

**Council****C/53/INF/3****Fifty-Third Ordinary Session  
Geneva, November 1, 2019****Original:** English  
**Date:** October 17, 2019**REPORT ON ACTIVITIES DURING THE FIRST NINE MONTHS OF 2019***Document prepared by the Office of the Union**Disclaimer: this document does not represent UPOV policies or guidance***EXECUTIVE SUMMARY****Composition of the Union***Members*

1. As of September 30, 2019, the Union comprised 75 members (73 States and 2 organizations), covering 94 States.

*Situation in Relation to the Various Acts of the Convention*

2. Fifty-eight members were bound by the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention and 17 members were bound by the 1978 Act, with 77 States out of 94 being covered by the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention. Details concerning the status of the members of the Union in relation to the Convention and its various Acts, as of September 30, 2019, are provided in Annex I.

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

3. The Council took a positive decision, on August 21, 2019, on the conformity of the “Plant Variety Protection Bill of Nigeria” (“Draft Law”) with the 1991 Act of UPOV Convention, which allows Nigeria 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.

4. The Council took a positive decision, on August 21, 2019, on the conformity of the “Plant Breeders’ Protection Bill 2019 of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines” (“Draft Law”) with the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention, which allows Saint Vincent and the Grenadines 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.

5. At the request of Afghanistan dated September 25, 2019, the “Draft Plant Variety Protection Act” of Afghanistan will be examined by the Council, at its fifty-third ordinary session, to be held on November 1, 2019, for conformity with the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention.

6. At the request of Mongolia dated September 5, 2019, received on September 26, the “Draft Law of Mongolia on Crop Seed and Variety” will be examined by the Council, at its fifty-third ordinary session, to be held on November 1, 2019, for conformity with the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention.

7. At the request of Egypt dated September 25, 2019, the Council, at its fifty-third ordinary session, to be held on November 1, 2019, will be invited to consider developments concerning “Book Four ‘Plant Varieties’ of Law Pertaining to the Protection of Intellectual Property Rights of Egypt”, and to reaffirm its decision of 2015 on conformity with the 1991 Act with the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention.

8. At the request of Myanmar dated September 28, 2019, the Council, at its fifty-third ordinary session, to be held on November 1, 2019, will be invited to consider developments concerning the “New Plant Variety Protection Law” of Myanmar, and to reaffirm its decision of 2017 on conformity with the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention.

Relations with States and Organizations

9. The Office provided assistance with plant variety protection legislation to five 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 with 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 eight intergovernmental organizations to coordinate activities or to provide information on UPOV and participated in events organized by seven professional associations in order to follow developments in the practical application of plant variety protection at a global and regional level.

Sessions of the Council and its Subsidiary Bodies

10. The following meetings were held during the first nine months of 2019:

- TWO/51: Christchurch, New Zealand (February 18 to 22)
- TC-EDC: Geneva, Switzerland (March 26 and 27)
- TWV/53: Seoul, Republic of Korea (May 20 to 24)
- TWF/50: Budapest, Hungary (June 24 to 28)
- TWA/48: Montevideo, Uruguay (September 16 to 20)

Courses, Seminars, Workshops, Missions, Important Contacts

11. During the first nine months of 2019, the Office undertook a total of 75 missions (63 outside Geneva and 12 in Geneva), as reported in paragraphs 32 to 133.

12. 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 German and Spanish. A breakdown of the students participating in the UPOV distance learning courses DL-205 and DL-305 is included in Annex II.

Publications

13. The Office published: 79 updates of the Plant Variety Database (PLUTO), one video on the benefits of plant variety protection, and seven revised or partially revised adopted Test Guidelines.

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## I. COMPOSITION OF THE UNION

### Members

14. As of September 30, 2019, the Union comprised 75 members (73 States and 2 organizations), covering 94 States: African Intellectual Property Organization, Albania, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, 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, North Macedonia, 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, 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

15. On September 30, 2019, the situation of the members of the Union in relation to the Convention and its various Acts was as follows:

- (a) 58 members (covering 77 States) were bound by the 1991 Act; and
- (b) 17 members (covering 17 States) were bound by the 1978 Act.

16. Annex I provides the status of the members of the Union in relation to the Convention and its various Acts, as of September 30, 2019.

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

17. 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.”

18. The procedure to request the advice of the Council on the conformity of a law with the provisions of the UPOV Convention is explained in document UPOV/INF/13/2 “Guidance on how to become a member of UPOV”, within the following timeline:

“10. Requests for examination of laws by the Council are required to reach the Office of the Union at least four weeks prior to the week of the relevant ordinary session of the Council. Requests received after that date would be considered at the subsequent session of the Council, unless the procedure of examination of laws by correspondence is applicable (see paragraph 11). The Council holds its ordinary session in October/November. The dates of the sessions can be found at <http://www.upov.int/meetings/en/calendar.html>.

“11. The procedure of examination of laws by correspondence will be applicable if:

- (i) the request is received less than four weeks prior to the week of the earliest ordinary session of the Council and more than six months before the date of the subsequent ordinary session of the Council; and
- (ii) the analysis of the Office of the Union anticipates a positive decision and does not identify any significant issues concerning the conformity of the legislation with the UPOV Convention.”

19. By letter of April 29, 2019, Nigeria requested the examination of the “Plant Variety Protection Bill of Nigeria” for conformity with the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention. In accordance with the procedure of examination of laws by correspondence, the Council decided to:

- (a) note the analysis of document C/Analysis/2019/1;
- (b) take a positive decision on the conformity of the “Plant Variety Protection Bill of Nigeria” with the 1991 Act of the International Convention for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants, which allows Nigeria 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
- (c) authorize the Secretary-General to inform the Government of Nigeria of the above decision.

20. By letter of April 30, 2019, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines requested the examination of the “Plant Breeders’ Protection Bill 2019 of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines” for conformity with the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention. In accordance with the procedure of examination of laws by correspondence, the Council decided to:

(a) note the analysis of document C/Analysis/2019/2;

(b) take a positive decision on the conformity of the “Plant Breeders’ Protection Bill 2019 of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines” with the 1991 Act of the International Convention for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants, which allows Saint Vincent and the Grenadines 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

(c) authorize the Secretary-General to inform the Government of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines of the above decision.

