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INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR THE PROTECTION OF NEW VARIETIES OF PLANTS

Geneva

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

REPORT ON ACTIVITIES DURING THE FIRST NINE MONTHS OF 2016

*prepared by the Office of the Union**Disclaimer: this document does not represent UPOV policies or guidance*

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Composition of the Union

1. As of September 30, 2016, the Union comprised 74 members. Fifty-six members were bound by the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention, 17 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 September 30, 2016.

Sessions of the Council and its Subsidiary Bodies

2. The Council held an extraordinary session in March 2016, under the chairmanship of Mr. Luis Salaices (Spain), President of the Council. The session was attended by 35 members of the Union, one observer State and five observer organizations. The Consultative Committee held one session in March 2016, under the chairmanship of Mr. Salaices.

3. In March 2016, the CAJ held no session and the TC held one session. 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:

- BMT: Moscow, Russian Federation (May)
- TWA: Mexico City, Mexico (July)
- TWC: Shanghai, China (June)
- TWO: Gimcheon City, Republic of Korea (June)
- TWV: Brno, Czech Republic (June/July)

Courses, Seminars, Workshops, Missions, Important Contacts

4. During the first nine months of 2016, the Office undertook a total of 61 missions (47 outside Geneva and 14 in Geneva), as reported in paragraphs 18 to 103.

5. One session of each 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. A breakdown of the students participating in the UPOV distance learning courses DL-205 and DL-305 is included in Annex II.

Relations with States and Organizations

6. The Office provided assistance on plant variety protection legislation to four 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 two 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 18 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 four professional associations in order to follow developments in the practical application of plant variety protection at a global and regional level.

Publications

7. The Office published: 86 updates of the Plant Variety Database (PLUTO) and seven new or revised adopted Test Guidelines.

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ANNEX I: Members of the Union

ANNEX II: Participation in the UPOV Distance Learning Courses

Appendix: Acronyms and abbreviations

I. COMPOSITION OF THE UNION

Members

8. As of September 30, 2016, 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

9. On September 30, 2016, the situation of the members of the Union in relation to the Convention and its various Acts was as follows:

- (a) one member was bound by the 1961 Convention as amended by the 1972 Act;
- (b) 17 members were bound by the 1978 Act;
- (c) 56 members were bound by the 1991 Act.

10. Annex I provides the status of the members of the Union in relation to the Convention and its various Acts, as of September 30, 2016.

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

11. Under Article 34(3) of the 1991 Act, "any 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."

12. No requests were received for examination of laws by the Council at its thirty-third extraordinary session, which was held in Geneva on March 17, 2016.

II. SESSIONS OF THE COUNCIL AND ITS SUBSIDIARY BODIES

Council

13. The Council held its thirty-third extraordinary session on March 17, 2016, under the chairmanship of Mr. Luis Salaices (Spain), President of the Council. At that session, the Council:

(a) agreed that it would not be possible to adopt document UPOV/EXN/PPM/1 "Explanatory Notes on Propagating Material under the UPOV Convention", on the basis of document UPOV/EXN/PPM/1 Draft 6, and requested the Administrative and Legal Committee (CAJ) to consider document UPOV/EXN/PPM/1 Draft 6 at its seventy-third session, to be held in October 2016. The Council agreed that the comments made on document UPOV/EXN/PPM/1 Draft 6, by the Consultative Committee at its ninety-first session and at the "Seminar on Propagating and Harvested Material in the context of the UPOV Convention", to be held in Geneva on October 24, 2016, should be considered by the CAJ in conjunction with document UPOV/EXN/PPM/1 Draft 6;

(b) noted the work of the Consultative Committee at its ninety-first session, held on March 17, 2016, as set out in document C(Extr.)/33/3;

(c) with the agreement of the Director General of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) (see Article 8(1) of the WIPO/UPOV Agreement), decided to make an exception for Ms. Hend Madhour, in relation to Staff Regulation 4.16 (a), to provide for a maximum additional two-year

extension of the temporary appointment of Ms. Madhour in order for her to continue her functions in relation to the “Electronic application form project” (EAF Project);

(d) decided to establish a separate UPOV bank account to hold funds allocated for financing UPOV’s After-Service Health Insurance (ASHI) liability, and that the amount represented by the provisions for ASHI obligations at the end of the 2014-2015 biennium, together with the balance from the 6 per cent charge after deduction of the respective biennium’s payments, if any, be transferred to that account starting from the 2016-2017 biennium and to apply to that account the investment policy that WIPO applied to the account for financing WIPO’s ASHI liability;

(e) approved the 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 at UPOV Headquarters in Geneva, on October 26, 2016, as set out in document C(Extr.)/33/3, paragraphs 28 and 29;

(f) approved the draft program for the “Seminar on Propagating and Harvested Material in the context of the UPOV Convention”, to be held in Geneva on October 24, 2016, as set out in document C(Extr.)/33/3, paragraphs 30 to 32, and its Annex;

(g) approved a revision of document C/49/8 Rev. “Calendar of Meetings in 2016”; and

(h) approved a draft press release.

