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| International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants |  |

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| Council  Fifty-Ninth Ordinary Session  Geneva, October 24, 2025 | C/59/3  Original: English  Date: October 17, 2025 |

Report on activities during the first nine months of 2025

Document prepared by the Office of the Union

Disclaimer: this document does not represent UPOV policies or guidance

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The report on activities during the first nine months illustrates UPOV’s commitment to digital transformation, international cooperation, capacity building, and technical innovation in plant variety protection. It highlights the organization’s efforts to make PVP more accessible, efficient, and impactful for breeders, farmers, and stakeholders worldwide.

Key developments are summarized below.

**Global expansion**

Nigeria became the eightieth member of UPOV on March 27, 2025. “By 2050, the global population is projected to reach 9.1 billion, with Africa—particularly Nigeria—experiencing one of the highest growth rates. As food demand rises, providing farmers with access to high-quality seeds is crucial to ensuring food security. In acceding to UPOV, plant variety protection will drive the continuous development of improved, high-yielding, and climate-resilient crop varieties, benefiting both farmers and the broader agricultural and horticultural sectors”, stated the Acting Registrar of the Nigerian Plant Variety Protection (PVP) Office, Mr. Folarin Sunday Okelola (see <https://www.upov.int/edocs/pressdocs/en/upov_pr_143.pdf>).

The number of countries requesting assistance in legislative matters increased from 16 States during the first nine months of 2024 to 18 States during the same period in 2025 (see figure 3 “Status in relation to UPOV during the first nine months of 2025”). Malaysia has asked the Council to examine its draft legislation for conformity with the provisions of the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention.

The UPOV Office granted observer status to Mauritius in the Technical Working Parties (TWPs), Seychelles in the Administrative and Legal Committee (CAJ), Technical Committee (TC) and TWPs and   
Sudan in the CAJ, TC and TWPs.

**Digital Transformation**

Major digitalization initiatives during this period include the launch of the new e-PVP DUS Report Exchange Module, expanded use of UPOV PRISMA for electronic applications, notably in Japan and in ARIPO. These advances are streamlining filing, examination, and protection processes, making them more efficient and accessible globally.

There is an increasing number of UPOV members interested in using the UPOV e‑PVP DUS Report Exchange Module. The actual use of the tool has increased since a new version was deployed in April 2025, bringing the number of requests to 327. This development demonstrates the potential of the DUS Report Exchange Module to facilitate cooperation between members in DUS testing.

The United Kingdom launched a customized version of the UPOV e‑PVP Administration Module in April 2025, bringing the number of authorities using the module to two.

The number of applications made via UPOV PRISMA in the period January to September 2025 (1,199), was 8% lower than the same period in 2024 (1,308).

**Technical Leadership and Innovation**

During the first nine months, five Technical Working Parties held their sessions, with the participation of 540 experts from 46 UPOV members. Two technical webinars were held, and their recordings were made available on the UPOV website. How new technologies are transforming plant variety protection was discussed during the TWPs. For instance, the TWO learnt about advances in genotyping-by-sequencing (GbS) for Hydrangea, using SNP markers to improve efficiency and reduce trial sizes. The TWM focused on molecular techniques, bioinformatics, and image analysis for smarter DUS testing, with ongoing efforts to harmonize molecular terms and methods.

**Capacity Building and Stakeholder Engagement**

Online training and webinars have been prioritized, including multi-language sessions on new digital tools. A series of webinars were conducted in preparation of the Seminar on cooperation with breeders in DUS examination to be held on October 22, 2025, fostering cost-effective and efficient testing practices.

At the 18th East Asia Plant Variety Protection Forum and Seminar in Singapore, stakeholders from across ASEAN and beyond came together to explore how plant variety protection can unlock real impact. One inspiring example came from Viet Nam, where breeders used PVP to develop the award-winning fragrant rice variety ST25. Now grown on 200,000 hectares, ST25 has boosted farmers’ incomes by up to 50%.

The UPOV PVP Certificate program was expanded with the inclusion of one additional program (Maastricht University Master Course “Plant Variety Protection and Biotechnology”) and 25 certificates were issued to experts that acquired the necessary number of credits from UPOV-endorsed courses and activities. The first session of the UPOV distance learning courses was held in the first semester of 2025, with 449 participants taking the courses in the four UPOV official languages, plus Chinese.

**Strategic Foresight and Horizon Scanning**

UPOV launched a Horizon Scanning initiative to anticipate and respond to rapid technological changes, shifting trade patterns, sustainability demands, and evolving stakeholder expectations. To facilitate this exploration, the UPOV Office conducted 20 interviews with visionaries from across the world and experts from the plant breeding and innovation ecosystem, including businesses, governments, breeders, farmers, growers, IGOs and NGOs. A summary of the findings of this exercise can be found in UPOV’s Strategic Business Plan (SBP) for 2026-2029 (document C/59/14).

**Communication and Outreach**

During this period the project for the new UPOV’s website has been developed with the aim of offering improved access to resources and information, positioning it as the global hub for plant variety protection knowledge. Beneficiary stories from Kenya and Chile have been made available to illustrate the real-world impact of PVP on farmer livelihoods and community empowerment, supporting UPOV’s narrative of inclusive growth.