21. At the request of Afghanistan dated September 25, 2019, the “Draft Plant Variety Protection Act” of Afghanistan will be examined by the Council, at its fifty-third ordinary session, to be held on November 1, 2019, for conformity with the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention.

22. At the request of Mongolia dated September 5, 2019, received on September 26, the “Draft Law of Mongolia on Crop Seed and Variety” will be examined by the Council, at its fifty-third ordinary session, to be held on November 1, 2019, for conformity with the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention.

23. At the request of Egypt dated September 25, 2019, the Council, at its fifty-third ordinary session, to be held on November 1, 2019, will be invited to consider developments concerning “Book Four ‘Plant Varieties’ of Law Pertaining to the Protection of Intellectual Property Rights of Egypt”, and to reaffirm its decision of 2015 on conformity with the 1991 Act with the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention.

24. At the request of Myanmar dated September 28, 2019, the Council, at its fifty-third ordinary session, to be held on November 1, 2019, will be invited to consider developments concerning the “New Plant Variety Protection Law” of Myanmar, and to reaffirm its decision of 2017 on conformity with the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention.

## II. RELATIONS WITH STATES AND ORGANIZATIONS

25. The Office provided assistance with plant variety protection legislation to the following members: Bosnia and Herzegovina, Colombia, Georgia, Mexico and New Zealand.

26. 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: Colombia and Mexico.

27. The Office provided assistance with 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 Afghanistan, Algeria, Cambodia, Egypt, Jamaica, Iraq, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kazakhstan, Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Liechtenstein, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nigeria, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, United Arab Emirates, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

28. The Office participated in meetings of, or had meetings with, the following intergovernmental organizations: European Union (CPVO and EUIPO); ITPGRFA; ISTA; OAPI; OECD; WIPO; and WTO.

29. The Office participated in events organized by the following non-governmental organizations: AFSTA; CLI; Euroseeds; ISF; SAA and WFO.

## III. SESSIONS OF THE COUNCIL AND ITS SUBSIDIARY BODIES

30. The TWO held its fifty-first session in Christchurch, New Zealand, from February 18 to 22, 2019. The TC-EDC held meetings on March 26 and 27, 2019. The TWV held its fifty-third session in Seoul, Republic of Korea, from May 20 to 24, 2019. The TWF held its fiftieth session in Budapest, Hungary, from June 24 to 28, 2019. The TWA held its forty-eighth session in Montevideo, Uruguay, from September 16 to 20, 2019.

31. Further information on the work of the CAJ, TC and TWPs will be contained in the reports of the seventy-sixth session of the CAJ and the fifty-fifth session of the TC, which are expected to be published on the UPOV website, on October 30 and 29, 2019, respectively.

#### IV. COURSES, SEMINARS, WORKSHOPS, MISSIONS\*, IMPORTANT CONTACTS

##### Individual activities

32. On January 14, in Maastricht, Netherlands, the Office provided training at the first accredited course on plant variety protection and biotechnology at the "Advanced Masters on Intellectual Property Law and Knowledge Management" of the University of Maastricht. The course was attended by students from China, Cyprus, Greece, India, Kenya, Italy, Luxembourg, Mexico, Netherlands and Turkey, who took the UPOV distance learning course DL-205 as a pre-training requirement.

33. On January 16, in Yaoundé, Cameroon, the Office met with Mr. Bohoussou, Director General of OAPI, Mr. Wago, Deputy Director General, Mr. Trapsida, Director of Cabinet, Mrs. Nnoko, Counselor, Mrs. Posso, Head of cooperation and partnership, Mr. Dosso, Head of the OAPI Academy, Mr. Kone, Head of IT department and Mr. Mezui, Examiner in charge of PVP, to discuss cooperation between UPOV and OAPI. On January 17, the Office attended the Ceremony for the Master's Program on Intellectual Property, jointly organized by WIPO, OAPI and the University of Yaoundé II.

34. On January 21, in Geneva, the Office received a visit from Mr. Marien Valstar, Senior Policy Officer, Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality of the Netherlands, and Ms. Judith De Roos-Blokland, Legal Counsel, Plantum NL, to be informed about a project by Plantum, Oxfam and ESA.

35. On January 22, at EUIPO headquarters in Alicante, Spain, the Office attended a meeting to discuss cooperation between UPOV, CPVO and EUIPO with Mr. Mihály Ficsor, Head of Cabinet, Mr. José Izquierdo, Deputy Director, International Cooperation Area, Mr. Giuseppe Bertoli, Head of Litigation Service, and Mr. Martin Ekvad, President of CPVO, and Mr. Francesco Mattina, Vice-President of CPVO.

36. On January 23, in Geneva, the Office made a presentation on plant variety protection under the UPOV Convention to a Switzerland, Belgium, and Netherlands (SBN) research delegation from the Tsinghua University of China, consisting of one teacher and six postgraduates, as part of their study visit to WIPO.

37. On January 23, in Alicante, Spain, the Office attended the Twentieth EIPIN Congress on Intellectual Property and Innovation, where it made a presentation on "How the UPOV based sui generis PVR system can be a tool to balance the interests of different stakeholders and fostering innovation in the plant breeding sector" under Panel I "Fostering a sustainable agribusiness model through plant breeding".

38. From January 28 to 30, in Geneva, Switzerland, the Office, with the assistance of the USPTO, organized a Workshop on drafting legislation in accordance with the UPOV Convention. The workshop was attended by 26 participants from Afghanistan, Cambodia, Jamaica, Kazakhstan, Liechtenstein, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nigeria, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, United Arab Emirates, Viet Nam, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

39. On February 5, in Geneva, the Office received a courtesy visit from Mr. Satoshi Sakamoto, First Secretary, Permanent Mission of Japan, who was accompanied by his successor, Mr. Yasunori Juni.

40. On February 5, in Geneva, the Office had a conference call with Mr. Kathrin Nescher-Stützel, Diplomatic Officer, Office for Foreign Affairs of Liechtenstein, to discuss the Draft Law and to provide further information on the procedure to become a UPOV member.

