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| International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants |  |

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| Council  Fifty-Eighth Ordinary Session  Geneva, October 25, 2024 | C/58/3  Original: English  Date: October 13, 2024 |

Report on activities during the first nine months of 2024

Document prepared by the Office of the Union

Disclaimer: this document does not represent UPOV policies or guidance

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The cooperation and harmonization activities during the first nine months have focused on raising awareness of the importance of plant variety protection (PVP) and the pivotal role of the UPOV Convention in promoting plant breeding and shaping public policy to meet development goals. Different meetings, events highlighted that PVP contributes to food security, rural employment, technology transfer, climate change mitigation, and sustainable agricultural practices.

Key developments are summarized below.

Armenia became the seventy-ninth member of UPOV on March 2, 2024. “Farmers and growers will have access to new high quality plant varieties, which are adapted to climate change and have higher productivity to ensure competitive production,” said H.E. Mr. Andranik Hovhannisyan, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Armenia in Geneva when depositing the instrument of accession to the 1991 Act.

The number of countries requesting assistance in legislative matters remains high but decreased slightly from 18 States during the first nine months of 2023 to 16 States during the same period in 2024 (see figure 3 “Status in relation to UPOV during the first nine months of 2024”).

The UPOV Office granted observer status to Mauritius in the Technical Working Parties (TWPs) and to Suriname in the Administrative and Legal Committee (CAJ), the Technical Committee (TC) and the TWPs. The UPOV Office issued an *ad hoc* invitation to the African Regional Intellectual Property Organization (ARIPO) to attend the sixth meeting of the Working Group on harvested Material and Unauthorized use of Propagating Material (WG-HRV) and of the Working Group on Guidance concerning Smallholder Farmers in relation to private and non-commercial use (WG-SHF).

Viet Nam was the first UPOV member to start using all the components of UPOV e‑PVP in September 2023. In December 2023, the Kingdom of the Netherlands became the second UPOV member using the UPOV e‑PVP DUS Report Exchange Module. The first DUS report exchanged with the DUS Exchange Module was done following a request from Viet Nam to the Kingdom of the Netherlands.

Ghana will implement the UPOV e‑PVP Administration Module in October 2024.

Nine UPOV members also signed up to use the DUS Report Exchange Module increasing the number of members using that module to 11.

The number of applications made via UPOV PRISMA in the period January to September 2024 (1,308), was 4% higher than the same period in 2023 (1,256).

Figure 1 – Applications in UPOV PRISMA during the first nine months of 2024



The UPOV PVP Certificate program was launched in April 2024. As of September 10, 2024, 42 certificates had been awarded to persons that acquired the necessary number of credits from UPOV endorsed courses and activities. Members of the Union who would like to contribute with a course or activity are invited to contact the UPOV Office to assess if such event could be added to the list and how many credits would be awarded.

Table of contents

[EXECUTIVE SUMMARY 2](#_Toc179793532)

[UPOV status 4](#_Toc179793533)

[Members 4](#_Toc179793534)

[Situation in Relation to the Various Acts of the Convention 4](#_Toc179793535)

[States/organizations that have initiated the procedure to become a member of the Union 4](#_Toc179793536)

[Activities in 2024 5](#_Toc179793537)

[Sessions of UPOV Bodies 5](#_Toc179793538)

[Other meetings and events 5](#_Toc179793539)

[UPOV International Certificate on Plant Variety Protection 6](#_Toc179793540)

[Distance learning courses 6](#_Toc179793541)

[UPOV e‑PVP 6](#_Toc179793542)

[UPOV PRISMA 7](#_Toc179793543)

[PLUTO database 7](#_Toc179793544)

[Publications 7](#_Toc179793545)

