|-------------|---|
| Canada:     | would be willing to contribute information, but would like to schedule the study for completion no earlier than 2020 in order to be able to provide information on the impact of its amended PBR legislation and ratification of the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention; |
| Costa Rica: | would be willing to contribute information;   |
| Denmark:    | would be willing to contribute information, subject to availability of personnel resources; and   |
| France:     | would be willing to contribute information.   |

27. The Consultative Committee may wish to consider inviting the Office of the Union to prepare a timetable for publishing an updated version of the Impact Study in 2020, subject to sufficient participation by members of the Union and subject to available resources of the Office of the Union.

#### *Communication methods*

##### *Web-conferencing / Electronic workshops (e-workshops)*

28. A summary of the use of web-conferencing and e-workshops is provided in the Annex VII to this document.

##### *Social media*

29. The introduction of a UPOV channel on YouTube will be arranged in conjunction with the introduction of the new UPOV logo and stakeholder features on the UPOV website (see paragraph 5). A demonstration of the planned UPOV channel on YouTube will be made to the Consultative Committee at its ninety-second session.

#### Measuring results

30. The results of the communication strategy will continue to be reported as a part of the annual report of the Secretary-General and performance report for the biennium, with regard to the following:

- Visits to UPOV website
- Visits to stakeholder-focused features on UPOV website
- Participation in workshops

31. *The Consultative Committee is invited to:*

*(a) note that a demonstration of the redesigned UPOV website, containing stakeholder features as set out in paragraph 12, will be made at the ninety-second session of the Consultative Committee and, if appropriate, the fiftieth ordinary session of the UPOV Council;*

*(b) propose an FAQ concerning information on the situation in UPOV with regard to the use of molecular techniques for a wider audience ("FAQ on molecular techniques"), including the public in general, as set out in paragraph 15, in conjunction with the comments of the CAJ at its seventy-third session, for consideration by the Council at its fiftieth ordinary session;*

*(c) propose an FAQ on how the UPOV system of plant variety protection contributes to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), as set out in paragraph 20, for consideration by the Council at its fiftieth ordinary session;*

*(d) note that the Office of the Union will make a report on its plans to develop a brief, illustrative explanation of the benefits of the UPOV system at the ninety-second session of the Consultative Committee;*

*(e) consider inviting the Office of the Union to prepare a timetable for publishing an updated version of the Impact Study in 2020, subject to sufficient participation by members of the Union and subject to available resources of the Office of the Union;*

*(f) note the report on the use of web-conferencing and e-workshops as presented in the annex to this document;*

*(g) note that a demonstration of the planned UPOV channel on YouTube will be made to the Consultative Committee at its ninety-second session and will be launched in conjunction with the introduction of the new UPOV logo and stakeholder features on the UPOV website; and*

*(h) note that the results of the communication strategy will continue to be reported as a part of the annual report of the Secretary-General and performance report for the biennium.*

[Annexes follow]

RESPONSE FROM DENMARK TO UPOV CIRCULAR E-16/083  
(Original: English)

Dear Peter,

I have coordinated our suggestions below with my colleague Birgitte Lund (Cc.) from the Environment & Biodiversity department of the Danish AgriFish Agency.

In order to prepare a draft FAQ on the relevance of the UPOV system to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), we suggest that it is appropriate to reflect on the following considerations:

- *How will breeders through continued development of new plant varieties fulfill demands for improved plant varieties to meet climate change, environmental requests and a growing population worldwide through the UPOV system of plant variety protection?*
- *How are breeders given the possibility to continue sustainable breeding for new adapted varieties and thus promote sustainable agriculture to end hunger, achieve food security and improved food nutrition through the UPOV system of plant variety protection?*

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions regarding our suggestions.

Best regards,  
Maria

**Maria Lillie Sonne (NaturErhvervstyrelsen)**  
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[Annex II follows]



ANNEX II

RESPONSE FROM KENYA TO UPOV CIRCULAR E-16/083  
(Original: English)

Dear Sir/ Madam,

Please find Kenya (KEPHIS) input for the FAQ on UPOV and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

UPOV's mission is to provide and promote an effective system of plant variety protection, with the aim of encouraging the development of new varieties of plants, for the benefit of society.

UPOV mission is well aligned to the noble and ambitious SDGs, and by promoting plant breeding UPOV contributes to the realization of the SDGs in the following ways;

Plant breeding plays a vital role in helping the agricultural industry to address the challenges of an increasing global population, climate change and a growing demand on resources such as land, water and nutrients by developing crop varieties that help mitigate the effects of climate change. Alongside the challenge of climate change plant varieties are also bred to be able to efficiently utilize limited growing resources such as nutrients whilst ensuring that the resources are conserved and utilized in a sustainable manner.

Plant breeding helps to secure food production for future generations by breeding crops with higher yields, resistance/tolerance to diseases, resistance/tolerance to pests, improved crop quality, reduced lodging and improved resource use efficiency. Plant breeding also targets improvement in crop quality aspect in terms of culinary and nutritional advantages to improve nutrition or simply to promote utilization. This ensures food security and improved nutrition; leading to healthy lives and well-being for all at all ages.

