

Consultative Committee**CC/98/10****Ninety-Eighth Session
Geneva, October 28, 2021****Original:** English
Date: July 24, 2021

NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN MEMBERS OF THE UNION*Document prepared by the Office of the Union**Disclaimer: this document does not represent UPOV policies or guidance***EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

1. The purpose of this document is to report on the seminar on strategies that address policies involving plant breeding and plant variety protection, and to present a proposal for reporting on new developments in members of the Union at the ninety-ninth session of the Consultative Committee.
2. The Consultative Committee is invited to:
 - (a) note that the proceedings of the seminar on strategies that address policies involving plant breeding and plant variety protection will be published on the UPOV website;
 - (b) note that a report on the seminar and the concluding remarks by Mr. Marien Valstar, President of the Council will be reported in an addendum to this document;
 - (c) note that a video recording of the seminar will be made available on the UPOV website after the event, subject to agreement by the Consultative Committee; and;
 - (d) consider the proposal to invite members of the Union to present new developments at the ninety-ninth session of the Consultative Committee, as set out in paragraphs 15 and 16 of this document.

BACKGROUND

3. In 2019, the Consultative Committee agreed not to invite presentations by new members of the Union at future sessions. The intention of that change was to develop a more effective means of enabling the Consultative Committee to identify and address matters of particular relevance to new members. In accordance with that approach, it was agreed to include an item on the Consultative Committee agenda for “Providing support for new members of the Union” (see document CC/96/13 and document CC/96/14, paragraph 96).
4. The Consultative Committee at its ninety-seventh session, held via electronic means on October 29 and 30, 2020 considered document CC/97/12 “Providing support to new members of the Union” (see document CC/97/17, paragraph 58 to 61).
5. The Consultative Committee agreed to broaden the agenda item “Providing support for new members of the Union” to “New developments in members of the Union”, to identify and consider possibilities to address relevant developments in members of the Union.

6. During the preparation of document CC/97/12 “Providing support to new members of the Union”, the European Union reported that the EU had a “Green Deal strategy and under its umbrella also a Farm to Fork strategy” on sustainable food along the whole value chain (see https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/info/files/european-green-deal-communication_en.pdf and https://ec.europa.eu/food/farm2fork_en). The European Union reported that, in the context of that strategy, “sustainable food systems also rely on seed security and diversity” and thus plant breeding and protected varieties have been identified to play an essential role towards ensuring better yields for food production, adaptation to changing climatic and environmental conditions and thereby contributing to long-term food security”. The European Union proposed the organization of a seminar in the week of the UPOV sessions in 2021 to exchange information and experiences on strategies involving plant breeding and plant variety protection that address such broad policy issues.

7. The Consultative Committee agreed to recommend to the Council the organization of a seminar, which would be open to members and observers, in the week of the UPOV sessions in 2021, to exchange information and experiences on strategies involving plant breeding and plant variety protection that addressed broad policy issues.

8. The Consultative Committee agreed that the seminar would be based on presentations by members of the Union and that a draft program, developed in consultation with the President of the Council and based on interest for participation and presentations by the members of the Union, would be prepared by the Office of the Union and circulated to members of the Union, for comments by correspondence.

9. At its fifty-fourth ordinary session, the Council approved the organization of a seminar that would be open to members and observers, in the week of the UPOV sessions in 2021, to exchange information and experiences on strategies involving plant breeding and plant variety protection that address broad policy issues (see document C/54/21 “Report”, paragraph 29).

SEMINAR ON STRATEGIES THAT ADDRESS POLICIES INVOLVING PLANT BREEDING AND PLANT VARIETY PROTECTION (SEMINAR)

10. Members of the Union were invited to express interest to participate in the seminar (Circular E-21/023 sent on February 22, 2021). The draft program of the seminar, established on the basis of the replies received by members of the Union, is reproduced as Annex of this document and available at https://www.upov.int/meetings/en/details.jsp?meeting_id=64550.

11. As a result of the uncertainty arising from the COVID-19 pandemic, it was proposed to held the seminar the week prior to the UPOV sessions, by electronic means on Wednesday, October 20, 2021, from 12.00 p.m. to 3 p.m. (Geneva time).

12. The proceedings of the seminar will be published on the UPOV Website in all UPOV languages, with the English version planned to be published by December 2021.

13. A report on the seminar and the concluding remarks by Mr. Marien Valstar, President of the Council will be reported in an addendum to this document.

14. In order to make the information available to members of the Union and observers that are unable to attend the live seminar, a video recording of the seminar will be made available on the UPOV website after the event, subject to agreement by the Consultative Committee, which will be sought via correspondence in the meantime.

