



CC/92/11

ORIGINAL: English

DATE: October 12, 2016

# INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR THE PROTECTION OF NEW VARIETIES OF PLANTS

Geneva

## CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

### Ninety-Second Session Geneva, October 27, 2016

#### INTERRELATIONS WITH THE INTERNATIONAL TREATY ON PLANT GENETIC RESOURCES FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (ITPGRFA)

*Document prepared by the Office of the Union*

*Disclaimer: this document does not represent UPOV policies or guidance*

1. The purpose of this document is to report on developments concerning interrelations with the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITPGRFA).

#### SYMPOSIUM ON POSSIBLE INTERRELATIONS BETWEEN THE INTERNATIONAL TREATY ON PLANT GENETIC RESOURCES FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (ITPGRFA) AND THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE PROTECTION OF NEW VARIETIES OF PLANTS (UPOV CONVENTION)

2. The background to this matter is provided in document CC/91/6 "Interrelations with the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITPGRFA)".

3. The Council, at its thirty-third extraordinary session, held in Geneva on March 17, 2016, approved the organization of a "Symposium on possible interrelations between the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITPGRFA) and the International Convention for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV Convention)", to be held at UPOV Headquarters in Geneva, on October 26, 2016, as set out below (see document C(Extr.)/33/6 "Report on the Decisions", paragraph 8(c)):

(a) the following draft program for a symposium, as presented by the Secretary of the ITPGRFA:

Welcome remarks by UPOV and ITPGRFA

Session 1: Overview of UPOV and the ITPGRFA

- Overview of UPOV
- Overview of the ITPGRFA

Session 2: Analysis of the Inter-relationships between Farmers' Rights and Plant Breeders' Rights Under the ITPGRFA and the UPOV Convention

- Presentation by 4 experts
- Discussion

Session 3: Experiences of the Contracting Parties in Implementing the UPOV Convention and the ITPGRFA

- Experiences shared by 4 Contracting Parties
- Discussion

Session 4: Overview of initiatives involving the ITPGRFA and UPOV

- Information initiatives (joint workshops)
- Practical initiatives (Platform for Co-development and Transfer of Technology; Public Private Partnership on Pre-breeding)
- Mutual attendance, participation, and information exchange (Committees, enhancement, etc)
- Discussion

Closing Remarks by UPOV and ITPGRFA

(b) four experts, to be agreed by the Office of the Union, in consultation with the President of the Council, and the Secretary of the ITPGRFA, to be invited to present their views at the Symposium;

(c) Contracting Parties to the UPOV Convention and the ITPGRFA would present information on their experiences in implementing the UPOV Convention and the ITPGRFA;

(d) invitations to the Symposium to be sent to members and observers in UPOV bodies and to Contracting Parties and observers to the ITPGRFA and the Symposium to be open to the public with advance registration, with the presentations and a video of the Symposium being made available on the UPOV website after a suitable broadcast delay;

(e) a joint publication of the proceedings of the Symposium to be produced by the ITPGRFA, containing the speakers' written contributions and a summary of discussions, to be made available on the UPOV website at a later date;

(f) UPOV to provide the venue for the Symposium and to cover the interpretation costs in English, French, German and Spanish.

4. The Council also approved that the Consultative Committee consider the outcome of the Symposium at its ninety-second session and that it consider any possible further action concerning interrelations at that time.

5. By means of UPOV Circular E-16/123 of May 13, 2016, the Office of the Union informed members of the Union of a list of experts proposed for the Symposium by Mr. Muhamad Sabran, Chairman of the Seventh Session of the Governing Body of the ITPGRFA, and invited members of the Union to make proposals for experts to present an analysis of the interrelations between farmers' rights and plant breeders' rights under the ITPGRFA and the UPOV Convention at the Symposium, and to invite Contracting Parties to the UPOV Convention and the ITPGRFA to indicate if they would wish to present information on their experiences in implementing the UPOV Convention and the ITPGRFA at the Symposium.

6. The draft program, as agreed by the Office of the Union, in consultation with the President of the Council, and the Secretary of the ITPGRFA, is attached as the Annex to this document.

7. *The Consultative Committee is invited to:*

*(a) note the draft program for the Symposium on possible interrelations between the ITPGRFA and the UPOV Convention, to be held at UPOV Headquarters in Geneva, on October 26, 2016, as reproduced in the Annex to this document; and*

*(b) consider the outcome of the Symposium and consider any possible further action concerning interrelations.*

## PLATFORM FOR THE CO-DEVELOPMENT AND TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGIES

8. The background to the “Platform for the Co-Development and Transfer of Technologies” (Platform) within the context of the ITPGRFA is provided in document CC/86/10 “Developments of relevance to UPOV in other international fora”, paragraphs 16 to 20.

9. The Preparatory and Planning Session for the Fourth Partners’ Meeting of the Platform for the Co-Development and Transfer of Technologies (the Preparatory Session), organized by the ITPGRFA, was held on August 24 and 25, 2016, at the FAO Liaison Office in Geneva.

