



CPVO • OCVV

Community Plant Variety Office
Office Communautaire des Variétés Végétales

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL OF THE CPVO

Angers, 14 April 2021

Main conclusions

1. Opening of the meeting, general information and approval of the draft agenda (DOC-AC-2021-1-01)

The Administrative Council adopted the agenda as proposed.

2. Consolidated Annual Activity Report 2020

1- The members of the Administrative Council took note of the reporting part of the Annual Activity Report for 2020: management report, statistics, social and financial reports and Provisional Annual Accounts 2020.

2 - The members of the Administrative Council unanimously adopted the AC Analysis and Assessment to be signed by the Chairperson of the AC.

3 - The members of the Administrative Council unanimously adopted the discharge of the President of the CPVO for the budget year 2019.

3. Implementation of the Strategic Plan 2017-2021

The members of the Administrative Council took note of the implementation of the Strategic Plan 2017-2021.

4. AC opinion on the Draft Single Programming Document 2022-2024 (DOC-AC-2021-1-04 + Annex 1)

The members of the Administrative Council took note of the Single Programming Document – SPD – 2022-2024.

5. AC opinion on the Preliminary Draft Budget 2022 (DOC-AC-2021-1-05 + Annex)

The members of the Administrative Council took note of the Preliminary Draft Budget for 2022 and supported the CPVO proposal of three additional posts for 2022 to ensure high quality services to its clients as well as to answer to the increased administrative burden to be carried out.

6. Decision on the composition of the five committees of the Office (DOC-AC-2021-1-06 + Annex)

The members of the Administrative Council adopted the decision to extend the duration of the five decision-making committees in the Office in their current composition for five years from 01/01/2021 until 31/12/2026

7. Decision appointing Reporting Officers for the President and the vice-President of the Office (DOC-AC-2021-1-07)

The members of the Administrative Council appointed Mr. Bernard van Goethem, Director of DG SANTE, and Mr José Antonio Sobrino Maté, Vice Chair of the AC, as Reporting Officer for the President of the CPVO.

They also appointed Ms. Dorothee André, Head of Unit of DG SANTE, and Mr José Antonio Sobrino Maté, Vice Chair of the AC, as Reporting Officer for the Vice-President of the CPVO.

Finally they appointed Mr Marien Valstar, Chair of the AC, as appeal officer for the President and the Vice-President.

8. Actions to be taken in relation to the EU IP strategy (DOC-AC-2021-1-08)

The members of the Administrative Council endorsed that the CPVO would draft a plan to implement the IP Action Plan of the Commission, including consulting with the breeders, to support SMEs in the PVP breeding sector. The plan would be presented to the AC in October 2021.

9. Response to the UK request to take-over reports from the UK (DOC-AC-2021-2-09 + 5 annexes)

The members of the Administrative Council agreed that the CPVO should continue the fact findings exercise with the breeders' organisations and with the examination offices, including contacts with the UK.

10. Adoption of the CPVO R&D Strategy 2021-2025 (DOC-AC-2021-1-10 + 2 annexes)

The members of the Administrative Council adopted the CPVO R&D strategy 2021-2025 with the changes proposed by the Commission.

11. Report on the Cost Calculation WG and decision on follow-up (DOC-AC-2021-1-11 + Annex)

The members of the Administrative Council unanimously validated CPVO proposal:

1- to postpone the decision on costs grouping to the AC meeting in October 2021,

2- to accept a deviation from the principle of 100% remuneration for high cost species.

3- to accept the principle that the CPVO, in addition to the remuneration for the technical examination, pays a lump sum for new species, equivalent to one growing period

4- to further analyse the Swedish Board and Plantum proposals as well as CIOPORA proposal to pay in several instalments and to consider options in order to provide incentives to examination offices to decrease costs for technical examination.

The CPVO would report on its findings and propose a follow-up to the AC in the meeting in October 2021.

12. Decision to give consent to the CPVO to organise technical examinations in a competent authority outside the EU for *Eutrema japonicum* (DOC-AC-2021-1-12 + 2 annexes)

The members of the Administrative Council agreed that a written agreement is concluded with the Japanese authority under which the CPVO could both take-over DUS reports and initiate DUS tests for *Eutrema japonicum*.

