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INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR THE PROTECTION OF NEW VARIETIES OF PLANTS

Geneva

ADMINISTRATIVE AND LEGAL COMMITTEE

Sixty-Seventh Session Geneva, March 21, 2013

VARIETY DENOMINATIONS

Document prepared by the Office of the Union

1. The Administrative and Legal Committee (CAJ) at its sixty-fifth session, held in Geneva on March 29, 2012, noted the report made at the forty-eighth session of the Technical Committee (TC), held in Geneva from March 26 to 28, 2012, by the Delegation of Japan that the International Commission for the Nomenclature of Cultivated Plants of the International Union for Biological Sciences (IUBS Commission) was in the process of initiating the revision of the International Code of Nomenclature for Cultivated Plants (ICNCP) at a meeting of the IUBS Commission to be held in Beijing, China in 2013. The CAJ agreed with the TC that the Office of the Union should contact the IUBS Commission in order to explain the guidance provided by UPOV in document UPOV/INF/12 "Explanatory notes on variety denominations under the UPOV Convention" (see document CAJ/65/12 "Report on the Conclusions", paragraph 72).

2. The Sixth International Symposium on the Taxonomy and Nomenclature of Cultivated Plants is scheduled to take place from July 15 to 18, 2013, in Beijing. The Symposium will be followed by a meeting of the IUBS Commission on July 19 and 20, 2013, where the IUBS Commission will consider all proposals to amend the Code that have been submitted prior to May 2013. Those proposals will be published in the journal "Hanburyana" and will also be made available electronically.

3. The CAJ, at its sixty-sixth session, held in Geneva on October 29, 2012, noted that, on October 8, 2012, the Office of the Union had met with Mr. Christopher D. Brickell (Chairman of the IUBS Commission), Mr. John C. David (IUBS Commission member), Mr. Alan C. Leslie (IUBS Commission member) and Mr. James D. Armitage (Chairman of Hortax¹) at the Royal Horticultural Society, London. The aim of the meeting was to review differences between the guidance on variety denominations provided by UPOV in document UPOV/INF/12/3 "Explanatory notes on variety denominations under the UPOV Convention" (UPOV Explanatory Notes on Variety Denominations) and the Rules and Recommendations in the ICNCP, in order to consider whether it would be important and feasible to seek harmonization and the mechanisms by which that might be achieved. The background to this topic is provided in document CAJ/66/3 "Variety denominations", paragraphs 3 to 20).

4. At its sixty-sixth session, the CAJ approved the following steps in relation to potential areas for cooperation between UPOV and the IUBS Commission and the International Society for Horticultural Science Commission for Nomenclature and Cultivar Registration (ISHS Commission):

(a) Members of the IUBS Commission and the Office of the Union to draft a brief, joint notice for publication in Hanburyana² in order to inform the Sixth International Symposium on the Nomenclature of

¹ Hortax is a small committee of European plant taxonomists and horticulturists with a professional interest in the classification and nomenclature of cultivated plants (see <http://www.hortax.org.uk>).

² Hanburyana, published annually by the RHS Science Department, is a serial dedicated to horticultural taxonomy (see <http://www.rhs.org.uk/Plants/RHS-Publications/Journals/Hanburyana>). John David is the Editor.

Cultivated Plants, scheduled to take place from July 15 to 18, 2013, in Beijing, China, of the areas where greater cooperation and harmonization between UPOV and the IUBS Commission could be beneficial, on the basis set out in document CAJ/66/3 "Variety denominations" (see paragraphs 3 to 20 of document CAJ/66/3);

(b) Members of the IUBS Commission to approach Ms. Janet Cubey, Chairperson of the ISHS Commission with a view to UPOV organizing a meeting with ISHS and other relevant partners to discuss denomination classes and the concept of a common search platform for variety denomination searching purposes;

(c) Members of the IUBS Commission to inform UPOV of appropriate contact details for the IUBS Commission;

(d) Members of the IUBS Commission to consider how to initiate the process for UPOV to have observer status in the IUBS Commission; and

(e) further meetings, preferably using web conferencing, between members of the IUBS Commission, ISHS Commission and the Office of the Union, as necessary, in order to advance the points in (a) to (d).

(see document CAJ/66/8 "Report on the Conclusions", paragraph 14)

5. A report on new developments concerning potential areas of cooperation between UPOV, the IUBS Commission and the ISHS Commission will be made to the CAJ at its sixty-seventh session.

6. The CAJ is invited to note the developments concerning potential areas for cooperation between UPOV and the International Commission for the Nomenclature of Cultivated Plants of the International Union for Biological Sciences (IUBS Commission) and the International Society for Horticultural Science Commission for Nomenclature and Cultivar Registration (ISHS Commission), as set in paragraphs 4 and 5 of this document.

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