



C/50/2

ORIGINAL: English

DATE: October 17, 2016

INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR THE PROTECTION OF NEW VARIETIES OF PLANTS

Geneva

COUNCIL**Fiftieth Ordinary Session
Geneva, October 28, 2016**

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL FOR 2015

*(forty-seventh year)**Disclaimer: this document does not represent UPOV policies or guidance*

1. This document presents the Annual Report of the Secretary-General for 2015. Annex III to this document reports on the results achieved during 2015 according to the structure of the Program and Budget for the 2014-2015 Biennium (document C/47/4 Rev.). A list of acronyms and abbreviations is provided in the appendix.
2. The performance report for the 2014-2015 Biennium (document C/50/12) provides information on expenditure, total number of posts for the Office of the Union and results and performance indicators by subprogram on the basis of the program and budget adopted by the Council. Document C/50/12 also provides a view of trends over time.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

3. Annex III to this document reports on the results achieved during 2015 according to the structure of the Program and Budget for the 2014-2015 Biennium (document C/47/4 Rev.). The following is a summary of some of the key elements of the report.

Composition of the Union

4. As of December 31, 2015, the Union comprised 74 members. Fifty-five members were bound by the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention, 18 members were bound by the 1978 Act and one member was bound by the 1961 Convention as amended by the 1972 Act. Annex I provides the status of the members of the Union in relation to the Convention and its various Acts, as of December 31, 2015.
5. With regard to requests for the Council to provide advice in respect of the conformity of laws with the provisions of the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention, the Council:
 - (a) took a positive decision on the conformity of the "Draft provisions of Book Four 'Plant Variety Protection' of Law No. 82 of 2002 Pertaining to the Protection of Intellectual Property Rights" of Egypt; and
 - (b) decided to recommend that the Islamic Republic of Iran incorporate the additional provisions and amendments in the "Act of Plant Varieties Registration, Control And Certification of Seeds And Plant Materials of 2003", and recommend that once the additional provisions and amendments have been incorporated in the Law, the amended Law should be submitted to the Council for examination in conformity with Article 34(3) of the 1991 Act.

Sessions of the Council and its Subsidiary Bodies

6. The Council held an extraordinary session in March 2015, under the chairmanship of Ms. Kitisri Sukhapinda (United States of America), President of the Council. The session was attended by 45 members of the Union, 3 observer States and 7 observer organizations. The Council held an ordinary session in October 2015, also under the chairmanship of Ms. Sukhapinda, President of the Council. The session was attended by 46 members of the Union, 4 observer States and 5 observer organizations. The Consultative Committee held two sessions, in March and October 2015, under the chairmanship of Ms. Sukhapinda. A summary of the results achieved by the Council and Consultative Committee in 2015 is provided in Annex III to this document, under Sub-program UV.1: Overall Policy on Plant Variety Protection.

7. The CAJ held two sessions, in March and October, the TC held one session, in March. The TC-EDC held meetings in January and March. The timing and location of the TWP sessions and their associated preparatory workshops were as follows:

- TWA: Obihiro, Japan (July)
- TWC: Natal, Brazil (June/July)
- TWF: Mpumalanga, South Africa (August)
- TWO: Cambridge, United Kingdom (September)
- TWV: Angers, France (June)

4. A summary of the results achieved by the CAJ, TC and TWPs in 2015 is provided in Annex III to this document, under Sub-program UV.2: Services to the Union for enhancing the Effectiveness of the UPOV System.

Courses, Seminars, Workshops, Missions, Important Contacts

8. In 2015, the Office undertook a total of 70 missions. A list of missions by the Office between January and December 2015 is provided in Annex II to this document. Missions between October and December are reported in paragraphs 35 to 75.

9. One session of each of the UPOV Distance Learning Courses DL-205 "Introduction to the UPOV System of Plant Variety Protection under the UPOV Convention", DL-305 "Examination of applications for plant breeders' rights" (DL-305A and DL305B in one course), DL-305A "Administration of Plant Breeders' Rights" and DL-305B "DUS Examination" was organized in English, French and Spanish. A breakdown of the students participating in the UPOV distance learning courses DL-205 and DL-305 is included in Annex III, Sub-Program UV.3, performance indicator 4(a) "Participation in distance learning courses".

Relations with States and Organizations

10. The Office provided assistance on plant variety protection legislation to 5 members of the Union and provided information on the elements required for the deposit of an instrument of accession to, or ratification of the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention, to 6 members of the Union. It also 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 17 potential members of the Union.

4. The Office met with representatives of 12 intergovernmental organizations to coordinate activities or to provide information on UPOV and participated in events organized by the 9 professional associations in order to follow developments in the practical application of plant variety protection at a global and regional level.

Publications

11. The Office published: two issues of the UPOV Gazette and Newsletter "Plant Variety Protection"; 121 updates of the Plant Variety Database (PLUTO); a video on plant variety protection in Uruguay; a video on plant variety protection in Ecuador; 14 documents adopted by the Council; and 17 new or revised adopted Test Guidelines.

Table of contents

I.	COMPOSITION OF THE UNION.....	4
	Members	4
	Situation in Relation to the Various Acts of the Convention	4
	States/organizations that have initiated the procedure to become a member of the Union	4
II.	SESSIONS OF THE COUNCIL AND ITS SUBSIDIARY BODIES	5
	Council	5
	Consultative Committee	5
	Administrative and Legal Committee, Technical Committee, Technical Working Parties and Working Group on Biochemical and Molecular Techniques, and DNA-Profiling in Particular.....	6
III.	COURSES, SEMINARS, WORKSHOPS, MISSIONS, IMPORTANT CONTACTS	6
	Individual activities	6
	Distance Learning Courses.....	9
IV.	RELATIONS WITH STATES AND ORGANIZATIONS.....	9
V.	PUBLICATIONS.....	10
	ANNEX I: Members of the Union	
	ANNEX II: Overview of missions in 2015	
	ANNEX III: Results and performance indicators for 2015	
	Appendix: Acronyms and abbreviations	

I. COMPOSITION OF THE UNION

Members

12. As of December 31, 2015, the Union comprised 74 members: African Intellectual Property Organization, 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, Montenegro, 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 Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan and Viet Nam.

Situation in Relation to the Various Acts of the Convention

13. On December 31, 2015, 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) 18 members were bound by the 1978 Act, namely: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, China, Colombia, Ecuador, Italy, Kenya, Mexico, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Paraguay, Portugal, South Africa, Trinidad and Tobago and Uruguay;

(c) 55 members were bound by the 1991 Act, namely: African Intellectual Property Organization, Albania, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bulgaria, Canada, Costa Rica, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Estonia, European Union, France, Finland, Georgia, Germany, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Japan, Jordan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Montenegro, 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 Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uzbekistan and Viet Nam.

14. Annex I provides the status of the members of the Union in relation to the Convention and its various Acts, as of December 31, 2015.

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

15. 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.”

16. By letter dated November 3, 2014, Egypt requested the examination of the “Draft provisions of Book Four ‘Plant Variety Protection’ of Law No. 82 of 2002 Pertaining to the Protection of Intellectual Property Rights” (“Draft Law”) for conformity with the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention.

17. At its thirty-second extraordinary session, held in Geneva on March 27, 2015, the Council examined the conformity of the Draft Law of Egypt with the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention.

18. The Council decided to:

“(a) note the analysis in document C(Extr.)/32/3;

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

(i) to add the words “of this Article” at the end of Article 192(7); and

(ii) to add the paragraph number “(4)” before the sentence “The Minister of Agriculture shall issue a decision establishing the rules and procedures for examination and settlement of the appeal.” in Article 202;

“(c) take a positive decision on the conformity of the “Draft provisions of Book Four ‘Plant Variety Protection’ of Law No. 82 of 2002 Pertaining to the Protection of Intellectual Property Rights” (“Draft Law”) of Egypt with the provisions of the 1991 Act of the International Convention for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants, which allows Egypt once the Draft Law is adopted with no changes and the Law is in force, to deposit its instrument of accession to the 1991 Act; and

“(d) authorize the Secretary-General to inform the Government of Egypt of that decision.”

19. By letter dated February 23, 2015, the Islamic Republic of Iran requested the examination of the “Act on Registration of Plant Varieties, and Control and Certification of Seed and Plants of 2003” and the “By-law on Registration of Plant Varieties” in respect of “Iran Civil Code” for conformity with the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention.

20. At the request of the Seed and Plant Certification and Registration Institute (SPCRI) of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Council agreed to defer the examination of the “Act of Plant Varieties Registration, Control and Certification of Seeds and Plant Materials of 2003” to its forty-ninth ordinary session to be held in October 2015.

21. At its forty-ninth ordinary session, held in Geneva on October 29, 2015, the Council decided to:

“(a) take note of the analysis in document C(Extr.)/32/8;

“(b) recommend that the Islamic Republic of Iran incorporate the additional provisions and amendments in the “Act of Plant Varieties Registration, Control And Certification of Seeds And Plant Materials of 2003”, as provided in document C(Extr.)/32/8, and recommend that once the additional provisions and amendments have been incorporated in the Law, the amended Law should be submitted to the Council for examination in conformity with Article 34(3) of the 1991 Act;

“(c) request the Office of the Union to offer its assistance, at the earliest opportunity, to the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran in drafting the necessary additional provisions and amendments to the Law; and

“(d) authorize the Secretary-General to inform the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran of that decision.”

II. SESSIONS OF THE COUNCIL AND ITS SUBSIDIARY BODIES

Council

22. The Council held its thirty-second extraordinary session on March 27, 2015, under the chairmanship of Ms. Kitisri Sukhapinda (United States of America), President of the Council. The session was attended by 45 members of the Union, 3 observer States and 7 observer organizations. The report of that session is presented in document C(Extr.)/32/10.

23. The Council held its forty-ninth ordinary session on October 29, 2015, under the chairmanship of Ms. Kitisri Sukhapinda (United States of America), President of the Council. The session was attended by 46 members of the Union, 4 observer States and 5 observer organizations. The report of that session is presented in document C/49/19.

24. A summary of the results achieved by the Council in 2015 is provided in Annex III to this document, under Sub-program UV.1: Overall Policy on Plant Variety Protection.

Consultative Committee

25. The Consultative Committee held its eighty-ninth session on March 27, 2015, under the chairmanship of Ms. Kitisri Sukhapinda (United States of America). A report on the work of the eighty-ninth session is contained in document C(Extr.)/32/5.

26. The Consultative Committee held its ninetieth session on October 28, 2015, and on the morning of October 29, 2015, under the chairmanship of Ms. Kitisri Sukhapinda (United States of America). A report on the work of the ninetieth session is contained in document C/49/16.

27. A summary of the results achieved by the Consultative Committee in 2015 is provided in Annex III to this document, under Sub-program UV.1: Overall Policy on Plant Variety Protection.

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

28. The CAJ held its seventy-first session on March 26, 2015, and its seventy-second session on October 26 and 27, 2015.

29. The TC held its fifty-first session from March 23 to 25, 2015. The TC-EDC held meetings on January 7 and 8 and on March 23 and 24, 2015. The TWA held its forty-fourth session in Obihiro, Japan, from July 6 to 10, 2015. The TWC held its thirty-third session in Natal, Brazil, from June 30 to July 3, 2015. The TWF held its forty-sixth session in Mpumalanga, South Africa, from August 24 to 28, 2015. The TWO held its forty-eighth session in Cambridge, United Kingdom, from September 14 to 18, 2015. The TWV held its forty-ninth session in Angers, France, from June 15 to 19, 2015. Each of the TWP sessions was preceded by a preparatory workshop.

30. Further information on the work of the CAJ, TC and TWPs is contained in documents C/49/9 and C/50/9 "Progress report of the work of the Administrative and Legal Committee", and C/49/10 and C/50/10 "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".

31. A summary of the results achieved by the CAJ, TC and TWPs in 2015 is provided in Annex III to this document, under Sub-program UV.2: Services to the Union for enhancing the Effectiveness of the UPOV System.

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

Individual activities

32. A detailed report on activities of the Office from January 1 to September 30, 2015 is available in document [C/49/3](#) "Report on activities during the first nine months of 2015", paragraphs 14 to 67. A summary of those activities is also provided in Annex III to this document, under Sub-Program UV.3: Assistance in the Introduction and Implementation of the UPOV System.

