



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. 85

Geneva, April 8, 2011

UPOV Council Holds Extraordinary Session

The Council of the International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV) held its twenty-eighth extraordinary session on April 8, 2011.

Round-up of key developments:

New members of the Union

The Council was informed that the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia had deposited its instrument of accession to the UPOV Convention on April 4, 2011, and would become the sixty-ninth member of the Union on May 4, 2011. A full list of the members of the Union is provided as Annex I.

Examination of laws

The Council decided that the Draft Law on the Protection of Plant Breeders' Rights of the Republic of Serbia was in conformity with the provisions of the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention. Once the relevant Law, on which the conformity was decided, is in force Serbia will be in a position to deposit its instrument of accession to the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention.

Financial contribution

The Council welcomed the news that the Republic of Korea had doubled its number of annual contribution units from 0.75 (CHF 40,231) to 1.5 units (CHF 80,462), effective from 2011¹.

Plant Variety Database

The Council agreed that a web-based version of the Plant Variety Database, currently only available in CD-ROM format, could be launched on the UPOV website during the course of 2011. It agreed that the web-based version of the Plant Variety Database should be made freely accessible to all users.

¹ The finances of UPOV are set out in the UPOV Convention – see Article 29 of the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention (<http://www.upov.int/en/publications/conventions/index.html>).

Experience of members of the Union in the Examination of New Plant Varieties

The Council welcomed the report made at the forty-seventh session of the Technical Committee, held in Geneva from April 4 to 6, 2011, that the number of genera and species for which members of the Union had practical experience in the examination of distinctness, uniformity and stability (DUS) had exceeded 2,500 in 2011. That number had increased by 19% from 2,254 in 2010, to 2,679 in 2011. The Council noted that information on members of the Union with practical experience in DUS examination was freely accessible via the GENIE database.

A full report twenty-eighth extraordinary session of the Council is available at: http://www.upov.int/en/documents/c_extr/index_c_extr_28.htm).

For further information about UPOV, please contact the UPOV Secretariat:

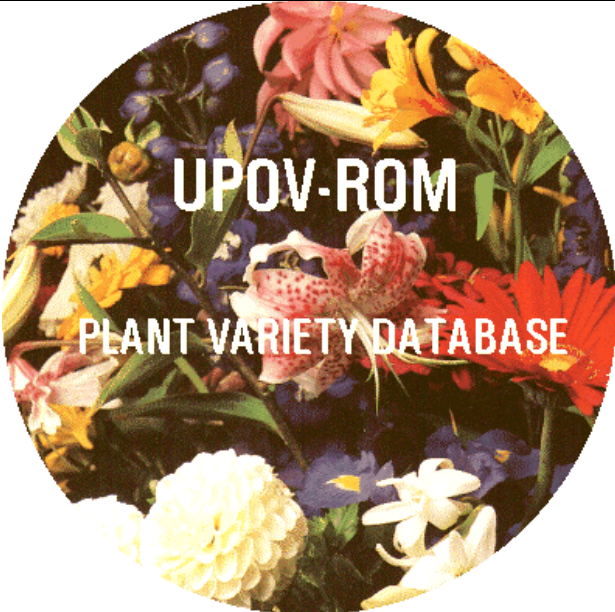
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UPOV-ROM PLANT VARIETY DATABASE

	<p>The main part of the UPOV-ROM disc is the <i>Plant Variety Database</i>. Data on plant varieties from contributing members of the Union and the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) is available in the UPOV-ROM search system. The great majority of these documents relate to plant breeders' rights or national listings in the members of the Union, but it covers also data from the List of Cultivars Eligible for Certification of the OECD Schemes for the Varietal Certification of Seed Moving in International Trade, published by the OECD.</p>
<p>The database contains some or all of the following information for each variety: the botanical name (Latin name), common name, UPOV code and identification; information on its denomination (breeder's reference, dates of proposal, approval and rejection, if any, of the denomination, and dates of the publications thereof, synonyms, associated trade names, etc.); dates and numbers of application and grant, future termination of grant or actual expiration date; information on the breeder, applicant, title holder and maintainer; information on priority or other information on the status of the variety.</p> <p>(see http://www.upov.int/export/sites/upov/en/publications/upov-rom/introduction.pdf)</p>	

