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# INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR THE PROTECTION OF NEW VARIETIES OF PLANTS

Geneva

## COUNCIL

### Forty-Ninth Ordinary Session Geneva, October 29, 2015

#### ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL FOR 2014

(forty-sixth year)

*Disclaimer: this document does not represent UPOV policies or guidance*

This document presents the Annual Report of the Secretary-General for 2014. Annex III to this document summarizes the results achieved during 2014 according to the structure of the Program and Budget for the 2014-2015 Biennium (document C/47/4 Rev.). A list of acronyms and abbreviations is provided in the appendix.

#### Table of contents

I.	COMPOSITION OF THE UNION.....	2
	Members .....	2
	Situation in Relation to the Various Acts of the Convention .....	2
	States/organizations that have initiated the procedure to become a member of the Union .....	2
II.	SESSIONS OF THE COUNCIL AND ITS SUBSIDIARY BODIES .....	3
	Council .....	3
	Consultative Committee .....	5
	Administrative and Legal Committee, Technical Committee, Technical Working Parties and Working Group on Biochemical and Molecular Techniques, and DNA-Profiling in Particular.....	10
III.	COURSES, SEMINARS, WORKSHOPS, MISSIONS, IMPORTANT CONTACTS .....	10
	Individual activities .....	10
	Distance Learning Courses.....	18
IV.	RELATIONS WITH STATES AND ORGANIZATIONS.....	18
V.	PUBLICATIONS.....	18

ANNEX I: Members of the Union

ANNEX II: Overview of missions in 2014

ANNEX III: Results and performance indicators for 2014

Appendix: Acronyms and abbreviations

## I. COMPOSITION OF THE UNION

### Members

1. As of December 31, 2014, the Union comprised 72 members: African Intellectual Property Organization, Albania, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Estonia, European Union, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Mexico, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Oman, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan and Viet Nam.

### Situation in Relation to the Various Acts of the Convention

2. On December 31, 2014, the situation of the members of the Union in relation to the Convention and its various Acts was as follows:

(a) Belgium was bound by the 1961 Convention as amended by the 1972 Act;

(b) 19 members were bound by the 1978 Act, namely: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Ecuador, Italy, Kenya, Mexico, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Paraguay, Portugal, South Africa, Trinidad and Tobago and Uruguay;

(c) 52 members were bound by the 1991 Act, namely: African Intellectual Property Organization, Albania, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bulgaria, Costa Rica, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Estonia, European Union, France, Finland, Georgia, Germany, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Japan, Jordan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Morocco, Netherlands, Oman, Panama, Peru, Poland, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom, United States of America, Uzbekistan and Viet Nam.

3. Annex I provides the status of the members of the Union in relation to the Convention and its various Acts, as of December 31, 2014.

### States/organizations that have initiated the procedure to become a member of the Union

4. Under Article 34(3) of the 1991 Act, “[a]ny 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.”

5. By letter dated March 6, 2014, the African Regional Intellectual Property Organization (ARIPO) requested the examination of the Draft ARIPO Protocol for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants for conformity with the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention.

6. At its thirty-first extraordinary session, held in Geneva on April 11, 2014, the Council examined the conformity of the Draft ARIPO Protocol for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants with the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention.

7. The Council decided to:

“(a) note the analysis in this document [C(Extr.)/31/2];

“(b) note that the letters “(c)” and “(d)” of Articles 11, 12(1) and (3), 19(6), in Annex II of document C(Extr.)/31/2, should read “(a)” and “(b)” and that the word “not” should be deleted from Article 27(5) in accordance with the original text of the Draft Protocol;

“(c) take a positive decision on the conformity of the Draft ARIPO Protocol for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants with the provisions of the 1991 Act of the International Convention for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants, which allows:

“(i) the Contracting States to the Protocol that are not members of the Union bound by the 1991 Act, and

“(ii) ARIPO, in relation to the territories of the Contracting States bound by the Protocol,

once the Draft Protocol is adopted with no changes and the Protocol is in force, to deposit their instruments of accession to the 1991 Act; and

“(d) authorize the Secretary-General to inform ARIPO of that decision.”

8. On August 18, 2014, the Secretary-General received a letter from Her Excellency Mrs. Sophia E. Kaduma, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture, Food Security and Cooperatives of the United Republic of Tanzania, reporting that, on January 22, 2014, the Zanzibar House of Representatives had adopted the Zanzibar Plant Breeders' Rights Act, 2014, and that, during the adoption procedure, additional changes had been introduced, which were not part of the decision of the UPOV Council of March 22, 2013 (see document C(Extr.)/30/8 “Report”, paragraph 13).

9. At its forty-eighth ordinary session, held in Geneva on October 16, 2014, the Council considered developments concerning the Plant Breeders' Rights Act of Zanzibar in relation to its decision of March 22, 2013, and decided to:

“(a) note that the Plant Breeders' Rights Act of Zanzibar, which was adopted by the Zanzibar House of Representatives, incorporates the changes in the decision of the Council of March 22, 2013 (see document C(Extr.)/30/8 “Report”, paragraph 13, and document C/48/18, paragraph 2);

“(b) agree that the additional changes, as presented in Annex II to document C/48/18, do not concern the substantive provisions of the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention; and

“(c) confirm the decision on conformity of March 22, 2013 and inform the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania that the instrument of accession of the United Republic of Tanzania may be deposited.”

## II. SESSIONS OF THE COUNCIL AND ITS SUBSIDIARY BODIES

### Council

10. The Council held its thirty-first extraordinary session on April 11, 2014, under the chairmanship of Ms. Kitisri Sukhapinda (United States of America), President of the Council. The session was attended by 38 members of the Union, 1 observer State and 5 observer organizations. The report of that session is presented in document C(Extr.)/31/6. At that session, the Council:

(a) examined the conformity of the Draft ARIPO Protocol for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants with the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention;

(b) approved a change to the calendar of meetings in 2014 and the corresponding revision of document C/47/8 Rev. “Revised Calendar of Meetings in 2014”;

(c) adopted the answers to the frequently asked questions (FAQs), as set out in the Annex to document C(Extr.)/31/3;

(d) decided to create a special UPOV account to finance extra-budgetary projects agreed by the Council (Project Account) and to transfer the amount of the reserve fund exceeding 15 percent of the total income for the 2012-2013 Biennium to that account;

(e) expressed its appreciation to the Governing Body of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITPGRFA) for the thanks the Governing Body had offered to UPOV for the practical support UPOV had provided to the ITPGRFA and the Council confirmed its continuing commitment to mutual supportiveness. In response to an invitation by the Governing Body to identify with the Secretary of the ITPGRFA and the Secretariat of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)

possible areas of interrelations among the international instruments of the ITPGRFA, WIPO and UPOV, the Council decided to explore the idea of a joint publication on interrelated issues regarding innovation and plant genetic resources and other suitable initiatives;

(f) noted the work of the Consultative Committee at its eighty-seventh session, held on April 11, 2014, as set out in document C(Extr.)/31/3; and

(g) considered and approved a draft press release.

11. The Council held its forty-eighth ordinary session on October 16, 2014, under the chairmanship of Ms. Kitisri Sukhapinda (United States of America), President of the Council. The session was attended by 43 members of the Union, 2 observer States and 5 observer organizations. The report of that session is presented in document C/48/22. At that session, the Council:

(a) decided to appoint Mr. Francis Gurry as the Secretary-General of UPOV for the period from October 16, 2014, to September 30, 2020;

(b) noted the developments on the Plant Breeders' Rights Act for Zanzibar and confirmed its decision on conformity of March 22, 2013;

(c) adopted the answers to the FAQs, as set out in document C/48/19, paragraphs 46 and 47;

(d) approved the use of the special project fund for training purposes, as set in document C/48/19, paragraph 32;

(e) noted the work of the Consultative Committee at its eighty-eighth session, held on October 15 and 16, 2014, as set out in document C/48/19;

(f) adopted the following documents:

- TGP/2 “List of Test Guidelines Adopted by UPOV” (Revision) (document TGP/2/2);
- TGP/5 “Experience and Cooperation in DUS Testing”, Section 10 “Notification of Additional Characteristics and States of Expression” (Revision) (document TGP/5, Section 10/3);
- TGP/7 “Development of Test Guidelines” (Revision) (document TGP/7/4);
- TGP/8 “Trial Design and Techniques Used in the Examination of Distinctness, Uniformity and Stability” (Revision) (document TGP/8/2);
- the correction of the Spanish version of document TGP/14: Section 2: Subsection 3: Color, paragraph 2.2.2 (document TGP/14/2 Corr. (S));
- TGP/0 “List of TGP Documents and Latest Issue Dates” (Revision) (document TGP/0/7);
- UPOV/INF/16 “Exchangeable Software” (Revision) (document UPOV/INF/16/4);
- UPOV/INF/22 “Software and Equipment Used by Members of the Union” (document UPOV/INF/22/1);
- UPOV/INF-EXN “List of INF-EXN Documents and Latest Issue Dates” (Revision) (document UPOV/INF-EXN/6);

(g) approved the Financial Statements for 2013 and noted the audit report of the External Auditor;

(h) noted the status of payment of contributions as of September 30, 2014;

(i) approved the financial management report for the 2012-2013 financial period;

(j) noted the report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Union in 2013 and the results and performance indicators for 2013, as well as the report on activities during the first nine months of 2014;

- (k) noted the work of the CAJ and approved the work program for the seventy-first session of the CAJ;
- (l) noted the work of the TC, the TWPs and the BMT, and approved their programs of work;
- (m) approved the calendar of meetings in 2015;
- (n) elected, in each case for a term of three years ending with the fifty-first ordinary session of the Council, in 2017:
- Mr. Tanvir Hossain (Australia), Chairperson, TWA;
  - Mr. Adrian Roberts (United Kingdom), Chairperson, TWC;
  - Mr. Katsumi Yamaguchi (Japan), Chairperson, TWF;
  - Mr. Kenji Numaguchi (Japan), Chairperson, TWO;
  - Ms. Swenja Tams (Germany), Chairperson, TWV; and
  - Mr. Kees van Ettehoven (Netherlands), Chairperson, BMT;
- (o) noted documents and oral reports on the situation in the legislative, administrative and technical fields related to plant variety protection, as presented by members and observers;
- (p) considered and approved a draft press release.

#### Consultative Committee

12. The Consultative Committee held its eighty-seventh session on April 11, 2014, under the chairmanship of Ms. Kitisri Sukhapinda (United States of America). At that session, in addition to the preliminary examination of the Draft ARIPO Protocol for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants, the provision of advice on the preparation of the calendar of meetings and the press release (see paragraph 10 above), the Consultative Committee:

(a) noted a request from the Association for Plant Breeding for the Benefit of Society (APBEBES), addressed to the Office of the Union, to participate in the Consultative Committee in order to present the views of APBEBES on the Draft ARIPO Protocol for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants. The Consultative Committee noted that a reply in accordance with document UPOV/INF/19/1 would be provided to APBEBES. The Consultative Committee further noted that an electronic mail of April 11, 2014, had been received from APBEBES, addressed to the Office of the Union, requesting that an open letter to UPOV members by the Alliance for Food Sovereignty in Africa (AFSA) be shared with members of the Union. The Consultative Committee noted that copies had been made available;

(b) noted that, on the basis of the risk assessment of UPOV, there had been no internal audit of UPOV in 2013 and the annual work plan of the WIPO Audit and Oversight Division (IAOD) for 2014 did not include an internal audit of UPOV. It also noted the information contained in the WIPO Independent Advisory Oversight Committee (IAOC) quarterly reports for 2013 (documents WO/IAOC/28/2, WO/IAOC/29/2, WO/IAOC/30/2 and WO/IAOC/31/2), and in the IAOC Annual Report 2012-2013 (document WO/GA/43/5);

(c) agreed to change the title of the standard item to “Internal Audit and Reports of the WIPO Independent Advisory Oversight Committee”;

(d) noted the plans for the scanning and posting on the UPOV website of important documents that had not been published on the UPOV website;

(e) agreed to the procedure for the checking of translations before posting on the UPOV website;

(f) noted that, to date, the resources of the Office of the Union had not allowed the posting on the UPOV website of the date of granting of observer status in the list of observers in UPOV bodies;

(g) noted the information on consultants used by UPOV in 2013;

(h) recommended to the Council the adoption of the answers to the FAQs, as set out in the Annex to document C(Extr.)/31/3, and requested the Office of the Union to prepare draft questions and answers with regard to the following matters, on the basis of contributions from the members of the Union:

- the UPOV Convention does not regulate varieties that are not protected by plant breeders' rights;
- the possibility for subsistence farmers to exchange negligible or unimportant quantities of harvested food produce against other vital goods within the local community;
- under the UPOV system, breeders decide the conditions and limitations under which they authorize the exploitation of their protected varieties. They may, for instance, allow farmers to exchange seeds freely within the local community;
- information on the situation in UPOV with regard to the use of molecular techniques for a wider audience, including the public in general;

(i) noted the developments concerning information materials and databases of variety descriptions;

(j) agreed to invite the International Seed Federation (ISF), the International Community of Breeders of Asexually Reproduced Ornamental and Fruit Plants (CIOPORA) and CropLife International to elaborate the problems faced with the current situation and possible solutions offered by an international filing system, a UPOV quality assurance program and a central examination system for variety denominations, for consideration by the Consultative Committee at its eighty-eighth session in October 2014. The Consultative Committee further agreed to invite ISF, CIOPORA and CropLife International to be present, at the relevant part of the eighty-eighth session, in order to provide further information in response to questions from the Consultative Committee. The Consultative Committee requested the Office of the Union to provide relevant information on the international filing systems of WIPO at its eighty-eighth session;

(k) agreed to the separation of the DL-305 course into two separate courses, DL-305-1 "Administration of Plant Breeders' Rights" and DL-305-2 "DUS Examination", and approved the program for distance learning courses in 2014 to 2015, as follows:

March 31 to May 11, 2014	DL-305 single course (English only)
May 5 to June 8, 2014	DL-205 (E, F, G, S)
October 6 to November 9, 2014	DL-205 (E, F, G, S)
February/March 2015	DL-305-1 (E, F, S)
April/May 2015	DL-305-2 (E, F, S)
October/November 2015	DL-205 (E, F, G, S)

(l) recommended to the Council to express its appreciation to the Governing Body of the ITPGRFA for the thanks the Governing Body had offered for the practical support provided by UPOV to the ITPGRFA and to confirm its commitment to mutual supportiveness. The Consultative Committee requested the Office of the Union to identify with the Secretary of the ITPGRFA and the Secretariat of WIPO possible areas of interrelations among the international instruments of the ITPGRFA, WIPO and UPOV with a view to a possible joint publication on interrelated issues regarding innovation and plant genetic resources, and other possible initiatives, and to present proposals for consideration by the Consultative Committee at its eighty-eighth session;

(m) noted the developments in relation to WIPO Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore (WIPO IGC);

(n) noted the developments in relation to the World Trade Organization (WTO);

(o) noted that the UN System CEB High-Level Committee on Management had identified a common approach to After-Service Health Insurance (ASHI) within its Priority Issues for the period 2013-2016, which referred to both the management of funds and the financing of liabilities. It was noted that the CEB Finance and Budget Network had established a working group to analyze and report on the possible approaches to funding and managing ASHI liabilities. The working group was expected to present its conclusions in October 2014. The Consultative Committee agreed to the postponement of the discussion on financing of long-term employee benefits until the conclusions of the working group of the UN CEB Finance

and Budget Network became available. It agreed to consider the establishment of a UPOV working group at that time;

(p) recalled that any decision with regard to funds exceeding 15 percent of the total income in future biennia would be considered at the appropriate time in accordance with the Financial Regulations and Rules of UPOV (document UPOV/INF/4/3); and

(q) recommended to the Council to create a special UPOV account to finance extra-budgetary projects agreed by the Council (Project Account) and to transfer the amount of the reserve fund exceeding 15 percent of the total income for the 2012-2013 Biennium to that account. It further requested the Office of the Union to prepare a document for consideration at its eighty-eighth session, setting out possible projects, and requested members of the Union to provide proposals to the Office of the Union.

13. A report on the work of the eighty-seventh session of the Consultative Committee is contained in document C(Extr.)/31/3.

