

**Consultative Committee**

CC/99/10

**Ninety-Ninth Session  
Geneva, October 27, 2022****Original:** English  
**Date:** August 1, 2022

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**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 Consultative Committee is invited to:

(a) note that the presentations, proceedings and a video recording of the seminar on strategies that address policies involving plant breeding and plant variety protection are available on the UPOV website;

(b) note the program for the seminar on the role of plant breeding and plant variety protection in enabling agriculture to mitigate and adapt to climate change, as presented in the annex to this document;

(c) note that a report on the seminar and the concluding remarks by Mr. Marien Valstar, President of the Council will be made to the Consultative Committee at its ninety-ninth session;

(d) note that the presentations, proceedings and a video recording of the seminar will be made available on the UPOV website;

(e) note that the Office of the Union did not receive an offer from any member of the Union to make a presentation on new developments at the ninety-ninth session of the Consultative Committee; and

(f) consider the proposal to invite members of the Union to present new developments at the one hundred and first session of the Consultative Committee, as set out in paragraphs 19 and 20 of this document.

**BACKGROUND**

2. 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).

3. 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).

4. 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.

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

5. 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](https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/info/files/european-green-deal-communication_en.pdf) and [https://ec.europa.eu/food/farm2fork\\_en](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.

6. 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. 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. 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).

7. The Seminar on strategies that address policies involving plant breeding and plant variety protection was held by electronic means on Wednesday, October 20, 2021. The Seminar was attended by 132 participants from 99 members of the Union and 13 observers. The presentations, proceedings and a video recording of the seminar are available at [https://www.upov.int/meetings/en/details.jsp?meeting\\_id=64550](https://www.upov.int/meetings/en/details.jsp?meeting_id=64550).

#### SEMINAR ON THE ROLE OF PLANT BREEDING AND PLANT VARIETY PROTECTION IN ENABLING AGRICULTURE TO MITIGATE AND ADAPT TO CLIMATE CHANGE

8. In his concluding remarks at the seminar on strategies that address policies involving plant breeding and plant variety protection, Mr. Marien Valstar, President of the Council, observed a need for a further opportunity to explore the role of plant breeding and plant variety protection in relation to the need for agriculture to adapt to, and mitigate, climate change and proposed that consideration be given to organizing a seminar in 2022, dedicated to this theme.

9. The Consultative Committee at its ninety-eighth session, held via electronic means on October 28 and 29, 2021, agreed to propose to the Council the organization of a seminar in 2022 to explore the role of plant breeding and plant variety protection in enabling agriculture to adapt to, and mitigate, climate change. The Consultative Committee noted that the Office of the Union would send a circular inviting members of the Union and observers to the Council to propose possible topics and speakers for the Seminar.

10. The Consultative Committee noted that the information presented at the Seminar might provide useful information on the impact of the UPOV system.

11. The Council, at its fifty-fifth ordinary session, held by virtual means on October 29, 2021, approved the organization of a seminar in 2022 to explore the role of plant breeding and plant variety protection in enabling agriculture to adapt to, and mitigate, climate change (see document C/55/18 “Report”, paragraph 21(ii)).

12. On November 25, 2021 (UPOV Circular E-21/234), the Office of the Union issued an invitation to members of the Union and observers to the Council to propose topics and speakers for the seminar. A draft program was developed on the basis of the responses received.

13. The seminar will be held over three days as follows:

Date	Type	CEST (Geneva time)	Simultaneous interpretation
October 11, 2022	Virtual	1.00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.	English, French, German, and Spanish
October 12, 2022	Virtual	9.00 a.m. to 5.30 p.m.	English, French, German, and Spanish
October 26, 2022	Hybrid	4:00 p.m. to 6.00 p.m.	English, Chinese, French, German, Russian and Spanish

14. The draft program of the seminar is attached as the Annex to this document and is available at [https://www.upov.int/meetings/en/details.jsp?meeting\\_id=71391](https://www.upov.int/meetings/en/details.jsp?meeting_id=71391). Participation in the seminar is open, however physical participation on October 26, 2022, will be restricted to those registered for the UPOV sessions.

15. A report on the seminar and the concluding remarks by Mr. Marien Valstar, President of the Council will be made to the Consultative Committee at its ninety-ninth session.

16. The presentations, proceedings and a video recording of the seminar will be made available on the UPOV website.

#### PRESENTATIONS ON NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN MEMBERS OF THE UNION

17. The Consultative Committee, at its ninety-eighth session, agreed to invite members of the Union to present new developments at the ninety-ninth session of the Consultative Committee. In accordance with the arrangements agreed by the Consultative Committee, members of the Union were invited to make presentations on new developments at the ninety-ninth session of the Consultative Committee. A short summary of the topic to be presented was requested by July 31, 2022. The duration of presentations will be set at 5 or 10 minutes, according to the number of offers received and after consultation with the President of the Council (see document CC/98/16, "Report", paragraph 65).

