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INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR THE PROTECTION OF NEW VARIETIES OF PLANTS

Geneva

COUNCIL

Forty-Eighth Ordinary Session Geneva, October 16, 2014

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL FOR 2013

(forty-fifth year)

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This document presents the Annual Report of the Secretary-General for 2013. Annex III to this document summarizes the results achieved during 2013 according to the structure of the Program and Budget for the 2012-2013 Biennium (document C/45/4 Rev.2). A list of acronyms and abbreviations is provided in the appendix.

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I. COMPOSITION OF THE UNION

Members

1. As of December 31, 2013, the Union comprised 71 members: Albania, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Estonia, European Union, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Mexico, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Oman, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan and Viet Nam.

Situation in Relation to the Various Acts of the Convention

2. On December 31, 2013, the situation of the members of the Union in relation to the Convention and its various Acts was as follows:

(a) Belgium was bound by the 1961 Convention as amended by the 1972 Act;

(b) 19 members were bound by the 1978 Act, namely: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Ecuador, Italy, Kenya, Mexico, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Paraguay, Portugal, South Africa, Trinidad and Tobago and Uruguay;

(c) 51 members were bound by the 1991 Act, namely: Albania, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bulgaria, Costa Rica, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Estonia, European Union, France, Finland, Georgia, Germany, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Japan, Jordan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Morocco, Netherlands, Oman, Panama, Peru, Poland, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom, United States of America, Uzbekistan and Viet Nam.

3. Annex I provides the status of the members of the Union in relation to the Convention and its various Acts, as of December 31, 2013.

States/organizations that have initiated the procedure to become a member of the Union

4. Under Article 34(3) of the 1991 Act, “[a]ny State which is not a member of the Union and any intergovernmental organization shall, before depositing its instrument of accession, ask the Council to advise it in respect of the conformity of its laws with the provisions of this Convention.”

5. By letter dated February 18, 2013, the United Republic of Tanzania requested the examination of the Plant Breeders’ Rights Bill for Zanzibar for conformity with the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention.

6. At its thirtieth extraordinary session, held in Geneva on March 22, 2013, the Council examined the conformity of the Plant Breeders’ Rights Bill for Zanzibar with the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention.

7. The Council decided to:

“(a) note the analysis in documents C(Extr.)/30/4 Rev. and C(Extr.)/30/4 Add.;

“(b) subject to the incorporation in the Plant Breeders’ Rights Bill for Zanzibar of the modifications recommended in paragraphs 26, 28, 30 and 35 of document C(Extr.)/30/4 Rev., and with no additional changes, take a positive decision on the conformity of the Plant Breeders’ Rights Bill for Zanzibar with the provisions of the 1991 Act of the International Convention for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants;

“(c) note that the Draft Law of Plant Breeders’ Rights for Mainland Tanzania was adopted on November 5, 2012, and that the adoption of the Draft Law for Zanzibar is necessary for breeders’ rights to cover the whole territory of the United Republic of Tanzania;

“(d) note that the Plant Breeders’ Rights Act for Mainland Tanzania, which was adopted on November 5, 2012, and published in the Gazette of the United Republic of Tanzania on March 1, 2013, had incorporated the changes presented in revision mode in the recommendations of the Council in its decision of November 1, 2012 (see document C/46/18 “Report on the decisions”, paragraph 15);

“(e) agree that the additional changes in the Plant Breeders’ Rights Act for Mainland Tanzania, as presented in the Annex to document C(Extr.)/30/4 Add., did not affect the substantive provisions of the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention, and confirm the decision on conformity of November 1, 2012;

“(f) inform the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania that, subject to the modifications recommended by the Council, at its thirtieth extraordinary session, held in Geneva on March 22, 2013 (see paragraph (b) above), being incorporated in the Plant Breeders’ Rights Bill for Zanzibar and the adoption of the Bill with no additional changes,

the instrument of accession of the United Republic of Tanzania may be deposited; and

“(g) authorize the Secretary-General to inform the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania of that decision.

8. By letter dated June 27, 2013, Bosnia and Herzegovina requested the examination of the Law for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants of Bosnia and Herzegovina of February 23, 2010, as amended on April 16, 2013, for conformity with the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention.

9. At its forty-seventh ordinary session, held in Geneva on October 24, 2013, the Council examined the conformity of the Law for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants of Bosnia and Herzegovina with the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention.

10. The Council decided to:

“(a) note the analysis in this document;

“(b) note the information provided by the Delegation of Bosnia and Herzegovina that the English translation of the Law required verification and that the following corrections would be made to the translation in accordance with the original text of the Law:

“(i) to delete the text in Article 2(1)(f), which was already contained in Article 21(7);

“(ii) to delete the words “a small” in Article 22(2);

“(iii) to correct the translation in Article 11(6) to reflect that a procedure for granting a breeder’s right can start also by filing an application outside of Bosnia and Herzegovina;

“(iv) to correct the translation in Article 11(7) in accordance with the terms used for the national treatment provision in Article 5;

“(c) take a positive decision on the conformity of the Law for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants of Bosnia and Herzegovina with the provisions of the 1991 Act of the International Convention for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants, which allows Bosnia and Herzegovina to deposit its instrument of accession to the 1991 Act; and

“(d) authorize the Secretary-General to inform the Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina of the above decision.”

11. On September 4, 2013, the Office of the Union received a letter from Her Excellency Mrs. Marietta Brew Appiah-Opong, Attorney General and Minister of Justice of Ghana reporting that, during the first reading of the Draft Law by the Parliament of Ghana in June 2013, additional changes, which were not part of the decision of the Council of November 1, 2012, had been introduced. She also reported that the second reading by the Parliament was expected to take place in October 2013.

12. At its forty-seventh ordinary session, held in Geneva on October 24, 2013, the Council was invited to consider developments concerning the Plant Breeders’ Bill of Ghana (Draft Law) in relation to its decision of November 1, 2012. In that respect, the Council decided to:

“(a) note the information provided by the Delegation of Ghana that the text of Section 10 of the Bill provided in document C/47/18, Annex II, had been modified as follows: “Where the application is by an applicant who is a successor-in-title, the applicant shall support the ~~applicant~~ application with the proof of the successor’s title”;

“(b) note that the Plant Breeders’ Bill of Ghana, which was presented to the Parliament incorporated the changes in the decision of the Council of November 1, 2012 (see document C/46/19 “Report”, paragraph 12, and paragraph 2 of document C/47/18);

“(c) agree that the additional changes presented in the Annex II to document C/47/18, including the change in the above paragraph (a), do not affect the substantive provisions of the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention, and

“(d) confirm the decision on conformity of November 1, 2012.”

II. SESSIONS OF THE COUNCIL AND ITS SUBSIDIARY BODIES

Council

13. The Council held its thirtieth extraordinary session on March 22, 2013, under the chairmanship of Ms. Kitisri Sukhapinda (United States of America), President of the Council. The session was attended by 40 members of the Union, 5 observer States and 3 observer organizations. The report of that session is presented in document C(Extr.)/30/8. At that session, the Council:

(a) examined the Plant Breeders’ Rights Bill for Zanzibar for conformity with the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention;

(b) noted the work of the Consultative Committee at its eighty-fifth session, held on March 22, 2013, as set out in document C(Extr.)/30/5;

(c) adopted the revision of the following documents:

- UPOV/INF/4 “Financial Regulations and Rules of UPOV” (document UPOV/INF/4/3);
- UPOV/INF/15 “Guidance for Members of UPOV on Ongoing Obligations and Related Notifications and on the Provision of Information to Facilitate Cooperation” (document UPOV/INF/15/2); and
- UPOV/INF-EXN “List of INF-EXN Documents and Latest Issue Dates” (document UPOV/INF-EXN/4);

(d) approved the organization of a seminar on essentially derived varieties (EDVs) on October 22, 2013, and the corresponding revision of document C/46/8 Rev. “Revised Calendar of Meetings in 2013;

(e) considered and approved a draft press release.

14. The Council held its forty-seventh ordinary session on October 24, 2013, under the chairmanship of Ms. Kitisri Sukhapinda (United States of America), President of the Council. The session was attended by 42 members of the Union, 6 observer States and 9 observer organizations. The report of that session is presented in document C/47/20. At that session, the Council:

(a) examined the Law for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants of Bosnia and Herzegovina for conformity with the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention;

(b) noted the developments concerning the Plant Breeders’ Bill of Ghana in relation to its decision of November 1, 2012;

(c) noted the report by the President on the eighty-sixth session of the Consultative Committee;

(d) adopted the following documents:

- TGP/14 “Glossary of Terms Used in UPOV Documents” (Revision) (document TGP/14/2);
- TGP/15 “Guidance on the Use of Biochemical and Molecular Markers in the Examination of Distinctness, Uniformity and Stability (DUS)” (document TGP/15/1);

- TGP/0 “List of TGP Documents and Latest Issue Dates” (Revision) (document TGP/0/6);
 - UPOV/EXN/BRD “Explanatory Notes on the Definition of Breeder under the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention” (document UPOV/EXN/BRD/1);
 - UPOV/EXN/HRV “Explanatory Notes on Acts in Respect of Harvested Material under the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention” (document UPOV/EXN/HRV/1);
 - UPOV/INF/6 “Guidance for the preparation of laws based on the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention” (Revision) (document UPOV/INF/6/3);
 - UPOV/INF/16 “Exchangeable Software” (Revision) (document UPOV/INF/16/3);
 - UPOV/INF-EXN “List of INF-EXN Documents and Latest Issue Dates” (Revision) (document UPOV/INF-EXN/5);
- (e) approved the proposals contained in the Draft Program and Budget for the 2014-2015 Biennium, including the amount of contributions from members of the Union, the proposed maximum ceiling of expenditure in the regular budget, and the total number of posts for the Office of the Union;
- (f) approved the Financial Statements for 2012 and noted that the financial management report for the 2012-2013 financial period would be submitted to the Council by August 31, 2014, for approval by the Council at its forty-eighth ordinary session, in October 2014;
- (g) noted the status of payment of contributions as of September 30, 2013;
- (h) noted the report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Union in 2012 and the results and performance indicators for 2012, as well as the report on activities during the first nine months of 2013;
- (i) noted the work of the CAJ and approved the work program for the sixty-ninth session of the CAJ;
- (j) noted the work of the TC, the TWP’s and the BMT, and approved the programs of work;
- (k) approved the calendar of meetings in 2014;
- (l) elected, in each case for a term of three years ending with the fiftieth ordinary session of the Council, in 2016:
- Mr. Martin Ekvad (European Union), Chair of the Administrative and Legal Committee;
 - Mr. James M. Onsando (Kenya), Vice-Chair of the Administrative and Legal Committee;
 - Mr. Alejandro Barrientos-Priego (Mexico), Chair of the Technical Committee; and
 - Mr. Kees van Ettekooven (Netherlands), Vice-Chair of the Technical Committee;
- (m) noted documents and oral reports on the situation in the legislative, administrative and technical fields related to plant variety protection, as presented by members and observers;
- (n) considered and approved a draft press release.

Consultative Committee

15. The Consultative Committee held its eighty-fifth session on March 22, 2013, under the chairmanship of Ms. Kitisri Sukhapinda (United States of America). At that session, in addition to the preliminary examination of the Plant Breeders’ Rights Bill for Zanzibar (see paragraph 13(a) above), the provision of advice on the adoption of documents, the preparation of the calendar of meetings and the press release, the Consultative Committee:

(a) noted the estimated income and expenditure for 2012 and the comments in relation to anticipated income and expenditure for the 2012-2013 Biennium, in relation to the preparation of the Draft Program and Budget of the Union for the 2014-2015 Biennium;

(b) requested the Office of the Union to prepare a document for consideration by the Consultative Committee at its eighty-sixth session, to be held on October 23, 2013, proposing a method for reimbursing members of the Union and presenting proposals for projects concerning a special account or trust fund in the event that the reserve fund at the end of the 2012-2013 Biennium exceeds 15 percent of the total income for the 2012-2013 Biennium;

(c) agreed the structure and contents that should be the basis for the preparation of the Draft Program and Budget of the Union for the 2014-2015 Biennium, subject to a review of references to the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention in Subprogram UV.3, Section 2.3.1, where reference could be made to the UPOV Convention;

(d) agreed that the Office of the Union should investigate the feasibility of using a database of consultants in order to produce a list of consultants and their activities;

(e) noted the information contained in the Independent Advisory Oversight Committee (IAOC) quarterly reports for 2012 (documents WO/IAOC/24/2, WO/IAOC/25/2 and WO/IAOC/26/2) and in the IAOC Annual Report 2011-2012 (document WO/PBC/19/10). It also noted the information concerning the presentation on UPOV at the twenty-seventh session of the IAOC, which had clarified that UPOV did not fall within the scope of the IAOC's mandate;

(f) requested the Office of the Union to present a document illustrating the proposed presentation of information for the performance report for the biennium, for consideration by the Consultative Committee at its eighty-sixth session, to be held on October 23, 2013;

(g) noted the implementation of the requirement for users to register to use the PLUTO and GENIE databases;

(h) approved the revised disclaimer text on the meeting section of the UPOV website, and the addition of a disclaimer to each UPOV session document;

(i) noted that the resources of the Office of the Union had not yet allowed the scanning and posting on the UPOV website of important documents that were only available in paper format, and that the Office of the Union was continuing to verify the correct inclusion of documents on the redesigned UPOV website;

(j) noted that, after verification of certain data, the new section of UPOV Lex on plant genera and species would become available on the UPOV website;

(k) noted that, to date, the resources of the Office of the Union had not allowed the posting on the UPOV website of the date of granting of observer status in the list of observers in UPOV bodies;

(l) requested the Office of the Union to prepare a draft communication strategy, consistent with available resources, for consideration by the Consultative Committee at its eighty-sixth session, to be held on October 23, 2013;

(m) noted the plans for the launch of the advanced distance learning course DL-305 "Examination of Applications for Plant Breeders' Rights";

(n) noted the developments of relevance to UPOV in other international fora, and

(i) noted the plans for the organization of a donor conference in June 2013 concerning the World Seed Project;

(ii) noted the developments concerning the East Asia Plant Variety Protection Forum (EAPVP Forum) and noted that the next meeting of EAPVP Forum would take place from July 2 to 5, 2013 in Sarawak State, Malaysia;

(iii) noted the report concerning the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITPGRFA) Platform for the Co-Development and Transfer of Technologies;

(iv) noted the report on certain matters considered under agenda item 3 “Implementation of The Second Global Plan of Action for Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture” of the sixth session of the Intergovernmental Technical Working Group on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (WG-PGR) of the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (CGRFA);

(v) noted the comments provided by the Office of the Union to the CGRFA on document CGRFA/WG-PGR-6/12/Inf.3 “Draft Guide for National Seed Policy Formulation”;

(vi) noted the developments concerning the Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore (IGC) of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO);

(vii) noted the developments concerning the WIPO tool kit for intellectual property policy makers;

(viii) noted that the information provided by the Office of the Union concerning documents of other organizations would be provided in the document on “Developments of relevance to UPOV in other international fora”;

(ix) noted the developments in relation to the World Trade Organization (WTO);

(x) noted the information concerning the EXPO 2015, which would take place in Milan, from May 1 to October 31, 2015, under the theme “Feeding the Planet, Energy for Life”, and approved the Office of the Union’s continued participation in discussions with WIPO and other Geneva-based international organizations, with a view to UPOV’s possible participation in EXPO 2015. The Consultative Committee noted that the approval of the Consultative Committee would be sought before a final commitment to UPOV’s participation in EXPO 2015 was made; and

(xi) approved the participation of the Office of the Union in the work of a multi-stakeholder team on the definition of mechanisms for enhancing public private partnerships in pre-breeding, following the request from the “Plant Genetic Resources and Seeds Team and a number of other functional units, especially the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture”.

16. A report on the work of the eighty-fifth session of the Consultative Committee is contained in document C(Extr.)/30/5.