33. A list of missions by the Office in 2015 is available in Annex II to this document.

34. The following paragraphs report on activities from October 1 to December 31, 2015.

35. On September 30 and October 1, in Angers, France, the Office participated in a meeting of the CPVO Administrative Council and in an event to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the CPVO.

36. On October 2, in Geneva, the Office met with Mr. Marco Marzano de Marinis, Secretary General of WFO, and Mr. Etchevehere, WFO Board Member, to discuss developments in WFO and UPOV.

37. On October 5 and 6, in Chisinau, Republic of Moldova, the Office made presentations at a TAIEX Workshop on Plant Varieties Protection and Enforcement of breeders' rights. The Workshop was attended by participants from the Republic of Moldova, Poland, Romania and Sweden.

38. From October 5 to 9, at FAO headquarters, Rome, Italy, the Office participated in the Sixth Session of the Governing Body (GB-6) of the International Treaty of Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITPGRFA).

* Missions relate to events held outside UPOV headquarters.

39. On October 7 and 8, in Ankara (Turkey), the Office made presentations on the UPOV Convention at a TAIEX expert mission on examination of applications and grants of breeders' rights of new plant varieties and exchange of experiences regarding the UPOV Convention's legal aspects and their implementation.
40. On October 8, in Geneva, the Office received the visit of Mr. Hernán Nuñez Rocha, Executive Director, IEPI, Ecuador, and discussed possible joint activities for capacity building in that country.
41. On October 8, 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. A further electronic meeting took place on December 11.
42. On October 9, in Geneva, the Office received the visit of Ms. Lilyclaire Bellamy, Executive Director, Jamaica Intellectual Property Office, and discussed developments in Jamaica.
43. On October 9, in Geneva, the Office received the visit of Mr. Alhaji Tejan-Cole, Legal Counsel, AATF, to discuss developments at AATF and UPOV.
44. On October 9, in Geneva, the Office received the visit of Mr. Octavian Apostol, Director General AGEPI, Mrs. Svetlana Munteanu, Deputy Director General, and H.E. Mr. Victor Moraru, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Republic of Moldova. The delegation was accompanied by Ms. Virag Halgand, Head, WIPO Department for Transition and Developed Countries. The Office reported on its recent participation in the TAIEX Workshop on Plant Varieties Protection and Enforcement of Breeders' Rights held in the Republic of Moldova (see paragraph 37) and discussed cooperation between UPOV and the Republic of Moldova on plant variety protection.
45. On October 9, in Geneva, the Office received the visit of Ms. Heather Clarke, Registrar, Corporate Affairs and Intellectual Property, Barbados and discussed developments in Barbados.
46. On October 9, at the UN Office in Geneva, the Office participated in a press conference with Mexican journalists during the "Media tour in Switzerland for Mexican journalists" organized by the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs of Switzerland and made a presentation on the plant variety protection system under the UPOV Convention.
47. From October 11 to 13, in Vienna, Austria, the Office attended the ESA Annual Meeting.
48. From October 12 to 14, in Geneva, the Office organized the Training Course "Contributing Data to the PLUTO Database" in Spanish. The course was attended by participants from Argentina, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay and Uruguay.
49. On October 13, in Geneva, the Office received the visit of Ms. Shahrinah Yusof Khan, Director General and Deputy Registrar, Brunei Darussalam Intellectual Property Office (BrulPO) to discuss recent developments in UPOV and in plant variety protection in Brunei Darussalam.
50. On October 15, at the World Expo Milano, Italy, the Office provided a lecture at the International High-Level Seminar on "Seeds, A Solution to Current and Future Food Challenges", organized by the French *Groupement National interprofessionnel des semences et plants* (GNIS) and FAO.
51. On October 15, 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).
52. On October 22, in Geneva, the Office received the visit of H.E. Mr. Modest Jonathan Mero, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the United Republic of Tanzania, and Mr. Patrick Ngwediagi, Registrar, Plant Breeders' Rights Office, United Republic of Tanzania, who deposited the instrument of accession of the United Republic of Tanzania to the UPOV Convention, and became the seventy-fourth member of the Union on November 22, 2015.
53. On October 27, in Geneva, at the fringes of the UPOV sessions, the Office received the visit of the Delegation of the United Arab Emirates to discuss a possible activity in Dubai in December 2015 (see paragraph 73).

54. On October 30, at WIPO/UPOV headquarters, the Office made a presentation on the “Implementation of the International Convention for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV)” to participants of the 2015 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 ILO. The presentation was attended by 38 participants from Albania, Australia, Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Georgia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Italy, Jordan, Mexico, Morocco, Oman, Philippines, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Sri Lanka, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, United States of America and Uzbekistan.
55. On October 30, in Geneva, the Office received the visit of Ms. Wéré Régine Gazaro, Director of Industrial Property, OAPI, to discuss recent developments in UPOV and OAPI.
56. On October 30, in Geneva, the Office met with Mr. Shakeel Bhatti, Secretary, ITPGRFA, to discuss the possible organization of a “Symposium on possible interrelations between the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITPGRFA) and the International Convention for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV Convention)” to be held in Geneva on October 26, 2016.
57. On October 30, in Geneva, the Office had a conference call with Mr. Milan Kondic, World Bank, to discuss the World Bank *Enabling the Business of Agriculture (EBA)* project.
58. From November 3 to 5, in Dakar, Senegal, the Office attended the “African Ministerial Conference 2015: Intellectual Property (IP) for an Emerging Africa”, organized by WIPO, in collaboration with the Japan Patent Office, and in cooperation with the African Union and the Government of Senegal. The Office provided a lecture on “Promoting New plant varieties for enhanced agricultural productivity and food security” and participated in the panel discussion on “Promoting research and development in food and agriculture”.
59. On November 4, in Geneva, the Office received the visit of Mr. Matthew Kenney, Professor, University of International Business and Economics of Beijing, China, and provided information on plant breeders’ rights.
60. On November 9, in Geneva, the Office participated in a panel discussion at an Expert Seminar on Peasants’ Right to Seeds and Intellectual Property Rights, organized by the Geneva Academy of International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights, with the support of the Swiss Government and in collaboration with the Plurinational State of Bolivia.
61. On November 10, in Geneva, the Office received the visit of Mr. Osman Göktürk, Second Secretary, Permanent Mission of Turkey, to discuss developments in UPOV concerning a possible international system of cooperation.
62. On November 11 and 12, in Alicante, Spain, the Office made presentations on UPOV and the UPOV Convention at the “Plant Variety Rights Intensive Module on Plant Variety Protection”, as part of the Master of Intellectual Property (Magister Lvcentinvs) of the University of Alicante.
63. From November 16 to 20, in Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia, a “Train the Trainer Course for Ibero-American countries on plant variety protection under the UPOV Convention and complementary forms of intellectual property protection” was organized in Spanish by UPOV, in collaboration with AECID, the Spanish Plant Variety Office (OEVV), WIPO and USPTO. The course was attended by 22 experts from 17 countries in Latin America: Argentina, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay. Lectures were given by international speakers from Argentina, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Canada, Chile, European Union (CPVO), Mexico, United States of America and UPOV. Participants were invited to take the UPOV Distance Learning Course DL-205 in advance of the training.
64. From November 16 to 18, in Lusaka, Zambia, the Office attended the Thirty-Ninth Session of ARIPO Administrative Council and the Fifteenth Session of ARIPO Council of Ministers.
65. On November 18 and 19, in Goa, India, the Office attended the Asian Seed Congress 2015 and the Twenty-First APSA General Assembly Meeting, and reported on developments in UPOV in the Activity Group on Intellectual Property Rights and Biodiversity.
66. From November 30 to December 3, in Hanoi, Viet Nam, the Office participated in a DUS Training Course on Tomato with participants from Viet Nam, Cambodia and Lao People’s Democratic Republic.

67. From November 30 to December 4, in Geneva, a Train the Trainer Course on Plant Variety Protection under the UPOV Convention was organized in French by UPOV, in cooperation with WIPO and the USPTO. The course was attended by 21 participants: 5 were representatives of the OAPI Secretariat, 13 were the focal points for OAPI in OAPI Member States (Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Senegal and Togo), two were from France and one was from the United States of America. Participants were invited to take the UPOV Distance Learning Course DL-205 in advance of the training.
68. On December 2 and 3, in Angers, France, the Office attended the Nineteenth Annual Meeting between CPVO and its Examination Offices.
69. On December 5, in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam, the Office participated in a Workshop on the Benefits of Plant Variety Protection under the UPOV Convention.
70. On December 7 and 8, in Vientiane, Lao People's Democratic Republic, the Office participated in a Workshop on Awareness of Plant Variety Protection under the UPOV Convention.
71. On December 8, in Bonn, Germany, the Office attended an expert talk on "Seeds and Sustainable Agriculture" organized by the German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ).
72. On December 10, in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, the Office participated in a High-Level Awareness-Raising Seminar on Plant Variety Protection under the UPOV Convention.
73. On December 14, in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, the Office participated in consultations concerning plant variety protection and UPOV membership.
74. From December 15 to 17, also in Dubai, the Office participated in a "Workshop on the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture and preparation for the accession to the International Convention for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants", organized by the Ministry of Environment and Water of the United Arab Emirates, in collaboration with the ITPGRFA, UPOV, ICARDA and ICBA.
75. On December 17, in Geneva, the Office participated in an electronic meeting via the Internet with representatives of CIOPORA, CropLife International and ISF to discuss their proposals on a possible international system of cooperation.

Distance Learning Courses

76. A session of UPOV Distance Learning Course DL-305A "Administration of Plant Breeders' Rights" (part A of DL-305 course) in English, French and Spanish was held from February 16 to March 22, 2015.
77. A session of UPOV Distance Learning Course DL-305 "Examination of applications for plant breeders' rights" (DL-305A and DL305B in one course) and a session of UPOV Distance Learning Course DL-305B "DUS Examination" (part B of DL-305 course) in English, French and Spanish were held from April 20 to May 24, 2015.
78. A session of UPOV Distance Learning Course DL-205 "Introduction to the UPOV System of Plant Variety Protection under the UPOV Convention" in English, French, German and Spanish was held from October 10 to November 23, 2015.
79. A breakdown of the students participating in the UPOV distance learning courses DL-205 and DL-305 is included in Annex III, Sub-Program UV.3, performance indicator 4(a) "Participation in distance learning courses".

IV. RELATIONS WITH STATES AND ORGANIZATIONS

80. The Office provided assistance on plant variety protection legislation to the following members: Brazil, Chile, Colombia, South Africa and Turkey.

81. The Office provided information on the elements required for the deposit of an instrument of accession to, or ratification of the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention, to the following members: Belgium, Canada, Chile, Kenya, Montenegro and the United Republic of Tanzania.

82. 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, Barbados, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Egypt, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Kazakhstan, Liberia, Malaysia, Mauritius, Myanmar, Rwanda, United Arab Emirates and Zimbabwe.

83. The Office met with representatives of intergovernmental organizations to coordinate activities or to provide information on UPOV. The Office participated in meetings of, or had meetings with, ARIPO, CGIAR, European Union (CPVO), FAO, ISTA, ITPGRFA, OAPI, OECD, United Nations, WIPO, World Bank and WTO.

84. The Office participated in events organized by the following professional associations in order to follow developments in the practical application of plant variety protection at a global and regional level: AFSTA, APSA, ASIPI, CIOPORA, ESA, ISF, SAA, WECARD and WFO.

