

Consultative Committee**CC/95/17****Ninety-Fifth Session
Geneva, November 1, 2018****Original:** English
Date: September 11, 2018**REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF OBSERVER STATUS FROM THE AFRICAN REGIONAL
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION (ARIPO)***Document prepared by the Office of the Union**Disclaimer: this document does not represent UPOV policies or guidance*

1. By letter of August 10, 2018, Mr. Fernando dos Santos, Director General of the African Regional Intellectual Property Organization (ARIPO), requested the extension of observer status to the Administrative and Legal Committee (CAJ), the Technical Committee (TC) and the Technical Working Parties (TWPs). A copy of the letter is contained in the Annex to this document.

2. ARIPO already has observer status in the Council.

3. The "Rules Governing the Granting of Observer Status to States, Intergovernmental Organizations and International Non-Governmental Organizations in UPOV Bodies" (see document UPOV/INF/19/1, paragraph 3(c), available at http://www.upov.int/information_documents/en/) provide as follows:

"(c) Organizations which have been granted observer status to the Council may subsequently request, by means of a letter from the head of the organization, observer status to the CAJ, the TC and/or the TWPs, if this was not initially requested."

4. As provided in document UPOV/INF/19/1 (see paragraph 2 (c)(ii), (d)(ii) and (e)(ii), the Consultative Committee is responsible for deciding which intergovernmental organizations should be granted observer status to the CAJ, the TC and the TWPs.

5. The Consultative Committee is invited to consider the request of ARIPO for the extension of observer status to the CAJ, the TC and the TWPs.

[Annex follows]



ARIPO.8/28/1

10 August 2018

Dr Francis Gurry
Secretary General
International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV)
34 chemin des Colombettes
1211 GENEVA 20
Switzerland

Dear Secretary General

REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF OBSERVER STATUS TO CAJ, TC and TWP

The Arusha Protocol for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants within the Framework of the African Regional Intellectual Property Organization (ARIPO) was adopted in the United Republic of Tanzania, on July 6, 2015. The Regulations for the Implementation of the Arusha Protocol were adopted by the ARIPO Administrative Council in Malawi on November 22, 2017.


ARIPO already has observer status in the UPOV Council. Representatives of ARIPO attend regularly the sessions of the Council and had been issued with ad hoc invitations to attend the sessions of other UPOV bodies.

In accordance with the “Rules Governing the Granting of Observer Status to States, Intergovernmental Organizations and International Non-Governmental Organizations in UPOV Bodies” (see document UPOV/INF/19/1, paragraph 3(c)), I hereby request the extension of observer status to the Administrative and Legal Committee (CAJ), the Technical Committee (TC) and the Technical Working Parties (TWPs).

I look forward to the consideration of the above request by the Consultative Committee at its ninety-fifth session to be held in Geneva on November 1, 2018.

Yours sincerely



 Fernando dos Santos
DIRECTOR GENERAL

[End of Annex and of document]