ANNEX I: Members of the Union

ANNEX II: Participation in the UPOV distance learning courses

ANNEX III: List of activities during the first nine months of 2024

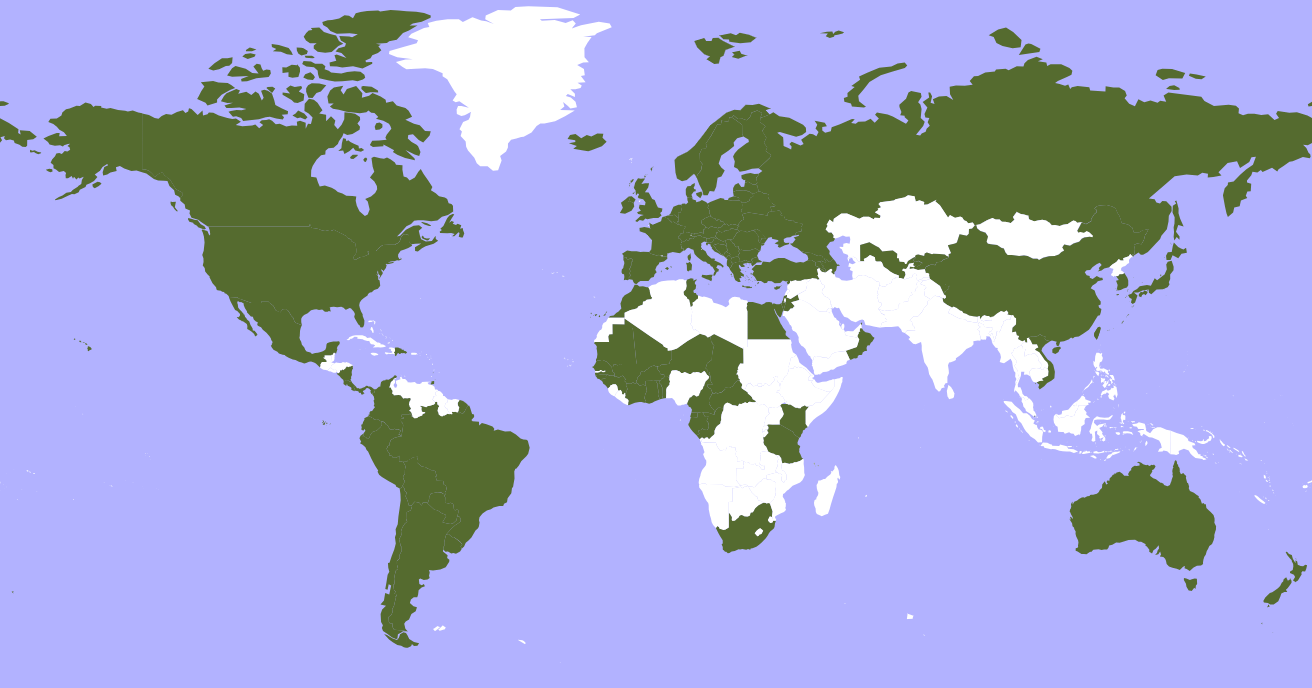
APPENDIX: Acronyms and abbreviations

# UPOV status

## Members

As of September 30, 2024, the Union comprised 79 members (77 States and 2 organizations), covering 98 States (see figure 2). The “List of UPOV members” is reproduced in Annex I.

Figure 2. Members of the Union as of September 30, 2024



The boundaries shown on this map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of UPOV concerning the legal status of any country or territory.

## Situation in Relation to the Various Acts of the Convention

On September 30, 2024, the situation of the members of the Union in relation to the Convention and its various Acts was as follows:

(a) 62 members (covering 83[[1]](#footnote-2) States) were bound by the 1991 Act; and

(b) 17 members were bound by the 1978 Act.

## States/organizations that have initiated the procedure to become a member of the Union

During the first nine months of 2024, the Office received the following requests of examination of legislation for conformity with the provisions of the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention:

(a) one request from the United Arab Emirates for the Council to consider the changes introduced to their “Draft Law on Plant Variety Protection” and to reaffirm the Council’s positive advice of July 28, 2020;

(b) one request from the Lao People’s Democratic Republic for the Council to examine their Law on Intellectual Property (Part IV New Plant Variety).

The following map provides a graphic overview of developments concerning the status in relation to UPOV during the first nine months of 2024:

Figure 3 - Status in relation to UPOV during the first nine months of 2024

A map of the world

Description automatically generated

The boundaries shown on this map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of UPOV concerning the legal status of any country or territory.

 States and organizations that were in contact with the Office of the Union for assistance in the development of legislation on plant variety protection during the first nine months of 2024

Members of the Union (1): GE

Non-members of the Union (15): AE, BH, CV, GM, ID, KH, KZ, LA, MU, MY, NA, NG, PK, SC, SR

# Activities in 2024

## Sessions of UPOV Bodies

The following meetings[[2]](#footnote-3) were held during the first nine months of 2024 (in chronological order):

* TC-EDC January 15 and 17 (virtual meeting)
* EAM/3 March 18 (virtual meeting)
* TC-EDC March 19 and 20 (virtual meeting)
* WG-HRV/5 March 21 (virtual meeting)
* WG-SHF/5 March 22 (virtual meeting)
* TWM/2 April 8 to 11 (virtual meeting)
* TWV/58 April 22 to 25 (virtual meeting)
* TWO/56 April 29 to May 2 (virtual meeting)
* TWA/53 May 27 to 30 (virtual meeting)
* TWF/55 June 3 to 6 (virtual meeting)

## Other meetings and events

During the first nine months of 2024, the Office undertook a total of 19 missions outside Geneva, participated in 40 physical meetings in Geneva and in a total of 201 virtual events. A summary of those activities is provided in Annex III to this document.

From June 19 to 21, 2024, the Office organized a “Regional Workshop on Plant Variety Protection for ARIPO Member States”, in Accra, Ghana, in cooperation with the African Regional Intellectual Property Organization (ARIPO) and the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), with the assistance of the Ministry of Justice of Ghana. The Regional Workshop was attended by 70 participants from Botswana, Cape Verde, Eswatini, Gambia, Ghana, Kenya, Liberia, Lesotho, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sudan, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe, who were given the possibility to participate in the UPOV distance learning courses. The Regional Workshop provided the opportunity for participants to discuss the strategic use of plant variety protection for sustainable agricultural development and food security in the context of climate change.

## UPOV International Certificate on Plant Variety Protection

The UPOV PVP Certificate program was launched in April 2024. It provides an international certificate on plant variety protection recognized by UPOV to those that demonstrate having followed a certain amount of training and/or participated in activities concerning the UPOV Convention and guidance, operation of a PVP Office, examination of applications and DUS examination.

The target audiences of the UPOV PVP Certificate are PVP officials, staff from PVP offices, DUS examiners and breeding enterprise employees responsible for submitting PBR applications, providing DUS data or organizing DUS trials. As of September 10, 2024, 42 certificates had been awarded to experts from UPOV members.

Members of the Union who would like to contribute with a course or activity for inclusion in the UPOV PVP Certificate program are invited to contact the Office of the Union to assess if such event could be added to the list and how many credits would be awarded.

