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UPOV/72DC/4  
Original: English  
Date: May 30, 1972

INTERNATIONALER VERBAND  
ZUM SCHUTZ VON  
PFLANZENZÜCHTUNGEN

UNION INTERNATIONALE  
POUR LA PROTECTION  
DES OBTENTIONS VÉGÉTALES

INTERNATIONAL UNION  
FOR THE PROTECTION OF  
NEW PLANT VARIETIES

Diplomatic Conference

Geneva, November 7 to 10, 1972

REVISION OF THE CONVENTION  
FOR THE PROTECTION OF NEW VARIETIES OF PLANTS

Report by the Secretary General

1. At its fifth meeting, held in Geneva from October 13 to 15, 1971, the Council of UPOV decided:

- (i) that in derogation of Article 27(2) of the Convention for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants a Conference for the revision of the Convention should take place in 1972, the place and time for the Conference having been fixed at Geneva on November 7 to 10;
- (ii) that the revision should refer only to contribution classes and suspension of voting rights in the case of arrears in the payment of contributions.

Reference is made to the Resolution adopted by the Council (document UPOV/C/V/30).

2. Having been entrusted by the Council to prepare, after consultation with the Consultative Working Committee, the necessary documents for the Revision Conference, the Secretary General hereby submits to the Conference:

- (i) Provisional Agenda (document UPOV/72DC/1 Rev.)
- (ii) Provisional Rules of Procedure (document UPOV/72DC/2 Rev.)
- (iii) Draft Additional Act to the Convention (document UPOV/72DC/3 Rev.)

3. The Provisional Agenda contains the normal items for a Diplomatic Revision Conference and does not call for any special comments.

4. With respect to the Provisional Rules of Procedure it should be noted that they contain an indication of the purpose of the Conference. Apart from those dealing with the purpose of the Conference, the provisions are very similar to those used at other revision conferences.

5. It should be noted that, apart from the member States of UPOV (Denmark, France, Germany (Federal Republic), the Netherlands, Sweden and the United Kingdom) and States having signed but not yet ratified the Convention (Belgium, Italy and Switzerland), all States which are members of the United Nations or

any of the Specialized Agencies brought into relationship with the United Nations have been invited to be represented by observers in compliance with Rule 3 of the Provisional Rules of Procedure.

6. Intergovernmental organizations and international professional organizations. Considering the limited scope of the proposed revision, no professional organizations are invited to the Conference. With respect to intergovernmental organizations, the United Nations and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations have received invitations to be represented by observers.

7. The instrument amending the Convention is proposed in the form of an Additional Act.

8. Articles I and II of the Draft Additional Act contain the amendments to be made to the Convention, while Articles III to VIII contain the clauses on the entry into force of the Additional Act and similar provisions.

9. All the proposed amendments to the Convention are within the limits of the Resolution of the Council referred to in paragraph 1 above or a natural consequence of that Resolution.

10. Article III of the Additional Act is a transitory rule which enables the two texts of Article 26 of the Convention to work together.

11. Article IV follows the same pattern as that of the Convention in the sense that the States which, according to the Convention, address themselves to the French Government (signatory States) shall also address themselves to that Government with respect to the Additional Act, and that other States (which have not signed the Convention) shall address themselves to the Swiss Government regarding the Additional Act as well as the Convention. The provisions will be subject to approval by the said Governments.\*)

12. Articles V to VIII do not seem to require any comment: they follow the pattern already existing in the Convention.

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\*) By letter dated March 28, 1972, the Swiss Government gave its approval.