V. PUBLICATIONS

85. The Office published:

(a) two issues (Nos. 107 and 108) of the UPOV Gazette and Newsletter "Plant Variety Protection" (UPOV Publication No. 438) in electronic format;

(b) 121 updates of the Plant Variety Database (PLUTO);

(c) a video on plant variety protection in Uruguay entitled "Use of Plant Variety Protection by the Faculty of Agronomy of the *Universidad de la República* of Uruguay";

(d) a video on plant variety protection in Ecuador;

(e) fourteen documents adopted by the Council at its thirty-second extraordinary session, held on March 27, 2015, and at its forty-ninth ordinary session, held on October 29, 2015:

TGP/5	Experience and Cooperation in DUS Testing (Revision of Section 3 "Technical Questionnaire to be Completed in Connection with an Application for Plant Breeders' Rights", Section 8 "Cooperation in Examination" and Section 9 "List of Species in Which Practical Knowledge has Been Acquired or for Which National Test Guidelines Have Been Established")
TGP/9	Examining Distinctness (Revision)
TGP/14	Glossary of Terms Used in UPOV Documents (Revision of Section 2.4 "Apex/tip shape characteristics")
TGP/0	List of TGP documents and latest issue dates (Revision)
UPOV/EXN/CAN	Explanatory Notes on Cancellation of the Breeder's Right under the UPOV Convention (Revision)
UPOV/EXN/NUL	Explanatory Notes on the Nullity of the Breeder's Right under the UPOV Convention (Revision)
UPOV/EXN/PRP	Explanatory Notes on Provisional Protection under the UPOV Convention (Revision)
UPOV/INF/4	Financial Regulations and Rules of UPOV (Revision)

UPOV/INF/6	Guidance for the preparation of laws based on the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention (Revision)
UPOV/INF/12	Explanatory Notes on Variety Denominations under the UPOV Convention (Revision)
UPOV/INF/15	Guidance for Members of UPOV (Revision)
UPOV/INF/16	Exchangeable Software (Revision)
UPOV/INF/22	Software and Equipment Used by Members of the Union (Revision)
UPOV/INF-EXN	List of INF-EXN Documents and Latest Issue Dates (Revision)

86. The following Test Guidelines were adopted by the TC at its fifty-first session, held from March 23 to 25, 2015, and have been, or will be, published on the website:

**	TWP	Document No. No. du document Dokument-Nr. No del documento	English	Français	Deutsch	Español	Botanical name
NEW TEST GUIDELINES / NOUVEAUX PRINCIPES DIRECTEURS D'EXAMEN / NEUE PRÜFUNGSRICHTLINIEN / NUEVAS DIRECTRICES DE EXAMEN							
JP	TWO	TG/304/1	Cosmos	Cosmos	Kosmee, Schmuckkörbchen	Mirasol, Cosmos	Cosmos Cav.
GB	TWO	TG/305/1	Campanula, Bell Flower	Campanule	Glockenblume	Campánula	Campanula L.
NZ	TWF	TG/306/1	Feijoa, Pineapple Guava, Guavasteen	Feijoa	Feijoa	Feijoa	Acca sellowiana (Berg) Burret
JP	TWO	TG/307/1	China Aster, Annual Aster	Aster; Aster de Chine; Reine- marguerite	Sommeraster	Aster de China	Callistephus chinensis (L.) Nees
MX	TWF	TG/308/1	Pecan Nut	Noix de pécan	Pekan, Pekannuß	Nuez pecán, Pecan, Nogal pecanero	Carya illinoensis (Wangenh.) K. Koch
JP	TWA	TG/309/1	Adlay, Coix	Coix, Larme de Job	Coix, Tränengrass	Coix, Lágrimas de David o de Job	Coix lacryma-jobi L. var. ma-yuen (Rom. Caill.) Stapf, Coix ma-yuen Roman.
ZA	TWO	TG/310/1	Aloe	Aloès	Aloe	Aloe, Sabila	Aloe L.
FR	TWV	TG/311/1	Cucurbita maxima X Cucurbita moschata	Cucurbita maxima X Cucurbita moschata	Cucurbita maxima X Cucurbita moschata	Cucurbita maxima X Cucurbita moschata	Cucurbita maxima Duch. x Cucurbita moschata Duch.
JP	TWA	TG/312/1	Adzuki Bean; Azuki Red Bean; Chinese Red Bean	Haricot Adzuki	Adzukibohne	Judía adzuki	Vigna angularis (Willd.) Ohwi & H. Ohashi, Phaseolus angularis (Willd.) W. Wight
FR	TWV	TG/313/1	Bottle Gourd; Calabash; Calabash Gourd; White- flower Gourd	Calebasse; Gourde bouteille	Flaschenkürbis; Kalebasse	Acocote; Cajombre; Calabaza; Guiro amargo	Lagenaria siceraria (Molina) Standl., Lagenaria siceraria Standley, Lagenaria vulgaris Ser.
REVISIONS OF ADOPTED TEST GUIDELINES / RÉVISIONS DE PRINCIPES DIRECTEURS D'EXAMEN ADOPTÉS / REVISIONEN ANGENOMMENER PRÜFUNGSRICHTLINIEN / REVISIONES DE DIRECTRICES DE EXAMEN ADOPTADAS							
NL	TWO	TG/25/9	Carnation, Clove Pink, Pink, Sweet William	Œillet	Nelke	Clavel	Dianthus L.

**	TWP	Document No. No. du document Dokument-Nr. No del documento	English	Français	Deutsch	Español	Botanical name
DE	TWO	TG/109/4	Large-flower Pelargonium; Regal Pelargonium; Crisped-leaf Pelargonium	Pélargonium des fleuristes	Edelpelargonie; Zitronenduft-Pelargonie	Geranio	Pelargonium grandiflorum (Andrews) Willd.; P. ×domesticum L. H. Bailey; P. crispum (P.J. Bergius) L'Hér. and P. crispum x P. ×domesticum
ES	TWA	TG/122/4	Broomcorn, Durra, Feterita, Forage Sorghum, Grain sorghum, Great Millet, Kaffir-corn, Milo, Shallu, Sorghum, Sweet sorghum; Chicken-corn, Shattercane, Sordan, Sorghum x Sudan Grass, Sorghum-sudangrass, Sudan grass	Gros mil, Sorgho; Sorgho menu, Sorgho x Sorgho du Soudan	Mohrenhirse; Mohrenhirse x Sudangras, Sudangrass	Daza, Sorgo, Sorgo forrajero; Pasto del Sudán, Pasto Sudán, Sorgo x Pasto del Sudán, Sudangrass	Sorghum bicolor (L.) Moench; Sorghum ×drummondii (Steud.) Millsp. & Chase
ZA	TWF	TG/163/4	Apple Rootstocks	Porte-greffe de pommier	Apfel-Unterlagen	Portainjertos de manzano	Malus Mill.
FR	TWV	TG/210/2	Lentil	Lentille	Linse	Lenteja	Lens culinaris Medik.
PARTIAL REVISIONS OF ADOPTED TEST GUIDELINES / RÉVISIONS PARTIELLES DE PRINCIPES DIRECTEURS D'EXAMEN ADOPTÉS / TEILREVISIONEN ANGENOMMENER PRÜFUNGSRICHTLINIEN / REVISIONES PARCIALES DE DIRECTRICES DE EXAMEN ADOPTADAS							
NL	TWV	TG/12/9 Rev.2	French Bean	Haricot	Gartenbohne	Judía común, Alubia	Phaseolus vulgaris L.
NL	TWV	TG/55/7 Rev.3	Spinach	Épinard	Spinat	Espinaca	Spinacia oleracea L.
ES	TWV	TG/61/7 Rev.2	Cucumber, Gherkin	Concombre, Cornichon	Gurke	Pepino, Pepinillo	Cucumis sativus L.
NL/ FR	TWV	TG/76/8 Rev.	Sweet Pepper, Hot Pepper, Paprika, Chili	Piment, Poivron	Paprika	Aji, Chile, Pimiento	Capsicum annum L.
NL	TWO	TG/108/4 Rev.	Gladiolus	Glaïeul	Gladiole	Gladiolo	Gladiolus L.
ES	TWF	TG/201/1 Rev.	Mandarins (Citrus L. - Group 1)	Mandarinier (Citrus L. - Groupe 1)	Mandarinen (Citrus L. - Gruppe 1)	Mandarino (Citrus L. - Grupo 1)	Citrus L. - Gr. 1
	TWF	TG/201/2 Rev.	Oranges (Citrus L. - Group 2)	Oranger (Citrus L. - Groupe 2)	Orangen (Citrus L., Gruppe 2)	Naranja (Citrus L. - Grupo 2)	Citrus L. - Gr. 2
	TWF	TG/201/3 Rev.	Lemons and Limes (Citrus L. - Group 3)	Limettier (Citronnier et) (Citrus L. - Groupe 3)	Zitronen und Limetten (Citrus L. - Gruppe 3)	Limón y Lima (Citrus L. - Grupo 3)	Citrus L. - Gr. 3
	TWF	TG/201/4 Rev.	Pummelo (Grapefruit and) (Citrus L. - Group 4)	Pomelo et Pampléoussier (Citrus L. - Groupe 4)	Pampelmuse (Grapefruit und) (Zitrus - Gruppe 4)	Pomelo y Pummelo (Citrus L. - Grupo 4)	Citrus L. - Gr. 4

**	TWP	Document No. No. du document Dokument-Nr. No del documento	English	Français	Deutsch	Español	Botanical name
	TWF	TG/83/4 Rev.	Trifoliolate Orange (Poncirus) (Citrus L. - Group 5)	-	Dreiblättrige Orange (Poncirus) (Citrus L. - Gruppe 5)	Naranja trifoliado (Poncirus) (Citrus L. - Grupo 5)	Poncirus (Citrus L. - Gr. 5)
FR	TWO	TG/263/1 Rev.	Buddleia, Butterfly-bush	Buddleia, Arbre aux papillons	Buddleie, Schmetterlingsst rauch	Budleya, Mariposa	Buddleja L.
UA	TWV	TG/268/1 Rev.	Garden Sorrel	Grande oseille	Wiesensaueram pfer	Acedera común	Rumex acetosa L.
JP	TWV	TG/282/1 Rev.	Shiitake	Shiitake	Pasaniapilz	Shiitake	Lentinula edodes (Berk.) Pegler
<u>CORRECTION OF ADOPTED TEST GUIDELINES / CORRECTION DE PRINCIPES DIRECTEURS D'EXAMEN ADOPTÉS / KORREKTUR ANGENOMMENER PRÜFUNGSRICHTLINIEN / CORRECCIÓN DE DIRECTRICES DE EXAMEN ADOPTADAS</u>							
		TG/49/8 Corr.	Carrot	Carotte	Möhre	Zanahoria	Daucus carota L.
		TG/61/7 Rev.2 Corr. (only French and Spanish versions)	Cucumber, Gherkin	Concombre, Cornichon	Gurke	Pepino, Pepinillo	Cucumis sativus L.

87. *The Council is invited to note this report.*

[Annexes follow]

ANNEX I

MEMBERS OF THE UNION

December 31, 2015

This document provides the status of the members of the Union in relation to the Convention and its various Acts, as of December 31, 2014 (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
African Intellectual Property Organization	- - -	- - June 10, 2014	- - July 10, 2014
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 -

C/50/2
Annex I, page 2

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 June 19, 2015	- March 4, 1991 July 19, 2015
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).