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# UPOV status

## Members

Nigeria’s accession as the 80th member of UPOV highlights the continued growth and global relevance of the plant variety protection (PVP) system, reinforcing UPOV’s position as the leading international standard-setting body in this field. As of September 30, 2025, the Union comprised 80 members (78 States and 2 organizations), covering 99 States (see figure 2). The “List of UPOV members” is reproduced in Annex I.

Figure 2. Members of the Union as of September 30, 2025

A map of the world

AI-generated content may be incorrect.

The boundaries shown on this map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of UPOV concerning the legal status of any country or territory.

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

On September 30, 2025, the situation of the members of the Union in relation to the Convention and its various Acts was as follows:

(a) 63 members (covering 84[[1]](#footnote-2) States) were bound by the 1991 Act; and

(b) 17 members were bound by the 1978 Act.

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

During the first nine months of 2025, the Office received one request from Malaysia to examine the Draft Amendments to the Protection of New Plant Varieties Act 2004 [Act 634] for conformity with the provisions of the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention.

The following map provides a graphic overview of developments concerning the status in relation to UPOV during the first nine months of 2025:

Figure 3 - Status in relation to UPOV during the first nine months of 2025

A map of the world

AI-generated content may be incorrect.

The boundaries shown on this map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of UPOV concerning the legal status of any country or territory.

 States and organizations that were in contact with the Office of the Union for assistance in the development of legislation on plant variety protection during the first nine months of 2025

Members of the Union (2): China, Georgia

Non-members of the Union (18): Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Guatemala, Jamaica, Kazakhstan, Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Malawi, Malaysia, Mauritius, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Seychelles, Suriname, Thailand, The Gambia, United Arab Emirates, Zambia and Zimbabwe

# Activities in 2025

## Sessions of UPOV Bodies

The following meetings[[2]](#footnote-3) were held during the first nine months of 2025 (in chronological order):

* TC-EDC January 13 and 15 (virtual meeting)
* EAM/5 March 17 (virtual meeting)
* TC-EDC March 18 and 19 (virtual meeting)
* WG-HRV/7 March 20 (virtual meeting)
* TWO/57 March 31 to April 3 (Roelofarendsveen, Netherlands (Kingdom of the))
* TWM/3 April 28 to May 1 (Beijing, China)
* TWV/59 May 5 to 8 (virtual meeting)
* TWA/54 May 19 to 22 (Arusha, United Republic of Tanzania)
* TWF/56 June 23 to 26 (Bursa, Türkiye)

The following table provides an overview of participation at the 2025 sessions of the Technical Working Parties:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **TWP session** | | | | |  |
|  | TWA | TWM | TWF | TWO | TWV | **Total** |
| Number of participants from UPOV members | 128 | 139 | 92 | 97 | 84 | **540** |
| Total number of UPOV members | 33 | 27 | 30 | 29 | 27 | **46** |
| Number of observer States | 3 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | **5** |
| Number of observer organizations | 4 | 7 | 2 | 2 | 3 | **8** |

Two technical webinars were held prior to the sessions of the TWPs, with a total of 299 participants at the live events. The video recordings are available on the webpage of the TC and TWPs.

## UPOV International Certificate on Plant Variety Protection

The UPOV PVP Certificate program was launched in April 2024. During the first nine months of 2025, one additional course was included in the program (Maastricht University Master Course “Plant Variety Protection and Biotechnology”) and 25 certificates issued to experts that acquired the necessary number of credits from UPOV-endorsed courses and activities.

## Distance learning courses

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 DL-305B in one course), DL‑305A “Administration of Plant Breeders’ Rights” and DL-305B “DUS Examination” was organized in English, French German and Spanish. In accordance with the program for the Chinese language approved by the UPOV Council, students participated in the DL-205 in Chinese language. A breakdown of the students participating in the UPOV distance learning courses DL-205 and DL‑305 is included in Annex II.

## UPOV e‑PVP

There is an increasing number of UPOV members (15) interested in using the UPOV e‑PVP DUS Report Exchange Module. The actual use of the tool has increased since a new version was deployed in April 2025, bringing the number of requests to 327. This development demonstrates the potential of the DUS Report Exchange Module to facilitate cooperation between members in DUS testing.

The United Kingdom launched a customized version of the UPOV e‑PVP Administration Module in April 2025, bringing the number of authorities using the module to two.

## UPOV PRISMA

The coverage of UPOV PRISMA in terms of authorities has been expanded to include the African Regional Intellectual Property Organization (ARIPO) in August 2025. The number of applications made via UPOV PRISMA in the period January to September 2025 (1,199), was 8% lower than the same period in 2024 (1,308).

## PLUTO database

From January 1 to September 30, 2025, the Office published 2,261 updates of the Plant Variety Database (PLUTO) (1,904 updates from UPOV e-PVP Administration module).

