



C/37/3

ORIGINAL: English

DATE: October 9, 2003

INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR THE PROTECTION OF NEW VARIETIES OF PLANTS

GENEVA

COUNCIL**Thirty-Seventh Ordinary Session****Geneva, October 23, 2003****REPORT ON ACTIVITIES DURING THE FIRST NINE MONTHS OF 2003***prepared by the Office of the Union***I. COMPOSITION OF THE UNION**Members and Future Members

1. On July 31, 2003, Tunisia deposited its instrument of accession to the Convention. The Convention (1991 Act) entered into force with respect to Tunisia on August 31, 2003.
2. As of September 30, 2003, the Union comprised 53 member States: 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, Tunisia, Ukraine, United Kingdom, United States of America, Uruguay.
3. 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.”

4. Five requests were received in the period under review:
 - (a) a request by the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, by letter of April 11, 2003;
 - (b) a request by Iceland, by letter of July 14, 2003;
 - (c) a request by Jordan, by letter of May 22, 2003;
 - (d) a request by Uzbekistan, by letter of September 12, 2003;
 - (e) a request by Singapore, by letter of September 23, 2003.
5. At its twentieth extraordinary session held on April 11, 2003, the Council examined the Decree on the Protection of New Plant Varieties of Viet Nam and decided
 - (a) to advise the Government of Viet Nam that the Decree, in its main provisions, incorporated most of the substance of the 1991 Act, but that it still needs some clarifications and amendments, as provided in document C(Extr.)/20/3, in order to fully conform with the 1991 Act; once the above clarifications and amendments are incorporated in the Decree to the satisfaction of the Office of the Union, Viet Nam may deposit its instrument of accession to the 1991 Act;
 - (b) to request the Office of the Union to offer its assistance to the Government of Viet Nam in drafting the necessary clarifications and amendments to the Decree, and the preparation of a more accurate translation into one or more of the official languages of the Union.
6. The requests of Iceland, Jordan, Singapore and Uzbekistan are scheduled to be examined at the thirty-seventh ordinary session of the Council, on October 23, 2003.

Situation in Relation to the Various Acts of the Convention

7. On September 30, 2003, two States were bound by the 1961 Act as amended by the 1972 Act and twenty-six member States were bound by the 1978 Act.
8. Poland acceded to the 1991 Act, on July 15, 2003, bringing, with the accession of Tunisia, to twenty-five the number of Contracting Parties bound by the 1991 Act.
9. Under Article 30(2) of the 1991 Act, each State or intergovernmental organization must be in a position, under its laws, to give effect to the provisions of the 1991 Act at the time of depositing its instrument of adherence.
10. A number of members not bound by the 1991 Act, nevertheless, have laws that conform in all respects with the 1991 Act. Most other members have drawn up draft laws in line with the 1991 Act, while more than ten non-member States (and the European Community) are in a position to accede at any time to the said Act. The African Intellectual Property Organization (OAPI - *Organisation Africaine de la Propriété Intellectuelle*) 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.

11. The Table annexed to this report summarizes the situation of the members of the Union with regard to the various Acts of the Convention as of September 30, 2003.

II. SESSIONS OF THE COUNCIL AND ITS SUBSIDIARY BODIES

Council

12. The Council held its twentieth extraordinary session on April 11, 2003, under the chairmanship of Mr. Karl Olov Öster (Sweden). It elected unanimously Mrs. Enriqueta Molina Macias (Mexico) as Vice-President of the Council for a term beginning on April 11, 2003, and ending with the thirty-seventh ordinary session of the Council, on October 23, 2003. It examined the Decree on the Protection of New Plant Varieties of Viet Nam for conformity with the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention. It adopted the "Position of UPOV concerning Decision VI/5 of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)."