41. On February 7, in Geneva, the Office participated in an electronic meeting via the Internet with representatives of the World Seed Partnership (WSP) Steering Committee (OECD, UPOV, ISTA, ISF and WFO) to discuss progress on the WSP. Further electronic meetings took place on March 25, April 8, May 29, July 8 and September 5.

42. On February 13, at WTO headquarters in Geneva, the Office attended relevant parts of the meeting of the Council for TRIPS.

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\* Missions relate to events held outside UPOV headquarters.

43. On February 15, in Geneva, the Office met with Mr. Baqir Bahir Rasheed Rasheed, Second Secretary, Permanent Mission of Iraq, and explained the procedure to become a UPOV member.
44. From February 18 to 22, in Rome, Italy, the Office attended the 17<sup>th</sup> Regular Session of the CGRFA.
45. On February 26 and 27, in Vung Tau, Viet Nam, the Office participated in the Second Meeting of the EAPVP Pilot Project, which was attended by participants from Japan, Malaysia, Myanmar and Viet Nam.
46. On February 27, in Geneva, the Office received the visit of Her Excellency Ms. Susan Kleebank, Consul General of Brazil and provided information on the work of UPOV.
47. On March 1, in Singapore, the Office met with Ms. Lim Hui, Manager, International Engagement Department, Ms Lee Lily, Senior Assistant Director, Registries of Patents, Designs and Plant Varieties Protection, and Mr. Ng Kok Wan, Assistant Chief Executive, Registries, of the Intellectual Property Office of Singapore (IPOS), to discuss developments in UPOV and Singapore, particularly in relation to UPOV PRISMA and the EAPVP Pilot Project.
48. On March 1, in Can Tho, Viet Nam, the Office participated in a Seminar on Plant Variety Protection, organized by the PVP Office of Viet Nam, where it made a presentation on recent developments in UPOV.
49. From March 3 to 7, in Mombasa, Kenya, the Office attended the Nineteenth AFSTA Annual Congress and provided a booth to promote UPOV PRISMA.
50. From March 11 to 13, in Seoul, Republic of Korea, the Office attended a XML4IP Task Force meeting, organized by WIPO in cooperation with KIPO.
51. On March 13 and 14, in Sarajevo and Banja Luka, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Office participated in Workshops on Plant Variety Protection, where it made presentations on “Benefits of plant variety protection for farmers and growers”, “International framework for plant variety protection under the UPOV Convention” and “UPOV Model Plant Breeders Rights Gazette”. The workshop in Sarajevo was attended by some 40 local participants from government, public institutes and private sector, and representatives from Croatia, Montenegro, North Macedonia and Serbia. The workshop in Banja Luka was opened by His Excellency Mr. Boris Pasalic, Minister for Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management, and Mr. Goran Perkovic, Director, Administration Bosnia and Herzegovina for Plant Health Protection, and was attended by some 26 participants covering government, breeders, genetic resource center, scientific institutes, universities and a chamber of commerce.
52. On March 14, 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: Argentina, Azerbaijan, Barbados, Brazil, Chile, China, Ecuador, Egypt, Guyana, India, Israel, Kyrgyzstan, Liberia, Malaysia, Mexico, Mongolia, Nepal, Nigeria, Peru, Philippines, Republic of Moldova, Saint Lucia, Saudi Arabia, Seychelles, Singapore, South Africa, Thailand, Viet Nam, Zambia and Zimbabwe.
53. On March 14, in Gimcheon, Republic of Korea, the Office participated in a meeting with representatives of KSVS and other IT experts to discuss UPOV PRISMA and the EAPVP Pilot Project.
54. On March 14, in Astana, Kazakhstan, the Office made presentations on the “UPOV plant variety protection system: Benefits of UPOV membership”, “Drafting legislation in accordance with the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention, the optional provisions under the UPOV Convention and the procedure to become a UPOV member” and “Tools for PVP Offices and Breeders: Guidance and Training; UPOV PRISMA, GENIE and PLUTO databases”, at the Workshop on the benefits of UPOV membership and the procedure to become a UPOV member, organized by the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Justice of Kazakhstan, in coordination with UPOV.
55. On March 15 and 16, in Astana, Kazakhstan, the Office held a Legal Consultation with the Working Group responsible for preparing amendments to the “Law of the Republic of Kazakhstan on the Protection of Selection Achievements of July 13, 1999”, as last amended in 2015, to discuss proposed amendments to the Law in relation to the essential provisions of the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention and to assist the Government of Kazakhstan on the next steps of the procedure to become a UPOV member.
56. From March 18 to 22, the Office followed relevant parts of the thirty-ninth session of the WIPO IGC.

