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IRC/VI/6

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# INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR THE PROTECTION OF NEW VARIETIES OF PLANTS

**GENEVA** 

# COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON THE INTERPRETATION AND REVISION OF THE CONVENTION

Sixth Session

Geneva, September 20 to 23, 1977

DRAFT NOTES AND LETTERS OF INVITATION

TO THE DIPLOMATIC CONFERENCE ON THE REVISION

OF THE UPOV CONVENTION

# prepared by the Office of the Union

- 1. This document contains in its Annexes draft circulars concerning the invitations to the Diplomatic Conference on the Revision of the UPOV Convention, which is scheduled to be held in October 1978. The Annexes specify also the addresses of each circular.
- 2. Annex I contains the draft of a Note Verbale which is proposed to be sent to the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of all States which are members of the United Nations, any of the specialized agencies brought into relationship with the United Nations, or the International Atomic Energy Agency, or are party to the Statute of the International Court of Justice. The Circular indicates the main difference between the rights which States members of UPOV and the other States will have in the Diplomatic Conference. The list of member States of UPOV appearing in the sixth paragraph of the Note Verbale has been established under the assumption that South Africa will have deposited its instrument of accession to the UPOV Convention before the said Note Verbale is issued (probably January 1978).
- 3. The other assumptions which underlie this Circular and the others are that the Diplomatic Conference will be held from October 10 to 26, 1978, and that the documents referred to will be ready in time for them to be sent together with the Circulars.
- 4. In conformity with the established practice of UPOV, it is proposed that a copy of the Circular addressed to the Minister for Foreign Affairs of a country and copies of all the documents sent to him be sent to the Minister of Agriculture of that country (see Annex II).
- 5. It is also proposed that copies of the working documents be sent to certain individuals, in particular:
- (i) the delegates of member and non-member States having participated in recent sessions of the Council and/or of the Committee of Experts on the Interpretation and Revision of the Convention, and
- (ii) the heads of the national plant breeders' rights offices and, where the protection of plant varieties is a matter expressly falling within the competence of the patent offices, the heads of such patent offices.

Annex III contains the draft of a Circular which would accompany such documents.

6. Annex IV contains the draft of a Circular which would be sent to the international governmental and non-governmental organizations to be invited. A tentative list of such organizations appears in Annex VI.

- 7. The Committee of Experts is invited:
- (i) to examine the attached draft circulars concerning invitations to the Diplomatic Conference (Annexes I to IV),
- (ii) to examine the attached list of organizations (Annex VI),
- (iii) to approve, subject to any amendment agreed upon, their submission to the Council at its eleventh ordinary session, to be held in December 1977, for final approval.

[Six Annexes follow]

### (NOTE VERBALE TO BE SENT TO THE MINISTERS FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS)

#### Circular No. ...

The Secretary-General of the International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV) presents his compliments to the Minister for Foreign Affairs and has the honor to invite, on behalf of the Council of UPOV, His Excellency's Government to participate in the <u>Diplomatic Conference on the Revision of the International Convention for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants</u>, which will be held at the headquarters of UPOV, (34, chemin des Colombettes, Geneva, Switzerland) from October 10 to 26, 1978, and will start at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, October 10, 1978.

The working languages will be English, French and German and simultaneous interpretation will be provided in these languages.

The objective of the Conference is to adopt, on the basis of a draft submitted by the Council of UPOV, a revised text of the International Convention for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants of December 2, 1961, and Additional Act of November 10, 1972.

./. The Provisional Agenda of the Diplomatic Conference (document UPOV/78DC/1),
./. the Provisional Rules of Procedure of the Diplomatic Conference (document
./. UPOV/78DC/2) and the Draft of the Revised Text (with comments) (document UPOV/78DC/3)
are enclosed.

The Secretary-General would appreciate it if the comments, if any, of His Excellency's Government on any of these three documents could be communicated to him by June 30, 1978.

Assuming that the relevant provisions of the Rules of Procedure will be adopted as proposed in document UPOV/78DC/2:

- (i) the member States of UPOV, that is, at the date of this Note, Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany (Federal Republic of), Italy, the Netherlands, South Africa, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom, will have full participating and voting rights in the Diplomatic Conference and the right to sign the revised text of the International Convention for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants;
- (ii) any States other than those referred to above which are members of the United Nations, any of the specialized agencies brought into relationship with the United Nations, or the International Atomic Energy Agency, or are party to the Statute of the International Court of Justice, will have the right to participate in the plenary of the Diplomatic Conference, will be eligible for membership in its Drafting Committee and working groups, and will have the right to sign the revised text of the said Convention.

Attention is drawn to the necessity of providing representatives with appropriate credentials, including, where applicable, a statement expressly empowering one or more of them to sign the new Act of the Convention to be adopted. Credentials and full powers should be issued by the Head of the State or Government, or by the Minister responsible for external affairs (see Rule 6(3) of the Provisional Rules of Procedure of the Diplomatic Conference).

