



C/36/2

ORIGINAL: English

DATE: August 28, 2002

INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR THE PROTECTION OF NEW VARIETIES OF PLANTS

GENEVA

COUNCIL**Thirty-Sixth Ordinary Session****Geneva, October 24, 2002**

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL FOR 2001

*(thirty-third year)***I. COMPOSITION OF THE UNION**Number of Members

1. On December 31, 2001, the Union had 50 members. The following States acceded to the Union in 2001:

(a) On February 16, 2001, Romania deposited its instrument of accession to the Convention. The Convention (1991 Act) entered into force with respect to Romania on March 16, 2001.

(b) On August 1, 2001, Croatia deposited its instrument of accession to the Convention. The Convention (1991 Act) entered into force with respect to Croatia on September 1, 2001.

(c) On August 6, 2001, Nicaragua deposited its instrument of accession to the Convention. The Convention (1978 Act) entered into force with respect to Nicaragua on September 6, 2001.

(d) On December 7, 2001, the Republic of Korea deposited its instrument of accession to the Convention. The Convention (1991 Act) entered into force with respect to the Republic of Korea on January 7, 2002.

2. On June 20, 2001, Finland deposited its instrument of accession to the 1991 Act of the Convention. The 1991 Act entered into force with respect to Finland on July 20, 2001.

3. The 50 members of the Union are the following: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Trinidad and Tobago, Ukraine, United Kingdom, United States of America, Uruguay. Annex I detailing the membership status of the Union as of December 31, 2001, is attached.

Situation in Relation to the Various Acts of the Convention

4. On December 31, 2000, the situation was as follows:

- (a) two States were bound by the 1961 Act as amended by the 1972 Act;
- (b) the 1978 Act was the most recent Act binding 29 States;
- (c) the 1991 Act was the most recent Act binding 15 States.

5. In addition to the accessions of Croatia, Nicaragua, the Republic of Korea and Romania mentioned above, Finland, which had deposited its instrument of accession to the 1991 Act, became bound by that Act on July 20, 2001.

6. On December 31, 2001, the position of the member States in relation to the various Acts of the Convention was thus as follows:

(a) two States were bound by the 1961 Act as amended by the 1972 Act, namely Belgium and Spain;

(b) the 1978 Act was the most recent Act binding 29 States, namely Argentina, Austria, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Czech Republic, Ecuador, France, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Kenya, Mexico, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, South Africa, Switzerland, Trinidad and Tobago, Ukraine, Uruguay.

(c) the 1991 Act was the most recent Act binding 19 States, namely: Australia, Bulgaria, Croatia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Israel, Japan, Kyrgyzstan, Netherlands, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovenia, Sweden, United Kingdom, United States of America.

7. Article 30(2) of the 1991 Act provides as follows:

“(2) [*Conformity of laws*] It shall be understood that, on depositing its instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, as the case may be, each State or intergovernmental organization must be in a position, under its laws, to give effect to the provisions of this Convention.”

8. In 2001, to the knowledge of the Office of the Union, Austria passed a law to adapt its system of protection to the 1991 Act. The law entered into force on September 1, 2001. Accordingly, the number of member States having laws which conformed in all respects with the 1991 Act reached 27. Most other member States adopted amendments in line with that Act drawn up draft laws.

9. The Table annexed to this report is a synopsis of the position of the various States in relation to the various Acts of the Convention as of December 31, 2001.

Future Members

10. Under Article 34(3) of the 1991 Act, “any State which is not a member of the Union and any intergovernmental organization shall, before depositing its instrument of accession, ask the Council to advise it in respect of the conformity of its laws with the provisions of this Convention.”

11. Two requests were reconsidered in the period under review:

- (a) a request by the Republic of Latvia, by letter of February 22, 2001,
- (b) a request by Yugoslavia, by letter of February 16, 2001.

12. At its eighteenth extraordinary session, held on April 6, 2001, the Council examined the laws of the above-mentioned States and took the decisions described in paragraphs 13 and 14, below.