57. On March 19, in Angers, France, the Office attended the CPVO Administrative Committee meeting and, on March 20, made a presentation on the benefits of UPOV membership as part of a CPVO internal event.
58. On March 21, the Office had a conference call of Ms. Sarah Laffon, International Relations Manager, GNIS, to discuss matters on plant variety protection.
59. On March 27, in Stockholm, Sweden, the Office made a presentation “Introduction to UPOV and Plant Variety Protection under the UPOV Convention” and organized a group exercise on PVP matters at the “Advanced International Training Programme on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources – in Support of Innovation”, jointly organized by WIPO and PRV, with the support of Sida, and involving the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU), the Swedish International Agricultural Network Initiative (SIANI) and the Swedish Cooperative Centre We Effect. Participants were from Bangladesh, Indonesia, Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique, Rwanda, Sri Lanka, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania and Zambia.
60. From April 1 to 5, near Stellenbosch, in South Africa, the Office attended the 58<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of CIOFORA and participated in the panel discussion session “IP around the World” on the subject “Guaranteeing the future of IP protection for plant innovations”. The Office also attended the Enforcement Symposium on April 3 and the CIOFORA Public Conference “Doing Business in Developing and Newly Industrialized Countries” on April 4.
61. On April 10, in Geneva, the Office had a conference call with Ms. Maria Catalina Gaviria Bravo and Ms. Liliana Ariza, Directorate of Foreign Investment and Services, Ministry of Trade, Industry and Tourism of Colombia regarding the implementation of the “Common Provisions on the Protection of the Rights of Breeders of New Plant Varieties” (Decision 345) in relation to the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention.
62. On April 10, in Beauvais, France, the Office provided a session on UPOV and the UPOV system of plant variety protection to students at the Plant Breeding Master Program of the Institut Polytechnique LaSalle Beauvais. Students from Bangladesh, Bosnia and Herzegovina, China, Cuba, Ecuador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, France, Kazakhstan, Mexico, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Sweden, Turkey and Viet Nam took the UPOV distance learning course DL-205 as part of the Program.
63. On April 12, in Geneva, the Office made a presentation on “The role of plant variety protection in encouraging all types of breeders and meeting the needs of farmers and growers” to participants of the “Advanced International Training Programme on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources – in Support of Innovation” during the part of their training at WIPO headquarters (see paragraph 59 above).
64. On April 12, in Geneva, the Office received the visit of Ms. Karine Peschard, Associate Researcher, Albert Hirschman Centre on Democracy, Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, to discuss her research project.
65. On April 12, in Geneva, at the Permanent Mission of Republic of Korea, the Office received a visit from Mr. Hyunchul Jeong, Minister Counselor (Agriculture) responsible for WTO and UPOV matters.
66. On April 15, in Abuja, Nigeria, the Office attended the second edition of the SeedConnect Conference and Exhibition 2019, organized by the National Agricultural Seeds Council (NASC) of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development of Nigeria. The Office made a presentation on “The role of UPOV in encouraging the development of new varieties of plants and its impact on the agriculture/seed sector” in session 1 “Building a strong regulatory framework to promote a vibrant seed sector in Nigeria and West Africa”. On April 14, the Office met with experts from NASC to discuss the Draft Law and the steps to become a member of UPOV.
67. On April 16, in Geneva, the Office had a conference call with Ms. Shernell Hadaway, Crown Counsel, Attorney General’s Chambers, Ministry of Legal Affairs of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, and Ms. Lekeicha Caesar Foney, Registrar, Corporate and Intellectual Property Office (CIPO), to discuss the procedure for the examination of laws by the UPOV Council.
68. On April 22, in Beijing, China, the Office attended the “IPKey Seminar on EDV and FSS – China-EU Seminar on Plant Variety Protection”.
69. On April 23, in Beijing, China, the Office participated in the Celebration Conference of China’s 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Accession to the International Convention on the Protection of New Plant Varieties, organized by the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs (MARA) of China. A video<sup>1</sup> produced by MARA and

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<sup>1</sup> See [https://www.upov.int/about/en/benefits\\_upov\\_system.html](https://www.upov.int/about/en/benefits_upov_system.html)

the National Forestry and Grassland Administration (NFGA) was presented at the ceremony and has been published on the UPOV website.

70. On April 23, in Beijing, China, the Office participated in the “International Seminar on the Protection of New Varieties of Plants”, organized by MARA of China, with the assistance of the MAFF of Japan, UPOV and the EAPVP Forum. The Office made a presentation on “International Cooperation in DUS Test Examination”.

71. On April 24, in Beijing, China, the Office participated in the Twelfth Annual Meeting of the EAPVP Forum, organized by JATAFF, and made a presentation on recent developments in UPOV. The meeting was attended by participants from Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Japan, Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Singapore, Thailand, Viet Nam, and invited guests from Argentina, France, Germany, Netherlands, United States of America, CPVO and UPOV.

72. At the fringes of the EAPVP Forum meeting, on April 24, the Office hosted a meeting on PVP cooperation in the Asian region, which was attended by participants from China, European Union, France, Germany, Japan, Netherlands, Republic of Korea, Singapore, United States of America, Viet Nam and CPVO.

73. On the evening of April 24, in Beijing, China, the Office participated in a EAPVP Pilot Project meeting, which was attended by participants from Brunei Darussalam, Japan, Myanmar, Singapore and Viet Nam.

74. On April 25, the Office met with representatives from the Development Center of Science & Technology (DCST), MARA, to discuss cooperation between China and UPOV.

75. On April 25, in Brussels, Belgium, the Office met with staff of ESA (renamed Euroseeds since July 2019) to exchange information on communications.

76. On April 29 and 30, in Yaoundé, Cameroon, the Office made presentations on “Introduction to UPOV and benefits of UPOV PVP system”, “Key Provisions of the UPOV Convention”, “Arrangements for DUS examinations”, “Tasks of the PBR Office in the administration of application for Plant Breeder’s Rights”, “UPOV PRISMA” and “Relationship between the UPOV Convention and other International Treaties” “UPOV Tools and databases” at the ninth edition of the “Programme Master II en Propriété Intellectuelle”, jointly organized by OAPI in collaboration with the WIPO Academy and the University of Yaoundé. Students from Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Chad, Comoros, Congo, Côte d’Ivoire, Gabon, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Mali, Niger, Senegal and Togo took the UPOV distance learning course DL-205 as part of the Program.

77. From May 13 to 15, in Geneva, the Office attended a Meeting of Experts on Formulation and Implementation of National Intellectual Property Strategies: Updating and Improving the Methodology and Tools of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), organized by WIPO.

78. From May 13 to 17, at UPOV headquarters in Geneva, the Office provided a training program for Ms. Laurence Dumont, Assistant to the President of CPVO, as part of an initiative to exchange experience and knowledge of UPOV and CPVO activities.

79. On May 16, at UPOV headquarters in Geneva, UPOV organized a visit for the staff of ISF.

80. From May 20 to 22, in Luxembourg, the Office attended the WFO General Assembly meeting, where a presentation was made on “Innovating ways of involving the farmers in global debate on agriculture-related matters – an illustration from the seed sector”, and participated in a Food Systems Dialogues (FSDs) event.

81. From May 20 to 23, in Rome, Italy, the Office attended the Second meeting of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group (AHTEG) on Farmers’ Rights of the ITPGRFA.

82. On May 31, in Geneva, the Office received the visit of Mr. Mohammed Al Balushi, First Secretary, Permanent Mission of Oman, and discussed cooperation between UPOV and Oman.