17. The Consultative Committee held its eighty-sixth session on October 23, 2013, under the chairmanship of Ms. Kitisri Sukhapinda (United States of America). At that session, in addition to the preliminary examination of the Law for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the preliminary examination of the Draft Program and Budget of the Union for the 2014-2015 Biennium, and the provision of advice to the Council on developments concerning the Plant Breeders’ Bill of Ghana, the adoption of documents, the financial statements for 2012, the arrears in contributions as of September 30, 2013, the calendar of meetings in 2014 and the draft press release (see paragraph 14 above), the Consultative Committee:

(a) recommended the creation of a special UPOV account that would be used to finance extra-budgetary projects agreed by the Council, in a situation where the amount of the reserve fund exceeds 15 percent of the total income for the 2012-2013 Biennium. It was agreed that the account should be used for projects that would, in particular:

- (i) support members of the Union, and in particular new members, in the operation of their plant variety protection systems;
- (ii) extend over more than one biennium;
- (iii) provide long-term benefits to members of the Union; and
- (iv) be advanced more rapidly by extra-budgetary funds;

It was further agreed that projects to be considered under a special UPOV account would be presented for consideration by the Consultative Committee prior to submission to the Council for approval. In that regard, it was agreed that the Consultative Committee would have flexibility to recommend projects that took into account factors other than those identified in (i) to (iv) above;

(b) approved the proposed presentation of information in the performance report for the biennium, with a recommendation to avoid the use of three-dimensional graphics and to use appropriate color schemes;

(c) noted the planned use of surveys by the Office of the Union and requested the Office of the Union to provide an illustration of the presentation of the results of surveys for consideration by the Consultative Committee at its eighty-eighth session, in October 2014;

(d) recommended to the Council to copy the circular concerning cooperation in examination, e.g. see C/xx/5, to the Technical Committee (TC) designated persons in order to ensure that the maximum amount of information could be collected;

(e) noted the developments on access to UPOV documents and publication of information, and in particular:

(i) noted that the revised disclaimer text has been posted on the meeting section of the UPOV website and that a disclaimer has been incorporated in UPOV session documents;

(ii) noted that the resources of the Office of the Union had not yet allowed the scanning and posting on the UPOV website of important documents that are only available in paper format, and that the Office of the Union was continuing to verify the correct inclusion of documents on the redesigned UPOV website;

(iii) noted that UPOV Lex had been modified in order to include notifications by members of the Union on the plant genera and species for which plant variety protection was applicable in their territories;

(iv) noted that, to date, the resources of the Office of the Union had not allowed the posting on the UPOV website of the date of granting of observer status in the list of observers in UPOV bodies;

(v) noted that new passwords had been issued for the restricted area of the "Meeting Documents" section of the UPOV website;

(vi) noted that the Office of the Union was investigating the feasibility of adapting the database used for the WIPO Roster of Consultants for UPOV purposes. The Office of the Union explained that, if it was not possible to use the WIPO database for UPOV purposes, the Office would provide a list of consultants in a different way;

(f) approved a communication strategy, including answers to the following frequently asked questions:

- What is UPOV?
- What does UPOV do?
- What is a plant variety?
- What are the requirements for protecting a new plant variety?
- Can breeders use a protected variety in their breeding programs?
- Who can protect a plant variety?
- Where do I apply for protection of a variety?
- Can I obtain protection for more than one country from a single application?
- What are the benefits of plant variety protection and UPOV membership?
- What is the effect of plant variety protection on varieties that are not protected (e.g. traditional varieties, landraces etc.)?
- What is the relationship between plant breeders' rights and measures regulating commerce, e.g. seed certification, official registers of varieties admitted to trade (e.g. National List, Official Catalogue) etc.?
- Does the UPOV Convention allow a variety to be refused protection because it is genetically modified?

- Can I use plant variety protection to protect the following: a trait (e.g. disease resistance, flower color), a chemical or other substance (e.g. oil, DNA), a plant breeding technology (e.g. tissue culture)?
- Can I protect a hybrid variety under the UPOV system?
- How do I know if a variety is protected?
- Who is responsible for enforcing plant breeders' rights?
- Is it true that UPOV only promotes commercially bred plant varieties geared to industrialized farmers?

(g) agreed to consider answers to other frequently asked questions, on the basis of comments to be sent to the Office of the Union by November 30, 2013. The new draft answers would be presented for consideration by the Consultative Committee at its eighty-seventh session;

(h) noted the plans for the launch of the advanced distance learning course DL-305 "Examination of Applications for Plant Breeders' Rights";

(i) noted the granting of observer status to Brunei Darussalam in the Council and to Malaysia in the Technical Committee;

(j) noted that, following its request, the Committee of Nordic Industrial Property Agents (CONOPA) had been removed from the list of observers in the Council;

(k) noted that the International Federation of Agricultural Producers (IFAP) no longer existed and agreed to remove IFAP from the list of observers in the Council;

(l) noted the report on *ad hoc* invitations issued to experts;

(m) endorsed the current approach whereby the Administrative and Legal Committee Advisory Group (CAJ-AG) invites, on an *ad hoc* basis, organizations that have observer status in the CAJ to present their views at the relevant part of the CAJ-AG, as it considers appropriate;

(n) in relation to the request from APBREBES, agreed not to transmit the document on "Observers in UPOV Bodies" to APBREBES, and to inform APBREBES accordingly;

(o) agreed that, in accordance with paragraph 2, of the "Rules Governing the Granting of Observer Status to States, Intergovernmental Organizations and International Non-Governmental Organizations in UPOV Bodies"(document UPOV/INF/19/1), the request of the Friends World Committee for Consultation (FWCC) for the granting of observer status to the Council and to the CAJ could not be considered further until it demonstrated its "competence in areas of direct relevance in respect of matters governed by the UPOV Convention". In that regard, it agreed to invite FWCC, upon request, to be present, at the relevant part of the item on observers in the program for its eighty-eighth session in October 2014, in order to explain how its statutes provided the basis to determine "competence in areas of direct relevance in respect of matters governed by the UPOV Convention";

(p) in relation to the request of South Centre for the granting of observer status to the Council and to the CAJ, agreed to invite South Centre to be present, at the relevant part of the item on observers in the program for its eighty-eighth session in October 2014, in order to explain how its constituent treaty provided the basis to determine "competence in areas of direct relevance in respect of matters governed by the UPOV Convention";

(q) noted the report made on the situation concerning those States and intergovernmental organizations which have initiated the procedure for acceding to the UPOV Convention or which have been in contact with the Office of the Union for assistance in the development of laws based on the UPOV Convention;

(r) noted that it was not possible for Georgia to make a presentation in 2013 on progress in the implementation of the UPOV system and any particular areas where they would welcome guidance or assistance, and agreed to renew the invitation in order for Georgia to make the presentation at the eighty-eighth session of the Consultative Committee, to be held in October 2014;

(s) approved the issue of invitations to Costa Rica and Oman to make presentations on progress in the implementation of the UPOV system and any particular areas where they would welcome guidance or assistance, at the eighty-eighth session of the Consultative Committee, to be held in October 2014;

(t) noted the developments of relevance to UPOV in other international fora, and

(i) noted the developments concerning resourcing of the World Seed Project;

(ii) noted the developments concerning the EAPVP Forum;

(iii) noted the developments concerning the Forest Seed and Plant Scheme of the Organisation for Economic Co-Operation and Development (OECD);

(iv) noted the developments concerning the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD);

(v) noted the developments concerning the CGRFA of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO);

(vi) noted the developments concerning the ITPGRFA Platform for the Co-Development and Transfer of Technologies and agreed that the Office of the Union explore how the information in the PLUTO, GENIE and UPOV Lex databases might be made available through that platform;

(vii) noted the developments concerning the ITPGRFA and in particular that the fifth session of the Governing Body of the ITPGRFA (GB), held in Muscat, Oman, from September 24 to 28, 2013, had adopted the following resolution under the item "Implementation of Article 9, Farmers' Rights":

"Resolution: Implementation of Article 9, Farmers' Rights

"3. Requests the Secretary to invite UPOV and WIPO to jointly identify possible areas of interrelations among their respective international instruments;"

(viii) noted the developments concerning the consultation to promote public-private partnerships for pre-breeding;

(ix) noted the developments concerning the WIPO IGC;

(x) noted the developments concerning the WIPO Methodology and Tools for the Development of National IP Strategies and that the Office of the Union would explain to the Delegation of Norway its comments on an earlier draft of the WIPO Questionnaire "A tool to assess the current status of the national intellectual property system, strategic objectives and needs in line with national development priorities";

(xi) noted the developments in relation to WTO;

(xii) noted the developments in relation to the International Seed Testing Association (ISTA);

(xiii) noted the request by the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) for the provision of information on plant variety protection and the acceptance by the Office of the Union; and

(xiv) noted that there had been no significant developments concerning EXPO 2015 since the eighty-fifth session of the Consultative Committee;

(u) agreed to the development of document UPOV/INF/15 "Guidance for Members of UPOV on Ongoing Obligations and Related Notifications and on the Provision of Information to Facilitate Cooperation" into an umbrella document that would identify key issues for the operation of a plant variety protection system and which would provide links to detailed information materials;

(v) agreed to invite the CAJ and TC to consider the recommendations of the International Seed Federation (ISF) in relation to existing and possible future information materials, in parallel with the development of document UPOV/INF/15 into an umbrella document;

(w) with regard to the ISF recommendation for regular provision of information to PLUTO Plant Variety Database, the Consultative Committee noted:

(i) the Program for Improvements to the PLUTO Plant Variety Database (see document CAJ/68/6 "UPOV information databases");

(ii) the report on data contributed to the plant variety database by members of the Union and other contributors and assistance that has been provided for data contribution;

(iii) that the CAJ, at its sixty-eighth session, held in Geneva on October 21, 2013, had endorsed a proposal to increase the frequency of updating of the PLUTO database; and

(iv) the inclusion of the section "Variety Denominations (PLUTO database)" in document UPOV/INF/15.

(x) agreed to invite ISF to express its views to the TC with regard to databases of variety descriptions and the criteria identified by the TC for the publication of variety descriptions;

(y) requested the Office of the Union and ISF to elaborate the problems faced and possible solutions in relation to ISF's ideas concerning: an international filing system; a UPOV quality assurance program; and a central examination system for variety denominations, for consideration by the Consultative Committee at its eighty-seventh session.

18. Further information on the work of the eighty-sixth session of the Consultative Committee is contained in document C/47/15 Rev.

Administrative and Legal Committee, Technical Committee, Technical Working Parties and Working Group on Biochemical and Molecular Techniques, and DNA-Profiling in Particular

19. The CAJ held its sixty-seventh session on March 21, 2013, and its sixty-eighth session on October 21, 2013. The CAJ-AG held its eighth session on October 21 and 25, 2013.

20. The TC held its forty-ninth session from March 18 to 20, 2013. The TC-EDC held meetings on January 9 and 10 and on March 18 and 19, 2013. The TWA held its forty-second session in Kyiv, Ukraine, from June 17 to 21, 2013. The TWC held its thirty-first session in Seoul, Republic of Korea, from June 4 to 7, 2013. The TWF held its forty-fourth session in Napier, New Zealand, from April 29 to May 3, 2013. The TWO held its forty-sixth session in Melbourne, Australia, from April 22 to 26, 2013. The TWV held its forty-seventh session in Nagasaki, Japan, from May 20 to 25, 2013. Each of the TWP sessions was preceded by a preparatory workshop.

21. Further information on the work of the CAJ, TC and TWPs is contained in documents C/47/9 and C/48/9 "Progress report of the work of the Administrative and Legal Committee", and C/47/10 and C/48/10 "Progress report of the work of the Technical Committee, the Technical Working Parties and the Working Group on Biochemical and Molecular Techniques, and DNA-Profiling in Particular".

22. The CAJ, at its sixty-sixth session, held in Geneva on October 29, 2012, endorsed the development of a prototype electronic form for interested members of the Union (see document CAJ/66/8 "Report on the Conclusions", paragraphs 22 to 26). Meetings on the development of a prototype electronic form took place in Geneva, on March 20 and on October 24, 2013.

III. COURSES, SEMINARS, WORKSHOPS, MISSIONS*, IMPORTANT CONTACTS

Individual activities

23. On January 17, in Geneva, the Office of the Union (Office) participated in an event on “#AccessIP: open innovation solutions for food security”, organized by Syngenta Crop Protection AG.
24. On January 23, in Rome, at FAO headquarters, the Office participated in a meeting of the World Seed Project Steering Committee (FAO, ISF, ISTA, OECD and UPOV) to discuss arrangements for a donor conference.
25. From January 28 to 30, in Paris, France, the Office attended the OECD Seed Scheme meetings and took part in the Standing Working Group Meeting on Varietal Identity and Purity.
26. On February 1, in Geneva, the Office participated in an electronic meeting via the Internet with representatives of the World Seed Project Steering Committee (FAO, ISF, ISTA, OECD and UPOV) to discuss progress on the World Seed Project. Further electronic meetings took place on February 8, February 25, March 5, March 28, April 3, April 9, April 19, May 7, May 28, June 14, July 18 and October 7.
27. Between February 4 and 8, in Geneva, the Office participated in parts of the twenty-third session of the WIPO IGC.
28. On February 5, in Geneva, the Office received the visit of Mr. Shakeel Bhatti, Secretary of the ITPGRFA and Mr. Marcel Bruins, Secretary General of ISF, to learn about developments at the ITPGRFA.
29. On February 26 and 27, in Vientiane, Lao People’s Democratic Republic, the Office participated in a PVP System Awareness Raising Seminar, hosted by the Department of Agriculture, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry of the Lao People’s Democratic Republic, in cooperation with the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF) of Japan, UPOV, and the Community Plant Variety Office (CPVO) of the European Union. The Seminar was attended by some 70 national participants, representing the Department of Agriculture, regional offices of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, and the National Agriculture and Forestry Research Institute (NAFRI). The Office made presentations on UPOV and the impact of plant variety protection under the UPOV Convention.
30. On February 27 and 28, in Angers, France, the Office attended a meeting of the CPVO Administrative Council.
31. On February 28, also in Vientiane, the Office met with relevant officials of the Ministry of Science and Technology of the Lao People’s Democratic Republic to discuss the development of plant variety protection in the country.
32. From March 3 to 6, in Mauritius, the Office participated in the Thirteenth African Seed Trade Association (AFSTA) Annual Congress, where it made a presentation on latest developments at UPOV. At the fringes of the AFSTA Congress, a meeting of the World Seed Project Steering Committee was held.
33. On March 5, at WTO headquarters in Geneva, the Office attended the relevant parts of the meeting of the Council for Trade Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (Council for TRIPS).
34. On March 14, at WIPO headquarters in Geneva, the Office made a presentation on the “International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants” at the WIPO-WTO Advanced Course on Intellectual Property for Government Officials. The Course was attended by participants from Algeria, Bangladesh, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Canada, China, Czech Republic, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Estonia, Georgia, Jamaica, Kenya, Latvia, Malaysia, Myanmar, Namibia, Nigeria, Saint Lucia, South Africa, Sudan, Thailand, Ukraine and Zimbabwe.
35. On March 27, in Geneva, the Office gave a lecture to senior officials from the Seychelles. A presentation was made on “Introduction to UPOV and to the Protection of New Varieties of Plants under the UPOV Convention”.

* Missions relate to events held outside UPOV headquarters.

36. From April 15 to 19, in Rome, at FAO headquarters, the Office attended the Fourteenth Session of the CGRFA.
37. On April 22, in Verona, Italy, the Office provided an overview of UPOV and plant variety protection at the Technical Working Group Meeting of the OECD Forest Seed and Plant Scheme under agenda item "Legal right access to and benefit sharing of forest genetic resources – international rules and regulations for protection of intellectual property rights".
38. Between April 22 and 26, in Geneva, the Office participated in parts of the twenty-fourth session of the WIPO IGC.
39. On April 23, in Brussels, Belgium, the Office attended an event entitled "Stimulating Innovation in Plant Genetic Resources – A role for the European Innovation Partnership for Agricultural Productivity and Sustainability", organized by the European Technology Platform.
40. On May 15 and 16, in Baku, Azerbaijan, the Office participated in a national Workshop on Plant Variety Rights, organized by the Technical Assistance and Information Exchange Instrument (TAIEX) of the European Union in cooperation with the Ministry of Agriculture of Azerbaijan. Participants, mainly senior government officials, were provided with guidance on plant variety protection according to the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention to assist them in the implementation of the national plant variety protection system.
41. On May 24, in Uppsala, Sweden, the Office provided a full-day training session on plant variety protection in the Advanced International Training Program "Genetic Resources and Intellectual Property Rights 2013: Phase 1" (GRIP-13a), organized by the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU) and funded by the Swedish International Development Agency (Sida). The program was attended by participants from Bangladesh, China, Colombia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Ghana, India, Kenya, Nepal, Nigeria, Philippines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda and United Republic of Tanzania. There was also a participant from Kosovo.
42. From May 27 to 29, in Athens, Greece, the Office participated in the ISF World Seed Congress 2013, and was invited to make presentations on developments in UPOV at the Open Meeting of the Breeders Committee and at the Open Meeting of the Forage and Turf Crops Section. At the fringes of the World Seed Congress, a meeting of the World Seed Project Steering Committee was held to discuss arrangements for a donor conference.
43. On May 30 and 31, in Rome, Italy, the Office participated in a consultation meeting to promote a public-private partnership in pre-breeding, co-organized by the Italian National Academy of Sciences and the ITPGRFA under the auspices of the Global Partnership Initiative for Plant Breeding Capacity Building, a multi-stakeholder platform convened by FAO.
44. On June 3, in Geneva, the Office received the visit of Mr. Madoka Koshibe, past President of the Asia and Pacific Seed Association (APSA), President (Chairman of the Board), Mikado Kyowa Seed Co. Ltd. of Japan.
45. On June 3, in Bern, Switzerland, the Office accompanied a Delegation from the Intellectual Property Office of Singapore (IPOS) to the Plant Variety Rights Office of Switzerland. The Delegation comprised Mr. Simon Seow, Director and Legal Counsel, and Ms. Maslina Malik, Senior Assistant Director. The purpose of the study visit was to obtain guidance on cooperation in DUS examination with authorities of UPOV members and to benefit from the experience of the Plant Variety Rights Office of Switzerland in its arrangements with other UPOV members.
46. From June 3 to 6, in Paris, France, the Office attended the OECD Seed Scheme meetings and took part in the Standing Working Group Meeting on Varietal Identity and Purity, the meeting of the *Ad hoc* Working Group of Experts on Biochemical and Molecular Techniques in Describing and/or Identifying Varieties and Electronic Certification, and the Annual Meeting of Representatives of National Designated Authorities.
47. On June 7, in Rolle, Switzerland, the Office met with Mr. Emmanuel Sackey, Chief Examiner, Industrial Property Directorate, African Regional Intellectual Property Organization (ARIPO), to discuss the organization of a regional ARIPO workshop, to be held in Malawi in July 2013.