Consultative Committee

13. The Consultative Committee held its sixty-fifth session on April 11, 2003, under the chairmanship of Mr. Karl Olov Öster (Sweden). It took note of an information on the nomination for the post of Director General of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) and made a preliminary examination of the Decree of the Protection of New Plant Varieties of Viet Nam. It considered the financial situation of the Union. It noted developments in the Council for TRIPS concerning the review of Article 27.3(b) of the TRIPS Agreement and developments concerning biodiversity, plant genetic resources and plant variety protection. It conducted a preliminary examination of a draft "Position of UPOV concerning Decision VI/5 of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity." It took note of a proposal to organize a WIPO-UPOV Symposium on Intellectual Property Rights in Plant Biotechnology. Finally, it considered procedures for matters concerning UPOV position papers and presentation of UPOV policy by the Office of the Union.

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

14. For the work of the Administrative and Legal Committee (CAJ) and the Technical Committee (TC), which held its forty-seventh session on April 10 and its thirty-ninth session from April 7 to 9, 2003, respectively, reference is made to documents C/37/9 and C/37/10. The twenty-first session of the Technical Working Party on Automation and Computer Programs (TWC) was held in Tjele, Denmark, from June 10 to 13, 2003. The Technical Working Party for Vegetables (TWV) held its thirty-seventh session in Roelofarendsveen, Netherlands, from June 23 to 27, 2003. The Working Group on Biochemical and Molecular Techniques, and DNA-Profiling in Particular (BMT) held its eighth session in Tsukuba, Japan, from September 3 to 5, 2003. The Technical Working Party for Agricultural Crops (TWA) held its thirty-second session in Tsukuba, Japan, from September 8 to 12, 2003. The Technical Working Party for Ornamental Plants and Forest Trees (TWO) held its thirty-sixth session in Niagara Falls, Canada, from September 22 to 26, 2003. The Technical Working

Party for Fruit Crops (TWF) held its thirty-fourth session in Niagara Falls, Canada, from September 29 to October 3, 2003.

III. COURSES, SEMINARS, WORKSHOPS, MISSIONS

15. On January 31, 2003, UPOV organized a briefing session for professionals of WIPO at the WIPO/UPOV headquarters in Geneva. The presentations focussed on basic principles of the UPOV Convention, on the technical approach to plant variety examination and on the interface with other international conventions/treaties. Some 100 professionals participated.

16. On February 6 and 7, UPOV participated, at the request of the Tunisian Government, in an advisory mission organized by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) concerning various subjects related to intellectual property. UPOV provided information on Tunisia's accession procedure to the UPOV Convention, which subsequently took effect on July 31, 2003.

17. On February 19, UPOV organized, at the WIPO/UPOV headquarters, a briefing session for a delegation of the Kyrgyz Republic, headed by Mr. Roman O. Omorov, Director, State Agency of Science and Intellectual Property, on recent developments within UPOV and on regional cooperation in the Central Asian region, in particular.

18. From February 19 to 21, UPOV attended the Ad hoc Technical Expert Group Meeting on the Potential Impact of Genetic Use Restriction Technologies on Small-Holder Farmers, Indigenous and Local Communities and Farmers Rights, which was held at the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity in Montreal, Canada.

19. On March 6 and 7, UPOV participated in a Conference/Seminar "Results of the State Commission of the Russian Federation for Selection Achievements Test and Protection in 2002 and Plans for 2003," which was held in the Ministry of Agriculture of the Russian Federation in Moscow. Some 370 registered participants were present, among them members of the Russian Parliament, Government officials, breeders, scientists and representatives of Plant Variety Offices of six countries. The program for the Conference/Seminar included presentations by: Mr. Belan B. Chamchiev, Vice-Minister, Ministry of Agriculture of the Russian Federation; the Chairman of the State Commission of the Russian Federation for Selection Achievements, Tests and Protection; the Vice-President of the Russian Academy of Agricultural Sciences; and by UPOV. Prior to the Conference/Seminar, the UPOV officials met with Vice-Minister Chamchiev and officials of the Ministry of Agriculture of the Russian Federation. Financial issues and options for further involvement of Russia in technical activities were discussed. In a separate meeting with leading officials of the State Commission for Selection Achievements, Test and Protection, further cooperation among the State Commission and Plant Breeders' Rights Offices from countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) was discussed. Furthermore, the establishment of an official text in Russian of the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention was considered.