13. The Council decided:

(a) to advise the Government of the Republic of Latvia that the Law, after adoption of suitable amendments, provides a legal basis conforming with the Convention, and that it may then, after consultation with the Office of the Union as to whether the amendments to the Law are adequate, deposit an instrument of accession to the Convention;

(b) to request the Office of the Union to offer its assistance to the Government of Latvia for the drafting of the correction of the Law, as well as the preparation of a more satisfactory translation into one or more of the official languages of UPOV.

14. The Council decided

(a) to advise the Government of Yugoslavia that the Law does not incorporate some important provisions of the Convention;

(b) to request the Office of the Union to offer its assistance to the Government of Yugoslavia in drafting the necessary amendments to the Law, and the preparation of a more satisfactory translation into one or more of the official languages of UPOV;

(c) to further advise the Government of Yugoslavia that, upon the adoption of the necessary amendments to the satisfaction of the Office of the Union and the making of implementing regulations, it may deposit an instrument of accession to the Convention.

15. By December 2001, the following 18 States, the European Community (EC) and the African Intellectual Property Organization (OAPI) had initiated the procedure for accession to UPOV: Azerbaijan, Belarus, Costa Rica, Egypt, Georgia, Honduras, India, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Morocco, Tajikistan, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Venezuela, Yugoslavia and Zimbabwe.

II. SESSIONS OF THE COUNCIL AND ITS SUBSIDIARY BODIES

Council

16. The Council held its eighteenth extraordinary session on April 6, 2001, under the chairmanship of Mr. Karl Olov Öster (Sweden). It examined the requests for advice under Article 34(3) of the 1991 Act of the Republic of Latvia and of Yugoslavia.

17. The Council held its thirty-fifth ordinary session on October 26, 2001, again under the chairmanship of Mr. Karl Olov Öster. The session was attended by observers from 16 non-member States¹ and eight international organizations². The Office of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) was also represented.

18. At that session, the Council took the following main decisions:

(a) It took note of the UPOV mission statement as approved by the sixty-second session of the Consultative Committee;

(b) It took note of the report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Union in 2000 and noted the report on the activities in the first nine months of 2001;

(c) It noted the progress reports of its various subsidiary bodies and approved their workplans;

(d) It approved the program and budget for the 2002-2003 Biennium;

¹ Algeria, Burkina Faso, Costa Rica, Egypt, Ghana, Greece, Morocco, Oman, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Syrian Arab Republic, Uganda, Yugoslavia and Zimbabwe.

² Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), World Trade Organization (WTO), European Community (EC), Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), International Seed Testing Association (ISTA), International Association of Plant Breeders for the Protection of Plant Varieties (ASSINSEL), International Seed Trade Federation (FIS).

(e) It elected, in each case for a term of three years ending with the thirty -eighth ordinary session of the Council:

(i) Ms. Nicole Bustin (France), Chairperson of the Administrative and Legal Committee;

(ii) Mr. Doug Waterhouse (Australia), Vice -Chairman of the Administrative and Legal Committee;

(iii) Mr. Michael Camlin (United Kingdom), Chairman of the Technical Committee;

(iv) Mrs. Julia Borys (Poland), Vice -Chairperson of the Technical Committee.

(f) The Council expressed its appreciation to the outgoing Chair, Mr. John Carvill (Ireland), Chairman of the Administrative and Legal Committee, and Mrs. Elise Buitendag (South Africa), Chairperson of the Technical Committee, for the work carried out during their term.

Consultative Committee

19. The Consultative Committee held its sixty -first session on April 6, under the chairmanship of Mr. Karl Olov Öster (Sweden), President of the Council. It discussed the developments in the Council for TRIPS concerning the review of Article 27.3(b) of the TRIPS Agreement and the developments concerning biodiversity, plant genetic resources and plant variety protection. It also heard a report from the Vice Secretary -General on the implementation of the new organizational structure of the Office of UPOV and discussed the medium-term work program of the Office of UPOV and the request by the Delegation of Kyrgyzstan to introduce Russian as a working language.

20. The Consultative Committee held its sixty -second session on October 24, 2001, also under the chairmanship of Mr. Karl Olov Öster. The Committee essentially prepared the thirty-fifth ordinary session of the Council, discussed, at the proposal of the Office of the Union, a mission statement and approved its text in the working languages of the Union, agreed to the preparation of a working document with explanatory notes on the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention and the setting up of a working group to carry out a study on the impact of plant breeders' rights. It discussed once more reports concerning developments in the Council for Trade -Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (Council for TRIPS) concerning the TRIPS Agreement related to the review of Article 27.3(b) and on biodiversity, plant genetic resources and plant breeders' rights. It, furthermore, adopted positions on specific issues relevant to draft national laws on plant variety protection.