There was a strong growth in the number of standard service users (+25%). However, there was a decrease in the number of *premium* service users (-21%) between September 2024 and September 2025. The number of PLUTO users registered by category is as follows:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Service | Number of users  September 2024 | Number of users  September 2025 | Difference (%) |
| Standard service | 5,302 | 6,665 | 25% |
| Premium service | 33 | 26 | -21% |
| Eligible officials | 153 | 227 | 48% |

## Publications

### Test Guidelines

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

|  | TWP | Document No.  No. du document  Dokument-Nr.  No del documento | English | Français | Deutsch | Español | Botanical name |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| NEW TEST GUIDELINES / NOUVEAUX PRINCIPES DIRECTEURS D’EXAMEN / NEUE PRÜFUNGSRICHTILINIEN / NUEVAS DIRECTRICES DE EXAMEN | | | | | | | |
| GB | TWO | TG/LEUCA(proj.4) | Leucanthemum | Marguerite | Margerite | Margarita | *Leucanthemum* Mill. |
| JP | TWA/TWO | TG/ZOYSI(proj.7) | Zoysia Grasses, Japanese Lawn  Grass | Zoysia | Zoysia | Zoysia | *Zoysia* Willd. |
| REVISIONS OF ADOPTED TEST GUIDELINES / RÉVISIONS DE PRINCIPES DIRECTEURS D’EXAMEN ADOPTÉS /  REVISIONEN ANGENOMMENER PRÜFUNGSRICHTLINIEN / REVISIONES DE DIRECTRICES DE EXAMEN ADOPTADAS | | | | | | | |
| IT | TWF/TWO | TG/50/10(proj.9) | Grapevine | Vigne | Rebe | Vid | *Vitis* L. |
| QZ | TWO | TG/194/2(proj.5) | Lavandula/ Lavender | Lavande vraie, Lavandins | Echter Lavendel, Lavendel | Lavándula, Lavenda | *Lavandula* L. |
| NL | TWA | TG/276/2(proj.5) | Hemp, Cannabis | Chanvre | Hanf | Cáñamo | *Cannabis sativa* L. |
| PARTIAL REVISIONS OF ADOPTED TEST GUIDELINES / RÉVISIONS PARTIELLES DE PRINCIPES DIRECTEURS D’EXAMEN ADOPTÉS / TEILREVISIONEN ANGENOMMENER PRÜFUNGSRICHTLINIEN / REVISIONES PARCIALES DE DIRECTRICES DE EXAMEN ADOPTADAS | | | | | | | |
| TWV | FR | TG/13/11 Rev. 4(proj.2) | Lettuce | Laitue | Salat | Lechuga | *Lactuca sativa* L. |
| TWV | JP | TG/130/4 Rev. 1(proj.1) | Asparagus | Asperge | Spargel | Espárrago | *Asparagus officinalis* L. |

### Videos

A video of the Panel Discussion on Practices and Challenges in Enforcement of Plant Breeders’ Rights organized during the WIPO Advisory Committee on Enforcement (ACE) was published on the UPOV website.

### Press Releases and Newsletter

From January to October 2025, the Office published eight news articles and launched its first fully digital newsletter, aligning with global trends in strategic digital outreach. As of 10 July 2025, the newsletter had already attracted over 3000 subscribers. [Read the June 2025 Newsletter on LinkedIn](https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/upov-newsletter-june-2025-edition-upov-official-ijiae). The second newsletter for 2025 is scheduled to be published on Friday, October 24, 2025, at the fifty-ninth ordinary session of the Council.

## New UPOV Website

The UPOV website was redesigned in 2025 with the objective of providing superior user experience and search engine optimization. The project was initiated in 2024, and the first phase was delivered in September 2025. The UPOV website provides the platform for different meeting documents, guidance, databases and UPOV services.

The new UPOV website was developed in collaboration with the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) with improved information architecture, centered around topic-based clusters for easier navigation and content access.

The first phase of development has redesigned the website in English, as the basis for the multilingual rollout in UPOV’s official languages. Subject to available resources, the translation to other languages could be considered for broader inclusivity and engagement.

## Social media

In addition to its own website, UPOV utilizes social media (LinkedIn, X, YouTube) as communication channels. UPOV has achieved over 11,000 followers across these channels, reflecting the growing interest in plant variety protection and the organization’s global impact. Leveraging on existing UPOV content, the strategic use of social media has significantly improved the level of engagement since 2024.

## Communication materials

New communication materials[[3]](#footnote-4) were developed in 2025 in collaboration with UPOV members. These include local examples illustrating the importance of new protected varieties for agricultural development and society at large (available at: <https://www.upov.int/en/plant-variety-protection/learn/case-studies> and UPOV social media channels).

## Other meetings and events

A summary of the main activities in which UPOV participated is provided in Annex III to this document.