C/50/2
Annex I, page 3

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 -

C/50/2
Annex I, page 4

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 -
Montenegro	- - - -	- - - August 24, 2015	- - - September 24, 2015
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 -

C/50/2
Annex I, page 5

Member	Date of signature	Date of deposit of instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession	Date of entry into force
Peru	- - -	- - July 8, 2011	- - August 8, 2011
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 -

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

C/50/2
Annex I, page 6

Member	Date of signature	Date of deposit of instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession	Date of entry into force
Spain	- - - March 19, 1991	April 18, 1980 April 18, 1980 - June 18, 2007	May 18, 1980 May 18, 1980 - July 18, 2007
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 Republic of Tanzania		- - - October 22, 2015	- - - November 22, 2015
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

C/50/2
Annex I, page 7

Member	Date of signature	Date of deposit of instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession	Date of entry into force
Viet Nam	- - - -	- - - November 24, 2006	- - - December 24, 2006

Total: 74 members

[Annex II follows]

ANNEX II

LIST OF MISSIONS* IN 2015

Mission	Location	Month	Staff
15th Regular Session of the CGRFA	Rome (Italy)	January	Button, Koide
OECD Seed Scheme Technical Working Group Meeting for the Certification of Seed Moving in International Trade	Paris (France)	January	Taveira
Study visit for the Committee on Constitutional, Legal and Parliamentary Affairs of Ghana in the context of Ghana's legislative and accession procedures to the UPOV Convention	Amsterdam (Netherlands)	January	Huerta
International Workshop on the promotion of Public-Private Partnerships for Pre-breeding	Montpellier (France)	February	Huerta
Meeting of the Council for TRIPS (WTO headquarters)	Geneva (Switzerland)	February	Huerta
AFSTA's Annual Congress 2015 and ISTA/OECD/UPOV Pre-Congress Workshop	Victoria Falls (Zimbabwe)	March	Rivoire
Second meeting of the Ad Hoc Technical Committee on Sustainable Use of Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ACSU)	Rome (Italy)	March	Button, Koide
CPVO Administrative Council	Angers (France)	March	Button
ASIPi's Seminar on Intellectual Property in Agriculture	Asuncion (Paraguay)	March	Lavignolle (Argentina)
ISF Breeders' Committee	Lausanne (Switzerland)	March	Button
WIPO-WTO Advanced Course on Intellectual Property for Government Officials	Geneva (Switzerland)	March	Huerta, Rivoire
Joint WIPO EU/CARIFORUM Sub-Regional Workshop on Geographical Indications/Origin-Linked Products and Branding	Bridgetown (Barbados)	March	Aching (Trinidad and Tobago)
Study visit for OAPI Officials to Swiss PVP Office	Bern (Switzerland)	March	Rivoire
WIPO Seminar on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Traditional Cultural Expressions: Regional, National and Local Experiences	Geneva (Switzerland)	March	Koide
<i>Institut Polytechnique LaSalle</i> Master Curriculum in Plant Breeding	Beauvais (France)	April	Rivoire
Workshop on Plant Breeders' Rights and Intellectual Property Rights of Plant - Implementation in Turkey and in the World (mainly the European Union)	Antalya (Turkey)	April	Koide
Presentation on the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention at the <i>Instituto Pensar Agropecuaria</i>	Brasilia (Brazil)	April	Taveira
UPOV/Naktuinbouw/MEA Training Course on Plant Variety Protection	Arusha (United Republic of Tanzania)	April	Button, Rivoire
National training course for DUS experts	San Fernando de Henares, Madrid (Spain)	April	Taveira

* Missions relate to events held outside UPOV headquarters.

Mission	Location	Month	Staff
CIOPORA's Annual General Meeting	Hamburg (Germany)	April	Button
APSA's Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) Workshop	Bangkok (Thailand)	May	Button, Koide
Launch of the DuPont/Economist World Food Security Index and discussion on "Food and agriculture: rural and urban innovations, a forum to highlight innovations in the food security challenge"	World Expo Milano (Italy)	May	Rivoire
ISF World Seed Congress 2015	Krakow (Poland)	May	Button
KOICA/KSVS Training Course on "Plant Variety Protection and DUS Testing"	Kimcheon (Republic of Korea)	June	Koide
Annual Meeting of the OECD Seed Schemes and OECD Forum 2015 "Investing in the Future: People, Planet, Prosperity"	Paris (France)	June	Button, Taveira
WIPO XML4IP Task Force Meeting	Geneva (Switzerland)	June	Rivoire, Madhour
Meeting of the Council for TRIPS (WTO headquarters)	Geneva (Switzerland)	June	Huerta
<i>Jornada de la Protección de las Variedades Vegetales y otros Derechos de Propiedad Industrial en el Desarrollo de la Agricultura</i>	Madrid (Spain)	June	Huerta
Technical Working Party for Vegetables (TWV/49) and Preparatory Workshop	Angers (France)	June	Rivoire, Oertel
Eighteenth International Course on Plant Variety Protection (Naktuinbouw)	Wageningen (Netherlands)	June	Huerta, Koide, Besse
JICA Training course "Quality Control System of Seeds and Seedlings to Facilitate Distribution of High Quality Seeds"	Tsukuba (Japan)	June	Button
WIPO-WTO Colloquium for Teachers of Intellectual Property	Geneva (Switzerland)	June	Button
WIPO Seminar on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Traditional Cultural Expressions: The Regional and International Dimensions	Geneva (Switzerland)	June	Taveira
WIPO-UNIGE Summer School on Intellectual Property	Geneva (Switzerland)	June	Huerta
ARIPO Expert Committee Meeting ARIPO Administrative Council ARIPO Diplomatic Conference for the Adoption of the Draft Protocol for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (Plant Breeders' Rights)	Arusha (United Republic of Tanzania)	June-July	Button, Huerta, Rivoire
Technical Working Party on Automation and Computer Programs (TWC/33) and Preparatory Workshop	Natal (Brazil)	June	Koide, Taveira
Technical Working Party for Agricultural Crops (TWA/44) and Preparatory Workshop	Obihiro (Japan)	July	Taveira, Oertel
Sixth Edition of the WIPO-Queensland University of Technology (QUT) Master of Intellectual Property Law	Brisbane (Australia)	July	Waterhouse (Australia)
Conference on "Climate change and food security: challenges for plant health, plant breeding and genetic resources"	World Expo Milano (Italy)	July	Button
OAPI National Information and Awareness Seminar on the Protection of New Varieties of Plants	Buea (Cameroon)	July	Rivoire

Mission	Location	Month	Staff
WECARD workshops for the ECOWAS-UEMOA-CILSS Regional Seed Committee (COASem & CRSU) and Alliance for Seed Industry in West Africa (ASIWA)	Abidjan (Côte d'Ivoire)	August	Rivoire
Bolivian Seed Congress	Santa Cruz de la Sierra (Bolivia)	August	Taveira
Technical Working Party for Fruit Crops (TWF/46) and Preparatory Workshop	Mpumalanga (South Africa)	August	Taveira, Oertel
Eighth Annual Meeting of the East Asia Plant Variety Protection Forum (EAPVP Forum) KSVS Symposium on Plant Variety Protection "Application procedure from foreign countries"	Seoul (Republic of Korea)	September	Button, Koide
International Training Course on Plant Variety Protection and Examination of Distinctness, Uniformity and Stability (DUS) under the UPOV Convention	Texcoco (Mexico)	September	Taveira
Third Meeting of the Platform for the Co-Development and Transfer of Technologies (FAO headquarters)	Rome (Italy)	September	Button
SAA Fifth Seed Congress of the Americas	Cancun (Mexico)	September	Taveira
Technical Working Party for Ornamental Plants and Forest Trees (TWO/48) and Preparatory Workshop	Cambridge (United Kingdom)	September	Button, Taveira, Oertel
"International Geneva Food Talks"	World Expo Milano (Italy)	September	Huerta
CPVO Administrative Council (20 th anniversary)	Angers (France)	September, October	Gurry, Button
TAIEX Workshop on Plant Variety Protection and Enforcement of Breeders' Rights	Chisinau (Republic of Moldova)	October	Button, Huerta
Sixth Session of ITPGRFA Governing Body	Rome (Italy)	October	Button, Koide
TAIEX expert mission on examination of applications and grants of breeders' rights of new plant varieties and exchange of experiences regarding UPOV Convention's legal aspects and their implementation	Ankara (Turkey)	October	Huerta
ESA Annual Meeting	Vienna (Austria)	October	Button
International High-Level Seminar on Seeds	World Expo Milano (Italy)	October	Button
Meeting of the Council for TRIPS (WTO headquarters)	Geneva (Switzerland)	October	Huerta
Master of Laws (LL.M.) in Intellectual Property (WIPO/University of Turin/ITC-ILO)	Geneva (Switzerland)	October	Huerta, Taveira
WIPO African Ministerial Conference 2015: Intellectual Property (IP) for an Emerging Africa	Dakar (Senegal)	November	Button, Rivoire
Expert Seminar on "Peasants' Right to Seeds and Intellectual Property Rights"	Geneva (Switzerland)	November	Button
Plant Variety Rights Intensive Module on Plant Variety Protection, Master of Intellectual Property (Magister Lvcentinvs) of the University of Alicante	Alicante (Spain)	November	Huerta
Train the Trainer Course for Ibero-American Countries on Plant Variety Protection Under the UPOV Convention and Complementary forms of Intellectual Property Protection	Santa Cruz de la Sierra (Bolivia)	November	Huerta, Taveira

Mission	Location	Month	Staff
Thirty-Ninth Session of ARIPO Administrative Council and Fifteenth Session of ARIPO Council of Ministers	Lusaka (Zambia)	November	Rivoire
APSA Asian Seed Congress and Twenty-First APSA General Assembly Meeting	Goa (India)	November	Koide
DUS Training Course on Tomato	Hanoi (Viet Nam)	November-December	Koide
19th Annual Meeting between CPVO and its Examination Offices	Angers (France)	December	Taveira
Workshop on the Benefits of Plant Variety Protection under the UPOV Convention	Bandar Seri Begawan (Brunei Darussalam)	December	Button, Koide
Workshop on awareness of Plant Variety Protection under the UPOV Convention	Vientiane (Lao People's Democratic Republic)	December	Button, Koide
Expert talk on "Seeds and Sustainable Agriculture", GIZ premises	Bonn (Germany)	December	Huerta
High-level Awareness-Raising Seminar on Plant Variety Protection under the UPOV Convention	Phnom Penh, Cambodia	December	Button, Koide
Consultations and Workshop on the ITPGRFA and preparation for the accession to the UPOV Convention	Dubai (United Arab Emirates)	December	Huerta

[Annex III follows]

RESULTS AND PERFORMANCE INDICATORS FOR 2015

Table of contents

INTRODUCTION	3
Sub-program UV.1: Overall Policy on Plant Variety Protection	4
Objectives:.....	4
Expected results	4
<i>Results Achieved: Selected Performance Indicators</i>	4
1. Organization of Council and Consultative Committee sessions	4
(a) <i>Participation in the sessions of the Council and the Consultative Committee</i>	4
2. Coordination, monitoring and performance assessment of Program and Budget for the 2014-2015 Biennium.....	4
(a) <i>Delivery of program within budget for the 2014-2015 Biennium</i>	4
3. Preparation and adoption of the Program and Budget for the 2016-2017 Biennium.....	4
(a) <i>Preparation and adoption of the Program and Budget for the 2016-2017 Biennium in accordance with the "Financial Regulations and Rules of UPOV"</i>	4
4. Council policy.....	4
(a) <i>Recommendations by the Consultative Committee</i>	4
4. Council policy (continued).....	6
(b) <i>Decisions by the Council</i>	6
(c) <i>Adoption of information and position papers by the Council</i>	6
Sub-program UV.2: Services to the Union for enhancing the Effectiveness of the UPOV System	7
Objectives:.....	7
Expected results	7
<i>Results Achieved: Selected Performance Indicators</i>	7
1. Guidance on the UPOV Convention and its implementation and information on its application	7
<i>UPOV Collection: visits to the UPOV website in 2015</i>	7
(a) <i>Adoption of new or revised information materials concerning the UPOV Convention</i>	7
(b) <i>Publication of the UPOV Gazette and Newsletter</i>	8
(c) <i>Inclusion of laws of members of the Union in UPOV Lex database</i>	8
<i>UPOV Lex database: visits to the UPOV Website in 2015</i>	8
(d) <i>Participation in seminars and symposia held in Geneva in conjunction with UPOV sessions</i>	8
2. Guidance on the examination of varieties	9
(a) <i>Adoption of new or revised TGP documents and information materials</i>	9
(b) <i>Adoption of new or revised Test Guidelines</i>	9
<i>Test Guidelines: visits to the UPOV Website in 2015</i>	9
3. Cooperation for the examination of plant breeders' rights.....	10
<i>GENIE database: visits to the UPOV Website in 2015</i>	10
(a) <i>Plant genera and species for which members of the Union have practical experience</i>	11
(b) <i>Plant genera and species for which members of the Union cooperate in DUS examination, as indicated in GENIE database</i>	11
- <i>General cooperation</i>	11
- <i>Number of specific bilateral and regional arrangements on plant variety protection</i>	11
(c) <i>Participation in the development of Test Guidelines</i>	11
<i>PLUTO database: visits to the UPOV Website in 2015</i>	13
(d) <i>Quality and completeness of data in the Plant Variety Database and quality of search facility; and facilities for access to other relevant data</i>	13
(e) <i>Exchangeable software included in document UPOV/INF/16 "Exchangeable Software"</i>	13
4. Participation by members of the Union and stakeholders in the work of the UPOV bodies	14
(a) <i>Participation in the Administrative and Legal Committee</i>	14
(b) <i>Participation in the Technical Committee</i>	14
(c) <i>Participation in Technical Working Party Sessions</i>	14
(d) <i>Participation in Preparatory Workshops for the Technical Working Party Sessions</i>	14
(e) <i>Explanation of measures to improve the effectiveness of the TC, TWPs and Preparatory Workshops</i>	14

