

Technical Working Party for Agricultural Crops

TWA/48/2

Forty-Eighth Session

Montevideo, Uruguay, September 16 to 20, 2019

Original: English

Date: September 13, 2019

REPORT ON DEVELOPMENTS IN UPOV

prepared by the Office of the Union

Disclaimer: this document does not represent UPOV policies or guidance

The Annex to this document contains a copy of a presentation “Reports on developments within UPOV” to be made by the Office of the Union at the forty-eighth session of the Technical Working Party for Agricultural Crops (TWA).

[Annex follows]

TECHNICAL WORKING PARTY FOR
AGRICULTURAL CROPS
Forty-Eighth Session

REPORT ON DEVELOPMENTS IN UPOV

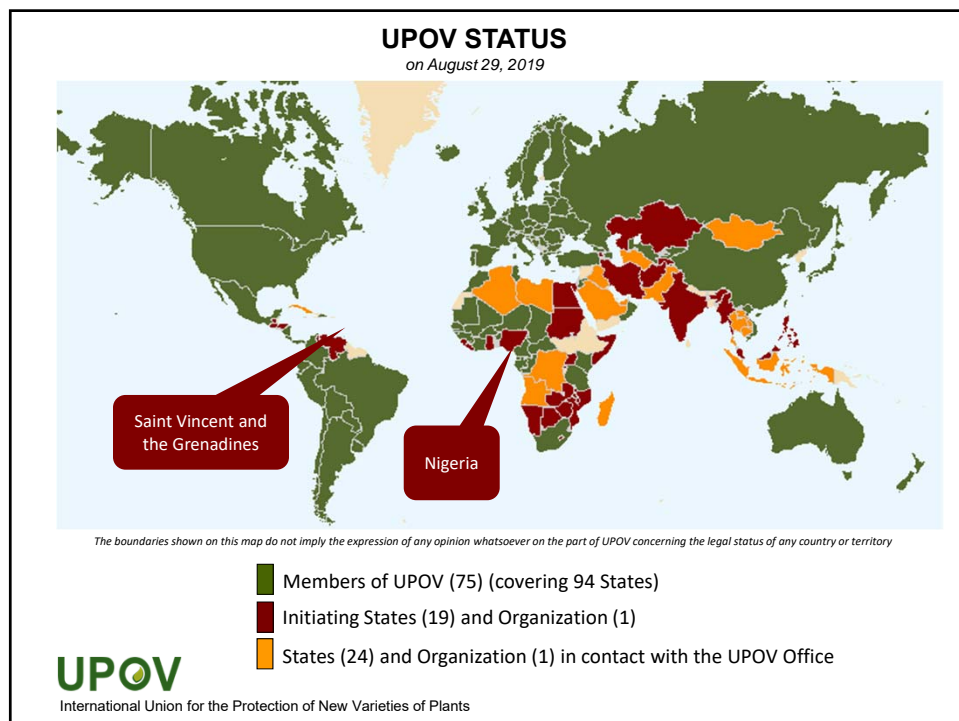
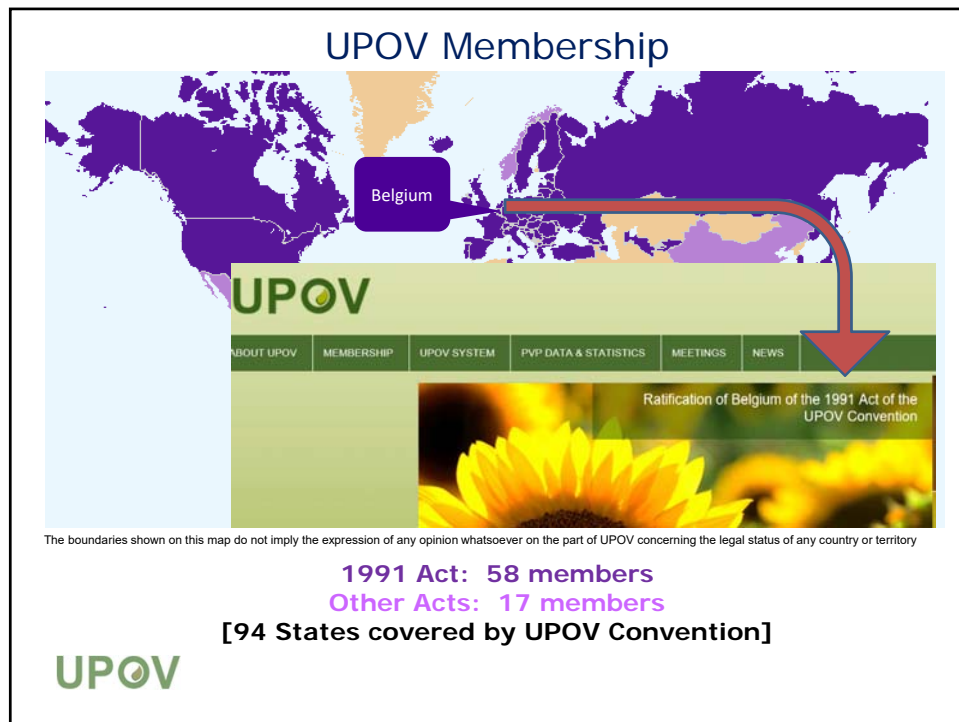
Office of the Union

UPOV *Montevideo, Uruguay, September 16 to 20, 2019*
International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants

Preview

- Membership & statistics
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First Examination of Draft Laws by the Council by correspondence

In the context of the organization of a single set of sessions from 2018, and in order to facilitate the examination of laws of future members, the Council, at its fifty-first ordinary session, held in Geneva on October 26, 2017, approved the proposals to amend document UPOV/INF/13/1 "Guidance on how to become a member of UPOV", in order to **introduce a procedure for examination of laws by correspondence** and adopted a revision of document UPOV/INF/13/1 (document UPOV/INF/13/2) (see document C/51/22 "Report", paragraph 20(g)).