18. The Office of the Union did not receive an offer from any member of the Union to make a presentation on new developments. at the ninety-ninth session of the Consultative Committee.

19. 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 one hundred and first session of the Consultative Committee, to identify and consider possibilities to address relevant developments in members of the Union.

20. 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, 2023, and to provide a copy of the presentation by September 30, 2023. 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.

21. *The Consultative Committee is invited to:*

*(a) note that the presentations, proceedings and a video recording of the seminar on strategies that address policies involving plant breeding and plant variety protection are available on the UPOV website;*

*(b) note the program for the seminar on the role of plant breeding and plant variety protection in enabling agriculture to mitigate and adapt to climate change, as presented in the Annex to this document;*

*(c) note that a report on the seminar and the concluding remarks by Mr. Marien Valstar, President of the Council will be made to the Consultative Committee at its ninety-ninth session;.*

*(d) note that the presentations, proceedings and a video recording of the seminar will be made available on the UPOV website;*

*(e) note that the Office of the Union did not receive an offer from any member of the Union to make a presentation on new developments. at the ninety-ninth session of the Consultative Committee; and*

*(f) consider the proposal to invite members of the Union to present new developments at the one hundred and first session of the Consultative Committee, as set out in paragraphs 19 and 20 of this document.*

[Annex follows]

SEMINAR ON THE ROLE OF PLANT BREEDING AND PLANT VARIETY PROTECTION IN ENABLING  
AGRICULTURE TO MITIGATE AND ADAPT TO CLIMATE CHANGE

**REVISED DRAFT PROGRAM**

*prepared by the Office of the Union*

*Disclaimer: this document does not represent UPOV policies or guidance*

**Tuesday, October 11, 2022**

13.00      **Welcome and opening remarks**  
*Mr. Daren Tang, Secretary-General, UPOV*

13.10      **Program and organization of the Seminar**  
*Mr. Peter Button, Vice Secretary-General, UPOV*

**Thematic SESSION 1: Climate change and its impact on agricultural production**

13.15      **Introduction**  
*Moderator: Mr. Marien Valstar, President of the Council, UPOV*

13.20      **Key note presentation - Impacts and risks for agriculture from climate change:  
adaptation solutions and the role of new plant varieties**  
*Mr. John Derera, Head of Breeding, International Institute of Tropical Agriculture  
(IITA)*

13.40      **World Farmers' Organization perspective**  
*Ms. Arianna Giuliadori, Secretary-General, WFO*

13.50      **International Seed Federation perspective**  
*Mr. Michael Keller, Secretary-General, ISF*

14.00      **International Community of Breeders of Asexually Reproduced Horticultural  
Plants perspective**  
*Mr. Edgar Krieger, Secretary General, CIOPORA*

14.10      **Conclusion of the session**  
*Moderator: Mr. Marien Valstar, President of the Council, UPOV*

## **Thematic SESSION 2: Strategies to address climate change in agriculture**

- 15.00      **Introduction**  
*Moderator: Mr. Yehan Cui, Vice-President of the Council, UPOV*
- 15.05      **European Union strategy to address climate change in agriculture**  
*Mr. Herwig Ranner, Team Leader – Climate change and agriculture, Unit for Sustainable Agriculture, Directorate General for Agriculture and Rural Development (DG AGRI), European Commission*
- 15.15      **Climate change: an opportunity for innovation in agriculture**  
*Mr. Solomon Gyan Ansah, Director of Agriculture & Head of the Seed Unit, Directorate of Crop Services, Ministry of Food and Agriculture, Ghana*
- 15.25      **The role of plant breeding for adaptation to climate change in Mexico**  
*Ms. Sol Ortíz García, General Director of Prospective Policies and Climate Change, Ministry of Agriculture, Mexico*
- 15.35      **Mitigation of climate change in agriculture**  
*Mr. Alexandre Lima Nepomuceno, Researcher, Brazilian Agricultural Research Corporation (EMBRAPA), Brazil*
- 15.45      **Adaptation of agriculture/ farming systems to climate change: exploring genetic options**  
*Mr. George Prah, Deputy Director, Directorate of Crop Services, Ministry of Food and Agriculture, Queensland Alliance for Agriculture and Food Innovation, Ghana*
- 15.55      **Questions**
- 16.15      **Conclusion of the session**  
*Moderator: Mr. Yehan Cui, Vice-President of the Council, UPOV*