Consultative Committee

14. The Consultative Committee held its ninety-first session on March 17, 2016, under the chairmanship of Mr. Luis Salaices (Spain). At that session, in addition to making recommendations to the Council on the adoption of documents, the preparation of the calendar of meetings and a press release, the Consultative Committee:

(a) noted that, on the basis of the risk assessment of UPOV, there had been no internal audit of UPOV in 2015;

(b) noted that the Secretary-General had not been made aware of the need for any investigations in UPOV in 2015;

(c) noted the information contained in the Independent Advisory and Oversight Committee (IAOC) quarterly reports for 2015 (documents WO/IAOC/36/2, WO/IAOC/37/2, WO/IAOC/38/1 and WO/IAOC/39/1), and in the IAOC Annual Report 2014-2015 (document WO/GA/47/2);

(d) noted the developments concerning the evaluation of the program of activities of UPOV by the Internal Oversight Division (IOD);

(e) noted the oral report by the Controller concerning the consideration of document A/70/590 by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ) of the United Nations;

(f) noted that the upcoming session of the High-Level Committee on Management (HLCM) from the member organizations of the United Nations system, to be held in Vienna later in March 2016, would consider the financing of long-term employee benefits;

(g) with regard to possible measures for the containment of after-service health insurance liabilities, noted the administrative efficiency of any UPOV measures being consistent with WIPO measures and agreed that the plans of WIPO on this matter, which would be developed with due consideration for the measures developed by the Working Group of the UN CEB Finance and Budget Network, should be presented to the Consultative Committee;

(h) noted the developments concerning the development of a prototype electronic form and considered the plans for the development of the prototype electronic application form Version 2 (PV2);

(i) noted the oral report by the Vice Secretary-General of the Seventh Meeting on the Development of a Prototype Electronic Form (“EAF/7 meeting”), held on March 16, 2016;

(j) considered and agreed the requirements in relation to the possible implementation of an operational system;

(k) agreed, subject to approval by the participants to the EAF project, the CAJ and the Consultative Committee, to seek the approval by the Council at its fiftieth session, to be held in Geneva on October 28, 2016, for the launch of the EAF at the end of 2016 or beginning of 2017;

(l) agreed that members of the Union be given until May 20, 2016, to provide additional issues concerning a possible international system of cooperation (ISC), comment on the draft mandate and terms of reference, and indicate their wish to participate in a working group to explore the issues concerning a possible ISC; on the basis of the information provided above, the Office of the Union would prepare a document for consideration at its ninety-second session, to be held in Geneva on October 27, 2016, containing a draft mandate and terms of reference for a possible WG-ISC, issues to be considered and proposed members of the WG-ISC. Subject to agreement on those matters, the WG-ISC would meet immediately following the ninety-second session of the Consultative Committee;

(m) welcomed the presentation made by the Secretary of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITPGRFA) on possible areas of interrelations between the ITPGRFA and the UPOV Convention, considered and agreed the possible elements 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 at UPOV Headquarters in Geneva, on October 26, 2016, and agreed to consider the outcome of the Symposium at its ninety-second session and to consider any possible further action concerning interrelations at that time;

(n) noted the developments of relevance to UPOV in other international fora, including the plans for a joint OECD/UPOV/ISTA/AOSA Workshop on Biochemical and Molecular Techniques to take place in Paris, on June 8, 2016; and

(o) requested the Office of the Union to prepare a draft frequently asked question (FAQ) on the relevance of the UPOV system of plant variety protection for the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

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

15. No session of the CAJ was held in March 2016. The TC held its fifty-second session from March 14 to 16, 2016. The TC-EDC held meetings on January 6 and 7, and on March 14 and 15, 2016. The BMT held its fifteenth session in Moscow, Russian Federation, from May 24 to 27, 2016. The TWC held its thirty-fourth session in Shanghai, China, from June 7 to 10, 2016. The TWO held its forty-ninth session in Gimcheon City, Republic of Korea, from June 13 to 17, 2016. The TWV held its fiftieth session in Brno, Czech Republic, from June 27 to July 1, 2016. The TWA held its forty-fifth session in Mexico City, Mexico, from July 11 to 15, 2016. Each of the TWP sessions was preceded by a preparatory workshop.

16. The TWF will hold its forty-seventh session in Angers, France, from November 14 to 18, 2016, with a preparatory workshop on November 13.

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

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

Individual activities

18. On January 5, in Geneva, the Office participated in an electronic meeting via the Internet with representatives of the World Seed Project Steering Committee (FAO, ISF, ISTA, OECD and UPOV) to discuss progress on the World Seed Project. Further meetings took place on February 9, March 15, May 16, June 9, July 5 and August 24.
19. On January 7, in Geneva, the Office made a presentation on UPOV to a group of students visiting WIPO from the International Food Law Master of the Wageningen University in the Netherlands.
20. On January 13 and 14, in Putrajaya, Malaysia, the Office participated in a legal consultation with relevant officials of the Department of Agriculture to provide information on the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention.
21. From January 13 to 15, in Tokyo and Yamagata, Japan, the Office met with officials from the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF) of Japan and discussed training and assistance activities in the Asian region.
22. On January 15, in Paris, France, the Office made presentations on "Introduction to UPOV, Benefits of PVP system and key provisions of the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention" and "UPOV Electronic Application Form Project" to the AOHE General Assembly.
23. On January 26, in Westminster, London, United Kingdom, the Office gave a presentation on "Plant Breeding and Plant Breeders' Rights" at a meeting of the All-Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) on Science and Technology in Agriculture of the United Kingdom on "IP and Innovation in Agriculture".
24. On February 11, in Geneva, the Office received the visit of Mr. Shakeel Bhatti, Secretary, and Mr. Muhamad Sabran, Chairperson of the 7th Session of the Governing Body, ITPGRFA, and discussed the idea of a joint symposium to be proposed at the Consultative Committee session in March 2016.
25. Between February 15 and 19, in Geneva, the Office attended relevant parts of the twenty-ninth session of the WIPO IGC.
26. On February 16, in Geneva, the Office received the visit of Ms. Susan Bragdon, Representative for Food and Sustainability, and Mr. Patrick Endall, Programme Assistant, Food & Sustainability and Climate Change, FWCC (QUNO), and discussed developments in FWCC and UPOV.
27. On February 18, in Geneva, the Office received the visit of Mr. Shakeel Bhatti, Secretary, ITPGRFA, to discuss the idea of a joint symposium to be proposed at the Consultative Committee session in March 2016.
28. On February 25 and 26, in Belgrade, Serbia, the Office made presentations on "Introduction to UPOV and impact and effects of plant variety protection", "Interface between the UPOV Convention and other international treaties" and "Investment opportunity" at a Workshop on plant variety protection "Benefit for science, technology transfer, production and consumers", organized by TAIEX of the European Commission in co-operation with the Ministry of Agriculture and Environmental Protection of Serbia.
29. On March 1, at WTO headquarters in Geneva, the Office attended the relevant parts of the meeting of the Council for TRIPS.
30. From March 1 to 3, in Nairobi, Kenya, the Office participated in the sixteenth Annual Congress of AFSTA.
31. On March 2, in Geneva, the Office received the visit of His Excellency Mr. Peter Matt, Ambassador and Permanent Representative, and Mr. Pascal Schafhauser, Deputy Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of Liechtenstein, to discuss the possible accession of Liechtenstein to the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention.

