



CPVO • OCVV

Community Plant Variety Office
Office Communautaire des Variétés Végétales

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL OF THE CPVO

Sofia, 19 September 2018

Main conclusions

1. Opening of the meeting and approval of the draft agenda (DOC-AC-2018-2-1)

The Chairperson of the AC declared the agenda adopted as initially proposed with two added points under Any Other Business.

2. Update on recent events (DOC-AC-2018-2-2 + annex 1)

The AC members took note of the President's update on the recent events and of the statistics.

3. Draft budget 2019 for approval (DOC-AC-2018-2-3 + 2 annexes)

The AC members adopted the draft budget 2019 of the CPVO. They also took note of the suppression of the Audit fee chargeback as from 1st January 2019.

4. Financial situation of the CPVO (DOC-AC-2018-2-4)

The AC members took note that a positive outturn was expected for 2018, and for 2019 with a lower figure. A re-alignment of fees for 2020 will be presented at the March 2019 AC meeting. It is foreseen that the amended Fees Regulation will enter into force within 6 months from its publication in the Official Journal.

5. Cost calculation exercise (DOC-AC-2018-2-5)

The AC members adopted the decision to cap the increase in costs for Examination Offices to a maximum of +3% overall.

6. Approval of QAS Technical Experts for the 2019-2021 cycle (DOC-AC-2018-2-6 + annex 1)

The AC members approved the open list of 36 QAS experts. The AC members noted that the available expertise in the ornamental sector amongst the QAS technical experts will be limited (in number of experts) after Brexit. It was however noted that interested experts could apply for being added to the list of QAS technical experts at any time (formal inclusion subject to approval by the AC).

7. Adoption of the procedure on Career Development Review - Accountant (DOC-AC-2018-2-7 + annexe 1)

The AC members adopted the procedure on Career Development Review (CDR) of the CPVO accountant by which the annual assessment of the CPVO accountant shall be initiated by the Head of Administration and finalised by the AC Vice-Chairperson.

8. Revision of R&D rules (DOC-AC-2018-2-8 + annex 1)

The AC members adopted the revised procedure for R&D projects. They took note of the UPOV proposal for sharing the progress of R&D projects from the beginning and asked the CPVO to prepare criteria for the decision on the level of cofinancing of R&D projects by the CPVO (article 4 of the procedure).

9. Consent of the AC for the CPVO to take over reports from competent authorities outside the EU (DOC-AC-2018-2-9 + 3 annexes)

9.1. Consent of the AC for the CPVO to take over reports from Taiwan

The AC members gave their consent to the conclusion of a written agreement with the Taiwan Seed Improvement and Propagation Station (TSIPS) for Phalenopsis and Doritaenopsis.

9.2. Consent of the AC for the CPVO to take over reports and request technical examinations from Mexico

The AC members gave their consent to the conclusion that a written agreement with the Servicio Nacional de Inspeccion y certificacion de Semillas (SNICS) in Mexico for Carica papaya.

10. AC Decision on the recommendation to entrust Examination Offices (DOC-AC-2018-2-10 + annexes)

The AC members adopted the five recommendations put forward by the Audit Team Leader for Italy (Consiglio per la Ricerca in Agricoltura e l'analisi dell'economia agraria (CREA-DC)), France (GEVES), Sweden (Swedish Board of Agriculture), Denmark (University of Aarhus - Aarslev) and Finland (Finnish Food Safety Authority - Evira).

11. Sharing costs – Legal interpretation (DOC-AC-2018-2-11 + 2 annexes)

The AC members took note that the CPVO may use the designation agreements as a legal basis to charge the Examination Offices for non-examination services.

12. Adoption of Single Programming Document -SPD- (DOC-AC-2018-2-12+2 annexes)

The AC members adopted the Single Programming Document, including the two new Key Performance Indicators (KPIs). They took note that the CPVO would update the SPD with a final comment from the European Commission before adding the final version to its web site.

They also concluded that the intervention from UPOV and Plantum should be taken into account by the CPVO in a coming SPD.

13. Approval of Financial Accounts 2017 (DOC-AC-2018-2-13 + annex)

The AC members take note of the Final Accounts for 2017.

14. Approval of CPVO Technical Protocols (DOC-AC-2018-2-14+annex)

The AC members adopted the CPVO-TP/021/1 protocol for *Populus* L.

15. Internal Audit Report (DOC-AC-2018-2-15 + 2 annexes)

The AC members took note of the Internal Audit Activity Report. The AC members expressed confidence that the CPVO would continue to consider the identified risks, in particular the high risks.

16. R&D (DOC-AC-2018-2-16a to c + annex)

The AC members took note of the state of play of the R&D ongoing projects and the upcoming ones, of the INVITE project for which a decision was expected on 11 February 2019 and of the IMODDUS group which held its third meeting in April 2018.



17. CPVO Technical Protocol template (DOC-AC-2018-2-17 + annex)

The AC members took note that the CPVO Technical Protocol template had been revised incorporating elements from the entrustment requirements, from the designation agreements and aligned with UPOV Test Guidelines. The AC members also took note of the offer from UPOV to share its TG Template.

18. Cooperation CPVO-EPO (DOC-AC-2018-2-18 + annex)

The AC members took note of the state of play of the cooperation between the CPVO and EPO and that an extension of the Administrative Arrangement was about to be signed in Munich on 25 October next for another 3 years (2019-2021).

19. Cooperation CPVO-EUIPO (DOC-AC-2018-2-19)

The AC members took note of the state of play of the cooperation between CPVO and EUIPO.

20. Update CPVO International Relations Strategy (DOC-AC-2018-2-20)

The AC members took note of the report on the activities carried out and the objectives achieved as from the date of adoption of the CPVO International Relations Strategy.

21. Update IT projects (DOC-AC-2018-2-21 + 2 annexes)

The AC members took note of the state of play of the IT projects in the CPVO and, in particular, the Sharing Online Applications and the Joint CPVO-Commission IT system on plant varieties.

22. Shallot report (DOC-AC-2018-2-22 + annex)

The AC members took note that the "CPVO report on the classification of Onion and Shallot" had been finalised and sent to the Commission on 29 March 2018 for follow-up.

23. Brexit update (no document)

The AC members took note of the state of play.

24. Satisfaction survey AC meeting March 2018 (no document)

The AC members took note of the outcome of the satisfaction survey on last AC meeting of March 2018. The three main comments received concerned the need for more interaction from more Member States, a preference for face-to-face meetings and interpretation limited to English only.

25. State of affairs on AC request to extend the duration of protection for certain species (DOC-AC-2018-2-25 + 2 annexes)

The AC members took note that a follow-up meeting would be held on 5 October 2018 and were looking for feedback at next meeting.

26. Draft Agenda of next AC meeting (DOC-AC-2018-2-26)

The AC members took note of the draft agenda for next AC meeting and were encouraged to come up with proposals.

AOB 1 – EU/Switzerland bilateral agreement including PVRs

The AC members took note of the update on the ongoing discussions between EU and Switzerland on a bilateral agreement that would integrate PVRs. A report from the Commission would be sent to the Council early 2019.



AOB 2 – Update on the Rights of people working in rural areas

The AC members took note of the state of play of the discussions of the working group on a United Nations declaration on the rights of peasants and other people working in rural areas - United Nations Human Rights Council.