20. From March 10 to 14, UPOV organized, in cooperation with the Department of Agriculture of the Republic of the Philippines, and with financial assistance from the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of Japan, the fourth Asian Regional Technical Meeting for Plant Variety Protection, in Manila, Philippines. In addition to some 65 participants from the Philippines, there were 16 participants from Bangladesh, Cambodia, China, India, Indonesia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal,

Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Viet Nam. The International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) and the International Tropical Fruits Network (TFNet) were also represented. Experts from Japan, Germany and the Republic of Korea participated as lecturers. The meeting endorsed conclusions concerning the role of Asian Regional Technical Meetings as a forum to exchange information and experiences in plant variety protection, with a focus on discussion of Test Guidelines for crops of regional interest. It commented on the draft Test Guidelines for apple, ginseng, mango and rice and recommended that UPOV should pursue further opportunities for the experts in the region to be involved in the drafting/revision of UPOV Test Guidelines. It welcomed the active participation of the experts from IRRI and TFNet. It furthermore noted the invitation of the Government of Viet Nam and the Government of Myanmar to host future sessions.

21. On March 17 and 18, UPOV organized, in cooperation with the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of Cambodia, and with financial assistance of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of Japan, a National Seminar on the Protection of New Plant Varieties Under the UPOV Convention in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. An official of China and an official of Viet Nam participated as lecturers. Some 35 officials of the Government of Cambodia attended the Seminar. The Government of Cambodia reported that it had decided to base its national system for the protection of new varieties on the UPOV Convention. During the Seminar, the importance of regional cooperation was repeatedly stressed as several countries of the region intend to introduce a plant variety protection system according to the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention.

22. On March 18, UPOV gave a lecture on plant variety protection during a workshop on a broad range of intellectual property legislation, organized by WIPO at WIPO/UPOV headquarters for a Sudanese Delegation, headed by H.E. Mr. Badr Eldin Suleiman, Presidential Advisor, Chief Negotiator on Sudan's Accession to the World Trade Organization (WTO), and H.E. Mr. Ali Osman Yassin, Minister for Justice. As several members of the Sudanese Delegation had participated in the national Seminar in Khartoum, which UPOV had organized in 2002, UPOV could build on the information provided previously with regard to Sudan's accession to the Convention.

23. On March 20, UPOV made a presentation at a conference organized by CropLife International which was held at the Hotel *Président Wilson* in Geneva. Some 100 representatives of companies active in plant biotechnology, professional associations, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations participated.

24. On March 20 and 21, in Yangon, UPOV organized a National Seminar on the Protection of New Varieties of Plants Under the UPOV Convention, in cooperation with the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation of the Union of Myanmar and with financial assistance of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of Japan. Two officials from China and from Viet Nam participated as lecturers. The Seminar was attended by some 25 officials of the Government of Myanmar, by representatives of universities and of the Attorney General's office. The Seminar was the first forum in Myanmar to address exclusively the issue of plant variety protection based on the UPOV Convention. It provided assistance for the enactment of a national law on plant variety protection on which the Government of Myanmar is working.

25. On March 26 and 27, UPOV participated in a meeting of the Administrative Council of the Community Plant Variety Office (CPVO) in Angers, France.

26. On April 29 and 30, UPOV participated in a Sub-Regional Seminar on Biotechnology and Intellectual Property, which was organized by WIPO, in cooperation with the Committee for Intellectual Property Rights, Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Kazakhstan in Almaty. Some 100 participants representing various Government bodies, scientific and research institutions in the field of biotechnology, micro-organisms, collections and patent attorneys were present. UPOV delivered a presentation on "Intellectual Property Protection of New Varieties of Plants: International Legal Dimensions." Officials from the Ministry of Justice and from the Ministry of Agriculture informed of the intention of Kazakhstan to accede to the UPOV Convention.

