



C/37/2

ORIGINAL: English

DATE: August 12, 2003

INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR THE PROTECTION OF NEW VARIETIES OF PLANTS

GENEVA

COUNCIL**Thirty-Seventh Ordinary Session****Geneva, October 23, 2003**

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL FOR 2002

*(thirty-fourth year)***I. COMPOSITION OF THE UNION**Members

1. On December 31, 2002, the Union had 52 members. The following States became members of the Union in 2002:

(a) On July 30, 2002, Latvia deposited its instrument of accession to the Convention. The 1991 Act of the Convention entered into force with respect to Latvia on August 30, 2002.

(b) On December 5, 2002, Belarus deposited its instrument of accession to the Convention. The 1991 Act of the Convention entered into force with respect to Belarus on January 5, 2003.

2. The following members of the Union acceded to the 1991 Act:

(a) On October 24, 2002, the Czech Republic deposited its instrument of accession to the 1991 Act of the Convention. The 1991 Act entered into force with respect to the Czech Republic on November 24, 2002.

(b) On December 1, 2002, Hungary deposited its instrument of accession to the 1991 Act of the Convention. The 1991 Act entered into force with respect to the Hungary on January 1, 2003.

3. The 52 members of the Union are the following: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Belarus, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Trinidad and Tobago, Ukraine, United Kingdom, United States of America, Uruguay. Annex I details the membership status of the Union as of December 31, 2002.

Situation in Relation to the Various Acts of the Convention

4. On December 31, 2001, the situation was as follows:

- (a) two States were bound by the 1961 Act as amended by the 1972 Act;
- (b) the 1978 Act was the most recent Act binding 29 States;
- (c) the 1991 Act was the most recent Act binding 19 States.

5. In addition to the accessions of Belarus and Latvia mentioned above, the Czech Republic and Hungary, which had deposited their instruments of accession to the 1991 Act, became bound by that Act on November 24, 2002, and January 1, 2003, respectively.

6. On December 31, 2002, the position of the members of the Union in relation to the various Acts of the Convention was thus as follows:

(a) two States were bound by the 1961 Act as amended by the 1972 Act, namely Belgium and Spain;

(b) the 1978 Act was the most recent Act binding 27 States, namely Argentina, Austria, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Ecuador, France, Ireland, Italy, Kenya, Mexico, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, South Africa, Switzerland, Trinidad and Tobago, Ukraine, Uruguay.

(c) the 1991 Act was the most recent Act binding 23 States, namely: Australia, Belarus, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Hungary, Israel, Japan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Netherlands, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovenia, Sweden, United Kingdom, United States of America.

7. Article 30(2) of the 1991 Act provides as follows:

“(2) [*Conformity of laws*] It shall be understood that, on depositing its instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, as the case may be, each State or intergovernmental organization must be in a position, under its laws, to give effect to the provisions of this Convention.”

8. In 2002, to the knowledge of the Office of the Union, Ukraine passed a law to adapt its system of protection to the 1991 Act. The law entered into force on July 1, 2002. Most other members of the Union adopted amendments in line with the 1991 Act or have drawn up draft laws.

9. The Table reproduced in Annex I of this report is a synopsis of the position of the various States in relation to the various Acts of the Convention as of December 31, 2002.

Future Members

10. Under Article 34(3) of the 1991 Act, “any State which is not a member of the Union and any intergovernmental organization shall, before depositing its instrument of accession, ask the Council to advise it in respect of the conformity of its laws with the provisions of this Convention.”

11. In line with decisions taken by the Council of UPOV in its fourteenth extraordinary session, on April 29, 1997, and in its thirty-third ordinary session on October 20, 1999, to accept, under certain conditions, an instrument of accession to the 1978 Act by India after the coming into force (April 24, 1998) of the 1991 Act, by letter of June 11, 2002, India submitted a request which was preliminarily examined by the Consultative Committee in its sixty-fourth session on October 23, 2002.

12. The Consultative Committee concluded that with regard to conformity with the 1978 Act of the Convention, further clarification was needed concerning the “The Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers’ Rights Act of India” and its implementing regulations.

13. By December 2002, the following 16 States, the European Community (EC) and the African Intellectual Property Organization (OAPI), had initiated the procedure for accession to UPOV: Azerbaijan, Costa Rica, Egypt, Georgia, Honduras, India, Kazakhstan, Lithuania, Morocco, Yugoslavia (now Serbia and Montenegro), Tajikistan, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Venezuela, and Zimbabwe. OAPI and its member States will be in a position to accede to the 1991 Act once Annex X of the revised *Accord de Bangui*, which came into effect on February 28, 2002, is fully operational.

II. SESSIONS OF THE COUNCIL AND ITS SUBSIDIARY BODIES

Council

14. The Council held its nineteenth extraordinary session on April 19, 2002, under the chairmanship of Mr. Karl Olov Öster (Sweden). It extended the contract of the Vice Secretary-General. It adopted document C(Extr.)/19/2 “The Notion of Breeder and Common Knowledge in the Plant Variety Protection System Based upon the UPOV Convention” as a UPOV position paper and the revised “General Introduction to the Examination of Distinctness, Uniformity and Stability and the Development of Harmonized Descriptions of New Varieties of Plants” as document TG/1/3.

15. The Council held its thirty-sixth ordinary session on October 24, 2002, again under the chairmanship of Mr. Karl Olov Öster. The session was attended by observers from

10 non-member States¹ and eight international organizations². The World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) was also represented.

16. At that session, the Council took the following main decisions:

(a) It approved the report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Union in 2001 and noted the report on the activities in the first nine months of 2002;

(b) It approved the report of the Secretary-General on the financial situation of the Union at December 31, 2001;

(c) It noted the report on the auditing of the accounts of the 2000-2001 biennium;

(d) It noted the progress reports of its various subsidiary bodies and approved their workplans;

(e) It approved the calendar of meetings in 2003;

(f) It elected, in each case for a term of three years ending with the thirty-ninth ordinary session of the Council:

(i) Mr. Carlos Gómez-Etchebarne (Uruguay), Chairman of the Technical Working Party for Agricultural Crops;

(ii) Mr. Uwe Meyer (Germany), Chairman of the Technical Working Party on Automation and Computer Programs;

(iii) Mr. Erik Schulte (Germany), Chairman of the Technical Working Party for Fruit Crops;

(iv) Mr. Chris Barnaby (New Zealand), Chairman of the Technical Working Party for Ornamental Plants and Forest Trees;

(v) Mr. Kees van Ettehoven (Netherlands), Chairman of the Technical Working Party for Vegetables;

(vi) Mr. Gerhard Deneken (Denmark), Chairman of the Working Group on Biochemical and Molecular Techniques, and DNA-Profiling in Particular.