* Missions relate to events held outside UPOV headquarters.

32. On March 3, in Geneva, the Office received a courtesy visit of Mr. Satoshi Sakamoto, First Secretary, Permanent Mission of Japan.
33. On March 3, in Geneva, the Office received the visit of Mr. Juan Carlos Castrillón, Minister, and Ms. Ñusta Maldonado, Third Secretary, Permanent Mission of Ecuador, to discuss developments in UPOV.
34. On March 4, in Nairobi, Kenya, the Office participated in a training workshop on plant variety protection, organized by KEPHIS. The Office made presentations on “Introduction to UPOV”, “Key provisions of the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention”, “Arrangements for the Examination of Distinctness, Uniformity and Stability (DUS)”, “Variety Denomination” and “Update on the Electronic Application Form project”.
35. On March 10, at WIPO headquarters in Geneva, the Office made a presentation on “Protection of New Plant Varieties under the UPOV Convention (Law, Policy and Development)” at the WIPO-WTO Advanced Course on Intellectual Property for Government Officials. The course was attended by participants from the following countries: Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Barbados, Belarus, Bhutan, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burundi, Chile, Georgia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Malawi, Mexico, Nigeria, Pakistan, Paraguay, Philippines, Russian Federation, Singapore, Thailand, Togo, Turkey and Yemen.
36. On March 15, in Geneva, the Office participated in a WebEx meeting to discuss enforcement matters under the UPOV Convention with Ms. Alanna Rennie, an Australian student completing a thesis on the enforcement of plant breeders’ rights in China.
37. On March 30 and 31, in Freetown, Sierra Leone, the Office participated in a meeting with the Sierra Leone Seed Certification Agency (SLeSCA) and stakeholders in the seed sector in Sierra Leone. The Office made presentations on “UPOV and plant variety protection”, “Key provisions of the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention” and “Benefits of UPOV membership”.
38. On April 6, in Beauvais, France, the Office made presentations on “Introduction to UPOV & benefits of UPOV PVP system”, “Key Provisions of the UPOV Convention”, “Arrangements for DUS examinations” and “Relationship between the UPOV Convention and other International Treaties”, to the students at the Plant Breeding Master Program of the *Institut Polytechnique LaSalle Beauvais*. Students from the following countries took the UPOV distance learning course DL-205 as a part of the Program: Bangladesh, Benin, Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, France, Ghana, Jamaica, Kenya, Malawi, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Romania, Senegal, Serbia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Republic of Tanzania and Viet Nam.
39. On April 7 and 8, at WIPO headquarters in Geneva, the Office attended parts of the WIPO International Conference on Intellectual Property and Development.
40. On April 11, in Geneva, the Office received the visit of Ms. Usana Berananda, Minister, Deputy Permanent Representative, and Mr. Pornthep Sritanotorn, Minister Counsellor, Permanent Mission of Thailand to the WTO, and provided information on the UPOV system of plant variety protection.
41. On April 11, in Geneva, the Office received the visit of H.E. Mr. Stephen Ndungu Karau, Ambassador and Permanent Representative, accompanied by Mr. Peter Mbugua Kamau, Second Counsellor, Permanent Mission of Kenya, to deposit the instrument of accession of Kenya to the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention.
42. On April 14 and 15, at the University of Alicante, Spain, the Office participated in the Annual Congress of EIPIN entitled “New Developments in IPR Enforcement: fit for the XXI century?”. The Office gave a lecture on “Enforcement of breeders’ rights under the UPOV Convention: key challenges”.
43. On April 15, in Geneva, the Office received a courtesy visit of Mr. Salman Aziz Khan, Secretary General, and Mr. Salman Mahmood Khan, Vice-President, Seed Association of Pakistan, who were accompanied by Mr. Szabolcs Ruthner, Regulatory Affairs Executive, ISF.
44. On April 19 and 20, in Angers, France, the Office attended the Administrative Council meeting of CPVO.
45. On April 26, in Geneva, the Office met with Mr. Marcus Goffe, Deputy Director, Jamaica Intellectual Property Office, to discuss the provision of assistance for drafting legislation on breeders’ rights.