83. On May 31, in Geneva, the Office had a conference call with Ms. Uranchimeg Bazarragchaa, Officer, Department of Policy and Planning, Ms. Tsolmonjargal, Head of Law Division, Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Light Industry of Mongolia, and Ms. Altantsetseg Bagan, National Project Manager/Legal Expert, FAO, to discuss amendments to the PVP law and the procedure to request the examination of the Draft Law by the UPOV Council.

84. From June 3 to 6, in Nice, France, the Office attended the ISF World Seed Congress 2019, where it made a presentation on “Plant Breeders’ Rights: the key to the flow of innovation” during the Breeders’ Committee on June 3.
85. On June 3 and 4, at the fringes of the Congress, the representatives of the WSP Steering Committee (ISF, ISTA, OECD and UPOV) met with Mr. Jean-Philippe Lodugnon-Harding, Enabling the Business of Agriculture (EBA) of the World Bank Group. During the Congress, Mr. Marc Zienkiewicz of SeedWorld interviewed the WSP representatives. The video<sup>2</sup> of that interview “Roundtable Discussion – Catching Up with the World Seed Partnership” is available on the SeedWorld website.
86. On June 5, in Nice, the Office met with Mr. Kent Nnadozie, Secretary, ITPGRFA, to discuss cooperation and to plan a meeting between the CBD, ITPGRFA and UPOV.
87. On June 6, at WTO headquarters in Geneva, the Office attended relevant parts of the meeting of the Council for TRIPS.
88. From June 10 to 14, in Vienna, Austria, the Office attended the Ad-Hoc Working Group Meetings, Technical Working Group Meeting and Annual Meeting of the OECD Seed Schemes.
89. On June 14, in Brussels, Belgium, the Office attended the 9<sup>th</sup> edition of the Annual Agri-Food Law Seminar, organized by ALTIUS.
90. On June 14, in Geneva, the Office provided an “Overview of developments in UPOV and in China” to a Chinese delegation as part of their study visit, funded by IP Key SEA, to CPVO in Angers, France, and UPOV in Geneva, regarding automation and exchanges of experience in DUS examination of new varieties of plants.
91. On June 19, in Geneva, the Office had a meeting with Ms. Paola Moreno Latorre, Coordinator on Economic Issues, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Colombia, and discussed developments in Colombia and UPOV.
92. From June 17 to June 21, the Office followed relevant parts of the fortieth session of the WIPO IGC.
93. On June 18, in Wageningen, Netherlands, the Office provided a training session on UPOV at the International Course on Plant Variety Protection, organized by Naktuinbouw. The course was attended by participants from: Cuba; Ecuador; Egypt; Ethiopia; Ghana; Hong Kong, China; India; Iraq; Italy; Jordan; Kuwait; Nepal; Nigeria; Pakistan; Republic of Korea; South Africa; Sudan; United Republic of Tanzania; and Viet Nam. The participants took the UPOV distance learning course DL-205 as a pre-training requirement.
94. From June 19 to 21, in Tsukuba, Japan, the Office provided a training session on UPOV at the training course “Plant Variety Protection and Quality Control System of Seeds to Facilitate Distribution of High Quality Seeds” organized by JICA in cooperation with the Government of Japan. The course was attended by participants from Indonesia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Philippines, Sudan, Thailand, Viet Nam and Zambia. The participants studied the UPOV distance learning course DL-205 as a part of the program.
95. On June 20, in Roelofarendsveen, Netherlands, the Office met with representatives of CIOPORA, Royalty Administration International (RAI), and the Chair of the Technical Committee (Mr. Kees van Ettehoven) to discuss the relationship between DUS and enforcement.
96. On June 26, in Geneva, the Office received the visit of Ms. Bettina Wanner, Head IP Advocacy and Strategy, Bayer Intellectual Property GmbH, Germany, and provided information on the UPOV system of plant variety protection.
97. On June 26, in Geneva, the Office received the visit of Mr. Khalid Dahbi, Counsellor, Permanent Mission of Morocco to discuss matters concerning protection to all plant genera and species.
98. On June 26, 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: Australia, Bangladesh, Belarus, Brazil, Burkina Faso, China, Colombia, Egypt, Ethiopia, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jordan, Kenya, Liberia, Malaysia, Malawi, Mexico, Nigeria, Peru, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Ukraine, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uzbekistan and Viet Nam.

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<sup>2</sup> See <https://seedworld.com/roundtable-discussion-catching-up-with-the-world-seed-partnership/>