48. On June 11, at WTO headquarters in Geneva, the Office attended the relevant parts of the meeting of the Council for Trade Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (Council for TRIPS).
49. On June 13, at Geneva, the Office received the visit of Mr. Douglas Lippoldt, Senior Economist, Development Division, OECD Trade and Agriculture Directorate, who was conducting research on intellectual property rights and agricultural innovation.
50. On June 17, in Antalya, Turkey, the Office participated in the discussion forum of the thirtieth ISTA Congress and made presentations on UPOV and the role of its Technical Working Parties (TWPs), DUS examination, the use of biochemical and molecular techniques in the DUS examination, and cooperation between relevant international organizations.
51. On June 18, in Wageningen, Netherlands, the Office provided a full-day training session on UPOV at the 16th International Course on Plant Variety Protection, organized by Naktuinbouw. The course was attended by participants from Algeria, Chile, Cuba, Ecuador Ethiopia, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Oman, Peru, Serbia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Thailand, Tunisia, United Republic of Tanzania and Zimbabwe. Prior to the course in Wageningen, the students participated in the UPOV Distance Learning Course. Participants were also offered the possibility to hold bilateral discussions with UPOV representatives at the end of the training session. Information was provided to participants from Chile, Ecuador, Kenya, Morocco, Nigeria, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Tunisia.
52. On June 20, in Rome, at FAO headquarters, the Office, together with the members of the World Seed Project Steering Committee, participated in a meeting with potential resource partners.
53. Also on June 20, in Rome, the members of the World Seed Project Steering Committee participated in a dinner meeting with Mr. Marco Marzano de Marinis, Executive Director, World Farmers' Organization (WFO) and Mrs. Carina Hirsch, Policy Officer.
54. On June 25, at WTO headquarters in Geneva, the Office gave a presentation on the "Protection of New Varieties of Plants" at the WIPO-WTO Colloquium for Teachers of Intellectual Property. The Colloquium was attended by participants from Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Brazil, Cambodia, China, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, India, Indonesia, Jordan, Lesotho, Mongolia, Russian Federation, Senegal, Spain, Turkey, Ukraine and Zambia.
55. On June 28, at WIPO headquarters in Geneva, the Office made a presentation on "The protection of plant varieties and the International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV)" at the WIPO-University of Geneva (UNIGE) Summer School on Intellectual Property. The WIPO-UNIGE Summer School was attended by participants from Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, China, Czech Republic, France, Germany, Guatemala, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Latvia, Netherlands, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Ukraine and Venezuela.
56. On June 30 and July 1, in Bandung, Indonesia, the Office participated in a meeting of the ITPGRFA Platform for the Co-Development and Transfer of Technologies. The Platform meeting was attended by participants from Brazil, Cuba, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Nepal, Oman, Uganda, Bioversity International and UPOV.
57. On July 1 and 2, in Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, the Office participated in a Regional Seminar on the Protection of New Varieties of Plants under the UPOV Convention, organized by the Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago and the Intellectual Property Office of the Ministry of Legal Affairs, in cooperation with the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) and UPOV. The purpose of the regional seminar was to raise awareness on plant variety protection among government officials in the region. The seminar was attended by participants from Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, and Trinidad and Tobago, as well as representatives from local intergovernmental organizations.
58. On July 2, in Bandar, Brunei Darussalam, the Office made a visit to the Brunei Intellectual Property Office (BrulPO) to meet with officials from agencies involved in the development of plant variety protection legislation.
59. On July 3 and 4, in Port of Spain, the Office participated in a National Seminar on the Examination of New Plant Varieties, organized by the Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago and the

Intellectual Property Office of the Ministry of Legal Affairs, in cooperation with USPTO and UPOV. The national seminar was focused on providing practical guidance on DUS examination for examiners of the national authority and for breeders.

60. From July 3 to 5, in Kuching, Malaysia, the Office was invited by the Government of Malaysia to participate in the Sixth Annual Meeting of the EAPVP Forum and the Symposium on Plant Variety Protection "Regional Cooperation towards International Harmonization in Plant Variety Protection". Presentations on the benefit of the plant variety protection system under the UPOV Convention and the relationship between the UPOV Convention and the other international treaties were made at the Symposium. These events were attended by participants from the following members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN): Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam; and three other countries: China, Japan and Republic of Korea.

61. On July 4, at UN headquarters, in Geneva, the Office attended a United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) side-event on "Promoting Technology Transfer for Food Security", organized by FAO and the Permanent Mission of Ecuador in Geneva. At the fringes of the event, the Office met with the Delegation of Oman, which comprised H.E. Mr. Fuad bin Jaáfar bin Mohammed Al-Sajwani, Minister for Agriculture and Fisheries of Oman, H.E. Mr. Abdulla Nasser Al Rahbi, Ambassador and Permanent Representative, and Mrs. Fatima Al-Ghazali, Minister Plenipotentiary, Permanent Mission, to discuss the implementation of plant variety protection in Oman and possible cooperation activities.

62. On July 8, in Geneva, the Office met with Mr. Tom Pengelly, Saana Consulting Ltd., to discuss resource mobilization.

63. From July 9 to 11, in Seongnam City, Republic of Korea, the Office gave lectures on plant variety protection under the UPOV Convention at the Training Course "Plant Variety Protection and DUS Testing" organized by the Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA), in cooperation with the Korea Seed and Variety Service (KSVS). The course was attended by participants from Cambodia, Egypt, Indonesia, Kenya, Myanmar, Philippines, United Republic of Tanzania and Uganda, who were given the opportunity to participate in the UPOV Distance Learning Course DL-205.

64. Between July 15 and 24, in Geneva, the Office participated in parts of the twenty-fifth session of the WIPO IGC.

65. On July 18, in Geneva, the Office received the visit of Mrs. Lilian Carrera Gonzalez, *Directora Nacional de Obtenciones Vegetales*, Ecuadorian Institute of Intellectual Property (IEPI), to discuss a possible national activity on plant variety protection.

66. On July 18 and 19, in Brisbane, Australia, at the Queensland University of Technology (QUT), lectures on plant variety protection under the UPOV system were given by Mr. Doug Waterhouse, on behalf of the Office, at the 4th Edition of the WIPO-QUT Master of Intellectual Property Law. The program was attended by participants from Australia, Bangladesh, China, Fiji, Libya, Malaysia, Republic of Korea, Singapore and Thailand.

67. On July 19, in Geneva, the Office received the visit of Ms. Mazina Kadir, Controller, Intellectual Property Office of Trinidad and Tobago, and discussed the possible follow up to the activity in Trinidad and Tobago, held on July 3 and 4.

68. On July 19, in Beijing, China, the Office participated as a speaker in the VI International Symposium on the Taxonomy of Cultivated Plants (ISTCP 2013), which was hosted by the Beijing Forestry University and Beijing Botanical Garden, under the auspices of the International Society for Horticultural Sciences (ISHS). The Office explained the guidance provided by UPOV on variety denominations.

69. On July 20 and 21, also in Beijing, the Office participated, as an observer, in the meetings of the International Commission for the Nomenclature of Cultivated Plants of the International Union for Biological Sciences (IUBS Commission). At those meetings, the IUBS Commission considered proposals to amend the International Code of Nomenclature for Cultivated Plants (ICNCP).

70. From July 22 to 25, in Lilongwe, Malawi, the Office participated in the Regional Workshop on the ARIPO Draft Legal Framework for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants, and the Experts Meeting concerning the Recommendations of the ARIPO Administrative Council on the Draft Legal Framework. The Office provided presentations on "Introduction to UPOV and to the Protection of New Varieties of Plants under the UPOV Convention", "Impact of plant variety protection" and "DUS examination arrangements".

71. On July 29 and 30, in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, the Office participated in a seminar on "Intellectual Property and Innovation in Côte d'Ivoire", organized by WIPO and the Ivorian Office of Intellectual Property (OIFI). A presentation was made on the "Introduction to UPOV and to the Protection of New Varieties of Plants under the UPOV Convention, its impact and benefits for farmers".
72. On July 30, in Geneva, the Office met with a Delegation of Parliamentarians and Senior Government Officials of Uganda during their study visit to WIPO headquarters. The Office presented an "Overview of the importance and impact of plant variety protection with specific reference to Africa".
73. On July 31, in Abidjan, the Office met with officials from the Ministry of Agriculture and the National Research Center of Côte d'Ivoire, to discuss UPOV and plant variety protection.
74. On August 2, in Geneva, the Office received the visit of Mr. Kazumasa Hori, First Secretary, and Permanent Mission of Japan to the International Organizations in Geneva, to discuss cooperation with Japan.
75. From August 5 to 16, in Roelofarendsveen, Netherlands, the Office participated in training on DUS testing provided by Naktuinbouw.
76. From August 14 to 16, in Tsukuba, Japan, the Office provided lectures at the training course "Quality Control System of Seeds and Seedlings to Facilitate Distribution of High Quality Seeds" organized by JICA in cooperation with the Government of Japan. The course was attended by participants from Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Ethiopia, Indonesia, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Myanmar, Sri Lanka and Viet Nam, who were given the opportunity to participate in the UPOV Distance Learning Course DL-205.
77. From September 3 to 5, in Punta del Este, Uruguay, the Office attended the 4th Seed Congress of the Americas, organized by the Seed Association of the Americas (SAA), in collaboration with the Uruguayan Chamber of Seeds (CUS) and the Uruguayan Plant Breeders' Association (URUPOV).
78. On September 13, in Geneva, the Office met with Mr. Javad Mozafari, Chairman, and Mr. Shakeel Bhatti, Secretary, Governing Body of the ITPGRFA, to discuss developments in the ITPGRFA and possibilities for future cooperation.
79. From September 16 to 20, in Geneva, the USPTO, in cooperation with UPOV, organized a training course on "Plant Variety Protection under the UPOV Convention". The aim of the course was to provide training for individuals ("trainers") who will provide training to others on plant breeders' rights under the UPOV Convention. In advance of the USPTO/UPOV training course, all participants were required to successfully complete the UPOV Distance Learning Course DL-205. The training course was attended by participants from Brunei Darussalam, Canada, China, European Union, Honduras, Japan, Kenya, Myanmar, Nicaragua, Peru, Republic of Moldova, Switzerland, Trinidad and Tobago, United States of America, Viet Nam, ARIPO, International Centre for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT) and UPOV.
80. On September 20, in Geneva, the Office met with Mrs. Gloria Zelaya Laguna, Director, New Plant Varieties, Ministry of Development, Industry and Trade (MIFIC) of Nicaragua, to provide assistance in the development of legislation in accordance with the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention.
81. On September 22, in Beijing, China, the Office met Ms. Jiang Zehui, Managing Vice President, Committee of Science and Technology, State Forestry Administration (SFA) to discuss developments in UPOV. On September 23 and 24, in Beijing, the Office participated in a "Joint Workshop on DUS Testing and Molecular Techniques", organized by the SFA, in cooperation with the Ministry of Agriculture (MOA) and UPOV. The Office gave presentations on the use of molecular techniques in DUS examination. The Workshop was attended by participants from the SFA, MOA, State Intellectual Property Office (SIPO), Chinese Academy of Forestry, International Center for Bamboo and Rattan, as well as participants from Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, European Union, Japan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Republic of Korea, Thailand and Viet Nam. On September 24, in Beijing, the Office met Mr. Sun Zhagen, Vice Administrator, SFA.
82. Between September 23 and October 2, in Geneva, the Office participated in relevant parts of the Fifty-First Series of Meetings of the Assemblies of the Member States of WIPO.
83. From September 24 to 28, in Muscat, Oman, the Office participated, as an observer, in the Fifth Session of the Governing Body of the ITPGRFA.

84. On September 25, in Geneva, the Office made a presentation on UPOV at a meeting of Heads of Intellectual Property Offices for Caribbean countries, with participants from Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Belize, Dominica, Jamaica, Saint Lucia, and Trinidad and Tobago.

85. On September 30, in Geneva, the Office met with Ms. Maria de los Angeles Sanchez Torres, General Director, Intellectual Property Office, Cuba, to discuss UPOV and plant variety protection.

86. On October 1, in Geneva, the Office met with Mr. Jervis Zimba, Vice-President, and Mr. Marco Marzano de Marinis, Executive Director, WFO, to discuss possibilities for cooperation between WFO and UPOV.

87. On October 1, in Bern, Switzerland, the Office accompanied Mrs. Shahrinah Yusof Khan, Director, Intellectual Property Office of Brueni Darussalam (BrulPO), and Mrs. Grace Issahaque, Principal State Attorney, Ghana, on a one-day study visit to the Plant Variety Rights Office of Switzerland. The purpose of the study visit was to obtain guidance on how to implement an effective PVP Office and to benefit from the experience of Switzerland in its arrangements with other UPOV members.

88. On October 2, in Brussels, Belgium, the Office attended a meeting of the CPVO Administrative Council.

89. On October 3, in Uppsala, Sweden, the Office provided a full-day training session on plant variety protection in the Advanced International Training Program "Genetic Resources and Intellectual Property Rights 2013: Phase 1" (GRIP-13b), organized by the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU) and funded by the Swedish International Development Agency (Sida). The program was attended by participants from Colombia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, India, Iraq, Jordan, Kenya, Mali, Nigeria, Rwanda, Serbia, South Africa, Tunisia, Viet Nam and Zimbabwe. There were also participants from Kosovo and Palestine.

90. On October 4, at WIPO/UPOV headquarters, the Office made a presentation on "Protection of New Plant Varieties" to participants of the 2013 Edition of the Master of Laws (LL.M.) in Intellectual Property, organized by WIPO and the University of Turin, in cooperation with the International Training Centre of the International Labour Organization (ITC-ILO). The presentation was attended by 35 participants from Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, China, Bolivia, Bulgaria, Canada, Colombia, Cambodia, Egypt, Ethiopia, France, Georgia, Germany, Iran, India, Italy, Jordan, Mexico, Pakistan, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Russian Federation, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, United Kingdom and United States of America. There was also a participant from Kosovo.

87. On October 10, at WTO headquarters in Geneva, the Office attended the relevant parts of the meeting of the Council for Trade Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (Council for TRIPS).

91. On October 11, in Geneva, the Office met with Mr. Jonathan Woolley, Director, and Ms. Caroline Dommen, Representative, Global Economic Issues, Quaker UN Office (QUNO), to discuss the procedure for requesting observer status for the Friends World Committee for Consultation (FWCC).

92. On October 14 and 15, in Warsaw, Poland, the Office participated, as an observer, in the European Seed Association (ESA) Annual Meeting and General Assembly.

93. On October 15 and 16, in Lusaka, Zambia, the Office made a presentation on "New varieties of plants: innovation by farmers and for farmers" at a Workshop entitled "International Day of Rural Women: Investing in Rural Women to Achieve Sustainable Food Systems", organized by WFO. The event was attended by more than 200 local participants, mostly women smallholder farmers from across Zambia, plus around 20 international participants, representing speakers and members of the Womens' Committee of the WFO.

94. On October 16, also in Lusaka, the Office met with Mr. Bruce Chulu Simbunji, Principal Seeds Officer, Seed Control and Certification Institute (SCCI), Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock, to discuss developments in Zambia.

95. On October 16, 2013, in Geneva, the Office received the visit of Ms. Tea Trumbic, PSD Specialist, Special Initiatives Unit Global Indicators & Analysis Financial & Private Sector Development, from the World Bank & International Finance Corporation. Ms. Tea Trumbic reported on the project "Benchmarking the Business of Agriculture (BBA)".