14. The Consultative Committee held its eighty-eighth session on October 15 and 16, 2014, under the chairmanship of Ms. Kitisri Sukhapinda (United States of America). At that session, in addition to the provision of advice on the appointment of the Secretary-General, developments on the Plant Breeders' Rights Act for Zanzibar, the adoption of documents, the financial Statements for 2013, the arrears in contributions as of September 30, 2014, the Financial Management Report for the 2012-2013 Biennium, the preparation of the calendar of meetings, the adoption of FAQs and the press release (see paragraph 11 above), the Consultative Committee:

(a) noted the presentation of information in documents C/48/2 "Annual Report of the Secretary-General for 2013" and C/48/12 "Performance report for the 2012-2013 Biennium";

(b) noted that the members in the Technical Committee had been copied in the request for information for the preparation of document C/48/5 "Cooperation in Examination";

(c) considered the planned use of surveys by the Office of the Union;

(d) recalled the intervention made by the Delegation of the European Union on the financing of long-term employee benefits and the report made by the Controller on the working group of the UN CEB Finance and Budget Network under item 8 "Financial Management Report", and noted that any new developments with regard to financing of long-term employee benefits would be reported to its eighty-ninth session, in March 2015;

(e) recalled that the Council, at its thirty-first extraordinary session, held in Geneva on April 11, 2014, had decided to create a special project fund for the amount of the reserve fund exceeding 15 percent of the total income for the 2012-2013 Biennium. The Consultative Committee recommended to the Council, at its forty-eighth ordinary session, to approve the use of the special project fund for training purposes. Subject to the approval of the Council, the Consultative Committee requested a report on the planned implementation of the use of the funds for training purposes at its eighty-ninth session, in March 2015;

(f) noted the information provided on the WIPO International Patent System (PCT), International Trademark System (Madrid) and International Design System (Hague) and considered the written contribution by ISF, CIOPORA and CropLife International, in conjunction with their joint presentation at the eighty-eighth session of the Consultative Committee. It further requested the Office of the Union to prepare a document to clarify the issues raised and possible ways forward with regard to an international system of cooperation, for consideration by the Consultative Committee at its eighty-ninth session, in March 2015;

(g) noted the *ad hoc* invitations issued to experts to attend meetings of UPOV bodies;

(h) considered the information provided by the Friends World Committee for Consultation (FWCC), at its eighty-eighth session, in relation to the FWCC request for the granting of observer status to the Council and to the CAJ. The Consultative Committee concluded that it was not possible to decide that FWCC had demonstrated its "competence in areas of direct relevance in respect of matters governed by the UPOV Convention";

(i) decided to grant observer status to the South Centre in the Council and the CAJ;

(j) decided to grant observer status to the World Farmers' Organisation (WFO) in the Council, the CAJ and the TC;

(k) noted that a total of around 7,000 documents had been scanned and reproduced as electronic, word-recognizable documents. It further noted that the records of the diplomatic conferences on the revisions of the UPOV Convention, documents of meetings of UPOV with international organizations (IOM documents) and issues of the Plant Variety Protection Gazette and Newsletter had already been uploaded on the UPOV website. In parallel with that process, the Consultative Committee heard that a systematic review had been made of the existing documents posted under the UPOV "Meeting Documents" section to identify and rectify errors and omissions that had occurred during the migration to the redesigned website in 2011-2012. With regard to the remaining work, to upload older UPOV session documents and older documents from UPOV seminars, it noted that the work would be done on an *ad hoc* basis as resources allowed. The Consultative Committee noted that the work would not be given a high priority because there had been limited demand for the documents concerned and the documents were now all available electronically and could be provided on demand;

(l) noted that, to date, the resources of the Office of the Union had not allowed the posting on the UPOV website of the date of granting of observer status in the list of observers in UPOV bodies;

(m) agreed that information concerning consultants that were used by UPOV in 2014 be presented to the Consultative Committee at its ninetieth session, in October 2015, on the same basis as in the Annex to document CC/87/3;

(n) endorsed the plans for the launch of the DL-305 course "Examination of Applications for Plant Breeders' Rights", both as a single course, and also as two component courses: DL-305A "Administration of Plant Breeders' Rights"; and DL-305B "DUS Examination";

(o) approved the development of a proposal for a new logo for consideration by the Consultative Committee at its eighty-ninth session and approval by the Council at its thirty-second extraordinary session in March 2015;

(p) noted that the Trilogy<sup>1</sup> publication, including the Executive Summary had been published in French. It further noted that the Executive Summary had been published in Spanish and that the full publication would be available in the near future;

(q) noted the plans for the introduction of stakeholder-focused features on the UPOV website during 2015;

(r) agreed that the draft FAQ concerning information on the situation in UPOV with regard to the use of molecular techniques for a wider audience, including the public in general, should be referred to the Technical Committee for consideration;

(s) noted the plans to develop a brief, illustrative explanation of the benefits of the UPOV system aimed at an audience with no previous knowledge of plant breeding or plant variety protection and/or illustrative examples of the benefits of plant variety protection;

(t) deferred plans for the updating of the Impact Study pending work to identify with the Secretary of the ITPGRFA and the Secretariat of WIPO possible areas of interrelations among the international instruments of the ITPGRFA, WIPO and UPOV with a view to a possible joint publication on interrelated issues regarding innovation and plant genetic resources;

(u) noted the use of e-workshops for training of Leading Experts on the use of the web-based Test Guidelines Template;

(v) noted that the timetable for the introduction of a UPOV channel on YouTube would reflect the possible development of a new UPOV logo;

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<sup>1</sup> Publication combining the proceedings of the "UPOV Seminar on Plant Variety Protection and Technology Transfer: the Benefits of Public-Private Partnership", the "Symposium on Plant Breeding for the Future" and the "Symposium on the benefits of plant variety protection for farmers and growers".



(w) noted that results of the communication strategy would be reported as a part of the annual report of the Secretary-General and performance report for the biennium;

(x) noted the communication from the Office of the Secretary of the ITPGRFA, summarizing the latest situation in relation to the invitation from the ITPGRFA to UPOV and WIPO to jointly identify possible areas of interrelations among the respective international instruments of UPOV, WIPO and the ITPGRFA;

(y) noted the plans to provide information for type of crop for each UPOV code in the GENIE database as a basis to obtain statistics on plant variety protection from the PLUTO database, whilst noting the constraints on the accuracy and completeness of any such analysis;

(z) noted the report made on the situation concerning those States and intergovernmental organizations which have initiated the procedure for acceding to the UPOV Convention or which have been in contact with the Office of the Union for assistance in the development of laws based on the UPOV Convention;

(aa) noted that it had not been possible for Oman to make a presentation in 2014, and agreed to renew the invitation in order to enable Oman to make a presentation at a future session of the Consultative Committee, if appropriate;

(bb) welcomed the presentations of Costa Rica and Georgia on progress in the implementation of the UPOV system and areas where they would welcome guidance or assistance;

(cc) approved the issue of invitations to the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Peru to make presentations at the ninetieth session of the Consultative Committee, to be held in October 2015;

(dd) noted the developments concerning:

(i) the East Asia Plant Variety Protection Forum (EAPVP Forum);

(ii) the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and that, at the seventieth session of the CAJ, held in Geneva on October 13, 2014, the CAJ had noted the interest to discuss the relationship and effects of the implementation of the "Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization to the Convention on Biological Diversity" for the breeder's exemption (see document CAJ/70/10 "Report on the Conclusions", paragraph 40);

(iii) the Forest Seed and Plant Certification Scheme of the Organisation for Economic Co-Operation and Development (OECD), and that, at its Annual Meeting, held in Paris, on September 24 and 25, 2014, the OECD Forest Seed and Plant Certification Scheme had agreed to amend the Rules of the Certification Scheme to introduce a definition of plant breeder's right and to make a reference to the definition of "variety" under the UPOV Convention;

(iv) the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (CGRFA) of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO);

(v) the WIPO IGC;

(vi) the WTO; and

(vii) the "Benchmarking the Business of Agriculture project (BBA)" of the World Bank & International Finance Corporation;

(ee) noted that the WIPO Standard Committee on Patents (WIPO SCP), at its twenty-first session to be held in Geneva, from November 3 to 7, 2014, would consider documents concerning exceptions, including a breeder's exemption. The Consultative Committee requested the Office of the Union to make a report on the discussion at the SCP on that matter at the eighty-ninth session of the Consultative Committee in March 2015;

(ff) noted that, at the request of the WIPO Secretariat, the Office planned to make proposals, by the end of February 2015, to update Chapter 27 "International Convention for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants" of the 1997 WIPO publication "Introduction to Intellectual Property – Theory and Practice" (Published by Kluwer Law International (ISBN: 90-411-0938-2)) on the basis of the text in the distance learning course

DL205 "Introduction to the UPOV System of Plant Variety Protection Under the UPOV Convention" and information materials adopted by the Council, including the FAQs; and

(gg) noted that the Office had continued to monitor developments concerning EXPO 2015 with a view to UPOV's participation. However, it had not been feasible to participate in the initiatives offered to date.

15. Further information on the work of the eighty-eighth session of the Consultative Committee is contained in document C/48/19.

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

16. The CAJ held its sixty-ninth session on April 10, 2014, and its seventieth session on October 13, 2014. The CAJ-AG held its ninth session on October 14 and 17, 2014.

17. The TC held its fiftieth session from April 7 to 9, 2014. The TC-EDC held meetings on January 8 and 9 and on April 7 and 8, 2014. The TWA held its forty-third session in Mar del Plata, Argentina, from November 17 to 21, 2014. The TWC held its thirty-second session in Helsinki, Finland, from June 3 to 6, 2014. The TWF held its forty-fifth session in Marrakesh, Morocco, from May 26 to 30, 2014. The TWO held its forty-seventh session in Naivasha, Kenya, from May 19 to 23, 2014. The TWV held its forty-eighth session in Paestum, Italy, from June 23 to 27, 2014. Each of the TWP sessions was preceded by a preparatory workshop.

18. Further information on the work of the CAJ, TC and TWPs is contained in documents C/48/9 and C/49/9 "Progress report of the work of the Administrative and Legal Committee", and C/48/10 and C/49/10 "Progress report of the work of the Technical Committee, the Technical Working Parties and the Working Group on Biochemical and Molecular Techniques, and DNA-Profiling in Particular".

### III. COURSES, SEMINARS, WORKSHOPS, MISSIONS\*, IMPORTANT CONTACTS

#### Individual activities

19. On January 8, in Geneva, the Office received the visit of Ms. Serin Kang, Mr. Jien Hwang, Mr. Seyoung Jung and Mr. Eunyoung Im, four students from the Gyeongsang National University, Jinju-city, Republic of Korea, who were conducting research on plant variety protection.

20. On January 16, in Geneva, the Office participated in an interview with Ms. Liza Rubach, Research Assistant at the Swiss Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies (IHEID), in relation to an on-going study on "International Geneva" jointly conducted by the IHEID, the University of Geneva, the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Lausanne (EPFL) and the University of Lausanne.

21. On January 22, in Geneva, the Office received the visit of Mr. Tejan-Cole, Legal Counsel, African Agricultural Technology Foundation (AATF), to discuss developments at AATF and UPOV.

22. On January 24, in Geneva, the Office participated in an electronic meeting via the Internet with representatives of the World Seed Project Steering Committee (FAO, ISF, International Seed Testing Association (ISTA), OECD and UPOV) to discuss progress on the World Seed Project. Further electronic meetings took place on February 21, March 10, May 12 and September 30.

23. From January 28 to 31, in Edinburgh, United Kingdom, the Office attended the OECD Seed Scheme meetings and made a presentation on UPOV guidance on the use of molecular techniques in DUS examination at the *Ad hoc* Working Group on Biochemical and Molecular Techniques. The Office also took part in the 14<sup>th</sup> Technical Working Group Meeting on Varietal Identity and Purity.

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\* Missions relate to events held outside UPOV headquarters.

24. On January 31, in Geneva, the Office received the visit of Mr. Mohammed Al-Shabibi, Head, International Trade Section, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries of Oman, to discuss the implementation of plant variety protection in Oman and possible cooperation activities.
25. Between February 3 and 7, in Geneva, the Office attended relevant parts of the twenty-sixth session of the Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO IGC).
26. On February 7, in Geneva, the Office met with Mr. Emmanuel Sackey, Chief Examiner, Industrial Property Directorate, ARIPO, to discuss developments in ARIPO.
27. From February 24 to 27, in San Fernando de Henares, Spain, the Office provided lectures at a national training course for DUS experts entitled "*Armonización de los trabajos de distinción, homogeneidad y estabilidad de nuevas variedades para los centros acreditados por la OCVV, normativa española, de la UE y de la UPOV*" (Harmonizing the examination of distinctness, uniformity and stability for new plant varieties in Spanish examination offices accredited by the Community Plant Variety Office of the European Union (CPVO), Spanish, European Union and UPOV regulations). The training course was jointly organized by the Spanish Plant Variety Office (OEVV), CPVO and UPOV, and was attended by 43 participants from Spain.
28. From February 24 to 28, in Pyeongchang, Republic of Korea, the Office participated in the third meeting of the Open-ended *Ad Hoc* Intergovernmental Committee for the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization (ICNP-3).
29. On February 25, at WTO headquarters in Geneva, the Office attended the relevant parts of the meeting of the Council for Trade Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (Council for TRIPS).
30. On February 27, in Geneva, the Office organized a study visit to UPOV headquarters for *Groupement technique horticole de Genève* (a Swiss horticultural professional association), in the framework of the association's ordinary general assembly.
31. On February 27, in Putrajaya, Malaysia, the Office provided lectures at a High-Level Awareness Raising Session on the Internationally Harmonized Plant Variety Protection System for the Malaysian Plant Variety Board Members and key officials from relevant ministries.
32. On March 3, in Tunis, Tunisia, at the fringes of the AFSTA Congress (see paragraph 35 below), a meeting of the World Seed Project Steering Committee (FAO, ISF, ISTA, OECD and UPOV) was held.
33. On March 3, in Tunis, the Office, jointly with ISTA and OECD, organized a Pre-Congress Workshop on "International systems to develop an enabling environment to provide food security and economic development by strengthening the seed sector".
34. On March 4, 2014, in Tunis, the Office visited the General Directorate of protection and control of quality of agricultural products of the Ministry of Agriculture of Tunisia.
35. From March 4 to 7, in Tunis, the Office participated in the Fourteenth Annual Congress of the African Seed Trade Association (AFSTA).
36. From March 5 to 7, in Port Louis, Mauritius, the Office attended a Workshop on the TRIPS Agreement and IP-Related Matters, organized by WTO, where it made a presentation on plant variety protection. The Office also participated in legal consultations concerning Part V "Plant Variety Protection" of the Draft Industrial Property Act with relevant officials from Mauritius and explained the procedure of becoming a member of UPOV. On March 7, the Office visited the Mauritius Sugarcane Industry Research Institute (MSIRI).
37. On March 10, in Geneva, the Office received the visit of Mr. Madoka Koshibe, past President of the Asia and Pacific Seed Association (APSA), President (Chairman of the Board), Mikado Kyowa Seed Co. Ltd. of Japan.
38. On March 18 and 19, in Nitra, Slovakia, the Office attended a meeting of the CPVO Administrative Council and delivered a lecture on "UPOV perspective and guidance on farm saved seed" at an International Seminar with Slovak breeders.

39. On March 24, in Geneva, the Office provided lectures at a program for a group of Phd. students from the L.N. Gumilyov Eurasian National University of Kazakhstan, organized by WIPO and the University of Business and International Studies (UBIS).
40. Between March 24 and April 4, in Geneva, the Office attended relevant parts of the twenty-seventh session of the WIPO IGC.
41. On March 25, in Geneva, the Office received the visit of Mr. Michael Turner, Seed consultant, to discuss recent developments in relation to plant variety protection in Africa and Asia.
42. From March 25 to 27, in Buenos Aires, Argentina, the Office attended the General Assembly of the WFO, where it made an address at the opening session of the General Assembly, and a presentation at the "Farmers' Intellectual Capital: Innovation in Practice" event. It also participated in the panel of the thematic session on innovation.
43. On April 1 and 2, in The Hague, Netherlands, the Office attended the Annual General Meeting of CIOPORA.
44. On April 14 and 15, in Yaoundé, Cameroon, the Office participated in information sessions with 24 officials of the African Intellectual Property Organization (OAPI). The objective of the information sessions was to assist OAPI in matters concerning the procedure for the deposit of the instrument of accession to the UPOV Convention, to explain the work of UPOV bodies, the cooperation mechanisms between UPOV members and to provide guidance on the implementation of the UPOV system.
45. On April 23, in Geneva, the Office received the visit of Ms. Margaret Munroe, IHEID, in relation to her research work on the relevance of the open innovation paradigm for agricultural development.
46. On April 29, in Paris, France, the Office attended a meeting of the Technical Working Group of the OECD Scheme for the Certification of Forest Reproductive Material Moving in International Trade, and made a presentation on the definition of variety under the UPOV Convention.
47. On May 7, in Rome, at FAO headquarters, the Office attended a meeting of the World Seed Project Steering Committee (FAO, ISF, ISTA, OECD and UPOV) with representatives from Ghana and the United Republic of Tanzania.
48. On May 13, at the United Nations headquarters in Geneva, the Office attended a reception honoring the Board of Directors of the United Nations Foundation.
49. On May 15 and 16, in Brisbane, Australia, at the Queensland University of Technology (QUT), lectures on plant variety protection under the UPOV system were given by Mr. Doug Waterhouse, on behalf of the Office, at the Fifth Edition of the WIPO-QUT Master of Intellectual Property Law. The program was attended by participants from Australia, China, Fiji, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Nepal, Pakistan, Republic of Korea and Thailand.
50. On May 20, in Geneva, the Office received the visit of Mr. Aamir Hasan, Director General, Intellectual Property Organization of Pakistan, to discuss the UPOV system of plant variety protection.
51. From May 26 to 28, in Beijing, China, the Office participated in the ISF World Seed Congress 2014, where it made a presentation on developments in UPOV at the Open Meeting of the Breeders Committee. The Office was also invited to a part of the meeting of the ISF Intellectual Property Committee, on May 26, in order to discuss UPOV's invitation to elaborate the problems faced with the current situation and possible solutions offered by an international filing system, a UPOV quality assurance program and a central examination system for variety denominations, for consideration by the Consultative Committee at its eighty-eighth session in October 2014.
52. On May 27, in Beijing, the Office met with senior officials from the Ministry of Agriculture (MOA) and the State Forestry Administration (SFA) of China to discuss developments in China and UPOV.
53. On June 5 and 6, in Tashkent, Uzbekistan, the Office attended an International Conference "On the Most Important Reserves of Implementing the Food Program in Uzbekistan", where it made an intervention on the UPOV system of plant variety protection during Working Session IV "Introduction of the advanced scientific and technological know-how to improve efficiency and productivity, breeding, seed production and development of new disease resistant varieties of vegetables and grapes, improving their useful properties,

taste and quality". At the fringes of the Conference, the Office met with officials from the Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources to discuss the situation with regard to plant variety protection in Uzbekistan.

