



INTERNATIONALER
VERBAND
ZUM SCHUTZ VON
PFLANZENZÜCHTUNGEN

GENÈVE, SCHWEIZ

UNION INTERNATIONALE
POUR LA PROTECTION
DES OBTENTIONS
VÉGÉTALES

GENÈVE, SUISSE

UNIÓN INTERNACIONAL
PARA LA PROTECCIÓN
DE LAS OBTENCIONES
VEGETALES

GINEBRA, SUIZA

INTERNATIONAL UNION
FOR THE PROTECTION
OF NEW VARIETIES
OF PLANTS

GENEVA, SWITZERLAND

UPOV Press Release No. 55

Geneva, July 15, 2003

ACCESSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF POLAND TO THE 1991 ACT OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE PROTECTION OF NEW VARIETIES OF PLANTS

The Government of the Republic of Poland deposited its instrument of accession to the 1991 Act of the International Convention for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants on July 15, 2003.

UPOV is an intergovernmental organization which cooperates in administrative matters with the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) and has its headquarters in the WIPO building in Geneva, Switzerland.

The purpose of the International Convention for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants is to recognize and to ensure an intellectual property right to the breeder of a new plant variety. The member States of UPOV grant such a right in accordance with the provisions of the Convention, under their national legislation.

The Republic of Poland, which is already a member State of UPOV, is the twenty-fourth State to ratify or accede to the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention. The 1991 Act will enter into force for the Republic of Poland one month after the deposit of its instrument of accession, that is, on August 15, 2003.

The 1991 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.

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