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THIRD ADDENDUM TO DOCUMENT C/29/11

(REPORTS BY REPRESENTATIVES OF STATES AND ORGANIZATIONS
ON THE SITUATION IN THE LEGISLATIVE, ADMINISTRATIVE
AND TECHNICAL FIELDS)

Document prepared by the Office of the Union

The Annex to this document contains the report from Spain.

[The annex follows]

ANNEX

SPAIN

Situation in the Legislative Field

Preparatory work has continued during the last year with a view to revising the Spanish plant variety rights legislation and bring it into line with the 1991 Act.

Further species will be added in a near future to the list of protectable species: chick-pea, *Prunus cerasifera* and *Prunus insititia*. The inclusion of further fruit species is now under consideration. The possibility of obtaining protection for apple varieties used as rootstocks will be also given. An amendment of the implementing rules referring to the deadlines and to the quantity and quality of plant material required to carry out the technical examination for several crops is under preparation.

An increase of fees (+ 3.5%) was adopted with effect from January 1, 1995, but it is planned to increase the fees substantially in order to achieve a better balance of revenue and expenditure.

Situation in the Administrative Field

During the past year, 167 applications for protection have been filed, bringing the total from the beginning--for the period 1978-1995--to 3,927; 978 titles are currently in force.

The Spanish Office, pursuant to the Regulation of the Council of the European Union on Community Plant Variety Rights, has cooperated with the Community Plant Variety Office in the transfer of several applications into the Community system.

Developments in Related Fields of Activities

In Spain, the various aspects of the use and practical effects of the Community system of plant variety protection and the protection of the living matter continue to be subjects of extreme interest.

Several foreign experts, mainly from Latin American countries, having an interest in plant variety protection and variety registration have followed practical training programs in Spain.

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