99. On June 28, the Office met with Marcel Bruins (CLI) to discuss developments with UPOV PRISMA.
100. From June 29 to July 1, in Hyderabad, India, the Office attended the 32<sup>nd</sup> ISTA Congress, including the ISTA Ordinary General Meeting, the open meeting of the ISTA Nomenclature Committee and the meeting of the GMO Testing Committee. It made a presentation on the use of molecular markers in DUS examination at the open meeting of the Variety Committee. On June 29, the Office made a presentation on “UPOV Guidance on Molecular Techniques” at a joint ISTA/OECD/UPOV Workshop on Molecular Techniques.
101. On July 2, the Office had a conference call with Mr. Merab Kutsia, Head, Department of Inventions and New Plant Varieties and Animal Breeds, National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia, to discuss UPOV PRISMA and possible amendments to the PVP law.
102. On July 2 and 17, and on September 3, the Office received the visit of Mr. Ahmed Mohamed Ibrahim Mohamed, Second Secretary, Permanent Mission of Egypt, and discussed the procedure to become a member of UPOV.
103. On July 2, the Office had a conference call with Ms. Najibeh Ataei, Director General for Agricultural Research, and other staff of the Agricultural Research Institute of Afghanistan (ARIA), to discuss assistance with regard to UPOV databases.
104. On July 4, in Geneva, the Office had a conference call with Ms. Tania Villagra, General Director, General Direction of Legal Affairs, *Servicio Nacional de Calidad y Sanidad Vegetal y de Semillas* (SENAVE), Paraguay, and discussed developments in Paraguay and UPOV.
105. From July 8 to 10, in Angers, France, the Office participated in the “Innovation in Plant Variety Testing in Europe” (INVITE project) kick-off meeting.
106. On July 9, in Brussels, Belgium, the Office participated in a “kick-off” meeting on the reinforcement and promotion of the PVP system in OAPI and its member States, organized by OAPI. The meeting was attended by representatives from CPVO, GEVES, GNIS, Naktuinbouw, OAPI and UPOV.
107. On July 10, in Geneva, the Office received the visit of Mr. Francesco Mattina, Vice-President, CPVO, to prepare for a joint presentation on plant variety protection at the IP Delegation Network meeting in Brussels on July 12 (see paragraph 108 below).
108. On July 12, in Brussels, Belgium, the Office made a joint presentation with the CPVO at an IP Delegation Network meeting at the Directorate-General for Trade of the European Commission.
109. On July 16, in Geneva, the Office made a presentation on UPOV during a Study Visit for Senior Lebanese Officials at WIPO headquarters. The delegation was composed of Ambassador Bilal Kabalan, Director, Economic Affairs Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Emigrants, Ms. Alia Abbas, Director General, Ministry of Economy and Trade, Mr. Louis Lahoud, Director General, Ministry of Agriculture, Mr. Wissam Al Amil, Head, IP Unit, Ministry of Economy and Trade, and Mr. Ahmad Ramadan, Senior Official, Ministry of Agriculture.
110. On July 16, in Tokyo, Japan, the Office made a courtesy call to Mr. Atsushi Suginaka, Deputy Director General for Food Industry Affairs Bureau, and met with Mr. Do Ozaki, Director, Intellectual Property Division, and Mr. Manabu Suzuki, Deputy Director, Plant Variety Protection Office, MAFF of Japan, to discuss cooperation between Japan and UPOV.
111. On July 17, in Geneva, the Office met with Ms. Tania Villagra, General Director, General Direction of Legal Affairs, SENAVE, Paraguay, and Mr. Walter José Chamorro Miltos, Second Secretary, Permanent Mission of Paraguay, and discussed developments in Paraguay and UPOV.
112. On July 18 and 19, in Wellington, New Zealand, the Office met with met with Mr. Aidan Burch, Senior Policy Advisor; Intellectual Property Group (IPG), Building, Resources and Markets, Ministry of Building, Innovation and Employment (MBIE); Ms. Ema Hao'uli, Senior Policy Advisor, IPG; Ms. Charlotte Adam, Policy Advisor, IPG; Mr. Chris Barnaby, Assistant Commissioner / Principal Examiner for Plant Variety Rights, Plant Variety Rights Office, Intellectual Property Office of New Zealand, MBIE; and Ms. Letizia Leuzzi, Principal Advisor, Service Design, MBIE, to discuss developments in New Zealand and UPOV.
113. On July 22 and 23, in Brisbane, Australia, at the Queensland University of Technology (QUT), the Office provided lectures on plant variety protection under the UPOV system at the WIPO-QUT Master of Laws (LL.M)

in Intellectual Property. The program was attended by participants from Australia, Bhutan, China, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Pakistan, Philippines and Thailand.

114. On July 25, in Geneva, the Office received the visit of Mr. Reza Dehghani, Counsellor, Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran, and explained the procedure to become a member of UPOV and the benefits of UPOV membership.

115. On July 26, in Geneva, the Office received the visit of Mr. Soumya Swaminathan, Chief Scientist, WHO.

116. On August 16, in Geneva, the Office met with Mr. Carlos Guevara, First Secretary, Permanent Mission of Ecuador, and discussed developments in Ecuador and UPOV.

117. On August 28 and September 24, in Geneva, the Office had a video conference with Mr. Win, Director General, Department of Agricultural Research (DAR), Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation (MOALI) of Myanmar, and other experts from DAR, MOALI, to provide assistance in the legislative and accession procedures to the UPOV Convention.

118. On August 29 and 30, in Yaoundé, Cameroon, the Office and an expert from CPVO participated in the first activity of the project "Building capacity and raising awareness of the OAPI PVP System", financed by the European Commission and organized by OAPI.

119. On August 30, in Tsukuba, Japan, the Office participated in a Q&A session and a technical visit with students attending the JICA training course (see paragraph 94 above).

120. On September 3 and 4, in Hanoi, Viet Nam, the Office participated in the Third Meeting of the EAPVP Pilot Project, which was attended by participants from Japan, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Thailand and Viet Nam.

121. On September 4, in Eindhoven, Netherlands, the Office participated in a Workshop on UPOV PRISMA, organized by VanBerlo, to improve the user interface.

122. On September 6, the Office had a conference call with Ms. Nancy Gardner, Director, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, Office of Intellectual Property and Commercialization, to discuss the experience of Canada with public-private partnerships in plant variety commercialization.

123. On September 6, in Da Nang, Viet Nam, the office participated in a Seminar on "Plant Variety Protection in the beach area in South central", where it made a presentation on developments in UPOV.

124. From September 9 to 11, in Buenos Aires, Argentina, the Office attended the Seventh Seed Congress of the Americas, where it made a presentation on plant variety protection at the "Panel on economic, social and environmental sustainability", and a presentation on developments in UPOV, including discussions on essentially derived varieties and the use of molecular marker techniques in DUS examination, at the Intellectual Property Committee meeting.

125. From September 9 to 11, in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, the Office participated in a Regional Training Course on Plant Variety Protection, organized by CORAF/WECARD with the support of CFIA (Canada), OAPI, UPOV and GNIS. The Office made presentations on "Introduction to the UPOV system of plant variety protection", "Benefits of the UPOV system and the UPOV Convention", "DUS examination" and "How to become a UPOV member". The course was attended by participants from Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroun, Canada, Côte d'Ivoire, France, Ghana, Kenya, Mali, Niger and Senegal.

126. On September 17, in Frankfurt, Germany, the Office attended the CIOPORA Board Meeting, where it made a presentation on developments in UPOV.

127. On September 18 and 20, in Mexico City, Mexico, the Office participated in meetings with the Working Group developing amendments to the Law and provided explanations on relevant provisions of the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention.