96. On October 17, in Geneva, the Office met with Ms. Dora Luisa Sánchez Geronimo, Director, Agricultural Commercial Treaties Department, Ministry of Agriculture, Dominican Republic, to discuss the implementation of plant variety protection under the UPOV Convention.
97. On October 22, 2013, in Geneva, UPOV organized a Seminar on Essentially Derived Varieties, which was open to the public and attended by 177 participants. Copies of the materials and a video of the Seminar are available on the UPOV website at: http://www.upov.int/meetings/en/details.jsp?meeting_id=29782.
98. On October 22, 2013, in Geneva, the Office participated in a meeting with mushroom breeders and ISF to discuss developments in mushroom breeding.
99. On October 24, in Geneva, at the fringes of the UPOV sessions, the Office met with a delegation from Ghana, composed of H.E. Ms. Marrietta Brew Appiah-Opong, Attorney General and Minister of Justice, and H.E. Mr. Ahmed Yakubu Alhassan, Deputy Minister of Agriculture, to discuss the procedure for becoming a UPOV member.
100. On October 30, in Geneva, the Office participated in a telephone interview at the request of the International Community of Breeders of Asexually Reproduced Ornamental and Fruit Varieties (CIOPORA).
101. On November 5, in Geneva, at the invitation of the FAO Liaison Office at Geneva, the Office participated in a meeting organized by FAO on “Nourishing a growing world with diminishing resources”.
102. On November 4 and 5, in Quito, Ecuador, the Office made presentations at the “International Seminar on Plant Breeders’ Rights and Plant Breeding”, organized by IEPI, the *Instituto Nacional Autónomo de Investigaciones Agropecuarias* (INIAP), in collaboration with UPOV. The seminar was attended by some 80 participants representing different stakeholders in plant variety protection.
103. On November 7 and 8, in Buenos Aires, Argentina, the Office participated in the “Technical Meeting on the Protection of New Varieties of Soybean under the UPOV Convention, organized by the *Instituto Nacional de Semillas* (INASE) of Argentina, in collaboration with UPOV. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the harmonization of procedures for the protection, denomination registration and the use of molecular markers in managing variety collections, in relation to new varieties of soybean in Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay.
104. On November 11 and 12, in Antalya, Turkey, the Office made a presentation on latest developments in UPOV during the session on Intellectual Property Rights in plant breeding at the International Plant Breeding Congress.
105. From November 11 to 15, in Montevideo, Uruguay, the Office, in cooperation with the Spanish Agency for Cooperation and Economic Development (AECID), the USPTO, WIPO and the Ministry of Agriculture of Spain (MAGRAMA), organized the XII Training Course for Ibero-American Countries on the Protection of New Varieties of Plants. The Course was attended by 26 experts directly involved, or expected to be involved in the future, in DUS examination, from 15 countries (Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay). Lectures were given by experts from Argentina, Chile, Uruguay, CPVO, OEVV and the Office. Participants were invited to take the UPOV Distance Learning Course DL-205 in advance of the training.
106. On November 14, in Geneva, the Office participated in a telephone interview with *GrainsWest* magazine (Canada).
107. On November 15, in Geneva, the Office participated in an interview with Ms. Nazan Bedirhanoglu, a research fellow at Ankara University and a PhD candidate at the State University of New York-Binghamton, in relation to her PhD research work.
108. On November 18 and 19, in Lima, Peru, the Office made presentations at a Seminar on Plant Breeders’ Rights in Peru under the UPOV Convention, organized by the *Instituto Nacional de Defensa de la Competencia y de la Protección de la Propiedad Intelectual* (INDECOPI) and the *Instituto Nacional de Innovación Agraria* (INIA) of Peru, in collaboration with UPOV. The seminar was attended by some 100 participants representing local breeders and other relevant stakeholders in plant variety protection and DUS examination.
109. On November 18, in Tokyo, Japan, the Office had a meeting with officials of the MAFF of Japan, to discuss various matters of cooperation.

110. From November 18 to 21, in Geneva, the Office attended relevant parts of the twelfth session of the WIPO Committee on Development and Intellectual Property (CDIP).

111. From November 18 to 22, in Kobe, Japan, the Office participated in the APSA Congress 2013. A presentation was made on recent developments at UPOV.

112. On November 22, in Rome, the Office made a presentation on "Plant Varieties Protection and Licensing" at the "Technology Licensing for Developing Countries: Dos and Don'ts" Course, organized by the International Development Law Organization (IDLO). The course was attended by 26 participants from Angola, Argentina, Botswana, Cambodia, Egypt, Ethiopia, Ghana, Indonesia, Jordan, Libya, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania and Viet Nam.

113. On November 25 and 26, in Peradeniya (near Kandy), Sri Lanka, the Office participated in the "Seminar on the Benefit of Plant Variety Protection Systems in Line with the UPOV Convention", hosted by the Department of Agriculture (DOA) of Sri Lanka, in collaboration with USPTO, MAFF of Japan and UPOV. The Seminar was attended by some 80 participants, including local government officials, representatives of research institutes, seed producers, breeders and government officials from Afghanistan, India, Maldives and Pakistan.

114. On November 27, in Geneva, the Office met with Her Royal Highness Sayyidah Muna Fahad Al-Said, Assistant Vice Chancellor for External Cooperation, Sultan Qaboos University, Oman, to discuss cooperation activities in plant variety protection matters.

115. From November 27 to 29, in Kampala, Uganda, the Office attended the 14th Session of the Council of Ministers of ARIPO and the Innovative Africa Forum, organized by ARIPO and the Africa Business Conferences.

116. On December 2 and 3, in Antalya, Turkey, the Office made a presentation on "Introduction to UPOV and relationship between UPOV Convention and other treaties and legislation" at the International Seed Workshop "A look to the Seed Sector in Turkey with a Global Perspective", organized by the Sub-Union of Seed Industrialists and Producers (TSUAB) and the Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock of Turkey.

117. On December 4, in Geneva, the Office met with Prof. Luke Mumba, ASTII Coordinator, New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD), to exchange information of NEPAD and UPOV.

118. On December 4 and 5, in Angers, France, the Office attended the Seventeenth Annual Meeting between CPVO and its Examination Offices.

119. On December 13, in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea, the Office participated in the fifty-third session of the Administrative Council of the African Intellectual Property Organization (OAPI).

120. On December 16, in Geneva, the Office participated in an electronic conference call with Ms. Maslina Malik, Senior Assistant Director (Registry of Designs/ Plant Varieties), Intellectual Property Office of Singapore (IPOS), to provide advice on the development of legislation on plant variety protection.

121. On December 18, in Geneva, the Office participated in an electronic conference call with Mr. Tim Johnson, President, ISF, and other ISF representatives, to discuss ISF's proposal for the development of a possible international filing system, quality assurance program and central examination system for variety denominations.

Distance Learning Course

122. Two sessions of the UPOV Distance Learning Course DL-205 in English, French, German and Spanish were held from May 13 to June 16, 2013, and from November 11 to December 15, 2013. A breakdown of the students participating in the DL-205 course is included in Annex III, Sub-Program UV.3, performance indicator 4(a) "Participation in distance learning courses".

IV. RELATIONS WITH STATES AND ORGANIZATIONS

123. The Office provided assistance on plant variety protection legislation to the following members: Azerbaijan, Nicaragua, Singapore and South Africa.

124. The Office provided information on requirements for the deposit of an instrument of accession to, or ratification of the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention, to the following members: Kenya and Nicaragua.

125. The Office provided advice and assistance on the development of plant variety protection legislation according to the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention and/or on the procedure to accede to the UPOV Convention to potential members of the Union. In this respect, the Office had contacts with ARIPO, Bahamas, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Côte d'Ivoire, Egypt, Ghana, Honduras, Myanmar, Namibia, OAPI, Pakistan, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Seychelles, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania and Zimbabwe.

126. The Office met with representatives of intergovernmental organizations to coordinate activities or to provide information on UPOV. The Office participated in meetings of, and discussions with ARIPO, FAO, IDLO, ISTA, OAPI, OECD, WIPO and WTO.

127. The Office participated in events organized by the following organizations: AFSTA, APSA, ESA, ISF, IUBS Commission and SAA.

V. PUBLICATIONS

128. The Office published:

(a) one issue (No. 106) of the UPOV Gazette and Newsletter "Plant Variety Protection" (UPOV Publication No. 438) in electronic format;

(b) one updated disc (of 2012) of the "UPOV-ROM Plant Variety Database" and six updates of the Plant Variety Database (PLUTO);

(c) ten documents adopted by the Council at its thirtieth extraordinary session held on March 22, 2013, and at its forty-seventh ordinary session held on October 24, 2013:

TGP/14/2	Glossary of Terms Used in UPOV Documents (Revision)
TGP/15/1	Guidance on the Use of Biochemical and Molecular Markers in the Examination of Distinctness, Uniformity and Stability (DUS)
TGP/0/6	List of TGP Documents and Latest Issue Dates (Revision)
UPOV/EXN/BRD/1	Explanatory Notes on the Definition of Breeder under the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention
UPOV/EXN/HRV/1	Explanatory Notes on Acts in Respect of Harvested Material under the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention
UPOV/INF/4/3	Financial Regulations and Rules of UPOV (Revision)
UPOV/INF/6/3	Guidance for the preparation of laws based on the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention (Revision)
UPOV/INF/15/2	Guidance for Members of UPOV on Ongoing Obligations and Related Notifications and on the Provision of Information to Facilitate Cooperation
UPOV/INF/16/3	Exchangeable Software (Revision)
UPOV/INF-EXN/5:	List of INF-EXN Documents and Latest Issue Dates (Revision)

(d) presentations and a video of the Seminar on Essentially Derived Varieties available on the UPOV website at: http://www.upov.int/meetings/en/details.jsp?meeting_id=29782;

(e) the following Test Guidelines, adopted by the TC at its forty-ninth session, held from March 18 to 20, 2013:

Document No. N°. du document Dokument-Nr. No del documento	English	Français	Deutsch	Español	Botanical name Nom botanique Botanischer Name Nombre botánico
NEW TEST GUIDELINES					
TG/284/1	Pomegranate	Grenadier	Granatapfel	Granado	<i>Punica granatum</i> L.
TG/285/1	Coriander, Cilantro, Collender, Chinese parsley	Coriandre	Koriander	Coriandro	<i>Coriandrum sativum</i> L.
TG/286/1	Hebe	Veronique	Strauchveronika	Verónica	<i>Hebe</i> Comm. ex Juss.
TG/287/1	Lomandra, Mat Rush	Lomandra	Lomandra	Lomandra	<i>Lomandra</i> Labill.
TG/288/1	Flax-lily, Dianella	Dianella	Flachslilie, Dianella	Dianella	<i>Dianella</i> Lam. ex Juss.
TG/289/1	Foxtail Millet, Italian Millet, Hungary Millet	Millet d'Italie, Millet des oiseaux, Setaire d'Italie	Italienhirse, Kolbenhirse	Dana, Mijo de cola de zorro, Mijo de Hungria	<i>Setaria italica</i> L., <i>Setaria italica</i> (L.) P. Beauv.
TG/290/1	Kumquat	Kumquat	Kumquat	Kumquat	<i>Fortunella</i> Swingle
TG/291/1	Oyster Mushroom	Pleurote en coquille	Austernseitling, Drehling	Champiñon ostra, Girgola, Seta de ostra	<i>Pleurotus ostreatus</i> (Jacq.) P. Kumm.
	Eringi, King Oyster Mushroom		Kräuterseitling	Seta de cardo	<i>Pleurotus eryngii</i> (DC.) Quéf.
	Lung Oyster Mushroom			Pleuroto pulmonado, Pleuroto de verano	<i>Pleurotus pulmonarius</i> (Fr.) Quéf.
TG/292/1	Sesame	Sésame	Sesam	Ajonjolí, Sésamo	<i>Sesamum indicum</i> L.
TG/293/1	Lobelia, True Lobelia of Gardens	Lobélie, Lobélie des jardins	Lobelia, Männertreu	Lobelia	<i>Lobelia alsinoides</i> Lam.; <i>Lobelia erinus</i> L.; <i>Lobelia valida</i> L. Bolus; Hybrids between <i>Lobelia erinus</i> and <i>Lobelia alsinoides</i> ; Hybrids between <i>Lobelia erinus</i> and <i>Lobelia valida</i>
TG/294/1	Tomato Rootstocks	Porte-greffe de tomate	Tomatenunterlagen	Portainjertos de tomate	<i>Solanum lycopersicum</i> L. x <i>Solanum habrochaites</i> S. Knapp & D.M. Spooner; <i>Solanum lycopersicum</i> L. x <i>Solanum peruvianum</i> (L.) Mill.; <i>Solanum lycopersicum</i> L. x <i>Solanum cheesmaniae</i> (L. Ridley) Fosberg
TG/295/1	Pineapple	Ananas	Ananas	Piña	<i>Ananas comosus</i> (L.) Merr.
TG/296/1	Eucalyptus	Eucalyptus	Eukalyptus	Eucalipto	<i>Eucalyptus</i> L'Hér. (Sub-genus <i>Symphomyrtus</i>) (Sections <i>Transversaria</i> , <i>Maidenaria</i> , <i>Exsertaria</i>)

Document No. N° du document Dokument-Nr. No del documento	English	Français	Deutsch	Español	Botanical name Nom botanique Botanischer Name Nombre botánico
TG/297/1	Tree peony, Yellow Tree Peony	Pivoine arbustive	Delavays Strauch- pfingstrose, Gelbe Pfingstrose		<i>Paeonia delavayi</i> Franch.
					<i>Paeonia jishanensis</i> T. Hong & W. Z. Zhao
					<i>Paeonia ludlowii</i> (Stern & Taylor) D. Y. Hong
					<i>Paeonia ostii</i> T. Hong & J. X. Zhang
					<i>Paeonia qiui</i> Y. L. Pei & D. Y. Hong
	Tree Peony, Moutan Peony	Pivoine arbustive	Strauchpöonie	Peonia	<i>Paeonia suffruticosa</i> Andrews, <i>Paeonia moutan</i> Sims
REVISIONS OF TEST GUIDELINES					
TG/32/7(proj.5)	Common Vetch	Vesce commune	Saatwicke	Veza común	<i>Vicia sativa</i> L.
TG/108/4(proj.8)	Gladiolus	Glaïeul	Gladiole	Gladiolo	<i>Gladiolus</i> L.
TG/118/5(proj.4)	Endive	Chicorée frisée, Chicorée scarole	Endivie	Escarola	<i>Cichorium endivia</i> L.
TG/142/5(proj.5)	Watermelon	Melon d'eau; Pastèque	Wassermelone	Sandía	<i>Citrullus lanatus</i> (Thunb.) Matsum. et Nakai, <i>Citrullus</i> <i>vulgaris</i> Schrad.
TG/176/5(proj.4)	Osteospermum; -	Ostéospermum; -	Osteospermum; Osteospermum, Kapmargerite, Kapkörbchen	Osteospermum; -	<i>Osteospermum</i> L.; hybrids with <i>Dimorphotheca</i> Vaill. ex Moench
TG/213/2(proj.7)	Phalaenopsis	Phalaenopsis	Phalaenopsis	Phalaenopsis	<i>Phalaenopsis</i> Blume
PARTIAL REVISIONS OF TEST GUIDELINES					
TG/266/1 Rev. (TC/49/2 Rev.2, TC/49/37)	African lily, Agapanthus, Blue lily, Lily of the Nile	Agapanthe, Fleur d'amour	Agapanthus, Schmucklilie	Agapando, Agapanto, Estrella de mar	<i>Agapanthus</i> L'Hér
TG/13/10 Rev. (TC/49/2 Rev.2, TC/49/38)	Lettuce	Laitue	Salat	Lechuga	<i>Lactuca sativa</i> L.
TG/55/7 Rev. (TC/49/2 Rev.2, TC/49/39)	Spinach	Épinard	Spinat	Espinaca	<i>Spinacia oleracea</i> L.
TG/44/11 Rev. (TC/49/2 Rev.2, TC/49/40)	Tomato	Tomate	Tomate	Tomate	<i>Solanum lycopersicum</i> L.

129. The Council is invited to note this report.

[Annexes follow]

ANNEX I

MEMBERS OF THE UNION

December 31, 2013

This document provides the status of the members of the Union in relation to the Convention and its various Acts, as of December 31, 2013 (see Articles 31 and 32 of the 1961 Convention, Article 32(1) of the 1978 Act and Article 34(2) of the 1991 Act).