## **Wednesday, October 12, 2022**

### **Thematic SESSION 3: Plant breeding for climate change adaptation and mitigation in agriculture: Crop perspectives**

- 09.00      **Introduction**  
*Moderator: Mr. Patrick Ngwediagi, Chair of the Administrative and Legal Committee, UPOV*
- 09.05      **Breeding targets to improve wheat performance in drying climates: adapting wheat cropping systems to current and future climate change**  
*Mr. Greg Rebetzke, Research Genetist, Canberra, Australia*
- 09.15      **New plant variety protection system and the cultivation of water-saving and drought-resistant rice**  
*Mr. Yu Zhang, Research associate, Shanghai Academy of Agricultural Sciences, China*

- 09.25 **Using crop genome dynamics for stress adaptation**  
*Mr. Etienne Bucher, Research group leader «Crop Genome Dynamics», Agroscope, Switzerland*
- 09.35 **SmartRice: a rice product grown using more sustainable methods to reduce the use of agricultural resources and provide more rice to meet the growing worldwide appetite**  
*Mr. Jose Re, Vice President, Global New Products Development – Rice Tech USA, United States of America*
- 09.45 **Questions**
- 09.55 **Characterization of the flowering phenology of the varieties of the world olive tree collection in Morocco for the selection of genotypes adapted to climate change**  
*Ms. Hayat Zaher, Researcher, Marrakech Regional Agricultural Research Centre (CRRA), National Institute for Agricultural Research (INRA), Morocco*
- 10.05 **Climate change in the ornamental sector – A breeder’s perspective**  
*Mr. Robert Boehm, Head of Biotechnology, Selecta One, Germany*
- 10.15 **Adapting cereal varieties to climate change in the Nordic countries – which traits can plant breeding work with and which ones are much more difficult?**  
*Ms. Tina Henriksson, Group Manager Breeding, Cereals & Pulses & Senior winter wheat breeder, Swedish Company Lantmännen, Sweden*
- 10.25 **Questions**
- 10.35 **Hot climate program: an apple breeding program for hot climate**  
*Ms. Lidia Lozano, Researcher, Institute of Agrifood Research and Technology (IRTA), Spain*
- 10.45 **Grassroots breeding of future smart crops, better adapted to climate change: Learnings from Nepal's experience**  
*Mr. Pitambar Shrestha, Programme Advisor, Local Initiatives for Biodiversity, Research and Development (LI-BIRD), Nepal*
- 10.55 **Vegetable company strategies to address the challenge of producing more food under increasingly harsh conditions and how the PBR system can help breeders to cope with such challenges**  
*Ms. Astrid Schenkeveld, Specialist Plant Breeder's Rights & Variety Registration, Rijk Zwaan, Netherlands*
- 11.05 **Questions**
- 11.15 **Conclusion of the session**  
*Moderator: Mr. Patrick Ngwediagi, Chair of the Administrative and Legal Committee, UPOV*

**Thematic SESSION 4: Plant breeding for climate change adaptation and mitigation in agriculture: breeding strategies and techniques**

- 12.30        **Introduction**  
*Moderator: Mr. Manuel Toro Ugalde, Vice-Chair of the Administrative and Legal Committee, UPOV*
- 12.35        **“A smart green future” and “climate resilience underpinning breeding programmes”**  
*Ms. Emma Brown, General Manager, Plant Varieties, and Mr. Zac Hanley, General Manager Science, Plant & Food Research, New Zealand*
- 12.45        **Use of new technologies (molecular markers and speed breeding) in the development of drought-tolerant cereal varieties in Morocco**  
*Mr. Moha Ferrahi, Head, Genetic Resources Improvement and Conservation Department (DACRG), Scientific Division, National Institute for Agricultural Research (INRA), Morocco*
- 12.55        **Breeding for the future**  
*Mr. Stefan van der Heijden, Associate, Innova Connect, Netherlands*
- 13.05        **The role of variety characteristics on climate footprint (disease resistance, nitrogen utilization and yield)**  
*Mr. Morten Lillemo, Professor, Norwegian University of Life Sciences Faculty of Biosciences, Norway*
- 13.15        **Questions**
- 13.25        **Research into market-driven and climate smart crop varieties: tolerance to biotic and abiotic stresses**  
*Mr. Francis Kusi, Acting Director, Savanna Agricultural Research Institute, Council for Scientific and Industrial Research Institute (CSIR-SARI), Principal Research Scientist (Host Plant Resistance), Ghana*
- 13.35        **Genetic improvement by mutagenesis of oilseed crops to cope with climate change: case of rapeseed and sesame**  
*Mr. Abdelqhani Nabloussi, Researcher, Meknès Regional Agricultural Research Centre (CRRA), National Institute for Agricultural Research (INRA), Morocco*
- 13.45        **Connecting different research clusters with the aim to develop more accurate breeding**  
*Mr. Muath Alsheikh, Field Operations Unit Manager, Graminor AS, Norway*
- 13.55        **Advances in the development of new varieties better adapted to climate change in crops and forages: a South American perspective**  
*Mr. Fernando Ortega Klose, Forage Plant Breeder, Chilean Agricultural Research Institute (INIA), Carillanca regional center, Chile*
- 14.05        **Breeding Program to mitigate climate change and environmental pressures on crops**  
*Mr. Dave Bubeck, Research Director, Corteva, United States of America*