Plant breeding helps to breed new varieties that are commercialized by the private sector who are able to get increased income on seed production and sales. The new enterprises help to create employment all the way from the breeding entities, the seed and hospitality industry to the farmlands. This in a way promotes sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, and depending on affirmative actions on gender balance in employment brings about gender equality and empowers women and girls.

The extent to which the plant breeding industry is able to conduct more exploratory and strategic research to meet these challenges and open market opportunities has led to building research infrastructure, and the seed and export industry leading to transfer of skills which promote market engagement and industrialization and fosters innovation in both in the developed as well as the developing countries.

Plant breeding in the context of enhancing sustainability in modern agriculture relates to meeting the demands of increasing food production whilst minimizing the impact of agriculture on the environment. Further to this, the conservation of plant genetic resources ex-situ or in-situ ensures sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainable forests management, combating deforestation and halt and reverses land degradation and halt biodiversity loss. Resource use efficiency in the context of plant breeding focuses on improving the efficiency with which the plant uses resources, principally nutrients. This is linked to improving efficient use of nutrients and hence reduced emissions per ton of output.

Under the auspices of UPOV the membership is able to invigorate global partnerships for sustainable development.

Best Regards,  
Edwin Nyamwaya I KEPHIS HQ  
Plant Examiner  
Kenya Plant Health Inspectorate Service

[Annex III follows]

RESPONSE FROM THE NETHERLANDS TO UPOV CIRCULAR E-16/083  
(Original: English)

Dear Yolanda,

Regarding the e-mail [...], please consider the attached answer [see below] of the Dutch Board for plant varieties and Naktuinbouw as input for the FAQ.

Kind regards,  
Kees Jan

Mr. C.J.A. (Kees Jan) Groenewoud  
Secretary to the Board for Plant Varieties

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Does the UPOV system contribute to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)?

Food security, food safety and food quality are important corner stones under the Sustainable Development Goals. The basis to cover these elements is the availability of plant varieties that are able to fulfill the needs of countries in a world with climate change, a growing population and urbanization.

Breeding institutes, breeding companies and individual breeders are needed to create these varieties that are adapted to these changing needs. In order to do so the return on investment of these breeders has to be sufficient to keep breeding and improving varieties. The UPOV Plant Breeders' Right system provides an effective system of plant variety protection that is needed to ensure this.

[Annex IV follows]

ANNEX IV

RESPONSE FROM NORWAY TO UPOV CIRCULAR E-16/083  
(Original: English)

Dear Peter

Please, find enclosed [see below] the Norwegian comments on FAQ on UPOV and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

Kind regards

**Marianne Smith**

Senior advisor

Norwegian Ministry of Agriculture and Food

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Comments on FAQ on UPOV and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Norway considers that the SDG no. 2, 12 and 15 with associated targets is relevant for the UPOV system of plant variety protection. The text to SDG no. 2 (in italics) is proposed text. The text to SDG no. 12 and 15 is comment on what the text should contain.

2. End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture

Target 2.5

By 2020, maintain the genetic diversity of seeds, cultivated plants and farmed and domesticated animals and their related wild species, including through soundly managed and diversified seed and plant banks at the national, regional and international levels, and promote access to and fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge, as internationally agreed

*The UPOV system gives flexibility for member countries to implement farmers' rights to save, use, exchange seeds of important crops for food security, as well as to sell such seeds locally on non-commercial scale to strengthen household economy and reduce poverty. This flexibility is evident in UPOV-78 article 5 by what it doesn't protect, and in UPOV-91 article 15 by the compulsory, but limited exceptions (UPOV/EXN/EXC)*

12. Ensure sustainable consumptions and production patterns

Target 12.a

Support developing countries to strengthen their scientific and technological capacity to move towards more sustainable patterns of consumption and production

Elaborate on how and to whom the UPOV system give assistance to scientific and technological capacity, and how this moves support towards more sustainable patterns of production. (The following may be of relevance: Sub-program UV.3, UPOV/INF/6 and UPOV/INF/16)

15. Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss

Target 15.4

By 2030, ensure the conservation of mountain ecosystems, including their biodiversity, in order to enhance their capacity to provide benefits that are essential for sustainable development

Elaborate on how the UPOV-system benefits the society, and in particular how the UPOV-system strengthen the plant breeding sector and farmers' access to new plant varieties that reduce the impact of climate change on food production and agriculture.

[Annex V follows]

ANNEX V

RESPONSE FROM THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO UPOV CIRCULAR E-16/083  
(Original: English)

Dear Sir/Madam,

To assist the Office of the Union in preparing the draft FAQ, the U.S. delegation proposes the below-responses (see [italics]). Please let me know if you have any questions.

