



CPVO • OCVV

Community Plant Variety Office
Office Communautaire des Variétés Végétales

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL OF THE CPVO

Angers, 7 October 2021

Main conclusions

1. Opening of the meeting, general information and approval of the draft agenda (DOC-AC-2021-3-01)

The Administrative Council (AC) adopted the agenda as proposed.

2. State of affairs appointment of CPVO President and Vice-Chair of the Board of Appeal (Oral presentation)

The AC members took note of the update for the appointments of the President of the CPVO and of the alternate chair of the Board of Appeal. For the post of CPVO President, a final decision could be expected by end November 2021. For the post of alternate chair to the Board, no date could be envisaged yet.

3. Single Programming Document "SPD" 2022-2024 (DOC-AC-2021-3-03 + 3 annexes)

The AC members adopted the Single Programming Document – SPD – 2022-2024.

4. Statistics (Oral presentation)

The AC members took note of the key figures updated as of 15 September 2021.

5. Draft budget 2022 for approval (DOC-AC-2020-3-05 + annex)

The AC members adopted the draft budget 2022 of the CPVO.

6. Report on the update of the Business Continuity Plan "BCP" crisis (DOC-AC-2021-3-06 + 2 annexes)

The AC members took note of the state of play of the Business Continuity Plan and the end of the crisis declared on 14 June 2021.

7. Internal Audit Charter - update (DOC-AC-2021-3-07 + annex)

The AC members adopted the amended Internal Audit Charter.

8. Revision of CPVO policy on prevention and management of conflict of interest (DOC-AC-2021-3-08 + 2 annexes)

The AC members adopted the amended version of the CPVO policy on prevention and management of conflict of interest introducing, among others, the need for each AC member - from next AC meeting on - to declare potential conflict(s) and to be noted in the AC minutes.

9. Implementation of the EU IP Action Plan in relation to SMEs and Plant Variety Rights (DOC-AC-2021-3-09 + 4 annexes)

The AC members took note of the state of play on the implementation of the EU IP Action Plan in particular for SMEs of the breeding sector.

10. Potential technical cooperation with UK (DOC-AC-2021-3-10)

The AC members took note that no global arrangement was expected with the UK and that cooperation would be based on bilateral arrangements only.

11. Update on organizing technical examinations in a competent authority outside the EU (UK) for the species *Podocarpus macrophyllus* (DOC-AC-2021-3-11)

The AC members took note of the postponement, until Spring 2022 AC meeting, of the adoption of the decision on organising technical examinations in the UK for the species *Podocarpus macrophyllus*. In case the evaluation report could be available earlier, the adoption could be made by written procedure.

12. Proposal on how to follow-up on the report of the Costs Calculation WG (DOC-AC-2021-3-12 + annex)

The AC members expressed in favour of merging the costs groups for which breeders' organisations have not expressed any reservation (DOC-AC-2021-3-12, section 2.1, option 3). The list of costs groups concerned under that option will be sent around after the meeting by the CPVO. The AC noted the need to further reflect for the fruit species.

As regards the two alternative proposals from Plantum as well as from the Swedish Board of Agriculture, the AC members expressed in favour of creating a new working group with specific mandate to consider those proposals and endorsed the draft Terms of Reference as proposed. The attendance will be composed of experts proposed by the Technical Liaison Officers (TLOs), AC members, breeders' organisations representatives and the CPVO. In addition, and if deemed necessary, an extraordinary AC meeting could be organised once the working group would have concrete proposals to be discussed having considered the various options.

As regards the proposal from CIOPORA to pay examination fees in several instalments, the AC members agreed that the CPVO and CIOPORA should continue the discussions outside the scope of the newly created working group.

13. Study on the benefits of the EU PVP system by the Observatory (DOC-AC-2021-3-13)

The AC members took note of the state of play of the study on the benefits of the EU PVP system. It is likely that the study would be published in 2022.

14. Revision of the International Relations Strategy (DOC-AC-2021-3-14 + 2 annexes)

The AC members agreed on the revision of the International Relations Strategy as proposed by the CPVO with two amendments to the text made by the Commission.

15. Approval of Financial Accounts 2020 (DOC-AC-2021-3-15)

The AC members took note of the CPVO Final Accounts for 2020, which have been subject to an Audit by the European Court of Auditors with minor changes compared to the version presented in April 2021. They also include a declaration of CPVO accountant and President.

16. Decisions on the recommendations to entrust Examination Offices (DOC-AC-2021-3-16)

The AC members adopted the five recommendations put forward by the Audit Team Leader for Czech Republic (UKZUZ), Slovakia (UKSUP), Bulgaria (IASAS), Estonia (ARC) and Denmark (Tystofte Foundation).

17. Report on QAS activities (DOC-AC-2021-3-17)

The AC members took note of the report on QAS activities.

18. Decision on the adoption of CPVO Technical Protocols (DOC-AC-2021-3-18 + 2 annexes)

AC members unanimously adopted the two technical protocols presented for *Juglans regia* L. (CPVO-TP/125/1) for an entry into force on 6/10/2021 and for *Vaccinium* L. for an entry into force on 7 October 2021 for both.

19. Adapting the scope of entrustment of the designation agreement in respect of interspecific hybrids (DOC-AC-2021-3-19 + annex)

The AC members agreed to the CPVO proposal to adapt the scope of entrustment of designation agreements in respect of complex interspecific hybrids (with more than 2 components).

20. Consolidated Annual Activity Report 2020 (ECA Updates) (DOC-AC-2021-3-20 + 2 annexes)

The AC members adopted the consolidated annual activity report (CAAR) as updated with minor updates recommended by the Court of Auditors.



21. Presentations by DG SANTE

21.1. State of Affairs as regards study on New Genomic Techniques (NGT) and follow-up (oral presentation)

The AC members took note of the update as regards New Genomic Techniques.

21.2. State of Affairs as regards the follow-up of the study on Plant Reproductive Material (PRM) matters (oral presentation)

The AC members took note of the update as regards the review of the PRM Legislation.

21.3. State of Affairs as regards extension of duration of protection (oral presentation)

The AC members took note that the signature of the extension of the duration of protection of certain species was scheduled for the 20th of October, for an entry into force before end 2021.

21.4. Report on the Working Group on organic varieties (oral presentation)

The AC members took note of the state of affairs the Working Group on organic varieties.

22. Update on new, ongoing and finalized Research & Development projects (DOC-AC-2021-3-22 + annex)

The AC members took note of the update on new, ongoing and finalized R&D projects.

23. Update on IT projects

23.1. Highlights of past 6 months and upcoming activities (DOC-AC-2021-3-23a)

The AC members took note of the update on the IT projects currently ongoing and their state of play.

23.2. EU Plant Variety Portal – (former PLAVARLIS) (DOC-AC-2021-3-23b)

The AC members took note of the update on the EU Plant Variety Portal (PLAVARLIS) project.

24. Cooperation CPVO-EPO (DOC-AC-2021-3-24 + annex)

The AC members took that the renewal of the Administrative Arrangement with EPO was ongoing.

25. Cooperation CPVO-EUIPO (DOC-AC-2021-3-25 + annex)

AC members took note that a new Service Level Agreement (SLA) had been signed with EUIPO on 21 July 2021 for an indefinite period.

26. AC meeting in March/April 2022

The AC members took note that next AC meeting will be held on March/April 2022, physically or virtually according to the sanitary situation.