5. UPOV documents and materials in additional languages	14
(a) <i>Availability of UPOV documents and materials in languages other than the UPOV languages (English, French, German and Spanish)</i>	14
6. Facilitating applications for plant breeders' rights	15
(a) <i>Number of applications for plant breeders' rights</i>	15
(b) <i>Number of titles granted</i>	15
(c) <i>Number of titles in force</i>	15
(d) <i>Number of genera/species protected by members of the Union</i>	15
(e) <i>Number of genera/species for which varieties have been protected</i>	15
(f) <i>Use by members of the Union of standard UPOV references in application forms</i>	15
(g) <i>UPOV Electronic Form Project</i>	15
7. Provision of information on the UPOV Convention for stakeholders (breeders, farmers, growers, seed-merchants, etc.)	16
(a) <i>Stakeholder-orientated information on the UPOV website</i>	16
Sub-Program UV.3: Assistance in the Introduction and Implementation of the UPOV System	17
Objectives:.....	17
Expected results	17
<i>Results Achieved: Selected Performance Indicators</i>	17
1. Raising awareness of the role of plant variety protection in accordance with the UPOV Convention	17
(a) <i>Publications on the role of plant variety protection, including material on UPOV website</i>	17
(b) <i>States and organizations provided with information at UPOV activities</i>	17
(c) <i>States and organizations that contacted the Office of the Union for assistance in the development of legislation on plant variety protection</i>	17
(d) <i>States and organizations that initiated with the Council of UPOV the procedure for becoming members of the Union</i>	17
(e) <i>Participation in UPOV awareness-raising activities, or activities involving UPOV staff or UPOV trainers on behalf of UPOV staff</i>	18
2. Assistance in drafting legislation on plant variety protection in accordance with the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention.....	20
(a) <i>States and organizations provided with comments on laws</i>	20
(b) <i>States and organizations which received a positive advice from the Council of UPOV</i>	20
(c) <i>Meetings with government officials</i>	20
3. Assistance to States and organizations in the accession to the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention.....	20
(a) <i>States that acceded to or ratified the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention</i>	20
(b) <i>States and organizations that became members of the Union</i>	20
4. Assistance in implementing an effective plant variety rights system in accordance with the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention.....	21
(a) <i>Participation in distance learning courses</i>	21
(b) <i>Participation by observer States and organizations in the CAJ, TC, TWPs and the associated preparatory workshops</i>	24
(c) <i>Participation in UPOV activities</i>	24
(d) <i>Participation in activities involving UPOV staff or UPOV trainers on behalf of UPOV staff</i>	24
(e) <i>Training provided by UPOV trainers in non-UPOV activities</i>	24
(f) <i>Implementation of projects with partner organizations and donors</i>	24
Sub-Program UV.4: External Relations	25
Objectives:.....	25
Expected results	25
<i>Results Achieved: Selected Performance Indicators</i>	25
1. Increased public understanding of UPOV's role and activities	25
(a) <i>Availability of public-orientated information and materials on UPOV Website</i>	25
(b) <i>Visits to website</i>	25
<i>Website Overview – Global Coverage</i>	25
2. Provision of information to other organizations	26
<i>Participation at meetings and/or activities with relevant organizations</i>	26

INTRODUCTION

1. This report summarizes achievements during 2015. The report is structured to follow the 2014-2015 Program and Budget (document C/47/4 Rev.), as adopted by the Council at its forty-seventh ordinary session, held in Geneva on October 24, 2013.
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.

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

The sessions of the Council and the Consultative Committee 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

Thirty-second extraordinary session:

95 participants representing 45 members of the Union, 3 observer States and 7 observer organizations

Forty-ninth ordinary session:

102 participants representing 46 members of the Union, 4 observer States and 5 observer organizations

Consultative Committee

Eighty-ninth session

84 participants representing 46 members of the Union

Ninetieth session

89 participants representing 46 members of the Union

2. Coordination, monitoring and performance assessment of Program and Budget for the 2014-2015 Biennium

(a) Delivery of program within budget for the 2014-2015 Biennium

See document C/50/12 "Performance report for the 2014-2015 Biennium"

3. Preparation and adoption of the Program and Budget for the 2016-2017 Biennium

(a) Preparation and adoption of the Program and Budget for the 2016-2017 Biennium in accordance with the "Financial Regulations and Rules of UPOV"

The Program and Budget for the 2016-2017 Biennium was adopted by the Council at its forty-ninth ordinary session on October 29, 2015 (see document C/49/4 Rev.)

4. Council policy

(a) Recommendations by the Consultative Committee

The Consultative Committee, at its eighty-ninth session, held in Geneva on March 27, 2015:

- agreed to invite the WIPO Internal Oversight Division (IOD) to give a presentation on its work at the ninetieth session and to consider plans for an internal audit of UPOV in 2016-2017;
- expressed its approval of the review of the UPOV training and assistance strategy and approved the planned use of the Special Project Fund for training purposes in the context of the UPOV training and assistance strategy;
- agreed the structure and contents for the preparation of the Draft Program and Budget of the Union for the 2016-2017 Biennium, subject to a review of the income from interest;
- agreed that the Office of the Union should produce a document with more information about the need for an international system of cooperation, providing a business analysis and cost estimate;

Expected results

**4. Council policy
(continued)**

Results Achieved: Selected Performance Indicators

- agreed to consider proposals in relation to a policy on documents, including communications provided by observers, at its ninetieth session;
- agreed to consider matters on the schedule of the UPOV sessions under the item "Preparation of the calendar of meetings" at its ninetieth session

The Consultative Committee, at its ninetieth session, held in Geneva on October 28, 2015, and on the morning of October 29, 2015:

- agreed the approach concerning the procedure to appoint the External Auditor of UPOV for the financial periods between 2018 and 2023;
- agreed to invite the Office of the Union to present proposals for the financing and containment of ASHI liabilities at its ninety-first session, to be held in Geneva in March 2016;
- agreed that any new developments with regard to the Working Group of the United Nations CEB Finance and Budget Network and any measures considered by WIPO in relation to the financing of long-term employee benefits be presented for consideration by the Consultative Committee at its ninety-first session;
- agreed that the balance of the Special Project Fund (SPF) at the end of 2015 be used in 2016 for activities in the context of the UPOV training and assistance strategy;
- agreed to request WIPO Internal Oversight Division (IOD) to conduct an evaluation in 2016-2017 of the program of activities of UPOV;
- agreed to invite I³PM to be present, at the relevant part of the item on observers in the program for its ninety-second session in October 2016, 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";
- agreed on proposals concerning the translation of UPOV session documents, reports of sessions of UPOV bodies and written comments;
- requested the Office of the Union to present a proposal for developing an updated version of the Impact Study for consideration at its ninety-second session;
- agreed that the new UPOV logo should be presented to the UPOV Council at its fiftieth ordinary session, and that the new UPOV logo should be introduced on the UPOV website in conjunction with the fiftieth ordinary session of the Council, with the introduction of the stakeholder-focused features on the UPOV website;
- agreed that all members of the Union should have the opportunity to participate in the development of the prototype electronic application form (EAF) Version 2 (PV2), that certain items would need to be addressed prior to the launch of the EAF, and agreed to consider the possible implementation of an operational system;
- agreed that more information, including statistical information, and a legal analysis was needed with regard to a possible international system of cooperation (ISC) and agreed to request the Office of the Union to prepare a document containing a draft mandate and terms of reference for a possible working group (ISC-WG) to explore the issues concerning a possible ISC, to be considered by the Consultative Committee at its ninety-first session; that document would also present the additional issues provided in writing by members of the Union;
- agreed to invite the Secretary of the ITPGRFA to make a presentation at its ninety-first session on possible areas of interrelations between the ITPGRFA and the UPOV Convention. The Consultative Committee also agreed that members of the Union should be invited to comment on the areas of interrelations identified by ITPGRFA and suggest any other areas of interrelations. The Consultative Committee agreed that the information should be compiled by the Office of the Union for discussion at the ninety-first session in conjunction with the presentation by the Secretary of the ITPGRFA;
- requested the Office of the Union to prepare a document with options and possible impacts of holding the sessions of the bodies that meet in Geneva consecutively, only once a year.

Expected results

4. Council policy
(continued)

Results Achieved: Selected Performance Indicators

(b) Decisions by the Council

On the basis of recommendations by the Consultative Committee, the Council, at its thirty-second extraordinary session, held in Geneva on March 27, 2015, decided to:

- extend the appointment of the Vice Secretary-General from December 1, 2015, until November 30, 2018;
- take a positive decision on the conformity of the “Draft provisions of Book Four ‘Plant Variety Protection’ of Law No. 82 of 2002 Pertaining to the Protection of Intellectual Property Rights” (“Draft Law”) of Egypt with the provisions of the 1991 Act of the International Convention for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants, which allows Egypt once the Draft Law is adopted with no changes and the Law is in force, to deposit its instrument of accession to the 1991 Act;
- revise the answer to the FAQ “Can I obtain protection for more than one country from a single application?”;
- revise the calendar of meetings in 2015.

The Council, at its forty-ninth ordinary session, held in Geneva on October 29, 2015:

- decided to recommend that the Islamic Republic of Iran incorporate the additional provisions and amendments in the “Act of Plant Varieties Registration, Control And Certification of Seeds And Plant Materials of 2003”, as provided in document C(Extr.)/32/8, and recommend that once the additional provisions and amendments have been incorporated in the Law, the amended Law should be submitted to the Council for examination in conformity with Article 34(3) of the 1991 Act; and requested the Office of the Union to offer its assistance, at the earliest opportunity, to the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran in drafting the necessary additional provisions and amendments to the Law;
- approved the Draft Program and Budget of the Union for the 2016-2017 Biennium;
- approved the financial statements for 2014;
- revised and approved the calendar of meetings in 2016;
- elected, in each case for a term of three years ending with the fifty-second ordinary session of the Council, in 2018:
 - Mr. Luis Salaices Sánchez (Spain), President of the Council;
 - Mr. Raimundo Lavignolle (Argentina), Vice-President of the Council.

(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

The main focus and priority for the 2014-2015 Biennium continued to be support for members of the Union in the operation of their plant variety protection systems. The UPOV system continued to expand in terms of the number of members of the Union, applications, titles granted and titles in force. Within the members of the Union, the estimated number of genera or species for which protection was sought for varieties rose to more than 3,500. These developments demonstrate why cooperation between members of the Union is a key benefit of UPOV membership. The guidance developed by UPOV for variety examination promotes harmonization between members of the Union, thereby facilitating the exchange of information and reports on the examination of Distinctness, Uniformity and Stability ("DUS"). By the end of the Biennium, members of the Union had developed more than 300 Test Guidelines, which were estimated to cover approximately 92% of applications for plant breeders' rights within the Union. In the Biennium, Version 1 of the web-based TG Template was introduced as a tool to assist in the development of Test Guidelines. In relation to cooperation between members of the Union, the information provided in the GENIE database, PLUTO database and database of laws of members of the Union (UPOV Lex) was enhanced. Members of the Union offered practical experience in the examination of DUS for more than 3,300 genera or species, although there was no significant increase in the number of agreements for cooperation between members of the Union during the Biennium, which remained at around 2,000. There was significant progress in the development of a UPOV electronic application form project, with the Prototype Version 1 (PV1) demonstrating the feasibility of the project. UPOV has developed an extensive set of guidance and information materials 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. In the Biennium, revisions to a number of information and guidance documents were adopted.