Positive decision on the Draft Law of Nigeria

The Council took a **positive decision** on the conformity of the "**Plant Variety Protection Bill of Nigeria**" ("Draft Law") with the 1991 Act of UPOV Convention, which allows Nigeria once the Draft Law is adopted with no changes and the Law is in force, to deposit its instrument of accession to the 1991 Act.

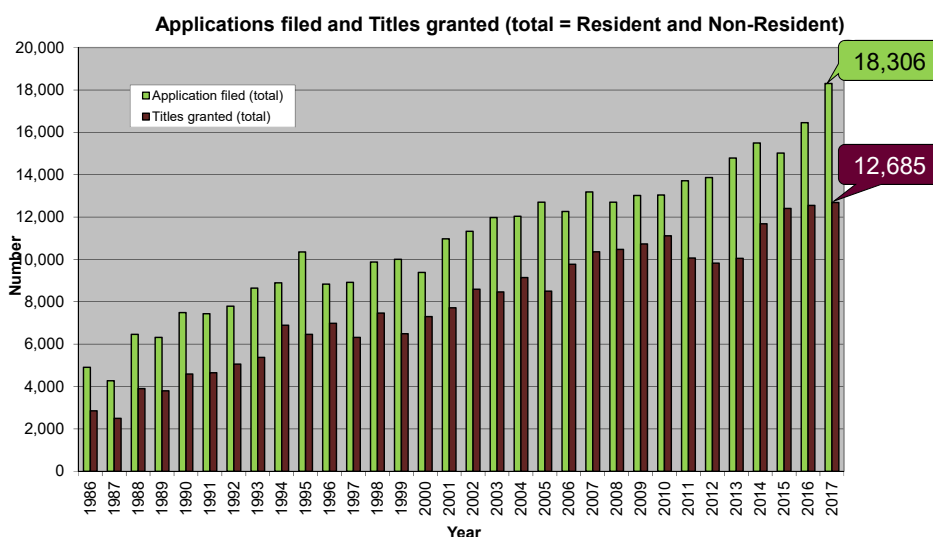
Positive decision on the Draft Law of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines

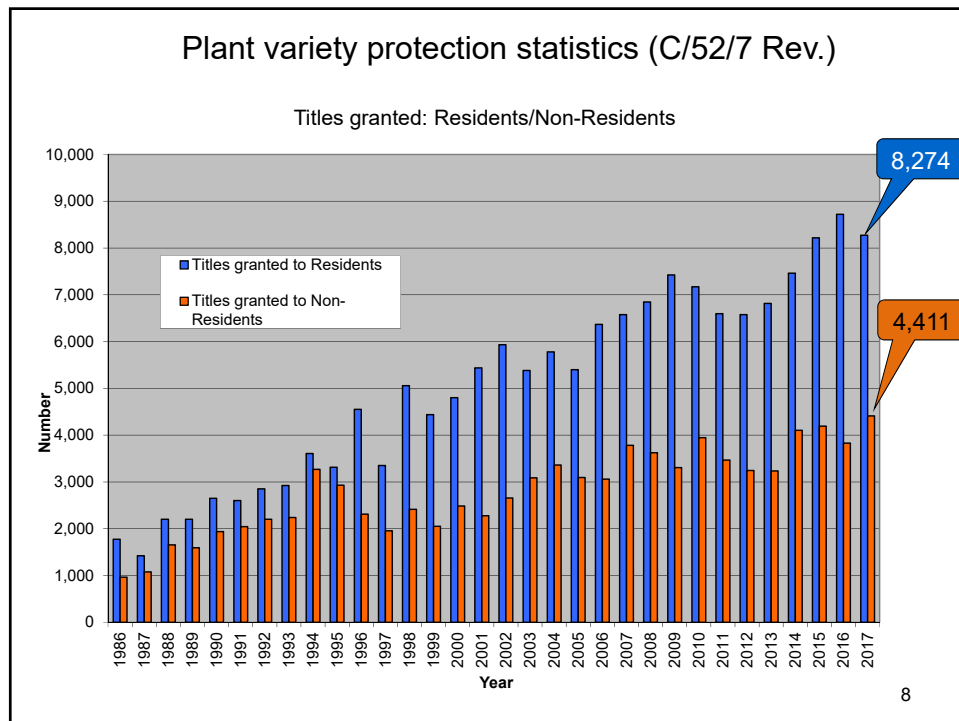
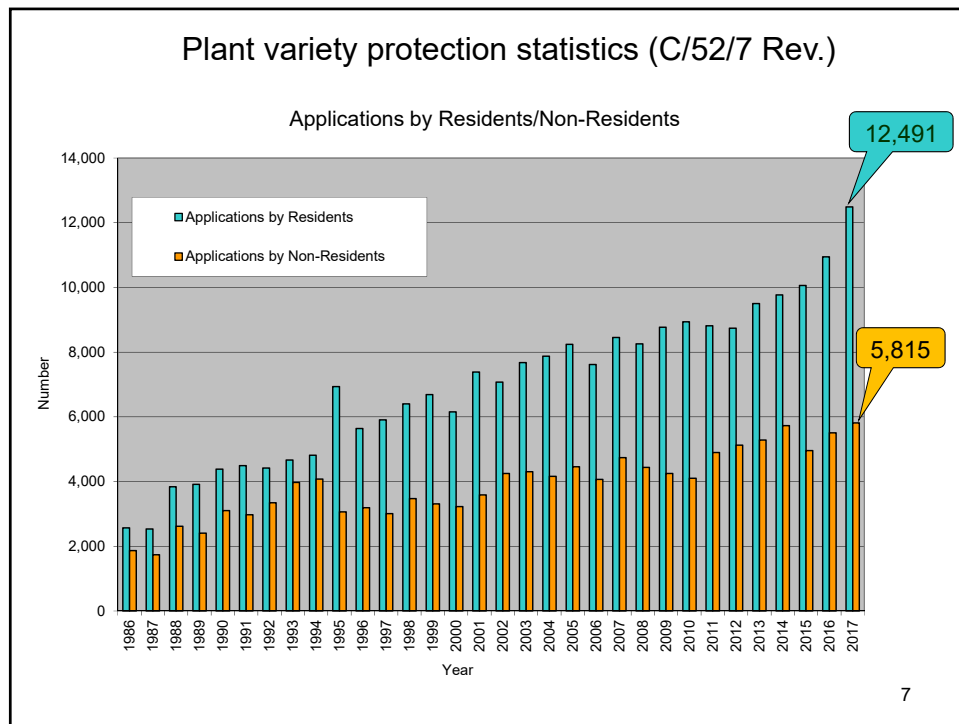
The Council took a **positive decision** on the conformity of the "**Plant Breeders' Protection Bill 2019 of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines**" ("Draft Law") with the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention, which allows Saint Vincent and the Grenadines once the Draft Law is adopted with no changes and the Law is in force, to deposit its instrument of accession to the 1991 Act.