*The Council is invited to note this report.*

[Annexes follow]

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ANNEX I MEMBERS OF THE INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR THE PROTECTION OF NEW VARIETIES OF PLANTS

**International Convention for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants\***

UPOV Convention (1961), as revised at Geneva (1972, 1978 and 1991)

**Status on September 30, 2025**

| State/Organization | Date on which State/Organization became member of  UPOV | Number of contribution units | Latest Act[[4]](#endnote-2) of the Convention to which State/Organization is party and date on which State/Organization became party to that Act | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| African Intellectual Property  Organization[[5]](#endnote-3) | July 10, 2014 | 0.2 | 1991 Act | July 10, 2014 |
| Albania | October 15, 2005 | 0.2 | 1991 Act | October 15, 2005 |
| Argentina | December 25, 1994 | 0.5 | 1978 Act | December 25, 1994 |
| Armenia | March 2, 2024 | 0.2 | 1991 Act | March 2, 2024 |
| Australia | March 1, 1989 | 1.0 | 1991 Act | January 20, 2000 |
| Austria | July 14, 1994 | 0.75 | 1991 Act | July 1, 2004 |
| Azerbaijan | December 9, 2004 | 0.2 | 1991 Act | December 9, 2004 |
| Belarus | January 5, 2003 | 0.2 | 1991 Act | January 5, 2003 |
| Belgium[[6]](#endnote-4) | December 5, 1976 | 1.5 | 1991 Act | June 2, 2019 |
| Bolivia (Plurinational State of) | May 21, 1999 | 0.2 | 1978 Act | May 21, 1999 |
| Bosnia and Herzegovina | November 10, 2017 | 0.2 | 1991 Act | November 10, 2017 |
| Brazil | May 23, 1999 | 0.25 | 1978 Act | May 23, 1999 |
| Bulgaria | April 24, 1998 | 0.2 | 1991 Act | April 24, 1998 |
| Canada | March 4, 1991 | 1.0 | 1991 Act | July 19, 2015 |
| Chile | January 5, 1996 | 0.2 | 1978 Act | January 5, 1996 |
| China | April 23, 1999 | 2.0 | 1978 Act[[7]](#endnote-5) | April 23, 1999 |
| Colombia | September 13, 1996 | 0.2 | 1978 Act | September 13, 1996 |
| Costa Rica | January 12, 2009 | 0.2 | 1991 Act | January 12, 2009 |
| Croatia | September 1, 2001 | 0.2 | 1991 Act | September 1, 2001 |
| Czech Republic | January 1, 1993 | 0.5 | 1991 Act | November 24, 2002 |
| Denmark[[8]](#endnote-6) | October 6, 1968 | 0.5 | 1991 Act | April 24, 1998 |
| Dominican Republic | June 16, 2007 | 0.2 | 1991 Act | June 16, 2007 |
| Ecuador | August 8, 1997 | 0.2 | 1978 Act | August 8, 1997 |
| Egypt | December 1, 2019 | 0.2 | 1991 Act | December 1, 2019 |
| Estonia | September 24, 2000 | 0.2 | 1991 Act | September 24, 2000 |
| European Union[[9]](#endnote-7) | July 29, 2005 | 5.0 | 1991 Act | July 29, 2005 |
| Finland | April 16, 1993 | 1.0 | 1991 Act | July 20, 2001 |
| France | October 3, 1971 | 5.0 | 1991 Act | May 27, 2012 |
| Georgia | November 29, 2008 | 0.2 | 1991 Act | November 29, 2008 |
| Germany | August 10, 1968 | 5.0 | 1991 Act | July 25, 1998 |
| Ghana | December 3, 2021 | 0.2 | 1991 Act | December 3, 2021 |
| Hungary | April 16, 1983 | 0.5 | 1991 Act | January 1, 2003 |
| Iceland | May 3, 2006 | 0.2 | 1991 Act | May 3, 2006 |
| Ireland | November 8, 1981 | 1.0 | 1991Act | January 8, 2012 |
| Israel | December 12, 1979 | 0.5 | 1991 Act | April 24, 1998 |
