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INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR THE PROTECTION OF NEW VARIETIES OF PLANTS

Geneva

CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE**Eighty-Fifth Session
Geneva, March 22, 2013**

REPORTS OF THE WIPO INDEPENDENT ADVISORY OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

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 http://www.upov.int/edocs/infdocs/en/upov_inf_10_1.pdf); 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 Consultative Committee, its eighty-third session, held in Geneva on March 30, 2012, "decided 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'. The Consultative Committee agreed that, if a Consultative Committee session was not held in March/April, the item would be included in the relevant session of the Consultative Committee in October." (document CC/83/8 "Report", paragraph 15).
4. The purpose of this document is to inform the Consultative Committee that the quarterly reports for 2012 of the WIPO Independent Advisory Oversight Committee (IAOC) (formerly WIPO Audit Committee) (documents WO/IAOC/24/2, WO/IAOC/25/2, WO/IAOC/26/2 and WO/IAOC/27/2) can be consulted at <http://www.wipo.int/about-wipo/en/oversight/iaoc/>.
5. At its twenty-third session, held from November 1 to 4, 2011, the 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). The Annual Report of the IAOC, covering the period July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012 (document WO/PBC/19/10) can also be consulted at <http://www.wipo.int/about-wipo/en/oversight/iaoc/>.

6. The IAOC invited the Office of the Union to make a "Presentation on the International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV)", at its twenty-seventh session, held in Geneva from December 11 to 14, 2012. The relevant part of the Report of the twenty-seventh session of the IAOC stated as follows (document WO/IAOC/27/2 "Report", paragraph 36):

"AGENDA ITEM 9: PRESENTATION ON THE INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR THE PROTECTION OF NEW VARIETIES OF PLANTS (UPOV)

"36. The IAOC met with the Vice Secretary-General and Legal Counsel of the International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV) as well as with the Chief Financial Officer of WIPO. The Committee benefited from an induction on UPOV, which clarified that UPOV does not fall within the scope of the IAOC's mandate."

7. *The Consultative Committee is invited to:*

(a) note the information contained in the IAOC quarterly reports for 2012 (documents WO/IAOC/24/2, WO/IAOC/25/2, WO/IAOC/26/2 and WO/IAOC/27/2), and in the IAOC Annual Report 2011-2012 (document WO/PBC/19/10); and

(b) note the information concerning the presentation on UPOV at the twenty-seventh session of the IAOC, as set out in paragraph 6 above.

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