

# Position

Brussels, March 2026

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## Role of the Community Plant Variety Office (CPVO)

Euroseeds supports a strong, effective, and future-proof system of plant variety protection in the European Union. In this context, the Community Plant Variety Office (CPVO) plays a central role as the EU agency responsible for granting and administering Community Plant Variety Rights (CPVR). Euroseeds considers the current well-functioning of the CPVO essential to ensure legal certainty for applicants to incentivize innovation and to contribute to the competitiveness of the EU plant breeding sector.

Euroseeds considers the CPVO effective in fulfilling its core mandate of granting Community Plant Variety Rights as a unitary intellectual property title valid throughout the EU. The strong technical expertise within the CPVO and the Quality Audit Service (QAS) system and network of accredited Examination Offices (EOs) makes the CPVO one of the best performing PVP offices globally. Euroseeds is of the view that it is key that the CPVO keeps focusing on excelling in technical expertise, including an adequate number of accredited EOs within the EU, which is also essential for keeping the CPVR system fit for purpose. Relying on this expertise, the CPVO has also been an important player in technical cooperation and in advocating for plant variety protection within and beyond the UPOV circles and Euroseeds keeps supporting the involvement of the CPVO in such activities.

Euroseeds believes that in order to make sure that the CPVR system remains relevant and competitive, it is important for the CPVO to follow developments regarding current

and future challenges in plant breeding and, in particular, in DUS testing, including technological developments, increasing varietal diversity, and sustainability demands.

At the same time, Euroseeds also underlines the importance of maintaining an appropriate balance between fees and costs, available resources, service quality and involvement in projects, in order to ensure cost-efficient access to protection for breeders of all sizes.

Euroseeds values the CPVO's independence as a self-financed EU agency and considers that it is of key importance to maintain this status in relation to the core activities of the CPVO.

Euroseeds sees the CPVO as well-placed to administer the EU Common Catalogue, which should remain a straightforward and automatic compilation of national catalogues, while ensuring that any additional responsibilities and related financing are carefully assessed.

Euroseeds highlights the strong EU added value of the CPVO. A single, centralized system for plant variety protection provides benefits that cannot be achieved at national level alone, ensuring uniform protection, reduced administrative burden, and a level playing field for breeders across the EU.