UPOV

INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR THE PROTECTION OF NEW VARIETIES OF PLANTS
GENEVA

ADMINISTRATIVE AND LEGAL COMMITTEE

Sixty-Fourth Session
Geneva, October 17, 2011

ADDENDUM TO
UPOV INFORMATION DATABASES: PLANT VARIETY DATABASE

Document prepared by the Office of the Union

1.   This document contains a proposal concerning the inclusion of data in non-Latin (Roman) alphabets in the Plant Variety Database and provides an update on the plans concerning the launch of the web-based version of the Plant Variety Database.

Non-Latin (Roman) alphabet

2.   The current requirements for submission of data to the Plant Variety Database are that the data are provided in a specified character set, as follows (see "Information on the format for the submission of data for the UPOV-ROM Plant Variety Database including its control program", March 1999):

"(a)   Character set: the ASCII [American Standard Code for Information Interchange] representation, as defined in ISO [International Standards Organization] Standard 646, should be used; the submission of data should be in ASCII only. Special characters, symbols or accents (˜, ˆ, ¨, °, etc.) cannot be used. Only characters of the English alphabet may be used."

3.   An increasing number of members of the Union utilize a non-Latin alphabet and some have contacted the Office of the Union to know if data could be provided for the Plant Variety Database in the original alphabet.

4.　　The web-based version of the Plant Variety Database (see document CAJ/64/7, paragraphs 11 to 13) would allow the inclusion of data in non-Latin alphabets. In particular, subject to certain data submission requirements, the web-based version of the Plant Variety Database would allow for the data fields (e.g. variety denomination) to be provided in Latin alphabet and in addition, where appropriate, the original alphabet.

5.　　On that basis, it is proposed to consider the possibility for contributors to the Plant Variety Database to provide data in the original alphabet, in addition to the data being provided in Latin alphabet. It is proposed that all data would still be required in Latin alphabet. With regard to data provided in non-Latin alphabet, a suitable encoding standard will be proposed if this approach is pursued.

Launch of the web-based version of the Plant Variety Database

6.　　As explained in document CAJ/64/7, paragraph 13, a pre-launch presentation of the web-based version of the Plant Variety Database will be made at the sixty-fourth session of the CAJ. It is planned to launch the web-based version of the Plant Variety Database in conjunction with the launch of the restructured UPOV website, which is planned for 12:00 noon, on Tuesday, November 1, 2011.

> *7.　　The CAJ is invited to:*
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> *(a)　consider the possibility for contributors to the Plant Variety Database to provide data in the original alphabet, in addition to the data being provided in Latin alphabet, as set out in paragraph 5 of this document; and*
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> *(b)　note the plans for the launch of the web-based version of the Plant Variety Database on November 1, 2011.*

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