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INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR THE PROTECTION OF NEW VARIETIES OF PLANTS GENEVA

COUNCIL

Twentieth Extraordinary Session Geneva, April 11, 2003

ELECTION OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL

Document prepared by the Office of the Union

1. On January 13, 2003, the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Argentina to the International Organizations in Geneva informed the Office of the International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV) that Mrs. Adelaida Harries would not be able to continue to officiate as first Vice-President of the Council of UPOV (hereinafter referred to as "the Council"), a post for which she had been elected for the period 2001-2003. The Note of the Permanent Mission is included in the Annex to this document.

2. The first Vice-President of the Council of UPOV holds important functions, in particular, as provided by Article 26(2) of the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention and Article 18(1) of the 1978 Act of the UPOV Convention, the first Vice-President should take the place of the President if the latter is unable to officiate.

3. It is therefore recommended to elect a new first Vice-President for the remaining period of the term of office. As stated in Rule 3 of the Rules of Procedure of the Council of October 15, 1982 (document UPOV/INF/7), the provisions applicable to the term of office of the President of the Council apply *mutatis mutandis* to the term of office of the first Vice-President. As the term of office of the President of the Council should terminate at the end of the ordinary session of the third year after his election, the remaining period will end after the thirty-seventh ordinary session of the Council of UPOV, on October 23, 2003.

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4. The Council is invited to elect the first Vice-President for the remainder of the period as indicated in paragraph 3, above.

[Annex follows]

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ANNEX

<u>Note from the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Argentina</u> <u>to the International Organizations in Geneva to the</u> <u>Office of the International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants,</u> <u>dated January 13, 2003</u>

No. 16/03

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Argentina to the International Organizations in Geneva presents its compliments to the Office of the International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV) - Office of the Vice Secretary-General - and has the pleasure to inform it, for the relevant purposes, that the competent Argentine Authorities have communicated to this Permanent Mission that Eng. Adelaida Harries will no longer be able to officiate as Vice-President of the Council of UPOV, post for which she was elected for the period 2001-2003.

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Argentina to the International Organizations in Geneva takes this opportunity to renew to the Office of the International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV) - Office of the Vice Secretary-General - the assurances of its highest consideration.

[End of Annex and of document]