Best regards,

Kitisri Sukhapinda, Ph.D., J.D.  
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1. End poverty in all its forms everywhere

*To end poverty, we must enhance the ability to earn an income, and to decrease costs of living for the world's poor. The plant variety protection system under the UPOV Convention can play an important role in eliminating poverty, both by providing a mechanism for rewarding innovations in plant breeding, and by promoting investment and creating jobs in plant breeding, and seed or plant production and distribution. It also provides access to better varieties that will reduce costs of input such as less uses of fertilizer or pesticides and increase output which results in higher income for farmers or producers.*

2. End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture

*To achieve global food security and sustainable agriculture, it is necessary to have available, new plant varieties that withstand adverse environment conditions due to climate change; new plant varieties that require fewer inputs, such as water, fertilizers, and energy, to grow; new plant varieties that are more resistant to pests and diseases; and new plant varieties that reliably produce improved nutrition and high yields. UPOV provides a framework for protection of plant breeder's rights, which incentivizes investment in plant breeding and development of new varieties of plants.*

3. Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages

*The plant variety protection system under the UPOV Convention encourages production of new varieties of food crops with improved nutritional values, such as lower saturated fatty acid, thus promotes well-being at all ages.*

4. Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all

5. Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls

6. Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all

*The plant variety protection system under the UPOV Convention encourages the production of new varieties of plants that require fewer inputs such as water or pesticides. Plant varieties that are resistant to drought conditions may contribute to the availability and sustainability of water resources. Plant varieties incentivized by the UPOV Convention may also use less pesticides consequently reducing any negative effects pesticides may have on water systems.*

7. Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all

8. Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all

9. Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation

*The plant variety protection system under the UPOV Convention fosters innovation in plant breeding.*

10. Reduce inequality within and among countries
11. Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable

*To make cities and human settlements inclusive, resilient and sustainable, there must be sufficient quantity and quality of foods available for citizens. The plant variety protection system under the UPOV Convention, through new varieties of plants, is instrumental in increasing food supply and improving nutritional quality of foods for all people.*

12. Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns
13. Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts\*
14. Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development
15. Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss

*The plant variety protection system under the UPOV Convention facilitates conservation of genetic resources by maintaining biodiversity in breeders' pools of breeding materials or variety collections and reducing excessive exploitation of genetic resources in forests. In addition, increasing crop production through uses of high yielding plant varieties and quality seeds will reduce deforestation for agriculture uses.*

16. Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels
17. Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development

*Sustainable development is founded upon poverty eradication, and many of the world's poor living on farms. The plant variety protection system under the UPOV Convention promotes development and supports farmers, thus strengthening sustainable development.*

[Annex VI follows]

DRAFT FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTION (FAQ) IN RELATION TO THE MOST RELEVANT  
UNITED NATIONS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

The draft FAQ below provides information in relation to the most relevant United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) (see <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/post2015/transformingourworld>), taking into consideration the Targets associated with each Goal. The Targets for each Goal are reproduced with highlighting of the elements for which UPOV is considered to be particularly relevant.

**Goal 1. End poverty in all its forms everywhere**

**Targets:**

- 1.1 By 2030, **eradicate extreme poverty** for all people everywhere, currently measured as people living on less than \$1.25 a day
- 1.2 By 2030, reduce at least by half the proportion of men, women and children of all ages living in poverty in all its dimensions according to national definitions
- 1.3 Implement nationally appropriate social protection systems and measures for all, including floors, and by 2030 achieve substantial coverage of the poor and the vulnerable
- 1.4 By 2030, ensure that all men and women, in particular the poor and the vulnerable, have equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to basic services, **ownership and control over** land and other **forms of property**, inheritance, **natural resources**, **appropriate new technology** and financial services, including microfinance
- 1.5 By 2030, **build the resilience** of the poor and those in vulnerable situations **and reduce their exposure and vulnerability to climate-related extreme events** and other economic, social and environmental shocks and disasters
- 1.a **Ensure significant mobilization of resources** from a variety of sources, including through **enhanced development cooperation**, in order to provide adequate and predictable means for developing countries, in particular least developed countries, to implement programmes and policies to end poverty in all its dimensions
- 1.b **Create sound policy frameworks at the national, regional and international levels, based on pro-poor and gender-sensitive development strategies, to support accelerated investment in poverty eradication actions**

“Most of the world’s poor live in rural areas. [...] Many of the rural poor are subsistence producers, family farmers or landless agricultural workers.[...]”<sup>1</sup>

The “Symposium on Plant Breeding for the Future” illustrated the range of benefits to society from the introduction of new varieties of plants (see [http://www.upov.int/meetings/en/details.jsp?meeting\\_id=24133](http://www.upov.int/meetings/en/details.jsp?meeting_id=24133)). Farmers and growers deliver the benefits of new varieties to society through reduced food cost, efficient land use, high quality food, storability and a wide diversity of products. They deliver those benefits because they are the first beneficiaries of new varieties, which offer to them improved yields and profitability, resistance to pests and diseases, input efficiency and agronomic options that enable them to meet their own needs and those of consumers. In short, new varieties are their route to improved livelihoods.<sup>2</sup>

The UPOV Convention provides the basis for members (see <http://www.upov.int/members/en/>) to encourage plant breeding by granting breeders of new plant varieties an intellectual property right: the breeder’s right.<sup>3</sup>

The UPOV System of Plant Variety Protection<sup>4</sup>:

- Encourages the breeding of new varieties - enabling farmers to respond to the environmental and economic challenges confronting agriculture
- Provides farmers and growers with access to the best local and global varieties
- Enables variety choice to be combined with information and delivery of good quality planting material
- Is a tool for capturing value through farmer cooperation
- Facilitates “WIN-WIN” cooperation between farmers and breeders
- Provides business opportunities for small farmers and growers [...]