54. On June 10, in Geneva, the Office received the visit of Mr. Paulin Edou Edou, Director General of OAPI, who deposited the instrument of accession of OAPI to the UPOV Convention, with OAPI becoming the seventy-second member of the Union on July 10, 2014. On that occasion, a lunch with OAPI representatives and representatives of Permanent Missions at Geneva of OAPI member States was hosted by the Secretary-General of UPOV.

55. From June 10 to 13, in Zagreb, Croatia, the Office attended the Annual Meeting of the OECD Seed Schemes, including meetings of the *Ad hoc* Working Group of Experts on Biochemical and Molecular Techniques in Describing and/or Identifying Varieties and the Technical Working Group on Varietal Identity and Purity.

56. On June 11, in Geneva, the Office received the visit of Ms. Liz Francis, Patents Designs & Plant Variety Rights Manager, Intellectual Property Office of New Zealand, and discussed developments in New Zealand and UPOV.

57. On June 11, at WTO headquarters in Geneva, the Office attended the relevant parts of the meeting of the Council for TRIPS.

58. On June 13, in Geneva, the Office received the visit of Mr. Eldiyor Toshmatov, Attaché, and Mr. Elyorjon Hamraliev, Finance Officer, Permanent Mission of Uzbekistan, in order to record a video interview in relation to the International Conference "On the Most Important Reserves of Implementing the Food Program in Uzbekistan", Tashkent, on June 5 and 6, 2014 (see paragraph 53).

59. On June 17, in Wageningen, Netherlands, the Office provided a full-day training session on UPOV at the 17th International Course on Plant Variety Protection, organized by Naktuinbouw. The course was attended by participants from the following countries and organization: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, European Union, Ghana, India, Kenya, Nigeria, Senegal, Serbia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Turkey. There was also a participant from Kosovo. Prior to the course, the students participated in the UPOV Distance Learning Course DL-205. Participants were also offered the possibility to hold bilateral discussions with UPOV representatives at the end of the training session. Information was provided to participants from Ghana, India, Kenya, Nigeria, Senegal and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

60. On June 23, at WTO headquarters in Geneva, the Office made a presentation on the "Protection of New Varieties of Plants and Biotechnology" at the WIPO-WTO Colloquium for Teachers of Intellectual Property. The Colloquium was attended by participants from the following countries: Argentina, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, China, Colombia, Egypt, Ethiopia, India, Kenya, Malaysia, Malawi, Mexico, Morocco, Netherlands, Philippines, Russian Federation, Senegal, Thailand, Uzbekistan, Vietnam, Venezuela and Zimbabwe. There was also a participant from Palestine.

61. On June 27, at WIPO headquarters in Geneva, the Office made a presentation on "The protection of plant varieties and the International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV)" at the WIPO-University of Geneva (UNIGE) Summer School on Intellectual Property. The WIPO-UNIGE Summer School was attended by participants from Albania, Armenia, Australia, Belarus, Brazil, Cameroon, Canada, China, Czech Republic, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, France, Germany, Greece, India, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Netherlands, Panama, Poland, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Switzerland, Thailand, Ukraine, United Kingdom, United States of America and Zimbabwe.

62. From June 30 to July 2, in Seoul, Republic of Korea, the Office gave lectures on plant variety protection under the UPOV Convention at the Training Course "Plant Variety Protection and DUS Testing" organized by the Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA), in cooperation with the Korea Seed and Variety Service (KSVS). The course was attended by participants from Cambodia, Egypt, Indonesia, Kenya, Myanmar, Philippines, United Republic of Tanzania and Uganda, who were given the opportunity to participate in the UPOV Distance Learning Course DL-205.

63. From June 30 to July 2, in Germany, three UPOV staff visited the *Bundessortenamt* to increase their understanding of practical aspects of DUS examination and the administration of plant breeders' rights. The staff visited the testing stations of Wurzen, Nossen and Hannover.

64. On July 3, in Geneva, the Office received the visit of Mr. Shakeel Bhatti, Secretary, ITPGRFA, to discuss possible areas of interrelations among the international instruments of the International Treaty, WIPO and UPOV with a view to a possible joint publication on interrelated issues regarding innovation and plant genetic resources, and other possible initiatives.
65. On July 3, at the UN headquarters in Geneva, the Office attended the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture Coming into Force.
66. Between July 7 and 9, in Geneva, the Office attended relevant parts of the twenty-eighth session of the WIPO IGC.
67. On July 8, in Geneva, the Office received the visit of Mr. Juan Carlos Castrillón, Minister, Permanent Mission of Ecuador in Geneva, and Ms. Lilian Carrera, National Director of Plant Variety Protection, Ecuadorian Institute of Intellectual Property (IEPI), to discuss the organization of a seminar on plant variety protection, to be held in Guayaquil, Ecuador, in October 2014.
68. On July 9, 2014, in Kampala, Uganda, the Office participated in the 10K Seed Company Convening, organized by the Alliance for Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA), where it made a presentation on "Introduction to UPOV – Value addition of UPOV to the seed industry in Africa".
69. On July 10, 2014, in Kampala, the Office met with government officials from the Uganda Registration Services Bureau (URSB) to discuss developments concerning the Plant Breeders' Bill of Uganda.
70. From July 9 to 11, in Rome, at FAO headquarters, the Office attended the Seventh Session of the Intergovernmental Technical Working Group on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture of the FAO Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (CGRFA) and provided a report of the activities undertaken by UPOV in relation to plant genetic resources. On July 10, the Office held a side-event entitled "UPOV: Encouraging the use of Plant Genetic Resources for the Benefit of Society".
71. On July 15, in Geneva, the Office received the visit of Mr. Yehan Cui, Division Director, Plant Variety Protection Office, Ministry of Agriculture of China, and discussed developments in China and UPOV.
72. On July 16, in Roelofarendsveen, Netherlands, the Office attended a meeting at Naktuinbouw headquarters to discuss developments in the Netherlands and UPOV.
73. On July 17, in Geneva, the Office received the visit of Ms. Susan H. Bragdon, Representative, Food and Sustainability, Quaker United Nations Office (QUNO), Mr. Geoffrey Hawtlin, Senior Technical Advisor, Secretariat of the ITGPRFA, and Prof. Hartwig de Haen, University of Göttingen, to discuss the QUNO project on Food Security, Intellectual Property and Agricultural Trade.
74. On July 24, in Geneva, the Office participated in an interview with Ms. Cathy Savioz, web publisher and media relations, for an article on the UPOV system of plant variety protection to be published in the "Moneta" Journal.
75. On July 25, in Geneva, the Office received the visit of Mr. Cheon Se-Chang, Director General, Mr. Park Hyun-Soo, Senior Deputy Director, and Mr. Jin-O Yoo, Deputy Director, Patent Examination Bureau 1, Korean Intellectual Property Office (KIPO), to discuss the UPOV plant variety protection system.
76. On August 7, in Geneva, the Office received the visit of Ms. Flor García, Counselor, Permanent Mission of Guatemala to the WTO, to discuss the procedure for accession to the UPOV Convention.
77. On August 7 and 8, in Vientiane, Lao People's Democratic Republic, the Office participated in the Seventh Annual Meeting of the EAPVP Forum, where it made a presentation on "Developments in UPOV", and in the Symposium on "Plant Breeding and Protection of Breeder's Right are Key to Agricultural Development", where it made presentations on the benefits of the plant variety protection system under the UPOV Convention, and the relationship between the UPOV Convention and the other international treaties. These events were attended by participants from the following members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN): Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Viet Nam, and also by China, Japan and the Republic of Korea.

78. From August 13 to 21, in Tsukuba, Japan, the Office participated in the training course “Quality Control System of Seeds and Seedlings to Facilitate Distribution of High Quality Seeds”, organized by the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), where it gave lectures on plant variety protection under the UPOV Convention. The course was attended by participants from Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Ethiopia, Indonesia, Kenya, Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Myanmar, Republic of Moldova, Sri Lanka and Viet Nam, who were given the opportunity to participate in the UPOV Distance Learning Course DL-205.
79. On August 18, in Geneva, the Office participated in an electronic meeting via the Internet with Mr. Shakeel Bhatti, Secretary, ITPGRFA, and Mr. Carsten Fink, Chief Economist, Economics and Statistics Division, WIPO, to discuss a possible joint publication on interrelated issues regarding innovation and plant genetic resources, and other possible initiatives.
80. From August 25 to 29, in Mexico City, Mexico, the Office provided lectures at the “*Seminario sobre Protección al Derecho de Obtentor*” (Seminar on Plant Breeders’ Rights) and “*X Taller Internacional de Evaluación de la Distinción, Homogeneidad y Estabilidad (DHE) de Variedades Vegetales*” (X International Workshop on DUS Examination of Plant Varieties). The seminar and workshop were attended by participants from Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Mexico and Paraguay.
81. On August 22, in Kasaoka, Japan, the Office made a presentation on developments in UPOV at the National Center for Seeds and Seedlings (NCSS), Nishi Nihon Station. The session was attended by DUS experts of the Station.
82. On September 3, in Geneva, the Office met with Prof. John Humphrey, Executive Dean, Faculty of Law, and Prof. Kamal Puri, Professor of IP and Director, WIPO-QUT Master of Laws in Intellectual Property Program, QUT of Brisbane, Australia.
83. On September 22, the Office participated in an electronic conference call with Mr. Milan Kondic, Ms. Valerie Erica Marechal and Mr. Robert De Lescaille, World Bank & International Finance Corporation. Mr. Kondic reported on the development on the project “Benchmarking the Business of Agriculture (BBA)”.
84. On September 23, in Geneva, the Office received the visit of Ms. Susan H. Bragdon, Representative, Food and Sustainability and Mr. David Elliott, Programme Assistant, Food & Sustainability and Climate Change, QUNO, regarding the procedure for the granting of observer status in UPOV bodies.
85. On September 23 and 24, in Paris, France, the Office attended the Technical Working Group Meeting and the Annual Meeting of the OECD Forest Seed and Plant Scheme.
86. From September 23 to 25, in Namur, Belgium, the Office attended “*Le Forum francophone de l’innovation*”, organized by *Organisation internationale de la Francophonie* (OIF). The Office made a presentation on “Introduction to UPOV” in the workshop for innovation in agriculture.
87. On September 24, in Geneva, the Office made a presentation on UPOV at a meeting of Heads of Intellectual Property Offices for Caribbean countries, with participants from Antigua and Barbuda, Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Haiti, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia and Trinidad and Tobago.
88. On September 25, in Geneva, the Office received the visit of Mr. Regan Asgarali, Controller (Ag.), and Mr. Richard Aching, Manager, Technical Examination, Intellectual Property Office of Trinidad and Tobago, and discussed cooperation activities.
89. On September 25, in Geneva, the Office received the visit of Mr. Mir Yaqub Seyidov, Director, Patent Office, State Committee on Standardization, Metrology and Patents of Azerbaijan, representative to the UPOV Council, and Mr. Niyazi Rahimov, Deputy Head of Administration. They were accompanied by Mr. Ilya Gribkov, Program Officer, Department for Transition and Developed Countries (TDC) of WIPO. The Office provided information on UPOV, including legislative matters.
90. On September 26, in Geneva, the Office received the visit of Mr. Twebaze Bemanya, Registrar General, Ms. Judy Obitre-Gama, Board Secretary, and Mr. Gilbert Agaba, Senior Registration Officer, Intellectual Property Rights, Uganda Registration Services Bureau (URSB), to discuss recent developments in relation to the Plant Variety Protection Bill of Uganda.
91. On September 29, in Geneva, the Office received the visit of Mr. Berhanu Adello, Director General, Ethiopian Intellectual Property Office (EIPO), who was accompanied by Mr. Kifle Shenkoru, Director, Division for Least-Developed Countries of WIPO, to discuss the plant variety protection situation in Ethiopia.

92. On September 29, in Geneva, the Office met with Mr. Maurice Batanga, *Chef de service de la coopération et des affaires juridiques*, OAPI, and discussed recent developments at OAPI and UPOV.
93. On September 29, in Geneva, the Office received the visit of Mr. Fernando António Dos Santos, Director General, and Mr. Christopher Kiige, Director Industrial Property, ARIPO, to discuss cooperation activities.
94. On September 29, in Geneva, the Office received the visit of Mr. Abdelhafiz Ibrahim Abdelmonim, Legal Advisor, Council of Protection for Copyright, Related Rights, Literacy and Artistic Works, Ministry of Culture of Sudan, and Mr. Yasser Khashi, Executive Officer, Minister's Executive Office, Ministry of Culture of Sudan. The Office provided information on UPOV and plant variety protection.
95. On September 30, in Geneva, the Office received the visit of Mrs. Grace Issahaque, Principal State Attorney, Ghana, and discussed recent developments in Ghana.
96. On October 2, in Geneva, the Office met with Mr. Marco Marzano de Marinis, Executive Director, Mr. Ron Bonnett (Board Member, Canada) and Mr. Luis Miguel Etchevehere (Board Member, Argentina) of WFO to discuss developments in WFO and UPOV.
97. On October 9, in Brussels, Belgium, the Office attended a meeting of the CPVO Administrative Council.
98. On October 21, in Valencia, Spain, the Office participated in the "Vegetable Variety Open Day", jointly organized by CPVO, OEVV and the Spanish National Institute for Agricultural and Food Research and Technology (*Instituto Nacional de Investigación y Tecnología Agraria y Alimentaria* (INIA)).
99. On October 23 and 24, in Santiago, Chile, the Office participated in a series of meetings with the Ministry of Agriculture and in a Workshop with the National Seed Association of Chile to explain key features of the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention.
100. On October 27 and 28, in Quevedo, Ecuador, the Office participated in a Seminar and a Workshop on Plant Variety Protection to explain key features of the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention and DUS examination, in particular.
101. On October 28 and 29, at WTO headquarters in Geneva, the Office attended the relevant parts of the meeting of the Council for TRIPS.
102. On October 29 and 30, in Skopje, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, the Office provided lectures at the Workshop on the Implementation and Raising Awareness of Plant Variety Protection, organized by the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Economy, in cooperation with UPOV, with the participation of experts from Germany, Czech Republic, CPVO and the assistance of the Multi-Beneficiary Program of the European Union (MBP).
103. From October 29 to 31, 2014, in Harare, Zimbabwe, the Office participated in the Regional Workshop on the Draft ARIPO Protocol for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants, organized by ARIPO in cooperation with UPOV and with the assistance of the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO). The Office provided presentations on "Introduction to UPOV", "Relationship between UPOV Convention and other international treaties", "The role of PVP in technology transfer through public-private partnerships" and "DUS examination arrangements". The Workshop was attended by 14 ARIPO Member States, namely: Botswana, Gambia, Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Rwanda, Sudan, Swaziland, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.
104. On November 3 and 4, the Office provided lectures, via electronic conferencing, at a Workshop on Plant Variety Protection organized by the Seed Association of the Americas (SAA), in Sao Paulo, Brazil.
105. On November 6, in Geneva, the Office received the visit of Mr. Parviz Miraliev, Head of International Cooperation Division, National Center for Patents and Information, Tajikistan, to discuss next steps of the procedure for Tajikistan to become a UPOV member.
106. On November 10, in London, United Kingdom, the Office made a presentation at the XML4IP Task Force Meeting, in order to report on developments in relation to the UPOV Electronic Application Form Project and the proposal for a PVP-XML Schema.



107. On November 12, in Macau, China, the Office made a presentation on latest developments in UPOV at the session on Intellectual Property Rights at the APSA Congress 2014.

108. On November 12, in Seoul, Republic of Korea, the Office participated in the OECD/UPOV/ISTA Joint Workshop on Molecular Techniques, held in conjunction with the fourteenth session of the BMT. The workshop was attended by participants from China, European Union, France, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Japan, Mexico, Netherlands, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, United Kingdom, United States of America, American Seed Trade Association (ASTA), CropLife International, ISF, ISTA and OECD.

109. On November 13 and 14, in Alicante, Spain, the Office provided lectures at the Plant Variety Rights Intensive Module on Plant Variety Protection of the Master of Intellectual Property (Magister Lvcentinvs) of the University of Alicante.

110. On November 14, in Seoul, Republic of Korea, the Office participated in a Joint Symposium on the Current Status and Strategy for Using Molecular Markers in Variety Protection, organized by KSVS and the Korea Plant Molecular Marker Research Cooperative (KPMRMC), where it made a presentation on "Situation in UPOV with regard to the use of molecular techniques.

111. On November 17, in Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe, the Office attended the Thirty-Eighth Session of the Administrative Council of ARIPO.