- 1st line: International Convention for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants of December 2, 1961
- 2nd line: Additional Act of November 10, 1972
- 3rd line: Act of October 23, 1978
- 4th line: Act of March 19, 1991

Member	Date of signature	Date of deposit of instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession	Date of entry into force
Albania	- - -	- - September 15, 2005	- - October 15, 2005
Argentina	- - -	- November 25, 1994 -	- December 25, 1994 -
Australia	- - -	- February 1, 1989 December 20, 1999	- March 1, 1989 January 20, 2000
Austria	- - - -	- - June 14, 1994 June 1, 2004	- - July 14, 1994 July 1, 2004
Azerbaijan	- - - -	- - - November 9, 2004	- - - December 9, 2004
Belarus	- - - -	- - - December 5, 2002	- - - January 5, 2003
Belgium	December 2, 1961 November 10, 1972 October 23, 1978 March 19, 1991	November 5, 1976 November 5, 1976 - -	December 5, 1976 February 11, 1977 - -
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	- - - -	- - April 21, 1999 -	- - May 21, 1999 -
Brazil	- - - -	- - April 23, 1999 -	- - May 23, 1999 -

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Member	Date of signature	Date of deposit of instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession	Date of entry into force
Bulgaria	- - - -	- - - March 24, 1998	- - - April 24, 1998
Canada	- - October 31, 1979 March 9, 1992	- - February 4, 1991 -	- - March 4, 1991 -
Chile	- - - -	- - December 5, 1995 -	- - January 5, 1996 -
China	- - - -	- - March 23, 1999 -	- - April 23, 1999 -
Colombia	- - - -	- - August 13, 1996 -	- - September 13, 1996 -
Costa Rica	- - - -	- - - December 12, 2008	- - - January 12, 2009
Croatia	- - - -	- - - August 1, 2001	- - - September 1, 2001
Czech Republic ¹	- - - -	- - - October 24, 2002	- - January 1, 1993 November 24, 2002
Denmark	November 26, 1962 November 10, 1972 October 23, 1978 March 19, 1991	September 6, 1968 February 8, 1974 October 8, 1981 April 26, 1996	October 6, 1968 February 11, 1977 November 8, 1981 April 24, 1998
Dominican Republic	- - - -	- - - May 16, 2007	- - - June 16, 2007
Ecuador	- - - -	- - July 8, 1997 -	- - August 8, 1997 -
Estonia	- - - -	- - - August 24, 2000	- - - September 24, 2000

¹ Continuation of the accession of Czechoslovakia (instrument deposited on November 4, 1991; State bound on December 4, 1991).

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Member	Date of signature	Date of deposit of instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession	Date of entry into force
European Union	- - - -	- - - June 29, 2005	- - - July 29, 2005
Finland	- - - -	- - March 16, 1993 June 20, 2001	- - April 16, 1993 July 20, 2001
France	December 2, 1961 November 10, 1972 October 23, 1978 March 19, 1991	September 3, 1971 January 22, 1975 February 17, 1983 April 27, 2012	October 3, 1971 February 11, 1977 March 17, 1983 May 27, 2012
Georgia	- - - -	- - - October 29, 2008	- - - November 29, 2008
Germany	December 2, 1961 November 10, 1972 October 23, 1978 March 19, 1991	July 11, 1968 July 23, 1976 March 12, 1986 June 25, 1998	August 10, 1968 February 11, 1977 April 12, 1986 July 25, 1998
Hungary	- - - -	- - March 16, 1983 December 1, 2002	- - April 16, 1983 January 1, 2003
Iceland	- - - -	- - - April 3, 2006	- - - May 3, 2006
Ireland	- - September 27, 1979 February 21, 1992	- - May 19, 1981 December 8, 2011	- - November 8, 1981 January 8, 2012
Israel	- - - October 23, 1991	November 12, 1979 November 12, 1979 April 12, 1984 June 3, 1996	December 12, 1979 December 12, 1979 May 12, 1984 April 24, 1998
Italy	December 2, 1961 November 10, 1972 October 23, 1978 March 19, 1991	June 1, 1977 June 1, 1977 April 28, 1986 -	July 1, 1977 July 1, 1977 May 28, 1986 -
Japan	- - October 17, 1979 -	- - August 3, 1982 November 24, 1998	- - September 3, 1982 December 24, 1998
Jordan	- - - -	- - - September 24, 2004	- - - October 24, 2004
Kenya	- - - -	- - April 13, 1999 -	- - May 13, 1999 -

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Member	Date of signature	Date of deposit of instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession	Date of entry into force
Kyrgyzstan	- - - -	- - - May 26, 2000	- - - June 26, 2000
Latvia	- - - -	- - - July 30, 2002	- - - August 30, 2002
Lithuania	- - - -	- - - November 10, 2003	- - - December 10, 2003
Mexico	- - July 25, 1979 -	- - July 9, 1997 -	- - August 9, 1997 -
Morocco	- - - -	- - - September 8, 2006	- - - October 8, 2006
Netherlands	December 2, 1961 November 10, 1972 October 23, 1978 March 19, 1991	August 8, 1967 January 12, 1977 August 2, 1984 October 14, 1996	August 10, 1968 February 11, 1977 September 2, 1984 April 24, 1998
New Zealand	- - July 25, 1979 December 19, 1991	- - November 3, 1980 -	- - November 8, 1981 -
Nicaragua	- - -	- - August 6, 2001 -	- - September 6, 2001 -
Norway	- - - -	- - August 13, 1993 -	- - September 13, 1993 -
Oman	- - - -	- - - October 22, 2009	- - - November 22, 2009
Panama	- - - -	- - April 23, 1999 October 22, 2012	- - May 23, 1999 November 22, 2012
Paraguay	- - - -	- - January 8, 1997 -	- - February 8, 1997 -
Peru	- - - -	- - - July 8, 2011	- - - August 8, 2011

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Member	Date of signature	Date of deposit of instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession	Date of entry into force
Poland	- - - -	- - October 11, 1989 July 15, 2003	- - November 11, 1989 August 15, 2003
Portugal	- - -	- - September 14, 1995 -	- - October 14, 1995 -
Republic of Korea	- - - -	- - - December 7, 2001	- - - January 7, 2002
Republic of Moldova	- - - -	- - - September 28, 1998	- - - October 28, 1998
Romania	- - - -	- - - February 16, 2001	- - - March 16, 2001
Russian Federation	- - - -	- - - March 24, 1998	- - - April 24, 1998
Serbia	- - - -	- - - December 5, 2012	- - - January 5, 2013
Singapore	- - - -	- - - June 30, 2004	- - - July 30, 2004
Slovakia ¹	- - - -	- - - May 12, 2009	- - January 1, 1993 June 12, 2009
Slovenia	- - - -	- - - June 29, 1999	- - - July 29, 1999
South Africa	- - October 23, 1978 March 19, 1991	October 7, 1977 October 7, 1977 July 21, 1981 -	November 6, 1977 November 6, 1977 November 8, 1981 -
Spain	- - - March 19, 1991	April 18, 1980 April 18, 1980 - June 18, 2007	May 18, 1980 May 18, 1980 - July 18, 2007

¹ Continuation of the accession of Czechoslovakia (instrument deposited on November 4, 1991; State bound on December 4, 1991).

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Member	Date of signature	Date of deposit of instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession	Date of entry into force
Sweden	- January 11, 1973 December 6, 1978 December 17, 1991	November 17, 1971 January 11, 1973 December 1, 1982 December 18, 1997	December 17, 1971 February 11, 1977 January 1, 1983 April 24, 1998
Switzerland	November 30, 1962 November 10, 1972 October 23, 1978 March 19, 1991	June 10, 1977 June 10, 1977 June 17, 1981 August 1, 2008	July 10, 1977 July 10, 1977 November 8, 1981 September 1, 2008
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	- - -	- - - April 4, 2011	- - - May 4, 2011
Trinidad and Tobago	- - -	- - December 30, 1997 -	- - January 30, 1998 -
Tunisia	- - - -	- - - July 31, 2003	- - - August 31, 2003
Turkey	- - - -	- - - October 18, 2007	- - - November 18, 2007
Ukraine	- - - -	- - October 3, 1995 December 19, 2006	- - November 3, 1995 January 19, 2007
United Kingdom	November 26, 1962 November 10, 1972 October 23, 1978 March 19, 1991	September 17, 1965 July 1, 1980 August 24, 1983 December 3, 1998	August 10, 1968 July 31, 1980 September 24, 1983 January 3, 1999
United States of America	- - October 23, 1978 October 25, 1991	- - November 12, 1980 January 22, 1999	- - November 8, 1981 February 22, 1999
Uruguay	- - - -	- - October 13, 1994 -	- - November 13, 1994 -
Uzbekistan	- - - -	- - - October 14, 2004	- - - November 14, 2004
Viet Nam	- - - -	- - - November 24, 2006	- - - December 24, 2006

Total: 71 members

[Annex II follows]

ANNEX II

OVERVIEW OF MISSIONS* IN 2013

Mission	Location/Month	Staff
Meeting of the World Seed Project Steering Committee (FAO, ISF, ISTA, OECD and UPOV)	Rome, Italy (January)	Button, Rivoire
OECD Seed Scheme meetings	Paris, France (January)	Taveira
Twenty-third session of the WIPO IGC	Geneva, Switzerland (February)	Aihara
Plant Variety Protection System Awareness Raising Seminar	Vientiane, Lao People's Democratic Republic (February)	Aihara
CPVO Administrative Council	Angers, France (February)	Button
Thirteenth AFSTA Annual Congress Meeting of the World Seed Project Steering Committee (FAO, ISF, ISTA, OECD and UPOV)	Mauritius (March)	Button, Rivoire
Meeting of the Council for TRIPS (WTO headquarters)	Geneva, Switzerland (March)	Huerta
WIPO-WTO Advanced Course on Intellectual Property for Government Officials	Geneva, Switzerland (March)	Button
Study visit of senior officials from the Seychelles to WIPO headquarters	Geneva, Switzerland (March)	Rivoire
Fourteenth Session of the CGRFA	Rome, Italy (April)	Aihara
Technical Working Group Meeting of the OECD Forest Seed and Plant Scheme	Verona, Italy (April)	Button
Preparatory Workshop TWO and forty-sixth session of TWO	Melbourne, Australia (April)	Taveira, Rovere
Twenty-fourth session of the WIPO IGC	Geneva, Switzerland (April)	Aihara
"Stimulating Innovation in Plant Genetic Resources – A role for the European Innovation Partnership for Agricultural Productivity and Sustainability", organized by the European Technology Platform	Brussels, Belgium (April)	Button
Preparatory Workshop TWF and forty-fourth session of TWF	Napier, New Zealand (April)	Rivoire, Rovere
TALEX Workshop on Plant Variety Rights	Baku, Azerbaijan (May)	Aihara
Preparatory Workshop TWV and forty-seventh session of TWV	Nagasaki, Japan (May)	Button, Rivoire, Oertel
Training session on plant variety protection as part of the "Genetic Resources and Intellectual Property Rights Course" (GRIP Course)	Uppsala, Sweden (May)	Aihara
World Seed Congress 2013 (ISF)	Athens, Greece (May)	Button

* Missions relate to events held outside UPOV headquarters.

Mission	Location/Month	Staff
Consultation meeting to promote a public-private partnership in pre-breeding	Rome, Italy (May)	Button
Preparatory Workshop TWC and thirty-first session of TWC	Seoul, Republic of Korea (June)	Aihara, Taveira
Study visit to the Plant Variety Rights Office of Switzerland	Bern, Switzerland (June)	Huerta
OECD Seed Scheme meetings	Paris, France (June)	Borys, Rivoire
Meeting of the Council for TRIPS (WTO headquarters)	Geneva, Switzerland (June)	Huerta
Preparatory Workshop TWA and forty-second session of TWA	Kyiv, Ukraine (June)	Button, Taveira, Oertel
Thirtieth ISTA Congress	Antalya, Turkey (June)	Aihara
Sixteenth International Course on Plant Variety Protection (Naktuinbouw)	Wageningen, Netherlands (June)	Huerta, Rivoire
Meeting of the World Seed Project Steering Committee (FAO, ISF, ISTA, OECD and UPOV) with potential resources partners Dinner meeting of the World Seed Project Steering Committee with WFO	Rome, Italy (June)	Button, Rivoire
WIPO-WTO Colloquium for Teachers of Intellectual Property	Geneva, Switzerland (June)	Button
WIPO-University of Geneva (UNIGE) Summer School on Intellectual Property	Geneva, Switzerland (June)	Huerta
Meeting of the ITPGRFA Platform for the Co-Development and Transfer of Technologies	Bandung, Indonesia (June/July)	Button
Visit to the Brunei Intellectual Property Office (BruIPO)	Bandar, Brunei Darussalam (July)	Button
Sixth Annual Meeting of the EAPVP Forum Symposium on Plant Variety Protection "Regional Cooperation towards International Harmonization in Plant Variety Protection"	Kuching, Malaysia (July)	Button, Aihara
Regional Seminar on the Protection of New Varieties of Plants under the UPOV Convention National Seminar on the Examination of New Plant Varieties	Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago (July)	Taveira
ECOSOC side-event on "Promoting Technology Transfer for Food Security", organized by FAO and the Permanent Mission of Ecuador in Geneva	Geneva, Switzerland (July)	Button, Rivoire
KOICA/KSVS Training Course on "Plant Variety Protection and DUS Testing"	Seongnam City, Republic of Korea (July)	Aihara
Twenty-fifth session of the WIPO IGC	Geneva, Switzerland (July)	Aihara
4 th Edition of the WIPO-Queensland University of Technology (QUT) Master of Intellectual Property Law	Brisbane, Australia (July)	Waterhouse (AU)

Mission	Location/Month	Staff
VI International Symposium on the Taxonomy of Cultivated Plants (ISTCP 2013) Meetings of the International Commission for the Nomenclature of Cultivated Plants of the International Union for Biological Sciences (IUBS Commission)	Beijing, China (July)	Huerta
Regional Workshop on the ARIPO Draft Legal Framework for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants Experts Meeting concerning the Recommendations of the ARIPO Administrative Council on the Draft Legal Framework	Lilongwe, Malawi (July)	Button, Huerta, Rivoire
WIPO/OIPI seminar on "Intellectual Property and Innovation in Côte d'Ivoire"	Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire (July)	Rivoire
Study visit of Parliamentarians and Senior Government Officials of Uganda to WIPO	Geneva, Switzerland (July)	Button, Huerta
Training on DUS testing provided by Naktuinbouw	Roelofarendsveen, Netherlands (August)	Oertel
JICA training course on "Quality Control System of Seeds and Seedlings to Facilitate Distribution of High Quality Seeds"	Tsukuba, Japan (August)	Aihara
4 th Seed Congress of the Americas	Punta del Este, Uruguay (September)	Taveira
USPTO/UPOV training course "Plant Variety Protection under the UPOV Convention"	Geneva, Switzerland (September)	Button, Huerta, Aihara, Taveira, Rovere
Joint Workshop on DUS Testing and Molecular Techniques	Beijing, China (September)	Button, Aihara
Fifty-First Series of Meetings of the Assemblies of the Member States of WIPO	Geneva, Switzerland (September/October)	Aihara
Fifth Session of the Governing Body of the ITPGRFA	Muscat, Oman (September)	Button, Taveira
Meeting of Heads of Intellectual Property Offices for Caribbean countries	Geneva, Switzerland (September)	Huerta
Study visit to the Plant Variety Rights Office of Switzerland	Bern, Switzerland (October)	Aihara, Rivoire, Taveira
CPVO Administrative Council	Brussels, Belgium (October)	Button
Training session on plant variety protection as part of the "Genetic Resources and Intellectual Property Rights Course" (GRIP Course)	Uppsala, Sweden (October)	Aihara
Master of Laws (LL.M.) in Intellectual Property (WIPO/University of Turin/ITC-ILO)	Geneva, Switzerland (October)	Huerta, Rivoire
Meeting of the Council for TRIPS (WTO headquarters)	Geneva, Switzerland (October)	Huerta
ESA Annual Meeting and General Assembly	Warsaw, Poland (October)	Rivoire
WFO Workshop "International Day of Rural Women: Investing in Rural Women to Achieve Sustainable Food Systems"	Lusaka, Zambia (October)	Button

Mission	Location/Month	Staff
Seminar on Essentially Derived Varieties	Geneva, Switzerland (October)	Button, Huerta, Aihara, Rivoire, Taveira, Rovere
Meeting of mushroom breeders	Geneva, Switzerland (October)	Button, Rivoire
FAO meeting on "Nourishing a growing world with diminishing resources"	Geneva, Switzerland (November)	Rivoire
International Seminar on Plant Breeders' Rights and Plant Breeding	Quito, Ecuador (November)	Taveira
Technical Meeting on the Protection of New Varieties of Soybean	Buenos Aires, Argentina (November)	Taveira
XII Training Course for Ibero-American Countries on the Protection of New Varieties of Plants	Montevideo, Uruguay (November)	Taveira
Seminar on Plant Breeders' Rights in Peru under the UPOV Convention	Lima, Peru (November)	Taveira
International Plant Breeding Congress	Antalya, Turkey (November)	Rivoire
Twelfth session of WIPO's Committee on Development and Intellectual Property (CDIP)	Geneva, Switzerland (November)	Huerta, Rivoire
APSA Congress 2013	Kobe, Japan (November)	Button, Aihara
IDLO "Technology Licensing for Developing Countries: Dos and Don'ts" Course	Rome, Italy (November)	Huerta
Seminar on the Benefit of Plant Variety Protection Systems in line with the UPOV Convention	Peradeniya (near Kandy), Sri Lanka (November)	Button, Aihara
14 th Session of ARIPO's Council of Ministers Innovative Africa Forum	Kampala, Uganda (November)	Button
International Seed Workshop "A look to the Seed Sector in Turkey with a Global Perspective"	Antalya, Turkey (December)	Rivoire
17 th Annual Meeting between CPVO and its Examination Offices	Angers, France (December)	Taveira
53 rd ordinary session of OAPI's Administrative Council	Malabo, Equatorial Guinea (December)	Rivoire

[Annex III follows]

ANNEX III

RESULTS AND PERFORMANCE INDICATORS FOR 2013

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INTRODUCTION

1. This report summarizes achievements during 2013. The report is structured to follow the 2012-2013 Program and Budget (document C/45/4 Rev.2), as adopted by the Council at its forty-fifth ordinary session on October 20, 2011.
2. The text offers a brief summary of the progress made towards the achievements of objectives at the level of sub-programs, followed by performance tables summarizing information on objectives, expected results and performance indicators.
3. The Performance Report for the 2012-2013 Biennium is provided in document C/48/12.