Administrative and Legal Committee, Technical Committee, Technical Working Parties and Working Group on Biochemical and Molecular Techniques and DNA Profiling in Particular

21. For the work of the Administrative and Legal Committee and the Technical Committee, reference is made to documents CAJ/44/9, C/35/9 and C/35/10. The nineteenth session of the Technical Working Party on Automation and Computer Programs (TWC) was held in Prague from June 4 to 7, 2001. The Technical Working Party for Vegetables (TWV) held its

thirty-fifth session in Battipaglia, Italy, from June 25 to 29, 2001. The Technical Working Party for Agriculture Crops (TWA) held its thirtieth session in Texcoco, Mexico, from September 3 to 7, 2001. The thirty-fourth session of the Technical Working Party for Ornamental Plants and Forest Trees (TWO) was held in Nagano, Japan, from September 24 to 28, 2001. The Technical Working Party for Fruit Crops (TWF) held its thirty-second session in Valencia, Spain, from October 1 to 5, 2001. The Working Group on Biochemical and Molecular Techniques and DNA Profiling in Particular (BMT) held its seventh session in Hanover, Germany, from November 21 to 23, 2001. The five crop-specific *Ad hoc* Subgroups on Molecular Techniques, established by the Technical Committee at the proposal of the Working Group on Biochemical and Molecular Techniques and DNA Profiling in Particular (BMT), held their first meetings in Cambridge, United Kingdom, from February 23 to 28, 2001 (Subgroups for Maize and for Wheat), and in Le Magneraud, France, from March 19 to 21, 2001 (Subgroups for Oilseed Rape, for Rose and for Tomato). The results of the Technical Working Parties, the Working Groups and Crop-specific *Ad hoc* Subgroups on Molecular Techniques are summarized in document C/36/10.

III. COURSES, SEMINARS, WORKSHOPS

22. On April 23 and 24, UPOV and the Ecuadorian Institute on Intellectual Property Rights (IEPI – *Instituto Ecuatoriano de la Propiedad Intelectual*) organized a National Seminar on Plant Variety Protection in Quito. About 100 participants attended the meeting, including officials from the government and judicial sector, researchers and plant breeders, representatives from the Plant Breeders' Association and intellectual property attorneys. Argentina, Colombia, Panama and Uruguay provided speakers. Special interest was shown in the use of the plant variety denominations and trade marks, in the commercialization of ornamental crops and in the implementation of UPOV principles at national level.

23. On April 26 and 27, UPOV and the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Directorate General of the Industrial Property Registry (DIGERPI), organized, with the cooperation of the Secretariat for the Central American Economic Integration (SIECA), a National Seminar on Plant Variety Protection in Panama City. About 150 participants related to DIGERPI, researchers, plant breeders and many intellectual property attorneys attended. There was specific interest in the relationship between cost and benefits of the research involved, in the way in which plant varieties are commercially exploited by the seed industry, in plant variety protection and in the release to the environment of genetically modified organisms (GMOs). SIECA financed the participation of officials from Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua. Many participants from the private sector made contact with the lecturers from the Latin American Federation of Seed Associations (FELAS) and the Argentine Association for Plant Variety Protection (ARPOV), seeking to set up breeders' associations. On the occasion of the Seminar, the Ministry of Agricultural Development appointed the members of the Plant Variety Council, which is formed by members from the governmental and private sector.

24. On July 2 and 3, UPOV organized, in cooperation with the Government of Senegal and OAPI and with support from the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries of France, a Regional Seminar on a Common Technical Examination System for Plant Varieties in Africa under the UPOV Convention in Dakar. In addition to participants from Senegal, there were participants from Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Mali, Mauritania, Niger and Togo. The Community Plant Variety Office (CPVO), Angers, France, provided a speaker. The

participants elaborated and adopted conclusions and recommendations concerning the implementation of a regional system of plant variety protection under the revised *Accorde Bangui*.