The Secretary-General would appreciate it if the names and functions of the representatives of His Excellency's Government could be communicated to him by October 1, 1978  $\cdot$ 

(Date)

IRC/VI/6 ANNEX II

(NOTE VERBALE TO BE SENT TO THE MINISTERS OF AGRICULTURE)

# Circular. ...

The Secretary-General of the International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV) presents his compliments to the Minister of Agriculture ./. and has the honor to send His Excellency a copy of his Note [reference], and the ./. documents mentioned therein, which are being sent today to the Minister for Foreign Affairs of His Excellency's Government. The said Note relates to the Diplomatic Conference on the Revision of the International Convention for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants, which will be held at the headquarters of UPOV (34, chemin des Colombettes, Geneva, Switzerland) from October 10 to 26, 1978.

(Date)

#### (LETTER TO BE SENT TO SELECTED INDIVIDUALS)

# Circular No. ...

(Date)

Sir/Madam,

I have the honor to send you herewith a set of the documents which are being sent today to the Minister for Foreign Affairs of your country and which relate to the Diplomatic Conference on the Revision of the International Convention for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants, which will be held at the headquarters of UPOV (34, chemin des Colombettes, Geneva, Switzerland) from October 10 to 26, 1978.

Sincerely yours,

Arpad Bogsch Secretary-General (LETTER TO BE SENT TO THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS)

Circular No. ...

(Date)

Sir,

I have the honor to invite, on behalf of the Council of UPOV, your Organization to be represented by observers at the <u>Diplomatic Conference on the Revision of the International Convention for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants</u>, which will be held at the headquarters of UPOV (34, Chemin des Colombettes, Geneva, Switzerland) from October 10 to 26, 1978, and will start at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, October 10, 1978.

The working languages will be English, French and German and simultaneous interpretation will be provided in these languages.

The objective of the Conference is to adopt, on the basis of a draft submitted by the Council of UPOV, a revised text of the International Convention for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants of December 2, 1961, and Additional Act of November 10, 1972.

- ./. The Provisional Agenda of the Diplomatic Conference (document UPOV/78DC/1),
- ./. the Provisional Rules of Procedure of the Diplomatic Conference (document
- ./. UPOV/78DC/2) and the Draft of the Revised Text (with comments) (document UPOV/78DC/3) are enclosed.

Attention is drawn to the necessity of providing representatives with appropriate letters or other documents appointing them, signed by the Head (Director General, Secretary General, or President) of your Organization (see Rules 7 and 8 of the Provisional Rules of Procedure of the Diplomatic Conference).

Sincerely yours,

Arpad Bogsch Secretary-General

#### LIST OF STATES TO BE INVITED TO THE DIPLOMATIC CONFERENCE

(This list might have to be brought up to date at the time of mailing the Circulars)

Afghanistan Albania Algeria Angola Argentina Australia Austria Bahamas Bahrain Bangladesh Barbados Belgium Benin Bhutan Bolivia Botswana Brazil Bulgaria Burma Burundi Byelorussian SSR Cameroon Canada Cape Verde Central African Empire Chad Chile China Colombia Comoros Congo Costa Rica Cuba Cyprus Czechoslovakia Democratic Kampuchea Democratic People's Republic of Korea Democratic Yemen Denmark Dominican Republic Ecuador

Egypt

Fiji

El Salvador

Ethiopia

Finland

France

Gabon

Gambia

Equatorial Guinea

German Democratic

Republic

Germany, Federal Republic of Ghana Greece Grenada Guatemala Guinea Guinea-Bissau Guyana Haiti Holy See Honduras Hungary Iceland India Indonesia Iran Iraq Ireland Israel Italy Ivory Coast Jamaica Japan Jordan Kenya Kuwait Laos Lebanon Lesotho Liberia Libyan Arab Jamahiriya Liechtenstein Luxembourg Madagascar Malaŵi Malaysia Maldives Mali Malta Mauritania Mauritius Mexico Monaco Mongolia Morocco Mozambique Nauru Nepal Netherlands New Zealand Nicaragua

Niger

Nigeria

Norway Oman Pakistan Panama Papua New Guinea Paraguay Peru Philippines Poland Portugal Qatar Republic of Korea Romania Rwanda Samoa San Marino Sao Tome and Principe Saudi Arabia Senegal Seychelles Sierra Leone Singapore Socialist Republic of Viet Nam Somalia South Africa Soviet Union Spain Sri Lanka Sudan Surinam Swaziland Sweden Switzerland Syria Tanzania Thailand Togo Tonga Trinidad and Tobago Tunisia Turkey Uganda Ukrainian SSR United Arab Emirates United Kingdom United States of America Upper Volta Uruguay Venezuela Yemen Yugoslavia Zaire

Zambia

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#### LIST OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS TO BE

#### INVITED TO THE DIPLOMATIC CONFERENCE

# 1. Intergovernmental Organizations

UN

United Nations

WIPO

World Intellectual Property Organization

FAO

United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization

ISTA

International Seed Testing Association

EEC (Commission) European Economic Community

EEC (Council)

European Economic Community

EFTA

European Free Trade Association

# 2. Non-Governmental Organizations

AIPH Internation

International Association of Horticultural Producers

AIPPI

International Association for the Protection of Industrial

Property

ASSINSEL

International Association of Plant Breeders for the

Protection of Plant Varieties

CIOPORA

International Community of Breeders of Asexually Reproduced

Ornamentals

FIS

International Association of the Seed Trade

ICC

International Chamber of Commerce

International Commission for the Nomenclature of Cultivated Plants of the International Union of Biological Sciences

[One organization representing the users of varieties still to be determined]