13. Decision on the adoption of CPVO technical protocols (DOC-AC-2021-1-13+ 9 annexes)

The members of the Administrative Council unanimously adopted the nine revisions of existing technical protocols presented for *Lactuca sativa* L. (CPVO-TP/013/6-Rev.2), *Solanum lycopersicum* L. (CPVO-TP/029/3), *Beta vulgaris* L. ssp. *vulgaris* var. *flavescens* D.C. (CPVO-TP/106/2), *Citrullus lanatus* (Thunb.) Matsum. et Nakai (CPVO-TP/142/2-Rev), *Foeniculum vulgare* Mill. (CPVO-TP/183/2), *Phalaenopsis* Blume (CPVO-TP/213/2-Rev), *Solanum habrochaites* S. Knapp & D.M. Spooner (CPVO-TP/294/1-Rev.5).

14. Commission reports

14.1. Extension of the duration of protection for certain species

The members of the Administrative Council took note of the progress made in the legislative field for the extension of the duration of protection for certain species. The proposal was now not to amend Article 19 of the Basic Regulation but rather to go for a self-standing act, with a vote in June.

14.2. Appointment of the CPVO President, state of affairs

The members of the Administrative Council took note of the state of play as regards the appointment of a new CPVO President, after the end of mandate of the current President on 31.08.2021. They took note of an additional AC ad-hoc meeting to be organised in the following months to carry out interviews with the candidates.

14.3. UPOV Seminar in October, contributions Commission/CPVO/Member States

The members of the Administrative Council took note of the seminar organised by UPOV on sustainability with a view of exchanging information and experiences on strategies involving plant breeding and plant variety protection in that field.

14.4. Update state of affairs on study on the Seed sector

The members of the Administrative Council took note of the state of play of the report on the Seed sector.

14.5. Update state of affairs on new genomic techniques

The members of the Administrative Council took note of the state of play of the report on the new genomic techniques.



15. Decisions on the recommendations to entrust Examination Offices (DOC-AC-2021-1-15 + 2 recommendations)

The members of the Administrative Council adopted the two recommendations put forward by the Audit Team Leader for Germany (Bundessortenamt) and Portugal (Direção Geral de Alimentação e Veterinária (DGAV)).

16. QAS Reports

16.1. Report on QAS activities Sept 2020-March 2021 (DOC-AC-2021-1-16a)

The members of the Administrative Council took note of the report on QAS activities Sept-20 to March-21. In particular, they took note that a 'plan B' had been developed for carrying out virtual assessments; the aim being to ensure continuity of QAS activities and to avoid future prolongations of the ongoing assessment cycle.

16.2. Revision of entrustment requirements (DOC-AC-2021-1-16b)

The members of the Administrative Council took note that the revision of the entrustment requirements had started early 2021. After getting input from examination offices and stakeholders, the revised document would be presented to the annual examination offices meeting in December 2021, for an approval by the AC in spring 2022 and its implementation as from 2023

17. Annual meeting with examination offices - Minutes (DOC-AC-2021-1-17)

The members of the Administrative Council took note of the report on the 24th meeting of the CPVO with representatives of its examination offices.

18. Update on IT projects (DOC-AC-2021-1-18)

The members of the Administrative Council took note of the update on IT projects.

19. Update on the EU Plant Variety Portal project (DOC-AC-2021-1-19)

The members of the Administrative Council took note of the update on the EU Plant Variety Portal project.

20. Update on the cooperation between CPVO and EPO (DOC-AC-2021-1-20 + 2 annexes)

The members of the Administrative Council took note of the update on the cooperation between CPVO and EPO.

21. Update on the implementation of CPVO International Relations Strategy (DOC-AC-2021-1-21)

The members of the Administrative Council took note of the update on the implementation of CPVO International Relations Strategy.

22. Internal Audit Report 2020 (DOC-AC-2021-1-22)

Members of the Administrative Council took note of the internal Audit Report for 2020.

23. Ad-hoc AC meeting

An ad-hoc AC meeting is foreseen for a vote on the candidates for the post of President of the CPVO. No date has yet been decided upon.

24. Next AC meeting: 7 October 2021

Next AC meeting will be held - virtually or physically - on 7 October next.