(g) It noted documents and oral reports on the situation in the legislative, administrative and technical fields related to plant variety protection, as presented by members and observers.

¹ Algeria, Belarus, Cuba, Egypt, Greece, Philippines, Yugoslavia (now Serbia and Montenegro), Thailand, Tunisia, and Turkey.

² Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), European Community (EC), European Seed Association (ESA), International Seed Testing Association (ISTA), International Community of Breeders of Asexually Reproduced Ornamental and Fruit-Tree Varieties (CIOPORA), International Seed Federation (ISF), *Federación Latinoamericana de Asociaciones de Semillas* (FELAS).

Consultative Committee

17. The Consultative Committee held its sixty-third session on April 19, 2002, under the chairmanship of Mr. Karl Olov Öster (Sweden). It discussed the developments in the World Trade Organization (WTO) Council for TRIPS concerning the review of Article 27.3(b) of the TRIPS Agreement and the developments concerning biodiversity, plant genetic resources and plant variety protection. It agreed to use the text of the Annex to document CC/63/3 Add., after amendments, to explain UPOV's position in relation to access to, and benefit-sharing in the use of, plant genetic resources and with regard to the disclosure of countries of origin or geographical origin of genetic resources.

18. The Consultative Committee held its sixty-fourth session on October 23, 2002, also under the chairmanship of Mr. Karl Olov Öster. The Consultative Committee conducted a preliminary examination of the conformity of "The Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Act of India" with the 1978 Act of the UPOV Convention. It considered the financial situation of the Union. It received a report on the progress of work on a study of the impact of plant breeders' rights. It took note of a report on the organization of a WIPO-UPOV Symposium on the Co-existence of Patents and Plant Breeders' Rights in the Promotion of Biotechnological Developments, which was scheduled for October 25, 2002. The Consultative Committee considered recent developments in the field of biodiversity, plant genetic resources and plant variety protection, and it received presentations from officials of the Office of the Union concerning developments in plant variety protection on a regional basis.

Administrative and Legal Committee, Technical Committee, Technical Working Parties and Working Group on Biochemical and Molecular Techniques, and DNA Profiling in Particular

19. For the work of the Administrative and Legal Committee and the Technical Committee, reference is made to documents C/36/9 and C/36/10. The twentieth session of the Technical Working Party on Automation and Computer Programs (TWC) was held in Texcoco, Mexico, from June 17 to 20, 2002. The Technical Working Party for Vegetables (TWV) held its thirty-sixth session in Tsukuba, Japan, from September 9 to 13, 2002. The Technical Working Party for Agriculture Crops (TWA) held its thirty-first session in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from September 23 to 27, 2002. The thirty-fifth session of the Technical Working Party for Ornamental Plants and Forest Trees (TWO) was held in Quito, Ecuador, from November 18 to 22, 2002. The Technical Working Party for Fruit Crops (TWF) held its thirty-third session in San Carlos de Bariloche, Argentina, from November 25 to 29, 2002. A crop-specific *Ad hoc* Subgroup on Molecular Techniques on Mushrooms, established by the Technical Committee, held its first meeting in connection with the thirty-sixth session of the TWV. Crop-specific *Ad hoc* Subgroups on Molecular Techniques for Sugarcane and Soybean met in connection with the thirty-first session of the TWA.

III. COURSES, SEMINARS, WORKSHOPS

20. From February 18 to March 1, UPOV implemented four national workshops in India (New Delhi, Cuttak, Hyderabad and Pune). The UPOV mission, in which two officials of the Office of the Union and two experts (from Germany and New Zealand, respectively) participated as speakers, was effected at the request of and co-funded by the Government of India after the Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Act had been enacted by the

Parliament of India. The aim was to acquaint key Indian personnel with technical approaches to plant variety protection based on the UPOV Convention. The four workshops had a remarkable outreach (around 350 leading persons involved in plant breeding participated).

21. On February 26 and 27, UPOV participated in a Symposium of the German Farmers' Association (DBV) under the title "The Future of Biotechnology in Germany." UPOV presented a paper on "Plant variety protection between farmers' rights and patents." Some 200 participants represented practical agriculture, consumers, scientists, administrators and politicians. Widely varying views on present status and future developments of genetic engineering in agriculture were expressed.

22. From March 27 to 29, UPOV participated in the Second Annual Congress of the African Seed Trade Association (AFSTA) and gave a presentation on plant variety protection according to the UPOV Convention. The AFSTA Congress is the most important annual meeting of the African seed and breeding industry. Given the demand for more information about basic principles and the effects of plant variety protection in Africa, the presence of some 100 leading representatives of seed companies and government institutions offered an opportunity to promote plant variety protection in Africa.

23. From April 8 to 10, UPOV participated in a regional symposium on Intellectual Property and the Protection of Expressions of Folklore and Traditional Knowledge in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire. The regional symposium was organized by WIPO, in cooperation with the African Intellectual Property Organization (OAPI). UPOV explained plant variety protection according to the UPOV Convention and presented its position on issues of access to, and benefit-sharing in the use of, plant genetic resources. UPOV also clarified its views with regard to the draft African Model Law for the Protection of the Rights of Local Communities, Farmers and Breeders and for Regulation of Access to Biological Resources (African Model Law). Some 80 participants were present.

24. On April 15, UPOV participated in the West Africa Rice Development Association (WARDA) Network Review and Planning Meeting, in Bouaké, Côte d'Ivoire. UPOV gave a presentation on plant variety protection according to the UPOV Convention, including the revised Bangui Agreement, and commented on the draft African Model Law. The presentation raised considerable interest in West African rice breeding circles.

25. From May 8 to 10, UPOV participated in a Regional Meeting on Intellectual Property and the Protection of Expressions of Folklore and Traditional Knowledge, organized by WIPO, in cooperation with the Government of the Republic of Zambia and the National Institute for Scientific and Industrial Research of Zambia, in Lusaka. The objective of the meeting was to strengthen the ability of officials, indigenous and local communities and other stakeholders from English-speaking African countries to participate effectively in WIPO's Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore. UPOV's presentation had the aim to raise awareness on the role of plant variety protection as a tool for economic development for the benefit of society. UPOV also commented on the draft African Model Law.

