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INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR THE PROTECTION OF NEW VARIETIES OF PLANTS Geneva

CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

Eighty-Third Session Geneva, March 30, 2012

WIPO AUDIT COMMITTEE'S REPORT ON THE WIPO INTERNAL AUDIT AND OVERSIGHT DIVISION

Document prepared by the Office of the Union

1. At its seventy-ninth session, held in Geneva on March 26, 2010, the Consultative Committee recommended to the Council, at its forty-fourth ordinary session, held in Geneva on October 21, 2010, to request the WIPO Internal Audit and Oversight Division (IAOD) to conduct independent internal audit, inspections and investigations of UPOV in accordance with the provisions, applied *mutatis mutandis*, of the WIPO Internal Audit Charter (now WIPO Internal Oversight Charter). The Consultative Committee recommended to the Council not to establish an audit committee for the time being and requested the Secretary-General to transmit the WIPO Audit Committee's report on IAOD to the Consultative Committee (see document C/44/13, paragraph 5).

2. On the above basis, at its forty-fourth ordinary session, the Council:

(a) adopted document UPOV/INF/10/1 "Internal Audit" (see document C/44/17 "Report", paragraph 26) (see <u>http://www.upov.int/edocs/infdocs/en/upov_inf_10_1.pdf</u>); and

(b) decided not to establish an audit committee for the time being and to request the Secretary-General to transmit the WIPO Audit Committee's report on the WIPO Internal Audit and Oversight Division to the Consultative Committee (see document C/44/17 "Report", paragraph 14).

3. The purpose of this document is to inform the Consultative Committee that the quarterly reports for 2011 of the WIPO Independent Advisory Oversight Committee (IAOC) (formerly WIPO Audit Committee) (documents WO/IAOC/20/2, WO/IAOC/21/2, WO/IAOC/22/2 and WO/IAOC/23/2) can be consulted at http://www.wipo.int/about-wipo/en/oversight/audit_committee

4. At its twenty-third session, held from November 1 to 4, 2011, IAOC agreed that "it will issue an annual report in time for review by the PBC [WIPO Program and Budget Committee] at its September session [2012], in order to provide Member States with greater in-depth analysis on thematic areas. The IAOC further agreed that its quarterly reports will contain a summary of discussions" (document WO/IAOC/23/2 "Report", paragraph 19).

5. It is proposed to include a standard item in the agendas of the March/April sessions of the Consultative Committee entitled "Reports of the WIPO Independent Advisory Oversight Committee".

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6. The Consultative Committee is invited to:

(a) note the information contained in the IAOC quarterly reports for 2011 (documents WO/IAOC/20/2, WO/IAOC/21/2, WO/IAOC/22/2 and WO/IAOC/23/2); and

(b) consider the inclusion of a standard item in the agendas of the March/April sessions of the Consultative Committee entitled "Reports of the WIPO Independent Advisory Oversight Committee".

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