46. On April 26, in Geneva, the Office received the visit of Mr. Ibrahim Al-Khamis, First Secretary, Permanent Mission of Saudi Arabia, to discuss the procedure to become a member of UPOV.
47. On April 26 and 27, in Lisbon, Portugal, the Office attended the Annual General Meeting of CIOPORA.
48. On April 27, in Geneva, the Office met with Mr. Regan Asgarali, Controller, Intellectual Property Office, Trinidad and Tobago, to discuss the ongoing activities for DUS examination of new varieties of Cocoa and awareness raising matters on plant breeders' rights.
49. On April 27, in Geneva, the Office met with Ms. Diana Hasbun, Minister Counsellor, Permanent Mission of El Salvador to the WTO, to discuss the organization of a video-conference to make a presentation on plant variety protection under the UPOV Convention, during a national seminar.
50. On May 3, in Musanze, Rwanda, the Office made presentations on "Introduction to UPOV & benefits of UPOV PVP system", "Key Provisions of the UPOV Convention", "Arrangements for DUS examinations", "Drafting legislation in conformity with key provisions of the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention" and "Becoming a UPOV member", to participants at a Training Course on Plant Variety Protection. The course was jointly organized by Naktuinbouw and the Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Resources of Rwanda, with the assistance of the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands.
51. From May 4 to 7, in Livingstone, Zambia, the Office made presentations on "Agricultural research and innovation: the particular case of plant breeding" and "How access to innovation supports farmers to gain a better market access" at a Workshop on innovative solutions to boost sustainable food production, held in conjunction with the General Assembly of WFO.
52. On May 5, in Yaoundé, Cameroon, the Office made presentations on "Introduction to UPOV & benefits of UPOV PVP system", "Key Provisions of the UPOV Convention", "Arrangements for DUS examinations", "1978 and 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention", "Tasks of the PBR Office in the administration of application for Plant Breeder's rights" and "Relationship between the UPOV Convention and other International Treaties" to students of the "*Programme Master II en Propriété Intellectuelle*", organized by OAPI in collaboration with the WIPO Academy and the University of Yaoundé. The students were from Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Congo, Gabon and Mali.
53. From May 9 to 13, at UPOV headquarters in Geneva, UPOV, in cooperation with WIPO and the USPTO, organized a Train the Trainer Course on Plant Variety Protection under the UPOV Convention. The course was attended by participants from: Barbados, China, European Union, Ghana, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Mexico, Netherlands, South Africa, Trinidad and Tobago, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Viet Nam, ARIPO, CARICOM and WIPO.
54. On May 15 and 16, in Punta del Este, Uruguay, the Office participated in the ISF World Seed Congress 2016 and made a brief presentation on recent developments at UPOV during the open meeting of the Breeders' Committee. At the fringes of the Congress, a meeting of the World Seed Project Steering Committee (FAO, ISF, ISTA, OECD and UPOV) was held.
55. On May 16, in Lima, and from May 17 to 20, in Cuzco, Peru, respectively, the Office organized an "International Seminar on Plant Variety Protection under the UPOV Convention" and a "Training Course on Plant Variety Protection under the UPOV Convention and Technology Transfer (Opportunities and Challenges)", in collaboration with INDECOPI, the Peruvian Institute of Agricultural Innovation (INIA), the International Potato Center (CIP) and the USPTO. The International Seminar in Lima was attended by 52 local participants (public and private breeders, seed producers, farmers' organizations, intellectual property attorneys and academics) and six international speakers. The Training Course in Cuzco was attended by 24 breeders from different research stations (INIA, CIP, the National University in Cuzco (UNSAAC)), three legal experts from INIA and INDECOPI, and six international speakers.
56. On May 18 May, in Brussels, Belgium, the Office attended the Symposium "Finding the Balance - Exploring solutions in the debate surrounding patents and plant breeders' rights", hosted by the Netherlands EU Presidency, in association with DG GROW of the European Commission.
57. On May 18 and 19, in Seongnam City, Republic of Korea, the Office gave lectures on plant variety protection under the UPOV Convention at the Training Course "Plant Variety Protection and DUS Testing" organized by KOICA, in cooperation with KSVS. The Course was attended by participants from Costa Rica, Ghana, Guatemala, Peru, Republic of Moldova and Sudan, who were given the opportunity to take the UPOV Distance Learning Course DL-205.

58. On May 19, at the UN Office in Geneva, the Office attended an event for the celebration of the International Day for Biological Diversity "I have a seed", organized by the FAO Liaison Office in Geneva and the ITPGRFA.
59. On May 19, at WIPO headquarters in Geneva, the Office presented an "Overview of the Importance and Impact of Plant Variety Protection with Specific Reference to Africa" during a Study Visit of Intellectual Property Focal Persons of the African Regional Economic Communities and Executive Bodies of the African Union, organized by WIPO in cooperation with the Japan Patent Office. The participants of the study tour were from: the African Union, COMESA, ECCAS, ECOWAS, NEPAD, SADC and UEMOA.
60. From May 22 to 28, in Moscow, Russian Federation, in conjunction with the fifteenth session of the BMT, the Office met with officials from the State Commission of the Russian Federation for Selection Achievements Test and Protection.
61. On May 24, in Paris, France, the Office made a presentation on the UPOV system and the procedure for becoming a UPOV member during a study visit for a Delegation of Iran (Islamic Republic of), organized by GNIS.
62. Between May 30 and June 3, in Geneva, the Office attended relevant parts of the thirtieth session of the WIPO IGC.
63. On June 2 and 3, in Shanghai, China, the Office participated in a "Workshop on Data Processing and Sharing" organized by the Ministry of Agriculture and the State Forestry Administration of China. The Office made presentations on the GENIE and PLUTO databases, and on the Web-based TG Template.
64. On June 7, at WTO headquarters in Geneva, the Office attended the relevant parts of the meeting of the Council for TRIPS.
65. From June 7 to 10, in Paris, France, the Office participated in the Annual Meeting of the OECD Seed Schemes and made a presentation on recent developments in UPOV. At the Technical Working Group meeting, the Office made a presentation on UPOV's distance learning courses.
66. On June 8, in Paris, France, a Joint OECD/UPOV/ISTA/AOSA Workshop on Biochemical and Molecular Methods was held.
67. From June 8 to 10, at FAO headquarters in Rome, the Office attended the Eighth Session of the Intergovernmental Technical Working Group on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture of the CGRFA and provided a report of the activities undertaken by UPOV in relation to plant genetic resources.
68. On June 12, in Shanghai, China, the Office participated in a Workshop on Essentially Derived Varieties organized by the Ministry of Agriculture of China.
69. On June 13, in Beijing, China, the Office made a presentation on the EAF project to officials from the Seed Management Bureau, Ministry of Agriculture, and from the State Forestry Administration, and met with officials from the State Intellectual Property Office (SIPO).
70. On June 13, 14 and 17, in Tokyo, Japan, the Office met with MAFF officials to discuss cooperation activities in the Asian region.
71. On June 14, in Wageningen, Netherlands, the Office provided a training session on UPOV at the 19th International Course on Plant Variety Protection, organized by Naktuinbouw. The course was attended by participants from: Australia, France, Ghana, Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of China, India, Kenya, Myanmar, Netherlands, Tunisia and the United Republic of Tanzania. Prior to the course, the students participated in the UPOV distance learning course DL-205.
72. From June 14 to 17, in Harare, Zimbabwe, the Office participated in an Expert Review Meeting for the Finalization of the Draft Regulations of the "Arusha Protocol for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants within the Framework of the African Regional Intellectual Property Organization (ARIPO)".
73. On June 15 and 16, in Tsukuba, Japan, the Office provided a training session on UPOV at the training course "Quality Control System of Seeds and Seedlings to Facilitate Distribution of High Quality Seeds" organized by JICA in cooperation with the Government of Japan. The course was attended by participants

from Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Timor-Leste, Viet Nam and Zambia, and by staff of the National Center for Seeds and Seedlings (NCSS), Japan. As part of the program, the JICA participants were invited to participate in the UPOV distance learning course DL-205.

74. From June 18 to 20, in Tallinn, Estonia, the Office attended the Thirty-First Congress of ISTA and made a presentation on developments in UPOV.

75. On June 20, at WTO headquarters in Geneva, the Office made a presentation on the "Implementation of the International Convention for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV)" at the WIPO-WTO Colloquium for Teachers of Intellectual Property. The Colloquium was attended by participants from: Argentina, Bhutan, Brazil, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, India, Indonesia, Jordan, Kenya, Macao Special Administrative Region of China, Malawi, Morocco, Nepal, Nigeria, Russian Federation, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Viet Nam and Zimbabwe.

76. On June 23, in Paris, France, the Office participated in the First Meeting of the CPVO Working Group for the revision of the Variety Denominations Explanatory Notes and Guidelines.

77. On June 28 and 29, in Geneva, the Office participated in a legal consultation with a delegation from Myanmar to provide explanations on the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention.

78. On June 29, in Geneva, the Office received the visit of Ms. Alanna Rennie, an Australian student completing a thesis on the enforcement of plant breeders' rights in China, and provided information on enforcement matters.

79. On July 1, at WIPO headquarters in Geneva, the Office made a presentation on "The protection of plant varieties and the International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV)" at the WIPO-UNIGE Summer School on Intellectual Property. The program was attended by participants from Armenia, Bangladesh, Belgium, Brazil, China, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ecuador, Egypt, France, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, India, Italy, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Japan, Kazakhstan, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Netherlands, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Spain, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom, United States of America and Venezuela.

80. On July 6 and 7, in Brussels, Belgium, the Office participated in an "Experience-sharing roundtable on feasibility of China's accession to UPOV '91", organized by IP Key Project and the Ministry of Agriculture and State Forestry Administration of China.

81. On July 13, in Washington D.C., United States of America, the Office made a presentation on UPOV and the Plant Variety Protection system under the UPOV Convention at a Program on "Plant-Related Intellectual Property and Related International Developments" organized by the USPTO.

82. On July 14, in Geneva, the Office had a WebEx conference with Mr. J. Manuel Magaña, coordinator of the Master Program on Industrial Property, Copyright and New Technologies, *Universidad Panamericana* of Mexico, to discuss a possible collaboration for the inclusion of information on the UPOV system of plant variety protection in the Master Program.

83. From July 24 to 29, in Tokyo, Tsukuba and Yamagata Prefecture, Japan, the Office, with the cooperation and financial assistance of the MAFF of Japan, organized a High-Level Study Tour on Plant Variety Protection. The study tour was attended by officials from Cambodia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Myanmar, Thailand and Viet Nam.

84. On July 29, in Tsukuba, Japan, the Office participated in a workshop with students of the JICA training course.

85. On July 29, in Tokyo, Japan, the Office met with officials of MAFF to discuss cooperation between MAFF and UPOV.

86. From August 1 to 4, in Vung Tau, Viet Nam, the Office participated in a Training Course for DUS Test of Corn, organized in cooperation with the PVP Office of Viet Nam, the EAPVP Forum and UPOV. The course was attended by participants from the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Myanmar, Japan and Viet Nam.