26. On May 9 and 10, UPOV participated in an informal Consultation Meeting on the Global Information System on Plant Genetic Resources as provided for by the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture at the Headquarters of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) in Rome. Representatives of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) Secretariat, of the International Seed Trade

Federation (FIS) / International Association of Plant Breeders for the Protection of Plant Varieties (ASSINSEL), the International Plant Genetic Resources Institute (IPGRI), the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR) system, as well as representatives from non-governmental organizations and FAO staff participated. UPOV explained the databases which are operated by the Office of the Union and expressed the view that UPOV's participation in the global information system will largely depend on whether the global information system will potentially develop into a tool which is supportive of plant breeding and to the UPOV system of plant variety protection.

27. On May 13, UPOV participated in a Briefing Seminar organized by the European Patent Office (EPO) in Munich, Germany, for a delegation of experts from the Philippines and Thailand. The UPOV representative gave a lecture on plant variety protection based on the UPOV system. The briefing seminar was the first phase of a mission by experts, which included visits to the *Bundessortenamt* in Hanover, Germany, and to the Community Plant Variety Office (CPVO) in Angers, France.

28. On May 13 and 14, UPOV participated in an Expert Meeting on Intellectual Property and the Protection of Expressions of Folklore and Traditional Knowledge, in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The meeting was hosted by the Secretariat of the African Union (AU)* and co-organized by WIPO. The objective of the meeting was to merge positions which had been developed in three regional symposiums held in March 2002: Portuguese and Spanish-speaking African States met at São Luis do Maranhão, Brazil, English-speaking African States met in Lusaka, Zambia, and French-speaking African States in Abidjan. UPOV's contribution was based on the principles of the UPOV Convention and referred to the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture and to the Convention on Biological Diversity. The meeting developed a position paper of the African Group, which was presented to the Third Session of the WIPO Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore, in June 2002.

29. From May 20 to 22, 2002, UPOV and the Ministry of Legal Affairs of Trinidad and Tobago organized a Regional Seminar on the Protection of New Varieties of Plants Under the UPOV Convention. About 100 participants, representing the local government and judicial sector, researchers and plant breeders were present. Representatives from Antigua and Barbuda, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica and St. Kitts & Nevis also attended. The objective of the meeting was to create awareness of the benefits of the PBR system between potential users to encourage them to apply. During the discussion, the participants expressed their needs for better information on plant breeder's rights, the relationship between the UPOV Convention, the CBD and FAO Treaty and the differences between the Act of 1978 and the Act of 1991 of the UPOV Convention.

30. On June 10 and 11, UPOV and the University of Colima, the Autonomous University of Nayarit, and the Technological Institute of Tepic, organized in Tepic, Mexico, a workshop on intellectual property on the subject of "Plant Breeders' Teaching, Research, Commercialization and Legal Protection." Some 40 participants, experts and professors from universities and agricultural research institutes of Mexico were present. The objective was to provide information about plant breeders' rights based on the UPOV Convention and to raise awareness of its benefits for universities and scientific institutions.

* Previously the Organization of African Unity (OAU).

31. On June 11, UPOV provided a lecturer for the Sixth Course on Plant Variety Protection, organized by the Plant Research International (PRI) in Wageningen, Netherlands. There were a total of 19 participants, and UPOV was invited to lecture on the first day of the 11-day course on "Introduction to Plant Variety Protection." The day was made up of presentations combined with a question-and-answer session and a group exercise. The group exercise used different case studies to encourage the participants to consider the various different arrangements for organizing the examination of distinctness, uniformity and stability (DUS).

32. On June 12 and 13, UPOV participated in a national seminar on Biotechnology and Intellectual Property organized by WIPO, in cooperation with the State Department of Intellectual Property, Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine and the Government of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea. The seminar was attended by 125 participants, representing government officials, staff of the State Department of Intellectual Property and bodies within its jurisdiction, patent attorneys, plant breeders, biotechnology researchers and other scientists. A UPOV presentation raised particular attention because, under the Ukrainian legislation on plant variety protection, the Patent Office was responsible for the granting of plant breeders' rights based on test results produced by the State Commission on Plant Variety Testing.

33. On June 14, UPOV and the State Services for Plant Variety Rights Protection of Ukraine (former State Commission on Plant Variety Testing), organized a National Workshop on Plant Variety Protection, which was held in the conference room of the State Services for Plant Variety Rights Protection in Kyiv. The workshop was attended by some 60 participants, representing government officials, staff of the State Services for Plant Variety Rights Protection, plant breeders and scientists. The UPOV presentations raised considerable interest and enhanced the understanding of basic principles of the UPOV Convention and approaches to technical examination of plant varieties. UPOV was informed that the "Amending Law of Ukraine on the Protection of Plant Variety Rights" had been adopted by Parliament and would come into force on July 1, 2002. Ukraine would then be in a position to give effect to the provisions of the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention.

34. On June 30, UPOV participated in a meeting organized by the United Nations University Institute of Advanced Studies (UNU/IAS) which was entitled "In Search of Biosecurity Best Practices, Awareness-Raising and Capacity-Building on Access to Genetic Resources, Benefit-Sharing, Biosafety in Central Asian Countries and Mongolia." UPOV gave a presentation entitled "Plant Variety Protection as an Effective Tool for Development." This was the first occasion for UPOV to speak about plant variety protection in Mongolia. Officials of the Government of Mongolia expressed the wish to collaborate with UPOV.

35. From July 1 to 3, UPOV participated in the XVIIIth Pan-American Seed Seminar on "Transgenic Varieties: The Future," in Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia. Some 400 participants represented the private seed sector and government services from Latin-American countries. UPOV gave a lecture on the enforcement of breeders' rights based on the UPOV Convention.

36. From July 1 to 5, UPOV participated in an international seminar on "Cereal Varieties Testing under Distinctness, Uniformity and Stability," in Egoryevskaya State Variety Testing Station, Moscow area, which was organized by the State Commission of the Russian Federation for Selection Achievements, Tests and Protection, at the request of the International Maize and Wheat Improvement Centres Office (CIMMYT) in Kazakhstan, with

the support of the *Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit* (GTZ). Some 25 participants representing government officials and plant breeders and representatives of plant variety protection offices from Kazakhstan, the Russian Federation, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan were present. The seminar was an important step to further the accession of the three Central Asian States to the UPOV Convention.

37. From July 2 to 5, UPOV organized, in cooperation with the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry of the Republic of Korea, the Third Asian Regional Technical Meeting for Plant Variety Protection in Seoul, Republic of Korea. The meeting was attended by 19 experts from 13 Asian countries (Bangladesh, Cambodia, China, India, Indonesia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Myanmar, Pakistan, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Viet Nam). There were also some 70 participants from the Republic of Korea, five experts from Japan and one participant each from Poland and Spain, who participated as lecturers. The meeting gave an overview on plant variety protection in the Asia and Pacific region and offered an insight into the plant variety protection system of the Republic of Korea. It focussed on principles for technical examination of candidate varieties and cooperation in testing for distinctness, uniformity and stability (DUS) of plant varieties. Particular attention was given to the redrafting of UPOV Test Guidelines for Rice and Chinese Cabbage.