## Distance learning courses

One session of each of the UPOV Distance Learning Courses DL-205 “Introduction to the UPOV System of Plant Variety Protection under the UPOV Convention”, DL‑305 “Examination of applications for plant breeders’ rights” (DL‑305A and DL305B in one course), DL‑305A “Administration of Plant Breeders’ Rights” and DL305B “DUS Examination” was organized in English, French German and Spanish. In accordance with the program for the Chinese language approved by the UPOV Council, students participated in the DL-205 in Chinese language. A breakdown of the students participating in the UPOV distance learning courses DL-205 and DL‑305 is included in Annex II.

## UPOV e‑PVP

UPOV e‑PVP was launched on September 28, 2023. Viet Nam was the first UPOV member to start using all the components of UPOV e‑PVP.

On November 28, 2023, the first application was filed via UPOV PRISMA to the UPOV e‑PVP Administration Module administered by the PVP Office of Viet Nam. As of September 10, 2024, four application data were transferred to the UPOV e‑PVP Administration Module using UPOV PRISMA:

On December 22, 2023, the Kingdom of the Netherlands became the second UPOV member using the UPOV e‑PVP DUS Report Exchange Module.

Viet Nam requested an existing DUS report from the Kingdom of the Netherlands on May 24, 2024, using the UPOV e‑PVP DUS Report Exchange Module.

The Kingdom of the Netherlands accepted the request and uploaded the report on July 3, 2024, using the UPOV e‑PVP DUS Report Exchange Module.

Ghana will implement the UPOV e‑PVP Administration Module in October 2024.

Nine UPOV members also signed up to use the DUS Report Exchange Module increasing the number of members using that module to 11:

1. Brazil
2. Canada
3. European Union
4. Georgia
5. Ghana
6. Japan
7. Morocco
8. Netherlands (Kingdom of the)
9. New Zealand
10. United States of America
11. Viet Nam

## UPOV PRISMA

The coverage of UPOV PRISMA in terms of members has been expanded to include the United Republic of Tanzania in September 2024. The number of applications made via UPOV PRISMA in the period January to September 2024 (1,308), was 4 % greater than the same period in 2023 (1,256).

## PLUTO database

From January 1 to September 30, 2024, the Office published 191 updates of the Plant Variety Database (PLUTO).

There was a strong growth in the number of Standard service users (+38%). However, there was a decrease in the number of Premium service users (-34%) in 2024 to the end of September. The number of PLUTO users registered by category is as follows:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Service | Number of users  September 2023 | Number of users  September 2024 | Difference (%) |
| Standard service | 3,844 | 5,302 | +38% |
| Premium service | 50 | 33 | -34% |
| Eligible officials | 142 | 153 | +7% |

## Publications

### Test Guidelines

One new Test Guidelines and the following 19 revised or partially revised Test Guidelines were adopted by the TC at its fifty-ninth session, held on October 23 and 24, 2023, and published on the UPOV website in 2024:

|  | TWP | Document No.  No. du document  Dokument-Nr.  No del documento | English | Français | Deutsch | Español | Botanical name |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| NEW TEST GUIDELINES / NOUVEAUX PRINCIPES DIRECTEURS D’EXAMEN / NEUE PRÜFUNGSRICHTILINIEN / NUEVAS DIRECTRICES DE EXAMEN | | | | | | | |
| JP | TWO | |  | | --- | | TG/340/1 | | |  | | --- | | Oxypetalum | | Oxypetalum | Oxypetalum | Oxipetalum | |  | | --- | | Oxypetalum coeruleum (D. Don) Decne. | |
| REVISIONS OF ADOPTED TEST GUIDELINES / RÉVISIONS DE PRINCIPES DIRECTEURS D’EXAMEN ADOPTÉS /  REVISIONEN ANGENOMMENER PRÜFUNGSRICHTLINIEN / REVISIONES DE DIRECTRICES DE EXAMEN ADOPTADAS | | | | | | | |
| |  | | --- | | DE | | |  | | --- | | TWF | | |  | | --- | | TG/14/10 | | |  | | --- | | Apple | | |  | | --- | | Pommier | | |  | | --- | | Apfel | | |  | | --- | | Manzano | | |  | | --- | | Malus domestica (Suckow) Borkh. | |
| |  | | --- | | GB | | |  | | --- | | TWA | | |  | | --- | | TG/36/7 | | |  | | --- | | Oilseed Rape | | |  | | --- | | Colza | | |  | | --- | | Raps | | |  | | --- | | Colza | | |  | | --- | | Brassica napus L. ssp.   nappus | |
| |  | | --- | | DE | | |  | | --- | | TWF | | |  | | --- | | TG/43/8 | | |  | | --- | | Raspberry; Black Raspberry | | |  | | --- | | Framboisier | | |  | | --- | | Himbeere | | |  | | --- | | Frambueso | | |  | | --- | | Rubus occidentalis L.,  Rubus idaeus L. | |
| |  | | --- | | JP | | |  | | --- | | TWV | | |  | | --- | | TG/90/7 | | |  | | --- | | Kale | | |  | | --- | | Chou kale | | |  | | --- | | Kale | | |  | | --- | | Kale | | |  | | --- | | Brassica oleracea L. var. medullosa  Thell., Brassica oleracea L. var. viridis L.,  Brassica oleracea L. var. costata DC.,  rassica oleracea L. var.  sabellica L., Brassica oleracea L. var. palmifolia DC. | |
| |  | | --- | | DE | | |  | | --- | | TWA | | |  | | --- | | TG/134/4 | | |  | | --- | | Safflower | | |  | | --- | | Carthame | | |  | | --- | | Saflor | | |  | | --- | | Cártamo | | |  | | --- | | Carthamus tinctorius L. | |
| PARTIAL REVISIONS OF ADOPTED TEST GUIDELINES / RÉVISIONS PARTIELLES DE PRINCIPES DIRECTEURS D’EXAMEN ADOPTÉS / TEILREVISIONEN ANGENOMMENER PRÜFUNGSRICHTLINIEN / REVISIONES PARCIALES DE DIRECTRICES DE EXAMEN ADOPTADAS | | | | | | | |
| NL | TWV | TG/151/5 Rev. | Broccoli | Brocoli | Brokkoli | Brócoli | *Brassica oleracea* L. var. *italica* Plenck) |
| NL | TWV | TG/54/7 Rev.2 | Brussels Sprouts | Chou de Bruxelles | Rosenkohl | Col de Bruselas | *Brassica oleracea* L. var. *gemmifera* DC. |
| NL | TWV | TG/48/7 Rev.2 | Cabbage | Chou pommé | Wirsing | Col repollo | *Brassica oleracea* L.: *Brassica* (White Cabbage Group); *Brassica* (Savoy Cabbage Group); *Brassica* (Red Cabbage Group) |
|  | TWV | TG/49/8 Rev. | Carrot | Carotte | Möhre | Zanahoria | *Daucus carota* L. |
| NL | TWV | TG/45/7 Rev.2 | Cauliflower | Chou-fleur | Blumenkohl | Coliflor | *Brassica oleracea* L. convar *botrytis* (L.) Alef. var. *botrytis* L. |
| NL | TWV | TG/75/7 Rev. | Cornsalad | Mâche | Feldsalat | Hierba de los canónigos | *Valerianella locusta* L.; *Valerianella eriocarpa* Desv. |
|  | TWV | TG/61/7 Rev.3 | Cucumber, Gherkin | Concombre, Cornichon | Gurke | Pepino, Pepinillo | *Cucumis sativus* L. |
| NL | TWV | TG/65/4 Rev.3 | Kohlrabi | Chou-rave | Kohlrabi | Colinabo | *Brassica oleracea* L. convar. *acephala* (DC.) Alef. var. *gongylodes* L. (*Brassica oleracea* L. *Gongylodes* Group) |
| QZ | TWV/ TWA | TG/2/7 Rev. | Maize | Maïs | Mais | Maíz | *Zea mays* L. |
| FR | TWV | TG/63/7-TG/64/7 Rev.2 | Radish; Black Radish | Radis rave, Radis de tous les mois | Rettich, Radieschen | Rábano de invierno, Rábano negro, Rabanito, Rábano | *Raphanus sativus* L. var *sativus*; *Raphanus sativus* L. var. *niger* (Mill.) S. Kerner |
| NL | TWV | TG/89/6 Rev.2 | Swede, Rutabaga | Rutabaga, Chou-navet | Kohlrübe | Colinabo L. var. napobrassica (L.) Rchb. | *Brassica napus* L. var. *napobrassica* (L.) Rchb. |
| NL | TWV | TG/142/5 Rev.2 | Watermelon | Pastèque | Wassermelone | Sandía | *Citrullus lanatus* (Thunb.) Matsum. et Naka |
| NL | TWO | TG/283/1 Rev.2 | Oncidium; xOncidesa; xIonocidium, xZelenkocidium | Oncidium; xOncidesa; xIonocidium, xZelenkocidium | Oncidium; xOncidesa; xIonocidium, xZelenkocidium | Oncidium; xOncidesa; xIonocidium, xZelenkocidium | *Oncidium* Sw.; ×*Oncidesa* Hort.; ×*Ionocidium* Hort.; ×*Zelenkocidium* J.M.H.Shaw. |
|  | TWV | TG/294/1 Rev.5 | Tomato Rootstocks | Porte-greffe de tomate | Tomatenunter- | Portainjertos de tomate | *Solanum habrochaites S. Knapp & D.M. Spooner; Solanum lycopersicum L. x Solanum habrochaites S. Knapp & D.M. Spooner; Solanum lycopersicum L. x  Solanum peruvianum (L.) Mill.; Solanum pimpinellifolium L. x Solanum habrochaites S. Knapp & D.M. Spooner* |

One new Test Guidelines and 12 revised or partially revised Test Guidelines were adopted the TC by correspondence:

|  | TWP | Document No.  No. du document  Dokument-Nr.  No del documento | English | Français | Deutsch | Español | Botanical name |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| NEW TEST GUIDELINES / NOUVEAUX PRINCIPES DIRECTEURS D’EXAMEN / NEUE PRÜFUNGSRICHTILINIEN / NUEVAS DIRECTRICES DE EXAMEN | | | | | | | |
| JP | TWF | TG/MORUS(proj.7) | Mulberry | Mûrier | Maulbeerbaum | Morera | *Morus* L. |
| REVISIONS OF ADOPTED TEST GUIDELINES / RÉVISIONS DE PRINCIPES DIRECTEURS D’EXAMEN ADOPTÉS /  REVISIONEN ANGENOMMENER PRÜFUNGSRICHTLINIEN / REVISIONES DE DIRECTRICES DE EXAMEN ADOPTADAS | | | | | | | |
| |  | | --- | | FR | | |  | | --- | | TWF | | |  | | --- | | TG/35/8(proj.6) | | |  | | --- | | Sweet Cherry | | |  | | --- | | Cerisier doux | | |  | | --- | | Süsskirsche | | |  | | --- | | Cerezo dulce | | |  | | --- | | Prunus avium (L.) L. | |
| |  | | --- | | NL | | |  | | --- | | TWV | | |  | | --- | | TG/44/12(proj.5) | | |  | | --- | | Tomato | | |  | | --- | | Tomate | | |  | | --- | | Tomate | | |  | | --- | | Tomate | | |  | | --- | | Solanum lycopersicum L. x S. pimpinellifolium L., *S. lycopersicum* L. x *S. cheesmaniae* (L. Ridley) Fosberg,  S. lycopersicum L. | |
| |  | | --- | | NL | | |  | | --- | | TWV | | |  | | --- | | TG/76/9(proj.7) | | |  | | --- | | Sweet Pepper,  Hot Pepper,  Paprika, Chili | | |  | | --- | | Piment, Poivron | | |  | | --- | | Paprika | | |  | | --- | | Aji, Chile,  Pimiento | | |  | | --- | | Capsicum annuum L. | |
| |  | | --- | | KR | | |  | | --- | | TWV | | |  | | --- | | TG/105/5(proj.5) | | |  | | --- | | Chinese Cabbage | | |  | | --- | | Chou chinois | | |  | | --- | | Chinakohl | | |  | | --- | | Repollo chino | | |  | | --- | | hybrids between Brassica rapa L. Emend. Metzg. ssp. pekinensis (Lour.) Hanelt and Brassica rapa L. Emend. Metzg. ssp. chinensis (L.) Hanelt, hybrids between B. rapa L. Emend. Metzg. ssp. pekinensis (Lour.) Hanelt and B. rapa L. var. rapa (L.) Thell., B. rapa L. subsp. pekinensis  (Lour.) Kitam., Brassica × turicensis O. E. Schulz & Thell. | |
| |  | | --- | | FR | | |  | | --- | | TWO | | |  | | --- | | TG/148/3(proj.5) | | |  | | --- | | Weigela | | |  | | --- | | Weigela | | |  | | --- | | Weigelie | | |  | | --- | | Weigela | | |  | | --- | | Weigela Thunb. | |
| |  | | --- | | NL | | |  | | --- | | TWO | | |  | | --- | | TG/181/4(proj.5) | | |  | | --- | | Amaryllis | | |  | | --- | | Amaryllis | | |  | | --- | | Amaryllis | | |  | | --- | | Amarilis | | |  | | --- | | Hippeastrum Herb. | |
| |  | | --- | | HU | | |  | | --- | | TWF | | |  | | --- | | TG/230/2(proj.5) | | |  | | --- | | Sour Cherry; Duke Cherry | | |  | | --- | | Griotte, Cerisier acide | | |  | | --- | | Sauerkirsche | | |  | | --- | | Cerezo ácido, Guindo; Cerezo Duke | | |  | | --- | | Prunus ×gondouinii  (Poit. & Turpin) Rehder, Prunus cerasus L. | |
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| NL | TWV | TG/13/11 Rev. 3(proj.1) | Lettuce | Laitue | Salat | Lechuga | *Lactuca sativa* L. |
| NL | TWV | TG/55/7 Rev. 8(proj.1) | Spinach | Épinard | Spinat | Espinaca | *Spinacia oleracea* L. |
| FR | TWV | TG/104/5 Rev. 3(proj.1) | Melon | Melon | Melone | Melón | *Cucumis melo* L. |
| FR | TWV | TG/119/4 Rev.(proj.1) | Vegetable Marrow, Squash | Courgette | Zucchini | Calabacín | *Cucurbita pepo* L. |
| NL | TWV | TG/172/4 Rev.(proj.1) | Industrial Chicory | Chicorée industrielle | Wurzelzichorie | Achicoria industrial | *Cichorium intybus* L. partim |

*Videos*

Short versions of the following Viet Nam videos focusing on key messages have been shared on social media platforms and published on the UPOV website in 2024:

* Farmer-Breeders in Viet Nam (*available in English with English subtitles*)  
  Rice and longan fruit farmer-breeders using PVP to support their breeding work: bringing benefits for local farmers and the Vietnamese economy
* Development of the flower industry in Viet Nam (*available in English with English subtitles*)  
  Flower growers benefitting from increased variety choice and technical support as a result of PVP in Viet Nam

Over 160 videos are currently available on the UPOV YouTube channel (see <https://www.youtube.com/upov>).

### Press Releases

The Office published one press release.

*The Council is invited to note this report.*

[Annexes follow]

C/58/3

ANNEX I MEMBERS OF THE INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR THE PROTECTION OF NEW VARIETIES OF PLANTS

**International Convention for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants\***

UPOV Convention (1961), as revised at Geneva (1972, 1978 and 1991)