25. On July 16, UPOV, in cooperation with the Government of Suriname, organized a National Seminar on Plant Variety Protection Under the UPOV Convention in Paramaribo. About 60 participants attended the meeting, including officials from the government, researchers, representatives from Amerindians and breeders.

26. On July 19, UPOV, in cooperation with the Ministry of Foreign Trade and International Co-operation of Guyana, organized a National Seminar on Plant Variety Protection in Georgetown. About 40 participants attended the meeting, including officials from the government, researchers and breeders. The participants expressed interest in the development of an appropriate structure for the technical examination of plant varieties, in the relationship between plant genetic resources regulations and the plant breeders' rights system, and in issues related to the transfer of local material to foreign companies.

27. From July 23 to 26, UPOV organized, in cooperation with the Ministry of Agriculture, the State Forestry Administration and the State Intellectual Property Office of China, and with assistance from the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of Japan, a Regional Technical Meeting for Asian Plant Variety Protection Systems and a Workshop on the Principles of Technical Examination and the Preparation of National Test Guidelines in Beijing. In addition to participants from China, there were participants from India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Pakistan, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Viet Nam as well as from the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI), Los Baños, Philippines. Australia, France and Japan provided speakers. The Technical Meeting adopted conclusions and recommendations, agreeing, in particular, that the non-member States of the region should seek to participate more actively in the technical work of UPOV.

28. On September 13 and 14, UPOV and the Seed Direction of the Ministry of Agriculture of Paraguay organized a National Seminar on Plant Breeder's Rights under the UPOV Convention in Asunción. About 60 participants were present, including officials from the government, breeders, seed producers, representatives of the national seed association and researchers. Argentina, Brazil and Uruguay provided speakers. Due to the commercial relations of Paraguay with its neighboring countries, the participation of speakers from the other three MERCOSUR members, from both the government and the private sector, was most welcome. The relationship between the plant breeders' rights system and genetically modified varieties (GM) was discussed, with regard to the different status among the countries in the region concerning the release of GM varieties.

29. On September 17 and 18, UPOV and the Cuban Office for Industrial Property organized a National Seminar on the Protection of New Varieties of Plants in La Havana. About 90 participants, comprising officials from the government, researchers and intellectual property attorneys, attended the meeting. Argentina, Guatemala and Mexico provided speakers either from national Plant Breeders' Rights Offices or from the private sector. Subjects of main interest were practice and strategy of licensing plant varieties under a plant breeders' rights system and the relationship between the UPOV Convention and other international treaties relevant to intellectual property, plant genetic resources and biodiversity.

30. On October 11 and 12, in Tokyo, the Office of the Union implemented a module in the framework of a two-month training course on "Protection of Plant Breeders' Rights,"

organized by the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA). The training course was attended by participants from Bangladesh, Bolivia, Indonesia, Kenya, Malaysia, Philippines, Thailand, Viet Nam and Zimbabwe. UPOV presented eight working documents covering the subjects: “International situation of protection of plant breeders’ rights,” “Introduction to the protection of plant breeders’ rights based on the UPOV Convention,” and “Technical examination of plant varieties.”

31. From October 15 to 17, UPOV gave lectures under two topics at a Workshop on Modernization of Patent Offices and Particular Challenges of the Industrial Property System in Southern Africa, which was organized in cooperation with the African Regional Industrial Property Organization (ARIPO), the European Patent Office (EPO) and the Patent Office of the United Kingdom (UK Patent Office). UPOV presented working documents on Article 27.3(b) of the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS Agreement) and on the UPOV Convention and national plant variety protection systems. Some 50 delegates, most of them leading officials from ministries and patent offices from countries of the region participated in the workshop.

32. On October 15 and 16, UPOV participated in the annual congress of the European Seed Association (ESA), Paris. The association regroups some 40 company members and around 30 national breeders’ or seed traders’ association members. ESA is one of the most important regional breeders’ associations and therefore an important non-governmental organization for UPOV. Some 600 delegates participated. During the meeting of the Committee on Intellectual Property and Breeders’ Rights, UPOV gave an oral overview about recent activities with relevance to ESA.

