

## R&D RULES

The Administrative Council of the Office,

Having Regard to:

The CPVO Research and Development (hereinafter "R&D") strategy as adopted by the AC on 10<sup>th</sup> March 2015

The CPVO Financial Regulations (hereinafter the "Financial Regulations" approved by the Administrative Council on 1/10/2015)

Whereas:

Article 85 of the Financial Regulations allows awarding of grants in line with acts delegated to the CPVO

Hereby decides:

### Article 1 *Constituent Act*

The approval of the budget for Research and Development by the Administrative Council shall be the formal financing decision, providing the ceiling for commitments for grants for each year.

### Article 2 *Eligibility*

To be eligible for financing by the CPVO, proposed R&D projects should be in line with the strategic goals and the objectives as laid down in the CPVO R&D strategy.

### Article 3 *Initiation*

1. R & D Projects applied for (co) funding should be initiated and coordinated by an entrusted examination office in the sense of article 55(1) of Council Regulation 2100/94 or by the CPVO.
2. The CPVO informs the Technical Liaison Officers of the entrusted examination offices on the decision taken by the Administrative Council as regards the available budget for R&D projects.
3. Requests for (co) funding can be filed to the CPVO at any time. However, in order for the CPVO to take a decision on funding for the coming calendar year, the application must be filed on a date indicated in a table with a timeline adopted by the CPVO President and published on the CPVO website for Technical Liaison Officers.
4. Technically Qualified bodies in the sense of article 56(3) of Council Regulation 2100/94 as well as breeders organizations being observer at the CPVO's AC can act as partners within a R&D project.
5. Further bodies like research centers or universities might be involved as partners by the coordinating examination office. A justification for such involvement shall be provided in the funding request.

6. Bodies not covered by paragraph 4 or 5 can only be involved as partners in case their activities within the project are financially covered by other sources.

#### *Article 4 Financing*

1. The financing by the CPVO of a research and development project could be partial or in full. When assessing the level of financing, specific account may be taken to:
  - a. Whether the expected results of the R&D project could be used for other purposes than EU plant variety rights, such as national listings,
  - b. Whether the expected results could be used and are relevant as a model for other crops or crop sectors,
  - c. The importance of the species covered by the project in terms of applications filed for EU PBR,
  - d. The available budget
2. In order to obtain financing for the year x, a valid request should have reached the CPVO on the 01/05 of the year x-1.

#### *Article 5 Administrative Procedure*

1. Each request for a (co)-financing will be processed according to a detailed internal administrative procedure adopted by the CPVO President.
2. The internal administrative procedure should comprise:
  - a. An assessment and decision on admissibility by the CPVO.
  - b. An assessment of admissible requests by the relevant sector expert group of the CPVO.
  - c. An assessment of admissible requests by the CPVO IMODDUS group (in addition to b.) in case the proposed project implies BMTs.

#### *Article 6 Advisory Group*

1. An Advisory Group shall assess admissible R&D requests and provide advice about a possible financing to the President of the CPVO taking into account the assessments made under article 5(2b) and 5(2c) above.
2. The Advisory Group is composed of:
  - a. Two members appointed by the Administrative Council of the CPVO;
  - b. One member appointed by CIOPORA;
  - c. One member appointed by ESA;
  - d. One member appointed by Plantum;
  - e. Two staff members of the CPVO appointed by the CPVO President;
3. The chairperson will be appointed by the CPVO President.
4. The members and the chairperson will sign a declaration of absence of conflict of interest.
5. The CPVO will be responsible for the secretariat of the group.



6. The Advisory Group may propose amendments to the R&D strategy.
7. The Advisory Group will exercise its tasks either in meetings to be convened by the chair or by electronic means or by a combination of both.
8. The mandate of the members of the R&D Advisory Group should be 3 years from the entry of the present rules. The mandate can be renewed.

#### *Article 7 Final Decision*

The decision on admissibility and the final decision in respect of the co-funding or refusals of individual requests will be taken by the President of the CPVO.

#### *Article 8 Presentation of results*

1. Results of the projects once finalized will be broadly presented to interested circles such as breeders, UPOV technical working parties and CPVO expert groups.
2. At the latest three years after completion of a project, its impact will be assessed by the Technical Unit of the CPVO together with experts of the relevant CPVO expert group. The results of the assessment will be presented to the Advisory Group and the CPVO President.

This decision replaces the decision on R&D Projects taken by the Administrative Council on 19 September 2018

*Bistra Pavlovska*

Bistra Pavlovska

Chair of CPVO Administrative Council

19 September 2019