ITEM FOR THE NINETY-NINTH SESSION OF THE CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

15. In accordance with the decision of the Consultative Committee at its ninety-seventh session, it is proposed to include an item “New developments in members of the Union” in the agenda of the ninety-ninth session of the Consultative Committee, to identify and consider possibilities to address relevant developments in members of the Union.

16. Members of the Union that would wish to report on new developments would be requested to provide a short summary of the topic(s) to be presented to the Office of the Union by July 31, 2022, and to provide a copy of the presentation by September 30, 2022. The duration of presentations would be set at 5 or 10 minutes, according to the number of offers received and after consultation with the President of the Council.

17. *The Consultative Committee is invited to:*

(a) note that the proceedings of the seminar on strategies that address policies involving plant breeding and plant variety protection will be published on the UPOV website;

(b) note that a report on the seminar and the concluding remarks by Mr. Marien Valstar, President of the Council will be reported in an addendum to this document;

(c) note that a video recording of the seminar will be made available on the UPOV website after the event, subject to agreement by the Consultative Committee; and;

(d) consider the proposal to invite members of the Union to present new developments at the ninety-ninth session of the Consultative Committee, as set out in paragraphs 15 and 16 of this document.

[Annex follows]

Seminar on strategies that address policies involving plant breeding and plant variety protection
Geneva, October 20, 2021 (by electronic means)

PROGRAM

prepared by the Office of the Union

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The purpose of the seminar is to exchange information and experiences of members of the Union on strategies involving plant breeding and plant variety protection that address broad policy issues.

- 12.00 **Welcome and opening remarks**
Mr. Daren Tang, Secretary-General, UPOV
- 12.10 **Program and organization of the Seminar**
Moderator of the Seminar: Mr. Peter Button, Vice Secretary-General, UPOV
- 12.15 **CANADA**
The role of plant variety protection in supporting public breeding institutions, and partnerships with producers and industry
Mr. Anthony Parker, Commissioner, Plant Breeders' Rights Office, Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA)
- 12.25 **CHINA**
Seed Policies Promoting China's Plant Breeding Innovation
Mr. Yehan Cui, Principal Consultant, Development Center of Science and Technology (DCST), Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs (MARA)
- 12.35 **EUROPEAN UNION**
EU strategies involving plant breeding and plant variety protection – European Green Deal (Farm to Fork Strategy)
Ms. Päivi Mannerkorpi, Team Leader - Plant Reproductive Material, Unit G1, Plant Health, Directorate General for Health and Food Safety (DG SANTE), European Commission
- 12.45 **Break**
- 13.00 **JAPAN**
Japan's Intellectual Property Strategy in the field of PVP
Mr. Teruhisa Miyamoto, Deputy Director of Plant Variety Office, Intellectual Property Division, Food Industry Affairs Bureau, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF)
- 13.10 **KENYA**
The role of plant variety protection in promoting food security, employment creation and improving farmers' livelihoods
Mr. Simon Mucheru Maina, Head, Seed Certification and Plant Variety Protection, Kenya Plant Health Inspectorate Service (KEPHIS)

- 13.20 **MEXICO**
Public policies to promote innovations in plant varieties
Mr. Leobigildo Córdova Téllez, Head, National Service for Seed Inspection and Certification (SNICS), Secretariat of Agriculture and Rural Development (AGRICULTURA)
- 13.30 **NORWAY**
The importance of plant breeding for food security. Recent policy development in Norway
Ms. Svanhild-Isabelle Batta Torheim, Senior Advisor, Department of Forest and Natural Resource Policy, Ministry of Agriculture and Food
- 13.40 **Break**
- 14.00 **PERU**
Strategies for promoting Peru’s Plant Breeding Protection
Mr. Manuel Castro Calderón, Director, Directorate of Patents and New Technologies, National Institute for Defense of Competition and Protection of Intellectual Property (INDECOP)
- 14.10 **SWEDEN**
The need to sustain “small” breeders
Mr. Magnus Franzén, Deputy Head, Plant and Control Department, Swedish Board of Agriculture
- 14.20 **UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**
Initiatives from the 2018 Farm Bill Supporting Farm Production, Conservation, and Plant Variety Protection in the United States
Mr. Jeffery Haynes, Commissioner, Plant Variety Protection Office, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)
- 14.30 **Questions**
- 14.55 –15.00 **Concluding remarks and Closing**
Mr. Marien Valstar, President of the Council, UPOV

[End of Annex and of document]