| Italy | July 1, 1977 | 2.0 | 1978 Act | May 28, 1986 |
| Japan | September 3, 1982 | 5.0 | 1991 Act | December 24, 1998 |
| Jordan | October 24, 2004 | 0.2 | 1991 Act | October 24, 2004 |
| Kenya | May 13, 1999 | 0.2 | 1991 Act | May 11, 2016 |
| Kyrgyzstan | June 26, 2000 | 0.2 | 1991 Act | June 26, 2000 |
| Latvia | August 30, 2002 | 0.2 | 1991 Act | August 30, 2002 |
| Lithuania | December 10, 2003 | 0.2 | 1991 Act | December 10, 2003 |
| Mexico | August 9, 1997 | 0.75 | 1978 Act | August 9, 1997 |
| Montenegro | September 24, 2015 | 0.2 | 1991 Act | September 24, 2015 |
| Morocco | October 8, 2006 | 0.2 | 1991 Act | October 8, 2006 |
| Netherlands (Kingdom of the) | August 10, 1968 | 3.0 | 1991 Act[[10]](#endnote-8) | April 24, 1998 |
| New Zealand | November 8, 1981 | 1.0 | 1978 Act | November 8, 1981 |
| Nicaragua | September 6, 2001 | 0.2 | 1978 Act | September 6, 2001 |
| Nigeria | March 27, 2025 | 0.2 | 1991 Act | March 27, 2025 |
| North Macedonia | May 4, 2011 | 0.2 | 1991 Act | May 4, 2011 |
| Norway | September 13, 1993 | 1.0 | 1978 Act | September 13, 1993 |
| Oman | November 22, 2009 | 1.0 | 1991 Act | November 22, 2009 |
| Panama | May 23, 1999 | 0.2 | 1991 Act | November 22, 2012 |
| Paraguay | February 8, 1997 | 0.2 | 1978 Act | February 8, 1997 |
| Peru | August 8, 2011 | 0.2 | 1991 Act | August 8, 2011 |
| Poland | November 11, 1989 | 0.5 | 1991 Act | August 15, 2003 |
| Portugal | October 14, 1995 | 0.2 | 1978 Act | October 14, 1995 |
| Republic of Korea | January 7, 2002 | 1.5 | 1991 Act | January 7, 2002 |
| Republic of Moldova | October 28, 1998 | 0.2 | 1991 Act | October 28, 1998 |
| Romania | March 16, 2001 | 0.2 | 1991 Act | March 16, 2001 |
| Russian Federation | April 24, 1998 | 2.0 | 1991 Act | April 24, 1998 |
| Saint Vincent and the Grenadines | March 22, 2021 | 0.2 | 1991 Act | March 22, 2021 |
| Serbia | January 5, 2013 | 0.2 | 1991 Act | January 5, 2013 |
| Singapore | July 30, 2004 | 0.2 | 1991 Act | July 30, 2004 |
| Slovakia | January 1, 1993 | 0.5 | 1991 Act | June 12, 2009 |
| Slovenia | July 29, 1999 | 0.2 | 1991 Act | July 29, 1999 |
| South Africa | November 6, 1977 | 1.0 | 1978 Act | November 8, 1981 |
| Spain | May 18, 1980 | 2.0 | 1991 Act | July 18, 2007 |
| Sweden | December 17, 1971 | 1.5 | 1991 Act | April 24, 1998 |
| Switzerland | July 10, 1977 | 1.5 | 1991 Act | September 1, 2008 |
| Trinidad and Tobago | January 30, 1998 | 0.2 | 1978 Act | January 30, 1998 |
| Tunisia | August 31, 2003 | 0.2 | 1991 Act | August 31, 2003 |
| Türkiye | November 18, 2007 | 0.5 | 1991 Act | November 18, 2007 |
| Ukraine | November 3, 1995 | 0.2 | 1991 Act | January 19, 2007 |
| United Kingdom[[11]](#endnote-9) | August 10, 1968 | 2.0 | 1991 Act | January 3, 1999 |
| United Republic of Tanzania | November 22, 2015 | 0.2 | 1991 Act | November 22, 2015 |
| United States of America | November 8, 1981 | 5.0 | 1991 Act[[12]](#endnote-10) | February 22, 1999 |
| Uruguay | November 13, 1994 | 0.2 | 1978 Act | November 13, 1994 |
| Uzbekistan | November 14, 2004 | 0.2 | 1991 Act | November 14, 2004 |
| Viet Nam | December 24, 2006 | 0.2 | 1991 Act | December 24, 2006 |