GENIE DATABASE

	<p>The GENIE database has been developed to provide online information on GENera and specIEs (hence GENIE) in relation to protection offered by members of the Union, cooperation in examination, experience in DUS testing and the existence of UPOV Test Guidelines. In addition, the GENIE database is the repository of the UPOV codes and provides information concerning alternative botanical and common names.</p>
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**MEMBERS OF THE INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR THE PROTECTION OF
NEW VARIETIES OF PLANTS**

International Convention for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants *
UPOV Convention (1961), as revised at Geneva (1972, 1978 and 1991)

Status on April 4, 2011

State/Organization	Date on which State/Organization became member of UPOV	Number of contribution units	Latest Act ⁱ of the Convention to which State/Organization is party and date on which State/Organization became party to that Act	
Albania.....	October 15, 2005	0.2	1991 Act	October 15, 2005
Argentina.....	December 25, 1994	0.5	1978 Act	December 25, 1994
Australia.....	March 1, 1989	1.0	1991 Act	January 20, 2000
Austria.....	July 14, 1994	0.75	1991 Act	July 1, 2004
Azerbaijan.....	December 9, 2004	0.2	1991 Act	December 9, 2004
Belarus	January 5, 2003	0.2	1991 Act	January 5, 2003
Belgium ⁱⁱ	December 5, 1976	1.5	1961/1972 Act	December 5, 1976
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	May 21, 1999	0.2	1978 Act	May 21, 1999
Brazil.....	May 23, 1999	0.25	1978 Act	May 23, 1999
Bulgaria.....	April 24, 1998	0.2	1991 Act	April 24, 1998
Canada.....	March 4, 1991	1.0	1978 Act	March 4, 1991
Chile.....	January 5, 1996	0.2	1978 Act	January 5, 1996
China.....	April 23, 1999	0.5	1978 Act ⁱⁱⁱ	April 23, 1999
Colombia.....	September 13, 1996	0.2	1978 Act	September 13, 1996
Costa Rica	January 12, 2009	0.2	1991 Act	January 12, 2009
Croatia.....	September 1, 2001	0.2	1991 Act	September 1, 2001
Czech Republic	January 1, 1993	0.5	1991 Act	November 24, 2002
Denmark ^{iv}	October 6, 1968	0.5	1991 Act	April 24, 1998
Dominican Republic.....	June 16, 2007	0.2	1991 Act	June 16, 2007
Ecuador	August 8, 1997	0.2	1978 Act	August 8, 1997
Estonia.....	September 24, 2000	0.2	1991 Act	September 24, 2000
European Union	July 29, 2005	5.0	1991 Act	July 29, 2005
Finland	April 16, 1993	1.0	1991 Act	July 20, 2001
France ^v	October 3, 1971	5.0	1978 Act	March 17, 1983
Georgia.....	November 29, 2008	0.2	1991 Act	November 29, 2008
Germany.....	August 10, 1968	5.0	1991 Act	July 25, 1998
Hungary.....	April 16, 1983	0.5	1991 Act	January 1, 2003
Iceland.....	May 3, 2006	0.2	1991 Act	May 3, 2006
Ireland	November 8, 1981	1.0	1978 Act	November 8, 1981
Israel.....	December 12, 1979	0.5	1991 Act	April 24, 1998
Italy	July 1, 1977	2.0	1978 Act	May 28, 1986
Japan	September 3, 1982	5.0	1991 Act	December 24, 1998
Jordan.....	October 24, 2004	0.2	1991 Act	October 24, 2004
Kenya.....	May 13, 1999	0.2	1978 Act	May 13, 1999
Kyrgyzstan.....	June 26, 2000	0.2	1991 Act	June 26, 2000
Latvia	August 30, 2002	0.2	1991 Act	August 30, 2002
Lithuania	December 10, 2003	0.2	1991 Act	December 10, 2003
Mexico	August 9, 1997	0.75	1978 Act	August 9, 1997
Morocco	October 8, 2006	0.2	1991 Act	October 8, 2006
Netherlands	August 10, 1968	3.0	1991 Act ^{vi}	April 24, 1998
New Zealand	November 8, 1981	1.0	1978 Act	November 8, 1981
Nicaragua	September 6, 2001	0.2	1978 Act	September 6, 2001
Norway.....	September 13, 1993	1.0	1978 Act	September 13, 1993
Oman.....	November 22, 2009	1.0	1991 Act	November 22, 2009
Panama.....	May 23, 1999	0.2	1978 Act	May 23, 1999
Paraguay.....	February 8, 1997	0.2	1978 Act	February 8, 1997
Poland	November 11, 1989	0.5	1991 Act	August 15, 2003