87. On August 17, in Lima, Peru, the Office made a presentation on “Introduction to UPOV and the plant variety protection system under the UPOV Convention including the accession process” in a meeting on “Plant Variety Protection under the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention: Views from APEC Economies about Challenges and Opportunities, including for Developing Economies and SMEs”, organized by the USPTO Global Intellectual Property Academy as part of the APEC-IPEG Program on Protecting Plant Varieties through the IP System.
88. On August 23, the Office participated in a telephone interview with Mr. Guillaume Beaumier, PhD Candidate, Université Laval, for an academic research on “A Market Analysis of Intellectual Property Law Capacity Building Trainings”, conducted by the Canada Research Chair in International Political Economy and the Elliot School of International Affairs of the George Washington University.
89. On August 24, at the FAO Liaison Office in Geneva, the Office attended a Preparatory and Planning Session for the Fourth Partners’ Meeting of the Platform for the Co-Development and Transfer of Technologies, organized by the ITPGRFA.
90. On August 25, in Geneva, the Office met with Mr. Shakeel Bhatti, Secretary, ITPGRFA, to discuss the program for the “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.
91. On August 26, in Geneva, the Office received the visit of Mr. Sergey Diyachnko, Counsellor, and Mr. Arsen Bogatyrev, Third Secretary, Permanent Mission of the Russian Federation, to discuss cooperation matters between UPOV and the Russian Federation.
92. On August 31, in Geneva, the Office met with journalists from Chile and Peru, during their study visit to WIPO headquarters, and provided information on the UPOV system of plant variety protection.
93. On September 6, in Hanoi, Viet Nam, the Office participated in the Ninth EAPVP Forum meeting, where it made a presentation on “Developments in UPOV”. The Forum was attended by participants from: Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Thailand and Viet Nam, and also by China, Japan and the Republic of Korea. Participants from the European Union, France, Netherlands and the United States of America attended as observers.
94. On September 7 and 8, in Hanoi, Viet Nam, the Office participated in a “Seminar on the Enforcement of Plant Breeders’ Rights under the UPOV Convention”, organized by the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD) of Viet Nam, in cooperation with UPOV and the USPTO, and with the assistance of the MAFF, Japan. The Seminar was attended by more than 100 participants from Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Cambodia, Chile, China, European Union, France, Indonesia Japan, Kenya, Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Mexico Myanmar, Netherlands, Peru, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Thailand, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Viet Nam, APSA, ASTA and OAPI.
95. On September 14, the Office had a telephone call with Mr. Bakhtiar Hafeez Bandial, Assistant Registrar, Brunei Intellectual Property Office, to explain the procedure to become a UPOV member.
96. On September 14, in Geneva, the Office received the visit of Prof. John Humphrey, Executive Dean, Faculty of Law, and Prof. Kamal Puri, Professor of IP and Director, WIPO-QUT Master of Laws in Intellectual Property Program, Queensland University of Technology (QUT) of Brisbane, Australia, to discuss further cooperation in training on plant variety protection.
97. On September 15, in Geneva, the Office received the visit of Ms. Susan Bragdon, Representative for Food and Sustainability, FWCC (QUNO), Mr. Chittur Srinivasan and Mr. Geoffrey Hawtin, to clarify the status of the request of FWCC (QUNO) for observer status in the CAJ and Council.
98. Between September 19 and 23, in Geneva, the Office attended relevant parts of the thirty-first session of the WIPO IGC.
99. On September 23, in Geneva, the Office had an electronic conference with the ITPGRFA Secretariat to discuss the program for the “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.

100. From September 26 to 28, in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, the Office participated in an information and awareness seminar on the protection of new varieties of plants for experts from agricultural research centers and decision-makers in the field of agriculture, organized by OAPI in collaboration with the Government of Côte d'Ivoire. The Office made presentations on the protection of new varieties of plants under the UPOV system, cooperation in DUS testing, UPOV Test Guidelines, and the relationship between UPOV and other international treaties.

101. From September 27 to 30, in Nusa Dua, Bali, Indonesia, the Office participated in the Second Global Consultation on Farmers' Rights, organized by the Governments of Indonesia and Norway and with the support of Secretariat of ITPGRFA, and made a presentation on "Provisions for farmers in the different Acts of the UPOV Convention". The Global Consultation was attended by 95 participants from 37 countries from Africa, Asia, the Near East, Latin America and the Caribbean, North America and Europe.

102. On September 28, at FAO headquarters in Rome, the Office participated in the 25th session of FAO Committee on Agriculture.

103. On September 29 and 30, in Lomé, Togo, the Office made presentations on the UPOV system of plant variety protection at a Workshop on Intellectual Property Asset Management by Small and Medium Sized Enterprises, organized by the Government of Togo in collaboration with WIPO. The Office also held meetings with officials from the Ministry of Agriculture.

Distance Learning Courses

104. A session of each of the following UPOV Distance Learning Courses were held in English, French, German and Spanish from February 15 to March 20, 2016:

- 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 "Administration of Plant Breeders' Rights (Part A of DL-305 course: Examination of applications for plant breeders' rights)";
- DL-305B "DUS Examination (Part B of DL-305 course: Examination of applications for plant breeders' rights)".

105. A breakdown of the students participating in the UPOV distance learning courses DL-205 and DL-305 is available in Annex II.

IV. RELATIONS WITH STATES AND ORGANIZATIONS

106. The Office provided assistance on plant variety protection legislation to the following members: Dominican Republic, Switzerland and Trinidad and Tobago.

107. 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: Kenya and Trinidad and Tobago.

108. 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 ARIPO, Barbados, Brunei Darussalam, Côte d'Ivoire, Egypt, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ghana, Guatemala, Jamaica, Kazakhstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Liechtenstein, Malaysia, Myanmar, Saudi Arabia, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo and the United Arab Emirates.

109. 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, CARICOM, CGIAR, European Union (CPVO), FAO, ISTA, ITPGRFA, OAPI, OECD, United Nations, WIPO and WTO.

110. The Office participated in events organized by the following organizations in order to follow developments in the practical application of plant variety protection at a global and regional level: AFSTA, CIOPORA, ISF and WFO.