128. On September 19, in Mexico City, Mexico, the Office participated in a Seminar on breeders' rights and made presentations on the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention and on Essentially Derived Varieties. The Seminar was part of the "First international fair for the flower industry in Mexico" Ornamental Plants & Flowers Mexico sponsored by the international trade fair for plants (IPM) in Germany.

129. On September 19, in Brussels, Belgium, the Office attended the CPVO Administrative Council meeting.

130. From September 23 to 27, in Lomé, Togo, the Office participated in a Training Course on Plant Variety Protection, organized by OAPI in the scope of the “Building capacity and raising awareness of the OAPI PVP System” project, financed by the European Commission, where it made a presentation on the UPOV system of plant variety protection.

131. From September 23 to 27, the Office participated in a “High Level Study Visit on Plant Variety Protection and UPOV 1991”, in Angers (France), the Hague, Bleiswijk and De Lier (Netherlands) and Brussels (Belgium). The study visit was organized by IPKea SEA for 15 participants from Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, Viet Nam, CPVO, EUIPO and UPOV. The Office made presentations on an “Overview of UPOV 1991” and “Benefits of accession to UPOV '91”.

132. On September 26, in Geneva, the Office had a conference call with Ms. Alicja Rutkowska-Łoś, Head, National Listing and Plant Breeders’ Rights Protection Office of Poland, and discussed developments in Poland and UPOV.

133. This report does not contain information on meetings concerning the development of UPOV PRISMA that were held in Geneva or via electronic means.

#### Distance Learning Courses

134. One session of each of the following UPOV Distance Learning Courses was held in English, French, German and Spanish from March 4 to April 7, 2019:

- 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)”.

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

#### V. PUBLICATIONS

136. The Office published:

- (a) 79 updates of the Plant Variety Database (PLUTO);
- (b) one video on the benefits of plant variety protection:
  - China: “Celebration of the twentieth anniversary of the accession of China to UPOV Convention”
- (c) three press releases.

137. The following Test Guidelines were adopted by correspondence by the TC:

**	TWP	Document No. No. du document Dokument-Nr. No del documento	English	Français	Deutsch	Español	Botanical name
<u>REVISIONS OF ADOPTED TEST GUIDELINES / RÉVISIONS DE PRINCIPES DIRECTEURS D'EXAMEN ADOPTÉS / REVISIONEN ANGENOMMENER PRÜFUNGSRICHTLINIEN / REVISIONES DE DIRECTRICES DE EXAMEN ADOPTADAS</u>							
AU	TWF	TG/137/5	Blueberry	Myrtille	Heidelbeere	Arándano americano	Vaccinium angustifolium x V. myrsinites x V. corymbosum; V. angustifolium Aiton; Hybrids between V. corymbosum and V. angustifolium; V. corymbosum x V. angustifolium x V. virgatum; V. corymbosum L.; V. formosum Andrews; V. myrtilloides Michx.; V. myrtillus L.; V. simulatum Small; V. virgatum Aiton
<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>							
FR	TWV	TG/7/10 Rev. 2	Pea	Pois	Erbse	Guisante, Arveja	Pisum sativum L., Pisum arvense L.
NL	TWV	TG/13/11 Rev.	Lettuce	Laitue	Salat	Lechuga	Lactuca sativa L.
NL	TWV	TG/55/7 Rev. 6	Spinach	Épinard	Spinat	Espinaca	Spinacia oleracea L.
ES	TWF	TG/56/4 Corr. Rev.	Almond	Amandier	Mandel	Almendro	Prunus dulcis (Mill.) D.A.Webb, Prunus amygdalus (L.)
NZ	TWF	TG/98/7 Rev.	Actinidia, Kiwifruit	Actinidia	Actinidia	Actinidia	Actinidia Lindl.
BR	TWF	TG/314/1 Rev.	Coconut	Cocotier	Kokosnuß	Cocotero	Cocos nucifera L.

138. The Council is invited to note this report.

[Annexes follow]

## ANNEX I

## MEMBERS OF THE UNION

September 30, 2019

This document provides the status of the members of the Union in relation to the Convention and its various Acts, as of September 30, 2019 (see Articles 31 and 32 of the 1961 Convention, Article 32(1) of the 1978 Act and Article 34(2) of the 1991 Act).

- 1<sup>st</sup> line: International Convention for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants of December 2, 1961
- 2<sup>nd</sup> line: Additional Act of November 10, 1972
- 3<sup>rd</sup> line: Act of October 23, 1978
- 4<sup>th</sup> 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 - May 2, 2019	December 5, 1976 February 11, 1977 - June 2, 2019
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	- - - -	- - April 21, 1999 -	- - May 21, 1999 -
Bosnia and Herzegovina	- - - -	- - - October 10, 2017	- - - November 10, 2017

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Member	Date of signature	Date of deposit of instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession	Date of entry into force
Brazil	- - - -	- - April 23, 1999 -	- - May 23, 1999 -
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 <sup>3/</sup>	- - - -	- - - 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

<sup>3</sup> 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
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 April 11, 2016	- - May 13, 1999 May 11, 2016

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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
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 -
North Macedonia	- - -	- - - April 4, 2011	- - - May 4, 2011
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

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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
Paraguay	- - -	- - January 8, 1997 -	- - February 8, 1997 -
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 <sup>1</sup>	- - -	- - - 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 -

<sup>1</sup> 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
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
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: 75 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, 2019: March 4 to April 7, 2019		
Category	Participants from	Number of participants
<u>Category 1</u> Officials of members of the Union	Australia, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Chile, China, Denmark, Dominican Republic, European Union, France, Germany, Israel, Japan, Kenya, Lithuania, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, OAPI, Paraguay, Peru, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, South Africa, Spain, Switzerland, Turkey, United Kingdom, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay	151
<u>Category 2</u> Officials of observer States / intergovernmental organizations / others	Ghana, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Kazakhstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Madagascar, Malaysia, Senegal	17
<u>Category 3</u> Other (Fee: CHF1,000)	Chile, Germany, Italy	3
<u>Category 4:</u> Discretionary waiving of fee for selected students (3)  Including: OAPI Masters IP Training Course (27) La Salle (21) WIPO PRV-SIDA (3)	Ecuador, France, Uganda	3
TOTAL		225