38. From July 8 to 10, UPOV, in cooperation with the Ministry of Agriculture, Sugar and Land Resettlement of Fiji, organized a national seminar in Suva, Fiji. A representative of New Zealand participated as a lecturer. Some 30 persons were present, including government officials, researchers, breeders and a representative from the Worldwide Fund for Nature (WWF). The Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) and the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat were also present. The participants showed a high level of interest in plant variety protection. The importance of regional cooperation was stressed. The presence of UPOV officials in Fiji offered an opportunity to meet Mr. Jimmy Rogers, Senior Deputy Director General of the Secretariat of the Pacific Community. It was agreed that all member States of the Community should seek a common starting point with respect to the introduction of plant variety protection. The Secretariat of the Pacific Community will inform the other members of the Community of the experience made with the seminar in Fiji.

39. On September 10 and 11, UPOV and the Selection Achievements Tests, Protection and Seed Quality Checking Center of the Republic of Armenia, organized a National Seminar on Plant Variety Protection and Plant Breeders' Rights under the UPOV Convention in Yerevan, Armenia. Some 45 participants from government institutions, the Selection Achievements Tests, Protection and Seed Quality Checking Center, plant breeders, scientists, the Armenian Technology Group Foundation, the European Union and the United States Department of Agriculture, participated. The Chairman of the State Commission of the Russian Federation for Selection Achievements, Tests and Protection participated on behalf of UPOV. The seminar provided an opportunity to raise awareness on plant variety protection and to further the procedure of the drafting of Armenian legislation on plant variety protection as a step to accede to the UPOV Convention. The Armenian Selection Achievements Tests, Protection and Seed Quality Checking Center and the Russian State Commission for Selection Achievements, Tests and Protection agreed on a training program of Armenian experts in the examination of DUS.

40. On September 13 and 14, UPOV and the State Patent Office of the Republic of Uzbekistan, in cooperation with the Agro-Industrial Committee of the Parliament of the Republic of Uzbekistan, organized a national seminar on plant variety protection and plant breeders' rights under the UPOV Convention in Tashkent, Uzbekistan. Some 45 participants

from the Agro-Industrial Committee of the Parliament of the Republic of Uzbekistan, government institutions, the State Patent Office, the State Committee on Plant Variety Testing, breeders and scientists participated. The Chairman of the State Commission of the Russian Federation for Selection Achievements, Tests and Protection, gave a lecture on behalf of UPOV. The seminar improved the understanding of basic principles of the UPOV Convention within the State Patent Office and the State Committee on Plant Variety Testing, which are both involved in the granting of breeders' rights and DUS examination, respectively. The Amended Law on Plant Variety Protection, which was recently adopted by Parliament, was introduced and will soon be sent to the Council of UPOV for advice on the conformity with the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention.

41. On September 17, UPOV participated in a meeting of the "Enlarged Variety Denominations Working Group of the Community Plant Variety Office," in Angers, France. The aim was to facilitate coordination with the ongoing review of the UPOV Recommendations on Variety Denominations.

42. On October 1 and 2, UPOV organized, in cooperation with the *Secretaría de Integración Económica Centroamericana* (SIECA) and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) a Seminar on the Protection of Forms of Life in Guatemala. Some 30 government officials from Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua participated. Lectures were given by government officials from Guatemala, representatives of SIECA, USAID, United States Patent Office, UPOV, the Argentinean and the Mexican Offices for Plant Variety Protection, the University of Costa Rica, Michigan State University and the Directorate of Industrial Property Registration of Nicaragua.

43. From October 1 to 4, UPOV organized, in cooperation with the Government of the Kingdom of Cambodia, and with financial assistance of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF) of Japan, a National Briefing Seminar on Plant Variety Protection in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. The National Briefing Seminar was followed by a consultation meeting with officials of the Industrial Property Office of the Department of Industrial Techniques of the Ministry of Industry, Mines and Energy of Cambodia. The National Briefing Seminar was attended by some thirty officials of the Government of the Kingdom of Cambodia. It was opened by H.E. Mr. Suy Sem, Minister for Industry, Mines and Energy. The mission prepared the ground for reflections within the Government of the Kingdom of Cambodia on an appropriate approach to plant variety protection and to further request advice from the Office of the Union.

44. From October 9 to 11, UPOV participated in the first meeting of the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, acting as Interim Committee for the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (International Treaty). Some 280 participants from 103 countries, 10 intergovernmental organizations, 10 non-governmental organizations and three international agricultural research centers attended the meeting. The Interim Committee took decisions on administrative matters and adopted the terms of reference for an Expert Group on the Standard Material Transfer Agreement, which is to be established in accordance with Article 12(4) of the International Treaty. It was decided that UPOV be invited to send a representative to provide technical assistance.

45. From October 14 to 18, UPOV participated in the Ninth Regular Session of the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (the Commission) in Rome,

Italy. Some 290 participants from 103 countries, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations attended the meeting. With regard to plant genetic resources, the Commission discussed the implementation and monitoring of the Global Plan of Action (GPA), the preparation of the second Report on the State of the World's Plant Genetic Resources and elements of a Material Transfer Agreement (MTA) which is aimed to be applied to plant genetic resources held in trust by the International Agricultural Research Centers and which covers plant genetic material which was acquired before the entry into force of the International Treaty.

46. From November 5 to 7, UPOV participated in a Sub-regional Workshop on the Use of the Intellectual Property System for the Promotion of Innovation and Technology Transfer for Agriculture and Food Production in West Africa, which was held in Abuja, Nigeria. The meeting was organized by the *Centre régional africain de la technologie* (CRAT), in cooperation with WIPO and with financial support from the International Fund for Agricultural Development and with cooperation from several other intergovernmental organizations. One of six sessions was dedicated to plant variety protection. Some thirty high-ranking officials from seven West African States and nine organizations participated.

47. On November 7, UPOV participated in the Intellectual Property Committee meeting in Königswinter (near Bonn), Germany, organized by the International Seed Federation (ISF).