- 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 website¹ in 2015

Pageviews: 9,044
(9,153 in 2014; 9,336 in 2013)

Unique pageviews: 5,653
(6,064 in 2014; 5,930 in 2013)

Language	Pageviews	Unique pageviews
English	6,173	3,907
Spanish	1,884	1,131
French	498	326
German	483	284

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

1. Information materials concerning the UPOV Convention adopted by the Council in 2015:
 - UPOV/EXN/CAN/2 Explanatory Notes on Cancellation of the Breeder's Right under the UPOV Convention (Revision)
 - UPOV/EXN/NUL/2 Explanatory Notes on the Nullity of the Breeder's Right under the UPOV Convention (Revision)
 - UPOV/EXN/PRP/2 Explanatory Notes on Provisional Protection under the UPOV Convention (Revision)
 - UPOV/INF/4/4 Financial Regulations and Rules of UPOV (Revision)
 - UPOV/INF/6/4 Guidance for the preparation of laws based on the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention (Revision)
 - UPOV/INF/12/5 Explanatory Notes on Variety Denominations under the UPOV Convention (Revision)
 - UPOV/INF/15/3 Guidance for members of UPOV (Revision)
 - UPOV/INF/16/5 Exchangeable Software (Revision)
 - UPOV/INF/22/2 Software and equipment used by members of the Union (Revision)
 - UPOV/INF-EXN/7 List of INF-EXN Documents and Latest Issue Dates (Revision)
 - UPOV/INF-EXN/8 List of INF-EXN Documents and Latest Issue Dates (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)

2. Drafts of the following materials were considered by the CAJ in 2015:

UPOV/EXNCAN	Explanatory Notes on Cancellation of the Breeder's Right under the UPOV Convention (Revision)
UPOV/EXN/EDV	Explanatory Notes on Essentially Derived Varieties under the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention (Revision)
UPOV/EXN/HRV	Explanatory Notes on Acts in Respect of Harvested Material under the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention (Revision)
UPOV/EXN/NUL	Explanatory Notes on Nullity of the Breeder's Right under the UPOV Convention (Revision)
UPOV/EXN/PPM	Explanatory Notes on Propagation and Propagating Material under the UPOV Convention
UPOV/EXN/PRP	Explanatory Notes on Provisional Protection under the UPOV Convention (Revision)
UPOV/INF/12	Explanatory Notes on Variety Denominations under the UPOV Convention (Revision)
UPOV/INF/16	Exchangeable Software (Revision)
UPOV/INF/22	Software and equipment used by members of the Union (Revision)

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

- UPOV Publication No. 438 (E), Issue No. 107, February 2015
- UPOV Publication No. 438 (E), Issue No. 108, December 2015

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

- Belarus, Belgium, Canada, Estonia, China, Estonia, Germany, Latvia, Montenegro, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, United Republic of Tanzania

UPOV Lex database: visits to the UPOV Website in 2015

Pageviews: 80,460
(88,305 in 2014; 88,533 in 2013)

Unique pageviews: 55,991
(60,439 in 2014; 61,230 in 2013)

Language	Pageviews	Unique pageviews
English	53,580	37,259
Spanish	18,379	12,543
French	5,601	3,989
German	2,875	2,185

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

No seminar/symposium was held in 2015.

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*

1. TGP documents adopted and published on the UPOV website in 2015:

TGP/5	Experience and Cooperation in DUS Testing
Section 3/2	Technical Questionnaire to be Completed in Connection with an Application for Plant Breeders' Rights (Revision)
Section 8/2	Cooperation in Examination (Revision)
Section 9/2	List of Species in Which Practical Knowledge has Been Acquired or for Which National Test Guidelines Have Been Established (Revision)
TGP/9/2	Examining Distinctness (Revision)
TGP/14/3	Glossary of Terms Used in UPOV Documents
Section 2.4	Apex/tip shape characteristics (Revision)
TGP/0/8	List of TGP Documents and Latest Issue Dates (Revision)
2. Drafts of the following TGP documents advanced in the CAJ, TC and/or the Technical Working Parties in 2015:

TGP/7	Development of Test Guidelines (Revision)
TGP/8	Trial Design and Techniques Used in the Examination of Distinctness, Uniformity and Stability (Revision)
TGP/10	Examining Uniformity (Revision)
3. Drafts of the following information materials advanced in the CAJ, TC and/or the Technical Working Parties in 2015:

UPOV/INF/16	Exchangeable Software (Revision)
UPOV/INF/22	Software and equipment used by members of the Union (Revision)
4. Revision of the following document considered in the Working Group for the Development of a UPOV Denomination Similarity Search Tool (WG-DST):

UPOV/INF/12	Explanatory Notes on Variety Denominations under the UPOV Convention (Revision)
-------------	---

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

Test Guidelines: visits to the UPOV Website in 2015

Pageviews: 64,425
(67,900 in 2014; 68,479 in 2013)

Unique pageviews: 38,144
(40,102 in 2014; 38,979 in 2013)

Language	Pageviews	Unique pageviews
English	52,103	30,391
Spanish	8,157	5,138
French	2,585	1,657
German	1,561	942

Expected results

Results Achieved: Selected Performance Indicators

2. *Guidance on the examination of varieties (continued)*

Adopted Test Guidelines

In 2015, the adopted Test Guidelines covered 92% of all PBR-related entries in the Plant Variety Database (246,890 of 267,550) (in 2014, 90%: 238,388 of 263,614)

26 Test Guidelines adopted by the TC, comprising:

- 12 new Test Guidelines: TWA (3.5), TWF (2), TWO (4), TWV (2.5)
- 5 revised Test Guidelines: TWA (1), TWF (1); TWO (2); TWV (1)
- 9 partially revised Test Guidelines: TWF (1); TWO (2); TWV (6)

Test Guidelines advanced in the Technical Working Parties

46 draft Test Guidelines advanced by the Technical Working Parties, comprising

- 16 new Test Guidelines: TWA (2), TWF (3), TWO (9), TWV (2)
- 22 revisions: TWA (5), TWF (6), TWO (4), TWV (7)
- 8 partial revisions: TWF (1), TWV (7)

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

GENIE database: visits to the UPOV Website in 2015

	2015	2014	Language	Pageviews	Unique pageviews
Sessions	15,727	15,586	English	47,367	26,989
Users	8,744	8,364	Spanish	9,530	5,832
Pageviews	67,175	72,018	French	5,451	3,527
New Visitors	46.7%	52%	German	2,706	1,833
Returning Visitors	53.3%	48%			

Top 10 countries visiting the GENIE database in 2015

Country / Territory	Sessions	% New Sessions	New Users
France	1,355	52,18%	707
Switzerland	1,188	37,04%	440
Germany	909	67,99%	618
United States of America	861	70,27%	605
Japan	835	21,56%	180
Spain	798	63,16%	504
India	691	77,71%	537
Mexico	670	57,16%	383
Netherlands	471	42,04%	198
Australia	412	30,10%	124

Expected results

Results Achieved: Selected Performance Indicators

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

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

Practical experience in examination of DUS reported for approximately 3,382 genera or species in 2015 (3,305 in 2014; 2,589 in 2013) - see document TC/51/4

(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, Netherlands

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, France, 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 2,002 genera or species (2,005 in 2014; 1,997 in 2013) – excluding general cooperation (see above and document C/49/5)

(c) Participation in the development of Test Guidelines

Test Guidelines adopted in 2015:

- 12 new Test Guidelines: TWA (3.5), TWF (2), TWO (4), TWV (2.5) drafted by Leading Experts from:
 - Africa: KE (0.5), ZA (1)
 - Americas: BR (1.5), MX (1)
 - Asia/Pacific: JP (4), NZ (1)
 - Europe: FR (2), GB (1)
- 5 revised Test Guidelines: TWA (1), TWF (1); TWO (2); TWV (1)
 - Africa: ZA (1)
 - Europe: DE (1), ES (1), FR (1), NL (1)
- 9 partially revised Test Guidelines: TWF (1); TWO (2); TWV (6)
 - Asia/Pacific: JP (1)
 - Europe: ES (2), FR (1.5), NL (3.5), UA (1)

Total number of adopted Test Guidelines at the end of 2015: 313

Expected results

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

Results Achieved: Selected Performance Indicators

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

Test Guidelines under development in 2015:

- 16 new Test Guidelines: TWA (2), TWF (3), TWO (9), TWV (2) drafted by Leading Experts from:

Africa:	ZA (1)
Americas:	AR (1), BR (1), MX (2)
Asia/Pacific:	AU (1), JP (5), NZ (1)
Europe:	DK (1), ES (1), FR (1), GB (1)

- 22 revisions: TWA (5), TWF (6), TWO (4), TWV (7)

Americas:	AR (1),
Asia/Pacific:	AU (2), CN (1), JP (1), NZ (2)
Europe:	DE (3), ES (2), FR (3.5), GB (1), IT (0.5), NL (4), QZ (1)

- 8 partial revisions: TWF (1), TWV (7)

Africa:	ZA (1)
Europe:	DE (1), NL (5), QZ (1)

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

Development of web-based TG Template:

Version 1 of the web-based TG Template was introduced with the following features:

- Draft Test Guidelines were prepared by Leading Experts online via the web-based TG Template
- Fixed template containing all universal standard wording which is appropriate for all Test Guidelines
- Options to add Additional Standard Wording (ASW)
- Links to Guidance Notes (GN)
- A database of characteristics (in English, French, German and Spanish) from Test Guidelines adopted after the adoption of document TGP/7/1 "Development of Test Guidelines"

The database contains all information from the Table of Characteristics, including states of expression, notes and example varieties. The database can be searched for relevant characteristics and a relevant characteristic uploaded into draft Test Guidelines with subsequent modification as required.

Expected results

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

Results Achieved: Selected Performance Indicators

PLUTO database: visits to the UPOV Website in 2015

	2015	2014	Language	Pageviews	Unique pageviews
Sessions	53,270	46,922	English	69,520	49,679
Users	14,007	13,834	Spanish	5,003	3,266
Pageviews:	80,382	74,226	French	4,517	3,314
New Visitors	24.3%	27.7%	German	1,341	899
Returning Visitors	75.7%	72.3%			

Top 10 countries visiting the PLUTO database in 2015

Country / Territory	Sessions	% New Sessions	New Users
United States of America	6,735	19.60%	1,320
Netherlands	5,118	18.87%	966
France	4,311	26.47%	1,141
Brazil	3,991	18.92%	755
Australia	2,893	12.03%	348
Ukraine	2,753	13.04%	359
Japan	2,215	27.86%	617
Switzerland	2,143	24.31%	521
New Zealand	1,940	10.67%	207
Russia	1,803	12.26%	221

(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 2015: 723,783 (688,541 at the end of 2014)
- Number of submissions of new data in 2015: 211 (175 in 2014)
- Number of contributors included in the PLUTO database at the end of 2015: 58 (58 in 2014)
- Number of members of the Union that contributed data in 2015: 44 (48 in 2014)
- Number of members of the Union that contributed data for the first time in 2015: 0 (2 in 2014)
- Number of other contributors of data in 2015: 0 (1 in 2014)

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

- The additional column showing the latest date on which the information was provided in the PLUTO database was introduced on May 4, 2015.
- The function to search both the data field "Denomination" and "Breeder's Ref" using the denomination search tools on the Denomination Search page, either individually or in combination, was introduced in the PLUTO database on May 4, 2015.

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

No inclusion of exchangeable software in 2015.

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/71: 99 participants representing 44 members of the Union, 2 observer States, 8 observer organizations
CAJ/72: 111 participants representing 44 members of the Union, 4 observer States, 8 observer organizations

(b) Participation in the Technical Committee

TC/51: 96 participants representing 44 members of the Union, 1 observer State, 7 observer organizations

(c) Participation in Technical Working Party Sessions

338 experts representing 49 members of the Union (members), 11 observer States (obs) and 8 observer organizations (orgs) participated in the Technical Working Parties as follows:

TWA (Japan):
17 members (38 participants) / 9 obs (9) / 3 org (3)
TWC (Brazil):
10 members (18 participants) / 0 obs (0) / 0 org (0)
TWF (South Africa):
16 members (39 participants) / 3 obs (3) / 1 org (2)
TWO (United Kingdom):
16 members (56 participants) / 2 obs (2) / 2 org (5)
T WV (European Union):
20 members (52 participants) / 4 obs (4) / 3 org (6)
BMT (no meeting in 2015)

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

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

130 experts representing 21 members of the Union (members), 10 observer States (obs) and 3 observer organizations (orgs) participated in the Preparatory Workshops as follows:

TWA: 9 members (22 participants) / 10 obs (15) / 0 org (0)
TWC: 7 members (11 participants) / 0 obs (0) / 0 org (0)
TWF: 7 members (17 participants) / 3 obs (3) / 0 org (0)
TWO: 15 members (36 participants) / 2 obs (2) / 2 org (2)
T WV: 11 members (17 participants) / 4 obs (4) / 1 org (1)
BMT: no meeting in 2015

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

The TC, at its fifty-first session, considered document TC/51/37 "Possible ways of improving the effectiveness of the Technical Committee, Technical Working Parties and Preparatory Workshops" and received a presentation by the UPOV Office. The TC noted the results of the surveys in 2014, presented in document TC/51/37, Annex I. The TC agreed with the proposals concerning possible means of improving the effectiveness of the TWPs, as set out in document TC/51/37, paragraph 24.