27. On May 27 and 28, UPOV organized, in cooperation with the National Institute for the Defense of Competition and Intellectual Property Protection (*Instituto Nacional de Defensa de la Competencia y de la Protección de la Propiedad Intelectual*, INDECOPI) of Peru, a National Seminar on Plant Breeders' Rights which took place in Lima. Some 70 participants, mainly government officials, patent attorneys, representatives of the seed industry and experts from the national research centers and universities, were present. Peru has a plant breeders' rights legislation which largely corresponds to the provisions of the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention. The aim was to explain the benefits of acceding to the UPOV Convention. Officials from Colombia and from CPVO participated as lecturers.

28. On June 6, at a WIPO "Interregional Intermediate Seminar on Industrial Property," which was held at the WIPO/UPOV headquarters, UPOV lectured on the protection of new plant varieties in an international framework. Some 70 officials from developing countries were present.

29. From June 7 to 11, UPOV participated in the World Seed Congress 2003 in Bangalore, India, which was organized by the International Seed Federation (ISF). The ISF World Seed Congress provided an excellent opportunity for UPOV to discuss matters with users of the UPOV system. Among many other relevant issues, the co-existence of patents and plant breeders' rights, and the access to plant genetic resources for breeding proved to be matters of particular importance to the breeding world. During the course of the Congress there were opportunities to meet with Indian officials and to consider plant variety protection in India.

30. From June 9 to 20, UPOV participated as a lecturer in a training course which was organized by the Centre for Genetic Resources of the Netherlands, in Wageningen. UPOV was invited to lecture on the second day of the course, with the remit to provide a "General Introduction to UPOV." The UPOV contribution was made up of presentations, combined with a question-and-answer session, and a group exercise, the latter being used to examine the "farmers' privilege."

31. From June 16 to 20, UPOV, in cooperation with the Plant Variety Protection Offices of Switzerland, France and the Netherlands and CPVO, and with financial assistance from the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of Japan, organized a study tour to the Office of the Union, to Berne, Angers and Wageningen, with the participation of one expert each from the Governments of Cambodia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Myanmar and Viet Nam, and two Government officials from Singapore, which took place to assist with the establishment of national systems for plant variety protection in those countries and to encourage regional cooperation.

32. On June 19, UPOV made a presentation in the program "Master of Intellectual Property Law," organized by the University of Turin and the WIPO Worldwide Academy.

33. From June 30 to July 11, UPOV organized, in cooperation with the Ministry of Agriculture of Spain, the third Training Program for the Protection of Varieties of Plants for Ibero-American Countries, which was held in various locations in Spain and which was co-financed by WIPO. One participant from each of the following nineteen Ibero-American countries attended: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela, financed by UPOV, WIPO and the Government of Spain. Another ten participants from Ibero-America, financed by their government, one participant from France and ten local participants also attended the training course. The activity focused on technical examination of new varieties of plants and included field visits to testing stations. A round of questions and answers was scheduled at the end of each visit. Country reports demonstrated the progress of plant breeder's right (PBR) in the region.
34. On July 2 and 3, UPOV participated in the Extraordinary Meeting 2003 of the International Seed Testing Association (ISTA) which took place in Zurich, Switzerland.
35. On July 4, at the WIPO/UPOV headquarters, UPOV organized a briefing session for a delegation of Tajikistan, headed by Mr. Inom Takirov, Director, National Center for Patents and Information, on basic principles of the UPOV Convention and on the accession procedure.
36. From July 7 to 15, UPOV participated in the fifth session of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore, held in Geneva, Switzerland. During that session, the Intergovernmental Committee discussed future directions of WIPO's work concerning intellectual property and genetic resources, traditional knowledge and folklore. The WIPO General Assembly was requested to decide on a mandate for the 2004-2005 biennium.
37. From July 26 to August 2, UPOV participated in an advisory mission organized at the request and in cooperation with the *Organisation Africaine de la Propriété Intellectuelle* (OAPI) and the French *Groupe d'étude et de contrôle des variétés et des semences* (GEVES) in Cameroon and Senegal. The mission was part of the program of assistance to OAPI which UPOV is carrying out in cooperation with the French Government and which consists of the following elements: Regional Seminar on Plant Variety Protection held in Dakar in 2001; training of OAPI administrators in plant variety protection in France, implemented in 2002; identification and evaluation of future technical centers of plant variety examination in the framework of OAPI, realized in 2002 and 2003; practical training of technical experts in variety examination in France, to be implemented in Spring/Summer 2004 in France. The aim of this program is to enable OAPI to operate, as soon as possible, a regional system on plant variety protection which is based on the UPOV Convention.
38. On September 30, 2003, UPOV attended a meeting of the Intellectual Property Committee of ISF, which was held in London.

