

# UPOV

INTERNATIONALER  
VERBAND  
ZUM SCHUTZ VON  
PFLANZENZÜCHTUNGEN

GENÈVE, SCHWEIZ

UNION INTERNATIONALE  
POUR LA PROTECTION  
DES OBTENTIONS  
VÉGÉTALES

GENÈVE, SUISSE

UNIÓN INTERNACIONAL  
PARA LA PROTECCIÓN  
DE LAS OBTENCIONES  
VEGETALES

GINEBRA, SUIZA

INTERNATIONAL UNION  
FOR THE PROTECTION  
OF NEW VARIETIES  
OF PLANTS

GENEVA, SWITZERLAND

April 17, 2008

Dear Executive Secretary Djoghlaif,

I have the pleasure to refer to the "Recommendation of the Working Group on Access and Benefit-Sharing at its Sixth Meeting on Possible Elements of a Decision on Access and Benefit-Sharing for the Consideration of the Conference of the Parties at its Ninth Meeting".

As of April 17, 2008, 65 members of the International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV) are signatories of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and 64 members of UPOV have already ratified or acceded to the CBD.

The reply of UPOV to the Notification of June 26, 2003, from the Executive Secretary of the CBD on UPOV's views on the process, nature, scope, elements and modalities of an international regime on access to genetic resources and benefit-sharing<sup>1</sup> supported the view that the CBD and the UPOV Convention should be mutually supportive.

On that basis, the Council of UPOV, at its twenty-fifth extraordinary session, held in Geneva on April 11, 2008, decided to:

"request the Conference of the Parties of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), at its Ninth Meeting, to consider the inclusion of the following elements in a decision relating to the 'Recommendation of

/...

Mr. Ahmed Djoghlaif  
Executive Secretary  
Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity  
United Nations Environment Programme  
413, rue Saint-Jacques, Office 800  
Montréal, Québec H2Y 1N9  
Canada

<sup>1</sup> UPOV's reply of 2003 is included in document UNEP/CBD/WG-ABS/3/INF/1 and can be found at: [http://www.upov.int/en/news/2003/intro\\_cbd.html](http://www.upov.int/en/news/2003/intro_cbd.html)

the Working Group on Access and Benefit-Sharing at its Sixth Meeting on Possible Elements of a Decision on Access and Benefit-Sharing for the Consideration of the Conference of the Parties at its Ninth Meeting’:

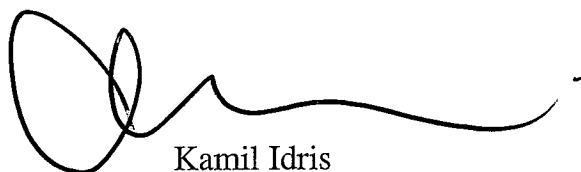
“1. In the first page (considerations):

*Recognizing* that UPOV supports the view that the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and the UPOV Convention should be mutually supportive.<sup>2</sup>

“2. In the guidance for further negotiation of an international regime on access to genetic resources and benefit-sharing:

Further instructs the *Ad Hoc* Open-ended Working Group on Access and Benefit-Sharing that any provisions which it develops for an international regime on access to genetic resources and benefit-sharing should ensure mutual supportiveness with the UPOV Convention.<sup>3</sup>”

Sincerely yours,



Kamil Idris  
Secretary-General

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<sup>2</sup> See paragraph 3 of UPOV’s reply of 2003.

<sup>3</sup> See paragraph 16 of UPOV’s reply of 2003.