V. PUBLICATIONS

111. The Office published 86 updates of the Plant Variety Database (PLUTO).

112. The following Test Guidelines were adopted by the TC at its fifty-second session, held from March 14 to 16, 2016, 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
<u>NEW TEST GUIDELINES / NOUVEAUX PRINCIPES DIRECTEURS D'EXAMEN / NEUE PRÜFUNGSRICHTLINIEN / NUEVAS DIRECTRICES DE EXAMEN</u>							
BR	TWF	TG/314/1	Coconut	Cocotier	Kokosnuß	Cocotero	Cocos nucifera L.
ZA	TWO	TG/315/1	Plectranthus, Spur Flower	Plectranthe	Harfenstrauch	Plectranthus	Plectranthus L'Hér. excluding P. scutellarioides
JP	TWO	TG/316/1	Salvia, Sage	Sauge	Salbei; Salvie	Salvia	Salvia L.
NZ	TWO	TG/317/1	Cordyline, Cabbage Tree, Torquay Palm	Cordyline	Cordyline; Keulenbaum; Keulenlilie	Cordyline	Cordyline Comm. ex Juss. excluding C. brasiliensis Planch. and C. fruticosa (L.) A. Chev.
MX	TWF	TG/318/1	Avocado; Coyo avocado (rootstock)	Avocatier (Porte- greffe)	Avocado; wilde Avocado (Unterlagen)	Aguacate, Palta; Chinini; Coyó (Porta injerto)	Persea americana Mill.; Persea schiedeana Nees (Rootstock)
<u>REVISIONS OF ADOPTED TEST GUIDELINES / RÉVISIONS DE PRINCIPES DIRECTEURS D'EXAMEN ADOPTÉS / REVISIONEN ANGENOMMENER PRÜFUNGSRICHTLINIEN / REVISIONES DE DIRECTRICES DE EXAMEN ADOPTADAS</u>							
DE	TWV	TG/200/2	Basil	Basilic	Basilikum	Albahaca	Ocimum basilicum L.
DE	TWO	TG/207/2	Calibrachoa	Calibrachoa	Calibrachoa	Calibrachoa	Calibrachoa Cerv.
<u>PARTIAL REVISIONS OF ADOPTED TEST GUIDELINES / RÉVISIONS PARTIELLES DE PRINCIPES DIRECTEURS D'EXAMEN ADOPTÉS / TEILREVISIONEN ANGENOMMENER PRÜFUNGSRICHTLINIEN / REVISIONES PARCIALES DE DIRECTRICES DE EXAMEN ADOPTADAS</u>							
NL	TWV	TG/45/7 Rev.	Cauliflower	Chou-fleur	Blumenkohl	Coliflor	Brassica oleracea L. convar. botrytis (L.) Alef. var. botrytis, Brassica cauliflora Lizg.
NL	TWV	TG/48/7 (document TC/52/27)	Cabbage	Chou pommé	Kopfkohl	Col, Repollo	Brassica oleracea L. convar. capitata (L.) Alef.
NL	TWV	TG/54/7 Rev.	Brussels Sprouts	Chou de Bruxelles	Rosenkohl	Col de Bruselas	Brassica oleracea L. var. gemmifera DC.
NL	TWV	TG/55/7 Rev. 4	Spinach	Épinard	Spinat	Espinaca	Spinacia oleracea L.

**	TWP	Document No. No. du document Dokument-Nr. No del documento	English	Français	Deutsch	Español	Botanical name
DE	TWV	TG/63/7-TG/64/7 Rev.	Black Radish	Radis d'été, d'automne et d'hiver	Rettich	Rabano de invierno, Rabano negro	Raphanus sativus L. var. niger (Mill.) S. Kerner (Raphanus sativus L. var. major A. Voss, Raphanus sativus L. var. longipinnatus L.H. Bailey)
NL	TWV	TG/65/4 Rev.	Kohlrabi	Chou-rave	Kohlrabi	Col rábano	Brassica oleracea L. var. gongylodes L.
NL	TWV	TG/90/6 Corr. Rev.	Curly Kale	Chou frisé	Grünkohl	Col rizada	Brassica oleracea L. var. sabellica L.
NL	TWV	TG/151/4 Rev.	Calabrese, Sprouting Broccoli	Broccoli	Brokkoli	Bróculi	Brassica oleracea L. convar. botrytis (L.) Alef. var. cymosa Duch.
QZ	TWV	TG/294/1 Corr. Rev.	Tomato Rootstocks	Porte-greffe de tomate	Tomatenunterla gen	Portainjertos de tomate	Solanum lycopersicum L. x Solanum habrochaites S. Knapp & D.M. Spooner; Solanum lycopersicum L. x Solanum peruvianum (L.) Mill.; Solanum lycopersicum L. x Solanum cheesmaniae (L. Ridley) Fosberg

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

[Annexes follow]

ANNEX I

MEMBERS OF THE UNION

September 30, 2016

This document provides the status of the members of the Union in relation to the Convention and its various Acts, as of September 30, 2016 (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 -

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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
European Union	- - -	- June 29, 2005	- July 29, 2005

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

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Annex I, page 3

Member	Date of signature	Date of deposit of instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession	Date of entry into force
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 April 11, 2016	- - May 13, 1999 May 11, 2016
Kyrgyzstan	- - - -	- - - May 26, 2000	- - - June 26, 2000

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Annex I, page 4

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

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Annex I, page 5

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

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

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Annex I, page 6

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

Total: 74 members

[Annex II follows]

