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DC/ WG/I/1

ORIGINAL: German

DATE: October 13, 1978

INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR THE PROTECTION OF NEW VARIETIES OF PLANTS

GENEVA

DIPLOMATIC CONFERENCE
ON THE REVISION OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION
FOR THE PROTECTION OF NEW VARIETIES OF PLANTS

Geneva, October 9 to 23, 1978

PRELIMINARY DRAFT FOR A NEW TEXT FOR ARTICLE 13

submitted by the Chairman

The text reproduced in the Annex has been prepared by the Chairman on the basis of the discussions in the Working Group on Article 13.

[Annex follows]

Article 13

Variety Denomination

(1) A variety shall be designated by a denomination, to be its generic designation. The member States shall ensure that subject to paragraph (4) no rights in the designation registered as the denomination of the variety shall hamper the free use of the denomination, even after the expiration of the period of protection.

(2) Such denomination must enable the variety to be identified [, in particular, it may not consist solely of figures]. It must not be liable to mislead or to cause confusion concerning the characteristics, value or identity of the variety or the identity of the breeder. In particular, it must be different from every denomination which designates, in any member State of the Union, an existing variety of the same botanical species or of a closely related species.

(3) The denomination of the variety shall be submitted by the breeder to the authority referred to in Article 30. If it is found that such denomination does not satisfy the requirements of the preceding paragraph, the authority shall refuse to register it and shall require the breeder to propose another denomination within a prescribed period. The denomination shall be registered at the same time as the title of protection is issued in accordance with the provisions of Article 7.

(4) Prior rights of third parties shall not be affected. If, by reason of a prior right, the use of the denomination of a variety is forbidden to a person who, in accordance with the provisions of paragraph (7), is obliged to use it, the competent authority shall require the breeder to submit another denomination for the variety.

(5) A variety must be submitted in member States of the Union under the same denomination. The competent authority for the issue of the title of protection in each member State of the Union shall register the denomination so submitted, unless it considers that denomination unsuitable in that State. In this case, it may require the breeder to submit another suitable denomination.

(6) The competent authority of each member State of the Union shall ensure that the competent authorities of the other member States of the Union are informed of matters concerning variety denominations, including in particular the submission, registration and cancellation of such denominations. Any authority may address its observations, if any, on the registration of a denomination to the authority which communicated that denomination.

(7) Any person who, in a member State of the Union, offers for sale or markets reproductive or vegetative propagating material of a variety protected in that State shall be obliged to use the denomination of that variety, even after the expiration of the protection of that variety, in so far as, in accordance with the provisions of paragraph (4), prior rights do not prevent such use.

(8) When the variety is offered for sale or marketed, it shall be permitted to associate a trade mark, trade name or other similar indication with a registered variety denomination. If such an indication is associated, the denomination must be easily recognizable.