

INTERNATIONALER VERBAND  
ZUM SCHUTZ VON  
PFLANZENZÜCHTUNGEN  
  
GENÈVE, SCHWEIZ



UNION INTERNATIONALE  
POUR LA PROTECTION  
DES OBTENTIONS VÉGÉTALES  
  
GENÈVE, SUISSE

INTERNATIONAL UNION  
FOR THE PROTECTION OF  
NEW VARIETIES OF PLANTS  
  
GENEVA, SWITZERLAND

UPOV Press Release No. 8

Geneva, March 21, 1991

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

A Diplomatic Conference for the Revision of the International Convention for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants was held from March 4 to 19, 1991, at the headquarters of the International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV) at Geneva.

Forty-seven States and twenty-five organizations participated in the Diplomatic Conference which adopted the revised Act of March 19, 1991, of the said Convention. The revised Act of the Convention was opened for signature on March 19, 1991, and has been signed by the following ten States: Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, Netherlands, South Africa, Spain, Switzerland, United Kingdom. It will enter into force one month after five States have adhered to it provided that at least three of such States are existing member States of UPOV.

The revised Act of the Convention makes the protection of all species of plants mandatory for member States after the expiration of a transitional period and strengthens the protection afforded to plant breeders. It does, however, leave protected varieties available, as at present, for use as a source of variation for the development of other varieties.

The strengthened protection for plant breeders will increase the incentive provided by the Convention for plant breeding and will lessen the threat to breeders from piracy of protected plant varieties and plagiaristic breeding activities.

3488V