

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. 52

Geneva, October 24, 2002

ACCESSION OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC TO THE 1991 ACT
OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION
FOR THE PROTECTION OF NEW
VARIETIES OF PLANTS

The Government of the Czech Republic deposited its instrument of accession to the 1991 Act of the International Convention for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants on October 24, 2002.

UPOV is an intergovernmental organization which cooperates in administrative matters with the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) and has its headquarters in the WIPO building in Geneva, Switzerland.

The purpose of the International Convention for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants is to recognize and to ensure an intellectual property right to the breeder of a new plant variety. The member States of UPOV grant such a right in accordance with the provisions of the Convention, under their national legislation.

The Czech Republic, which is already a member State of UPOV, is the twenty-first State to ratify or accept the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention, or to accede to it. The 1991 Act will enter into force for the Czech Republic one month after the deposit of its instrument of accession, that is, on November 24, 2002.

The 1991 Act of the Convention makes the protection of all species of plants mandatory for member States after the expiration of a transitional period and strengthens the protection afforded to plant breeders. It does, however, leave protected varieties available, as at present, for use as a source of variation for the development of other varieties.

The strengthened protection for plant breeders will increase the incentive provided by the Convention for plant breeding and will lessen the threat to breeders from piracy of protected plant varieties and plagiaristic breeding activities.

[End]