



CAJ/72/8

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INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR THE PROTECTION OF NEW VARIETIES OF PLANTS

Geneva

ADMINISTRATIVE AND LEGAL COMMITTEE**Seventy-Second Session
Geneva, October 26 and 27, 2015**

SCHEDULING OF CAJ SESSIONS

*Document prepared by the Office of the Union**Disclaimer: this document does not represent UPOV policies or guidance*

1. At the seventy-first session¹ of the Administrative and Legal Committee (CAJ), the Chair noted that there were important issues on the agenda of the CAJ, but observed that there were only a few items to be discussed. That led him to wonder whether those items could be considered in a single two-day session rather than the current practice of a one-day CAJ session in March/April and a two-day CAJ session in October/November. He was of the opinion that two days would be sufficient to discuss the agenda items. He made reference to the Technical Committee (TC), which held one session per year, and suggested that the CAJ might also wish to consider the benefits of meeting only once a year. He indicated that a decision would not need to be taken at that time but expressed the view that it would be appropriate to reflect on that question, in October 2015, when considering the program for the seventy-third session of the CAJ.
2. The Vice Secretary-General explained² that the possibility of holding a CAJ session once per year had been raised by the Chair after consultation with the Office of the Union. In support of the question raised by the Chair, he noted that certain delegates had expressed the wish to have draft information materials and explanatory notes published on the UPOV website earlier than six weeks before the session, in order to have more time for consultation. However, with only six months between the two sessions of the CAJ, it was difficult to prepare new versions of documents in the four languages earlier than six weeks before the session. The Vice Secretary-General also made reference to the costs for organizing each session of the CAJ, and costs for participants.
3. The CAJ decided² that, under the item "Program for the seventy-third session", at its seventy-second session, it would consider the schedule of CAJ sessions in 2016 (see document CAJ/71/10 "Report on the Conclusions", paragraph 89).
4. The Consultative Committee, at its eighty-ninth session, held in Geneva on March 27, 2015, agreed to consider matters on the schedule of the UPOV sessions under the item "Preparation of the calendar of meetings", at its ninetieth session to be held on October 28, 2015 (see document CC/89/11 "Report on the Conclusions", paragraph 45).
5. A report on the conclusions of the CAJ, on the schedule of the CAJ sessions, will be made to the Consultative Committee, at its ninetieth session, to be held on October 28, 2015.

¹ held in Geneva on March 26, 2015.

² at the seventy-first session of the CAJ.

6. *The CAJ is invited to consider the scheduling of the CAJ sessions, under the item "Program for the seventy-third session".*

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