112. On November 19, in Geneva, the Office received the visit of Ms. Susan H. Bragdon, Representative, Food and Sustainability, Quaker UN Office (FWCC) to discuss the procedure for the granting of observer status in UPOV bodies.

113. On November 25, in Arusha, United Republic of Tanzania, a presentation was made on behalf of the Office at the Plant Variety Protection 2014 Training Course, organized by Naktuinbouw.

114. On November 27 and 28, in Cape Town, South Africa, the Office attended the High-Level Round Table meeting on Plant Variety Protection in Africa, organized by the Integrated Seed Sector Development (ISSD) Africa Program.

115. On December 9 and 10, in Angers, France, the Office attended the Eighteenth Annual Meeting between CPVO and its Examination Offices.

116. From December 9 to 11, in Geneva, the Office organized the first training course "Contributing data to the PLUTO database". The aim of the course was to assist members of the Union that do not provide data for the PLUTO database, or do not provide data on a regular basis, to provide data for the PLUTO database on a regular basis. The course was attended by 11 participants from Albania, Belarus, China, Georgia, Jordan, Republic of Moldova, Trinidad and Tobago, Uzbekistan and Viet Nam.

117. From December 10 to 12, in Stone Town, Zanzibar, United Republic of Tanzania, the Office participated in a Workshop on seed quality and plant breeder's rights, organized by the Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources of Zanzibar (MANR), in collaboration with KOICA. The Office gave presentations on "Introduction to UPOV and Benefits of the UPOV PVP system", "Key Provisions of the UPOV Convention" and "Arrangements for the Examination of Distinctness, Uniformity and Stability (DUS)".

118. From December 14 to 19, in Montevideo, Uruguay, UPOV, in cooperation with WIPO, the Spanish Agency for Cooperation and Economic Development (AECID), the Spanish Plant Variety Office (OEVV) and the Ministry of Agriculture of Spain (MAGRAMA), organized the "Train the trainer course for Ibero-American countries: plant variety protection under the UPOV Convention and complementary forms of intellectual property protection". The course was attended by 21 experts from 16 countries in Latin America: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay and Uruguay. Lectures were given by international speakers from Argentina, European Union (CPVO), Spain, Uruguay, UPOV and WIPO. Participants were invited to take the UPOV Distance Learning Course DL-205 in advance of the training.

119. On December 15, in Geneva, the Office received the visit of Mr. Madoka Koshibe, past President of APSA, President (Chairman of the Board), Mikado Kyowa Seed Co. Ltd. of Japan.

120. On December 15 and 16, in Geneva, the Office received the visit of Mr. Shakeel Bhatti, Secretary of the ITPGRFA and discussed interrelations between UPOV, WIPO and the ITPGRFA.

121. On December 15 and 16, in Lima, Peru, the Office provided lectures at the “Seminar on Plant Breeding in Peru under the UPOV Convention”, organized by the National Institute for the Defense of Competition and Protection of Intellectual Property (INDECOPI), in cooperation with UPOV, the National Institute of Agrarian Innovation and with the contribution of experts from Mexico and Uruguay.

#### Distance Learning Courses

122. Two sessions of the UPOV Distance Learning Course DL-205 in English, French, German and Spanish were held from May 5 to June 8, 2014, and from October 6 to November 9, 2014.

123. A session of the UPOV Distance Learning Course DL-305 “Examination of applications for plant breeders’ rights” in English was held from March 31 to May 11, 2014.

124. A breakdown of the students participating in the UPOV distance learning courses DL-205 and DL-305 is included in Annex III, Sub-Program UV.3, performance indicator 4(a) “Participation in distance learning courses”.

#### IV. RELATIONS WITH STATES AND ORGANIZATIONS

125. The Office provided assistance on plant variety protection legislation to the following members: Canada, Colombia, Dominican Republic and Singapore.

126. The Office provided information on the elements required for the deposit of an instrument of accession to, or ratification of the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention, to the following members: Belgium, Canada, Chile, Kenya and OAPI.

127. The Office provided advice and assistance on the development of plant variety protection legislation according to the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention and/or on the procedure to accede to the UPOV Convention to potential members of the Union. In this respect, the Office had contacts with ARIPO, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Egypt, Guatemala, Malaysia, Mauritius, Myanmar, Pakistan, Senegal, Tajikistan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania and Zimbabwe.

128. The Office met with representatives of intergovernmental organizations to coordinate activities or to provide information on UPOV. The Office participated in meetings of, and discussions with ARIPO, European Union (CPVO), FAO, ISTA, OIF, OAPI, OECD, WIPO and WTO.

129. The Office participated in events organized by the following professional associations in order to follow developments in the practical application of plant variety protection at a global and regional level: AFSTA, APSA, CIOPORA, ISF, SAA and WFO.

#### V. PUBLICATIONS

130. The Office published:

(a) 48 updates of the Plant Variety Database (PLUTO);

(b) the UPOV Trilogy (Publication 357) in French, German and Spanish, comprising an Executive Summary (Publication 357.1) and the proceedings of the following events:

- Symposium on Plant Breeding for the Future (2011) (Publication 357.2)
- Seminar on Plant Variety Protection and Technology Transfer: The Benefits of Public-Private Partnership (2011) (Publication 357.3)
- Symposium on the Benefits of Plant Variety Protection for Farmers and Growers (2012) (Publication 357.4)

(c) the Proceedings of the Seminar on Essentially Derived Varieties, held in Geneva, on October 22, 2013 (Publication 358) in English, French, German and Spanish;

(d) updated editions of the information leaflet “What it is, What it does” on UPOV and plant variety protection in English, French, German and Spanish (Publication No. 437);

(e) answers to frequently asked questions (FAQs) (see <http://www.upov.int/about/en/faq.html>);

(f) the following Test Guidelines, which were adopted by the TC at its fiftieth session, held from April 7 to 9, 2014:

**	TWP	Document No. No. du document Dokument-Nr. No del documento	English	Français	Deutsch	Español	Botanical name
<u>NEW TEST GUIDELINES / NOUVEAUX PRINCIPES DIRECTEURS D'EXAMEN / NEUE PRÜFUNGSRICHTLINIEN / NUEVAS DIRECTRICES DE EXAMEN</u>							
NL	TWO	TG/298/1	Brazilian-jasmine		Brasilijasmin		Mandevilla Lindl., Dipladenia A. DC.
NL	TWO	TG/299/1	Funkia, Hosta, Plantain Lily	Funkia, Hémérocalles du Japon	Funkie	Hosta	Hosta Tratt.
AU	TWA	TG/300/1	Rhodesgrass	Herbe de Rhodes	Rhodesgras	Hierba de Rhodes	Chloris gayana Kunth
CN	TWO	TG/301/1	Lilac	Lilas	Flieder	Lila	Syringa L.
CN	TWF	TG/302/1	Litchi, Lychee	Litchi	Litschi	Litchi	Litchi chinensis Sonn.
MX	TWF	TG/303/1	Vanilla	Vanillier	Vanille-Pflanze	Vainilla, Xanath	Vanilla planifolia Jacks.
<u>REVISIONS OF TEST GUIDELINES / RÉVISIONS DE PRINCIPES DIRECTEURS D'EXAMEN ADOPTÉS / REVISIONEN ANGENOMMENER PRÜFUNGSRICHTLINIEN / REVISIONES DE DIRECTRICES DE EXAMEN ADOPTADAS</u>							
DE	TWA	TG/33/7	Kentucky Bluegrass	Pâturin des prés	Wiesenrispe	Poa de los prados	Poa pratensis L.
ZA	TWA	TG/93/4	Groundnut	Arachide	Erdnuß	Cacahuete, Maní	Arachis L.
HU	TWV	TG/166/4	Opium/Seed Poppy	OEillette, Pavot	Mohn, Schlafmohn	Adormidera, Amapola, Opio	Papaver somniferum L.
DE	TWF	TG/187/2	Prunus Rootstocks	Porte-greffes de Prunus	Prunus- Unterlagen	Portainjertos de prunus	Prunus L.
NL	TWV	TG/198/2	Chives, Asatsuki	Ciboulette, Civette	Schnittlauch	Cebollino	Allium schoenoprasum L.
<u>PARTIAL REVISIONS OF TEST GUIDELINES / RÉVISIONS PARTIELLES DE PRINCIPES DIRECTEURS D'EXAMEN ADOPTÉS / TEILREVISIONEN ANGENOMMENER PRÜFUNGSRICHTLINIEN / REVISIONES PARCIALES DE DIRECTRICES DE EXAMEN ADOPTADAS</u>							
FR	TWV	TG/7/10 and document TC/50/32	Pea	Pois	Erbse	Guisante, Arveja	Pisum sativum L.
FR	TWF	TG/53/7 Rev.	Peach	Pêcher	Pfirsich	Durazno, Melocotonero	Prunus persica (L.) Batsch, Persica vulgaris Mill., Prunus L. subg. Persica
NL/FR	TWV	TG/61/7 Rev.	Cucumber, Gherkin	Concombre, Cornichon	Gurke	Pepino, Pepinillo	Cucumis sativus L.
NL/FR	TWV	TG/104/5 Rev.	Melon	Melon	Melone	Melón	Cucumis melo L.

(f) nine documents adopted by the Council at its forty-eighth ordinary session, held on October 16, 2014:

TGP/2/2	List of Test Guidelines Adopted by UPOV” (Revision)
TGP/5, Section 10/3	Experience and Cooperation in DUS Testing, Section 10 “Notification of Additional Characteristics and States of Expression” (Revision)
TGP/7/7	Development of Test Guidelines (Revision)
TGP/8/2	Trial Design and Techniques Used in the Examination of Distinctness, Uniformity and Stability (Revision)
TGP/14/2 Corr. (S)	Correction of the Spanish version of document TGP/14 “Glossary of Terms Used in UPOV Documents”: Section 2: Subsection 3: Color, paragraph 2.2.2
TGP/0/7	List of TGP Documents and Latest Issue Dates (Revision)

UPOV/INF/16/4	Exchangeable Software (Revision)
UPOV/INF/22/1	Software and Equipment Used by Members of the Union
UPOV/INF-EXN/6	List of INF-EXN Documents and Latest Issue Dates (Revision)

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

[Annexes follow]

## ANNEX I

## MEMBERS OF THE UNION

December 31, 2014

This document provides the status of the members of the Union in relation to the Convention and its various Acts, as of December 31, 2014 (see Articles 31 and 32 of the 1961 Convention, Article 32(1) of the 1978 Act and Article 34(2) of the 1991 Act).

- 1<sup>st</sup> line: International Convention for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants of December 2, 1961
- 2<sup>nd</sup> line: Additional Act of November 10, 1972
- 3<sup>rd</sup> line: Act of October 23, 1978
- 4<sup>th</sup> line: Act of March 19, 1991

Member	Date of signature	Date of deposit of instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession	Date of entry into force
African Intellectual Property Organization	- - -	- - June 10, 2014	- - July 10, 2014
Albania	- - -	- - September 15, 2005	- - October 15, 2005
Argentina	- - -	- November 25, 1994 -	- December 25, 1994 -
Australia	- - - -	- - February 1, 1989 December 20, 1999	- - March 1, 1989 January 20, 2000
Austria	- - - -	- - June 14, 1994 June 1, 2004	- - July 14, 1994 July 1, 2004
Azerbaijan	- - - -	- - - November 9, 2004	- - - December 9, 2004
Belarus	- - - -	- - - December 5, 2002	- - - January 5, 2003
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 (Plurinational State of)	- - - -	- - April 21, 1999 -	- - May 21, 1999 -
Brazil	- - - -	- - April 23, 1999 -	- - May 23, 1999 -

C/49/2  
Annex I, page 2

Member	Date of signature	Date of deposit of instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession	Date of entry into force
Bulgaria	- - -	- - March 24, 1998	- - April 24, 1998
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 -
Costa Rica	- - -	- December 12, 2008	- January 12, 2009
Croatia	- - -	- August 1, 2001	- September 1, 2001
Czech Republic <sup>2/</sup>	- - -	- October 24, 2002	- January 1, 1993 November 24, 2002
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
Dominican Republic	- - -	- May 16, 2007	- June 16, 2007
Ecuador	- - -	- July 8, 1997 -	- August 8, 1997 -
Estonia	- - -	- August 24, 2000	- September 24, 2000
European Union	- - -	- June 29, 2005	- July 29, 2005

<sup>2/</sup> Continuation of the accession of Czechoslovakia (instrument deposited on November 4, 1991; State bound on December 4, 1991).

C/49/2  
Annex I, page 3

Member	Date of signature	Date of deposit of instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession	Date of entry into force
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 April 27, 2012	October 3, 1971 February 11, 1977 March 17, 1983 May 27, 2012
Georgia	- - - -	- - - October 29, 2008	- - - November 29, 2008
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 December 1, 2002	- - April 16, 1983 January 1, 2003
Iceland	- - - -	- - - April 3, 2006	- - - May 3, 2006
Ireland	- - September 27, 1979 February 21, 1992	- - May 19, 1981 December 8, 2011	- - November 8, 1981 January 8, 2012
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
Jordan	- - - -	- - - September 24, 2004	- - - October 24, 2004
Kenya	- - - -	- - April 13, 1999 -	- - May 13, 1999 -
Kyrgyzstan	- - - -	- - - May 26, 2000	- - - June 26, 2000

C/49/2  
Annex I, page 4

Member	Date of signature	Date of deposit of instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession	Date of entry into force
Latvia	- - - -	- - July 30, 2002	- - August 30, 2002
Lithuania	- - - -	- - November 10, 2003	- - December 10, 2003
Mexico	- July 25, 1979 -	- July 9, 1997 -	- August 9, 1997 -
Morocco	- - - -	- - September 8, 2006	- - October 8, 2006
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 -
Norway	- - - -	- - August 13, 1993 -	- - September 13, 1993 -
Oman	- - - -	- - - October 22, 2009	- - - November 22, 2009
Panama	- - - -	- - April 23, 1999 October 22, 2012	- - May 23, 1999 November 22, 2012
Paraguay	- - - -	- - January 8, 1997 -	- - February 8, 1997 -
Peru	- - - -	- - - July 8, 2011	- - - August 8, 2011
Poland	- - - -	- - October 11, 1989 July 15, 2003	- - November 11, 1989 August 15, 2003



C/49/2  
Annex I, page 5

Member	Date of signature	Date of deposit of instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession	Date of entry into force
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
Serbia	- - - -	- - - December 5, 2012	- - - January 5, 2013
Singapore	- - - -	- - - June 30, 2004	- - - July 30, 2004
Slovakia <sup>1</sup>	- - - -	- - - May 12, 2009	- - January 1, 1993 June 12, 2009
Slovenia	- - - -	- - - June 29, 1999	- - - July 29, 1999
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 - June 18, 2007	May 18, 1980 May 18, 1980 - July 18, 2007
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 August 1, 2008	July 10, 1977 July 10, 1977 November 8, 1981 September 1, 2008

<sup>1</sup> Continuation of the accession of Czechoslovakia (instrument deposited on November 4, 1991; State bound on December 4, 1991).

C/49/2  
Annex I, page 6

Member	Date of signature	Date of deposit of instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession	Date of entry into force
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	- - -	- - - April 4, 2011	- - - May 4, 2011
Trinidad and Tobago	- - -	- - December 30, 1997 -	- - January 30, 1998 -
Tunisia	- - - -	- - - July 31, 2003	- - - August 31, 2003
Turkey	- - - -	- - - October 18, 2007	- - - November 18, 2007
Ukraine	- - - -	- - October 3, 1995 December 19, 2006	- - November 3, 1995 January 19, 2007
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 -
Uzbekistan	- - - -	- - - October 14, 2004	- - - November 14, 2004
Viet Nam	- - - -	- - - November 24, 2006	- - - December 24, 2006

Total: 72 members

[Annex II follows]

## ANNEX II

## OVERVIEW OF MISSIONS\* IN 2014

<b>Mission</b>	<b>Location/Month</b>	<b>Staff</b>
OECD Seed Scheme meetings	Edinburgh, United Kingdom (January)	Taveira
Twenty-sixth session of the WIPO IGC	Geneva, Switzerland (February)	Aihara
National Training Course for DUS Experts entitled <i>“Armonización de los trabajos de distinción, homogeneidad y estabilidad de nuevas variedades para los centros acreditados por la OCVV, normativa española, de la UE y de la UPOV”</i>	San Fernando de Henares, Spain (February)	Taveira
Third meeting of the Open-ended Ad Hoc Intergovernmental Committee for the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization (ICNP-3)	Pyeongchang, Republic of Korea (February)	Aihara
Meeting of the Council for TRIPS (WTO headquarters)	Geneva, Switzerland (February)	Huerta
High-Level Awareness Raising Session on the Internationally Harmonized Plant Variety Protection System	Putrajaya, Malaysia (February)	Button, Aihara
Meeting of the World Seed Project Steering Committee (FAO, ISF, ISTA, OECD and UPOV)  UPOV/ISTA/OECD Workshop on “International systems to develop an enabling environment to provide food security and economic development by strengthening the seed sector”  Fourteenth AFSTA Annual Congress	Tunis, Tunisia (March)	Button, Rivoire
WTO Workshop on the TRIPS Agreement and IP-Related Matters	Port Louis, Mauritius (March)	Huerta
CPVO Administrative Council	Nitra, Slovakia (March)	Button
Twenty-seventh session of the WIPO IGC	Geneva, Switzerland (March-April)	Rivoire
WFO General Assembly	Buenos Aires, Argentina (March)	Button
CIOPORA Annual General Meeting	The Hague, Netherlands (April)	Button
OAPI information sessions	Yaoundé, Cameroon (April)	Huerta, Rivoire
Meeting of the Technical Working Group of the OECD Scheme for the Certification of Forest Reproductive Material Moving in International Trade	Paris, France (April)	Taveira
Meeting of the World Seed Project Steering Committee (FAO, ISF, ISTA, OECD and UPOV)	Rome, Italy (May)	Button, Rivoire

\* Missions relate to events held outside UPOV headquarters.

