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INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR THE PROTECTION OF NEW VARIETIES OF PLANTS

GENEVA

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Eighteenth Session

Geneva, November 18 and 19, 1982

CONVERSION OF LINES

document prepared by the Office of the Union

The Annex to this document contains a motion adopted by the Maize section of ASSINSEL received by the Office of UPOV with a letter from ASSINSEL dated October 27, 1982. The motion might be considered under item 11 (Minimum Distances Between Varieties) of the draft Agenda of the eighteenth session of the Technical Committee (document TC/XVIII/1).

[Annex follows]

ANNEX

MOTION ADOPTED BY THE MAIZE SECTION OF ASSINSEL AT THE
MEETING ON THE 3rd JUNE 1982 AT VENICE

- 1) The problem of conversion of lines used with a view to appropriation exists.
- 2) The problem is important, whatever the countries concerned.
- 3) The Section wish UPOV to take all measures so as to ensure that UPOV member States apply the Paris Convention in an uniform way.
- 4) The Section asks UPOV member States to take the necessary steps to avoid that through the conversion of lines genetic material of the breeders would be appropriated and pirated.
- 5) It is proposed that in reaching a decision which concerns the protection of new lines, especially in those cases where the new line differs from an existing protected line by only one or several wellknown characteristics, that special consideration is given to the protection of the rights already granted with respect to the existing and protected line. In those cases where difficulty is experienced in determinating clearly distinctness of a new line from an existing protected line, the decision will be supported by the opinion of national experts, when they exist, designated by the official national authorities and whose task it is to fix the criteria of distinction.

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