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 published on the UPOV website. The translations in Bahasa Indonesia, Malay, Serbian, Vietnamese languages of the 1991 Act will be verified before publication on the UPOV website.

Expected results

6. *Facilitating applications for plant breeders' rights*

Results Achieved: Selected Performance Indicators

(a) *Number of applications for plant breeders' rights*

15,499 applications made with members of the Union in 2014 (14,788 in 2013; 13,908 in 2012) (see document C/49/7)

(b) *Number of titles granted*

11,569 titles granted by members of the Union in 2014 (10,052 in 2013; 9,822 in 2012) (see document C/49/7)

(c) *Number of titles in force*

106,081 titles in force with members of the Union in 2014 (103,261 in 2013; 99,501 in 2012) (see document C/49/7)

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

At the end of 2015, a total of 61 members of the Union offered protection for all plant genera and species (58 in 2014; 56 in 2013) and 13 members of the Union offered protection for a limited number of plant genera and species (14 in 2014; 15 in 2013) (see document C/49/6).

The following member of the Union notified the extension of protection to all plant genera and species in 2015: Belgium

The following members of the Union notified the extension of protection to additional plant genera and species in 2015: China, Brazil, Morocco, South Africa and Turkey

(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):
3,562
(3,454 in August 2014; 3,297 in August 2013)

(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

Between 2013 and 2015, no new information.

Expected results

6. *Facilitating applications for plant breeders' rights*
(continued)

Results Achieved: Selected Performance Indicators

(g) *UPOV Electronic Form Project*

In 2014, the following members of the Union participated in the project for the development of a prototype electronic form: Argentina; Australia; Brazil; Canada; Colombia; Dominican Republic; Ecuador; European Union; France, Germany, Japan; Mexico; New Zealand; Netherlands, Paraguay; Republic of Korea; Switzerland; United States of America and Viet Nam. A draft PVP-XML schema was developed. The development of the prototype electronic form was started.

In 2015, the participating members of the Union in the development of a prototype electronic form agreed that the prototype electronic application form Version 1 (PV1) had demonstrated the feasibility of the project. It was agreed to develop electronic application form Version 2 (PV2) with the aim to demonstrate the scalability of the system, i.e. addition of further crops, languages and PVP Offices, and also to demonstrate the feasibility of implementation by PVP Offices. It was agreed to consider a possible implementation of an operational system.

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

(a) Stakeholder-orientated information on the UPOV website

No new material was published on the UPOV website in 2015.

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 courses "Introduction to the UPOV System of Plant Variety Protection under the UPOV Convention" (DL-205) and "Examination of Applications for Plant Breeders' Rights" (DL-305), and training of trainers have been of particular importance in providing assistance to a wide range of experts.

- 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

See Sub-Program UV.2, performance indicator "7. Provision of information on the UPOV Convention for stakeholders (breeders, farmers, growers, seed-merchants, etc.)", section (a)

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

Argentina, Australia, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, European Union, France, Germany, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, Indonesia, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Niger, Oman, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Republic of Korea, Rwanda, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, South Africa, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Viet Nam, Zambia, Zimbabwe, AFSTA, CGIAR, OAPI (65 States, 3 organizations)

See also (e) below

(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: Brazil, Chile

Non-members of the Union: ARIPO, Barbados, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brunei Darussalam, Egypt, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Liberia, Malaysia, Mauritius, Myanmar, United Arab Emirates

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

Iran (Islamic Republic of)

Expected results

Results Achieved: Selected Performance Indicators

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

(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:

1. UPOV/Naktuinbouw/MEA Training Course on Plant Variety Protection, Arusha, United Republic of Tanzania (April 2015)
2. UPOV/USPTO Training Course on "Plant variety Protection under the UPOV Convention", Geneva, Switzerland (May 2015)
3. Eighth Annual Meeting of the East Asia Plant Variety Protection Forum (EAPVP Forum), Seoul, Republic of Korea (September 2015)
4. International Training Course on Plant Variety Protection and Examination of Distinctness, Uniformity and Stability (DUS) under the UPOV Convention, Texcoco, Mexico (September 2015)
5. Training Course "Contributing Data to the PLUTO Database" in English, Geneva, Switzerland (September 2015)
6. Training Course "Contributing Data to the PLUTO Database" in Spanish, Geneva, Switzerland (October 2015)
7. Train the Trainer Course for Ibero-American Countries on Plant Variety Protection Under the UPOV Convention and Complementary forms of Intellectual Property Protection, Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia (Plurinational State of) (November 2015)
8. UPOV/WIPO Train the Trainer Course (for OAPI officials), Geneva, Switzerland (November-December 2015)
9. Plant Variety Protection Seminar under the UPOV Convention, Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam (December 2015)
10. Workshop on awareness of Plant Variety Protection under the UPOV Convention, Vientiane, Lao People's Democratic Republic (December 2015)
11. High-level Awareness-Raising Seminar of Plant Variety Protection under the UPOV Convention, Phnom Penh, Cambodia (December 2015)

(2) Activities/meetings in which UPOV participated:

12. 15th Regular Session of the CGRFA, Rome, Italy (January 2015)
13. OECD Seed Scheme Technical Working Group Meeting for the Certification of Seed Moving in International Trade, Paris, France (January 2015)
14. Study visit for the Committee on Constitutional, Legal and Parliamentary Affairs of Ghana, Amsterdam, Netherlands (January 2015)
15. International Workshop on the promotion of Public-Private Partnerships for Pre-breeding, Montpellier, France (February 2015)
16. WIPO Expert Forum on International Technology Transfer, Geneva, Switzerland (February 2015)
17. Meeting of the Council for TRIPS (WTO headquarters), Geneva, Switzerland (February 2015)
18. AFSTA's Annual Congress 2015 and ISTA/OECD/UPOV Pre-Congress Workshop, Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe (March 2015)
19. Second meeting of the Ad Hoc Technical Committee on Sustainable Use of Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ACSU), Rome, Italy (March 2015)
20. CPVO Administrative Council, Angers, France (March 2015)
21. ASIPI's Seminar on Intellectual Property in Agriculture, Asuncion, Paraguay (March 2015)
22. ISF Breeders' Committee, Lausanne, Switzerland (March 2015)
23. WIPO-WTO Advanced Course on Intellectual Property for Government Officials, Geneva, Switzerland (March 2015)
24. Joint WIPO EU/CARIFORUM Sub-Regional Workshop on Geographical Indications/Origin-Linked Products and Branding, Bridgetown, Barbados (March 2015)
25. Study visit for OAPI Officials to Swiss PVP Office, Bern, Switzerland (March 2015)
26. WIPO Seminar on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Traditional Cultural Expressions: Regional, National and Local Experiences, Geneva, Switzerland (March 2015)
27. *Institut Polytechnique LaSalle* Master Curriculum in Plant Breeding, Beauvais, France (April 2015)

Expected results

Results Achieved: Selected Performance Indicators

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

- (2) Activities/meetings in which UPOV participated (*continued*):
28. Workshop on Plant Breeders' Rights and Intellectual Property Rights of Plant - Implementation in Turkey and in the World (mainly the European Union), Antalya, Turkey (April 2015)
 29. Presentation on the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention at the *Instituto Pensar Agropecuaria*, Brasilia, Brazil (April 2015)
 30. National training course for DUS experts, San Fernando de Henares, Madrid, Spain (April 2015)
 31. CIOFORA's Annual General Meeting, Hamburg, Germany (April 2015)
 32. APSA's Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) Workshop, Bangkok, Thailand (May 2015)
 33. Launch of the DuPont/Economist World Food Security Index and discussion on "Food and agriculture: rural and urban innovations, a forum to highlight innovations in the food security challenge", World Expo Milano, Italy (May 2015)
 34. ISF World Seed Congress 2015, Krakow, Poland (May 2015)
 35. KOICA/KSVS Training Course on "Plant Variety Protection and DUS Testing", Kimcheon, Republic of Korea (June 2015)
 36. Annual Meeting of the OECD Seed Schemes and OECD Forum 2015 "Investing in the Future: People, Planet, Prosperity", Paris, France (June 2015)
 37. WIPO XML4IP Task Force Meeting, Geneva, Switzerland (June 2015)
 38. Meeting of the Council for TRIPS (WTO headquarters), Geneva, Switzerland (June 2015)
 39. *Jornada de la Protección de las Variedades Vegetales y otros Derechos de Propiedad Industrial en el Desarrollo de la Agricultura*, Madrid, Spain (June 2015)
 40. Eighteenth International Course on Plant Variety Protection (Naktuinbouw), Wageningen, Netherlands (June 2015)
 41. JICA Training course "Quality Control System of Seeds and Seedlings to Facilitate Distribution of High Quality Seeds", Tsukuba, Japan (June 2015)
 42. WIPO-WTO Colloquium for Teachers of Intellectual Property, Geneva, Switzerland (June 2015)
 43. WIPO Seminar on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Traditional Cultural Expressions: The Regional and International Dimensions, Geneva, Switzerland (June 2015)
 44. WIPO-UNIGE Summer School on Intellectual Property, Geneva, Switzerland (June 2015)
 45. ARIPO Expert Committee Meeting, Arusha, United Republic of Tanzania (June-July 2015)
 46. ARIPO Administrative Council, United Republic of Tanzania (June-July 2015)
 47. ARIPO Diplomatic Conference for the Adoption of the Draft Protocol for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (Plant Breeders' Rights), United Republic of Tanzania (June-July 2015)
 48. Sixth Edition of the WIPO-Queensland University of Technology (QUT) Master of Intellectual Property Law, Brisbane, Australia (July 2015)
 49. Conference on "Climate change and food security: challenges for plant health, plant breeding and genetic resources", World Expo Milano, Italy (July 2015)
 50. OAPI National Information and Awareness Seminar on the Protection of New Varieties of Plants, Buea, Cameroon (July 2015)
 51. WECARD workshops for the ECOWAS-UEMOA-CILSS Regional Seed Committee (COASem & CRSU) and Alliance for Seed Industry in West Africa (ASIWA), Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire (August 2015)
 52. Bolivian Seed Congress, Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia (Plurinational State of) (August 2015)
 53. KSVS Symposium on Plant Variety Protection "Application procedure from foreign countries", Seoul, Republic of Korea (September 2015)
 54. Third Meeting of the Platform for the Co-Development and Transfer of Technologies (FAO headquarters), Rome, Italy (September 2015)
 55. SAA Fifth Seed Congress of the Americas, Cancun, Mexico (September 2015)
 56. "International Geneva Food Talks", World Expo Milano, Italy (September 2015)
 57. CPVO Administrative Council (20th anniversary), Angers, France (September-October 2015)
 58. TAIEX Workshop on Plant Variety Protection and Enforcement of Breeders' Rights, Chisinau, Republic of Moldova (October 2015)
 59. Sixth Session of ITPGRFA Governing Body, Rome, Italy (October 2015)

