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INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR THE PROTECTION OF NEW VARIETIES OF PLANTS

GENEVA

COUNCIL

Fifteenth Ordinary Session

Geneva, November 10 to 12, 1981

ADDENDUM TO THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE
SECRETARY-GENERAL FOR 1980

REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES DURING THE FIRST TEN MONTHS OF 1981

I. State of the Union

1. Since January 1, 1981, four further instruments of ratification of the Revised Act of the UPOV Convention of 1978 have been received (Ireland, May 19, 1981; Switzerland, June 17, 1981; South Africa, July 21, 1981; Denmark, October 8, 1981). With the last of these deposits, the requirements for entry into force of the Revised Act of the UPOV Convention, according to its Article 33(1), have been fulfilled and that Act will enter into force on November 8, 1981 (one month after the last deposit). As of that date, UPOV will have fifteen member States:

Belgium	New Zealand
Denmark	South Africa
France	Spain
Germany (Federal Republic of)	Sweden
Ireland	Switzerland
Israel	United Kingdom
Italy	United States of America
Netherlands	

For further details and certain consequences of the entry into force of the Revised Act of 1978 of the UPOV Convention, see document C/XV/11.

II. Sessions

2. The Consultative Committee held its twenty-third session on May 6, 1981, under the chairmanship of Dr. W. Gfeller (Switzerland). In that session, the Consultative Committee mainly discussed the organization of the Symposium part of the fifteenth ordinary session of the Council and the possible invitation of further non-member States or organizations to sessions of UPOV and to the yearly Symposium, noted the activities resulting from the 1978 Diplomatic Conference, discussed the possible participation of UPOV in the International Horticultural Exhibition being held in Munich, Federal Republic of Germany, in 1983, and the changes in the calendar of meetings in 1981.

3. As far as the work of the Administrative and Legal Committee is concerned, reference is made to document C/XV/8.

4. As far as the work of the Technical Committee and the Technical Working Parties is concerned, reference is made to document C/XV/9.

III. Contacts between the Office of UPOV and States and Organizations

5. One staff member of UPOV attended the tripartite meeting of experts from UPOV, the International Vine and Wine Office (IWO) and the International Board for Plant Genetic Resources (IBPGR), held at Colmar (France) at the end of February, to discuss the preparation of a "Universal List of Characteristics of the Genus Vitis."
6. The President of the Council of UPOV and the Vice Secretary-General participated in the Congresses of the International Association of Plant Breeders for the Protection of Plant Varieties (ASSINSEL) and of the International Federation of the Seed Trade (FIS), both held at the end of May at Acapulco, Mexico.
7. The Vice Secretary-General used his presence in Mexico to establish contacts with the Mexican authorities and paid a visit to the Secretariat for Foreign Relations in Mexico City.
8. The Vice Secretary-General, together with some of the experts from the UPOV member States, attended the FAO/SIDA Seed Conference held at Nairobi, Kenya, at the beginning of June 1981. During his presence in Nairobi, the Vice Secretary-General also had further contacts with the Kenyan authorities.
9. In June 1981, the Secretary-General and the Vice Secretary-General followed an invitation of the President of the Federal Plant Varieties Office of the Federal Republic of Germany at Hanover to visit the new premises of that Office. They also visited a trial station of that Office and the premises of a breeding enterprise.
10. In August 1981, the Vice Secretary-General and a representative of the German Federal Plant Varieties Office (Mrs. Löscher) had discussions, in Munich, with representatives of the International Horticultural Exhibition 1983 (Internationale Gartenbauausstellung - IGA) on the possible representation of UPOV in that exhibition.
11. In the second week of September 1981, the Vice Secretary-General participated in the Festakt (commemoration) and in a lecture and discussion meeting held in Vienna to mark the centenary of the Austrian Bundesanstalt für Pflanzenbau und Samenprüfung. Also invited was Dr. Böringer, President of the German Federal Plant Varieties Office at Hanover, who gave a lecture on his country's experience with the UPOV Convention.
12. At the end of September 1981, the Vice Secretary-General participated in certain meetings of the thirty-third congress of the International Association of Horticultural Producers (AIPH) held at Taormina, Italy. The major point of discussion was the question of extending protection to the marketed product.
13. In the second half of October 1981, the President of the Council of UPOV and the Vice Secretary-General paid a courtesy call to the newly appointed Director of the Swiss Federal Agricultural Research Station at Changins, Dr. Vex.
14. Of the many visitors received in the Office of the Union, the visit of Mr. Paterson (Officer-in-Charge, Seed Inspection Services, Department of Agriculture of Western Australia) deserves special mention. Mr. Paterson was on a visit to Europe to inform himself inter alia on the impact of plant breeders' rights and on UPOV.
15. The Office of the Union was informed that in Japan a new association had been established which is mainly concerned with the protection and development of plant varieties. It is composed of persons representing business circles, science and technology as well as jurisprudence and the legal profession. The President is Mr. Tatsuzo Mizukami, who is also President of the Japan Foreign Trade Council Inc., and who was formerly President of the enterprise Mitsui & Co. The name of the association is "Japan Association for the Protection and Development of Plant Varieties" (JAPDPV). One of the directors, Mrs. Michiko Ariga (President of the Research Center for Foreign Laws on Antitrust and Industrial Property and former Commissioner of the Fair Trade Commission), visited the Secretary-General and the Vice Secretary-General in Geneva on September 9, 1981, to obtain information on UPOV and to inform UPOV of the establishment of JAPDPV.