

INTERNATIONALER VERBAND  
ZUM SCHUTZ VON  
PFLANZENZÜCHTUNGEN  
  
GENÈVE, SCHWEIZ



UNION INTERNATIONALE  
POUR LA PROTECTION  
DES OBTENTIONS VÉGÉTALES  
  
GENÈVE, SUISSE

INTERNATIONAL UNION  
FOR THE PROTECTION OF  
NEW VARIETIES OF PLANTS  
  
GENEVA, SWITZERLAND

## UPOV Press Release No. 47

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### CROATIA ACCEDES TO UPOV

Today Croatia became the forty-eighth member State of the International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV).

The purpose of the UPOV Convention is to acknowledge the achievements of breeders of new plant varieties by granting them an exclusive property right on the basis of a set of uniform and clearly defined principles. To be eligible for protection, varieties have to meet certain conditions such as being distinct from existing, commonly known varieties and sufficiently homogeneous and stable. Protection is given to plant breeders as an incentive to the development of agriculture, horticulture and forestry. Improved varieties are a necessary and cost-effective ingredient for achieving food security in a sustainable way.

The Director General of WIPO, Dr. Kamil Idris, who is also Secretary-General of UPOV, welcomed the accession of Croatia to the UPOV Convention (1991 Act).

The member States of the International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV) are:

Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Trinidad and Tobago, Ukraine, United Kingdom, United States of America, Uruguay.

UPOV, an intergovernmental organization based in Geneva, cooperates in administrative matters with the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO).

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