<b>Mission</b>	<b>Location/Month</b>	<b>Staff</b>
Fifth Edition of the WIPO-Queensland University of Technology (QUT) Master of Intellectual Property Law	Brisbane, Australia (May)	Waterhouse (AU)
ISF World Seed Congress 2014	Beijing, China (May)	Button
International Conference "On the Most Important Reserves of Implementing the Food Program in Uzbekistan"	Tashkent, Uzbekistan (June)	Button
Annual Meeting of the OECD Seed Schemes	Zagreb, Croatia (June)	Taveira
Meeting of the Council for TRIPS (WTO headquarters)	Geneva, Switzerland (June)	Huerta
Seventeenth International Course on Plant Variety Protection (Naktuinbouw)	Wageningen, Netherlands (June)	Huerta, Koide
WIPO-WTO Colloquium for Teachers of Intellectual Property	Geneva, Switzerland (June)	Button, Koide
WIPO-UNIGE Summer School on Intellectual Property	Geneva, Switzerland (June)	Huerta, Koide
KOICA/KSVS Training Course "Plant Variety Protection and DUS Testing"	Seoul, Republic of Korea (June-July)	Huerta, Koide
Study visit to the Bundessortenamt	Wurzen, Nossen and Hannover, Germany (July)	Rivoire, Taveira, Oertel
10 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations of the ITPGRFA	Geneva, Switzerland (July)	Button
Twenty-eighth session of the WIPO IGC	Geneva, Switzerland (July)	Koide
AGRA 10K Seed Company Convening	Kampala, Uganda (July)	Rivoire
Seventh Session of the Intergovernmental Technical Working Group on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture of the CGRFA	Rome, Italy (July)	Button, Koide
Meeting at Naktuinbouw	Roelofarendsveen, Netherlands (July)	Button
Seventh Annual Meeting of the EAPVP Forum	Vientiane, Lao People's Democratic Republic (August)	Button, Koide
JICA training course "Quality Control System of Seeds and Seedlings to Facilitate Distribution of High Quality Seeds"	Tsukuba, Japan (August)	Koide
Seminar on Plant Breeders' Rights and X International Workshop on DUS Examination of Plant Varieties	Mexico City, Mexico (August)	Button, Taveira
Presentation at the National Center for Seeds and Seedlings (NCSS)	Kasaoka, Japan (August)	Koide
Technical Working Group Meeting and Annual Meeting of the OECD Forest Seed and Plant Scheme	Paris, France (September)	Taveira
<i>Le Forum francophone de l'innovation</i>	Namur, Belgium (September)	Rivoire
Meeting of Heads of Intellectual Property Offices for Caribbean countries	Geneva, Switzerland (September)	Button, Huerta
CPVO Administrative Council	Brussels, Belgium (October)	Button
Vegetable Variety Open Day	Valencia, Spain (October)	Rivoire

<b>Mission</b>	<b>Location/Month</b>	<b>Staff</b>
Meetings with the Ministry of Agriculture and Workshop with the National Seed Association of Chile	Santiago, Chile (October)	Huerta, Taveira
Seminar and Workshop on Plant Variety Protection	Quevedo, Ecuador (October)	Taveira
Meeting of the Council for TRIPS (WTO headquarters)	Geneva, Switzerland (October)	Koide
Workshop on the Implementation and Raising Awareness of Plant Variety Protection	Skopje, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (October)	Huerta
Regional Workshop on the Draft ARIPO Protocol for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants	Harare, Zimbabwe (October)	Button, Rivoire
SSA Workshop on Plant Variety Protection	Sao Paulo, Brazil (November) (via video conferencing)	Button, Taveira
XML4IP Task Force Meeting	London, United Kingdom (November)	Rivoire
APSA Congress 2014	Macau, China (November)	Rivoire
OECD/UPOV/ISTA Joint Workshop on Molecular Techniques KSVS/KPMMRC Joint Symposium on the Current Status and Strategy for Using Molecular Markers in Variety Protection,	Seoul, Republic of Korea (November)	Button, Koide
Plant Variety Rights Intensive Module on Plant Variety Protection, Master of Intellectual Property (Magister Lvcentinvs) of the University of Alicante	Alicante, Spain (November)	Huerta
Thirty-Eighth Session of the Administrative Council of ARIPO	Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe (November)	Button
High-Level Round Table meeting on Plant Variety Protection in Africa	Cape Town, South Africa (November)	Button
Eighteenth Annual Meeting between CPVO and its Examination Offices	Angers, France (December)	Taveira
UPOV training course "Contributing data to the PLUTO database"	Geneva, Switzerland (December)	Button, Huerta, Koide, Rivoire, Taveira
Workshop on seed quality and plant breeder's rights	Stone Town, Zanzibar, United Republic of Tanzania (December)	Rivoire
Train the trainer course for Ibero-American countries: plant variety protection under the UPOV Convention and complementary forms of intellectual property protection	Montevideo, Uruguay (December)	Huerta, Taveira
Seminar on Plant Breeding in Peru under the UPOV Convention	Lima, Peru (December)	Huerta

## RESULTS AND PERFORMANCE INDICATORS FOR 2014

Table of contents

<b>INTRODUCTION</b> .....	<b>3</b>
<b>Sub-program UV.1: Overall Policy on Plant Variety Protection</b> .....	<b>4</b>
Objectives:.....	4
Expected results .....	4
<i>Results Achieved: Selected Performance Indicators</i> .....	4
1. Organization of Council and Consultative Committee sessions .....	4
(a) <i>Participation in the sessions of the Council and the Consultative Committee</i> .....	4
2. Coordination, monitoring and performance assessment of Program and Budget for the 2014-2015 Biennium.....	4
(a) <i>Delivery of program within budget for the 2014-2015 Biennium</i> .....	4
3. Preparation and adoption of the Program and Budget for the 2016-2017 Biennium.....	4
(a) <i>Preparation and adoption of the Program and Budget for the 2016-2017 Biennium in accordance with the "Financial Regulations and Rules of UPOV"</i> .....	4
4. Council policy.....	4
(a) <i>Recommendations by the Consultative Committee</i> .....	4
4. Council policy (continued).....	6
(b) <i>Decisions by the Council</i> .....	6
(c) <i>Adoption of information and position papers by the Council</i> .....	6
<b>Sub-program UV.2: Services to the Union for enhancing the Effectiveness of the UPOV System</b> .....	<b>7</b>
Objectives:.....	7
Expected results .....	7
<i>Results Achieved: Selected Performance Indicators</i> .....	7
1. Guidance on the UPOV Convention and its implementation and information on its application .....	7
<i>UPOV Collection: visits to the UPOV website in 2014</i> .....	7
(a) <i>Adoption of new or revised information materials concerning the UPOV Convention</i> .....	7
(b) <i>Publication of the UPOV Gazette and Newsletter</i> .....	8
(c) <i>Inclusion of laws of members of the Union in UPOV Lex database</i> .....	8
<i>UPOV Lex database: visits to the UPOV Website in 2014</i> .....	8
(d) <i>Participation in seminars and symposia held in Geneva in conjunction with UPOV sessions</i> .....	8
2. Guidance on the examination of varieties .....	9
(a) <i>Adoption of new or revised TGP documents and information materials</i> .....	9
(b) <i>Adoption of new or revised Test Guidelines</i> .....	10
<i>Test Guidelines: visits to the UPOV Website in 2014</i> .....	10
3. Cooperation for the examination of plant breeders' rights.....	10
<i>GENIE database: visits to the UPOV Website in 2014</i> .....	10
(a) <i>Plant genera and species for which members of the Union have practical experience</i> .....	11
(b) <i>Plant genera and species for which members of the Union cooperate in DUS examination, as indicated in GENIE database</i> .....	11
- <i>General cooperation</i> .....	11
- <i>Number of specific bilateral and regional arrangements on plant variety protection</i> .....	11
(c) <i>Participation in the development of Test Guidelines</i> .....	11
<i>PLUTO database: visits to the UPOV Website in 2014</i> .....	13
(d) <i>Quality and completeness of data in the Plant Variety Database and quality of search facility; and facilities for access to other relevant data</i> .....	13
(e) <i>Exchangeable software included in document UPOV/INF/16 "Exchangeable Software"</i> .....	13
4. Participation by members of the Union and stakeholders in the work of the UPOV bodies .....	14
(a) <i>Participation in the Administrative and Legal Committee</i> .....	14
(b) <i>Participation in the Technical Committee</i> .....	14
(c) <i>Participation in Technical Working Party Sessions</i> .....	14
(d) <i>Participation in Preparatory Workshops for the Technical Working Party Sessions</i> .....	14
(e) <i>Explanation of measures to improve the effectiveness of the TC, TWPs and Preparatory Workshops</i> .....	14

5. UPOV documents and materials in additional languages .....	14
(a) <i>Availability of UPOV documents and materials in languages other than the UPOV languages (English, French, German and Spanish)</i> .....	14
6. Facilitating applications for plant breeders' rights .....	15
(a) <i>Number of applications for plant breeders' rights</i> .....	15
(b) <i>Number of titles granted</i> .....	15
(c) <i>Number of titles in force</i> .....	15
(d) <i>Number of genera/species protected by members of the Union</i> .....	15
(e) <i>Number of genera/species for which varieties have been protected</i> .....	15
(f) <i>Use by members of the Union of standard UPOV references in application forms</i> .....	15
(g) <i>UPOV Electronic Form Project</i> .....	16
7. Provision of information on the UPOV Convention for stakeholders (breeders, farmers, growers, seed-merchants, etc.) .....	16
(a) <i>Stakeholder-orientated information on the UPOV website</i> .....	16
<b>Sub-Program UV.3: Assistance in the Introduction and Implementation of the UPOV System .....</b>	<b>18</b>
Objectives:.....	18
Expected results .....	18
<i>Results Achieved: Selected Performance Indicators</i> .....	18
1. Raising awareness of the role of plant variety protection in accordance with the UPOV Convention .....	18
(a) <i>Publications on the role of plant variety protection, including material on UPOV website</i> .....	18
(b) <i>States and organizations provided with information at UPOV activities</i> .....	18
(c) <i>States and organizations that contacted the Office of the Union for assistance in the development of legislation on plant variety protection</i> .....	18
(d) <i>States and organizations that initiated with the Council of UPOV the procedure for becoming members of the Union</i> .....	18
(e) <i>Participation in UPOV awareness-raising activities, or activities involving UPOV staff or UPOV trainers on behalf of UPOV staff</i> .....	19
2. Assistance in drafting legislation on plant variety protection in accordance with the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention.....	21
(a) <i>States and organizations provided with comments on laws</i> .....	21
(b) <i>States and organizations which received a positive advice from the Council of UPOV</i> .....	21
(c) <i>Meetings with government officials</i> .....	21
3. Assistance to States and organizations in the accession to the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention.....	21
(a) <i>States that acceded to or ratified the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention</i> .....	21
(b) <i>States and organizations that became members of the Union</i> .....	21
4. Assistance in implementing an effective plant variety rights system in accordance with the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention.....	21
(a) <i>Participation in distance learning courses</i> .....	21
(b) <i>Participation by observer States and organizations in the CAJ, TC, TWPs and the associated preparatory workshops</i> .....	23
(c) <i>Participation in UPOV activities</i> .....	23
(d) <i>Participation in activities involving UPOV staff or UPOV trainers on behalf of UPOV staff</i> .....	23
(e) <i>Training provided by UPOV trainers in non-UPOV activities</i> .....	23
(f) <i>Implementation of projects with partner organizations and donors</i> .....	23
<b>Sub-Program UV.4: External Relations .....</b>	<b>24</b>
Objectives:.....	24
Expected results .....	24
<i>Results Achieved: Selected Performance Indicators</i> .....	24
1. Increased public understanding of UPOV's role and activities .....	24
(a) <i>Availability of public-orientated information and materials on UPOV Website</i> .....	24
(b) <i>Visits to website</i> .....	24
<i>Website Overview – Global Coverage</i> .....	24
2. Provision of information to other organizations .....	25
<i>Participation at meetings and/or activities with relevant organizations</i> .....	25

## **INTRODUCTION**

1. This report summarizes achievements during 2014. The report is structured to follow the 2014-2015 Program and Budget (document C/47/4 Rev.), as adopted by the Council at its forty-seventh ordinary session on October 24, 2013.
2. The text offers a brief summary of the progress made towards the achievements of objectives at the level of sub-programs, followed by performance tables summarizing information on objectives, expected results and performance indicators.



## SUB-PROGRAM UV.1: OVERALL POLICY ON PLANT VARIETY PROTECTION

The sessions of the Council and the Consultative Committee provided the basis for policy making, management and coordination of the activities within UPOV's overall program.

- Objectives:**
- ◆ Policy direction and executive management.
  - ◆ Planning, implementation and evaluation of program and budget.

### Expected results

### Results Achieved: Selected Performance Indicators

*1. Organization of Council and Consultative Committee sessions*

*(a) Participation in the sessions of the Council and the Consultative Committee*

*Council*

*Thirty-first extraordinary session:*

87 participants representing 38 members of the Union, 1 observer State and 5 observer organizations

*Forty-eighth ordinary session:*

84 participants representing 43 members of the Union, 2 observer States and 5 observer organizations

*Consultative Committee*

*Eighty-seventh session*

79 participants representing 38 members of the Union

*Eighty-eighth session*

75 participants representing 42 members of the Union

*2. Coordination, monitoring and performance assessment of Program and Budget for the 2014-2015 Biennium*

*(a) Delivery of program within budget for the 2014-2015 Biennium*

Results not available until 2016

*3. Preparation and adoption of the Program and Budget for the 2016-2017 Biennium*

*(a) Preparation and adoption of the Program and Budget for the 2016-2017 Biennium in accordance with the "Financial Regulations and Rules of UPOV"*

Results not yet available

*4. Council policy*

*(a) Recommendations by the Consultative Committee*

The Consultative Committee, at its eighty-seventh session, held in Geneva on April 11, 2014, made a recommendation to the Council:

- to take a positive decision on the conformity of the Draft ARIPO Protocol for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants with the provisions of the 1991 Act of the International Convention for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants;

and it:

- agreed to change the title of the standard item to "Internal Audit and Reports of the WIPO Independent Advisory Oversight Committee";
- agreed to the procedure for the checking of translations before posting on the UPOV website;

**Expected results**

**Results Achieved: Selected Performance Indicators**

4. *Council policy*  
(continued)

- recommended to the Council the adoption of the answers to frequently asked questions (FAQs) and requested the Office of the Union to prepare draft questions and answers with regard to other matters, on the basis of contributions from the members of the Union;
- agreed to invite ISF, CIOPORA and CropLife International to elaborate the problems faced with the current situation and possible solutions offered by an international filing system, a UPOV quality assurance program and a central examination system for variety denominations, and requested the Office of the Union to provide relevant information on the international filing systems of WIPO;
- agreed to the separation of the DL-305 course into two separate courses, DL-305-1 "Administration of Plant Breeders' Rights" and DL-305-2 "DUS Examination", and approved the program for distance learning courses in 2014 to 2015;
- requested the Office of the Union to identify with the Secretary of the ITPGRFA and the Secretariat of WIPO possible areas of interrelations among the international instruments of the ITPGRFA, WIPO and UPOV with a view to a possible joint publication on interrelated issues regarding innovation and plant genetic resources, and other possible initiatives;
- recommended to the Council to create a special UPOV account to finance extra-budgetary projects agreed by the Council (Project Account) and to transfer the amount of the reserve fund exceeding 15 percent of the total income for the 2012-2013 Biennium to that account. It further requested the Office of the Union to prepare a document for consideration at its eighty-eighth session, setting out possible projects, and requested members of the Union to provide proposals to the Office of the Union.