33. From November 26 to 29, UPOV participated in a Regional Meeting on Plant Variety Testing and Selection Achievements Protection in the Central Asia States and the Kyrgyz-Kyrgyz-Tajik roving seminar on Wheat Breeding and Cultivation in Almaty (Kazakhstan). The meetings were organized in cooperation with the International Maize and Wheat Improvement Centre (CIMMYT), the German Association for Technical Cooperation (GTZ) and the Kazakh Ministry of Agriculture. Some 55 participants, among them high-ranking officials responsible for variety protection and seeds, were present. UPOV gave lectures in both events. All countries in the region expressed a keen interest in joining UPOV.

34. On November 27 and 28, UPOV participated in a WIPO Subregional Seminar on Biotechnology and Intellectual Property in Vilnius (Lithuania). Some 50 participants from Intellectual Property Offices and other interested circles from the Baltic region participated. UPOV gave a lecture on plant variety protection under the UPOV Convention and consulted with the drafters of the Lithuanian Law on Plant Variety Protection.

35. On December 5, at the request of the Croatian Ministry of Agriculture, and after the recent accession of Croatia to the Union, UPOV participated in a National Seminar which was held at the Ministry of Agriculture in Zagreb and held a technical meeting with the staff of the Institute for Seed and Seedlings at Osijek. Some 60 participants were present in the seminar which centered around the UPOV presentation and clarified frequently raised questions by the seed and breeding sector of Croatia.

IV. RELATIONS WITH STATES AND ORGANIZATIONS

36. A major part of the activities of the Union, and the Office in particular, was focussed on advice and assistance on plant variety protection legislation and the procedure to accede to the Convention by potential members of the Union, or members of the Union that intended to accede to the 1991 Act of the Convention. The Office provided written or oral comments, paid visits to national authorities or received representatives of the respective States in order to give the required advice. In this respect, the Office had contacts with Austria, Belarus, Croatia, Egypt, Fiji, Georgia, Ghana, Guatemala, Guyana, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lithuania, Mauritius, Peru, Republic of Guinea, Romania, Singapore, Suriname, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tonga, Uzbekistan, Viet Nam, Yugoslavia, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

37. Another important area of activities was advice and training with a view to implementing plant variety protection, often in cooperation with the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO). The Office organized seminars, and officials of the Office gave lectures in seminars and workshops organized by members of the Union, other States and organizations, to promote plant variety protection in the Asia Pacific Region, Latin America and West Africa. The Office also organized training, including finance, of experts from potential Contracting Parties. The Office discussed training activities and provided speakers for training courses organized by institutions of members of the Union.

38. The Office met with representatives of international organizations to coordinate activities or to explain UPOV's position in other fora. Of particular importance was the ongoing discussion on biological diversity, plant genetic resources and traditional knowledge, and the consideration of the draft African Model Law for the Protection of the Rights of Local Communities, Farmers and Breeders, and for the Regulation of Access to Biological Resources (OAU Model Law). The Office participated in the consideration of these issues with the FAO Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (CGRFA), the African Intellectual Property Organization (OAPI), the African Regional Industrial Property Organization (ARIPO), the Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore of WIPO, the International Plant Genetic Resources Institute (IPGRI), the Secretariat of the Organization of African Unity (OAU), and the Council for Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (Council for TRIPS). The Office maintained close contacts with the Community Plant Variety Office (CPVO).

39. The Office of the Union provided interpretation of provisions of the Convention to members of the Union and individuals.

40. The Office of the Union met regularly with professional associations in order to follow developments in the practical application of plant variety protection on a global and regional level. Of particular relevance were meetings with the African Seed Trade Association (AFSTA), the Asia Pacific Seed Association (APSA), the European Seed Association (ESA), the International Community of Breeders of Asexually Reproduced Ornamental and Fruit-Tree Varieties (CIOPORA), and the International Seed Trade Federation (FIS) / International Association of Plant Breeders for the Protection of Plant Varieties (ASSINSEL).

41. The Office of the Union held meetings with non-governmental organizations in order to explain the main features of the UPOV Convention.