(Total: 80)

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ANNEX II PARTICIPATION IN THE UPOV DISTANCE LEARNING COURSES

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **DL-205** “Introduction to the UPOV System of Plant Variety Protection under the UPOV Convention” | | | | | | |
|  | English | French | German | Spanish | Chinese | **Total** |
| Session I, 2025: Total by language | 167 | 57 | 1 | 59 | 165 | **449** |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **DL‑305** “Examination of applications for plant breeders’ rights” | | | | | |
|  | English | French | German | Spanish | **Total** |
| DL‑305, Session I, 2025: Total by language | 71 | 13 | 1 | 11 | **96** |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **DL‑305A** “Administration of Plant Breeders’ Rights” | | | | | |
|  | English | French | German | Spanish | **Total** |
| DL‑305A, Session I, 2025: Total by language | 18 | 2 | - | 11 | **31** |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **DL‑305B** “DUS Examination” | | | | | |
|  | English | French | German | Spanish | **Total** |
| DL‑305B, Session I, 2025: Total by language | 15 | 4 | - | 5 | **24** |

[Annex III follows]

ANNEX III LIST OF ACTIVITIES DURING THE FIRST NINE MONTHS OF 2025

| **Date** | **Description of the activity** | **UPOV  participation  (Virtual or  Physical)** | **UPOV staff/ representative** | **Organizers** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 10/01/25 | General Assembly of AOHE, Paris | P | Madhour | AOHE |
| 13/01/25-15/01/25 | Enlarged Editorial Committee (TC-EDC) | V | Taveira, Oertel | UPOV |
| 15/01/25 | Advanced Master Intellectual Property Law and Knowledge Management (IPKM), Maastricht, Netherlands (Kingdom of the) | P | Ekvad | Maastricht University |
| 27/01/25 | WIPO On-line workshop “Supporting Micro and Small Businesses in the Agro-Food Sector of Azerbaijan to Leverage IP Assets for Economic Growth and Competitiveness” | V | Taveira | WIPO, AZ |
| 05/02/25 | UPOV-WIPO Panel Discussion on Practices and Challenges in the Enforcement of Plant Breeders’ Rights, Geneva | P | Huerta, Frimpong | WIPO, UPOV |
| 10/02/25 | 20th Edition of the WIPO-WTO Colloquium for Teachers of Intellectual Property, Geneva | P | Taveira, May | WIPO, WTO |
| 10/02/25 | Nigeria 2025 Boot Camp for Youths on Plant Variety Protection | V | Huerta, Frimpong | NG |
| 10/02/25-11/02/25 | National Workshop and Legal consultations, Phnom Penh | P | Ekvad | KH, JP, UPOV |
| 12/02/25 | Second e-PVP Asia Regional Meeting | V | Madhour, Nishimura | MY, JP |
| 13/02/25 | WSP meeting, Wallisellen, Switzerland | P | Huerta, Taveira | ISTA, ISF, OECD, WFO, UPOV |
| 04/03/25 | AFSTA Congress, Kigali | V | Huerta | AFSTA |
| 12/03/25-13/03/25 | UPOV Technical Webinars on "Drafting Test Guidelines" and "Characteristics used in Test Guidelines" | V | Taveira, Oertel | UPOV |
| 14/03/25 | ISF visit to UPOV Office, Geneva | P | Huerta, Ekvad, Taveira, Madhour, Nishimura | ISF, UPOV |
| 17/03/25 | Meeting on Electronic Applications (EAM/5) | V | Huerta, Ekvad, Taveira, Madhour, Nishimura, Falquet | UPOV |
| 18/03/25-19/30/25 | Enlarged Editorial Committee (TC-EDC) | V | Taveira, Oertel | UPOV |
| 19/03/25-23/03/25 | 2025 China Seed Congress | V | Huerta | CN |
| 20/03/25 | Working Group on harvested Material and Unauthorized use of Propagating Material (WG-HRV/7) | V | Huerta, Ekvad, Taveira, Nishimura | UPOV |
| 28/03/25 | Meeting with Naktuinbouw and Suriname | V | Ekvad | NL |
| 31/03/25-03/04/25 | Technical Working Party for Ornamental Plants and Forest Trees (TWO/57), Roelofarendsveen, Netherlands (Kingdom of the) | P | Taveira, Oertel | NL, UPOV |
| 01/04/25-03/04/25 | Onboarding training session on UPOV e-PVP Administration Modules for the United Kingdom, organized in Cambridge | P | Madhour | GB, UPOV |
| 04/04/26 | WSP Steering Committee meeting | V | Huerta, Taveira | ISTA, ISF, OECD, WFO, UPOV |
| 08/04/25 | AfrIPI-OAPI-EUIPO activity on the "Exchange on best practices concerning reference collections and training in database management tools for accredited plant variety research and examination centres in OAPI countries" | V | Huerta | OAPI, AfrIPI, EUIPO |
| 09/04/25 | OAPI Consultation Meeting with its National Liaison Structures in Intellectual Property | V | Huerta | OAPI |
| 09/04/25 | WIPO-University of Turin Master of Laws (LLM) in Intellectual Property Program | V | Ekvad | WIPO, University of Turin |
| 09/04/25 | Preparatory Webinar for the 2025 UPOV Seminar on cooperation with breeders in DUS examination (Australia and New Zealand) | V | Huerta, Ekvad, Taveira, Nishimura, Rovere | UPOV |
| 11/04/25 | International Career Day, Bern | P | (represented by WIPO) | CH |
| 23/04/25-24/04/25 | CPVO Administrative Council and Seminar "30 Years of CPVO enabling Innovation for the Future of Plant Breeding", Angers, France | P | Huerta, Ekvad | CPVO |
