



**TRADE AND AGRICULTURE DIRECTORATE
COMMITTEE FOR AGRICULTURE**

TAD/CA/S/A(2010)2
For Official Use

OECD Seed Schemes

**DRAFT AGENDA OF THE 9th TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP MEETING ON VARIETAL
IDENTITY AND VARIETAL PURITY**

to be held in Christchurch, New Zealand

Monday 22 March 2010, 14h00 - 18h00

Tuesday 23 March 2010, 09h00 - 17h00

The Technical Working Group is invited to discuss issues identified at the 2009 Annual Meeting [TAD/CA/S/M(2009)4/REV2] and the 8th TWG Meeting [TAD/CA/S/M(2009)5], in preparation for the 2010 Annual Meeting.

The present Draft Agenda is circulated to Delegations, National Designated Authorities and Observers participating in the TWG meeting, and to all delegates for information.

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GENERAL

1. Opening statement

- OECD Secretariat;
- Mr. Perry Bohn, Chair of the Technical Working Group.

2. Adoption of the Draft Agenda

[TAD/CA/S/A(2010)2]

3. Draft Summary Record of the 8th Meeting of the Technical Working Group

[TAD/CA/S/M(2009)5]
For recommendation

The 8th TWG Meeting took place in Paris, France, on 4-5 November 2009. The draft Summary Record, prepared by the Secretariat, includes all comments received from Member countries.

TECHNICAL ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

4. Multiplication Abroad

4.1 Guidelines for Multiplication Abroad

[TAD/CA/S/RD(2009)13/REV2]
*For discussion
and recommendation*

At the 8th TWG meeting, delegates had a good discussion on the Guidelines for Multiplication Abroad and agreed to introduce a new paragraph to the responsibilities of the DA of the country of registration. It was further agreed that delegates would try the guidelines in their respective local environments and send their written comments to the Secretariat by 31 January 2010.

The Co-ordinating Centre revised the guidelines taking into account the comments received, for further discussion at the TWG meeting.

Action: Recommendation for approval at the 2010 Annual Meeting.

4.2 Draft revised proposal for grouping the Schemes' rules on multiplication abroad

[TAD/CA/S/RD(2008)1/REV5]
*For discussion
and recommendation*

Delegates at the 8th TWG meeting discussed a revised paper that sought to group together the Rules in the OECD Seed Schemes relating to Multiplication Abroad. Several changes to the text were agreed.

The Co-ordinating centre revised the paper for further discussion at the TWG meeting.

Action: Recommendation for approval at the 2010 Annual Meeting.

**5. Eligibility of Varieties for OECD Listing
and Seed Certification**

[TAD/CA/S/RD(2009)6/REV2]

*For information
and discussion*

The Co-ordinating Centre presented at the 8th TWG meeting the revised paper that includes a list of topics under four main headings: 1. Official, 2. Officially Recognised Description, 3. Standard Sample, 4. Genetic Testing.

It was agreed that delegates would discuss the topics in the paper with their trade bodies and send their written comments to the Secretariat and the Co-ordinating Centre by 31 January 2010.

The Co-ordinating made a prioritization of the topics to be discussed, taking into account the comments received from delegates.

Action: Recommendation for approval at the 2010 Annual Meeting.

**6. The Role of Biochemical and Molecular Techniques in
Describing/Identifying Varieties**

[TAD/CA/S/RD(2009)8/REV1]

*For information
and discussion*

At the 8th TWG meeting, there was a very brief discussion of the paper. The delegates from UPOV, CPVO and ISTA offered to help with the revision of the paper. It was agreed that delegates would submit their written comments to the Secretariat and the Co-ordinating Centre by 31 January 2010.

France, with the help of Canada, UPOV, CPVO and ISTA, will develop a revised proposal for discussion at the TWG meeting.

7. Choosing a Sampling Scheme for Cereal Crop Sampling

[TAD/CA/S/RD(2009)7/REV1]

*For information
and discussion*

Delegates at the 8th TWG meeting had a brief discussion on the paper “Choosing a Sampling Scheme for Cereal Crop Sampling”. Unfortunately the data on wheat was not available and it was agreed that the issue will be discussed again at the next TWG meeting.

**8. United States response to the revised Guidelines
for Control Plot Tests and Field inspection**

[TAD/CA/S/RD(2010)1]

*For information
and discussion*

The Co-ordinating Centre introduced at the 8th TWG Meeting the paper written by Jim Rouse, a statistician from Iowa, as a response to the revised Guidelines for control plots tests and field inspection. The paper looks at the “role of control plots” and “alpha & beta risks” relative to the use of reject numbers.

It was agreed that the Secretariat would circulate the paper from United States to all National Designated Authorities for information and discussion at the TWG meeting.

9. VCU in OECD Seed Schemes

[TAD/CA/S/RD(2009)4]

*For information
and discussion*

At the 8th TWG meeting, the delegates from Denmark and Italy made presentations on how their respective countries carry out VCU testing. The meeting agreed to keep this topic “on the table” for further discussion.

At the next meeting of the TWG, the following countries will make presentations on VCU testing:

- Canada
- India
- Kenya
- United States
- Australia (tbc)
- South Africa (tbc)

It was further agreed that ISF and the European Commission would submit their suggestions on how best to progress the discussion on VCU to the Secretariat by 31 January 2010.

DOCUMENTS RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL AT THE ANNUAL MEETING

10. Guidelines for Control Plot Tests and Field Inspection

10.1 Draft revised Guidelines, General Parts I, II, III

[TAD/CA/S/RD(2008)3/REV5]

For information

At the 8th TWG Meeting, constructive changes have been made to Parts I, II, and III of the Guidelines for Control Plot Tests and Field Inspection and the experts agreed on the revised Guidelines [TAD/CA/S/RD(2008)3/REV5]. The EAG meeting recommended the approval of the Guidelines at the 2010 Annual Meeting.

Action: This document will be presented to the 2010 Annual Meeting for approval.

10.2 Draft revised Guidelines, Part IV

10.2.1 Description sheets for additional species

[TAD/CA/S/RD(2009)11]

For information

The 8th TWG meeting has agreed on the characters to be used for assessing varietal purity and varietal identity for a further five new species, under Part IV of the Guidelines [TAD/CA/S/RD(2009)11]. The EAG meeting recommended the approval and publication of the characters at the 2010 Annual Meeting.

Action: This document will be presented to 2010 Annual Meeting for approval.

11. Draft Amendment to the Rules for Acceptance of Varieties [TAD/CA/S/RD(2008)14/REV3]
For information

At the 8th TWG meeting, experts discussed the paper on the Rules for Acceptance of Varieties, revised by the Co-ordinating Centre. Agreement was reached on the new wording of Rules 2.3 and 2.4. Delegates further agreed to make the second sentence of Rule 2.4 an explanatory footnote.

The Extended Advisory Group meeting recommended the submission of the proposal for approval at the 2010 Annual Meeting.

Action: This document will be presented to the 2010 Annual Meeting for approval.

12. Topics for future discussion *For discussion
and priority setting*

The list of topics for future discussions within the TWG and their associated timeframe, as agreed at the 8th TWG Meeting and reproduced in the draft summary record TAD/CA/S/M(2009)5 - section 12, will be completed.

13. Next Meeting of the TWG

The 10th Meeting of the TWG is scheduled to take place in November 2010, back-to-back with the Extended Advisory Group Meeting.

14. Other Business