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.fao.org/about/what-we-do/so3/en/>

<sup>2</sup> [http://www.upov.int/edocs/pubdocs/en/upov\\_pub\\_357\\_4.pdf](http://www.upov.int/edocs/pubdocs/en/upov_pub_357_4.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> <http://www.upov.int/about/en/faq.html> (How does plant variety protection work??)

<sup>4</sup> (Closing Remarks of Kitisri Sukhapinda, President of the Council of UPOV, Symposium on the Benefits of Plant Variety Protection for Farmers and Growers”) [http://www.upov.int/edocs/pubdocs/en/upov\\_pub\\_357\\_4.pdf](http://www.upov.int/edocs/pubdocs/en/upov_pub_357_4.pdf)

In relation to control over natural resources and appropriate new technology, the UPOV System of Plant Variety Protection<sup>4</sup>:

- Provides an incentive for farmers and growers to become breeders
- Enables any farmer or grower to use the best available, protected varieties for breeding work
- Offers an effective and transparent system that is easily accessible for small and medium-sized enterprises
- Enables farmers and growers to develop local, national and international businesses
- Empowers farmers and growers in the production chain [...]

The UPOV Report on the Impact of Plant Variety Protection (Impact Study) (see [http://www.upov.int/edocs/pubdocs/en/upov\\_pub\\_353.pdf](http://www.upov.int/edocs/pubdocs/en/upov_pub_353.pdf)) notes that membership of UPOV provides important technical assistance and maximizes opportunities for cooperation, which enables PVP to be extended to the widest range of plant genera and species in an efficient way thereby enabling the benefits to be maximized.<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>5</sup> [http://www.upov.int/edocs/pubdocs/en/upov\\_pub\\_353.pdf](http://www.upov.int/edocs/pubdocs/en/upov_pub_353.pdf)



**Goal 2. End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture**

- 2.1 By 2030, **end hunger and ensure access** by all people, in particular the poor and people in vulnerable situations, including infants, **to safe, nutritious and sufficient food all year round**
- 2.2 By 2030, **end all forms of malnutrition**, including achieving, by 2025, the internationally agreed targets on stunting and wasting in children under 5 years of age, and address the nutritional needs of adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating women and older persons
- 2.3 By 2030, **double the agricultural productivity and incomes of small-scale food producers**, in particular women, indigenous peoples, **family farmers**, pastoralists and fishers, including through secure and equal access to land, other **productive resources** and inputs, knowledge, financial services, markets **and opportunities for value addition** and non-farm employment
- 2.4 By 2030, ensure **sustainable food production systems and implement resilient agricultural practices that increase productivity and production, that help maintain ecosystems, that strengthen capacity for adaptation to climate change, extreme weather, drought, flooding and other disasters and that progressively improve land and soil quality**
- 2.5 By 2020, **maintain the genetic diversity of seeds, cultivated plants** and farmed and domesticated animals and their related wild species, including through soundly managed and diversified seed and plant banks at the national, regional and international levels, and promote access to and fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge, as internationally agreed
- 2.a **Increase investment, including through enhanced international cooperation, in rural infrastructure, agricultural research and extension services, technology development and plant and livestock gene banks in order to enhance agricultural productive capacity in developing countries, in particular least developed countries**
- 2.b Correct and prevent trade restrictions and distortions in world agricultural markets, including through the parallel elimination of all forms of agricultural export subsidies and all export measures with equivalent effect, in accordance with the mandate of the Doha Development Round
- 2.c Adopt measures to ensure the proper functioning of food commodity markets and their derivatives and facilitate timely access to market information, including on food reserves, in order to help limit extreme food price volatility

The tremendous progress in agricultural productivity in various parts of the world is largely based on improved varieties, together with improved farming practices, and future food security depend on them. New varieties of plants with features such as improved yield, resistance to plant pests and diseases, salt and drought tolerance, or better adaptation to climatic stress are a key element in increasing productivity and product quality in agriculture, horticulture and forestry, whilst minimizing the pressure on the natural environment. Due to the continuous evolution of new pests and diseases as well as changes in climatic conditions and users' needs, there is a continuous demand by farmers/growers of new plant varieties and development by breeders of such new plant varieties.<sup>6</sup>

The UPOV Convention provides the basis for members (see <http://www.upov.int/members/en/>) to encourage plant breeding by granting breeders of new plant varieties an intellectual property right: the breeder's right.<sup>7</sup>

The "Seminar on Plant Variety Protection and Technology Transfer: the Benefits of Public-Private Partnership", held in Geneva, from April 11 to April 12, 2011 (see [www.upov.int/meetings/en/details.jsp?meeting\\_id=22163](http://www.upov.int/meetings/en/details.jsp?meeting_id=22163)), demonstrated the importance of plant variety protection for plant breeding in the public sector and the role that it plays in technology transfer by encouraging public-private partnerships. An important message from the Seminar was that plant variety protection provides a system to increase availability of varieties suited to farmers' needs and provides a mechanism to facilitate dissemination of varieties to farmers.<sup>8</sup>

