



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY DIRECTORATE-GENERAL

SUMMARY REPORT OF THE MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON "PLANT VARIETY RIGHTS" held on 21st January 2015

Chairperson: Ms I. Clement-Nissou

Experts from the Member States were present, except CY, ES, LU, MT, PO, RO, SI. 2 experts from CPVO participated also in the Meeting, as well as 2 experts from DG Growth - Unit J1 (L. Zamykolova, S. Czarska).

COM welcomed the participation of experts from MS, from CPVO and thanked the experts from DG Growth.

1- Approval of the agenda.

No comments

2.- Preparation of the next meeting of UPOV and information on a possible International Cooperation System.

i. Brief presentation of the ISF/CIOPORA/cropLife proposal.

Unit E2 made a brief presentation of the proposal presented by ISF/CIOPORA/cropLife in UPOV.

ii. Presentations on existing cooperation systems for patents, trademarks and designs.

Two experts from DG Growth and one from CPVO presented the existing international cooperation systems within WIPO, i.e. Patent Cooperation Treaty, Hague system (designs), Madrid system (Trademark). Some questions were made to the speakers in order to clarify certain points.

iii. First exchange of views and analysis on the potential development of a similar system in UPOV

Following the three presentations, a discussion took place in order to assess the rationale for developing such system for plant variety protection. MS experts agreed that the development of such a system can be explored within the mission statement of UPOV (i.e. to provide and promote an effective system of plant variety protection, with the aim of encouraging the development of new varieties of plants, for the benefit of society). The EU can actively participate in the discussions. The system should be compatible with the EU plant variety right system.

3. Any other Business.

The COM questioned the MS experts they would like to continue to work on the issue of harvested material. The response was unanimous that, for the time being, it was not necessary.