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INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR THE PROTECTION OF NEW VARIETIES OF PLANTS

GENEVA

COUNCIL

Twenty-eighth Ordinary Session

Geneva, November 9, 1994

FOURTH ADDENDUM TO DOCUMENT C/28/11

(REPORTS BY REPRESENTATIVES OF STATES AND ORGANIZATIONS
ON THE SITUATION IN THE LEGISLATIVE,
ADMINISTRATIVE AND TECHNICAL FIELDS)

Document prepared by the Office of the Union

The Annexes to this document contain a revised report from Denmark and the report from Israel.

[Two Annexes follow]

ANNEX I

DENMARK

Situation in the Legislative FieldAdaptation of the Law to the 1991 Act of the Convention

It is expected that the Danish plant variety protection Act of 1987 will be revised by the end of 1995. Preparatory work with a view to drafting a first proposal has started.

Extension of Protection to Further Genera and Species

In 1994, the following seven genera and species were included under the plant variety protection Act:

Aubrieta Adans.

Catharanthus roseus (L.) G. Don

Echinodorus L.C. Rich. ex Engelm.

Malus toringo (Sieb.) Sieb. ex de Vriese var. sargentii (Rehd.) Schneid.

Microsorium L.

Pogonatherum paniceum (Beauv.) Hack.

Verbena L.

Cooperation in Examination

The existing bilateral agreements are under revision. New agreements with other member States are in preparation.

Situation in the Administrative Field

In 1993, 286 applications for plant breeders' rights were received, as follows:

Agricultural crops	85
Fruit	4
Vegetables	7
Ornamentals	187
Landscape plants	3

In 1993, the number of titles of protection issued was 274:.

Agricultural crops	91
Fruit	5
Vegetables	5
Ornamentals	173

In the period from January 1, 1994, to September 14, 1994, 208 applications for protection were received and 198 titles of protection were issued.

Situation in the Technical FieldCooperation with Estonia

During 1994, a number of experts from Estonia participated in courses on seed testing, seed certification and variety testing in Denmark. Lectures on

seed legislation and variety testing were given in Estonia; the report on a study of the seed sector in Estonia is in preparation.

Testing of Agricultural Crops for Variety Listing

A new system for the testing of agricultural crops for value for cultivation and use (VCU) was introduced as from the autumn season of 1994. The new system includes a more intensive cooperation between the authorities, the extension services and the breeders. The part of the VCU testing which is statutory is under official supervision.

Genetically Modified Organisms

The Plant Directorate, Department of Gene Technology and Variety Testing, has been requested by the Ministry for Environment to comment on 175 European Union summary notifications concerning the experimental release of genetically modified plant. In addition, two applications for marketing approval in respect of genetically modified plants of oilseed rape and tobacco, respectively, have been examined. The application relating to oilseed rape is still under consideration.

Genetically modified varieties will enter the official variety testing in the near future. Work has been initiated to prepare for this development and allow the handling of those varieties. Persons filing an application for official testing of a genetically modified variety are currently requested to fill in a special form containing additional questions.

Activities for the Promotion of the Protection of Plant Varieties

A course on plant variety protection and patents has been organized by the Danish Patent Office and the Plant Directorate. The latter are jointly preparing a brochure on the possibilities for protecting plant material.

[Annex II follows]

ANNEX II

ISRAEL

Situation in the Legislative Field

The final draft for the revision of the Plant Breeders' Rights Law has been completed, but has yet to be introduced in the Knesset for adoption. It is hoped that the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention will be ratified next year.

The list of protected species presently comprises 165 taxa.

Cooperation in Examination

Israel has conducted extensive testing and submitted test results for Aster and Gypsophila to Denmark, Germany, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom. In turn, it has purchased test results for Poinsettia from Denmark and for Impatiens and Pelargonium from Germany.

Situation in the Administrative Field

During the past year, 175 applications have been received--the majority of them for ornamental varieties from foreign breeders--and 190 plant breeders' rights have been granted, bringing the total number of protected varieties to 1.300.

Miscellaneous

Israel is among the smaller group of member States participating in the setting up of the Central CD-ROM Data Base on Plant Variety Protection and Related Matters

The Technical Working Party on Automation and Computer Programs held its twelfth session in Tel Aviv from April 12 to 14, 1994.

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