

# Seminar on the role of plant breeding and plant variety protection in enabling agriculture to mitigate and adapt to climate change

- Climate change is increasingly affecting everyone around the world: farmers, breeders and consumers. Effects are biotic (new pests and diseases) and abiotic (heat, drought, rain, seasonal changes).
- A range of strategies is needed to respond to the challenges. Plant breeding has a vital role to play in these strategies; farmers need new plant varieties to adapt to climate change but also to sustainably increase productivity in order to minimize climate change.
- Plant breeding is a long-term process that requires long-term investment from public institutions and from private companies. Plant breeders need a regulatory environment that promotes innovation and supports the conservation and utilization of genetic resources.
- The UPOV system enables plant breeders to provide farmers with the varieties they will need to feed the world in the face of climate change.

## Concluding remarks

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