| 28/04/25-29/04/25 | OAPI Master in Intellectual Property | V | Ekvad | OAPI |
| 28/04/25-01/05/25 | Technical Working Party on Testing Methods and Techniques (TWM/3), Beijing | P | Taveira, Nishimura | UPOV |
| 29/04/25 | WIPO Regional Capacity Building – Empowering Business Growth with AI and IP in the Agriculture 4.0 Sector | V | Huerta | WIPO, MY, PH, TH |
| 05/05/25-08/05/25 | Technical Working Party for Vegetables (TWV/59) | V | Taveira, Oertel | CN, UPOV |
| 07/05/25 | ISF visit to UPOV Office, Geneva | V | Huerta, Ekvad, Madhour | ISF, UPOV |
| 19/05/25-21/05/25 | ISF World Seed Congress, Istanbul, Türkiye | P | Huerta | ISF |
| 21/05/25 | WSP Steering Committee meeting, Istanbul, Türkiye | P | Huerta | ISTA, ISF, OECD, WFO, UPOV |
| 19/05/25-22/05/25 | Technical Working Party for Agricultural Crops (TWA/54), Arusha, United Republic of Tanzania | P | Taveira, Oertel | TZ, UPOV |
| 23/05/25 | WIPO-Armenia National Meeting "Unveiling Value: IP as a Driver for a Sustainable Armenian Wine Industry" | V | Ekvad | WIPO, AM |
| 28/05/25 | Meeting with ARIPO on UPOV e-PVP roadmap | V | Ekvad, Madhour, Falquet | UPOV, ARIPO |
| 02/06/25 | Preparatory Webinar for the 2025 UPOV Seminar on cooperation with breeders in DUS examination (Canada and Chile) | V | Huerta, Ekvad, Taveira, Nishimura, Rovere | UPOV |
| 05/06/25 | Workshop on Patent Governance of Agricultural Genome Editing Technologies, London | P | Ekvad | GB |
| 11/06/25 | African Conference on Agricultural Technologies | V | Ekvad | AATF, RW |
| 11/06/25 | CPVO Working Group on DUS matters related to cost effectiveness | V | Taveira | CPVO |
| 17/06/25 | UPOV visit to ISF Office in Nyon and Agroscope in Changins, Switzerland | P | All UPOV staff | UPOV, ISF |
| 18/06/25 | Preparatory Webinar for the 2025 UPOV Seminar on cooperation with breeders in DUS examination (Kenya and Japan) | V | Huerta, Ekvad, Taveira, Nishimura, Rovere | UPOV |
| 23/06/25-26/06/25 | Technical Working Party for Fruit Crops (TWF/56), Bursa, Türkiye | P | Taveira, Oertel | TR, UPOV |
| 25/06/25 | Euroseeds visit to UPOV Office, Geneva | P | Huerta, Ekvad, Taveira, Madhour | UPOV, Euroseeds |
| 01/07/25 | Bilateral meeting with the Russian Federation on the Program for the use of the Russian language in UPOV | V | Huerta, Ekvad, Taveira | UPOV, RU |
| 02/07/25 | UPOV PRISMA Webinar for Mexico and other Latin American countries | V | Taveira, Madhour | UPOV, MX (AMPPI, SNICS) |
| 04/07/25 | International Videoconference on "The benefits of plant variety protection and effective enforcement of plant breeders' rights" | V | Taveira | PE, INDECOPI |
| 07/07/25 | 2025 Promoting Meeting on Intellectual Property Protection and Utilization in China's Seed Industry | V | Huerta | CN |
| 08/08/25 | National Workshop on Plant Breeders’ Rights Amendment Draft Bill Validation, Mazowe, Zimbabwe | V | Huerta | ZW |
| 08/07/25-17/08/25 | Bilateral meetings held at the fringes of WIPO General Assemblies in Geneva with delegations from Cambodia, Côte d’Ivoire, Gambia (The), Ghana, Guatemala, Japan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malawi, Peru, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Trinidad and Tobago, United Arab Emirates, Zimbabwe, ARIPO, ASIPI, CPVO and OAPI | P | Huerta, Ekvad, Taveira, Frimpong, Nishimura | UPOV |
| 03/08/25-04/08/25 | EAPVP Forum and International Seminar on the "Benefits of UPOV membership", Singapore | P | Huerta, Nishimura | EAPVP Forum |
| 03/08/25-04/08/25 | Bilateral meetings held at the fringes of the EAPVP Forum in Singapore with delegations from Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Singapore and Viet Nam | P | Huerta, Nishimura | UPOV |
| 20/08/25-22/08/25 | Ninth Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD 9) | V | Huerta | JP |
| 26/08/25 | APSA 2025 Regional Plant Variety Protection & Biodiversity Consultation | V | Nishimura | APSA |
| 29/08/25 | JICA Training Course "Introduction of PVP system and utilization to new improved varieties and high-quality seeds" | V | Nishimura | JICA |
| 01/09/25 | IPKey SEA event "Promoting Innovation in Agriculture: UPOV and Plant Variety Rights Protection in Southeast Asia & Focused Group Discussion with Thai Stakeholders" | V | Huerta, Nishimura | IPKey SEA, EUIPO |
| 17/09/25 | CPVO Working Group on potential involvement of breeders in DUS testing | V | Taveira | CPVO |
| 17/09/25-18/09/25 | CPVO Working Group on the revision of the QAS system | V | Taveira | CPVO |
| 26/09/25 | CIOPORA IP Public Conference "Shaping the Future of IP for Plant Breeders: From Challenges towards Opportunities", Madrid | P | Huerta | CIOPORA |
| 29/09/25 | Seed Congress of the Americas | V | Taveira | SAA |
| 30/09/25 | WIPO Nigeria Office Monthly Webinar "Plant Variety Protection: understanding the PLUTO plant variety database" | V | Falquet | WIPO, WNO |