The Consultative Committee, at its eighty-eighth session, held in Geneva on October 15 and 16, 2014, made recommendations to the Council:

- to appoint Mr. Francis Gurry as the Secretary-General of UPOV for the period from October 16, 2014, to September 30, 2020;
- to confirm the decision of March 22, 2013 on conformity of the Plant Breeders' Rights Act for Zanzibar with the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention and to inform the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania that the instrument of accession of the United Republic of Tanzania may be deposited;
- to adopt the following documents:
  - TGP/2 "List of Test Guidelines Adopted by UPOV" (Revision) (document TGP/2/2);
  - TGP/5 "Experience and Cooperation in DUS Testing", Section 10 "Notification of Additional Characteristics and States of Expression" (Revision) (document TGP/5, Section 10/3);
  - TGP/7 "Development of Test Guidelines" (Revision) (document TGP/7/4);
  - TGP/8 "Trial Design and Techniques Used in the Examination of Distinctness, Uniformity and Stability" (Revision) (document TGP/8/2);
  - the correction of the Spanish version of document TGP/14: Section 2: Subsection 3: Color, paragraph 2.2.2 (TGP/14/2 Corr. (S));
  - TGP/0 "List of TGP documents and latest issue dates" (Revision) (document TGP/0/7);
  - UPOV/INF/16 "Exchangeable Software" (Revision) (document UPOV/INF/16/4);
  - UPOV/INF/22 "Software and Equipment Used by Members of the Union" (document UPOV/INF/22/1);
  - UPOV/INF-EXN "List of INF-EXN Documents and Latest Issue Dates" (Revision) (document UPOV/INF-EXN/6);
- to approve the financial statements for 2013;
- to approve the financial management report for the 2012-2013 financial period;
- to approve the calendar of meetings in 2015;

and it:

- requested the Office of the Union to prepare a document to clarify the issues raised and possible ways forward with regard to an international system of cooperation;
- decided to grant observer status to the South Centre in the Council and the CAJ, and to grant observer status to the World Farmers' Organisation (WFO) in the Council, the CAJ and the TC;

**Expected results**

4. Council policy  
(continued)

**Results Achieved: Selected Performance Indicators**

- agreed that information concerning consultants that were used by UPOV in 2014 be presented to the Consultative Committee at its ninetieth session, in October 2015;
- endorsed the plans for the launch of the DL-305 course “Examination of Applications for Plant Breeders’ Rights”, both as a single course, and also as two component courses: DL 305A “Administration of Plant Breeders’ Rights”; and DL-305B “DUS Examination”;
- approved the development of a proposal for a new logo for consideration by the Consultative Committee at its eighty-ninth session and approval by the Council at its thirty-second extraordinary session in March 2015;
- recommended to the Council to adopt answers to frequently asked questions (FAQs) and agreed that the draft FAQ concerning information on the situation in UPOV with regard to the use of molecular techniques for a wider audience, including the public in general, should be referred to the Technical Committee for consideration;
- deferred plans for the updating of the Impact Study pending work to identify with the Secretary of the ITPGRFA and the Secretariat of WIPO possible areas of interrelations among the international instruments of the ITPGRFA, WIPO and UPOV with a view to a possible joint publication on interrelated issues regarding innovation and plant genetic resources;
- approved the issue of invitations to the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Peru to make presentations at the ninetieth session of the Consultative Committee, to be held in October 2015.

*(b) Decisions by the Council*

The Council, at its thirty-first extraordinary session, held in Geneva on April 11, 2014:

- decided to take a positive decision on the conformity of the Draft ARIPO Protocol for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants with the provisions of the 1991 Act of the International Convention for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants;
- adopted answers to frequently asked questions (FAQs);
- decided to create a special UPOV account to finance extra-budgetary projects agreed by the Council (Project Account) and to transfer the amount of the reserve fund exceeding 15 percent of the total income for the 2012-2013 Biennium to that account.

The Council, at its forty-eighth ordinary session, held in Geneva on October 16, 2014:

- decided to appoint Mr. Francis Gurry as the Secretary-General of UPOV for the period from October 16, 2014, to September 30, 2020;
- adopted answers to frequently asked questions (FAQs);
- approved the use of the special project fund for training purposes
- approved the Financial Statements for 2013;
- approved the financial management report for the 2012-2013 financial period;
- elected, in each case for a term of three years ending with the fifty-first ordinary session of the Council, in 2017:
  - Mr. Tanvir Hossain (Australia), Chairman, TWA;
  - Mr. Adrian Roberts (United Kingdom), Chairman, TWC;
  - Mr. Katsumi Yamaguchi (Japan), Chairman, TWF;
  - Mr. Kenji Numaguchi (Japan), Chairman, TWO;
  - Ms. Swenja Tams (Germany), Chairperson, TWV; and
  - Mr. Kees van Ettehoven (Netherlands), Chairman, BMT.

*(c) Adoption of information and position papers by the Council*

The adoption of information materials by the Council is reported in Sub-Program UV.2.

**SUB-PROGRAM UV.2: SERVICES TO THE UNION FOR ENHANCING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE UPOV SYSTEM**

UPOV continued to adopt new and revised information and guidance documents that enhance the understanding and the implementation of the provisions of the Convention in an internationally harmonized and effective way, thereby reinforcing the quality of protection and helping to reduce the cost of obtaining protection. Such measures continue to gain importance for new members of the Union with the increasing number of members of the Union that offer protection for all plant genera and species. In 2014, the adopted Test Guidelines covered 90% of all PBR-related entries in the Plant Variety Database (PLUTO Database). The introduction of version 1 of the web-based TG Template will facilitate the work of leading experts in the drafting of Test Guidelines. In order to explore possible measures to improve the effectiveness of the TC, TWPs and Preparatory Workshops, the TC conducted a series of surveys. To enhance cooperation between members of the Union, the information provided in the GENIE database, PLUTO database and database of laws of members of the Union (UPOV Lex) has been enhanced, with further measures taken in relation to the program for improvements to the PLUTO Database. The project for the development of a UPOV electronic application form made significant progress.

- Objectives:**
- ◆ To maintain and improve the effectiveness of the UPOV system.
  - ◆ To provide and develop the legal, administrative and technical basis for international cooperation in plant variety protection according to the UPOV Convention.

**Expected results      Results Achieved: Selected Performance Indicators**

1. *Guidance on the UPOV Convention and its implementation and information on its application*

*UPOV Collection: visits to the UPOV website in 2014*

Pageviews: 9,153  
(9,336 in 2013; 9,741 in 2012)

Unique pageviews: 6,064  
(5,930 in 2013; 5,865 in 2012)

Language	Pageviews	Unique pageviews
English	6,170	4,220
Spanish	1,911	1,178
French	568	329
German	500	333

*(a) Adoption of new or revised information materials concerning the UPOV Convention*

1. Information materials concerning the UPOV Convention adopted by the Council in 2014:
  - UPOV/INF/16/4 Exchangeable Software (Revision)
  - UPOV/INF/22/1 Software and equipment used by members of the Union
  - UPOV/INF-EXN/6 List of INF-EXN Documents and Latest Issue Dates (Revision)
2. Drafts of the following materials were considered by the CAJ in 2014:
  - UPOV/EXNCAN Explanatory Notes on Cancellation of the Breeder's Right under the UPOV Convention (Revision)
  - UPOV/EXN/EDV Explanatory Notes on Essentially Derived Varieties under the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention (Revision)
  - UPOV/EXN/HRV Explanatory Notes on Acts in Respect of Harvested Material under the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention (Revision)
  - UPOV/EXN/NUL Explanatory Notes on Nullity of the Breeder's Right under the UPOV Convention (Revision)
  - UPOV/EXN/PPM Explanatory Notes on Propagation and Propagating Material under the UPOV Convention
  - UPOV/EXN/PRP Explanatory Notes on Provisional Protection under the UPOV Convention (Revision)
  - UPOV/INF/12 Explanatory Notes on Variety Denominations under the UPOV Convention (Revision)
  - UPOV/INF/15 Guidance for Members of the Union on Ongoing Obligations and Related Notifications and on the Provision of Information to Facilitate Cooperation (Revision)

**Expected results**

1. *Guidance on the UPOV Convention and its implementation and information on its application*  
(continued)

**Results Achieved: Selected Performance Indicators**

(a) *Adoption of new or revised information materials concerning the UPOV Convention*  
(continued)

3. The following materials were considered by the CAJ-AG in 2014:
- |              |   |
|--------------|---|
| UPOV/EXN/CAN | Explanatory Notes on Cancellation of the Breeder's Right under the UPOV Convention (Revision)                   |
| UPOV/EXN/EDV | Explanatory Notes on Essentially Derived Varieties under the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention (Revision)         |
| UPOV/EXN/HRV | Explanatory Notes on Acts in Respect of Harvested Material under the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention (Revision) |
| UPOV/EXN/NUL | Explanatory Notes on Nullity of the Breeder's Right under the UPOV Convention (Revision)                        |
| UPOV/EXN/PPM | Explanatory Notes on Propagation and Propagating Material under the UPOV Convention                             |
| UPOV/EXN/PRP | Explanatory Notes on Provisional Protection under the UPOV Convention (Revision)                                |
| UPOV/INF/12  | Explanatory Notes on Variety Denominations under the UPOV Convention (Revision)                                 |
- Matters concerning variety descriptions

(b) *Publication of the UPOV Gazette and Newsletter*

No issue of the UPOV Gazette and Newsletter was published in 2014.

(c) *Inclusion of laws of members of the Union in UPOV Lex database*

- Australia, France, Georgia, Lithuania, OAPI, Panama, Singapore

*UPOV Lex database: visits to the UPOV Website in 2014*

Pageviews: 88,305  
(88,533 in 2013; 91,245 in 2012)

Unique pageviews: 60,439  
(61,230 in 2013; 62,411 in 2012)

Language	Pageviews	Unique pageviews
English	59,567	40,747
Spanish	18,563	12,505
French	6,664	4,767
German	3,478	2,394

(d) *Participation in seminars and symposia held in Geneva in conjunction with UPOV sessions*

No seminar/symposium was held in 2014.

**Expected results**

**Results Achieved: Selected Performance Indicators**

*2. Guidance on the examination of varieties*

*(a) Adoption of new or revised TGP documents and information materials*

1. TGP documents adopted and published on the UPOV website in 2014:

TGP/2/2	List of Test Guidelines Adopted by UPOV (Revision)
TGP/5, Section 10/3	TGP/5 "Experience and Cooperation in DUS Testing", Section 10 "Notification of Additional Characteristics and States of Expression" (Revision)
TGP/7/4	Development of Test Guidelines (Revision)
TGP/8/2	Trial Design and Techniques Used in the Examination of Distinctness, Uniformity and Stability (Revision)
TGP/14/2 Corr. (S)	Correction of the Spanish version of document TGP/14: Section 2: Subsection 3: Color, paragraph 2.2.2
TGP/0/7	List of TGP Documents and Latest Issue Dates (Revision)
2. Drafts of the following TGP documents advanced in the CAJ, TC and/or the Technical Working Parties in 2014:

TGP/2	List of Test Guidelines Adopted by UPOV (Revision)
TGP/5 Section 10	TGP/5 "Experience and Cooperation in DUS Testing", Section 10 "Notification of Additional Characteristics and States of Expression" (Revision)
TGP/7	Development of Test Guidelines (Revision)
TGP/8	Trial Design and Techniques Used in the Examination of Distinctness, Uniformity and Stability (Revision)
TGP/9	Examining Distinctness
TGP/10	Examining Uniformity
TGP/14	Glossary of Terms Used in UPOV Documents - Correction (Spanish)
3. Drafts of the following information materials advanced in the CAJ, TC and/or the Technical Working Parties in 2014:

UPOV/INF/5	UPOV model plant breeders' rights Gazette (Revision)
UPOV/INF/12	Explanatory Notes on Variety Denominations under the UPOV Convention (Revision)
UPOV/INF/15	Guidance for Members of UPOV on Ongoing Obligations and Related Notifications (Revision)
UPOV/INF/16	Exchangeable Software (Revision)
UPOV/INF/22	Software and equipment used by members of the Union
4. Revision of the following document considered in the Working Group for the Development of a UPOV Denomination Similarity Search Tool (WG-DST):

UPOV/INF/12	Explanatory Notes on Variety Denominations under the UPOV Convention (Revision)
-------------	---

**Expected results**

**Results Achieved: Selected Performance Indicators**

2. *Guidance on the examination of varieties* (continued)

(b) *Adoption of new or revised Test Guidelines*

*Test Guidelines: visits to the UPOV Website in 2014*

Pageviews: 67,900  
(68,479 in 2013; 65,471 in 2012)

Unique pageviews: 40,102  
(38,979 in 2013; 37,227 in 2012)

Language	Pageviews	Unique pageviews
English	53,964	31,782
Spanish	9,930	5,825
French	2,698	1,618
German	1,292	864

*Adopted Test Guidelines*

In 2014, the adopted Test Guidelines covered 90% of all PBR-related entries in the Plant Variety Database (238,388 of 263,614) (in 2013, 91%: 225,241 of 247,818)

14 Test Guidelines adopted by the TC, comprising:

- 6 new Test Guidelines: TWA (1), TWF (2), TWO (3)
- 5 revised Test Guidelines: TWA (2), TWF (1); TWV (2)
- 4 partially revised Test Guidelines: TWF (1); TWV (3)

*Test Guidelines advanced in the Technical Working Parties*

57 draft Test Guidelines advanced by the Technical Working Parties, comprising

- 26 new Test Guidelines: TWA (7), TWF (5), TWO (11), TWV (3)
- 15 revisions: TWA (2), TWF (4), TWO (5), TWV (4)
- 16 partial revisions: TWF (1), TWO (2), TWV (13)

3. *Cooperation for the examination of plant breeders' rights*

*GENIE database: visits to the UPOV Website in 2014*

	2014	2013	Language	Pageviews	Unique pageviews
Sessions	15,586	16,545	English	53,203	28,515
Users	8,364	8,913	Spanish	9,242	5,579
Pageviews	72,018	84,306	French	4,080	2,754
New Visitors	52%	48%	German	2,345	1,600
Returning Visitors	48%	52%			

Top 10 countries visiting the GENIE database in 2014

Country / Territory	Sessions	% New Sessions	New Users
Switzerland	1,232	27,84%	343
France	1,202	56,91%	684
United States of America	965	63,01%	608
Germany	835	66,83%	558
Spain	789	62,86%	496
Japan	787	23,13%	182
Mexico	592	53,72%	318
India	574	81,01%	465
Netherlands	459	46,41%	213
Australia	440	36,14%	159

**Expected results**

**Results Achieved: Selected Performance Indicators**

3. Cooperation for the examination of plant breeders' rights (continued)

(a) Plant genera and species for which members of the Union have practical experience

Practical experience in examination of DUS reported for approximately 3,305 genera or species in 2014 (2,589 in 2013; 2,726 in 2012) - see document TC/50/4

(b) Plant genera and species for which members of the Union cooperate in DUS examination, as indicated in GENIE database

- General cooperation

Authorities which will provide existing DUS reports to any member of the Union:

Australia, Brazil

Authorities which will, for any species for which they have experience in DUS examination, provide existing DUS reports to any member of the Union:

Canada, European Union, Germany, New Zealand, Serbia, Uruguay

Authorities which will accept DUS reports from any other member of the Union:

Australia (except *Solanum tuberosum* L.)

Switzerland will, in general, utilize existing DUS reports provided by any member of the Union. DUS tests are not conducted in Switzerland. In cases where a DUS test report is not available from a member of the Union, the Plant Variety Protection Office will request an appropriate authority or testing station of a member of the Union to perform a DUS test on its behalf.

Canada generally accepts existing DUS reports from other members of the Union for varieties of any taxa which are vegetatively propagated and for which the DUS tests were conducted in a controlled environment greenhouse.

- Number of specific bilateral and regional arrangements on plant variety protection

Agreement for cooperation in variety testing extends to approximately 2,005 genera or species (1,997 in 2013; 1,991 in 2012) – excluding general cooperation (see above and document C/48/5)

(c) Participation in the development of Test Guidelines

*Test Guidelines adopted in 2014:*

- 6 new Test Guidelines: TWA (1), TWF (2), TWO (3), TWV (0)  
drafted by Leading Experts from:
  - Americas: MX (1)
  - Asia/Pacific: AU (1), CN (2),
  - Europe: NL (2)
- 5 revised Test Guidelines: TWA (2), TWF (1), TWO (0), TWV (2)
  - Africa: ZA (1)
  - Europe: DE (2), HU (1), NL (1)
- 4 partially revised Test Guidelines: TWO (1), TWV (3)
  - Europe: FR (3), NL (1)



**Expected results**

**Results Achieved: Selected Performance Indicators**

3. Cooperation for the examination of plant breeders' rights (continued)

(c) Participation in the development of Test Guidelines (continued)

*Test Guidelines under development in 2014:*

- 26 new Test Guidelines: TWA (6), TWA/TWV (1), TWF (5), TWO (11), TWV (3) drafted by Leading Experts from:

Africa:	ZA (3)
Africa/Americas:	KE/BR (1)
Americas:	AR (1), BR (2), MX (3)
Asia/Pacific:	AU (1), JP (7), NZ (2)
Europe:	DK (1), ES (1), FR (3), GB (1),
  
- 15 revisions: TWA (2), TWF (4), TWO (5), TWV (4)

Africa:	ZA (1)
Americas:	MX (1)
Asia/Pacific:	CN (1), JP (1)
Europe:	DE (4), ES (1), FR (3), NL (3)
  
- 16 partial revisions: TWF (1), TWO (2), TWV (13)

Asia/Pacific:	JP (1)
Europe:	ES (2), FR (3), FR/NL (1), NL (9)

Total of 15 members of the Union involved in drafting Test Guidelines (AR, AU, BR, CN, DE, DK, ES, FR, GB, JP, KE, MX, NL, NZ, ZA).