14.15 **Questions**

14.25 **Conclusion of the session**

*Moderator: Mr. Manuel Toro Ugalde, Vice-Chair, Administrative and Legal Committee, UPOV*

**Thematic SESSION 5: Role of plant variety protection in the development of new varieties to mitigate and adapt to climate change**

15.30 **Introduction**

*Moderator: Ms. Kitisri Sukhapinda, Patent Attorney, Office of Policy and Affairs (OPIA), United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), United States of America*

15.35 **The role of PBR in plant breeding efforts to address climate change mitigation and adaptation. Example of Canada, including public sector breeding**

*Mr. Anthony Parker, Commissioner, Plant Breeders' Rights Office, Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA), Canada*

15.45 **Plant breeding and plant variety protection: a catalyst for developing climate smart crop varieties in Sub-Saharan Africa**

*Mr. Hans Adu-Dapaah, Expert, Crops Research Institute, Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), Ghana*

15.55 **Plant breeding and plant variety protection for variety adaptation to the Japanese climate**

*Mr. Haruka Shiota, Deputy Director of Plant Variety Office, Intellectual Property Division, Export and International Affairs Bureau, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF)*

16.05 **Questions**

16.20 **The role of plant variety protection in promoting development of crop varieties that adapt to, and mitigate, climate change. Example of Kenya**

*Mr. Simon Mucheru Maina, Head, Seed Certification and Plant Variety Protection, Kenya Plant Health Inspectorate Service (KEPHIS)*

16.30 **Impact of the Community Plant Variety Rights system on the European Union economy and the environment**

*Community Plant Variety Office (CPVO) (tbd)*

16.40 **Questions**

16.55 **Conclusion of the session**

*Moderator: Ms. Kitisri Sukhapinda, Patent Attorney, Office of Policy and Affairs (OPIA), United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), United States of America*

17.00 **Concluding remarks**

*Mr. Marien Valstar, President of the Council, UPOV*

**Wednesday, October 26, 2022**

- 16.00      **Welcome and opening remarks**  
*Mr. Marien Valstar, President of the Council, UPOV*
- 16.05      **Report of the thematic sessions**  
*Moderator: Mr. Peter Button, Vice Secretary-General, UPOV*
- 16.10      **Report on thematic session 1: Climate change and its impact on agricultural production**  
*Mr. Marien Valstar, President of the Council, UPOV*
- 16.20      **Report on thematic session 2: Strategies to address climate change in agriculture**  
*Mr. Yehan Cui, Vice-President of the Council, UPOV*
- 16.30      **Report on thematic session 3: Plant breeding for climate change adaptation and mitigation in agriculture: crop perspectives**  
*Mr. Patrick Ngwediagi, Chair of the Administrative and Legal Committee, UPOV*
- 16.40      **Report on thematic session 4: Plant breeding for climate change adaptation and mitigation in agriculture: breeding strategies and techniques**  
*Mr. Manuel Toro Ugalde, Vice-Chair of the Administrative and Legal Committee, UPOV*
- 16.50      **Report on thematic session 5: Role of plant variety protection in the development of new varieties to mitigate and adapt to climate change**  
*Ms. Kitisri Sukhapinda, Patent Attorney, Office of Policy and Affairs (OPIA), United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), United States of America*
- 17.00      **Panel Discussion**  
*Moderator: Mr. Marien Valstar, President of of the Council, UPOV*
- *Mr. John Derera, Keynote speaker*
  - *Ms. Arianna Giuliadori, WFO*
  - *Mr. Michael Keller, ISF*
  - *Mr. Edgar Krieger, CIOPORA*
  - *Mr. Yehan Cui, Moderator Session 2*
  - *Mr. Patrick Ngwediagi, Moderator Session 3*
  - *Mr. Manuel Toro Ugalde, Moderator Session 4*
  - *Ms. Kitisri Sukhapinda, Moderator Session 5*
- 17.50      **Concluding remarks**  
*Mr. Marien Valstar, President of the Council, UPOV*

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