**Status on September 30, 2024**

| State/Organization | Date on which State/Organization became member of  UPOV | Number of contribution units | Latest Act[[3]](#endnote-2) of the Convention to which State/Organization is party and date on which State/Organization became party to that Act | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| African Intellectual Property  Organization[[4]](#endnote-3) | July 10, 2014 | 0.2 | 1991 Act | July 10, 2014 |
| Albania | October 15, 2005 | 0.2 | 1991 Act | October 15, 2005 |
| Argentina | December 25, 1994 | 0.5 | 1978 Act | December 25, 1994 |
| Armenia | March 2, 2024 | 0.2 | 1991 Act | March 2, 2024 |
| Australia | March 1, 1989 | 1.0 | 1991 Act | January 20, 2000 |
| Austria | July 14, 1994 | 0.75 | 1991 Act | July 1, 2004 |
| Azerbaijan | December 9, 2004 | 0.2 | 1991 Act | December 9, 2004 |
| Belarus | January 5, 2003 | 0.2 | 1991 Act | January 5, 2003 |
| Belgium[[5]](#endnote-4) | December 5, 1976 | 1.5 | 1991 Act | June 2, 2019 |
| Bolivia (Plurinational State of) | May 21, 1999 | 0.2 | 1978 Act | May 21, 1999 |
| Bosnia and Herzegovina | November 10, 2017 | 0.2 | 1991 Act | November 10, 2017 |
| Brazil | May 23, 1999 | 0.25 | 1978 Act | May 23, 1999 |
| Bulgaria | April 24, 1998 | 0.2 | 1991 Act | April 24, 1998 |
| Canada | March 4, 1991 | 1.0 | 1991 Act | July 19, 2015 |
| Chile | January 5, 1996 | 0.2 | 1978 Act | January 5, 1996 |
| China | April 23, 1999 | 2.0 | 1978 Act[[6]](#endnote-5) | April 23, 1999 |
| Colombia | September 13, 1996 | 0.2 | 1978 Act | September 13, 1996 |
| Costa Rica | January 12, 2009 | 0.2 | 1991 Act | January 12, 2009 |
| Croatia | September 1, 2001 | 0.2 | 1991 Act | September 1, 2001 |
| Czech Republic | January 1, 1993 | 0.5 | 1991 Act | November 24, 2002 |
| Denmark[[7]](#endnote-6) | October 6, 1968 | 0.5 | 1991 Act | April 24, 1998 |
| Dominican Republic | June 16, 2007 | 0.2 | 1991 Act | June 16, 2007 |
| Ecuador | August 8, 1997 | 0.2 | 1978 Act | August 8, 1997 |
| Egypt | December 1, 2019 | 0.2 | 1991 Act | December 1, 2019 |
| Estonia | September 24, 2000 | 0.2 | 1991 Act | September 24, 2000 |
| European Union[[8]](#endnote-7) | July 29, 2005 | 5.0 | 1991 Act | July 29, 2005 |
| Finland | April 16, 1993 | 1.0 | 1991 Act | July 20, 2001 |
| France | October 3, 1971 | 5.0 | 1991 Act | May 27, 2012 |
| Georgia | November 29, 2008 | 0.2 | 1991 Act | November 29, 2008 |
| Germany | August 10, 1968 | 5.0 | 1991 Act | July 25, 1998 |
| Ghana | December 3, 2021 | 0.2 | 1991 Act | December 3, 2021 |
| Hungary | April 16, 1983 | 0.5 | 1991 Act | January 1, 2003 |
| Iceland | May 3, 2006 | 0.2 | 1991 Act | May 3, 2006 |
| Ireland | November 8, 1981 | 1.0 | 1991Act | January 8, 2012 |
| Israel | December 12, 1979 | 0.5 | 1991 Act | April 24, 1998 |
| Italy | July 1, 1977 | 2.0 | 1978 Act | May 28, 1986 |
| Japan | September 3, 1982 | 5.0 | 1991 Act | December 24, 1998 |
| Jordan | October 24, 2004 | 0.2 | 1991 Act | October 24, 2004 |
| Kenya | May 13, 1999 | 0.2 | 1991 Act | May 11, 2016 |
| Kyrgyzstan | June 26, 2000 | 0.2 | 1991 Act | June 26, 2000 |
| Latvia | August 30, 2002 | 0.2 | 1991 Act | August 30, 2002 |
| Lithuania | December 10, 2003 | 0.2 | 1991 Act | December 10, 2003 |
| Mexico | August 9, 1997 | 0.75 | 1978 Act | August 9, 1997 |
| Montenegro | September 24, 2015 | 0.2 | 1991 Act | September 24, 2015 |
| Morocco | October 8, 2006 | 0.2 | 1991 Act | October 8, 2006 |
| Netherlands (Kingdom of) | August 10, 1968 | 3.0 | 1991 Act[[9]](#endnote-8) | April 24, 1998 |
| New Zealand | November 8, 1981 | 1.0 | 1978 Act | November 8, 1981 |
| Nicaragua | September 6, 2001 | 0.2 | 1978 Act | September 6, 2001 |
| North Macedonia | May 4, 2011 | 0.2 | 1991 Act | May 4, 2011 |
| Norway | September 13, 1993 | 1.0 | 1978 Act | September 13, 1993 |
| Oman | November 22, 2009 | 1.0 | 1991 Act | November 22, 2009 |
| Panama | May 23, 1999 | 0.2 | 1991 Act | November 22, 2012 |
| Paraguay | February 8, 1997 | 0.2 | 1978 Act | February 8, 1997 |
| Peru | August 8, 2011 | 0.2 | 1991 Act | August 8, 2011 |
| Poland | November 11, 1989 | 0.5 | 1991 Act | August 15, 2003 |
| Portugal | October 14, 1995 | 0.2 | 1978 Act | October 14, 1995 |
| Republic of Korea | January 7, 2002 | 1.5 | 1991 Act | January 7, 2002 |
| Republic of Moldova | October 28, 1998 | 0.2 | 1991 Act | October 28, 1998 |
| Romania | March 16, 2001 | 0.2 | 1991 Act | March 16, 2001 |
| Russian Federation | April 24, 1998 | 2.0 | 1991 Act | April 24, 1998 |
| Saint Vincent and the Grenadines | March 22, 2021 | 0.2 | 1991 Act | March 22, 2021 |
| Serbia | January 5, 2013 | 0.2 | 1991 Act | January 5, 2013 |
| Singapore | July 30, 2004 | 0.2 | 1991 Act | July 30, 2004 |
| Slovakia | January 1, 1993 | 0.5 | 1991 Act | June 12, 2009 |
| Slovenia | July 29, 1999 | 0.2 | 1991 Act | July 29, 1999 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| South Africa | November 6, 1977 | 1.0 | 1978 Act | November 8, 1981 |
| Spain | May 18, 1980 | 2.0 | 1991 Act | July 18, 2007 |
| Sweden | December 17, 1971 | 1.5 | 1991 Act | April 24, 1998 |
| Switzerland | July 10, 1977 | 1.5 | 1991 Act | September 1, 2008 |
| Trinidad and Tobago | January 30, 1998 | 0.2 | 1978 Act | January 30, 1998 |
| Tunisia | August 31, 2003 | 0.2 | 1991 Act | August 31, 2003 |
| Türkiye | November 18, 2007 | 0.5 | 1991 Act | November 18, 2007 |
| Ukraine | November 3, 1995 | 0.2 | 1991 Act | January 19, 2007 |
| United Kingdom[[10]](#endnote-9) | August 10, 1968 | 2.0 | 1991 Act | January 3, 1999 |
| United Republic of Tanzania | November 22, 2015 | 0.2 | 1991 Act | November 22, 2015 |
| United States of America | November 8, 1981 | 5.0 | 1991 Act[[11]](#endnote-10) | February 22, 1999 |
| Uruguay | November 13, 1994 | 0.2 | 1978 Act | November 13, 1994 |
| Uzbekistan | November 14, 2004 | 0.2 | 1991 Act | November 14, 2004 |
| Viet Nam | December 24, 2006 | 0.2 | 1991 Act | December 24, 2006 |