10. At the Preparatory Session, the Office of the Union was invited to make a presentation on the PLUTO database.

11. The outcomes of the Preparatory meeting to be discussed at the fourth meeting of the Platform, to be held in Vienna, Austria, on October 22, 2016, is as follows:

- Map the stakeholders and potential interested partners according to the objectives of the Platform;
- Identify 3/4 areas to which the partners can really contribute;
- Identify the contact person for each country/organization (stakeholders);
- Link the Platform to the BSF/MLS/GLIS taking in mind that it is part of the Program of work on Sustainable use adopted by the GB6;
- Demonstrate the uniqueness of the Platform as network of networks;
- Assess the needs, develop the package technologies and to disseminate them at National level;
- Prepare a table on “*Gaps in technology application and technologies needed by farmers for conservation and sustainable use of PGRFA*” see the document IT/GB-5/13/inf16 (Table 1); *The table* will be sent to Contracting Parties after the green light of the Platform partners meeting in Vienna; and
- Make a matrix to collect all the inputs which will raise up from the discussion of the expected activities listed above.

12. The Office of the Union plans to participate in the fourth meeting of the Platform.

*13. The Consultative Committee is invited to note the developments concerning the ITPGRFA Platform for the Co-Development and Transfer of Technologies.*

[Annex follows]

UPOV-ITPGRFA/SYM/GE/16/1 Prov.

ORIGINAL: English

DATE: October 6, 2016



INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR THE  
PROTECTION OF NEW VARIETIES OF PLANTS

**SYMPOSIUM ON POSSIBLE INTERRELATIONS BETWEEN THE  
INTERNATIONAL TREATY ON PLANT GENETIC RESOURCES FOR FOOD AND  
AGRICULTURE (ITPGRFA) AND THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE  
PROTECTION OF NEW VARIETIES OF PLANTS (UPOV CONVENTION)**

**Geneva, October 26, 2016**

DRAFT PROGRAM

- 8.30 Registration
- 9.30 Opening by Mr. Francis Gurry, Secretary-General, UPOV
- 9.35 Opening by the Secretary of the ITPGRFA
- Co-Moderators: Mr. Muhamad Sabran, Chairperson of the Seventh Session of the Governing Body, ITPGRFA and the President of the Council of UPOV*
- Session 1: Overview of the UPOV Convention and the ITPGRFA
- 9.45 Overview of the UPOV Convention  
*Mr. Peter Button, Vice Secretary-General, UPOV*
- 10.00 Overview of the ITPGRFA  
*Secretary of the ITPGRFA*
- Session 2: Analysis of the Interrelations between Farmers' Rights and Plant Breeders' Rights Under the ITPGRFA and the UPOV Convention
- 10.15 Ms. Szonja Csörgö  
*Director, Intellectual Property and Legal Affairs, European Seed Association (ESA), Belgium*
- 10.30 Mr. Bryan Harvey  
*Professor Emeritus, Plant Sciences Department, University of Saskatchewan, Canada*
- 10.45 Coffee
- 11.15 Mr. Bram de Jonge  
*Seed Policy Officer, Oxfam Novib, Netherlands*

Session 2: Analysis of the Interrelations between Farmers' Rights and Plant Breeders' Rights Under the ITPGRFA and the UPOV Convention (cont/d)

11.30 Ms. Sangeeta Shashikant  
*Legal Advisor, Third World Network International Secretariat, Malaysia*

11.45 Mr. Stephen Smith  
*Professor in Agronomy, Iowa State University, United States of America*

12.00 Discussion

12.30 Lunch

Session 3: Experiences of the Contracting Parties in Implementing the UPOV Convention and the ITPGRFA

14.30 Argentina  
*Mr. Raimundo Lavignolle, President, Instituto Nacional de Semillas (INASE)*

14.45 Canada  
*Mr. Anthony Parker, Commissioner, Plant Breeders' Rights Office*

15.00 European Union  
*Ms. Päivi Mannerkorpi, Head of Sector – Unit E2, Plant Reproductive Material, Directorate General for Health and Food Safety (DG SANCO), European Commission (to be confirmed)*

15.15 Kenya  
*Mr. Simon Maina, Head, Seed Certification and Plant Variety Protection, Kenya Plant Health Inspectorate Service (KEPHIS)*

15.30 Norway  
*Ms. Svahild-Isabelle Batta Torheim, Senior Advisor, Department of Forest and Natural Resource Policy, Ministry of Agriculture and Food*

15.45 Discussion

16.15 *Coffee*

Session 4: Overview of initiatives involving the ITPGRFA and UPOV

- Information initiatives
- Practical initiatives
- Mutual attendance, participation, and information exchange

16.30 ITPGRFA  
*Secretary of the ITPGRFA*

16.45 UPOV  
*Mr. Peter Button, Vice Secretary-General, UPOV*

17.00 Discussion

17.15 Closing remarks by Co-Moderators: Mr. Muhamad Sabran, Chairperson of the Seventh Session of the Governing Body, ITPGRFA and the President of the Council of UPOV

17.30 End of Symposium

[End of Annex and of document]