42. A list of missions undertaken by the staff of the Office is provided as Annex II.

V. PUBLICATIONS

43. The Office of the Union published:

- (a) two issues of "Plant Variety Protection," the Gazette and Newsletter of UPOV;
- (b) updated editions, covering every event affecting the composition of the Union, of the information leaflet on UPOV and plant variety protection in English, Arabic, Chinese, French, German, Russian and Spanish;
- (c) six updated discs in the series constituting the UPOV central database, "UPOV-ROM Plant Variety Database."

44. *The Council is invited to note this report.*

[Annex I follows]

ANNEXI

MEMBERS OF THE UNION

December 31, 2001

State	Date of Signature ¹	Date of Deposit of Instrument ^{1, 2}	Date Upon Which State Became Bound ¹
Argentina	- - - -	- - November 25, 1994 -	- - December 25, 1994 -
Australia	- - - -	- - February 1, 1989 December 20, 1999	- - March 1, 1989 January 20, 2000
Austria	- - - -	- - June 14, 1994 -	- - July 14, 1994 -
Belgium	December 2, 1961 November 10, 1972 October 23, 1978 March 19, 1991	November 5, 1976 November 5, 1976 - -	December 5, 1976 February 11, 1977 - -
Bolivia	- - - -	- - April 21, 1999 -	- - May 21, 1999 -
Brazil	- - - -	- - April 23, 1999 -	- - May 23, 1999 -
Bulgaria	- - - -	- - - March 24, 1998	- - - April 24, 1998

¹ *1st line* : International Convention for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants of December 2, 1961

2nd line : Additional Act of November 10, 1972

3rd line : Act of October 23, 1978

4th line : Act of March 19, 1991.

² of ratification where the State has signed the Convention or the Additional Act, as the case may be; of ratification, acceptance or approval if the State has signed the Act of 1978; of accession where it has not signed the text concerned.

State	Date of Signature ¹	Date of Deposit of Instrument ^{1, 2}	Date Upon Which State Became Bound ¹
Canada	- - October 31, 1979 March 9, 1992	- - February 4, 1991 -	- - March 4, 1991 -
Chile	- - - -	- - December 5, 1995 -	- - January 5, 1996 -
China	- - - -	- - March 23, 1999 -	- - April 23, 1999 -
Colombia	- - -	- - August 13, 1996 -	- - September 13, 1996 -
Croatia	- - - -	- - - August 1, 2001	- - - September 1, 2001
Czech Republic ³	- - - -	- - - -	- - January 1, 1993 -
Denmark	November 26, 1962 November 10, 1972 October 23, 1978 March 19, 1991	September 6, 1968 February 8, 1974 October 8, 1981 April 26, 1996	October 6, 1968 February 11, 1977 November 8, 1981 April 24, 1998
Ecuador	- - - -	- - July 8, 1997 -	- - August 8, 1997 -
Estonia	- - - -	- - - August 24, 2000	- - - September 24, 2000
Finland	- - - -	- - March 16, 1993 June 20, 2001	- - April 16, 1993 July 20, 2001
France	December 2, 1961 November 10, 1972 October 23, 1978 March 19, 1991	September 3, 1971 January 22, 1975 February 17, 1983 -	October 3, 1971 February 11, 1977 March 17, 1983 -

³ Continuation of the accession of Czechoslovakia (instrument deposited on November 4, 1991; State bound on December 4, 1991).

State	Date of Signature ¹	Date of Deposit of Instrument ^{1, 2}	Date Upon Which State Became Bound ¹
Germany	December 2, 1961 November 10, 1972 October 23, 1978 March 19, 1991	July 11, 1968 July 23, 1976 March 12, 1986 June 25, 1998	August 10, 1968 February 11, 1977 April 12, 1986 July 25, 1998
Hungary	- - - -	- - March 16, 1983 -	- - April 16, 1983 -
Ireland	- - September 27, 1979 February 21, 1992	- - May 19, 1981 -	- - November 8, 1981 -
Israel	- - - October 23, 1991	November 12, 1979 November 12, 1979 April 12, 1984 June 3, 1996	December 12, 1979 December 12, 1979 May 12, 1984 April 24, 1998
Italy	December 2, 1961 November 10, 1972 October 23, 1978 March 19, 1991	June 1, 1977 June 1, 1977 April 28, 1986 -	July 1, 1977 July 1, 1977 May 28, 1986 -
Japan	- - October 17, 1979 -	- - August 3, 1982 November 24, 1998	- - September 3, 1982 December 24, 1998
Kenya	- - - -	- - April 13, 1999 -	- - May 13, 1999 -
Kyrgyzstan	- - - -	- - - May 26, 2000	- - - June 26, 2000
Mexico	- - July 25, 1979 -	- - July 9, 1997 -	- - August 9, 1997 -
Netherlands	December 2, 1961 November 10, 1972 October 23, 1978 March 19, 1991	August 8, 1967 January 12, 1977 August 2, 1984 October 14, 1996	August 10, 1968 February 11, 1977 September 2, 1984 April 24, 1998
New Zealand	- - July 25, 1979 December 19, 1991	- - November 3, 1980 -	- - November 8, 1981 -
Nicaragua	- - -	- - August 6, 2001 -	- - September 6, 2001 -