(Total: 79)

C/58/3

ANNEX II PARTICIPATION IN THE UPOV DISTANCE LEARNING COURSES

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **DL-205** “Introduction to the UPOV System of Plant Variety Protection under the UPOV Convention” | | | | | | |
|  | English | French | German | Spanish | Chinese | **Total** |
| Session I, 2024: Total by language | 177 | 38 | 8 | 70 | 265 | **558** |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **DL‑305** “Examination of applications for plant breeders’ rights” | | | | | |
|  | English | French | German | Spanish | **Total** |
| DL‑305, Session I, 2024: Total by language | 29 | 14 | 3 | 27 | **73** |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **DL‑305A** “Administration of Plant Breeders’ Rights” | | | | | |
|  | English | French | German | Spanish | **Total** |
| DL‑305A, Session I, 2024: Total by language | 20 | 1 | 0 | 4 | **25** |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **DL‑305B** “DUS Examination” | | | | | |
|  | English | French | German | Spanish | **Total** |
| DL‑305B, Session I, 2024: Total by language | 41 | 6 | 0 | 7 | **54** |

[Annex III follows]

ANNEX III LIST OF ACTIVITIES DURING THE FIRST NINE MONTHS OF 2024

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Description automatically generated

<https://www.upov.int/edocs/mdocs/upov/en/c_58/c_58_3_annex_iii.pdf>

[Appendix follows]

C/58/3

APPENDIX ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

**UPOV terms**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| BMT | Working Group on Biochemical and Molecular Techniques, and DNA-Profiling in Particular |
| CAJ | Administrative and Legal Committee |
| CC | Consultative Committee |
| DL-205 | UPOV distance learning course “Introduction to the UPOV System of Plant Variety Protection under the UPOV Convention” |
| DL‑305 | UPOV distance learning course “Examination of Applications for Plant Breeders’ Rights” |
| DL‑305A | UPOV distance learning course “Administration of Plant Breeders’ Rights” (part A of DL‑305) |
| DL‑305B | UPOV distance learning course “DUS Examination” (part B of DL‑305) |
| DUS | Distinctness, Uniformity and Stability |
| EAM | Meeting on Electronic Applications |
| EDV | essentially derived variety |
| Office | Office of the Union |
| PBR | Plant Breeder’s Right |
| PLUTO | UPOV Plant Variety Database |
| TC | Technical Committee |
| TC‑EDC | Enlarged Editorial Committee |
| TWA | Technical Working Party for Agricultural Crops |
| TWF | Technical Working Party for Fruit Crops |
| TWM | Technical Working Party on Testing Methods and Techniques |
| TWO | Technical Working Party for Ornamental Plants and Forest Trees |
| TWP(s) | Technical Working Party(ies) |
| TWV | Technical Working Party for Vegetables |
| UPOV e‑PVP | UPOV e‑PVP comprises a package of electronic tools for implementation of the UPOV system of plant variety protection by UPOV members. UPOV e‑PVP includes UPOV PRISMA, UPOV e‑PVP Administration Module, UPOV e‑PVP DUS Report Exchange Module, and the PLUTO database. |
| UPOV PRISMA | UPOV PRISMA PBR Application Tool |
| WG-HRV | Working Group on harvested Material and Unauthorized use of Propagating Material |
| WG-SHF | Working Group on Guidance concerning Smallholder Farmers in relation to private and non-commercial use |
| WSP | World Seed Partnership |

