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**INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR THE PROTECTION OF NEW VARIETIES OF PLANTS**

Geneva

**ADMINISTRATIVE AND LEGAL COMMITTEE****Sixty-Eighth Session  
Geneva, October 21, 2013**

## VARIETY DENOMINATIONS

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

1. The background to this topic is provided in document CAJ/66/3 "Variety denominations", paragraphs 3 to 20.
2. On July 19, 2013, in Beijing, China, the Office of the Union participated as a speaker in the VI International Symposium on the Taxonomy of Cultivated Plants (ISTCP 2013), which was hosted by the Beijing Forestry University and Beijing Botanical Garden, under the auspices of the International Society for Horticultural Sciences (ISHS). The Office of the Union explained the guidance provided by UPOV on variety denominations.
3. On July 20 and 21, also in Beijing, the Office of the Union participated, in an observer capacity, in the meetings of the International Commission for the Nomenclature of Cultivated Plants of the International Union for Biological Sciences (IUBS Commission). At those meetings, the IUBS Commission considered proposals to amend the Eighth Edition of the International Code of Nomenclature for Cultivated Plants (ICNCP). Those proposals were published in July 2013 in Volume 7 of the journal "Horticulture" <http://www.rhs.org.uk/Plants/RHS-Publications/Journals/Hanburyana/Hanburyana-issues/Volume-7--June-2013>. The proposals agreed by the IUBS Commission will be reflected in the Ninth Edition of the ICNCP, which is expected to be published in 2014.
4. A proposal was made by the IUBS Commission to establish a working group, which would include UPOV, at the early stages of the preparatory work for the Tenth Edition of the ICNCP. At the fringes of the meetings in Beijing, an informal exchange took place between the Office of the Union and Ms. Janet Cubey, Chairperson of the ISHS Commission, with a view to discussing possibilities for greater harmonization of denomination classes. It was suggested to explore areas of cooperation on denomination classes in the proposed working group for the Tenth Edition of the ICNCP.
5. *The CAJ is invited to note the developments concerning potential areas for cooperation between the International Commission for the Nomenclature of Cultivated Plants of the International Union for Biological Sciences (IUBS Commission), the International Society for Horticultural Science Commission for Nomenclature and Cultivar Registration (ISHS Commission) and UPOV, as set out in this document.*

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