	English	French	German	Spanish
Session I, 2019: Total by language	105	39	3	78

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

<u>DL-205 special sessions for:</u>	Participants from	Number of participants
La Salle Beauvais University - IP Plant Breeding Master Programme	Bangladesh, Bosnia and Herzegovina, China, Cuba, Ecuador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, France, Kazakhstan, Mexico, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Sweden, Turkey, Viet Nam	23
OAPI Masters IP Training Course	Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Chad, Gabon, Guinea, Haiti, Côte d'Ivoire, Mali, Niger, Senegal, Togo	27
Workshop on drafting legislation in accordance with the UPOV Convention	Mongolia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	3
Naktuinbouw International Course on Plant Variety Protection Course (Netherlands)	Cuba, Egypt, Ethiopia, India, Iraq, Jordan, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, United Republic of Tanzania Viet Nam	23
JICA Training Course on “Internationally Harmonized Plant Variety Protection System”	Myanmar, Philippines, Sudan, Thailand, Viet Nam, Zambia	6
WIPO Advanced Training Program on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources in Support of Innovation : PRV-SIDA	Rwanda, Uganda	3
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>83</b>

	English	French	German	Spanish
DL-205 special sessions, 2019: Total by language	55	28		3

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

Session I, 2019: March 4 to April 7, 2019		
Category	Participants from	Number of participants
<u>Category 1</u> Officials of members of the Union	Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Croatia, Dominican Republic, European Union, France, Georgia, Hungary, Japan, Kenya, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Paraguay, Peru, Republic of Korea, South Africa, Spain	47
<u>Category 2</u> Officials of observer States / intergovernmental organizations / others	Greece, Jamaica, Mongolia	4
<u>Category 3 (fee-paying)</u> Other	Spain	2
<u>Category 4:</u> Discretionary waiving of fee for selected students	Spain, UPOV Staff	2
TOTAL		55

	English	French	German	Spanish
DL-305, Session I, 2019: Total by language	22	3	0	30

DL-305A “Administration of Plant Breeders’ Rights”

Session I, 2019: March 4 to April 7, 2019		
Category	Participants from	Number of participants
<u>Category 1</u> Officials of members of the Union	China, Denmark, Dominican Republic Israel, Japan, Kenya, Latvia, Netherlands, Peru, Republic of Korea, United Kingdom	22
<u>Category 2</u> Officials of observer States / intergovernmental organizations / others		0
<u>Category 3</u> Other (Fee: CHF1,000)	Germany	1
<u>Category 4:</u> Discretionary waiving of fee for selected students		0
TOTAL		23

	English	French	German	Spanish
DL-305A, Session I, 2019: Total by language	18	0	1	4

DL-305B "DUS Examination"

Session I, 2019: March 4 to April 7, 2019		
Category	Participants from	Number of participants
<u>Category 1</u> Officials of members of the Union	China, France, Japan, Kenya, Paraguay, Republic of Korea, United Kingdom	15
<u>Category 2</u> Officials of observer States / intergovernmental organizations / others	Saudi Arabia	1
<u>Category 3</u> Other (Fee: CHF1,000)		0
<u>Category 4:</u> Discretionary waiving of fee for selected students		0
TOTAL		16

	English	French	German	Spanish
DL-305B, Session I, 2019: Total by language	13	1	0	2

[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
EAF (see also UPOV PRISMA)	UPOV Electronic Application Form
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
UPOV PRISMA	UPOV PRISMA PBR Application Tool
WG-DEN	Working Group on Variety Denominations
WG-ISC	Working Group on a Possible International System of Cooperation
WSP	World Seed Partnership

Acronyms

AFSTA	African Seed Trade Association
ALTIUS	Belgian law firm
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
CFIA	Canadian Food Inspection Agency
CGRFA	Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture
CIOFORA	International Community of Breeders of Asexually Reproduced Ornamental and Fruit Varieties
CLI	CropLife International
CORAF (see also WECARD)	<i>Conseil Ouest et Centre Africain pour la Recherche et le Développement Agricoles</i>
CPVO	Community Plant Variety Office of the European Union
EAPVP Forum	East Asia Plant Variety Protection Forum
EIPIN	European Intellectual Property Institutes Network
EPO	European Patent Office
ESA	European Seed Association (now renamed to Euroseeds)
EUIPO	European Intellectual Property Office
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
GEVES (France)	<i>Groupe d'Etude et de contrôle des Variétés Et des Semences</i> (French Variety and Seed Study and Control Group)
GNIS (France)	<i>Groupement National Interprofessionnel des Semences et plants</i> (French Interprofessional Organisation for Seeds and Plants)
IP Key	IP Key is co-financed by the European Union and the European Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO). It is implemented by EUIPO in cooperation with EPO.
IP Key SEA	IP Key South-East Asia
IPO	Intellectual Property Office
IPONZ	Intellectual Property Office of New Zealand
ISF	International Seed Federation
ISTA	International Seed Testing Association

ITPGRFA	International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture
JATAFF	Japan Association for Techno-innovation in Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
JICA	Japan International Cooperation Agency
KIPO	Korean Intellectual Property Office
KSVS	Korea Seed and Variety Service
MAFF of Japan	Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of Japan
MARA of China	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs of China
MOALI of Myanmar	Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation of Myanmar
Naktuinbouw	The Netherlands Inspection Service for Horticulture
OAPI	African Intellectual Property Organization
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-Operation and Development
PRV of Sweden	Swedish Patent and Registration Office
QUT of Australia	Queensland University of Technology of Australia
SAA	Seed Association of the Americas
SENAVE of Paraguay	<i>Servicio Nacional de Calidad y Sanidad Vegetal y de Semillas</i> (National Plant and Seed Quality and Health Service)
Sida	Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency
TRIPS	Trade Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights
USPTO	United States Patent and Trademark Office
WECARD (see also CORAF)	West and Central African Council for Agricultural Research and Development
WFO	World Farmers' Organization
WHO	World Health 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]