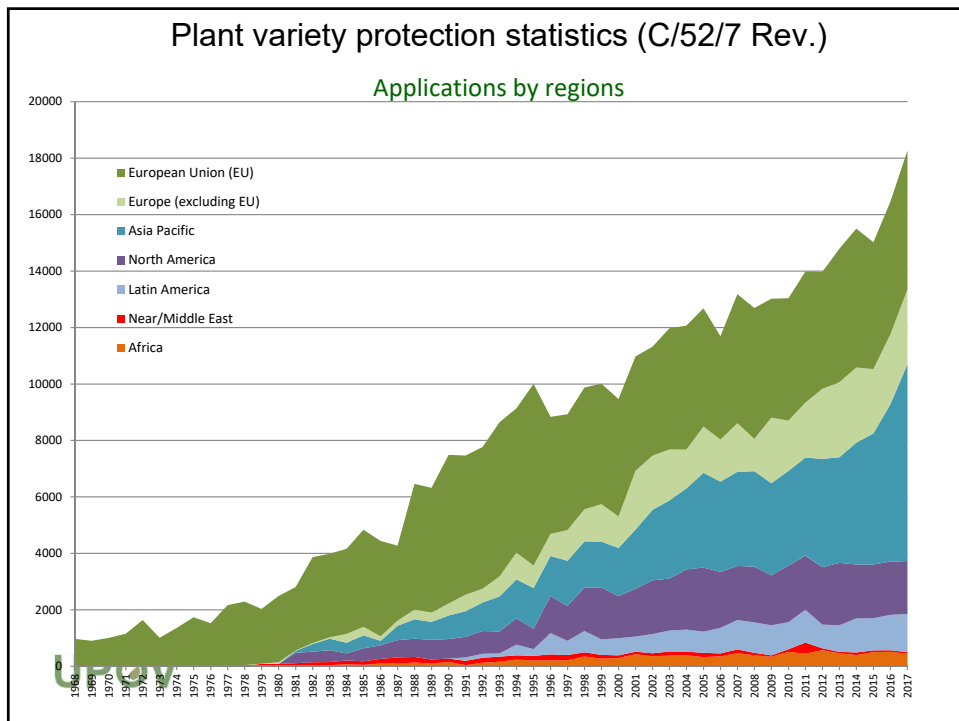
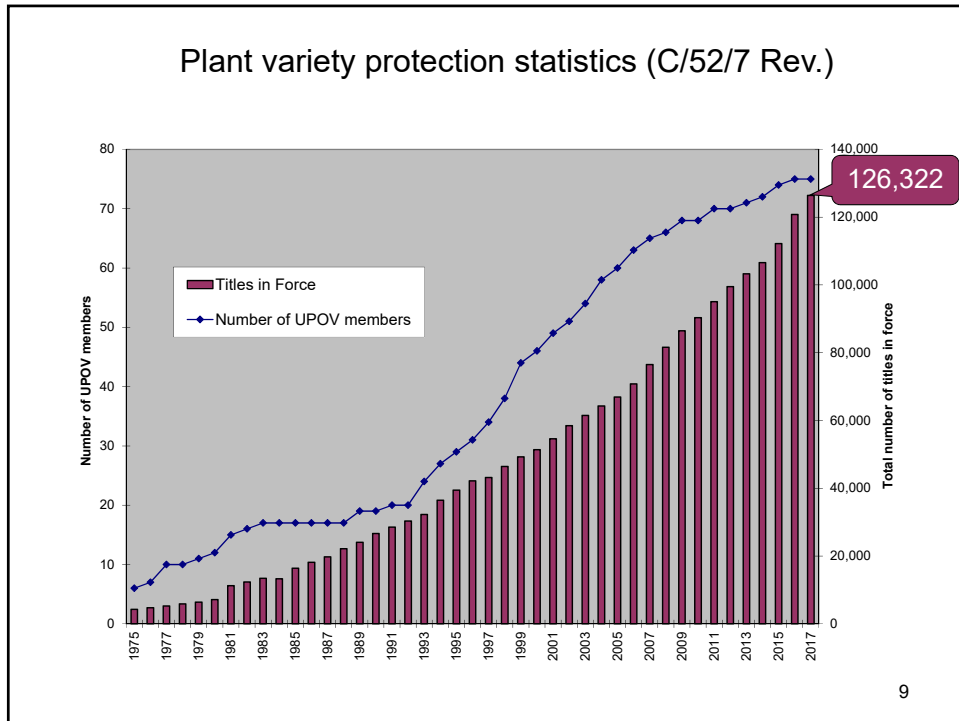