State	Date of Signature ¹	Date of Deposit of Instrument ^{1, 2}	Date Upon Which State Became Bound ¹
Norway	- - - -	- - August 13, 1993 -	- - September 13, 1993 -
Panama	- - - -	- - April 23, 1999 -	- - May 23, 1999 -
Paraguay	- - - -	- - January 8, 1997 -	- - February 8, 1997 -
Poland	- - - -	- - October 11, 1989 -	- - November 11, 1989 -
Portugal	- - - -	- - September 14, 1995 -	- - October 14, 1995 -
Republic of Korea	- - - -	- - December 7, 2001 -	- - January 7, 2002 -
Republic of Moldova	- - - -	- - September 28, 1998 -	- - October 28, 1998 -
Romania	- - - -	- - February 16, 2001 -	- - March 16, 2001 -
Russian Federation	- - - -	- - March 24, 1998 -	- - April 24, 1998 -
Slovakia ³	- - - -	- - - -	- - January 1, 1993 -
Slovenia	- - - -	- - June 29, 1999 -	- - July 29, 1999 -

³ Continuation of the accession of Czechoslovakia (instrument deposited on November 4, 1991; State bound on December 4, 1991).

State	Date of Signature ¹	Date of Deposit of Instrument ^{1, 2}	Date Upon Which State Became Bound ¹
South Africa	- - October 23, 1978 March 19, 1991	October 7, 1977 October 7, 1977 July 21, 1981 -	November 6, 1977 November 6, 1977 November 8, 1981 -
Spain	- - - March 19, 1991	April 18, 1980 April 18, 1980 - -	May 18, 1980 May 18, 1980 - -
Sweden	- January 11, 1973 December 6, 1978 December 17, 1991	November 17, 1971 January 11, 1973 December 1, 1982 December 18, 1997	December 17, 1971 February 11, 1977 January 1, 1983 April 24, 1998
Switzerland	November 30, 1962 November 10, 1972 October 23, 1978 March 19, 1991	June 10, 1977 June 10, 1977 June 17, 1981 -	July 10, 1977 July 10, 1977 November 8, 1981 -
Trinidad and Tobago	- - - -	- - December 30, 1997 -	- - January 30, 1998 -
Ukraine	- - - -	- - October 3, 1995 -	- - November 3, 1995 -
United Kingdom	November 26, 1962 November 10, 1972 October 23, 1978 March 19, 1991	September 17, 1965 July 1, 1980 August 24, 1983 December 3, 1998	August 10, 1968 July 31, 1980 September 24, 1983 January 3, 1999
United States of America	- - October 23, 1978 October 25, 1991	- - November 12, 1980 January 22, 1999	- - November 8, 1981 February 22, 1999
Uruguay	- - - -	- - October 13, 1994 -	- - November 13, 1994 -

Total: 50 members

[Annex II follows]