**Acronyms (included in Annex III)**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| AFSTA | African Seed Trade Association |
| AIPH | International Association of Horticultural Producers |
| AIPPI | Association for the Protection of Intellectual Property |
| APBREBES | Association for Plant Breeding for the Benefit of Society |
| APHA | Animal and Plant Health Agency |
| APSA | Asia and Pacific Seed Association |
| ARIPO | African Regional Intellectual Property Organization |
| ASA | Asociación Semilleros Argentinos  (Argentine Seed Association) |
| BruIPO | Intellectual Property Office of Brunei Darussalam |
| CFIA | Canadian Food Inspection Agency |
| CIOPORA | International Community of Breeders of Asexually Reproduced Ornamental and Fruit Varieties |
| CLI | CropLife International |
| CPVO | Community Plant Variety Office of the European Union |
| DEFRA (United Kingdom) | Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs |
| DOA (Malaysia) | Department of Agriculture |
| DSCT (China) | Development Center of Science and Technology of China |
| EAPVP Forum | East Asia Plant Variety Protection Forum |
| EUIPO | European Intellectual Property Office |
| FAO | Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations |
| FOAG (Switzerland) | Federal Office for Agriculture |
| GLIPA | Global Intellectual Property Alliance |
| IGQPI | Instituto de Gestão da Qualidade e da Propriedade intellectual  (Institute of Quality Management and Intellectual Property) |
| INASE (Argentina) | Instituto Nacional de Semillas (National Seed Institute of Argentina) |
| INDECOPI | Instituto Nacional de Defensa de la Competencia y de la Protección de la Propiedad Intelectual  (National Institute for the Defense of Free Competition and the Protection of Intellectual Property) |
| IPKey LA | IPKey Latin America |
| IP Key SEA | IPKey South East Asia |
| ISF | International Seed Federation |
| ISTA | International Seed Testing Association |
| JATAFF | Japan Association for Techno-innovation in Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries |
| JICA | Japan International Cooperation Agency |
| JICE | Japan International Cooperation Center |
| MAF (Norway) | Ministry of Agriculture and Food of Norway |
| MAFF (Cambodia) | Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of Cambodia |
| MAFF (Japan) | Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of Japan |
| MARD (Viet Nam) | Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development of Viet Nam |
| MOAG (Israel) | Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development of Israel |
| MISTI (Cambodia) | Ministry of Industry, Science, Technology and Innovation |
| MOALI (Myanmar) | Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation of Myanmar |
| MOC (Cambodia) | Ministry of Commerce of Cambodia |
| MOIC (Lao PDR) | Ministry of Industry and Commerce of Lao PDR |
| NACS | National Agricultural Seeds Council |
| OAPI | Organisation Africaine de la Propriété Intellectuelle  (African Intellectual Property Organization) |
| OECD | Organisation for Economic Co-Operation and Development |
| PSIA | Philippine Seed Industry Association |
| RICA | Rwanda Institute for Conservation Agriculture |
| SAA | Seed Association of the Americas |
| SEMAE (France) | L’interprofession des semences et plants  (French Interprofessional Organisation for Seeds and Plants) |
| SNPC (Brazil) | Serviço Nacional de Proteção de Cultivares (National Cultivar Protection Service of Brazil) |
| TOSCI | Tanzania Official Seed Certification Institute |
| TTIPO | Intellectual Property Office of Trinidad and Tobago |
| ÚKSÚP | Ústredný kontrolný a skúšobný ústav poľnohospodársky  (Central Control and Testing Institute for Agriculture) |
| USPTO | United States Patent and Trademark Office |
| WFO | World Farmers’ Organization |
| WIPO | World Intellectual Property Organization |
| WTO | World Trade Organization |

[End of Appendix and of document]

1. 83 States comprises those States bound by the 1991 Act and States covered by the plant breeders’ rights regional systems due to their membership to the European Union and OAPI. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. See Appendix “Acronyms and abbreviations”. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
3. \* The International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV), established by the International Convention for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants, is an independent intergovernmental organization having legal personality. Pursuant to an agreement concluded between the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) and UPOV, the Director General of WIPO is the Secretary-General of UPOV and WIPO provides administrative services to UPOV.

   “1978 Act” means the Act of October 23, 1978, of the International Convention for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants; “1991 Act” means the Act of March 19, 1991, of the Convention. [↑](#endnote-ref-2)
4. Operates a plant breeders’ rights system which covers the territory of its 17 member States (member States of OAPI: Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Congo, Côte d’Ivoire, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Guinea, Guinea‑Bissau, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Senegal, Togo). [↑](#endnote-ref-3)
5. With a notification under Article 34(2) of the 1978 Act. [↑](#endnote-ref-4)
6. With a declaration that the 1978 Act is not applicable to Hong Kong, China. [↑](#endnote-ref-5)
7. With a declaration that the Convention of 1961, the Additional Act of 1972, the 1978 Act and the 1991 Act are not applicable to Greenland and the Faroe Islands. [↑](#endnote-ref-6)
8. Operates a plant breeders’ rights system which covers the territory of its 27 member States (member States of the European Union: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands (Kingdom of), Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden). [↑](#endnote-ref-7)
9. Ratification for the Kingdom in Europe. [↑](#endnote-ref-8)
10. The United Kingdom extended the application of the 1991 Act to the territory of the Isle of Man with effect from April 25, 2023. [↑](#endnote-ref-9)
11. With a reservation pursuant to Article 35(2) of the 1991 Act. [↑](#endnote-ref-10)