International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants

Plant variety protection statistics (C/52/7 Rev.)







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The screenshot shows the UPOV website homepage. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links: UPOV SYSTEM, PVP DATA & STATISTICS, MEETINGS, NEWS, and a 'Contact us' link. Below the navigation bar is a large banner image of sunflowers with the text 'Follow @UPOVint on Twitter to see more...'. To the right of the banner is a 'Stakeholder features' section listing: Breeders, Farmers and Growers, Policy makers, and General Public. Below this is a section for 'UPOV PRISMA PBR Application Tool', 'GENIE Database', 'UPOV Lex', and 'Plant Variety Database (PLUTO)'. On the left, there is a 'Welcome' section with text about UPOV's mission. On the right, there is a 'Quick Links' section with links: Introduction to UPOV, Benefits of UPOV, UPOV Collection, UPOV PRISMA (Information), Distance Learning Courses (highlighted with a red box and a red arrow), and FAQs. The UPOV logo is at the bottom left.

UPOV SYSTEM | PVP DATA & STATISTICS | MEETINGS | NEWS | Contact us | Site

Follow @UPOVint on Twitter to see more...

Welcome

The International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV) is an intergovernmental organization with headquarters in Geneva (Switzerland).

UPOV was established by the International Convention for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants. The Convention was adopted in Paris in 1961 and it was revised in 1972, 1978 and 1991.

UPOV's mission is to provide and promote an effective system of plant variety protection, with the aim of encouraging the development of new varieties of plants, for the benefit of society.

▲ Top of page

Stakeholder features

- Breeders
- Farmers and Growers
- Policy makers
- General Public

UPOV PRISMA
PBR Application Tool

GENIE Database

UPOV Lex

Plant Variety Database (PLUTO)

Quick Links

- Introduction to UPOV
- Benefits of UPOV
- UPOV Collection
- UPOV PRISMA (Information)
- Distance Learning Courses
- FAQs

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UPOV Training

UPOV Distance Learning Courses

Code	Course	Session	Study period	Registration period
DL-205	Introduction to the UPOV System of Plant Variety Protection under the UPOV Convention	Session 1	04-Mar to 07-Apr 2019	14-Jan to 15-Feb 2019
		Session 2	14-Oct to 17-Nov 2019	05-Aug to 13-Sep 2019
DL-305A	Administration of Plant Breeders' Rights (Part A of DL-305 course: Examination of applications for plant breeders' rights)	Session 1	04-Mar to 07-Apr 2019	14-Jan to 15-Feb 2019
		Session 2	14-Oct to 17-Nov 2019	05-Aug to 13-Sep 2019
DL-305B	DUS Examination (Part B of DL-305 course: Examination of applications for plant breeders' rights)	Session 1	04-Mar to 07-Apr 2019	14-Jan to 15-Feb 2019
		Session 2	14-Oct to 17-Nov 2019	05-Aug to 13-Sep 2019
DL-305	Examination of applications for plant breeders' rights	Session 1	04-Mar to 07-Apr 2019	14-Jan to 15-Feb 2019
		Session 2	14-Oct to 17-Nov 2019	05-Aug to 13-Sep 2019

The UPOV Courses are hosted on the WIPO eLearning Center.