IV. RELATIONS WITH STATES AND ORGANIZATIONS

39. With regard to relations with States and organizations, a major part of the activities of the Union, and the Office, 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 provided written or oral comments, paid visits to national authorities or received representatives of the respective States in order to provide the requested advice. In this respect, the Office had contacts with Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belize, Burundi, Cambodia, Costa Rica, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, El Salvador, India, Indonesia, Jamaica, Kazakhstan, Kingdom of Bahrain, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lithuania, Malaysia, Mauritius, Mongolia, Myanmar, Pakistan, Philippines, Saudi Arabia, Serbia and Montenegro, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Swaziland, Tajikistan, Thailand, Uzbekistan and Viet Nam.

40. The Office met with representatives of international organizations to coordinate activities or to explain UPOV's position in other fora. Of particular importance was the ongoing discussion on biological diversity, plant genetic resources and traditional knowledge. The Office participated in the consideration of these issues with the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the FAO Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (CGRFA), the African Intellectual Property Organization (OAPI), the Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore of WIPO, the Arab Organization for Agricultural Development (AOAD), and the Council for Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (Council for TRIPS). The Office maintained close contacts with the Community Plant Variety Office (CPVO).

41. The Office of the Union provided interpretation of provisions of the Convention to members of the Union and to individuals.

42. 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 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 ISF.

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

V. PUBLICATIONS

44. The Office of the Union published:

- (a) one issue 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) four updated discs in the series constituting the UPOV central database, “UPOV-ROM Plant Variety Database;”

(d) on-line version (www.upov.int. under “Events”) of the proceedings of the *WIPO-UPOV Symposium on the Co-existence of Patents and Plant Breeders’ Rights in the Promotion of Biotechnological Developments* (Geneva, October 25, 2002) in English, French and Spanish.

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

[Annex follows]

ANNEX

MEMBERS OF THE UNION

(September 30, 2003)

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 -
Bulgaria	- - - -	- - - March 24, 1998	- - - April 24, 1998
Canada	- - October 31, 1979 March 9, 1992	- - February 4, 1991 -	- - March 4, 1991 -

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, acceptance, approval or accession.

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State	Date of Signature ¹	Date of Deposit of Instrument ^{1, 2}	Date Upon Which State Became Bound ¹
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
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

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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
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
New Zealand	- - July 25, 1979 December 19, 1991	- - November 3, 1980 -	- - November 8, 1981 -
Nicaragua	- - -	- - August 6, 2001 -	- - September 6, 2001 -

State	Date of Signature ¹	Date of Deposit of Instrument ^{1, 2}	Date Upon Which State Became Bound ¹
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 July 15, 2003	- - November 11, 1989 August 15, 2003
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
Russian Federation	- - - -	- - March 24, 1998	- - April 24, 1998
Slovakia ³	- - - -	- - - -	- - January 1, 1993 -
Slovenia	- - - -	- - June 29, 1999	- - July 29, 1999

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
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 -
Tunisia	- - - -	- - - July 31, 2003	- - - August 31, 2003
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
Uruguay	- - - -	- - October 13, 1994 -	- - November 13, 1994 -

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