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(UPOV)

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INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR THE PROTECTION OF NEW VARIETIES OF PLANTS

GENEVA

COUNCIL

Twelfth Ordinary Session Geneva, December 6 to 8, 1978

ACTIVITIES RESULTING FROM THE DIPLOMATIC CONFERENCE

Report by the Secretary-General of UPOV

1. Immediately after the Diplomatic Conference, a circular letter was sent to the participants in that Conference (Circular No. U 456/314 of October 25, 1978). The following documents were sent under separate cover:

the text of the International Convention for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants of December 2, 1961, as revised at Geneva on November 10, 1972, and on October 23, 1978 (hereinafter referred to as "the Revised Text of the Convention" or "the Revised Text"), in English, French and German;

the two Recommendations adopted by the Conference, in English, French and German;

the final list of participants (trilingual);

the list of documents distributed during the Conference (trilingual);

the list of Officers, Committees and Working Groups of the Conference (trilingual);

the list of States having signed the Revised Text of the Convention on October 23, 1978 (trilingual);

the list containing the names of signatories (trilingual).

2. As the next step, it is intended to send, in accordance with Article 42(2) of the Revised Text of the Convention, two certified copies of that text in English, French and German to the Governments of all States which were represented at the Diplomatic Conference. A covering Note will invite those States which have already signed the Revised Text of the Convention to ratify, accept or approve it. As far as States are concerned which were represented at the Diplomatic Conference but have not yet signed the Revised Text of the Convention, the covering Note will refer to the fact that the Revised Text remains open for signature until October 31, 1979. It is intended to enclose in addition a summary of the more important amendments to the Convention incorporated in the Revised Text. The Minister of Agriculture and selected individuals in the respective countries will receive copies of the said Note and its enclosures.

- 3. A Note will be sent to the Minister of Foreign Affairs of those States which were invited to participate in the Diplomatic Conference but did not attend. Reference will be made in that Note to the possibility of acceding to the Revised Text of the Convention. One copy--not certified--of the Revised Text of the Convention and a summary of the more important amendments to the Convention incorporated in the Revised Text will be attached to that Note. Copies of the Note and its enclosures will also be sent to the Minister of Agriculture and to selected individuals in the respective countries.
- 4. A circular letter, enclosing a copy of the Revised Text of the Convention in English, French and German and a summary of the more important amendments to the Convention incorporated in the Revised Text, will be sent to the intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations which were invited to the Diplomatic Conference, whether they attended or not. In these cases also, copies will be sent to selected individuals connected with such organizations.
- 5. At present, mimeographed copies of the Revised Text as laid open for signature are available at the Office of UPOV and are furnished, free of charge, on request. In connection with the printing of the Revised Text in the periodical "Industrial Property" and "La Propriété industrielle", separate prints [tirages à part] will be prepared. A limited number of copies of these separate prints will be available to Governments, free of charge, on request.
- 6. In the course of 1979, the Office of the Union will prepare the usual brochures containing the Revised Text of the Convention, in English, French and German.
- 7. Translations of the Revised Text of the Convention will be prepared in the Arabic, Dutch, Italian, Japanese and Spanish languages as a basis for preparing official texts in those languages in accordance with Articles 42(3) of the Revised Text of the Convention. These translations will be made by outside translators within the budgetary limits.
- 8. The Revised Text of the Convention in English has been included in the UPOV-Newsletter No. 15, which just has been published.
- 9. The discussions of the Diplomatic Conference meeting in Plenary have been recorded on tape. The tapes are being transcribed by a specialized firm in the United Kingdom. As soon as the transcriptions are available, the Office of the Union will edit them and will send them to the speakers in the Plenary for approval of the transcriptions of their interventions within a certain time limit. After the expiration of the time limit, the Office of the Union will prepare the Records of the Diplomatic Conference (Actes de la Conférence diplomatique). The Records will eventually be prepared in English, French and German. A limited number will be distributed free of charge to Governments. Otherwise they will be sold for a price still to be determined.

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