DL-205

Introduction to the UPOV System of Plant Variety Protection under the UPOV Convention

DL-305

Advanced Distance Learning Courses

Registrations can be made in three different categories:

Category 1:
Government officials of members of the Union nominated by the relevant representative to the UPOV Council
No fee

Category 2:
Officials of observer States / intergovernmental organizations nominated by the relevant representative to the UPOV Council
(One non-fee paying student per State / intergovernmental organization;
Additional students: CHF1,000 per student)

Category 3:
Others
Fee: CHF1,000



Laws workshop

Workshop on drafting legislation in accordance with the UPOV Convention

Purpose To provide **guidance on drafting legislation** in accordance with the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention and

To provide an opportunity for **individual meetings** with the UPOV Office to address matters concerning the legislative process in the country of the selected participants

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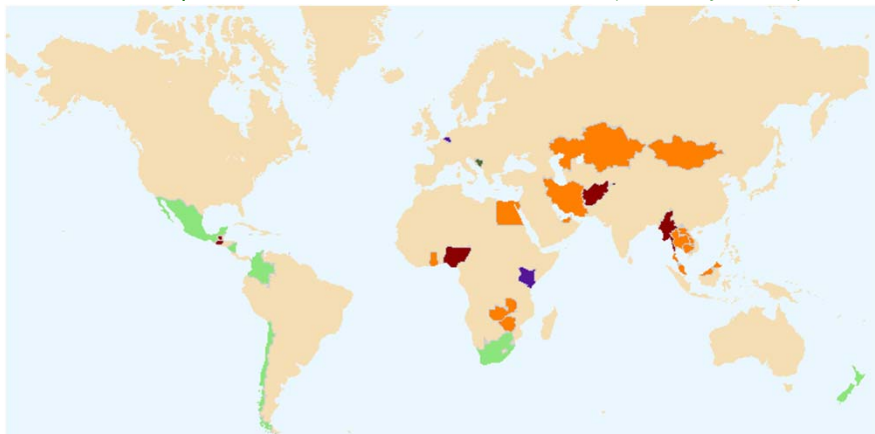
Workshop on drafting legislation in accordance with the UPOV Convention








- Held in Geneva, from January 28 to 30, 2019
- 26 participants from 14 states

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Developments in relation to UPOV: 2016-2019 (status July 8, 2019)



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 became members of the Union during 2016-2019 (1)
-  States and organizations that acceded or ratified the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention during 2016-2019 (2)
-  Members that contacted the Office of the Union for assistance in the development of legislation according to the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention during 2016-2019 (7)
-  States and organizations that initiated with the Council of UPOV the procedure for becoming members of the Union during 2016-2019 (6)
-  States and organizations that contacted the Office of the Union for assistance in the development of legislation according to the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention during 2016-2019 (18)

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Academic/regular training programs promoted by UPOV

Current information on UPOV website

Other Training

 **Naktuinbouw - Plant breeders' rights for food security and economic development training course**
Wageningen, Netherlands


Dates of course: **June 15 to 26, 2020**



Deadline for application: **May 4, 2020**

Deadline for application for a NFP (KOP), MENA or StuNed scholarships: **15 October 2019**.

For more information please [click here](#)
or contact Naktuinbouw: I.pinan.gonzalez@naktuinbouw.nl or tel. +31 (0)71 332 61 34

Assistance offered by Naktuinbouw

 Helpdesk on practical technical questions

 Information on internship at Naktuinbouw  Internship application form

UPOV

Criteria for UPOV promotion of selected regular academic/training programs

- ✓ Implemented in accordance with the principles in the UPOV training and assistance strategy
- ✓ Clear commitment to PVP in accordance with UPOV Convention
- ✓ Impact of the training or program for targeted countries and participants in relation to UPOV matters and the prioritization of the UPOV Council

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Calendar UPOV meetings 2019

JUNE	Monday, 24 to Friday, 28	Technical Working Party for Fruit Crops (TWF)	Budapest, Hungary
SEPTEMBER	Monday, 16 to Friday, 20	Technical Working Party for Agricultural Crops (TWA)	Montevideo, Uruguay
OCTOBER	Monday, 14 to Wednesday, 16 (morning)	Technical Working Party on Automation and Computer Programs (TWC)	Hangzhou, China
	Wednesday, 16 (afternoon) to Friday 18	Working Group on Biochemical and Molecular Techniques, and DNA-Profiling in Particular (BMT)	Hangzhou, China
	Sunday, 27 and Monday, 28 (evening)	Enlarged Editorial Committee	Geneva, Switzerland
	Monday, 28 and Tuesday, 29	Technical Committee	Geneva, Switzerland
	Monday, 28 (evening)	Meeting on the Development of an Electronic Application Form	Geneva, Switzerland
	Tuesday, 29 (evening)	Working Group on Variety Denominations	Geneva, Switzerland
	Wednesday, 30 (morning)	Seminar on the impact of policy on essentially derived varieties (EDVs) on breeding strategy	Geneva, Switzerland
	Wednesday, 30 (afternoon)	Administrative and Legal Committee	Geneva, Switzerland
	Wednesday, 30 (evening)	Working Group on a Possible International System of Cooperation	Geneva, Switzerland
	Thursday, 31	Consultative Committee	Geneva, Switzerland
NOVEMBER	Friday, 1	Council	Geneva, Switzerland

UPOV

Technical Committee Fifty-fourth session - October 29 and 30, 2018

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE Program for the fifty-fifth session