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>	<p>(2) Activities/meetings in which UPOV participated (<i>continued</i>):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">60. TAIEX expert mission on examination of applications and grants of breeders' rights of new plant varieties and exchange of experiences regarding UPOV Convention's legal aspects and their implementation, Ankara, Turkey (October 2015)61. ESA Annual Meeting, Vienna, Austria (October 2015)62. International High-Level Seminar on Seeds, World Expo Milano, Italy (October 2015)63. Meeting of the Council for TRIPS (WTO headquarters), Geneva, Switzerland (October 2015)64. WIPO African Ministerial Conference 2015: Intellectual Property (IP) for an Emerging Africa, Dakar, Senegal (November 2015)65. Expert Seminar on "Peasants' Right to Seeds and Intellectual Property Rights", Geneva, Switzerland (November 2015)66. Plant Variety Rights Intensive Module on Plant Variety Protection, Master of Intellectual Property (Magister Lvcentinvs) of the University of Alicante, Alicante, Spain (November 2015)67. Thirty-Ninth Session of ARIPO Administrative Council and Fifteenth Session of ARIPO Council of Ministers, Lusaka, Zambia (November 2015)68. APSA Asian Seed Congress and Twenty-First APSA General Assembly Meeting, Goa, India (November 2015)69. DUS Training Course on Tomato, Hanoi, Viet Nam (November-December 2015)70. 19th Annual Meeting between CPVO and its Examination Offices, Angers, France (December 2015)71. Expert talk on "Seeds and Sustainable Agriculture", GIZ premises, Bonn, Germany (December 2015)72. "Workshop on the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture and preparation for the accession to the International Convention for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants" Dubai, United Arab Emirates (December 2015)
Expected results	Results Achieved: Selected Performance Indicators
<i>2. Assistance in drafting legislation on plant variety protection in accordance with the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention</i>	<p>(a) <i>States and organizations provided with comments on laws</i></p> <p>Members of the Union: Brazil, Chile</p> <p>Non-members of the Union: ARIPO, Egypt, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Malaysia, United Arab Emirates</p> <p>(b) <i>States and organizations which received a positive advice from the Council of UPOV</i></p> <p>Egypt</p> <p>(c) <i>Meetings with government officials</i></p> <p>Members of the Union: Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, South Africa and Turkey</p> <p>Non-members of the Union: ARIPO, Barbados, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Egypt, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Kazakhstan, Liberia, Malaysia, Mauritius, Myanmar, Rwanda, United Arab Emirates and Zimbabwe</p>
<i>3. Assistance to States and organizations in the accession to the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention</i>	<p>(a) <i>States that acceded to or ratified the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention</i></p> <p>Canada, Montenegro, United Republic of Tanzania</p> <p>(b) <i>States and organizations that became members of the Union</i></p> <p>Montenegro, United Republic of Tanzania</p>

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

1. UPOV DL-205 "Introduction to the UPOV System of Plant Variety Protection under the UPOV Convention"
2. UPOV Distance Learning Course DL-305 "Examination of applications for plant breeders' rights"

List of countries and organizations from which there were participants in the UPOV distance learning courses (in 2015)

Argentina, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Egypt, El Salvador, Estonia, Ethiopia, France, Germany, Ghana, Guatemala, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Malaysia, Mauritania, Mexico, Morocco, Myanmar, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Slovakia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Switzerland, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, United Kingdom, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Viet Nam, Zimbabwe, OAPI (68 States, 1 organization)

Total number of participants in main sessions of the DL-205 Course by category (1 session in 2015)

Category	Number of students
Category 1: Government officials of members of the Union nominated by the relevant representative to the UPOV Council No fee	186
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	13
Category 4: Discretionary waiving of fee for selected students	10
Total:	219

Total number of participants in main sessions of the DL-205 Course by language (in 2015)

	English	French	German	Spanish	Total
Session I: Total by language	107	24	6	82	219

Special sessions of DL-205 (in 2015)

Month/Year	Name of Course	Language	Number of participants
May 2015	Train the Trainer Course on Plant Variety Protection under the UPOV Convention (Geneva, Switzerland)	EN	11
June 2015	KOICA Training Course on Plant Variety Protection (Republic of Korea)	EN	6
June 2015	Naktuinbouw International Course on Plant Variety Protection Course (Netherlands)	EN	10
June 2015	JICA Training Course on "Internationally Harmonized Plant Variety Protection System" (Japan)	EN	10
October 2015	National Seminar on plant variety protection under the UPOV Convention (Chile)	ES	39
November 2015	Train the Trainer Course on Plant Variety Protection under the UPOV Convention (Geneva, Switzerland)	FR	17
November 2015	Train the Trainer Course for Ibero-American Countries on Plant Variety Protection Under the UPOV Convention and Complementary forms of Intellectual Property Protection (Santa Cruz, Bolivia)	ES	5
November 2015	Others (UPOV fee waiver)	EN, FR, ES	10
		TOTAL	108

Total number of participants in the DL-305 Course
(1 session in 2015)

Category	Number of students
Category 1: Government officials of members of the Union nominated by the relevant representative to the UPOV Council No fee	113
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	4
Category 3: Others Fee: CHF1,000	1
Category 4: Discretionary waiving of fee for selected students	1
Total:	119

Total number of participants in the DL-305 Course
by language (in 2015)

	English	French	Spanish	Total
Session I: Total by language	52	4	63	119
Total:				119

Total number of participants in the DL-305A Course
(1 session in 2015)

Category	Number of students
Category 1: Government officials of members of the Union nominated by the relevant representative to the UPOV Council No fee	58
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	2
Category 3: Others Fee: CHF1,000	0
Category 4: Discretionary waiving of fee for selected students	0
Total:	60

Total number of participants in the DL-305A Course
by language (in 2015)

	English	French	Spanish	Total
Session I: Total by language	38	2	20	60
Total:				60

Total number of participants in the DL-305B Course
(1 session in 2015)

Category	Number of students
Category 1: Government officials of members of the Union nominated by the relevant representative to the UPOV Council No fee	61
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	2
Category 3: Others Fee: CHF1,000	0
Category 4: Discretionary waiving of fee for selected students	2
Total:	65

Total number of participants in the DL-305B Course
by language (in 2015)

	English	French	Spanish	Total
Session I: Total by language	48	1	16	65
	Total:			65

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 (continued)

(b) Participation by observer States and organizations in the CAJ, TC, TWP 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

Albania, Australia, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Czech Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, European Union, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Guatemala, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lithuania, Malaysia, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Nepal, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Paraguay, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Zimbabwe, APSA, OAPI, SAA (91 States, 3 organizations)

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

Not yet available

(f) Implementation of projects with partner organizations and donors

World Seed Project: 2 electronic meetings, 2 face-to-face meetings of the Steering Committee

SUB-PROGRAM UV.4: EXTERNAL RELATIONS

UPOV maintained contacts with a number of intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations representing stakeholders, including breeders, farmers and growers, in order to explain the UPOV system of plant variety protection and to exchange information. The UPOV website continues to be an important resource for dissemination of information. The regular publication of press releases, including those highlighting developments in the Council of UPOV, also continued to provide a valuable means of disseminating information to the general public.

- Objectives:**
- ◆ To broaden and enhance the understanding of the UPOV system of plant variety protection.
 - ◆ To provide information on the UPOV Convention to other intergovernmental organizations, with the aim of achieving mutual supportiveness with other international treaties.
 - ◆ To inform members of the Union of developments of relevance to UPOV.

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*

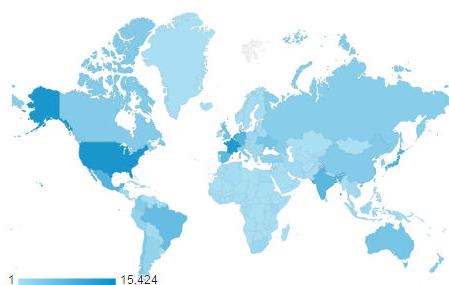
Information and materials added to the website in 2015:

- See Sub-Program UV.2, performance indicator "7. Provision of information on the UPOV Convention for stakeholders (breeders, farmers, growers, seed-merchants, etc.)", section (a)
- 5 press releases

(b) *Visits to website*

	2015 compared to 2014 (%)	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011
<i>Number of Sessions:</i>	+2.36%	191,534	187,125	178,732	151,914	140,371
<i>Unique Users:</i>	+0.09%	86,366	86,291	84,336	71,506	75,673
<i>Number of pageviews:</i>	-3.58%	1,087,382	1,127,786	1,129,052	1,139,570	798,942
<i>Number of pages/visit:</i>	-5.80%	5.68	6.03	6.32	7.50	5.69
<i>Average visit duration:</i>	-12.50%	00:05:15	00:06:00	00:06:35	00:07:19	00:04:41
<i>Percentage of new visits:</i>	-2.22%	43.21%	44.19%	54.6%	45.05%	51.91%

Website Overview – Global Coverage



Sessions by country:

1. Switzerland (8.05%)
2. United States of America (7.07%)
3. France (6.81%)
4. Netherlands (4.92%)
5. Japan (4.32%)
6. Mexico (4.08%)
7. Germany (4.00%)
8. India (3.91%)
9. Spain (3.70%)
10. Brazil (3.32%)

Expected results Results Achieved: Selected Performance Indicators

1. *Increased public understanding of UPOV's role and activities* (continued) (b) *Visits to website* (continued)

Language of visitor's browser	2015		2014		2013		2012		2011	
	Visits	%	Visits	%	Visits	%	Visits	%	Visits	%
1. en-us	66,347	39.58	72,248	38.61	70,706	39.56	57,341	37.75	50,571	36.03
2. es	17,765	59.03	18,154	9.70	18,669	10.45	19,001	12.51	23,605	16.82
3. fr	11,413	52.99	11,862	6.34	13,876	7.76	14,212	9.36	10,670	7.60
4. es-es	7,972	4.16	9,180	4.91	9,234	5.17	5,698	3.75	9,124	6.50
5. en-gb	6,743	3.52	4,508	2.41	3,028	1.69	2,371	1.56	2,069	1.47
6. ru	6,608	3.45	6,824	3.65	6,596	3.69	3,630	2.39	3,168	2.26
7. pt-br	5,819	3.04	4,386	2.34	4,014	2.25	3,148	2.07	2,073	1.48
8. ja	5,277	2.76	5,729	3.06	6,444	3.61	7,562	4.98	6,387	4.55
9. nl-nl	4,981	2.60	2,837	1.52	4,347	2.43	4,152	2.73	2,742	1.95
10. de	4,925	2.57	3,619	1.93	4,065	2.27	4,562	3.00	5,577	3.97

1. en-us: American English; 2. es: Spanish; 3. fr: French; 4. es-es: Castilian Spanish; 5. en-gb: British English; 6. ru: Russian; 7. pt-br: Brazilian Portuguese; 8. ja: Japanese; 9. nl-nl: Dutch (Netherlands); 10. de: German

2. *Provision of information to other organizations* *Participation at meetings and/or activities with relevant organizations*

1. Intergovernmental organizations:
ARIPO, CGIAR, European Union (CPVO), FAO, ISTA, ITPGRFA, OAPI, OECD, United Nations, WIPO, World Bank and WTO
2. Other organizations:
AFSTA, APSA, ASIPI, CIOPORA, ESA, ISF, SAA, WECARD and WFO

[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"
DL-305A	UPOV distance learning course "Administration of Plant Breeders' Rights" (part A of DL-305)
DL-305B	UPOV distance learning course "DUS Examination" (part B of DL-305)
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(s)	Technical Working Party(ies)
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
AGEPI	State Agency on Intellectual Property of the Republic of Moldova
AGRA	Alliance for Green Revolution in Africa
APSA	Asia and Pacific Seed Association
ARIPO	African Regional Intellectual Property Organization
ASIPI	Inter-American Association of Intellectual Property
ASTA	American Seed Trade Association
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
CGIAR	Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research
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
ESA	European Seed Association
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
GIZ	<i>Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH</i> (German Agency for International Cooperation)
ICARDA	International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas
ICBA	International Center for Biosaline Agriculture
ICNP	Open-ended Ad Hoc Intergovernmental Committee for the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-sharing
IEPI	<i>Instituto Ecuatoriano de la Propiedad Intelectual</i> (Ecuadorian Institute of Intellectual Property)
ILO	International Labour Organization
ISF	International Seed Federation

ISTA	International Seed Testing Association
ITPGRFA	International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture
JICA	Japan International Cooperation Agency
KOICA	Korea International Cooperation Agency
KSVS	Korea Seed and Variety Service
OAPI	African Intellectual Property Organization
OIF	Organisation internationale de la francophonie
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-Operation and Development
OEVV	Spanish Plant Variety Office
QUT	Queensland University of Technology
SAA	Seed Association of the Americas
TAIEX	Technical Assistance and Information Exchange Instrument (TAIEX) of the European Union
TRIPS	Trade Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights
UBIS	University of Business and International Studies
UN	United Nations
UNIGE	University of Geneva
USPTO	United States Patent and Trademark Office
WECARD	West and Central African Council for Agricultural Research and Development
WFO	World Farmers' Organization
WIPO	World Intellectual Property Organization
WIPO IGC	WIPO Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore
WTO	World Trade Organization

ⁱ 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.

[End of appendix and of document]