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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

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Geneva, October 23, 2003

DR. KAMIL IDRIS RE-APPOINTED UPOV SECRETARY-GENERAL

The Council of the International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV) re-appointed Dr. Kamil Idris, a Sudanese national, as Secretary-General of UPOV, on Thursday, October 23, 2003. Dr. Idris begins a second six-year mandate for the period December 1, 2003, to November 30, 2009. His re-appointment is related to an agreement between UPOV and the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) that stipulates that the head of WIPO is also the head of UPOV.

“UPOV is a well-balanced system that encourages the development of new varieties of plants for the benefit of society. New varieties of plants are one of the most effective tools to promote sustainable agriculture, food production and overall economic development,” said Dr. Idris. He added “The protection of new plant varieties is essential in encouraging breeders to pursue and enhance their search for improved varieties with higher yield, better resistance to pests and diseases, drought and other adverse conditions.”

The Council of UPOV expressed its appreciation that Dr. Idris did not wish to receive an indemnity from UPOV, and noted his decision that this saving should be used for financing activities for developing countries.

UPOV is an independent intergovernmental organization of 53 members, based in Geneva.

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