# Updates on Plant Variety Protection

***Issue #28, 5 April 2017***

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## 1. Editorial

This issue of the Updates highlights the symposium on interrelations between UPOV and ITPGRFA held during the last session and the proposals for further action UPOV will consider. Further, upcoming issues are presented. Spanish and French translations are now available of the APBREBES Working paper on Farmers' Right to Participate in Decision-making – implementing Article 9.2 (c) of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources.

## 2. UPOV: Symposium Reveals Conflict in Interrelations Between UPOV and ITPGRFA; UPOV To Consider Proposals

UPOV will consider suggestions for possible further action concerning interrelations between the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITPGRFA) and UPOV, at its sessions this week. These suggestions follow the symposium organized jointly by the ITPGRFA and UPOV on 26 October 2016, whereby several experts explicitly highlighted the multiple conflicts between the requirements of UPOV, especially its 1991 Act, and implementation of Farmers' Rights by members of the ITPGRFA.

Read more

## 3. UPOV's 2017 Spring Session - Upcoming Issues

UPOV will be meeting in Geneva for its Spring session during the week of 3rd to 7th April 2017. Its main rule-making body, the Consultative Committee (CC) will meet on 5th April in the morning, and UPOV's highest decision-making body, the UPOV Council will hold its meeting in the afternoon. The proceedings of the CC, where

Council decisions are prepared, is closed to observers. The Working Group on a possible International System of Cooperation (WG-ISC) that was established in October 2016, will meet on 5th April, without the presence of observers.

Read more

## 4. Now available in Spanish and French: APBREBES Working Paper on Farmers' Right to Participate in Decision-making

(From the Executive Summary) The right of farmers to participate in making decisions, at the national level, on matters related to the conservation and sustainable use of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture (PGRFA) is recognized in Article 9.2(c) of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (the Treaty). It is a prerequisite for the full and effective implementation of Farmers' Rights. Of particular concern is decision-making related to UPOV and other intellectual property systems, bilateral, regional and pluri-lateral trade or intellectual property agreements as well as seed certification and marketing laws.

*Chee Yoke Ling et al., (September 2016) Farmers' Right to Participate in Decision-making – implementing Article 9.2 (c) of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources, Working Paper, APBREBES*

in English

in Spanish

in French

## Upcoming Events

Wednesday, 5 April (afternoon) Working Group on a Possible International System of Cooperation (closed to observers)

Thursday, 6 April (morning) Consultative Committee (closed to observers)

Thursday, 6 April (afternoon) Council (extraordinary session)

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## Feedback & Contact

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