48. On November 12 and 13, UPOV participated in the meeting of the CPVO Examination Offices in Angers, France.

49. From November 16 to 23, UPOV participated in Asian Seed 2002, which was held in Ho Chi Minh City, Viet Nam, and which was organized by the Asian Pacific Seed Association (APSA). There were some 400 registered participants. Twenty-one companies and other bodies, including UPOV, had exhibition booths, whilst 37 seed companies had their trading tables in the Trading Room. Asian Seed 2002 was opened by Mr. Bui Ba Bong, Vice Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development of Viet Nam. UPOV gave presentations during the Standing Committee on Intellectual Property Rights of APSA and chaired a plenary session on the Status of Plant Variety Protection Issues in the Asia and Pacific Region. At the fringes of the Conference, a meeting was held with Mr. Bui Ba Bong.

50. On November 20 and 21, UPOV organized, in cooperation with the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development of Viet Nam and with financial assistance of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF) of Japan, a National Seminar on the Protection of New Varieties of Plants Under the UPOV Convention. The National Seminar was attended by some 90 participants encompassing officials of the Government of Viet Nam, researchers of governmental research institutes, patent attorneys and breeders from seed companies. Mr. Bui Ba Bong, Vice Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development of Viet Nam opened the Seminar, the sessions of which were chaired by leading agricultural scientists of Viet Nam.

51. On December 17 and 18, UPOV organized, in cooperation with the Arab Organization for Agricultural Development (AOAD), a National Seminar on Intellectual Property in the Field of Agriculture, which was held in Khartoum, Republic of Sudan. Some 50 participants from the Agricultural Research Cooperation of Sudan, the Judiciary, the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, the Ministry of Economy and Finance, the Ministry of Industry, the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Science and Technology, from universities and national professional associations, participated. The Seminar provided major inputs for the current

work on the enforcement of intellectual property rights in Sudan. In Khartoum, the UPOV representatives were received by the Minister for Justice, the Minister for Agriculture and the Director General of AOAD.

IV. RELATIONS WITH STATES AND ORGANIZATIONS

52. A major part of the activities of the Union, and the Office of the Union, in particular, was focussed on advice and assistance on plant variety protection legislation and the procedure to accede to the Convention by potential members of the Union, or members of the Union that intended to accede to the 1991 Act of the Convention. The Office of the Union provided written or oral comments, paid visits to national authorities or received representatives of the respective States in order to give the required advice. In this respect, the Office of the Union had contacts with Algeria, Armenia, Bangladesh, Cambodia, China, Costa Rica, Egypt, El Salvador, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Kingdom of Bahrain, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lithuania, Malaysia, Mauritius, Mongolia, Myanmar, Pakistan, Philippines, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Thailand, Ukraine, Uzbekistan, Viet Nam and Yugoslavia (now Serbia and Montenegro).

53. The Office of the Union maintained close contact with the CPVO, the OECD and met with representatives of international organizations to coordinate activities or to explain UPOV's position. Of particular importance was the ongoing discussion on biological diversity, plant genetic resources and traditional knowledge, and the consideration of the draft African Model Law. The Office of the Union participated in the consideration of these issues with the FAO Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (CGRFA), OAPI, the African Regional Industrial Property Organization (ARIPO), SPC, the Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore of WIPO, the African Union, the Arab Organization for Agricultural Development (AOAD), and the WTO Council for TRIPS.

54. The Office of the Union provided guidance with explanations of the provisions of the Convention to members of the Union and individuals.

55. The Office of the Union met regularly with professional associations in order to follow developments in the practical application of plant variety protection on a global and regional level. Of particular relevance were meetings with the International Seed Federation (ISF), the African Seed Trade Association (AFSTA), the Asia and Pacific Seed Association (APSA), the European Seed Association (ESA), the International Community of Breeders of Asexually Reproduced Ornamental and Fruit-Tree Varieties (CIOPORA), and the International Seed Testing Association (ISTA).

56. The Office of the Union held meetings with other non-governmental organizations in order to explain the main features of the UPOV Convention.

V. SELECTED RESULTS OF UPOV IN 2002

57. Annex II to this document contains an overview of Selected Results of UPOV in 2002 obtained on the basis of the work of the Council, its subsidiary bodies and the Office of the Union.

VI. PUBLICATIONS

58. The Office of the Union published:

- (a) two issues of “Plant Variety Protection,” the Gazette and Newsletter of UPOV;
- (b) updated editions, covering every event affecting the composition of the Union, of the information leaflet, on UPOV and plant variety protection, in English, Arabic, Chinese, French, German, Russian and Spanish;
- (c) six updated discs in the series constituting the “UPOV-ROM Plant Variety Database.”

59. *The Council is invited to note this report.*

[Annex I follows]

ANNEX I

MEMBERS OF THE UNION

(December 31, 2002)

State	Date of Signature ¹	Date of Deposit of Instrument ^{1, 2}	Date Upon Which State Became Bound ¹
Argentina	- - - -	- - November 25, 1994 -	- - December 25, 1994 -
Australia	- - - -	- - February 1, 1989 December 20, 1999	- - March 1, 1989 January 20, 2000
Austria	- - - -	- - June 14, 1994 -	- - July 14, 1994 -
Belarus	- - - -	- - - December 5, 2002	- - - January 5, 2003
Belgium	December 2, 1961 November 10, 1972 October 23, 1978 March 19, 1991	November 5, 1976 November 5, 1976 - -	December 5, 1976 February 11, 1977 - -
Bolivia	- - - -	- - April 21, 1999 -	- - May 21, 1999 -
Brazil	- - - -	- - April 23, 1999 -	- - May 23, 1999 -

¹ *1st line:* International Convention for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants of December 2, 1961

2nd line: Additional Act of November 10, 1972

3rd line: Act of October 23, 1978

4th line: Act of March 19, 1991

² of ratification where the State has signed the Convention or the Additional Act, as the case may be; of ratification, acceptance or approval if the State has signed the Act of 1978; of accession where it has not signed the text concerned.

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State	Date of Signature ¹	Date of Deposit of Instrument ^{1, 2}	Date Upon Which State Became Bound ¹
Bulgaria	- - - -	- - - March 24, 1998	- - - April 24, 1998
Canada	- - October 31, 1979 March 9, 1992	- - February 4, 1991 -	- - March 4, 1991 -
Chile	- - - -	- - December 5, 1995 -	- - January 5, 1996 -
China	- - - -	- - March 23, 1999 -	- - April 23, 1999 -
Colombia	- - - -	- - August 13, 1996 -	- - September 13, 1996 -
Croatia	- - - -	- - - August 1, 2001	- - - September 1, 2001
Czech Republic ³	- - - -	- - - October 24, 2002	- - January 1, 1993 November 24, 2002
Denmark	November 26, 1962 November 10, 1972 October 23, 1978 March 19, 1991	September 6, 1968 February 8, 1974 October 8, 1981 April 26, 1996	October 6, 1968 February 11, 1977 November 8, 1981 April 24, 1998
Ecuador	- - - -	- - July 8, 1997 -	- - August 8, 1997 -
Estonia	- - - -	- - - August 24, 2000	- - - September 24, 2000
Finland	- - - -	- - March 16, 1993 June 20, 2001	- - April 16, 1993 July 20, 2001

³ Continuation of the accession of Czechoslovakia (instrument deposited on November 4, 1991; State bound on December 4, 1991).