SUB-PROGRAM UV.1: OVERALL POLICY ON PLANT VARIETY PROTECTION

The sessions of the Council and the Consultative Committee have provided the basis for policy making, management and coordination of the activities within UPOV's overall program.

- Objectives:**
- ◆ Policy direction and executive management.
 - ◆ Planning, implementation and evaluation of program and budget.

Expected results

Results Achieved: Selected Performance Indicators

1. Organization of Council and Consultative Committee sessions

(a) Participation in the sessions of the Council and the Consultative Committee

Council

Forty-seventh ordinary session:

106 participants representing 42 members of the Union, 6 observer States and 9 observer organizations

Thirtieth extraordinary session:

90 participants representing 40 members of the Union, 5 observer States and 3 observer organizations

Consultative Committee

Eighty-sixth session

80 participants representing 40 members of the Union

Eighty-fifth session

75 participants representing 39 members of the Union

2. Coordination, monitoring and performance assessment of Program and Budget for the 2012-2013 Biennium

(a) Delivery of program within budget for the 2012-2013 Biennium

See document C/48/12 "Performance Report for the 2012-2013 Biennium"

3. Preparation and adoption of the Program and Budget for the 2014-2015 Biennium

(a) Preparation and adoption of the Program and Budget for the 2014-2015 Biennium in accordance with the "Financial Regulations and Rules of UPOV"

The Program and Budget for the 2014-2015 Biennium was adopted by the Council at its forty-seventh ordinary session on October 24, 2013 (see document C/47/4 Rev.)

Expected results

Results Achieved: Selected Performance Indicators

4. Council policy

(a) Recommendations by the Consultative Committee

The Consultative Committee, at its eighty-fifth session, held in Geneva on March 22, 2013, made recommendations to the Council on:

- the examination of the conformity of the Plant Breeders' Rights Bill for Zanzibar with the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention
- the adoption of information material (see Sub-Program UV.2, performance indicator 1 "Guidance on the UPOV Convention and its implementation and information on its application", section (a))
- the preparation of the calendar of meetings
- a press release

and it:

- agreed the basis for the preparation of the Draft Program and Budget of the Union for the 2014-2015 Biennium;
- agreed that the Office of the Union should investigate the feasibility of using a database of consultants in order to produce a list of consultants and their activities;
- approved the revised disclaimer text on the meeting section of the UPOV website, and the addition of a disclaimer to each UPOV session document;
- approved the participation of the Office of the Union in the work of a multi-stakeholder team on the definition of mechanisms for enhancing public private partnerships in pre breeding, following the request from the "Plant Genetic Resources and Seeds Team and a number of other functional units, especially the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture".

The Consultative Committee, its eighty-sixth session, held in Geneva on October 23, 2013, made recommendations to the Council on:

- the examination of the conformity of the Law for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants of Bosnia and Herzegovina with the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention
- developments concerning the Plant Breeders' Bill of Ghana
- the Draft Program and Budget of the Union for the 2014-2015 Biennium
- the adoption of information material (see Sub-Program UV.2, performance indicator 1 "Guidance on the UPOV Convention and its implementation and information on its application", section (a))
- the financial statements for 2012
- arrears in contributions as of September 30, 2013
- the calendar of meetings in 2014
- a press release
- the creation of a special UPOV account that would be used to finance extra budgetary projects agreed by the Council, in a situation where the amount of the reserve fund exceeds 15 percent of the total income for the 2012-2013 Biennium.
- copying the Technical Committee (TC) designated persons in the request for information concerning cooperation in examination, e.g. see C/xx/5;

and it:

- approved the proposed presentation of information in the performance report for the biennium;
- approved a communication strategy, including answers to frequently asked questions;
- endorsed the current approach whereby the Administrative and Legal Committee Advisory Group (CAJ-AG) invites, on an ad hoc basis, organizations that have observer status in the CAJ to present their views at the relevant part of the CAJ-AG, as it considers appropriate;
- in relation to the request from APBREBES, agreed not to transmit the document on "Observers in UPOV Bodies" to APBREBES, and to inform APBREBES accordingly;
- agreed to the development of document UPOV/INF/15 "Guidance for Members of UPOV on Ongoing Obligations and Related Notifications and on the Provision of Information to Facilitate Cooperation" into an umbrella document that would identify key issues for the operation of a plant variety protection system and which would provide links to detailed information materials;

Expected results

**4. Council policy
(continued)**

Results Achieved: Selected Performance Indicators

- agreed to invite the CAJ and TC to consider the ISF recommendations in relation to existing and possible future information materials, in parallel with the development of document UPOV/INF/15 into an umbrella document;
- agreed to invite ISF to express its views to the TC with regard to databases of variety descriptions and the criteria identified by the TC for the publication of variety descriptions.

(b) Decisions by the Council

The Council, at its thirtieth extraordinary session, held in Geneva on March 22, 2013:

- decided, subject to the incorporation in the Plant Breeders' Rights Bill for Zanzibar of the modifications recommended in paragraphs 26, 28, 30 and 35 of document C(Extr.)/30/4 Rev., and with no additional changes, to take a positive decision on the conformity of the Plant Breeders' Rights Bill for Zanzibar with the provisions of the 1991 Act of the International Convention for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants;
- approved the organization of a seminar on essentially derived varieties (EDVs) on October 22, 2013;
- approved a press release.

The Council, at its forty-seventh ordinary session, held in Geneva on October 24, 2013:

- decided to take a positive decision on the conformity of the Law for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants of Bosnia and Herzegovina with the provisions of the 1991 Act of the International Convention for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants;
- confirmed the decision on conformity of the Plant Breeders' Bill of Ghana;
- approved the proposals contained in the Draft Program and Budget for the 2014-2015 Biennium, including the amount of contributions from members of the Union, the proposed maximum ceiling of expenditure in the regular budget, and the total number of posts for the Office of the Union;
- approved the Financial Statements for 2012;
- approved the calendar of meetings in 2014;
- elected, in each case for a term of three years ending with the fiftieth ordinary session of the Council, in 2016:
 - Mr. Martin Ekvad (European Union), Chair of the Administrative and Legal Committee;
 - Mr. James M. Onsando (Kenya), Vice-Chair of the Administrative and Legal Committee;
 - Mr. Alejandro Barrientos-Priego (Mexico), Chair of the Technical Committee;
 - Mr. Kees van Ettehoven (Netherlands), Vice-Chair of the Technical Committee;
- approved a press release.

(c) Adoption of information and position papers by the Council

The adoption of information materials by the Council is reported in Sub-Program UV.2.

SUB-PROGRAM UV.2: SERVICES TO THE UNION FOR ENHANCING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE UPOV SYSTEM

UPOV has continued to adopt new and revised information and guidance documents that enhance the understanding and the implementation of the provisions of the Convention in an internationally harmonized and effective way, thereby reinforcing the quality of protection and helping to reduce the cost of obtaining protection. Such measures continue to gain importance for new members of the Union with the increasing number of members of the Union that offer protection for all plant genera and species. In 2013, the adopted Test Guidelines covered 91% of all PBR-related entries in the Plant Variety Database. In order to explore possible measures to improve the effectiveness of the TC, TWPs and Preparatory Workshops, the TC has endorsed a series of surveys. To enhance cooperation between members of the Union, the information provided in the GENIE database, Plant Variety Database (PLUTO database) and database of laws of members of the Union (UPOV Lex) has been enhanced, with further measures taken in relation to the program for improvements to the PLUTO Database. The project for the development of a UPOV electronic application form has made significant progress, including the creation of a “mock-up” for demonstration purposes.

- Objectives:**
- ◆ To maintain and improve the effectiveness of the UPOV system.
 - ◆ To provide and develop the legal, administrative and technical basis for international cooperation in plant variety protection according to the UPOV Convention.

Expected results Results Achieved: Selected Performance Indicators

1. *Guidance on the UPOV Convention and its implementation and information on its application*

UPOV Collection: visits to the UPOV website^a in 2013

Pageviews: 9,336 (9,741 in 2012)
Unique pageviews: 5,930 (5,865 in 2012)

Language	Pageviews	Unique pageviews
English	6,304	4,157
Spanish	1,966	1,101
French	628	379
German	436	291

(a) Adoption of new or revised information materials concerning the UPOV Convention

- Information materials concerning the UPOV Convention adopted by the Council in 2013
 - UPOV/INF/4/3: Financial Regulations and Rules of UPOV (Revision)
 - UPOV/INF/6/3 Guidance for the preparation of laws based on the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention (Revision)
 - UPOV/INF/15/2 Guidance for Members of UPOV on Ongoing Obligations and Related Notifications and on the Provision of Information to Facilitate Cooperation (Revision)
 - UPOV/INF/16/3 Exchangeable Software (Revision)
 - UPOV/EXN/BRD/1 Explanatory Notes on the Definition of Breeder under the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention
 - UPOV/EXN/HRV/1 Explanatory Notes on Acts in Respect of Harvested Material under the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention
 - UPOV/INF-EXN/4 List of INF-EXN Documents and Latest Issue Dates (Revision)
 - UPOV/INF-EXN/5 List of INF-EXN Documents and Latest Issue Dates (Revision)
- Drafts of the following materials were considered by the CAJ in 2013:
 - UPOV/EXN/BRD Explanatory Notes on the Definition of Breeder under the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention
 - UPOV/EXN/HRV Explanatory Notes on Acts in Respect of Harvested Material under the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention
 - UPOV/EXN/EDV Explanatory Notes on Essentially Derived Varieties under the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention (Revision)
 - UPOV/INF/16 Exchangeable Software (Revision)

Expected results

1. *Guidance on the UPOV Convention and its implementation and information on its application*
(continued)

Results Achieved: Selected Performance Indicators

(a) *Adoption of new or revised information materials concerning the UPOV Convention*
(continued)

- The following materials were considered by the CAJ-AG in 2013:
 - Draft Explanatory Notes on Propagation and Propagating Material
 - Draft Explanatory Notes on Essentially Derived Varieties under the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention (Revision)
 - Draft Explanatory Notes on Acts in Respect of Harvested Material
 - Matters concerning cancellation of the breeder's right
 - Matters concerning nullity of the breeder's right
 - Matters concerning variety denominations
 - Matters concerning variety descriptions
 - Matters arising after the grant of a breeder's right on: provisional protection, filing of applications and enforcement of breeders' rights

(b) *Publication of the UPOV Gazette and Newsletter*

- UPOV Publication No. 438 (E), Issue No. 106, December 2013

(c) *Inclusion of laws of members of the Union in UPOV Lex database*

- Australia, Panama, Poland, Serbia, United States of America and Viet Nam

UPOV Lex database: visits to the UPOV Website in 2013

Pageviews: 88,533 (91,245 in 2012)

Unique pageviews: 61,230 (62,411 in 2012)

Language	Pageviews	Unique pageviews
English	58,442	40,221
Spanish	20,246	14,057
French	7,216	5,152
German	2,629	1,800

(d) *Participation in seminars and symposia held in Geneva in conjunction with UPOV sessions*

- Seminar on essentially derived varieties (EDVs), October 22, 2013
(177 participants)

Expected results

Results Achieved: Selected Performance Indicators

2. *Guidance on the examination of varieties*

(a) *Adoption of new or revised TGP documents and information materials*

- TGP documents adopted and published on the UPOV website in 2013:
 - TGP/14/2 Glossary of Terms Used in UPOV Documents (Revision)
 - TGP/15/1 Guidance on the Use of Biochemical and Molecular Markers in the Examination of Distinctness, Uniformity and Stability (DUS)
 - TGP/0/6 List of TGP Documents and Latest Issue Dates (Revision)
- Drafts of the following TGP documents advanced in the CAJ, TC and/or the Technical Working Parties in 2013:
 - TGP/7 Development of Test Guidelines
 - TGP/8 Trial Design and Techniques Used in the Examination of Distinctness, Uniformity and Stability
 - TGP/14 Glossary of Terms Used in UPOV Documents
 - TGP/15 [~~New Types of Characteristics~~] [Guidance on the Use of Biochemical and Molecular Markers in the Examination of Distinctness, Uniformity and Stability (DUS)]
- Drafts of the following information materials advanced in the CAJ, TC and/or the Technical Working Parties in 2013:
 - UPOV/INF/16 Exchangeable Software (Revision)

(b) *Adoption of new or revised Test Guidelines*

Test Guidelines: visits to the UPOV Website in 2013

Pageviews: 68,479 (65,471 in 2012)
Unique pageviews: 38,979 (37,227 in 2012)

Language	Pageviews	Unique pageviews
English	55,559	31,498
Spanish	8,591	4,802
French	3,071	1,898
German	1,258	781

Adopted Test Guidelines

In 2013, the adopted Test Guidelines covered 91% of all PBR-related entries in the Plant Variety Database (217,298 of 247,818) (in 2012, 90%: 207,235 of 236,107)

- 26 Test Guidelines adopted by the TC, comprising:
 - 15 new Test Guidelines: TWA (2), TWF (3), TWO (6), TWV (4) drafted by Leading Experts from: AU (2), BR (1), BR/CN (1), CA (1), CN (2), ES (1), FR (1), IL/KR (1), JP (1), KR (2), NL (1), NZ (1)
 - 7 revised Test Guidelines: TWA (1), TWF (1); TWO (3), TWV (2)
 - 4 partially revised Test Guidelines: TWO (1), TWV (3)

Test Guidelines advanced in the Technical Working Parties

- 49 draft Test Guidelines advanced by the Technical Working Parties, comprising
 - 30 new Test Guidelines: TWA (7), TWA/TWV (1), TWF (6), TWO (13), TWV (3)
 - 13 revisions: TWA (4), TWF (3), TWO (2), TWV (4)
 - 6 partial revisions: TWF (2), TWV (4)

Expected results

3. Cooperation for the examination of plant breeders' rights

Results Achieved: Selected Performance Indicators

GENIE database: visits to the UPOV Website in 2013

Sessions	16,545	Language	Pageviews	Unique pageviews
Users	8,913	English	61,335	35,992
Pageviews	84,306	Spanish	10,610	6,074
New Visitors	48%	French	7,050	4,252
Returning Visitors	52%	German	2,360	1,072

Top 10 countries visiting the GENIE database in 2013

Country / Territory	Sessions	% New Sessions	New Users
France	1,637	55,65%	911
Switzerland	1,070	25,79%	276
United States of America	914	68,27%	624
Germany	857	70,36%	603
Japan	754	21,75%	164
Spain	748	67,38%	504
India	662	74,17%	491
Mexico	633	52,13%	330
Netherlands	541	31,98%	173
Australia	535	34,39%	184

(a) *Plant genera and species for which members of the Union have practical experience*

Practical experience in examination of DUS reported for approximately 2,589 genera or species in 2013 (2,726 in 2012; 2,679 in 2011) - see document TC/49/4

(b) *Plant genera and species for which members of the Union cooperate in DUS examination, as indicated in GENIE database*

- *General cooperation*

Authorities which will provide existing DUS reports to any member of the Union:

Australia, Brazil

Authorities which will, for any species for which they have experience in DUS examination, provide existing DUS reports to any member of the Union:

Canada, European Union, Germany, New Zealand, Serbia, Uruguay

Authorities which will accept DUS reports from any other member of the Union:

Australia (except *Solanum tuberosum* L.)

Switzerland will, in general, utilize existing DUS reports provided by any member of the Union. DUS tests are not conducted in Switzerland. In cases where a DUS test report is not available from a member of the Union, the Plant Variety Protection Office will request an appropriate authority or testing station of a member of the Union to perform a DUS test on its behalf.

Canada generally accepts existing DUS reports from other members of the Union for varieties of any taxa which are vegetatively propagated and for which the DUS tests were conducted in a controlled environment greenhouse.