The UPOV system encourages the development of new varieties of plants, therefore adding to diversity. The "breeder's exemption" in the UPOV Convention enables plant diversity to be available for further breeding activities because acts done for the purpose of breeding other varieties are not subject to any restriction by the breeder. This reflects the fact that access to protected varieties contributes to sustain greatest progress in plant breeding and, thereby, to maximize the use of genetic resources for the benefit of society.<sup>9</sup>

The propagation of a protected variety by a farmer exclusively for the production of a food crop to be consumed by that farmer and the dependents of the farmer, may be considered by members of UPOV to be excluded from the scope of the breeder's right.<sup>10</sup>

<sup>6</sup> <http://www.upov.int/about/en/faq.html> (Why do farmers and growers need new plant varieties?)

<sup>7</sup> <http://www.upov.int/about/en/faq.html> (How does plant variety protection work?)

<sup>8</sup> [http://www.upov.int/edocs/pubdocs/en/upov\\_pub\\_357\\_4.pdf](http://www.upov.int/edocs/pubdocs/en/upov_pub_357_4.pdf)

<sup>9</sup> <http://www.upov.int/about/en/faq.html> (Why does UPOV require varieties to be uniform and stable; doesn't that lead to a loss of diversity??)

<sup>10</sup> See <http://www.upov.int/about/en/faq.html> (Can a farmer replant seed of a protected variety without the authorization of the breeder?)

Within the scope of the breeder's right exceptions provided under the UPOV Convention, UPOV Contracting Parties have the flexibility to consider, where the legitimate interests of the breeders are not significantly affected, in the occasional case of propagating material of protected varieties, allowing subsistence farmers to exchange this against other vital goods within the local community.<sup>11</sup>

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<sup>11</sup> <http://www.upov.int/about/en/faq.html> (Is it possible for subsistence farmers to exchange propagating material of protected varieties against other vital goods within the local community?)

**Goal 9. Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation**

9.1 Develop quality, reliable, sustainable and resilient infrastructure, including regional and transborder infrastructure, to support economic development and human well-being, with a focus on affordable and equitable access for all

9.2 Promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and, by 2030, significantly raise industry's share of employment and gross domestic product, in line with national circumstances, and double its share in least developed countries

9.3 Increase the access of small-scale industrial and other enterprises, in particular in developing countries, to financial services, including affordable credit, and their integration into value chains and markets

9.4 By 2030, upgrade infrastructure and retrofit industries to make them sustainable, with increased resource-use efficiency and greater adoption of clean and environmentally sound technologies and industrial processes, with all countries taking action in accordance with their respective capabilities

9.5 Enhance scientific research, upgrade the technological capabilities of industrial sectors in all countries, in particular developing countries, including, by 2030, encouraging innovation and substantially increasing the number of research and development workers per 1 million people and public and private research and development spending

9.a Facilitate sustainable and resilient infrastructure development in developing countries through enhanced financial, technological and technical support to African countries, least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States

9.b Support domestic technology development, research and innovation in developing countries, including by ensuring a conducive policy environment for, inter alia, industrial diversification and value addition to commodities

9.c Significantly increase access to information and communications technology and strive to provide universal and affordable access to the Internet in least developed countries by 2020

The tremendous progress in agricultural productivity in various parts of the world is largely based on improved varieties, together with improved farming practices, and future food security depend on them. New varieties of plants with features such as improved yield, resistance to plant pests and diseases, salt and drought tolerance, or better adaptation to climatic stress are a key element in increasing productivity and product quality in agriculture, horticulture and forestry, whilst minimizing the pressure on the natural environment. Due to the continuous evolution of new pests and diseases as well as changes in climatic conditions and users' needs, there is a continuous demand by farmers/growers of new plant varieties and development by breeders of such new plant varieties.<sup>12</sup>

The UPOV Convention provides the basis for members (see <http://www.upov.int/members/en/>) to encourage plant breeding by granting breeders of new plant varieties an intellectual property right: the breeder's right.<sup>13</sup>

The UPOV Report on the Impact of Plant Variety Protection ([http://www.upov.int/about/en/pdf/353\\_upov\\_report.pdf](http://www.upov.int/about/en/pdf/353_upov_report.pdf)) demonstrated that in order to enjoy the full benefits which plant variety protection is able to generate, both implementation of the UPOV Convention and membership of UPOV are important. The introduction of the UPOV system of plant variety protection and UPOV membership were found to be associated with:

- (a) increased breeding activities,
- (b) greater availability of improved varieties,
- (c) increased number of new varieties,
- (d) diversification of types of breeders (e.g. private breeders, researchers),
- (e) increased number of foreign new varieties,
- (f) encouraging the development of a new industry competitiveness on foreign markets, and
- (g) improved access to foreign plant varieties and enhanced domestic breeding programs.