[Appendix follows]

C/59/3

APPENDIX ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

**UPOV terms**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| CAJ | Administrative and Legal Committee |
| CC | Consultative 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 |
| EAM | Meeting on Electronic Applications |
| EDV | essentially derived variety |
| Office | Office of the Union |
| PBR | Plant Breeder’s Right |
| PLUTO | UPOV Plant Variety Database |
| PVP | plant variety protection |
| TC | Technical Committee |
| TC‑EDC | Enlarged Editorial Committee |
| TWA | Technical Working Party for Agricultural Crops |
| TWF | Technical Working Party for Fruit Crops |
| TWM | Technical Working Party on Testing Methods and Techniques |
| TWO | Technical Working Party for Ornamental Plants and Forest Trees |
| TWP(s) | Technical Working Party(ies) |
| TWV | Technical Working Party for Vegetables |
| UPOV e‑PVP | UPOV e‑PVP comprises a package of electronic tools for implementation of the UPOV system of plant variety protection by UPOV members. UPOV e‑PVP includes UPOV PRISMA, UPOV e‑PVP Administration Module, UPOV e‑PVP DUS Report Exchange Module, and the PLUTO database. |
| UPOV PRISMA | UPOV PRISMA PBR Application Tool |
| WG-HRV | Working Group on harvested Material and Unauthorized use of Propagating Material |
| WSP | World Seed Partnership |

**Acronyms**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| AATF | African Agricultural Technology Foundation |
| AfrIPI | Project financed by the European Union and implemented by EUIPO |
| AFSTA | African Seed Trade Association |
| AMPPI (Mexico) | Asociación Mexicana para la Protección de la Propiedad Intelectual  (Mexican Association for the Protection of Intellectual Property) |
| AOHE | Association of European Horticultural Breeders |
| APSA | Asia and Pacific Seed Association |
| ARIPO | African Regional Intellectual Property Organization |
| CIOPORA | International Community of Breeders of Asexually Reproduced Ornamental and Fruit Varieties |
| CPVO | Community Plant Variety Office of the European Union |
| EAPVP Forum | East Asia Plant Variety Protection Forum |
| EUIPO | European Intellectual Property Office |
| INDECOPI | Instituto Nacional de Defensa de la Competencia y de la Protección de la Propiedad Intelectual (National Institute for the Defense of Free Competition and the Protection of Intellectual Property) |
| IPKey SEA | Project financed by the European Commission and implemented by EUIPO |
| ISF | International Seed Federation |
| ISTA | International Seed Testing Association |
| JICA | Japan International Cooperation Agency |
| OAPI | Organisation Africaine de la Propriété Intellectuelle (African Intellectual Property Organization) |
| OECD | Organisation for Economic Co-Operation and Development |
| SAA | Seed Association of the Americas |
| SNICS (Mexico) | Servicio Nacional de Inspección y Certificación de Semillas (National Seed Inspection and Certification Service of Mexico) |
| WFO | World Farmers’ Organization |
| WIPO | World Intellectual Property Organization |
| WNO | WIPO Nigeria Office |
| WTO | World Trade Organization |

**ISO codes**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| AM | Armenia |
| AZ | Azerbaijan |
| CH | Switzerland |
| CN | China |
| GB | United Kingdom |
| JP | Japan |
| KH | Cambodia |
| MX | Mexico |
| MY | Malaysia |
| NG | Nigeria |
| NL | Netherlands (Kingdom of the) |
| PE | Peru |
| PH | Philippines |
| RU | Russian Federation |
| RW | Rwanda |
| TH | Thailand |
| TR | Türkiye |
| TZ | United Republic of Tanzania |
| ZW | Zimbabwe |

[End of Appendix and of document]

1. 84 States comprises those States bound by the 1991 Act and States covered by the plant breeders’ rights regional systems due to their membership to the European Union and OAPI. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. See Appendix “Acronyms and abbreviations”. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
3. In support of sharing and disseminating knowledge to the widest possible audience, UPOV applies an Open Access Policy. While retaining ownership of the copyright on its content, UPOV facilitates access to its online publications and to other online content published under UPOV’s name through the use of Creative Commons (CC) licenses. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
4. \* The International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV), established by the International Convention for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants, is an independent intergovernmental organization having legal personality. Pursuant to an agreement concluded between the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) and UPOV, the Director General of WIPO is the Secretary-General of UPOV and WIPO provides administrative services to UPOV.

   “1978 Act” means the Act of October 23, 1978, of the International Convention for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants; “1991 Act” means the Act of March 19, 1991, of the Convention. [↑](#endnote-ref-2)
5. Operates a plant breeders’ rights system which covers the territory of its 17 member States (member States of OAPI: Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Congo, Côte d’Ivoire, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Guinea, Guinea‑Bissau, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Senegal, Togo). [↑](#endnote-ref-3)
6. With a notification under Article 34(2) of the 1978 Act. [↑](#endnote-ref-4)
7. With a declaration that the 1978 Act is not applicable to Hong Kong, China. [↑](#endnote-ref-5)
8. With a declaration that the Convention of 1961, the Additional Act of 1972, the 1978 Act and the 1991 Act are not applicable to Greenland and the Faroe Islands. [↑](#endnote-ref-6)
9. Operates a plant breeders’ rights system which covers the territory of its 27 member States (member States of the European Union: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands (Kingdom of), Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden). [↑](#endnote-ref-7)
10. Ratification for the Kingdom in Europe. [↑](#endnote-ref-8)
11. The United Kingdom extended the application of the 1991 Act to the territory of the Isle of Man with effect from April 25, 2023. [↑](#endnote-ref-9)
12. With a reservation pursuant to Article 35(2) of the 1991 Act.

    [Annex II follows] [↑](#endnote-ref-10)