- *Number of specific bilateral and regional arrangements on plant variety protection*

Agreement for cooperation in variety testing extends to approximately 1,997 genera or species (1,991 in 2012; 1,990 in 2011) – excluding general cooperation (see above and document C/47/5)

Expected results **Results Achieved: Selected Performance Indicators**

3. *Cooperation for the examination of plant breeders' rights*
(continued)

(c) *Participation in the development of Test Guidelines*

Test Guidelines adopted in 2013:

- 15 new Test Guidelines: TWA (2), TWF (3), TWO (6), TWV (4)
drafted by Leading Experts from:
 - Americas - Asia/Pacific: BR/CN (1)
 - Asia/Pacific: AU (2), CN (2), KR (2), JP (1), NZ (1)
 - Near/Middle East – Asia/Pacific: IL/KR (1)
 - Europe: DE (1), GB (1), FR (1), PL/GB (1), NL (1)

- 7 revised Test Guidelines: TWA (1), TWF (1), TWO (3), TWV (2)
 - Americas: MX (1)
 - Europe: ES (1), DE (1), NL (4)

- 4 partially revised Test Guidelines: TWO (1), TWV (3)
 - Africa: ZA (1)
 - Europe: FR/NL (1), NL (1), QZ (1)

Test Guidelines under development in 2013:

- 30 new Test Guidelines: TWA (7), TWA/TWV (1), TWF (6), TWO (13), TWV (3)
drafted by Leading Experts from:
 - Africa: ZA (1)
 - Africa/Americas: KE/BR (1)
 - Americas: AR (1), BR (2), CO (1), MX (4)
 - Asia/Pacific: AU (2), CN (2), JP (7), NZ (2)
 - Europe: FR (3), GB (1), NL (2), PL (1)

- 13 revisions: TWA (4), TWF (3), TWO (2), TWV (4)
 - Africa: ZA (1)
 - Europe: DE (3), ES (1), FR (5), GB (1), NL (2)

- 6 partial revisions: TWF (2), TWV (4)
 - Europe: ES (1), FR (2), FR/NL (2), NL (1)

Total of 16 members of the Union involved in drafting Test Guidelines (AR, AU, BR, CN, CO, DE, ES, FR, GB, JP, KE, MX, NL, NZ, PL, ZA).

Expected results

Results Achieved: Selected Performance Indicators

PLUTO database: visits to the UPOV Website in 2013

Sessions	41,957	Language	Pageviews	Unique pageviews
Users	12,145	English	41,058	25,785
Pageviews	70,739	Spanish	3,528	2,045
New Visitors	27.4%	French	3,850	2,525
Returning Visitors	72.6%	German	971	603

Top 10 countries visiting the PLUTO database in 2013

Country / Territory	Sessions	% New Sessions	New Users
France	4,225	29.35%	1,240
United States of America	4,054	23.36%	947
Netherlands	3,613	21.87%	790
Australia	2,513	12.06%	303
Brazil	2,359	33.36%	787
Ukraine	2,180	13.12%	286
Russia	1,583	15.41%	244
Germany	1,579	34.07%	538
Japan	1,506	27.56%	415
Switzerland	1,338	22.94%	307

(d) Quality and completeness of data in the Plant Variety Database and quality of search facility; and facilities for access to other relevant data

- Total number of records included in the PLUTO database at the end of 2013: 645,068 (620,517 at the end of 2012)
- Number of submissions of new data in 2013 (each contributor was invited to make 6 submissions in 2013): 163 (167 in 2012)
- Number of contributors included in the PLUTO database at the end of 2013: 56 (52 in 2012)
- Number of members of the Union that contributed data in 2013: 45 (45 in 2012)
- Number of members of the Union that contributed data for the first time in 2013: 4 (GE, KE, PE, RS) (4 in 2012)
- Number of other contributors of data in 2013: 1 (OECD) (1 in 2012)

Developments in relation to the Plant Variety Database (PLUTO database):

- Contributors requested to provide data as soon as possible after it is published by the authority concerned.
- Procedure for the allocation and correction of UPOV codes amended to minimize delays in updates of the database.
- To assist the users of PLUTO database, an English version of the video tutorial was developed and made available on the PLUTO webpage (<https://www3.wipo.int/pluto/user/en/index.jsp>).
- The disclaimer for PLUTO was amended to reflect the content of the Program for Improvements.
- A working group to develop proposals for a UPOV similarity search tool for variety denomination purposes was established.

(e) Exchangeable software included in document UPOV/INF/16 "Exchangeable Software"

No new software was included in 2013.

Expected results

Results Achieved: Selected Performance Indicators

4. Participation by members of the Union and stakeholders in the work of the UPOV bodies

(a) Participation in the Administrative and Legal Committee

- CAJ/67: 99 participants representing 37 members of the Union, 7 observer States, 5 observer organizations
CAJ/68 94 participants representing 37 members of the Union, 5 observer States, 7 observer organizations

(b) Participation in the Technical Committee

- TC/49: 77 participants representing 36 members of the Union, 7 observer States, 4 observer organizations

(c) Participation in Technical Working Party Sessions

- 334 experts representing 35 members of the Union (members), 5 observer States (obs) and 3 observer organizations (orgs) participated in the Technical Working Parties as follows:
 - TWA (Ukraine):
29 members (80 participants) / 1 obs (2) / 2 org (4)
 - TWC (Republic of Korea):
12 members (43 participants) / 0 obs (0) / 0 org (0)
 - TWF (New Zealand):
16 members (36 participants) / 3 obs (3) / 1 org (1)
 - TWO (Australia):
18 members (37 participants) / 3 obs (4) / 1 org (2)
 - TWV (Japan):
16 members (49 participants) / 3 obs (3) / 2 org (1)

(d) Participation in Preparatory Workshops for the Technical Working Party Sessions

- 146 experts representing 27 members of the Union (members), 4 observer States (obs) and 2 observer organizations (orgs) participated in the Preparatory Workshops as follows:
 - TWA: 15 members (33 participants) / 0 obs (0) / 1 org (1)
 - TWC: 10 members (23 participants) / 0 obs (0) / 0 org (0)
 - TWF: 16 members (35 participants) / 3 obs (3) / 1 org (1)
 - TWO: 13 members (24 participants) / 3 obs (4) / 2 org (1)
 - TWV: 6 members (18 participants) / 2 obs (2) / 0 org (0)

(e) Explanation of measures to improve the effectiveness of the TC, TWPs and Preparatory Workshops

The TC, at its forty-ninth session, received presentations by the Office of the Union on a survey of participants in the TWO, at its forty-fifth session held in Jeju, Republic of Korea, from August 6 to 10, 2012, and in the TWF, at its forty-third session, held in Beijing, China, from July 30 to August 3, 2012, and an analysis of participation in the TC and the TWPs.

5. UPOV documents and materials in additional languages

(a) Availability of UPOV documents and materials in languages other than the UPOV languages (English, French, German and Spanish)

- The 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention was translated into Khmer and Serbian languages (the translations will be verified before publication on the UPOV website).

Expected results

Results Achieved: Selected Performance Indicators

6. Facilitating applications for plant breeders' rights

(a) Number of applications for plant breeders' rights

13,867 applications made with members of the Union in 2012 (13,714 in 2011; 13,038 in 2010) (see document C/47/7)

(b) Number of titles granted

9,822 titles granted by members of the Union in 2012 (10,065 in 2011; 11,115 in 2010) (see document C/47/7)

(c) Number of titles in force

99,409 titles in force with members of the Union at the end of 2011 (95,041 in 2011; 90,344 in 2010) (see document C/47/7)

(d) Number of genera/species protected by members of the Union

At the end of 2013, a total of 56 members of the Union offered protection for all plant genera and species (53 in 2012; 48 in 2011) and 15 members of the Union offered protection for a limited number of plant genera and species (17 in 2012 and 22 in 2011) (see document C/47/6).

The following members of the Union notified the extension of protection to additional plant genera and species in 2013:

Belarus, Singapore, South Africa and Viet Nam

(e) Number of genera/species for which varieties have been protected

Number of plant genera and species with PBR entries in the Plant Variety Database (PLUTO):
3,297
(3,144 in August 2012; 3,042 in August 2011)

(f) Use by members of the Union of standard UPOV references in application forms

In 2012, 13 members of the Union indicated that the standard references of the UPOV Model Application Form were included in their application forms

In 2013, no new information.

(g) Use of linear blank forms corresponding to the "UPOV Model Form for the Application for Plant Breeders' Rights"

In 2012, the CAJ endorsed the development of a prototype electronic form for interested members of the Union and agreed on the form content, status, data format, languages, and the crop/species. The following members of the Union, including the continued participation of the European Union, indicated their interest to be participating members of the Union in the prototype: Australia, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Mexico, New Zealand, Paraguay, Republic of Korea, United States of America and Viet Nam. Other partners were the CPVO, ISF, CIOPORA, WIPO Internet Services Section, WIPO Standards Section and WIPO Global Database Service.

The UPOV electronic form is planned to enable data to be transferred to participating members of the Union in Word, Excel, PDF or XML format. The participating members of the Union would decide in which format(s) to accept data. In the case of XML format, a standard format is planned to be developed, based on WIPO standard ST.96.

In 2013, an illustrative "mock-up" of parts of the prototype electronic form was presented. It was agreed that the prototype would be developed in English only and the Technical Questionnaire would be for Lettuce (*Lactuca sativa* L.). Argentina, Japan and Switzerland requested to participate in the development of the prototype.

7. Provision of information on the UPOV Convention for stakeholders (breeders, farmers, growers, seed-merchants, etc.)

(a) Stakeholder-orientated information on the UPOV website

The following material was produced in 2013:

- UPOV Trilogy Box Set (in English only), containing the following publications, which were also made available on the UPOV website:
 - Executive Summary (UPOV Publication 357.1E)
 - Symposium on Plant Breeding for the Future (UPOV Publication 357.2E)
 - Seminar on Plant Variety Protection and Technology Transfer: the Benefits of Public-Private Partnership (UPOV Publication 357.3E)
 - Symposium on the Benefits of Plant Variety Protection for Farmers and Growers (UPOV Publication 357.4E)
- Seminar on Essentially Derived Varieties:
 - copies of the materials and a video were made available on the UPOV website at: http://www.upov.int/meetings/en/details.jsp?meeting_id=29782

SUB-PROGRAM UV.3: ASSISTANCE IN THE INTRODUCTION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE UPOV SYSTEM

UPOV assisted a number of States in the implementation of plant variety protection based on the UPOV Convention and provided advice to governments in the preparation of legislation. Cooperation with members of the Union, particularly with regard to training courses, provided substantial benefits for outreach. The use of the distance learning course "Introduction to the UPOV System of Plant Variety Protection under the UPOV Convention" (DL-205) and training of trainers have been of particular importance in providing assistance to a wide range of experts. A further important development in 2013 was a successful run of the new distance learning course "Examination of Applications for Plant Breeders' Rights" (DL-305).

- Objectives:**
- ◆ To raise awareness of the role of plant variety protection according to the UPOV Convention.
 - ◆ To assist States and organizations, particularly governments of developing countries and countries in transition to a market economy, in the development of legislation in accordance with the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention.
 - ◆ To assist States and organizations in their accession to the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention.
 - ◆ To assist States and organizations in implementing an effective plant variety protection system in accordance with the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention.

Expected results

1. Raising awareness of the role of plant variety protection in accordance with the UPOV Convention

Results Achieved: Selected Performance Indicators

(a) Publications on the role of plant variety protection, including material on UPOV website

- UPOV Trilogy Box Set (in English only), containing the following publications, which were also made available on the UPOV website:
 - Executive Summary (UPOV Publication 357.1E)
 - Symposium on Plant Breeding for the Future (UPOV Publication 357.2E)
 - Seminar on Plant Variety Protection and Technology Transfer: the Benefits of Public-Private Partnership (UPOV Publication 357.3E)
 - Symposium on the Benefits of Plant Variety Protection for Farmers and Growers (UPOV Publication 357.4E)
- Seminar on Essentially Derived Varieties:
 - copies of the materials and a video are available on the UPOV website at: http://www.upov.int/meetings/en/details.jsp?meeting_id=29782

(b) States and organizations provided with information at UPOV activities

Afghanistan, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Austria, Bahamas, Barbados, Belgium, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Czech Republic, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Estonia, European Union, Finland, France, Gambia, Germany, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lesotho, Liberia, Lithuania, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mexico, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Pakistan, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Swaziland, Switzerland, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, United Kingdom, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Viet Nam, Zambia, Zimbabwe, AOHE, APBEBES, APSA, ARIPO, ARIPO, ASTA, Berne Declaration, CIAT, CIOPORA, ESA, WIPO

See also (e) below

Expected results

Results Achieved: Selected Performance Indicators

1. Raising awareness of the role of plant variety protection in accordance with the UPOV Convention (continued)

(c) States and organizations that contacted the Office of the Union for assistance in the development of legislation on plant variety protection

Members of the Union: Azerbaijan, Nicaragua, Singapore and South Africa

Potential members of the Union: ARIPO, Bahamas, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Egypt, Ghana, Honduras, Myanmar, Namibia, Pakistan, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Seychelles, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, and Zimbabwe

(d) States and organizations that initiated with the Council of UPOV the procedure for becoming members of the Union

Ghana, United Republic of Tanzania

(e) Participation in UPOV awareness-raising activities, or activities involving UPOV staff or UPOV trainers on behalf of UPOV staff

(1) Activities organized by, or with, UPOV:

- Plant Variety Protection System Awareness Raising Seminar, Vientiane, Lao People's Democratic Republic (February 2013)
- Regional Seminar on the Protection of New Varieties of Plants under the UPOV Convention, Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago (July 2013)
- National Seminar on the Examination of New Plant Varieties, Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago (July 2013)
- Visit to the Brunei Intellectual Property Office (BrulPO 2013), Bandar, Brunei Darussalam (July 2013)
- Sixth Annual Meeting of the EAPVP Forum 2013, Kuching, Malaysia (July 2013)
- Symposium on Plant Variety Protection "Regional Cooperation towards International Harmonization in Plant Variety Protection", Kuching, Malaysia (July 2013)
- Regional Workshop on the ARIPO Draft Legal Framework for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants, Lilongwe, Malawi (July 2013)
- Experts Meeting concerning the Recommendations of the ARIPO Administrative Council on the Draft Legal Framework, Lilongwe, Malawi (July 2013)
- USPTO/UPOV training course "Plant Variety Protection under the UPOV Convention", Geneva, Switzerland (September 2013)
- Joint Workshop on DUS Testing and Molecular Techniques, Beijing, China (September 2013)
- Seminar on Essentially Derived Varieties, Geneva, Switzerland (October 2013)
- International Seminar on Plant Breeders' Rights and Plant Breeding, Quito, Ecuador (November 2013)
- Technical Meeting on the Protection of New Varieties of Soybean, Buenos Aires, Argentina (November 2013)
- XII Training Course for Ibero-American Countries on the Protection of New Varieties of Plants, Montevideo, Uruguay (November 2013)
- Seminar on Plant Breeders' Rights in Peru under the UPOV Convention, Lima, Peru (November 2013)
- Seminar on the Benefit of Plant Variety Protection Systems in line with the UPOV Convention, Peradeniya (near Kandy 2013), Sri Lanka (November 2013)

(2) Activities/meetings in which UPOV participated:

- OECD Seed Scheme meetings, Paris, France (January 2013)
- Twenty-third session of the WIPO IGC, Geneva, Switzerland (February 2013)
- CPVO Administrative Council, Angers, France (February 2013)
- Thirteenth AFSTA Annual Congress, Mauritius (March 2013)
- Meeting of the Council for TRIPS, Geneva, Switzerland (March 2013)

Expected results	Results Achieved: Selected Performance Indicators
<i>1. Raising awareness of the role of plant variety protection in accordance with the UPOV Convention (continued)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">– WIPO-WTO Advanced Course on Intellectual Property for Government Officials, Geneva, Switzerland (March 2013)– Study visit of senior officials from the Seychelles to WIPO headquarters, Geneva, Switzerland (March 2013)– Fourteenth Session of the CGRFA, Rome, Italy (April 2013)– Technical Working Group Meeting of the OECD Forest Seed and Plant Scheme, Verona, Italy (April 2013)– Twenty-fourth session of the WIPO IGC, Geneva, Switzerland (April 2013)– “Stimulating Innovation in Plant Genetic Resources – A role for the European Innovation Partnership for Agricultural Productivity and Sustainability”, organized by the European Technology Platform, Brussels, Belgium (April 2013)– TAIEX Workshop on Plant Variety Rights, Baku, Azerbaijan (May 2013)– Training session on plant variety protection as part of the “Genetic Resources and Intellectual Property Rights Course” (GRIP Course 2013), Uppsala, Sweden (May 2013)– World Seed Congress 2013 (ISF 2013), Athens, Greece (May 2013)– Consultation meeting to promote a public-private partnership in pre-breeding, Rome, Italy (May 2013)– Study visit to the Plant Variety Rights Office of Switzerland, Bern, Switzerland (June 2013)– OECD Seed Scheme meetings, Paris, France (June 2013)– Meeting of the Council for TRIPS (WTO headquarters 2013), Geneva, Switzerland (June 2013)– Thirtieth ISTA Congress, Antalya, Turkey (June 2013)– Sixteenth International Course on Plant Variety Protection (Naktuinbouw 2013), Wageningen, Netherlands (June 2013)– WIPO-WTO Colloquium for Teachers of Intellectual Property, Geneva, Switzerland (June 2013)– WIPO-University of Geneva (UNIGE 2013) Summer School on Intellectual Property, Geneva, Switzerland (June 2013)– Meeting of the ITPGRFA Platform for the Co-Development and Transfer of Technologies, Bandung, Indonesia (June/July 2013)– ECOSOC side-event on “Promoting Technology Transfer for Food Security”, organized by FAO and the Permanent Mission of Ecuador in Geneva, Geneva, Switzerland (July 2013)– KOICA/KSVS Training Course on “Plant Variety Protection and DUS Testing”, Seongnam City, Republic of Korea (July 2013)– Twenty-fifth session of the WIPO IGC, Geneva, Switzerland (July 2013)– 4th Edition of the WIPO-Queensland University of Technology (QUT 2013) Master of Intellectual Property Law, Brisbane, Australia (July 2013)– VI International Symposium on the Taxonomy of Cultivated Plants (ISTCP 2013 2013)– Meetings of the International Commission for the Nomenclature of Cultivated Plants of the International Union for Biological Sciences (IUBS Commission 2013), Beijing, China (July 2013)– WIPO/OIP seminar on “Intellectual Property and Innovation in Côte d’Ivoire”, Abidjan, Côte d’Ivoire (July 2013)– Study visit of Parliamentarians and Senior Government Officials of Uganda to WIPO, Geneva, Switzerland (July 2013)– JICA training course on “Quality Control System of Seeds and Seedlings to Facilitate Distribution of High Quality Seeds”, Tsukuba, Japan (August 2013)– 4th Seed Congress of the Americas, Punta del Este, Uruguay (September 2013)– Fifty-First Series of Meetings of the Assemblies of the Member States of WIPO, Geneva, Switzerland (September/October 2013)– Fifth Session of the Governing Body of the ITPGRFA, Muscat, Oman (September 2013)– Meeting of Heads of Intellectual Property Offices for Caribbean countries, Geneva, Switzerland (September 2013)