ANNEXII

UPOVSTAFFMISSIONS

Mission		Location	Date (2001)	Participant
Informal consultations with the management of GE	VES	Guyancourt	January	Jördens Button
Meetings with the Governments of Yugoslavia and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia		Skopje Belgrade	January	Jördens Saranin
KWSSaatAG international colloquium		Einbeck	January	Jördens
Commemoration, Royal Academy of Sweden		Stockholm	January	Jördens
Contact Group of the Committee on Genetic Resources		Rome	February	Greengrass
Ad hoc Working Party on Molecular Methods for Maize and for Wheat		Cambridge	February	Button Yasuoka
Regional technical meeting on seed policy and programs in the transition economies		Budapest	March	Saranin
Administrative Council, CPVO		Angers	March	Jördens
Ad hoc Working Party on Molecular Techniques for Oil Seed Rape, for Rose and for Tomato		La Rochelle	March	Button
AFSTACongress		Cairo	March	Jördens
Workshop on the molecular markers in varieties essentially derived from the European Union project		Bologna	April	Button
Regional seminar on the protection of new varieties of plants		Panama Quito	April	Lavignolle
Contact Group of the FAO Commission on Genetic Resources		Spoletto	April	Jördens Senghor
Inter-secretariat consultative meeting (WIPO/UPOV/OAU/OAPI/ARIPO)		Addis Ababa	May	Jördens Senghor
Speaker, University of Turin		Turin	May	Huerta Casado
FIS/ASSINSEL Congress		Johannesburg	May-June	Jördens
Training course presentation, CIRAD		Montpellier	June	Jördens
Technical Working Party on Automation and Computer Programs		Prague	June	Button Lavignolle

Mission	Location	Date (2001)	Participant
Speaker on the 50 th anniversary of COBORU	Slupia Wielka	June	Jördens
International course on the protection of plant varieties	Wageningen	June	Lavignolle
Technical Working Party for Vegetables	Salerno	June	Button
FAO Commission on Genetic Resources	Rome	June	Senghor
Technical Working Party for Vegetables Intergovernmental technical working group on plant resources	Salerno Rome	June-July	Tabata
Lecturers, WIPO/UPOV/OAPI seminar on technical assistance in the field of protection for plant varieties Informal consultations with the Government of Senegal	Dakar	July	Jördens Senghor
National seminar on the protection of new varieties of plants under the UPOV Convention	Georgetown Paramaribo	July	Lavignolle Senghor
Informal consultations with the Government of the Russian Federation	Moscow Saint-Petersburg	July	Jördens Saranin
IRRI workshop and INGERTAC meeting	Bangkok	July	Tabata
Technical Working Party for Agricultural Crops	Texcoco	September	Button Lavignolle
International seminar on biodiversity and information technology	Manaus	September	Lavignolle
National seminar on the protection of new varieties of plants under the UPOV Convention	Asuncion Havana	September	Lavignolle
Technical Working Party for Ornamental Plants and Forest Trees	Nagano	September	Button Saranin
Participation, "APSA Asian Seed 2001"	Chiba	September	Button
Technical Working Party for Fruit Crops	Valencia	October	Button Saranin
ARIPO/EPO/UKPO workshop	Gaborone	October	Senghor
ASSINSEL/Intellectual property group meeting	Gand	October	Jördens Button
"ESA 2001" Congress	Paris	October	Jördens

Mission	Location	Date (2001)	Participant
FAO Council/International Treaty on Phyto-genetic Resources	Rome	October- November	Jördens
Working Party for Denominations and CPVO visit	Angers	November	Huerta Casado
Administrative Council, CPVO	Angers	November	Jördens
Workshop, intellectual property rights commission	London	November	Button
Working Group on Biochemical and Molecular Techniques and DNA -Profiling in Particular	Hanover	November	Button Lavignolle Tabata
Workshop on Regional Cooperation in Central Asia on Cereals Variety Testing and Protection	Almaty	November	Saranin
Seminar on the UPOV Convention	Buenos-Aires	November	Lavignolle
Workshop on the WIPO and UPOV treaties	Santiago de Chile	December	Lavignolle
Speaker, annual meeting of the Eastern European seed network	Prague	November	Button
Sub-regional seminar on biotechnology and intellectual property	Vilnius	November	Jördens
Forum on the globalization of the Chinese seed industry National symposium	Beijing Seoul	November- December	Tabata
Workshop on the implementation of the UPOV Convention	Zagreb	November- December	Jördens
Informal consultations with the Ministry of Agriculture and the State Institute for Seed and Seedlings of Croatia	Osijek	November- December	Jördens
CPVO annual examining offices meeting	Angers	December	Button

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