The "Seminar on Plant Variety Protection and Technology Transfer: the Benefits of Public-Private Partnership", held in Geneva, from April 11 to April 12, 2011 (see [www.upov.int/meetings/en/details.jsp?meeting\\_id=22163](http://www.upov.int/meetings/en/details.jsp?meeting_id=22163)), demonstrated the importance of plant variety protection for plant breeding in the public sector and the role that it plays in technology transfer by encouraging public-private partnerships.

The Closing remarks by the Chairs at the Seminar were as follows:

*Use of Plant Variety Protection by National Research Centers*<sup>14</sup>

Plant Variety Protection (PVP):

- Promotes private sector involvement in research and development
- Is a tool for technology transfer

<sup>12</sup> <http://www.upov.int/about/en/faq.html> (Why do farmers and growers need new plant varieties?)

<sup>13</sup> <http://www.upov.int/about/en/faq.html> (How does plant variety protection work?)

<sup>14</sup> Chair: Ms. Enriqueta Molina Macías

- Provides a legal framework for financial investment
- Encourages innovation in breeding aims, particularly for the development of new or niche markets
- Focuses investment on meeting the needs of farmers and consumers

*Technology Transfer by the Private Sector*<sup>15</sup>

The private sector:

- Offers an effective means of delivering varieties to farmers
- Provides an assessment of the market potential of varieties
- Link between public research and the needs of farmers
- Provides a channel for income for public-sector research
- Facilitates strategic associations and coordinated technology transfer

*International Research Centers*<sup>16</sup>

- PVP provides a mechanism to facilitate dissemination of varieties to farmers: open access does not ensure widespread dissemination or use
- PVP provides a system to increase availability of varieties suited to farmers' needs
- PVP provides incentives for small and medium enterprises (SMEs), particularly local breeders and seed distributors
- The breeders' exemption provides a mechanism to facilitate access to germplasm
- The use of PVP is consistent with the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITPGRFA) and the SMTA

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<sup>15</sup> Chair: Ms. Kitisri Sukhapinda

<sup>16</sup> Chair: Mr. David Boreham

**Goal 12. Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns**

12.1 Implement the 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production, all countries taking action, with developed countries taking the lead, taking into account the development and capabilities of developing countries

12.2 By 2030, achieve the **sustainable management and efficient use of natural resources**

12.3 By 2030, halve per capita global food waste at the retail and consumer levels and **reduce food losses along production and supply chains, including post-harvest losses**

12.4 By 2020, achieve the **environmentally sound management of chemicals** and all wastes throughout their life cycle, in accordance with agreed international frameworks, and **significantly reduce their release to air, water and soil in order to minimize their adverse impacts on human health and the environment**

12.5 By 2030, substantially reduce waste generation through prevention, reduction, recycling and reuse

12.6 Encourage companies, especially large and transnational companies, to adopt sustainable practices and to integrate sustainability information into their reporting cycle

12.7 Promote public procurement practices that are sustainable, in accordance with national policies and priorities

12.8 By 2030, ensure that people everywhere have the relevant information and awareness for sustainable development and lifestyles in harmony with nature

12.a **Support developing countries to strengthen their scientific and technological capacity to move towards more sustainable patterns of consumption and production**

12.b Develop and implement tools to monitor sustainable development impacts for sustainable tourism that creates jobs and promotes local culture and products

12.c Rationalize inefficient fossil-fuel subsidies that encourage wasteful consumption by removing market distortions, in accordance with national circumstances, including by restructuring taxation and phasing out those harmful subsidies, where they exist, to reflect their environmental impacts, taking fully into account the specific needs and conditions of developing countries and minimizing the possible adverse impacts on their development in a manner that protects the poor and the affected communities

New varieties of plants with features such as improved yield, resistance to plant pests and diseases, salt and drought tolerance, or better adaptation to climatic stress are a key element in increasing productivity and product quality in agriculture, horticulture and forestry, whilst minimizing the pressure on the natural environment. Due to the continuous evolution of new pests and diseases as well as changes in climatic conditions and users' needs, there is a continuous demand by farmers/growers of new plant varieties and development by breeders of such new plant varieties.<sup>17</sup>

The UPOV Convention provides the basis for members (see <http://www.upov.int/members/en/>) to encourage plant breeding by granting breeders of new plant varieties an intellectual property right: the breeder's right.<sup>18</sup>

<sup>17</sup> <http://www.upov.int/about/en/faq.html> (Why do farmers and growers need new plant varieties?)

<sup>18</sup> <http://www.upov.int/about/en/faq.html> (How does plant variety protection work?)

