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MEETING DOCUMENT

From:	Presidency
To:	Working Party on Genetic Resources and Innovation in Agriculture (Seeds, Propagating and Planting Materials)
Subject:	Meeting of the Working Party on Genetic Resources and Innovation in Agriculture (Seeds, Propagating and Planting Materials; PRM) on 8 July 2025 - Presidency Steering Note

In view of the meeting of the Working Party on Genetic Resources and Innovation in Agriculture (Seeds, Propagating and Planting Materials; PRM) on 8 July 2025, delegations will find in the annex the Presidency Steering Note regarding the proposed changes in Articles 41 to 54 and Annex VII of the proposal on the production and marketing of plant reproductive material in the Union.

Danish Presidency
Council of the European Union

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PRESIDENCY STEERING NOTE

Meeting of the Working party on Genetic Resources and Innovation in Agriculture (Seeds, Propagating and Planting Materials) on 8 July 2025.

Date: 27 June 2025

The Danish Agricultural and Fisheries Agency
Nyropsgade 30
1780 Copenhagen V

Plant Reproductive Material (PRM)
The Presidency has prepared this steering note to guide the discussions at the upcoming meeting of the Working Party concerning its revised text on Articles 41-54 and ANNEX VII of the proposal on the production and marketing of plant reproductive material in the Union (as in document 8964/25).

Article 41
The last paragraph in Article 41 regarding derogation from registration has been moved to the new article 41c Derogation from obligation of professional operators.

General for Article 41a-41d
Member states have generally in their comments to the former Article 41a asked for clarity regarding which part of the PHR (Plant Health Regulation (EU) 2016/2031) applies to PRM. With the aim of adapting the text in PHR to a PRM context, the Presidency has deleted the former Article 41a and inserted the relevant parts of Articles 66-68 from PHR into the PRM proposal as new Articles 41a-41d.

The Presidency underlines, that no new requirements are added by these changes. They are purely for clarification purpose, and no change of substance is intended.

New Article 41a Procedure of registration
This article contains relevant part of Article 66 of PHR.

New Article 41b Content of the register
This article contains relevant part of Article 67 of PHR.

New Article 41c Derogation form obligations of professional operators
This article contains former parts of Article 41 on derogations from obligations.

New Article 41d Availability of information of official registers
This article contains relevant part of Article 68 of PHR.

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Article 44 paragraph 1 (b)
This paragraph is deleted, as registration of conservation varieties is included in point (a) of this Article, and as Article 53 is intended to be deleted.

Article 45 Establishment of a Union variety register
The proposed changes are intended to make a clear distinction between variety registers and the EU plant variety portal, as the EU Plant variety portal gives variety information and other information from various registers.

Article 47 Requirements for registration in national variety registers
It was the Presidency's intention to discuss Article 53, Registration of conservation varieties, at a later meeting.
However, we experienced in connection with the preparation of this meeting, that the requirements for the registration of conservation varieties can, with few changes, be accommodated within the existing articles. As Article 47 covers both official description and officially recognised description, we propose Article 53 to be deleted, and most parts inserted into Article 47(1) and 47(1a). Remaining parts will be inserted into other articles.

Article 47 (1) point (a)(i) Value for sustainable cultivation and use
The requirement for satisfactory value for sustainable cultivation and use (VSCU) is proposed to be limited to agricultural species, which includes turf-grasses. This excludes vegetables, fruit plants and vine from the VSCU requirements. This requirement is moved form 1(aa) to 1(a)(i) to limit the requirement to varieties with an official description.

Article 47(1) point (f) and 47(3)
According to point (f), herbicide tolerant varieties shall be subject to cultivation requirements set by competent authority. The Presidency asks the Member States whether to keep this option, or, as an alternative, to re-introduce paragraph 3 giving the Commission empowerment to set up minimum cultivation conditions supplementing paragraph 1 (f).

Article 53
This Article is proposed to be deleted.
Paragraph 1 is partly moved to Articles 47 and 56. Article 53(1), subparagraph 2, is moved to Article 47.
Paragraph 2 will be included in Article 56.
Paragraphs 3 and 4 are moved to Article 47.
Paragraph 5 is deleted, as it is covered by Article 72(3).

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Annex VII CONTENTS OF THE NATIONAL AND UNION VARIETY REGISTERS AS REFERRED TO IN ARTICLE 46

Annex VII is proposed to be set up in table format. This is to clarify which information a national variety register must contain, which information the Union variety register contains and whether the information in question also applies to conservation varieties.

In addition, a few points in the annex have been changed to correspond to the information in Article 47.