1. Opening of the session
2. Adoption of the agenda
3. Report on developments in UPOV including relevant matters discussed in the last sessions of the Administrative and Legal Committee, the Consultative Committee and the Council
4. Progress reports on the work of the Technical Working Parties, including the Working Group on Biochemical and Molecular Techniques, and DNA-Profiling in Particular (BMT)
5. Matters arising from the Technical Working Parties
6. **TGP documents**
7. Information and databases
 - (a) UPOV information databases
 - (b) UPOV PRISMA
 - (c) Exchange and use of software and equipment
 - (d) Variety description databases
8. Molecular techniques
9. Variety denominations
10. Preparatory workshops
11. **International cooperation in examination**
12. **Matters concerning variety descriptions**
13. Differences in notes for the assessment of distinctness
14. **Discussion on: Minimum distances between varieties** (presentations invited)
15. List of genera and species for which authorities have practical experience in the examination of distinctness, uniformity and stability
16. Test Guidelines
17. Program for the fifty-sixth session
18. Adoption of the report (if time permits)
19. Closing of the session

UPOV

Technical Committee

Fifty-fourth session - October 29 and 30, 2018

Document TC/54/31 "Report"

Cooperation in examination

252. The TC considered document TC/54/25.

253. The TC considered the results of the survey of the current situation of members of the Union with regard to cooperation in examination, as set out in document TC/54/25, Annex.

254. The TC agreed that it would be useful for UPOV members to identify contact the persons for international cooperation in DUS examination and make this information available via the UPOV website.

255. The TC agreed to invite the **TWPs to explore the technical concerns that prevented cooperation** and to **propose how to overcome the technical concerns raised.**

256. The TC agreed that the topic of international cooperation should be included in the preparatory workshops for the TWPs to explain the existing possibilities for cooperation between UPOV members.

Session to facilitate cooperation

278. The TC noted that discussion groups had been formed at the sixteenth session of the BMT for: agricultural crops; fruit crops; ornamental plants and forest trees; and vegetables, for BMT participants to exchange information on their work and explore areas for cooperation.

279. The TC noted that, at the seventeenth session of the BMT, discussion groups had been formed for: maize and soybeans; other agricultural crops; fruit crops and forest trees; ornamental plants; and vegetables, for BMT participants to exchange information on their work and explore areas for cooperation.

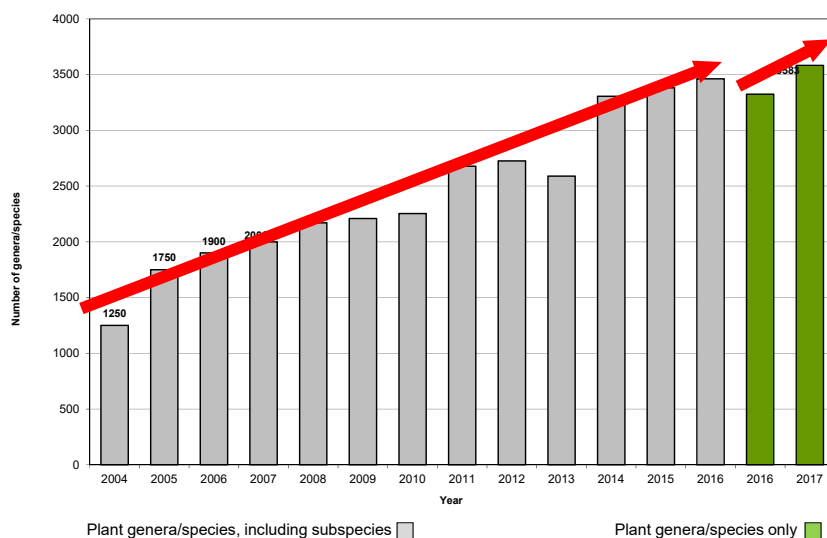
280. The TC noted that the BMT had plans to discuss, at its eighteenth session, issues concerning cooperation between partners and service providers, including confidentiality, access to data and material, authorization for work to be performed and availability of results and information to partners.

281. The TC agreed that the results of the coordination session in the BMT be reported to the other Technical Working Parties (TWPs). The TC agreed to invite the TWPs to undertake a similar session to build on the BMT outcomes and feed into the future work of the BMT. The TC agreed that discussion groups should be formed for the main crops at each TWP to allow participants to exchange information on their work and explore areas for cooperation.

282. The TC further agreed that the discussion groups could also consider issues concerning cooperation in DUS examination, to explore technical concerns that prevented cooperation and to consider how to overcome the technical concerns raised, as discussed under agenda item 7 "Cooperation in Examination".

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Evolution of number of Genera/Species with Practical Experience in DUS examination