**Goal 15. Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss**

15.1 By 2020, ensure the conservation, restoration and sustainable use of terrestrial and inland freshwater ecosystems and their services, in particular forests, wetlands, mountains and drylands, in line with obligations under international agreements

15.2 By 2020, promote the implementation of sustainable management of all types of forests, halt deforestation, restore degraded forests and substantially increase afforestation and reforestation globally

15.3 By 2030, combat desertification, restore degraded land and soil, including land affected by desertification, drought and floods, and strive to achieve a land degradation-neutral world

15.4 By 2030, ensure the conservation of mountain ecosystems, including their biodiversity, in order to enhance their capacity to provide benefits that are essential for sustainable development

15.5 Take urgent and significant action to reduce the degradation of natural habitats, halt the loss of biodiversity and, by 2020, protect and prevent the extinction of threatened species

15.6 Promote fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources and promote appropriate access to such resources, as internationally agreed

15.7 Take urgent action to end poaching and trafficking of protected species of flora and fauna and address both demand and supply of illegal wildlife products

15.8 By 2020, introduce measures to prevent the introduction and significantly reduce the impact of invasive alien species on land and water ecosystems and control or eradicate the priority species

15.9 By 2020, integrate ecosystem and biodiversity values into national and local planning, development processes, poverty reduction strategies and accounts

15.a Mobilize and significantly increase financial resources from all sources to conserve and sustainably use biodiversity and ecosystems

15.b Mobilize significant resources from all sources and at all levels to finance sustainable forest management and provide adequate incentives to developing countries to advance such management, including for conservation and reforestation

15.c Enhance global support for efforts to combat poaching and trafficking of protected species, including by increasing the capacity of local communities to pursue sustainable livelihood opportunities

New varieties of plants with features such as improved yield, resistance to plant pests and diseases, salt and drought tolerance, or better adaptation to climatic stress are a key element in increasing productivity and product quality in agriculture, horticulture and forestry, whilst minimizing the pressure on the natural environment. Due to the continuous evolution of new pests and diseases as well as changes in climatic conditions and users' needs, there is a continuous demand by farmers/growers of new plant varieties and development by breeders of such new plant varieties.<sup>19</sup>

The UPOV Convention provides the basis for members (see <http://www.upov.int/members/en/>) to encourage plant breeding by granting breeders of new plant varieties an intellectual property right: the breeder's right.<sup>20</sup>

<sup>19</sup> <http://www.upov.int/about/en/faq.html> (Why do farmers and growers need new plant varieties?)

<sup>20</sup> <http://www.upov.int/about/en/faq.html> (How does plant variety protection work?)

**Goal 17. Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development**

**Finance**

17.1 Strengthen domestic resource mobilization, including through international support to developing countries, to improve domestic capacity for tax and other revenue collection

17.2 Developed countries to implement fully their official development assistance commitments, including the commitment by many developed countries to achieve the target of 0.7 per cent of ODA/GNI to developing countries and 0.15 to 0.20 per cent of ODA/GNI to least developed countries; ODA providers are encouraged to consider setting a target to provide at least 0.20 per cent of ODA/GNI to least developed countries

17.3 Mobilize additional financial resources for developing countries from multiple sources

17.4 Assist developing countries in attaining long-term debt sustainability through coordinated policies aimed at fostering debt financing, debt relief and debt restructuring, as appropriate, and address the external debt of highly indebted poor countries to reduce debt distress

17.5 Adopt and implement investment promotion regimes for least developed countries

**Technology**

17.6 Enhance North-South, South-South and triangular regional and international cooperation on and access to science, technology and innovation and enhance knowledge sharing on mutually agreed terms, including through improved coordination among existing mechanisms, in particular at the United Nations level, and through a global technology facilitation mechanism

17.7 Promote the development, transfer, dissemination and diffusion of environmentally sound technologies to developing countries on favourable terms, including on concessional and preferential terms, as mutually agreed

17.8 Fully operationalize the technology bank and science, technology and innovation capacity-building mechanism for least developed countries by 2017 and enhance the use of enabling technology, in particular information and communications technology

**Capacity-building**

17.9 Enhance international support for implementing effective and targeted capacity-building in developing countries to support national plans to implement all the sustainable development goals, including through North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation

**Trade**

17.10 Promote a universal, rules-based, open, non-discriminatory and equitable multilateral trading system under the World Trade Organization, including through the conclusion of negotiations under its Doha Development Agenda

17.11 Significantly increase the exports of developing countries, in particular with a view to doubling the least developed countries' share of global exports by 2020

17.12 Realize timely implementation of duty-free and quota-free market access on a lasting basis for all least developed countries, consistent with World Trade Organization decisions, including by ensuring that preferential rules of origin applicable to imports from least developed countries are transparent and simple, and contribute to facilitating market access

**Systemic issues**

*Policy and institutional coherence*

17.13 Enhance global macroeconomic stability, including through policy coordination and policy coherence

17.14 Enhance policy coherence for sustainable development

17.15 Respect each country's policy space and leadership to establish and implement policies for poverty eradication and sustainable development

*Multi-stakeholder partnerships*

17.16 Enhance the global partnership for sustainable development, complemented by multi-stakeholder partnerships that mobilize and share knowledge, expertise, technology and financial resources, to support the achievement of the sustainable development goals in all countries, in particular developing countries

17.17 Encourage and promote effective public, public-private and civil society partnerships, building on the experience and resourcing strategies of partnerships

*Data, monitoring and accountability*

17.18 By 2020, enhance capacity-building support to developing countries, including for least developed countries and small island developing States, to increase significantly the availability of high-quality, timely and reliable data disaggregated by income, gender, age, race, ethnicity, migratory status, disability, geographic location and other characteristics relevant in national contexts

17.19 By 2030, build on existing initiatives to develop measurements of progress on sustainable development that complement gross domestic product, and support statistical capacity-building in developing countries