*Development of web-based TG Template:*

Version 1 of the web-based TG Template was introduced with the following features:

- Draft Test Guidelines can be prepared by Leading Experts online via the web-based TG Template
- Fixed template containing all universal standard wording which is appropriate for all Test Guidelines
- Options to add Additional Standard Wording (ASW)
- Links to Guidance Notes (GN)
- A database of characteristics (in English, French, German and Spanish) from Test Guidelines adopted after the adoption of document TGP/7/1 "Development of Test Guidelines"

The database contains all information from the Table of Characteristics, including states of expression, notes and example varieties. The database can be searched for relevant characteristics and a relevant characteristic uploaded into draft Test Guidelines with subsequent modification as required.

**Expected results**

3. Cooperation for the examination of plant breeders' rights (continued)

**Results Achieved: Selected Performance Indicators**

*PLUTO database: visits to the UPOV Website in 2014*

	2014	2013	Language	Pageviews	Unique pageviews
Sessions	46,922	41,957	English	63,425	43,080
Users	13,834	12,145	Spanish	4,888	2,971
Pageviews:	74,226	70,739	French	4,756	3,381
New Visitors	27.7%	27.4%	German	1,157	771
Returning Visitors	72.3%	72.6%			

Top 10 countries visiting the PLUTO database in 2014

Country / Territory	Sessions	% New Sessions	New Users
United States of America	6,328	20.53%	1,299
France	4,015	29.02%	1,165
Netherlands	3,845	24.63%	947
Australia	2,930	10.44%	306
Ukraine	2,210	15.97%	353
Brazil	2,166	36.70%	795
Russia	1,734	13.55%	235
Germany	1,687	34.85%	588
New Zealand	1,586	13.37%	212
Japan	1,572	33.46%	526

*(d) Quality and completeness of data in the Plant Variety Database and quality of search facility; and facilities for access to other relevant data*

- Total number of records included in the PLUTO database at the end of 2014: 688,541 (645,068 at the end of 2013)
- Number of submissions of new data in 2014: 175 (163 in 2013)
- Number of contributors included in the PLUTO database at the end of 2014: 63 (56 in 2013)
- Number of members of the Union that contributed data in 2014: 48 (45 in 2013)
- Number of members of the Union that contributed data for the first time in 2014: 2 (CR, PY) (4 in 2013)
- Number of other contributors of data in 2014: 1 (OECD) (1 in 2013)

Developments in relation to the Plant Variety Database (PLUTO database):

- The fixed timetable for data submission was removed: new data can be sent to the database any time.
- The procedure for the allocation and correction of UPOV codes has been amended. On receipt of data, the PLUTO database administrator will allocate UPOV codes where they have not been provided and will amend UPOV codes where those do not correspond to the allocation in the GENIE database. Contributors will be notified of the proposed allocation and, in the absence of advice to the contrary, the UPOV codes proposed by the PLUTO database administrator will be used. In cases where the contributor notifies the PLUTO database administrator of a misallocation, the data will be amended at the subsequent uploading of data.

*(e) Exchangeable software included in document UPOV/INF/16 "Exchangeable Software"*

SIVAVE

**Expected results**

**Results Achieved: Selected Performance Indicators**

4. *Participation by members of the Union and stakeholders in the work of the UPOV bodies*

*(a) Participation in the Administrative and Legal Committee*

CAJ/69: 96 participants representing 39 members of the Union, 2 observer States, 7 observer organizations

CAJ/70 81 participants representing 36 members of the Union, 2 observer States, 6 observer organizations

*(b) Participation in the Technical Committee*

TC/50: 79 participants representing 40 members of the Union, 2 observer States, 5 observer organizations

*(c) Participation in Technical Working Party Sessions*

330 experts representing 43 members of the Union (members), 9 observer States (obs) and 9 observer organizations (orgs) participated in the Technical Working Parties as follows:

TWA (Argentina):  
23 members (45 participants) / 6 obs (7) / 3 org (3)  
TWC (Finland):  
15 members (24 participants) / 0 obs (0) / 0 org (0)  
TWF (Morocco):  
18 members (39 participants) / 3 obs (3) / 2 org (3)  
TWO (Kenya):  
16 members (45 participants) / 3 obs (3) / 1 org (1)  
T WV (Italy):  
17 members (32 participants) / 0 obs (0) / 3 org (4)  
BMT (Republic of Korea):  
10 members (44 participants) / 1 obs (1) / 5 org (5)

4. *Participation by members of the Union and stakeholders in the work of the UPOV bodies (continued)*

*(d) Participation in Preparatory Workshops for the Technical Working Party Sessions*

146 experts representing 26 members of the Union (members), 5 observer States (obs) and 2 observer organizations (orgs) participated in the Preparatory Workshops as follows:

TWA: 13 members (24 participants) / 5 obs (5) / 0 org (0)  
TWC: 9 members (15 participants) / 0 obs (0) / 0 org (0)  
TWF: 9 members (17 participants) / 3 obs (3) / 0 org (0)  
TWO: 15 members (40 participants) / 3 obs (3) / 1 org (1)  
T WV: 8 members (16 participants) / 0 obs (0) / 0 org (0)  
BMT: 7 members (20 participants) / 1 obs (2) / 1 org (0)

*(e) Explanation of measures to improve the effectiveness of the TC, TWPs and Preparatory Workshops*

The TC, at its fiftieth session, received presentations by the Office of the Union on a survey of participants in the TWPs, preparatory workshops and TC at their sessions in 2013, information on attendance of members of the Union to the TC and TWPs in the last five years, a proposal for TWP invitations and a proposal for survey for participants to all TWPs in 2014.

5. *UPOV documents and materials in additional languages*

*(a) Availability of UPOV documents and materials in languages other than the UPOV languages (English, French, German and Spanish)*

- The 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention was translated into Khmer and Serbian languages (the translations will be verified before publication on the UPOV website).

**Expected results**

**Results Achieved: Selected Performance Indicators**

*6. Facilitating applications for plant breeders' rights*

*(a) Number of applications for plant breeders' rights*

14,788 applications made with members of the Union in 2013 (13,908 in 2012; 13,981 in 2011) (see document C/48/7)

*(b) Number of titles granted*

10,052 titles granted by members of the Union in 2013 (9,822 in 2012; 10,189 in 2011) (see document C/48/7)

*(c) Number of titles in force*

103,261 titles in force with members of the Union in 2013 (99,501 in 2012; 95,164 in 2011) (see document C/48/7)

*(d) Number of genera/species protected by members of the Union*

At the end of 2014, a total of 58 members of the Union offered protection for all plant genera and species (56 in 2013; 53 in 2012) and 14 members of the Union offered protection for a limited number of plant genera and species (15 in 2013; 17 in 2012) (see document C/48/6).

The following member of the Union notified the extension of protection to all plant genera and species in 2014:

Singapore

The following members of the Union notified the extension of protection to additional plant genera and species in 2014:

Brazil, China and South Africa

*(e) Number of genera/species for which varieties have been protected*

Number of plant genera and species with PBR entries in the Plant Variety Database (PLUTO):  
3,454  
(3,297 in August 2013; 3,144 in August 2012)

*(f) Use by members of the Union of standard UPOV references in application forms*

In 2012, 13 members of the Union indicated that the standard references of the UPOV Model Application Form were included in their application forms

In 2013 and 2014, no new information.

**Expected results**

**Results Achieved: Selected Performance Indicators**

6. *Facilitating applications for plant breeders' rights*  
(continued)

(g) *UPOV Electronic Form Project*

In 2012, the CAJ endorsed the development of a prototype electronic form for interested members of the Union and agreed on the form content, status, data format, languages, and the crop/species.

The UPOV electronic form is planned to enable data to be transferred to participating members of the Union in Word, Excel, PDF or XML format. The participating members of the Union would decide in which format(s) to accept data. In the case of XML format, a standard format is planned to be developed, based on WIPO standard ST.96.

In 2013, an illustrative "mock-up" of parts of the prototype electronic form was presented. It was agreed that the prototype would be developed in English only and the Technical Questionnaire would be for Lettuce (*Lactuca sativa* L.).

In 2014, the following members of the Union participated in the project for the development of a prototype electronic form: Argentina; Australia; Brazil; Canada; Colombia; Dominican Republic; Ecuador; European Union; France, Germany, Japan; Mexico; New Zealand; Netherlands, Paraguay; Republic of Korea; Switzerland; United States of America and Viet Nam. A draft PVP-XML schema was developed for consideration by the participants in the fourth meeting on the development of a prototype electronic form, held in Geneva on October 14, 2014. The development of the prototype electronic form was started.

7. *Provision of information on the UPOV Convention for stakeholders*  
(breeders, farmers, growers, seed-merchants, etc.)

(a) *Stakeholder-orientated information on the UPOV website*

The following material was published on the UPOV website in 2014:

- the UPOV Trilogy (in French, German and Spain), containing the following publications:
  - Executive Summary (UPOV Publication 357.1)
  - Symposium on Plant Breeding for the Future (UPOV Publication 357.2)
  - Seminar on Plant Variety Protection and Technology Transfer: the Benefits of Public-Private Partnership (UPOV Publication 357.3)
  - Symposium on the Benefits of Plant Variety Protection for Farmers and Growers (UPOV Publication 357.4)
- the Proceedings of the Seminar on Essentially Derived Varieties, held in Geneva, on October 22, 2013 (Publication 358) in English, French, German and Spanish
- updated editions of the information leaflet "What it is, What it does" on UPOV and plant variety protection in English, French, German and Spanish (Publication No. 437)
- answers to the following frequently asked questions (FAQs):
  - What is UPOV?
  - What does UPOV do?
  - Who can attend UPOV meetings?
  - What is a plant variety?
  - Why do farmers and growers need new plant varieties?
  - Why is plant variety protection necessary?
  - How does plant variety protection work?
  - What are the requirements for protecting a new plant variety?
  - Why does UPOV require varieties to be uniform and stable; doesn't that lead to a loss of diversity?
  - Can breeders use a protected variety in their breeding programs
  - Who can protect a plant variety?
  - Where do I apply for protection of a variety?
  - Can I obtain protection for more than one country from a single application?
  - What are the benefits of plant variety protection and UPOV membership?
  - What is the effect of plant variety protection on varieties that are not protected (e.g. traditional varieties, landraces etc.)?

**Expected results**

**Results Achieved: Selected Performance Indicators**

7. *Provision of information on the UPOV Convention for stakeholders (breeders, farmers, growers, seed-merchants, etc.)*  
(continued)

- What is the relationship between the UPOV Convention and international treaties concerning genetic resources, e.g. the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITPGRFA)?
- What is the relationship between patents and plant breeders' rights?
- What is the relationship between plant breeders' rights and measures regulating commerce, e.g. seed certification, official registers of varieties admitted to trade (e.g. National List, Official Catalogue) etc.?
- Can I protect an existing plant or variety that I discover?
- Does the UPOV Convention allow a variety to be refused protection because it is genetically modified?
- Can I use plant variety protection to protect the following:
  - a trait (e.g. disease resistance, flower color)
  - a chemical or other substance (e.g. oil, DNA)
  - a plant breeding technology (e.g. tissue culture)?
- Can I protect a hybrid variety under the UPOV system?
- Can a farmer replant seed of a protected variety without the authorization of the breeder?
- Can a farmer sell seed of a protected variety without the authorization of the breeder?
- How do I know if a variety is protected?
- Who is responsible for enforcing plant breeders' rights?
- Does UPOV allow molecular techniques (DNA profiles) in the examination of Distinctness, Uniformity and Stability ("DUS")?
- Is it true that UPOV only promotes commercially bred plant varieties geared to industrialized farmers?
- Does the UPOV Convention regulate varieties that are not protected by plant breeders' rights?
- Is it possible for subsistence farmers to exchange propagating material of protected varieties against other vital goods within the local community?
- Under the UPOV system, breeders decide the conditions and limitations under which they authorize the exploitation of their protected varieties. Can farmers, for instance, be allowed to exchange seeds of protected varieties freely within the local community?

### SUB-PROGRAM UV.3: ASSISTANCE IN THE INTRODUCTION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE UPOV SYSTEM

UPOV assisted a number of States in the implementation of plant variety protection based on the UPOV Convention and provided advice to governments in the preparation of legislation. Cooperation with members of the Union, particularly with regard to training courses, provided substantial benefits for outreach. The use of the distance learning courses "Introduction to the UPOV System of Plant Variety Protection under the UPOV Convention" (DL-205) and training of trainers have been of particular importance in providing assistance to a wide range of experts. In 2014, the new distance learning course "Examination of Applications for Plant Breeders' Rights" (DL-305) was launched.

- Objectives:**
- ◆ To raise awareness of the role of plant variety protection according to the UPOV Convention.
  - ◆ To assist States and organizations, particularly governments of developing countries and countries in transition to a market economy, in the development of legislation in accordance with the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention.
  - ◆ To assist States and organizations in their accession to the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention.
  - ◆ To assist States and organizations in implementing an effective plant variety protection system in accordance with the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention.

#### Expected results

1. Raising awareness of the role of plant variety protection in accordance with the UPOV Convention

#### Results Achieved: Selected Performance Indicators

(a) Publications on the role of plant variety protection, including material on UPOV website

See Sub-Program UV.2, performance indicator "7. Provision of information on the UPOV Convention for stakeholders (breeders, farmers, growers, seed-merchants, etc.)", section (a)

(b) States and organizations provided with information at UPOV activities

Albania, Argentina, Belarus, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, European Union, former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, France, Gambia, Georgia, Ghana, Guatemala, Honduras, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malawi, Malaysia, Mexico, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Singapore, Spain, Sudan, Swaziland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, United Kingdom, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Viet Nam, Zambia, Zimbabwe, ARIPO, ASTA, CropLife International, *Groupement technique horticole de Genève*, ISF, ISTA, OAPI, OECD.

See also (e) below

(c) States and organizations that contacted the Office of the Union for assistance in the development of legislation on plant variety protection

Members of the Union: Canada, Chile, Colombia, Singapore

Non-members of the Union: ARIPO, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Egypt, Guatemala, Malaysia, Mauritius, Myanmar, Pakistan, Tajikistan, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Zimbabwe

(d) States and organizations that initiated with the Council of UPOV the procedure for becoming members of the Union

ARIPO, United Republic of Tanzania

**Expected results**

**Results Achieved: Selected Performance Indicators**

1. Raising awareness of the role of plant variety protection in accordance with the UPOV Convention (continued)

(e) Participation in UPOV awareness-raising activities, or activities involving UPOV staff or UPOV trainers on behalf of UPOV staff

(1) Activities organized by, or with, UPOV:

1. National training course for DUS experts on "Harmonizing the examination of distinctness, uniformity and stability for new plant varieties in Spanish examination offices accredited by the Community Plant Variety Office of the European Union (CPVO), Spanish, European Union and UPOV regulations", San Fernando de Henares, Spain (February 2014)
2. Study visit to UPOV headquarters for *Groupement technique horticole de Genève* (February 2014)
3. Pre-Congress Workshop on "International systems to develop an enabling environment to provide food security and economic development by strengthening the seed sector", Tunis, Tunisia (March 2014)
4. Seventh Annual Meeting of the EAPVP Forum, Vientiane, Lao People's Democratic Republic (August 2014)
5. Symposium on "Plant Breeding and Protection of Breeder's Right are Key to Agricultural Development", Vientiane, Lao People's Democratic Republic (August 2014)
6. Seminar and Workshop on Plant Variety Protection, Quevedo, Ecuador (October 2014)
7. Workshop on the Implementation and Raising Awareness of Plant Variety Protection, Skopje, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (October 2014)
8. Regional Workshop on the Draft ARIPO Protocol for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants, Harare, Zimbabwe (October 2014)
9. OECD/UPOV/ISTA Joint Workshop on Molecular Techniques, Seoul, Republic of Korea (November 2014)
10. Training course on "Contributing data to the PLUTO database", Geneva, Switzerland (December 2014)
11. Train the trainer course for Ibero-American countries: plant variety protection under the UPOV Convention and complementary forms of intellectual property protection, Montevideo, Uruguay (December 2014)
12. Seminar on Plant Breeding in Peru under the UPOV Convention, Lima, Peru (December 2014)

(2) Activities/meetings in which UPOV participated:

13. OECD Seed Scheme meetings, Edinburgh, United Kingdom (January 2014)
14. Twenty-sixth session of the WIPO IGC, Geneva, Switzerland (February 2014)
15. Third meeting of the Open-ended Ad Hoc Intergovernmental Committee for the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization (ICNP-3), Pyeongchang, Republic of Korea (February 2014)
16. Meeting of the Council for TRIPS, Geneva, Switzerland (February 2014)
17. High-Level Awareness Raising Session on the Internationally Harmonized Plant Variety Protection System, Putrajaya, Malaysia (February 2014)
18. Fourteenth AFSTA Annual Congress, Tunis, Tunisia (March 2014)
19. WTO Workshop on the TRIPS Agreement and IP-Related Matters, Port Louis, Mauritius (March 2014)
20. CPVO Administrative Council, Nitra, Slovakia (March 2014)
21. WIPO-UBIS program for a group of Phd. students from the L.N. Gumilyov Eurasian National University of Kazakhstan, Geneva, Switzerland (March 2014)
22. Twenty-seventh session of the WIPO IGC, Geneva, Switzerland (March 2014)
23. WFO General Assembly, Buenos Aires, Argentina (March 2014)
24. CIOPORA Annual General Meeting, The Hague, Netherlands (April 2014)
25. Information sessions with OAPI officials, Yaoundé, Cameroon (April 2014)
26. Technical Working Group of the OECD Scheme for the Certification of Forest Reproductive Material Moving in International Trade, Paris, France (April 2014)
27. Fifth Edition of the WIPO-QUT Master of Intellectual Property Law, Brisbane, Australia (May 2014)
28. ISF World Seed Congress 2014, Beijing, China (May 2014)