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State	Date of Signature ¹	Date of Deposit of Instrument ^{1, 2}	Date Upon Which State Became Bound ¹
France	December 2, 1961 November 10, 1972 October 23, 1978 March 19, 1991	September 3, 1971 January 22, 1975 February 17, 1983 -	October 3, 1971 February 11, 1977 March 17, 1983 -
Germany	December 2, 1961 November 10, 1972 October 23, 1978 March 19, 1991	July 11, 1968 July 23, 1976 March 12, 1986 June 25, 1998	August 10, 1968 February 11, 1977 April 12, 1986 July 25, 1998
Hungary	- - - -	- - March 16, 1983 December 1, 2002	- - April 16, 1983 January 1, 2003
Ireland	- - September 27, 1979 February 21, 1992	- - May 19, 1981 -	- - November 8, 1981 -
Israel	- - - October 23, 1991	November 12, 1979 November 12, 1979 April 12, 1984 June 3, 1996	December 12, 1979 December 12, 1979 May 12, 1984 April 24, 1998
Italy	December 2, 1961 November 10, 1972 October 23, 1978 March 19, 1991	June 1, 1977 June 1, 1977 April 28, 1986 -	July 1, 1977 July 1, 1977 May 28, 1986 -
Japan	- - October 17, 1979 -	- - August 3, 1982 November 24, 1998	- - September 3, 1982 December 24, 1998
Kenya	- - - -	- - April 13, 1999 -	- - May 13, 1999 -
Kyrgyzstan	- - - -	- - - May 26, 2000	- - - June 26, 2000
Latvia	- - - -	- - - July 30, 2002	- - - August 30, 2002
Mexico	- - July 25, 1979 -	- - July 9, 1997 -	- - August 9, 1997 -
Netherlands	December 2, 1961 November 10, 1972 October 23, 1978 March 19, 1991	August 8, 1967 January 12, 1977 August 2, 1984 October 14, 1996	August 10, 1968 February 11, 1977 September 2, 1984 April 24, 1998

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State	Date of Signature ¹	Date of Deposit of Instrument ^{1, 2}	Date Upon Which State Became Bound ¹
New Zealand	- - July 25, 1979 December 19, 1991	- - November 3, 1980 -	- - November 8, 1981 -
Nicaragua	- - -	- - August 6, 2001 -	- - September 6, 2001 -
Norway	- - - -	- - August 13, 1993 -	- - September 13, 1993 -
Panama	- - - -	- - April 23, 1999 -	- - May 23, 1999 -
Paraguay	- - - -	- - January 8, 1997 -	- - February 8, 1997 -
Poland	- - - -	- - October 11, 1989 -	- - November 11, 1989 -
Portugal	- - - -	- - September 14, 1995 -	- - October 14, 1995 -
Republic of Korea	- - - -	- - - December 7, 2001	- - - January 7, 2002
Republic of Moldova	- - - -	- - - September 28, 1998	- - - October 28, 1998
Romania	- - - -	- - - February 16, 2001	- - - March 16, 2001

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State	Date of Signature ¹	Date of Deposit of Instrument ^{1, 2}	Date Upon Which State Became Bound ¹
Russian Federation	- - - -	- - - March 24, 1998	- - - April 24, 1998
Slovakia ³	- - - -	- - - -	- - January 1, 1993 -
Slovenia	- - - -	- - - June 29, 1999	- - - July 29, 1999
South Africa	- - October 23, 1978 March 19, 1991	October 7, 1977 October 7, 1977 July 21, 1981 -	November 6, 1977 November 6, 1977 November 8, 1981 -
Spain	- - - March 19, 1991	April 18, 1980 April 18, 1980 - -	May 18, 1980 May 18, 1980 - -
Sweden	- January 11, 1973 December 6, 1978 December 17, 1991	November 17, 1971 January 11, 1973 December 1, 1982 December 18, 1997	December 17, 1971 February 11, 1977 January 1, 1983 April 24, 1998
Switzerland	November 30, 1962 November 10, 1972 October 23, 1978 March 19, 1991	June 10, 1977 June 10, 1977 June 17, 1981 -	July 10, 1977 July 10, 1977 November 8, 1981 -
Trinidad and Tobago	- - - -	- - December 30, 1997 -	- - January 30, 1998 -
Ukraine	- - - -	- - October 3, 1995 -	- - November 3, 1995 -
United Kingdom	November 26, 1962 November 10, 1972 October 23, 1978 March 19, 1991	September 17, 1965 July 1, 1980 August 24, 1983 December 3, 1998	August 10, 1968 July 31, 1980 September 24, 1983 January 3, 1999
United States of America	- - October 23, 1978 October 25, 1991	- - November 12, 1980 January 22, 1999	- - November 8, 1981 February 22, 1999

³ Continuation of the accession of Czechoslovakia (instrument deposited on November 4, 1991; State bound on December 4, 1991).

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Annex I, page 6

State	Date of Signature ¹	Date of Deposit of Instrument ^{1, 2}	Date Upon Which State Became Bound ¹
Uruguay	- - - -	- - October 13, 1994 -	- - November 13, 1994 -

Total: 52 members

[Annex II follows]

ANNEX II

SELECTED RESULTS OF UPOV IN 2002

(Presented According to the Structure of the
Program and Budget 2002-2003 – Document C/35/4)

Sub-program UV.2: Improved Services to Contracting Parties / Ensuring an Effective System of Plant Variety Protection

In the administrative and legal and in the technical area, the Union has produced and adopted a considerable number of basic documents which enhance the understanding and the implementation of the provisions of the Convention, in an internationally harmonized and effective way, and thus, further improve the quality of protection and reduce its cost at a national or regional level. These comprise legal advice on draft legislation, position papers on legal and technical matters, technical guidance documents and new approaches to variety testing.

1. Administrative and legal guidance on how to implement the UPOV Convention proposed to or adopted by the UPOV Council or its Committees.