Expected results

Results Achieved: Selected Performance Indicators

1. Raising awareness of the role of plant variety protection in accordance with the UPOV Convention (continued)

- Study visit to the Plant Variety Rights Office of Switzerland, Bern, Switzerland (October 2013)
- CPVO Administrative Council, Brussels, Belgium (October 2013)
- Training session on plant variety protection as part of the "Genetic Resources and Intellectual Property Rights Course" (GRIP Course 2013), Uppsala, Sweden (October 2013)
- Master of Laws (LL.M. 2013) in Intellectual Property (WIPO/University of Turin/ITC-ILO 2013), Geneva, Switzerland (October 2013)
- Meeting of the Council for TRIPS (WTO headquarters 2013), Geneva, Switzerland (October 2013)
- ESA 2013 Annual Meeting and General Assembly, Warsaw, Poland (October 2013)
- WFO Workshop "International Day of Rural Women: Investing in Rural Women to Achieve Sustainable Food Systems", Lusaka, Zambia (October 2013)
- Meeting of mushroom breeders, Geneva, Switzerland (October 2013)
- FAO meeting on "Nourishing a growing world with diminishing resources", Geneva, Switzerland (November 2013)
- International Plant Breeding Congress, Antalya, Turkey (November 2013)
- Twelfth session of the WIPO Committee on Development and Intellectual Property (CDIP 2013), Geneva, Switzerland (November 2013)
- APSA Congress 2013, Kobe, Japan (November 2013)
- IDLO "Technology Licensing for Developing Countries: Dos and Don'ts" Course, Rome, Italy (November 2013)
- 14th Session of ARIPO's Council of Ministers Innovative Africa Forum, Kampala, Uganda (November 2013)
- International Seed Workshop "A look to the Seed Sector in Turkey with a Global Perspective", Antalya, Turkey (December 2013)
- 17th Annual Meeting between CPVO and its Examination Offices, Angers, France (December 2013)
- 53rd ordinary session of OAPI's Administrative Council, Malabo, Equatorial Guinea (December 2013)

2. Assistance in drafting legislation on plant variety protection in accordance with the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention

(a) States and organizations provided with comments on laws

Members of the Union: Azerbaijan, Nicaragua, Singapore and South Africa.

Non-members of the Union: ARIPO, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Egypt, Ghana, Honduras, Myanmar, Namibia, Pakistan, Rwanda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, and Zimbabwe.

(b) States and organizations which received a positive advice from the Council of UPOV

Ghana (confirmation), United Republic of Tanzania (Plant Breeders' Rights Bill for Zanzibar)

(c) Meetings with government officials

Members of the Union: Azerbaijan, Nicaragua, Singapore and South Africa.

Non-members of the Union: ARIPO, Bahamas, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Ghana, Namibia, Pakistan, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Seychelles, United Republic of Tanzania, and Zimbabwe.

3. Assistance to States and organizations in the accession to the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention

(a) States that acceded to or ratified the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention

None

(b) States and organizations that became members of the Union

Serbia

Expected results Results Achieved: Selected Performance Indicators

4. Assistance in implementing an effective plant variety rights system in accordance with the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention

(a) Participation in distance learning courses

UPOV DL-205 "Introduction to the UPOV System of Plant Variety Protection under the UPOV Convention"

List of countries from which there were participants in the UPOV distance learning course (in 2013)

Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Ecuador, Egypt, Finland, France, Germany, Honduras, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Israel, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Lithuania, Mexico, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Paraguay, Peru, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Switzerland, Tunisia, United Kingdom, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay and Zimbabwe (total: 52 countries).

Total number of participants in main sessions of the DL-205 Course by category (two sessions in 2013)

Category	Number of students
Category 1: Government officials of members of the Union nominated by the relevant representative to the UPOV Council No fee	248
Category 2: Officials of observer States / intergovernmental organizations nominated by the relevant representative to the UPOV Council One non-fee paying student per State / intergovernmental organization; Additional students: CHF1,000 per student	10
Category 3: Others Fee: CHF1,000	17
Category 4: Discretionary waiving of fee for selected students	3
Total:	278

Total number of participants in main sessions of the DL-205 Course by language (in 2013)

	English	French	German	Spanish
Session I: Total by language	48	11	2	77
Session II: Total by language	61	6	3	70

Special sessions of DL-205 (in 2013)

Month/Year	Name of Course	Language	Number of participants
June 2013	Naktuinbouw International Course on Plant Variety Protection Course (Netherlands)	EN	30
July 2013	KOICA Training Course on Plant Variety Protection (Republic of Korea)	EN	12
	JICA Training Course on "Internationally Harmonized Plant Variety Protection System" (Japan)	EN	9
October 2013	XII Training Course for Ibero-American Countries on the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (Uruguay)	ES	11

Expected results

4. Assistance in implementing an effective plant variety rights system in accordance with the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention (continued)

Results Achieved: Selected Performance Indicators

(b) Participation by observer States and organizations in the CAJ, TC, TWPs and the associated preparatory workshops

See Sub-Program UV.2, performance indicator 4 "Participation by members of the Union and stakeholders in the work of the UPOV bodies", sections (a) to (d)

(c) Participation in UPOV activities

See Sub-Program UV.3, performance indicator 1 "Raising awareness of the role of plant variety protection in accordance with the UPOV Convention", section (b)

(d) Participation in activities involving UPOV staff or UPOV trainers on behalf of UPOV staff

Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of Congo, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Egypt, Ethiopia, Fiji, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Guatemala, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lesotho, Libya, Malaysia, Mali, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Singapore, Slovakia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Zambia, Zimbabwe. Participants also from Kosovo, AFSTA, Bioversity International, WFO

(e) Training provided by UPOV trainers in non-UPOV activities

Training Venue (State)	Participants by State/Organization
Azerbaijan, Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Japan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Philippines, Spain, Sri Lanka, Ukraine, Uruguay, Viet Nam	Afghanistan, Algeria, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bolivia, Brazil, Cambodia, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Guatemala, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Maldives, Mexico, Morocco, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Senegal, Spain, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Tunisia, Uganda, Ukraine, Uruguay, Viet Nam

(f) Implementation of projects with partner organizations and donors

World Seed Project: 12 electronic meetings, 4 meetings of the Steering Committee and one meeting, at FAO headquarters, of the Steering Committee with potential resource partners

(g) Use of assistance web-page to obtain project support

No new developments.

SUB-PROGRAM UV.4: EXTERNAL RELATIONS

The UPOV website continues to be the focal point for dissemination of information, with an increasing number of visits and visitors (15% increase compared to 2012). In 2013, the UPOV Trilogy, comprising an Executive Summary and the proceedings of the “Symposium on Plant Breeding for the Future”, the “Seminar on Plant Variety Protection and Technology Transfer: the Benefits of Public-Private Partnership” and the “Symposium on the Benefits of Plant Variety Protection for Farmers and Growers”, was published in printed and electronic form (English only). The regular publication of press releases, including those highlight developments in the Council of UPOV, provide a valuable means of disseminating information to the general public. A further important development in 2013 was the establishment of a communication strategy with the aim of improving the level of understanding of the UPOV system. One of the priorities of the workplan would be the development of stakeholder-focused features on the UPOV website, with a focus on breeders, seed producers / plant propagators, farmers and policy-makers. As part of the strategy, a first set of answers to frequently asked questions was agreed.

A number of intergovernmental organizations have invited UPOV to contribute to their work. UPOV has participated in meetings with other relevant organizations.

- Objectives:**
- ◆ To enhance the understanding of the UPOV system of plant variety protection by the public and non-governmental organizations.
 - ◆ To provide information on the UPOV Convention to other intergovernmental organizations, with the aim of achieving mutual supportiveness with other international treaties.

Expected results Results Achieved: Selected Performance Indicators

1. Increased public understanding of UPOV's role and activities

(a) Availability of public-orientated information and materials on UPOV Website

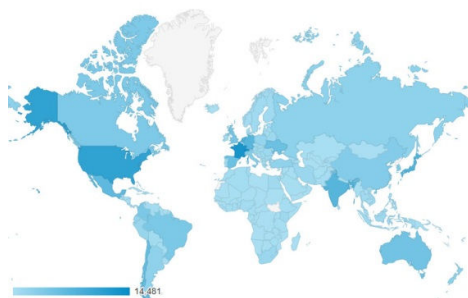
Information and materials added to the website in 2013:

- UPOV Trilogy (in English only), comprising the following publications:
 - Executive Summary (UPOV Publication 357.1E)
 - Symposium on Plant Breeding for the Future (UPOV Publication 357.2E)
 - Seminar on Plant Variety Protection and Technology Transfer: the Benefits of Public-Private Partnership (UPOV Publication 357.3E)
 - Symposium on the Benefits of Plant Variety Protection for Farmers and Growers (UPOV Publication 357.4E)
- Seminar on Essentially Derived Varieties:
 - copies of the materials and a video are available on the UPOV website at: http://www.upov.int/meetings/en/details.jsp?meeting_id=29782
- Two press releases

(b) Visits to website

	2013	2012	2011	2010
<i>Number of Sessions:</i>	178,732	151,914	140,371	118,895
<i>Unique Users:</i>	84,336	71,506	75,673	62,758
<i>Number of pageviews:</i>	1,129,052	1,139,570	798,942	656,722
<i>Number of pages/visit:</i>	6.32	7.50	5.69	5.52
<i>Average visit duration:</i>	00:06:35	00:07:19	00:04:41	00:04:12
<i>Percentage of new visits:</i>	54.6%	45.05%	51.91%	50.57%

Website Overview – Global Coverage



Sessions by country:

1. Switzerland (8%)
2. France (7%)
3. United States of America (6%)
4. Japan (4%)
5. Netherlands (4%)
6. India (4%)
7. Germany (4%)
8. Mexico (4%)
9. Chile (3%)
10. Spain (3%)

Language of visitor's browser	2013		2012		2011		2010	
	Visits	%	Visits	%	Visits	%	Visits	%
1. en-us: English (US)	70,706	39.56	57,341	37.75	50,571	36.03	46,527	39.13
2. es: Spanish	18,669	10.45	19,001	12.51	23,605	16.82	16,141	13.58
3. fr: French	13,876	7.76	14,212	9.36	10,670	7.60	11,169	9.39
4. es-es: Spanish (Spain)	9,234	5.17	5,698	3.75	9,124	6.50	4,104	3.45
5. ru: Russian	6,596	3.69	3,630	2.39	3,168	2.26	2,509	2.11
6. ja: Japanese	6,444	3.61	7,562	4.98	6,387	4.55	5,349	4.50
7. nl: Dutch	4,347	2.43	4,152	2.73	2,742	1.95	2,671	2.25
8. de: German	4,065	2.27						
9. pt-br: Portuguese (Brazil)	4,014	2.25						
10. de-de: German	3,998	2.24	4,562	3.00	5,577	3.97	7,068	5.94

2. Provision of information to other organizations

Participation at meetings and/or activities with relevant organizations

- Intergovernmental organizations:
ARIPO, European Union (CPVO), FAO, IDLO, ISTA, OAPI, OECD, WIPO and WTO.
- Other organizations:
AFSTA, APSA, ESA, ISF, IUBS Commission and SAA.

^a Definitions used in Website statistics in this report:

- “Users” are individuals who have had at least one session within the selected date range.
- A “session” is the period of time a user is actively engaged with your website. “Sessions” are the total number of sessions within the given date range.
- “Unique Pageviews” are the number of visits during which the specified page was viewed at least once.
- “Pageviews” are the total number of times that a page was viewed. Repeated views of a single page by the same user during the same session are counted.

[Appendix follows]

APPENDIX

ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

UPOV terms

BMT	Working Group on Biochemical and Molecular Techniques, and DNA-Profiling in Particular
CAJ	Administrative and Legal Committee
DL-205	UPOV distance learning course "Introduction to the UPOV System of Plant Variety Protection under the UPOV Convention"
DL-305	UPOV distance learning course "Examination of Applications for Plant Breeders' Rights"
DUS	Distinctness, Uniformity and Stability
EDV	essentially derived variety
Office	Office of the Union
PBR	Plant Breeder's Right
TC	Technical Committee
TC-EDC	Enlarged Editorial Committee
TWA	Technical Working Party for Agricultural Crops
TWC	Technical Working Party on Automation and Computer Programs
TWF	Technical Working Party for Fruit Crops
TWO	Technical Working Party for Ornamental Plants and Forest Trees
TWP	Technical Working Party
TWV	Technical Working Party for Vegetables

Acronyms

AATF	African Agricultural Technology Foundation
AECID	Spanish Agency for Cooperation and Economic Development
AFSTA	African Seed Trade Association
AIPPI	International Association for the Protection of Intellectual Property
AOHE	Association of European Horticultural Breeders
APBREBES	Association for Plant Breeding for the Benefit of Society
APSA	Asia and Pacific Seed Association
ARIPO	African Regional Intellectual Property Organization
ASEAN	Southeast Asian Nations
ASTA	American Seed Trade Association
BSPB	British Society of Plant Breeders
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
CDIP	WIPO Committee on Development and Intellectual Property
CGRFA	Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture
CIOPORA	International Community of Breeders of Asexually Reproduced Ornamental and Fruit Varieties
CPVO	Community Plant Variety Office of the European Union
EAPVP Forum	East Asia Plant Variety Protection Forum
ECO	Economic Cooperation Organization
ECOSA	ECO Seed Association
ECOSOC	United Nations Economic and Social Council
EMBRAPA	Brazilian Research Corporation
ESA	European Seed Association
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FELAS	Latin American Federation of Seed Associations
FWCC	Friends World Committee for Consultation
GEVES	<i>Groupe d'étude et de contrôle des variétés et des semences</i> of France
GRIP Course	Genetic Resources and Intellectual Property Rights Course
GRUR	<i>Deutsche Vereinigung für gewerblichen Rechtsschutz und Urheberrecht</i>
IAOC	WIPO Independent Advisory Oversight Committee
ICARDA	International Centre for Agricultural Research in Dry Areas

ICNCP	International Code of Nomenclature for Cultivated Plants
ICNP	Open-ended Ad Hoc Intergovernmental Committee for the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-sharing
IDLO	International Development Law Organization
IGC	WIPO Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore
IPSAS	International Public Sector Accounting Standards
IRRI	International Rice Research Institute
ISF	International Seed Federation
ISHS	International Society for Horticultural Sciences
ISTA	International Seed Testing Association
ITPGRFA	International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture
IUBS Commission	International Commission for the Nomenclature of Cultivated Plants of the International Union for Biological Sciences
JICA	Japan International Cooperation Agency
KEPHIS	Kenya Plant Health Inspectorate Services
KOICA	Korea International Cooperation Agency
KSVS	Korea Seed and Variety Service
OAPI	African Intellectual Property Organization
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-Operation and Development
OEVV	Spanish Plant Variety Office
PCT	WIPO Patent Cooperation Treaty
QUNO	Quaker UN Office
QUT	Queensland University of Technology
SAA	Seed Association of the Americas
Sida	Swedish International Development Agency
TAIEX	Technical Assistance and Information Exchange Instrument of the European Union
TRIPS	Trade Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
UNIGE	University of Geneva
USPTO	United States Patent and Trademark Office
WFO	World Farmers' Organization
WIPO	World Intellectual Property Organization
WTO	World Trade Organization

[End of appendix and of document]