**Expected results**

1. Raising awareness of the role of plant variety protection in accordance with the UPOV Convention (continued)

**Results Achieved: Selected Performance Indicators**

- (2) Activities/meetings in which UPOV participated (*continued*):
29. International Conference "On the Most Important Reserves of Implementing the Food Program in Uzbekistan", Tashkent, Uzbekistan (June 2014)
  30. Annual Meeting of the OECD Seed Schemes, Zagreb, Croatia (June 2014)
  31. Meeting of the Council for TRIPS, Geneva, Switzerland (June 2014)
  32. Seventeenth International Course on Plant Variety Protection (Naktuinbouw 2014), Wageningen, Netherlands (June 2014)
  33. WIPO-WTO Colloquium for Teachers of Intellectual Property, Geneva, Switzerland (June 2014)
  34. WIPO-UNIGE Summer School on Intellectual Property, Geneva, Switzerland (June 2014)
  35. KOICA/KSVS Training Course on "Plant Variety Protection and DUS Testing", Seoul, Republic of Korea (June-July 2014)
  36. 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture Coming into Force, Geneva, Switzerland (July 2014)
  37. Twenty-eighth session of the WIPO IGC, Geneva, Switzerland (July 2014)
  38. AGRA 10K Seed Company Convening, Kampala, Uganda (July 2014)
  39. Seventh Session of the Intergovernmental Technical Working Group on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture of FAO CGRFA, Rome, Italy (July 2014)
  40. Meeting at Naktuinbouw headquarters to discuss developments in the Netherlands and UPOV, Roelofarendsveen, Netherlands (July 2014)
  41. JICA training course "Quality Control System of Seeds and Seedlings to Facilitate Distribution of High Quality Seeds", Tsukuba, Japan (August 2014)
  42. Seminar on Plant Breeders' Rights, Mexico City, Mexico (August 2014)
  43. X International Workshop on DUS Examination of Plant Varieties, Mexico City, Mexico (August 2014)
  44. Information session on UPOV at the National Center for Seeds and Seedlings (NCSS), Nishi Nihon Station, Kasakoka, Japan (August 2014)
  45. Technical Working Group Meeting and Annual Meeting of the OECD Forest Seed and Plant Scheme, Paris, France (September 2014)
  46. Forum francophone de l'innovation, Namur, Belgium (September 2014)
  47. Meeting of Heads of Intellectual Property Offices for Caribbean countries, Geneva, Switzerland (September 2014)
  48. CPVO Administrative Council, Brussels, Belgium (October 2014)
  49. Vegetable Variety Open Day, Valencia, Spain (October 2014)
  50. Meetings with the Ministry of Agriculture and Workshop with the National Seed Association of Chile, Santiago, Chile (October 2014)
  51. Meeting of the Council for TRIPS, Geneva, Switzerland (October 2014)
  52. SAA Workshop on Plant Variety Protection, Sao Paulo, Brazil (via electronic conferencing) (November 2014)
  53. XML4IP Task Force Meeting, London, United Kingdom (November 2014)
  54. APSA Congress 2014, Macau, China (November 2014)
  55. Plant Variety Rights Intensive Module on Plant Variety Protection of the Master of Intellectual Property (Magister Lvcentinvs), Alicante, Spain (November 2014)
  56. KSVS/KPMMRC Joint Symposium on the Current Status and Strategy for Using Molecular Markers in Variety Protection, Seoul, Republic of Korea (November 2014)
  57. Thirty-Eighth Session of the Administrative Council of ARIPO, Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe (November 2014)
  58. High-Level Round Table meeting on Plant Variety Protection in Africa, Cape Town, South Africa (November 2014)
  59. Eighteenth Annual Meeting between CPVO and its Examination Offices, Angers, France (December 2014)
  60. Workshop on seed quality and plant breeder's rights, Stone Town, Zanzibar, United Republic of Tanzania (December 2014)

<b>Expected results</b>	<b>Results Achieved: Selected Performance Indicators</b>
<p>2. Assistance in drafting legislation on plant variety protection in accordance with the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention</p>	<p>(a) States and organizations provided with comments on laws Members of the Union: Singapore  Non-members of the Union: ARIPO, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brunei Darussalam, Egypt, Guatemala, Mauritius, Myanmar, Tajikistan, United Republic of Tanzania</p> <p>(b) States and organizations which received a positive advice from the Council of UPOV United Republic of Tanzania (whole territory), ARIPO</p> <p>(c) Meetings with government officials Members of the Union: Chile  Non-members of the Union: ARIPO, Egypt, Malaysia, Mauritius, Pakistan, United Republic of Tanzania</p>
<p>3. Assistance to States and organizations in the accession to the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention</p>	<p>(a) States that acceded to or ratified the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention OAPI</p> <p>(b) States and organizations that became members of the Union OAPI</p>
<p>4. Assistance in implementing an effective plant variety rights system in accordance with the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention</p>	<p>(a) Participation in distance learning courses</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. UPOV DL-205 "Introduction to the UPOV System of Plant Variety Protection under the UPOV Convention"</li> <li>2. UPOV Distance Learning Course DL-305 "Examination of applications for plant breeders' rights"</li> </ol>

List of countries and organizations from which there were participants in the UPOV distance learning course (in 2014)

Albania, Argentina, Belgium, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Ecuador, Egypt, Estonia, Ethiopia, European Union, France, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Honduras, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Islamic Republic of Iran, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Malaysia, Mexico, Morocco, Myanmar, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, OAPI, Oman, Paraguay, People's Democratic Republic of China, People's Democratic Republic of Lao, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Senegal, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Spain, Sri Lanka, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Uganda, United Kingdom, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Vietnam (total: 63 countries and 2 organizations).

Total number of participants in main sessions of the DL-205 Course by category (two sessions in 2014)

Category	Number of students
Category 1: Government officials of members of the Union nominated by the relevant representative to the UPOV Council No fee	196
Category 2: Officials of observer States / intergovernmental organizations nominated by the relevant representative to the UPOV Council One non-fee paying student per State / intergovernmental organization; Additional students: CHF1,000 per student	7
Category 3: Others Fee: CHF1,000	18
Category 4: Discretionary waiving of fee for selected students	8
<b>Total:</b>	<b>229</b>

Total number of participants in main sessions of the DL-205 Course  
by language (in 2014)

	English	French	German	Spanish	Total
Session I: Total by language	55	2	1	25	83
Session II: Total by language	53	14	6	73	146
				Total:	229

Special sessions of DL-205 (in 2014)

Month/ Year	Name of Course	Language	Number of participants
June 2014	Naktuinbouw International Course on Plant Variety Protection Course (Netherlands)	EN	11
July 2014	KOICA Training Course on Plant Variety Protection (Republic of Korea)	EN	13
July 2014	JICA Training Course on "Internationally Harmonized Plant Variety Protection System" (Japan)	EN	10
October 2014	Arusha PVP Training Course (United Republic of Tanzania)	EN	10
September 2014	International Seminar on Plant Variety protection and International Workshop on Plant Variety Characteristics: fine cocoa aroma (Ecuador)	ES	219
November 2014	Training Course for Ibero-American Countries on the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (Uruguay)	ES	2

Total number of participants in the DL-305 Course (English only)  
(one session in 2014)

Category	Number of students
Category 1: Government officials of members of the Union nominated by the relevant representative to the UPOV Council No fee	86

**Expected results**

*4. Assistance in implementing an effective plant variety rights system in accordance with the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention (continued)*

**Results Achieved: Selected Performance Indicators**

*(b) Participation by observer States and organizations in the CAJ, TC, TWPs and the associated preparatory workshops*

See Sub-Program UV.2, performance indicator 4 "Participation by members of the Union and stakeholders in the work of the UPOV bodies", sections (a) to (d)

*(c) Participation in UPOV activities*

See Sub-Program UV.3, performance indicator 1 "Raising awareness of the role of plant variety protection in accordance with the UPOV Convention", section (b)

*(d) Participation in activities involving UPOV staff or UPOV trainers on behalf of UPOV staff*

Albania, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Belarus, Belize, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Croatia, Czech Republic, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, European Union, Fiji, France, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Malawi, Malaysia, Mauritius, Mexico, Morocco, Myanmar, Nepal, Netherlands, Nigeria, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Philippines, Poland, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Senegal, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Sri Lanka, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uganda, Uzbekistan, Vietnam, Venezuela, Zimbabwe. Participants also from Kosovo, Palestine.

*(e) Training provided by UPOV trainers in non-UPOV activities*

Not yet available

*(f) Implementation of projects with partner organizations and donors*

World Seed Project: 4 electronic meetings, 2 face-to-face meetings of the Steering Committee

## SUB-PROGRAM UV.4: EXTERNAL RELATIONS

The UPOV website continues to be the focal point for dissemination of information. In 2014, the UPOV Trilogy, comprising an Executive Summary and the proceedings of the “Symposium on Plant Breeding for the Future”, the “Seminar on Plant Variety Protection and Technology Transfer: the Benefits of Public-Private Partnership” and the “Symposium on the Benefits of Plant Variety Protection for Farmers and Growers”, was published in printed and electronic form in French, German and Spanish. The regular publication of press releases, including those highlight developments in the Council of UPOV, provide a valuable means of disseminating information to the general public. As part of the communication strategy, a further set of answers to frequently asked questions was published.

A number of intergovernmental organizations have invited UPOV to contribute to their work. UPOV has participated in meetings with other relevant organizations.

- Objectives:**
- ◆ To broaden and enhance the understanding of the UPOV system of plant variety protection.
  - ◆ To provide information on the UPOV Convention to other intergovernmental organizations, with the aim of achieving mutual supportiveness with other international treaties.
  - ◆ To inform members of the Union of developments of relevance to UPOV.

### Expected results      Results Achieved: Selected Performance Indicators

1. Increased public understanding of UPOV's role and activities

(a) Availability of public-orientated information and materials on UPOV Website

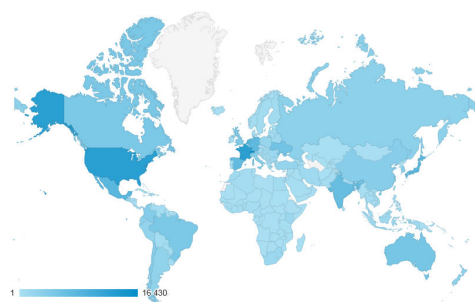
Information and materials added to the website in 2014:

- See Sub-Program UV.2, performance indicator “7. Provision of information on the UPOV Convention for stakeholders (breeders, farmers, growers, seed-merchants, etc.)”, section (a)
- Three press releases

(b) Visits to website

	2014 compared to 2013 (%)	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
Number of Sessions:	+4.70%	187,125	178,732	151,914	140,371	118,895
Unique Users:	+2.32%	86,291	84,336	71,506	75,673	62,758
Number of pageviews:	-0.11%	1,127,786	1,129,052	1,139,570	798,942	656,722
Number of pages/visit:	-4.59%	6.03	6.32	7.50	5.69	5.52
Average visit duration:	-8.86%	00:06:00	00:06:35	00:07:19	00:04:41	00:04:12
Percentage of new visits:	-19.07%	44.19%	54.6%	45.05%	51.91%	50.57%

#### Website Overview – Global Coverage



#### Sessions by country:

1.	Switzerland	(8.78%)
2.	United States of America	(6.84%)
3.	France	(6.69%)
4.	Mexico	(4.27%)
5.	Netherlands	(4.22%)
6.	Japan	(4.12%)
7.	Germany	(3.92%)
8.	Spain	(3.80%)
9.	India	(3.58%)
10.	Ukraine	(2.86%)

**Expected results      Results Achieved: Selected Performance Indicators**

1. *Increased public understanding of UPOV's role and activities* (continued)      (b) *Visits to website* (continued)

Language of visitor's browser	2014		2013		2012		2011		2010	
	Visits	%	Visits	%	Visits	%	Visits	%	Visits	%
1. en-us	72,248	38.61	70,706	39.56	57,341	37.75	50,571	36.03	46,527	39.13
2. es	18,154	9.70	18,669	10.45	19,001	12.51	23,605	16.82	16,141	13.58
3. fr	11,862	6.34	13,876	7.76	14,212	9.36	10,670	7.60	11,169	9.39
4. es-es	9,180	4.91	9,234	5.17	5,698	3.75	9,124	6.50	4,104	3.45
5. ru	6,824	3.65	6,596	3.69	3,630	2.39	3,168	2.26	2,509	2.11
6. ja	5,729	3.06	6,444	3.61	7,562	4.98	6,387	4.55	5,349	4.50
7. en-gb	4,508	2.41	3,028		2,371		2,069		1,842	
8. pt-br	4,386	2.34	4,014	2.25	3,148		2,073		1,907	
9. de-de	3,993	2.13	3,998	2.24	4,562	3.00	5,577	3.97	7,068	5.94
10. zh-cn	3,641	1.95	3,452		3,350		3,324		2,749	

1. en-us: American English; 2. es: Spanish; 3. fr: French; 4. es-es: Castilian Spanish; 5. ru: Russian; 6. ja: Japanese; 7. en-gb: British English; 8. pt-br: Brazilian Portuguese; 9. de-de: German (Standard); 10. zh-cn: Chinese, Mainland China

2. *Provision of information to other organizations*      *Participation at meetings and/or activities with relevant organizations*

1. Intergovernmental organizations:  
ARIPO, European Union (CPVO), FAO, ISTA, OIF, OAPI, OECD, WIPO and WTO.
2. Other organizations:  
AFSTA, APSA, CIOPORA, ISF, SAA and WFO.

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<sup>i</sup> Definitions used in Website statistics in this report:

- "Users" are individuals who have had at least one session within the selected date range.
- A "session" is the period of time a user is actively engaged with your website. "Sessions" are the total number of sessions within the given date range.
- "Unique Pageviews" are the number of visits during which the specified page was viewed at least once.
- "Pageviews" are the total number of times that a page was viewed. Repeated views of a single page by the same user during the same session are counted.

[Appendix follows]

## APPENDIX

## ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

UPOV terms

BMT	Working Group on Biochemical and Molecular Techniques, and DNA-Profiling in Particular
CAJ	Administrative and Legal Committee
DL-205	UPOV distance learning course "Introduction to the UPOV System of Plant Variety Protection under the UPOV Convention"
DL-305	UPOV distance learning course "Examination of Applications for Plant Breeders' Rights"
DUS	Distinctness, Uniformity and Stability
EDV	essentially derived variety
Office	Office of the Union
PBR	Plant Breeder's Right
TC	Technical Committee
TC-EDC	Enlarged Editorial Committee
TWA	Technical Working Party for Agricultural Crops
TWC	Technical Working Party on Automation and Computer Programs
TWF	Technical Working Party for Fruit Crops
TWO	Technical Working Party for Ornamental Plants and Forest Trees
TWP(s)	Technical Working Party(ies)
TWV	Technical Working Party for Vegetables

Acronyms

AATF	African Agricultural Technology Foundation
AECID	Spanish Agency for Cooperation and Economic Development
AFSA	Alliance for Food Sovereignty in Africa
AFSTA	African Seed Trade Association
AGRA	Alliance for Green Revolution in Africa
APBREBES	Association for Plant Breeding for the Benefit of Society
APSA	Asia and Pacific Seed Association
ARIPO	African Regional Intellectual Property Organization
ASEAN	Southeast Asian Nations
ASTA	American Seed Trade Association
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
CGRFA	Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture
CIOPORA	International Community of Breeders of Asexually Reproduced Ornamental and Fruit Varieties
CPVO	Community Plant Variety Office of the European Union
EAPVP Forum	East Asia Plant Variety Protection Forum
EPFL	Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Lausanne
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FWCC	Friends World Committee for Consultation
IAOC	WIPO Independent Advisory Oversight Committee
IAOD	WIPO Audit and Oversight Division
ICNP	Open-ended Ad Hoc Intergovernmental Committee for the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-sharing
IHEID	Swiss Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies
ISF	International Seed Federation
ISTA	International Seed Testing Association
ITPGRFA	International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture
JICA	Japan International Cooperation Agency
KOICA	Korea International Cooperation Agency
KSVS	Korea Seed and Variety Service
OAPI	African Intellectual Property Organization

OIF	Organisation internationale de la francophonie
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-Operation and Development
OEVV	Spanish Plant Variety Office
PCT	WIPO Patent Cooperation Treaty
QUNO	Quaker UN Office
QUT	Queensland University of Technology
SAA	Seed Association of the Americas
TRIPS	Trade Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights
UBIS	University of Business and International Studies
UN	United Nations
UNIGE	University of Geneva
USPTO	United States Patent and Trademark Office
WFO	World Farmers' Organization
WIPO	World Intellectual Property Organization
WIPO IGC	WIPO Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore
WIPO SCP	WIPO Standard Committee on Patents
WTO	World Trade Organization

[End of appendix and of document]