

International System of Cooperation ISC

Presentation to the UPOV Consultative Committee by:

CIOPORA

CropLife International

International Seed Federation

UPDATE FYI FOR ASTA IPR Committee

Wednesday Dec 10th



Increasing Challenges to Obtaining PVP and Securing Protection

- **Plant breeding and the production and trade of propagating, harvested and processed material have become truly global**
 - Tomato seed can be transported across 5 countries and 3 continents before it is sold
 - Ornamentals and fruits are produced all around the world and traded globally
 - Without a multi-country approach-Less overall protection and incentives for breeding
 - Pre CPVO <3% PBRs protected in >3 countries
- **Consequently: multi-country protection is now a prerequisite**
 - Possible differences in filing and other procedures
 - Higher costs for application, testing, renewal

Increasing Challenges to Obtaining PVP and Securing Protection

- Global gaps in effective PVP regimes limit plant breeding and provide opportunities for misappropriation
- Lack of consistence globally in quality of reference collections, capabilities, resources to do DUS
- Lack of consistency in many aspects of administrative procedures.

Solution *via* UPOV International System of Cooperation (ISC)

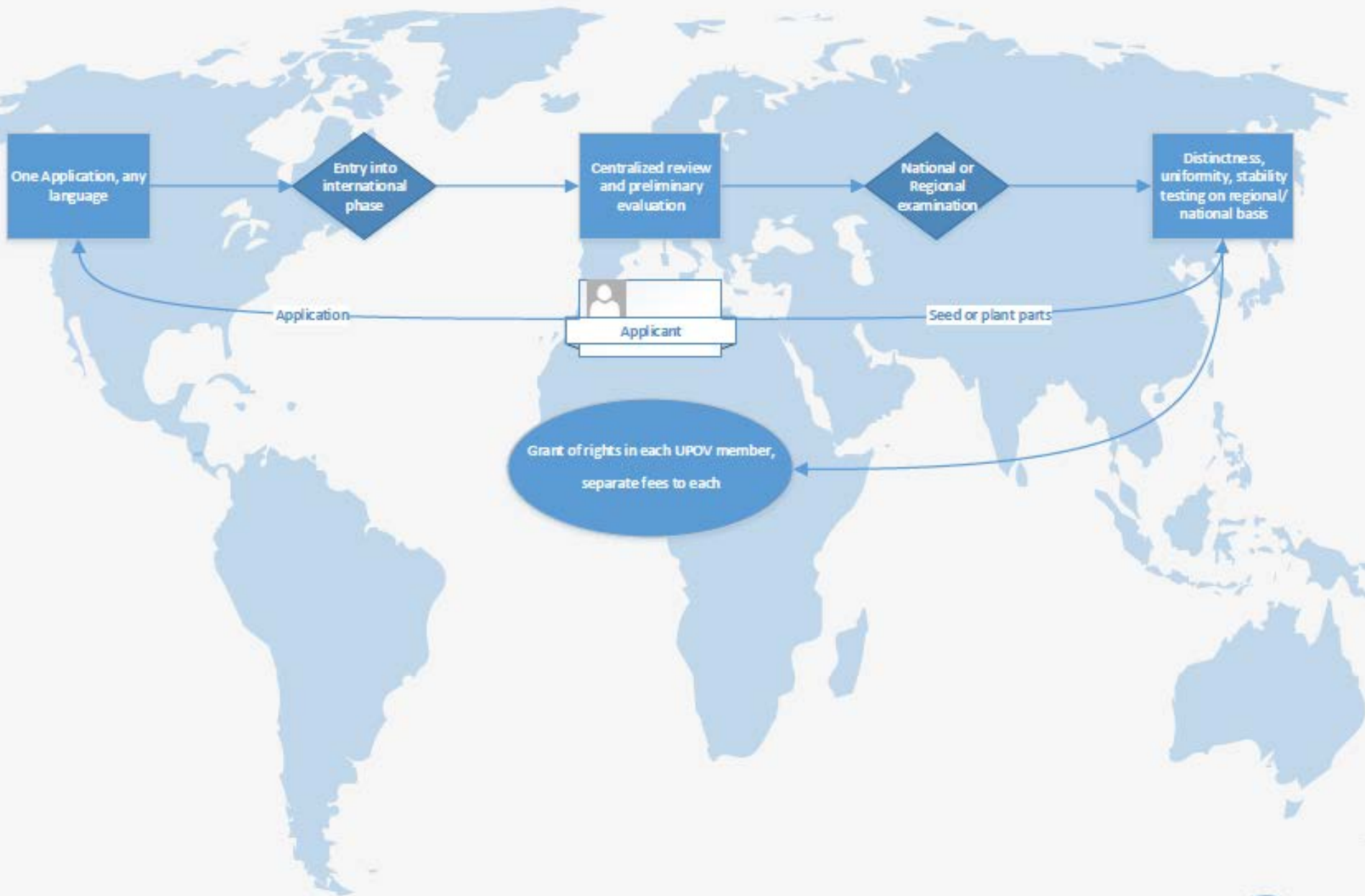
- International System of Cooperation (ISC) complements national PBR
- Standard application form using language of choice
 - Build on Electronic Application Form
- Standard application fee
- One application suffices for several countries
- Standard check of Novelty

Solution *via* UPOV ISC

- **UPOV members share testing responsibilities**
 - Maximum advantage of reference collections
 - Encourage centres of excellence in DUS testing to be developed
 - Variety description better matches the final product
- **Promotes consistent and global high quality DUS examination**
- **Develop an accreditation system**

International UPOV System – Elements and Benefits

August 4, 2014



Benefits

- Streamlines application filing and processing
- Avoids duplication and inconsistencies
- Easier and less time consuming for applicants
- Reduces time and costs for breeders in application preparation and filing
- Clarification of Novelty

Benefits

- Plant breeders in all UPOV members have easy access to consistently high quality DUS examinations
- Increased incentives for more breeders in more countries to apply for and obtain PVPs
- Increase in the overall number of PBR applications due to simpler and cost-effective application process
- Encourage companies/breeders to invest more in plant breeding and variety development.

Benefits

- Increase the number of crops for which UPOV members can provide cost effective and high quality DUS examinations.
- Sharing of DUS testing will lead to centres of excellence on a crop by crop basis providing higher quality and additional professional employment opportunities
- Simplified process coupled with more global coverage of PVP may encourage additional countries to join UPOV

Wrap up to the UPOV Consultative Committee

- UPOV was established on a per country basis
- UPOV is a critical foundation for increased agricultural and horticultural production by stimulating more plant breeding
- UPOV has facilitated the plant breeding industry to become truly global
- Future sustainable increases in agricultural and horticultural productivity will depend even more on innovative plant breeding.
- An UPOV ISC can facilitate more PBRs and thus more plant breeding and improved agricultural and horticultural production in more countries
- An UPOV ISC is vitally important to help meet the food, health, and environmental needs of the 21st century



Questions-Comments from country members

- All directed to the Chair, Francis Gurry (WIPO), Peter Button (UPOV)
- EU Strong support
- US Strong support
- Several other countries
 - Generally supportive but questions on details

UPOV next steps

"The Consultative Committee requested the Office of the Union **to prepare a document to clarify the issues raised and possible ways forward with regard to an international system of cooperation,** for consideration by the Consultative Committee at its eighty-ninth session, in March 2015."

Thank you!

