

## UPOV Press Release 139

Geneva, October 23, 2023



### **New UPOV Leadership Take Up Duties**

Ms. Yolanda Huerta, a national of Spain, took up her duties as Vice Secretary-General of the International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV) on October 23, 2023, which also coincided with the opening of the annual UPOV sessions.

Ms. Huerta, the seventh Vice Secretary-General of UPOV, takes over from Mr. Peter Button, who served as Vice Secretary-General from 2010 to 2023. The Secretary-General of UPOV is Mr. Daren Tang, who is also the Director General of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO).

“Together with the team, UPOV members and other stakeholders, I am committed to increasing the impact of UPOV’s work to address the challenges the world is facing for food production in the context of climate change, building on the foundations put in place by my predecessor”, Ms. Huerta said.

Joining Ms. Huerta on the leadership team are Mr. Martin Ekvad, from Sweden, who joins as Director of Legal Affairs and Mr. Leontino Taveira from Brazil who assumes the position of Director of Global Development and Technical Affairs.

**NOTES TO EDITORS**

UPOV is an intergovernmental organization based in Geneva.

The purpose of UPOV is to provide and promote an effective system of plant variety protection, with the aim of encouraging the development of new varieties of plants, for the benefit of society.


UPOV has 78 members covering 97 States. The members of UPOV are:

African Intellectual Property Organization, Albania, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Estonia, European Union, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Mexico, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands (Kingdom of the), New Zealand, Nicaragua, North Macedonia, Norway, Oman, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Türkiye, Ukraine, United Kingdom, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan and Viet Nam.

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