- Position paper on “The Notion of Breeder and Common Knowledge” (document C(Extr.)/19/2) Rev., adopted on April 19, 2002
- Position paper on “Specific Issues Concerning the Interface Between Patents and Breeders’ Rights,” prepared for adoption (document CAJ/46/2)
- Administrative and legal guidance provided concerning the use of material submitted for examination of distinctness, uniformity and stability (documents CAJ/45/5-TC/38/14 and CAJ/46/4)
- Administrative and legal guidance provided on the protection of hybrid varieties through protection of parent lines (document CAJ/46/6)
- Administrative and legal guidance on the notion of “essentially derived variety” in the breeding of ornamental varieties (document CAJ/46/7)

2. Technical guidelines on the examination of distinctness, uniformity and stability of new varieties proposed to or adopted by the UPOV Council or its Committees.

- “General Introduction to the Examination of Distinctness, Uniformity and Stability and the Development of Harmonized Descriptions of New Varieties of Plants,” adopted by the Council as document TG/1/3
- Preparation and adoption of accompanying technical documents (TGP documents) is underway
- Recommendations concerning molecular techniques

3. Policy on publication of variety descriptions proposed to or adopted by the UPOV Council.

- Project established by the Administrative and Legal Committee (CAJ) is being implemented. Questionnaire on Publication of Variety Descriptions approved by CAJ on October 21, 2002, and circulated to interested parties.

4. *Updated UPOV guidelines on variety denominations proposed to or adopted by the UPOV Council.*

- Second and third meeting of the *Ad hoc* Working Group on Variety Denominations, in April and October 2002 (Draft explanatory notes on Article 20 of 1991 Act of UPOV Convention produced and discussed in Working Group in October 2002)

Sub-Program UV.3: Extending the Coverage of Protection of New Varieties of Plants

The Union has assisted the African Intellectual Property Organization (*Organisation africaine pour la propriété intellectuelle* (OAPI)) and a number of States in the implementation of plant variety protection based on the UPOV Convention. It has also provided advice to governments, mainly of developing countries and countries in transition to a market economy, in the adoption of relevant legislation.

1. *Number of comments on laws and regulations (including advice on accession procedure).*

- 21 comments: Argentina, Australia (second tier system), Belarus, Colombia, Egypt, Ghana, Kingdom of Bahrain, Latvia, Lithuania, Mauritius, Nicaragua, Poland, Republic of Korea, Singapore, Tajikistan, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, Yemen, Yugoslavia (now Serbia and Montenegro), Zambia.

2. *Concept for training and assistance, e.g. distance learning, proposed to or adopted by the Council.*

- Work has started (first draft exists). Distance learning modules are being developed. Approach has been discussed with the Worldwide Academy of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO).

2.1 Number of training activities initiated/implemented.

Training activities initiated by the Office and implemented by members of the Union:

- Training of OAPI Administrators in France
- Training of experts from Cambodia and Viet Nam at the Federal Office of Plant Varieties, Hanover, Germany

Training activities organized by UPOV:

- TWC Workshop on Data Handling in Texcoco, Mexico
- National Seminar in Phnom Penh, Cambodia
- National Seminar in Ho Chi Minh City, Viet Nam
- Training Seminar in Yerevan, Armenia
- Training Seminar in Kyiv, Ukraine
- Training Seminar in Tashkent, Uzbekistan
- Training Seminar in Port-of-Spain, Trinidad and Tobago
- Four roving Seminars in Cuttack, Hyderabad, New Delhi, Pune, India
- Third Asian Regional Technical Meeting, Seoul, Republic of Korea
- National Seminar in Suva, Fiji
- National Seminar in Khartoum, Sudan
- Briefings at FAO Committee on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (CGRFA) Session
- Four lunchtime briefing sessions during the fourth session of the WIPO Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore, Geneva
- Preparatory Workshops for Technical Working Party sessions

UPOV gave lectures at:

- Study visit of Chinese experts in Geneva
- Workshop on Biodiversity in Ulan Bator, Mongolia
- Training Course on Variety Protection of the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), Tokyo
- Society for Techno-Innovation of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Tokyo
- The WIPO Worldwide Academy, Geneva (four courses)
- Training Course on Plant Variety Protection in Wageningen, Netherlands
- Workshops on Plant Variety Improvement in Kyrgyzstan, Russian Federation, Yugoslavia (now Serbia and Montenegro), Tajikistan
- Workshop on Intellectual Property in Colima University, Mexico
- Workshops on Biodiversity, Plant Variety Improvement, etc., in Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Nigeria, Senegal, Zambia

3. Additional number of Contracting Parties.

- Three States became members of the Union (Belarus, Latvia and the Republic of Korea)
- Two members of the Union acceded to the 1991 Act (Czech Republic and Hungary)

4.1 Number of bilateral and regional arrangements on plant variety protection.

- cf. Document C/36/5 for agreements for cooperation in variety testing (five members have expressed the intention to conclude additional agreements)

4.2 Publication of information on available experience in DUS testing.

- cf. TC/38/4 Rev. for experience in variety testing (14 members reported to have acquired technical experience in the testing of, in total, 165 additional species)

5.1 Number of titles granted.

6,951 in 2001 (figures for 2002 will be available in October 2003)

5.2 Number of titles in force.

46,623 in 2001 (figures for 2002 will be available in October 2003)

Sub-Program UV.4: External Relations

UPOV's public profile has become more visible. Intergovernmental organizations, such as the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), the World Trade Organization (WTO) and its Council for Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (Council for TRIPS) in particular, the Conference of the Parties for the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and the Committee for the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITPGR) have invited UPOV to contribute. International professional associations have intensified contact with UPOV. Reference to UPOV has been made in bilateral international agreements on trade. Understanding of UPOV's role and activities have improved. UPOV's corporate image has been enhanced, in particular, by means of an improved Website.

1. Number of occasions UPOV is invited to participate in or to make presentations at meetings of international, governmental and non-governmental organizations.