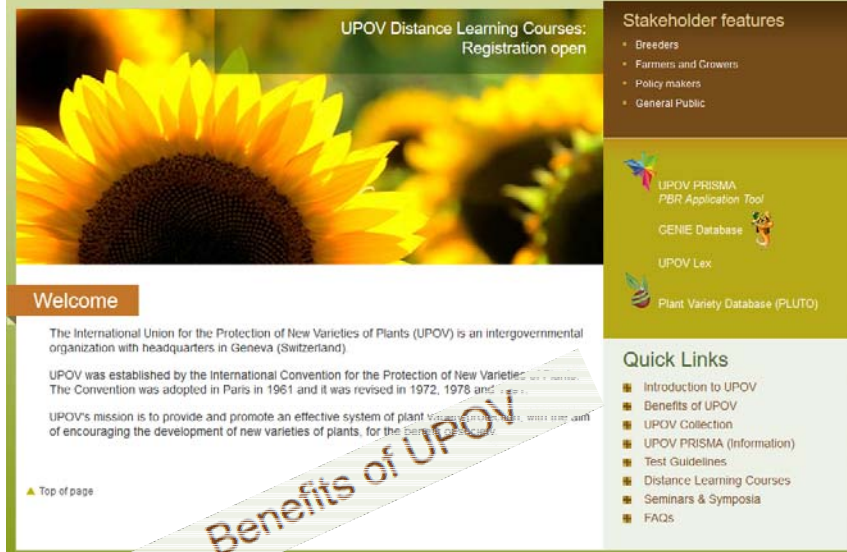


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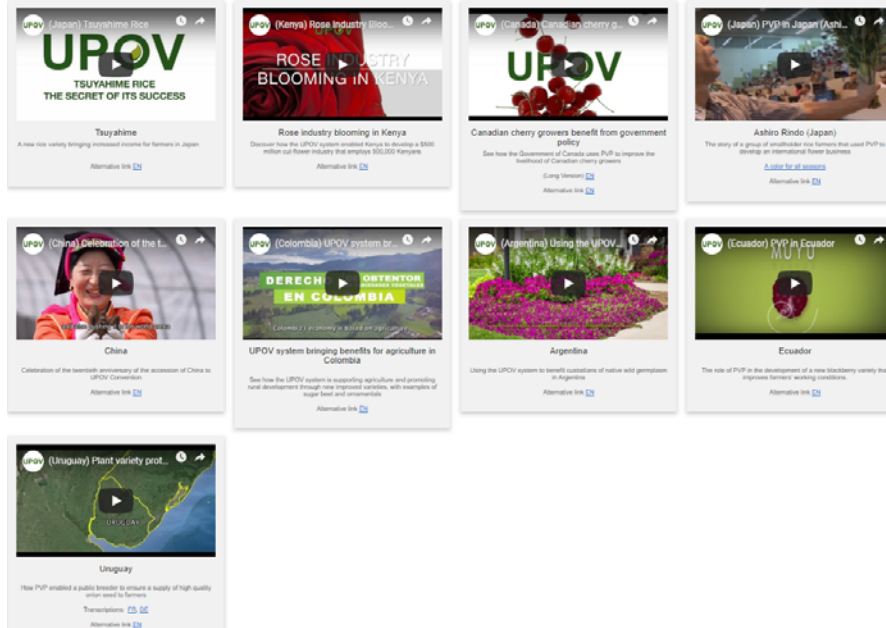
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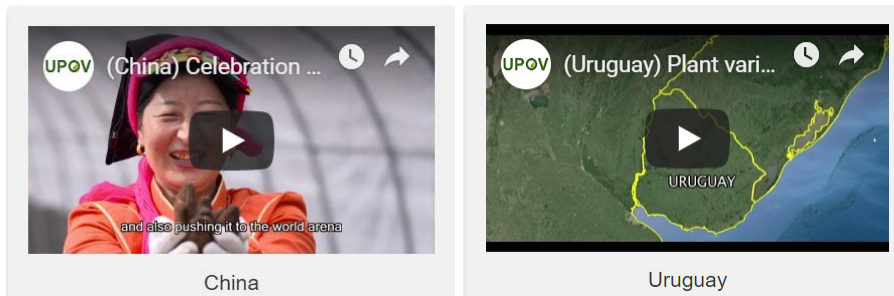
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www.upov.int

Benefits of the UPOV System



UPOV Videos



Celebration of the twentieth anniversary of the accession of China to UPOV Convention

Languages available: EN audio
Subtitles: EN

How PVP enabled a public breeder to ensure a supply of high quality onion seed to farmers

Languages available: ES audio
Subtitles: EN
Transcriptions: FR, DE

UPOV

Peter Button (UPOV) UPOV Worldwide

Anthony Parker (UPOV) Impact of UPOV

Director Nguyen Thanh Minh of the Plant Variety Protection Office of Viet Nam

Interview: Peter Button, Vice Secretary-General
Overview of the Benefits of the UPOV system

Interview: Director Nguyen Thanh Minh, Plant Variety Protection Office of Viet Nam
Explains importance of UPOV

HFFA Research GmbH

The socio-economic benefits of UPOV membership in Viet Nam:

An ex-post assessment on plant breeding and agricultural productivity after ten years

Corresponding author: Steffen Noleppa

Available in English and Vietnamese
Thai translation available shortly!

hffa RESEARCH

HFFA Research Paper 03/2017

Socio-economic benefits of UPOV membership in Viet Nam

An ex-post assessment on plant breeding and agricultural productivity after 10 years
(Corresponding author: Steffen Noleppa); by HFFA Research GmbH