State/Organization	Date on which State/Organization became member of UPOV	Number of contribution units	Latest Act ⁱ of the Convention to which State/Organization is party and date on which State/Organization became party to that Act	
Portugal	October 14, 1995	0.2	1978 Act	October 14, 1995
Republic of Korea	January 7, 2002	1.5	1991 Act	January 7, 2002
Republic of Moldova.....	October 28, 1998	0.2	1991 Act	October 28, 1998
Romania	March 16, 2001	0.2	1991 Act	March 16, 2001
Russian Federation.....	April 24, 1998	0.5	1991 Act	April 24, 1998
Singapore	July 30, 2004	0.2	1991 Act	July 30, 2004
Slovakia.....	January 1, 1993	0.5	1991 Act	June 12, 2009
Slovenia.....	July 29, 1999	0.2	1991 Act	July 29, 1999
South Africa	November 6, 1977	1.0	1978 Act	November 8, 1981
Spain	May 18, 1980	2.0	1991 Act	July 18, 2007
Sweden.....	December 17, 1971	1.5	1991 Act	April 24, 1998
Switzerland.....	July 10, 1977	1.5	1991 Act	September 1, 2008
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.....	May 4, 2011	0.2	1991 Act	May 4, 2011
Trinidad and Tobago	January 30, 1998	0.2	1978 Act	January 30, 1998
Tunisia.....	August 31, 2003	0.2	1991 Act	August 31, 2003
Turkey	November 18, 2007	0.5	1991 Act	November 18, 2007
Ukraine.....	November 3, 1995	0.2	1991 Act	January 19, 2007
United Kingdom.....	August 10, 1968	2.0	1991 Act	January 3, 1999
United States of America	November 8, 1981	5.0	1991 Act ^{vii}	February 22, 1999
Uruguay.....	November 13, 1994	0.2	1978 Act	November 13, 1994
Uzbekistan.....	November 14, 2004	0.2	1991 Act	November 14, 2004
Viet Nam.....	December 24, 2006	0.2	1991 Act	December 24, 2006

(Total: 69)

* The International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV), established by the International Convention for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants, is an independent intergovernmental organization having legal personality. Pursuant to an agreement concluded between the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) and UPOV, the Director General of WIPO is the Secretary-General of UPOV and WIPO provides administrative services to UPOV.

ⁱ “1961/1972 Act” means the International Convention for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants of December 2, 1961, as amended by the Additional Act of November 10, 1972; “1978 Act” means the Act of October 23, 1978, of the Convention; “1991 Act” means the Act of March 19, 1991, of the Convention.

ⁱⁱ With a notification under Article 34(2) of the 1978 Act.

ⁱⁱⁱ With a declaration that the 1978 Act is not applicable to the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region.

^{iv} With a declaration that the Convention of 1961, the Additional Act of 1972, the 1978 Act and the 1991 Act are not applicable to Greenland and the Faroe Islands.

^v With a declaration that the 1978 Act applies to the territory of the French Republic, including the Overseas Departments and Territories.

^{vi} Ratification for the Kingdom in Europe.

^{vii} With a reservation pursuant to Article 35(2) of the 1991 Act.

[End]