- Council for TRIPS (WTO), CBD, WIPO Intergovernmental Committee, ITPGR, FAO, OECD, International Seed Testing Association (ISTA), Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR), Central Advisory Service (CAS) at the International Service for National Agricultural Research (ISNAR), United Kingdom Commission on Intellectual Property, WIPO-UPOV Symposium on the "Co-existence of Patents and Plant Breeders' Rights in the Promotion of Biotechnological Developments"
- Five invitations from international breeders' associations

2. Incorporation of provisions which reflect UPOV principles in international agreements.

- UPOV principles recognized implicitly in ITPGR (benefit-sharing; farmer's privilege)
- Reference to UPOV in bilateral trade agreements
- UPOV provisions on variety denominations considered by the International Union of Biological Sciences (IUBS) Commission on Nomenclature (International Code of Nomenclature for Cultivated Plants-INCP Code)

[Annex III follows]

ANNEX III

OVERVIEW OF MISSIONS IN 2002

<u>Event</u>	<u>Location and Date</u>	<u>UPOV Officer</u>
Meeting of German Farmers' Association "The Future of Biotechnology in Germany"	Berlin (DE) February 2002	R. Jördens
Conference on "How IPRs could work better for developing countries and poor people," organized by the IPR Commission	London (GB) February 2002	P. Button
National Workshop on Plant Variety Protection	New Delhi (IN) February 2002	R. Jördens M. Tabata
National Workshops on Plant Variety Protection	Cuttak, Hyderabad, Pune (IN) February 2002	M. Tabata
Community Plant Variety Office (CPVO) Administrative Council (AC)	Angers (FR) March 2002	R. Jördens
African Seed Trade Association (AFSTA) Congress 2002	Dakar (SN) March 2002	P. Senghor
WIPO/OAPI Regional Workshop on Intellectual Property and the Protection of Traditional Knowledge and Folklore Associated to Genetic Resources	Abidjan (CI) April 2002	P. Senghor
WARDA (INGER-Africa) Workshop organized by West Africa Rice Development Association (WARDA)	Mbé (CI) April 2002	P. Senghor
WIPO Expert Group Meeting on Intellectual Property and the Protection of Expressions of Folklore and Traditional Knowledge	Addis Ababa (ET) May 2002	P. Senghor
Regional Seminar on the Protection of New Varieties of Plants	Port-of-Spain (TT) May 2002	R. Lavignolle
FIS/ASSINSEL World Seed Congress 2002	Chicago (US) May 2002	R. Jördens

<u>Event</u>	<u>Location and Date</u>	<u>UPOV Officer</u>
Meeting on the Implementation of a Global Information System on PGRFA at FAO Headquarters	Rome (IT) May 2002	R. Jördens
Study Group from Thailand and Philippines at the European Patent Office	Munich (DE) May 2002	R. Jördens
Plant Variety Protection Symposium	Belgrade (YU) May 2002	V. Derbenskiy
Lecture at “ <i>V. Taller de formación de profesores en materia de propiedad intelectual</i> ”	Colima (MX) June 2002	R. Lavignolle
Technical Working Party on Automation and Computer Programs (TWC)	Texcoco (MX) June 2002	R. Lavignolle
UPOV Workshop on Data Handling	Texcoco (MX) June 2002	R. Lavignolle
OECD Annual Meeting of Representatives of National Designated Authorities	Santa Cruz (BO) June 2002	R. Lavignolle
Lecture at Sixth Course on Plant Variety Protection, organized by the Centre for Variety Research	Wageningen (NL) June 2002	P. Button
National Seminar on Biotechnology and Intellectual Property	Crimea (UA) June 2002	R. Jördens
UPOV Workshop	Kyiv (UA) June 2002	R. Jördens V. Derbenskiy
Lecture at Latin American Seed Growers Federation (FELAS) and XVIII Pan-American Seed Seminar	Santa Cruz de la Sierra (BO) July 2002	R. Lavignolle
Workshop on Biosecurity organized by United Nations University (UNU)	Ulan Bator (MG) June 2002	M. Tabata
Community Plant Variety Office (CPVO) Meeting on Variety Denominations	Angers (FR) June 2002	P. Button
Third Asian Regional Technical Meeting for Plant Variety Protection	Seoul (KR) July 2002	R. Jördens P. Button M. Tabata

<u>Event</u>	<u>Location and Date</u>	<u>UPOV Officer</u>
Fact-find mission to Pacific Island Countries and National Seminar at Fidji	Suva (FJ) July 2002	R. Jördens M. Tabata
Visit to Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF) of Japan	Tokyo (JP) July 2002	R. Jördens M. Tabata
International Seminar “Cereal Varieties Testing on Their Distinction, Uniformity and Stability”	Moscow (RU) July 2002	V. Derbenskiy
Roving National Seminars on Plant Variety Protection and Plant Breeders’ Rights under the UPOV Convention	Yerevan (AM) and Tashkent (UZ) September 2002	R. Jördens V. Derbenskiy
CPVO Variety Denominations Meeting	Angers (FR) September 2002	Y. Huerta
Technical Working Party for Vegetables (TWV)	Tskuba (JP) September 2002	M. Tabata
Technical Working Party for Agricultural Crops (TWA)	Rio de Janeiro (BR) September 2002	P. Button R. Lavignolle
Technical Working Party for Ornamental Plants and Forest Trees (TWO)	Nagano (JP) September 2002	P. Button
Fourth Meeting of the Expert Advisory Committee for the Central Advisory Service on Intellectual Property (CAS), Housed at ISNAR	The Hague (NL) October 2002	R. Jördens
Meeting of the Administrative Council of Community Plant Variety Office (CPVO)	Angers (FR) October 2002	R. Jördens
First Meeting of the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture acting as Interim Committee for the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture; and Ninth Regular Session of the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture	Rome (IT) October 2002	M. Tabata
Seminar on Protection of Forms of Life	Guatemala (GT) October 2002	R. Lavignolle
Symposium on the Importance of the Budapest Treaty	Budapest (HU) October 2002	R. Jördens

<u>Event</u>	<u>Location and Date</u>	<u>UPOV Officer</u>
International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) INGER Training Workshop, INGER TAC Meeting	Bangkok (TH) November 2002	M. Tabata
Technical Working Party for Fruit Crops (TWF)	San Carlos de Bariloche (AR) November 2002	P. Button P. Senghor
Intellectual Property Committee of the International Seed Federation (ISF)	Königswinter (DE) November 2002	R. Jördens P. Button
Subregional Roundtable on Strategies on How to Use the Intellectual Property System to Promote Innovation and the Transfer of Technology in Agricultural and Food Sectors in West Africa	Abuja (NG) November 2002	P. Senghor
Asian Seed 2002 Conference	Ho Chi Minh City (VN) November 2002	R. Jördens M. Tabata
UPOV National Seminar	Ho Chi Minh City (VN) November 2002	R. Jördens M. Tabata
CPVO Meeting with Representatives of its Examination Offices	Angers (FR) November 2002	P. Button
UPOV/WIPO/AOAD National Seminar on Intellectual Property and Plant Variety Protection	Khartoum (SN) December 2002	R. Jördens P. Senghor

[End of Annex III and of document]