The "Seminar on Plant Variety Protection and Technology Transfer: the Benefits of Public-Private Partnership", held in Geneva, from April 11 to April 12, 2011 (see [www.upov.int/meetings/en/details.jsp?meeting\\_id=22163](http://www.upov.int/meetings/en/details.jsp?meeting_id=22163)), demonstrated the importance of plant variety protection for plant breeding in the public sector and the role that it plays in technology transfer by encouraging public-private partnerships. An important message from the Seminar was that plant variety protection provides a system to increase availability of varieties suited to farmers' needs and provides a mechanism to facilitate dissemination of varieties to farmers.<sup>21</sup>

[Annex VII follows]

<sup>21</sup> [http://www.upov.int/edocs/pubdocs/en/upov\\_pub\\_357\\_4.pdf](http://www.upov.int/edocs/pubdocs/en/upov_pub_357_4.pdf)

## ANNEX VII

WEB-CONFERENCING AND E-WORKSHOPS  
ORGANIZED BY UPOV (AUGUST 2015 TO JULY 2016)

During the period August 1, 2015 to July 31, 2016, UPOV organized a total of 201 electronic meetings, which involved a total of 1005 electronic connections (one connection may represent a single or multiple participants), as follows:

## UPOV BODIES

<u>UPOV body</u>	<u>Type of participation</u>	<u>Details</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Number of electronic connections</u>
<b>Technical Working Party on Automation and Computer Programs (TWC)</b>				
TWC/34 session	presentation	EAF Project	08-Jun-16	8
<b>Technical Working Party for Agricultural Crops (TWA)</b>				
TWA/45 session	presentation	Molecular techniques	11-Jul-16	8
TWA/45 session	presentation	Uniformity	12-Jul-16	23
TWA/45 session	meeting	4 bilateral meetings on individual Test Guidelines	12-16 Jul-16	12
<b>Working Group for the Development of a UPOV Denomination Similarity Search Tool</b>				
WG-DST/3 meeting	observation of meeting	WG-DST Third Meeting	2-Oct-15	7
WG-DST/4 meeting	observation of meeting	WG-DST Fourth Meeting	2-Apr-16	10
<b>Working Group on Variety Denominations</b>				
WG-DEN/1 meeting	observation of meeting	WG-DEN First Meeting	18-Mar-16	6
<b>Meeting on the Development of a Prototype Electronic Form (EAF)</b>				
EAF/6 Meeting	meeting	EAF/6 Meeting	26-Oct-15	12
EAF/7 Meeting	meeting	EAF/7 Meeting	16-Mar-16	17
Briefing session	presentation	Launch of the final test campaign PV1	07-Oct-15	13
Briefing session	presentation	Prototype Electronic Form- update on developments	08-Jan-16	32
Briefing session	presentation	PV2: Kick off meeting	15-Feb-16	5
Briefing session	presentation	Launch of the first test campaign	02-Jan-16	19
Briefing session	presentation	Launch of the second test campaign	01-Mar-16	23
Briefing session	presentation	Launch of the third test campaign	11-Apr-16	21
Briefing session	presentation	Launch of the fourth test campaign	08-May-16	26
Briefing session	presentation	Launch of the fifth test campaign	06-Jun-16	23
Briefing session	presentation	Launch of the sixth test campaign	04-Jul-16	18
Individual consultations	meeting	5 individual sessions	Sep 2015 – July 2016	18
	meetings with IT developer	140 individual sessions (includes daily "scrum" meetings)	Aug 2015 – July 2016	594

## UPOV PROJECTS

	<u>Type of participation</u>	<u>Details</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Number of electronic connections</u>
<b>TG Template</b>				
	meetings with IT developer	22 individual sessions (includes daily "scrum" meetings)	Aug 2015- July 2016	70



OTHER

	<u>Type of participation</u>	<u>Details</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Number of electronic connections</u>
Train the Trainer Course for Ibero-American countries: plant variety protection under the UPOV Convention and complementary forms of intellectual property protection, Montevideo, Uruguay	presentation	Presentation by the Seed Association of the Americas (SAA) on "Current issues for plant breeders"	18-Nov-15	2
ITPGRFA	meeting	to discuss a possible joint UPOV-ITPGRFA symposium	07-Apr-16	2
Workshop on Data Processing and Sharing, Shanghai, China	presentation	Presentation by UPOV (from Geneva) on the Web-based TG Template	03-Jun-16	2
OAPI	meeting	OAPI Roadmap	26-Aug-15	6
World Seed Project	meeting	Steering Committee meeting	10-Aug-15	8
World Seed Project	meeting	Steering Committee meeting	09-Sep-15	3
World Seed Project	meeting	Steering Committee meeting	15-Mar-16	1
World Seed Project	meeting	Steering Committee meeting	22-Apr-16	2
World Seed Project	meeting	Communications team	23-Feb-16	3
World Seed Project	meeting	Communications team	03-Mar-16	3
World Seed Project	meeting	Communications team	30-Mar-16	1
World Seed Project	meeting	Communications team	31-May-16	4

[End of Annex VII and of document]