## CPVO adjusts working processes in reaction to COVID-19

In consequence of the COVID-19 pandemic situation and the precautionary measures taken by governments and public authorities across the European Union, the CPVO has decided to adopt "social distancing measures" and to adjust our working processes.

The following measures will apply as of Monday 16 March 2020 and will last until further notice:

- All CPVO personnel in non-critical functions will telework and the presence of CPVO personnel in critical functions at CPVO premises will be limited to what is strictly necessary.
- All non-essential meetings with external visitors at CPVO's premises are canceled and CPVO staff members will not participate in non-essential external meetings in March and April. In replacement of such meetings, phone and video-conferencing calls may be organised.
- The CPVO Administrative Council meeting which was meant to take place on 1<sup>st</sup> April is canceled and will be processed through written procedure.

During the last few weeks the CPVO has been monitoring carefully the situation, on the basis of the information made available by the EU institutions and the French authorities.

Today, while all efforts are made to ensure business continuity and limit disruption as much as possible, CPVO's priority is to preserve the well-being and health safety of its personnel, clients, and institutional and industry partners.

The CPVO has set up a COVID-19 Business Continuity Team (BCP), composed of CPVO's President and a limited number of staff members. The BCP monitors the situation and takes all decisions needed to preserve both CPVO's business continuity and the health safety of its staff, external stakeholders and clients. The BCP is in regular contact with all relevant public authorities at EU, national and local levels.

We will update this webpage as often as necessary to provide CPVO's clients and stakeholders with accurate and timely information which may have an impact on CPVO business activities.