ANNEX II

PARTICIPATION IN THE UPOV DISTANCE LEARNING COURSES

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

Session I, 2016: February 15 to March 20, 2016		
Category	Participants from:	Number of participants
<u>Category 1</u> Officials of members of the Union	Australia, Belarus, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Cameroon, China, Colombia, Croatia, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Mexico, Netherlands, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Senegal, South Africa, Spain, Switzerland, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, United Kingdom, United States of America, Uzbekistan	123
<u>Category 2</u> Officials of observer States / intergovernmental organizations / others	Cuba, India, Indonesia, Jamaica, Malaysia, Zimbabwe	20
<u>Category 3</u> Other (Fee: CHF1,000)	Denmark, Spain, Switzerland	3
<u>Category 4:</u> Discretionary waiving of fee for selected students	Brazil, France, Ghana	3
TOTAL		149

	English	French	German	Spanish
Session I, 2016: Total by language	89	9	3	48

Pre- training support sessions of
DL-205 "Introduction to the UPOV System of Plant Variety Protection under the UPOV Convention"

DL-205 special sessions for:	Participants from:	Number of participants
Institut Polytechnique LaSalle Beauvais - Plant Breeding Master Programme (France)	Bangladesh, Benin, Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, France, Ghana, Jamaica, Kenya, Malawi, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Romania, Senegal, Serbia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Republic of Tanzania, Viet Nam	19
Train the Trainer Course on Plant Variety Protection under the UPOV Convention (Switzerland)	Barbados, China, Ghana, Jamaica, Japan, Mexico, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Viet Nam	11
Naktuinbouw International Course on Plant Variety Protection (Netherlands)	Australia, China, France, Ghana, India, Myanmar, Netherlands, Tunisia	8
KOICA Training Course on Plant Variety Protection (Republic of Korea)	Ghana, Guatemala, Republic of Moldova, Sudan	4
JICA Training Course on "Internationally Harmonized Plant Variety Protection System" (Japan)	Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Timor-Leste, Viet Nam, Zambia	11
TOTAL		53

DL-305A "Administration of Plant Breeders' Rights"

Session I, 2016: February 15 to March 20, 2016		
Category	Participants from:	Number of participants
<u>Category 1</u> Officials of members of the Union	Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Czech Republic, Japan, Jordan, Mexico, Norway, OAPI, Paraguay, South Africa, Spain, Tunisia, United Kingdom, United States of America	47
<u>Category 2</u> Officials of observer States / intergovernmental organizations / others	ARIPO, Indonesia, Malaysia, WIPO	8
<u>Category 3</u> Other (Fee: CHF1,000)		0
<u>Category 4:</u> Discretionary waiving of fee for selected students		0
TOTAL		55

	English	French	German	Spanish
DL-305A, Session I, 2016: Total by language	33	7	0	15

DL-305B “DUS Examination”

Session I, 2016: February 15 to March 20, 2016		
Category	Participants from:	Number of participants
<u>Category 1</u> Officials of members of the Union	China, Czech Republic, France, Japan, Netherlands, Paraguay, Peru, Republic of Korea, Slovakia, Spain, Turkey, United Kingdom	42
<u>Category 2</u> Officials of observer States / intergovernmental organizations / others	Indonesia	1
<u>Category 3</u> Other (Fee: CHF1,000)		0
<u>Category 4:</u> Discretionary waiving of fee for selected students		0
TOTAL		42

	English	French	German	Spanish
DL-305B, Session I, 2016: Total by language	36	0	0	6

DL-305 “Examination of applications for plant breeders’ rights”

Session I, 2016: February 15 to March 20, 2016		
Category	Participants from:	Number of participants
<u>Category 1</u> Officials of members of the Union	Australia, Austria, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Ecuador, Hungary, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Netherlands, OAPI, Paraguay, Peru, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Spain, Tunisia, Turkey, United Kingdom, Zambia	76
<u>Category 2</u> Officials of observer States / intergovernmental organizations / others	Egypt, Indonesia, Jamaica, Lebanon, Malaysia	5
<u>Category 3 (fee-paying)</u> Other	United Kingdom, United States of America	2
<u>Category 4:</u> Discretionary waiving of fee for selected students	Belgium, Cuba, El Salvador, India	4
TOTAL		87

	English	French	German	Spanish
DL-305, Session I, 2016: Total by language	34	15	1	37

[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

AFSTA	African Seed Trade Association
AOHE	Association of European Horticultural Breeders
AOSA	Association of Official Seed Analyst
APEC-IPEG	Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation's Intellectual Property Rights Experts' Group
APSA	Asia and Pacific Seed Association
ARIPO	African Regional Intellectual Property Organization
ASTA	American Seed Trade Association
CARICOM	Caribbean Community
CGRFA	Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture
CIOPORA	International Community of Breeders of Asexually Reproduced Ornamental and Fruit Varieties
COMESA	Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa
CPVO	Community Plant Variety Office of the European Union
EAPVP Forum	East Asia Plant Variety Protection Forum
ECCAS	Economic Community of Central African States
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FWCC	Friends World Committee for Consultation
GNIS	<i>Groupement national interprofessionnel des semences et plants</i>
EIPIN	European Intellectual Property Institutes Network
INDECOPI	Peruvian Institute for the Defense of Competition and Intellectual Property
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
KEPHIS	Kenya Plant Health Inspectorate Service
KOICA	Korea International Cooperation Agency
KSVS	Korea Seed and Variety Service
NEPAD	New Partnership for Africa's Development

OAPI	African Intellectual Property Organization
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-Operation and Development
QUNO	Quaker United Nations Office
QUT	Queensland University of Technology
SADC	Southern African Development Community
TAIEX	Technical Assistance and Information Exchange Instrument (TAIEX) of the European Union
TRIPS	Trade Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights
UEMOA	Union économique et monétaire ouest africaine (West African Economic and Monetary Union)
UN	United Nations
UNIGE	University of Geneva
USPTO	United States Patent and Trademark Office
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

[End of appendix and of document]