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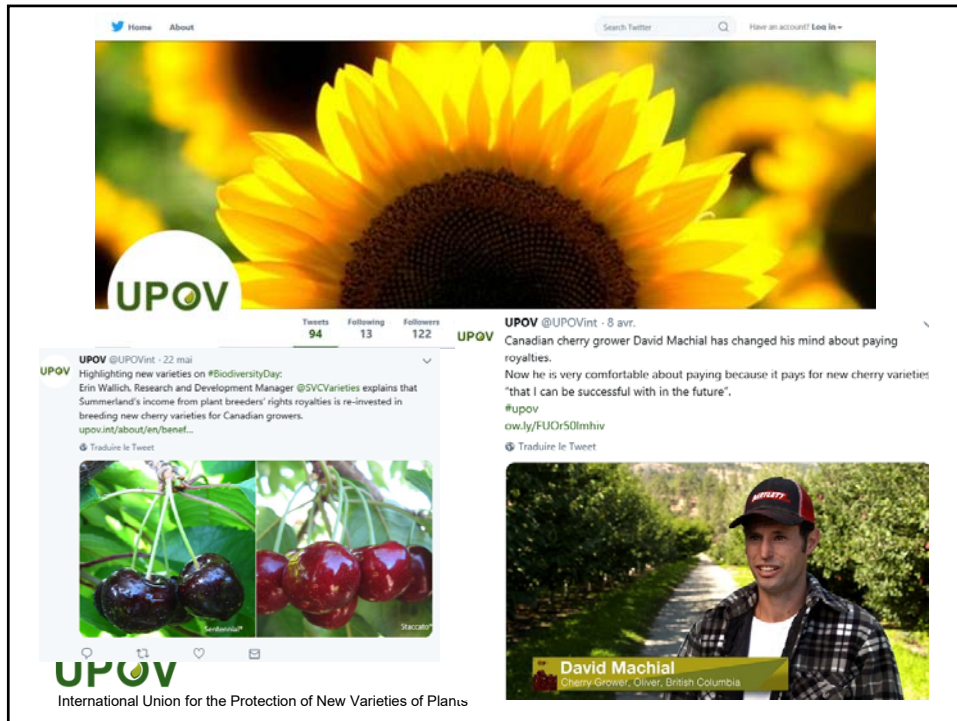
UPOV Social Media

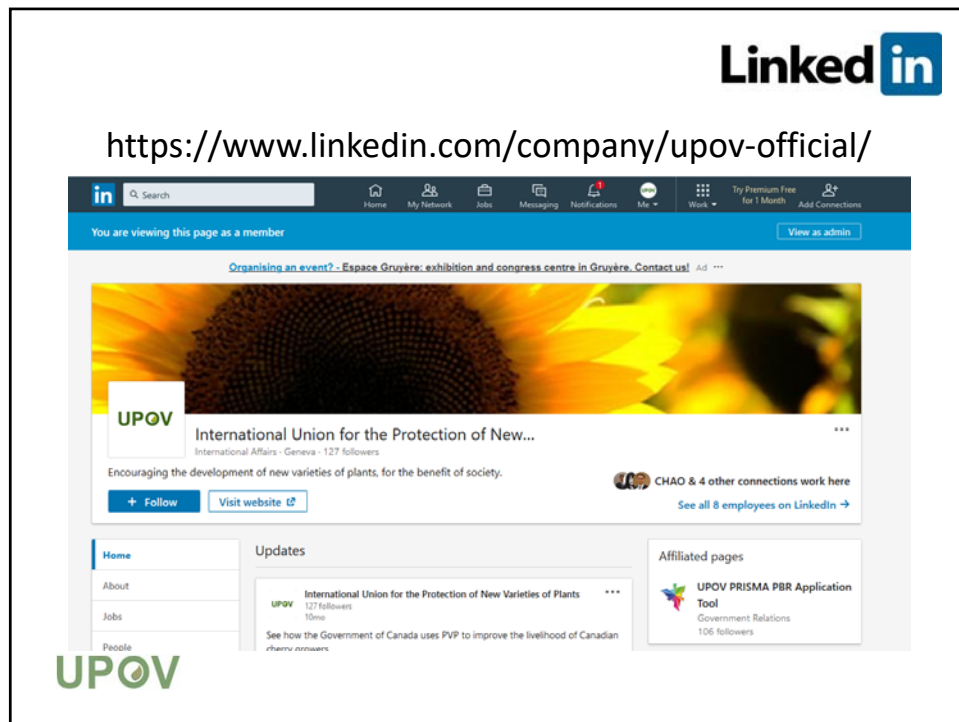
Follow us to find out more about how the UPOV system benefits farmers, growers and breeders worldwide and news on events, videos, reports and more.

[UPOV@UPOVint](#) [PeterButton@vsgupov](#)



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International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants





Access to social media platforms from UPOV Website



Preview

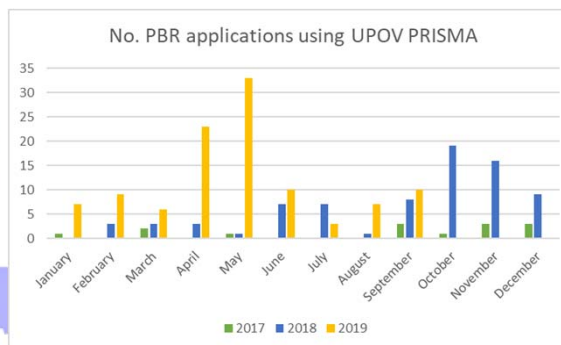
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UPOV PRISMA

Online PBR Application Tool



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New Version now available:

- *More countries*
- *More crops*
- *More functionalities...*

[End of Annex and of document]