

**Consultative Committee****CC/94/5****Ninety-Fourth Session  
Geneva, October 25, 2017****Original:** English  
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**SPECIAL PROJECT FUND***Document prepared by the Office of the Union**Disclaimer: this document does not represent UPOV policies or guidance***EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

1. The purpose of this document is to present a proposal to disburse the balance of the Special Project Fund in 2018.
2. The Consultative Committee will be invited to:
  - (a) note the activities that have been supported by the Special Project Fund;
  - (b) agree that all the remaining balance of the Special Project Fund (13,957 Swiss francs) be used in 2018 for activities in the context of the UPOV training and assistance strategy presented in document CC/89/4 "Special Project Fund", taking into account:
    - (i) the priorities set out in paragraph 4 of this document; and
    - (ii) the clarification of expenditure on agency staff involved in the administration of activities in the context of the UPOV training and assistance strategy in the Special Project Fund, as set out in paragraph 5 of this document.

**BACKGROUND**

3. In 2015, 183,824 Swiss francs, representing the amount of the reserve fund exceeding 15 per cent of the total income for the 2012-2013 Biennium, were transferred to a Special Project Fund for specific projects. Of this amount, 114,151 Swiss francs were expensed in 2015, leaving a balance of 69,673 Swiss francs as at December 31, 2015.
4. The Consultative Committee, at its ninetieth session held in Geneva on October 28 and 29, 2015, considered document CC/90/3 "Special Project Fund". The Consultative Committee noted the plans for use of the Special Project Fund in 2015 and agreed that the balance of the SPF at the end of 2015 be used in 2016 for activities in the context of the UPOV training and assistance strategy (see the Annex of document CC/90/7 "UPOV training and assistance strategy"), according to the following purposes and in the order of priority, as considered appropriate in relation to the availability of funding from other sources:
  - Standard training activities organized or co-organized by UPOV
    - Contributing data to the PLUTO database;
    - Train the trainer courses;
    - Training for tutors in UPOV distance learning programs;
  - Training and assistance resources;
  - Training activities developed in conjunction with UPOV;
  - In situ activities organized by UPOV.

5. The Consultative Committee, at its ninety-second session, held in Geneva on October 27, 2016, approved the inclusion of expenditure on agency staff involved in the administration of activities in the context of the UPOV training and assistance strategy in the Special Project Fund expenditure (see document CC/92/21 "Report", paragraph 31).

6. The following table summarizes the activities that have been supported by the Special Project Fund:

Event	Location	Date	Special Project Fund contribution (CHF)
Training Course "Contributing data to the PLUTO database" (in English)	Geneva, Switzerland	September 2015	7,483
XI International Workshop on DUS Examination of Plant Varieties, organized by <i>Servicio Nacional de Inspección y Certificación de Semillas</i> (SNICS) of Mexico in cooperation with UPOV and the financial assistance of the United States of America Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO)	Texcoco, Mexico	September 2015	37,200
Training Course "Contributing data to the PLUTO database" (in Spanish)	Geneva, Switzerland	October 2015	40,635
Train the trainer course for Ibero-American countries: plant variety protection under the UPOV Convention and complementary forms of intellectual property protection, organized by UPOV in cooperation with the Spanish Agency for Cooperation and Economic Development (AECID), the Spanish Plant Variety Office (OEVV), the United States of America Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) and the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)	Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Plurinational State of Bolivia	November 2015	13,556
Train the Trainer Course on Plant Variety Protection under the UPOV Convention for officials of the African Intellectual Property Organization (OAPI), organized by UPOV in cooperation with WIPO and with the financial assistance of the USPTO (in French)	Geneva, Switzerland	November-December 2015	17,658
Train the Trainer Course on Plant Variety Protection under the UPOV Convention, organized by UPOV in cooperation with USPTO and WIPO (in English)	Geneva, Switzerland	May 2016	23,814
(1) International Seminar on Plant Variety Protection under the UPOV Convention and (2) Training Course on Plant Variety Protection under the UPOV Convention and Technology Transfer, organized by UPOV in cooperation with the Peruvian Institute for the Defense of Competition and Intellectual Property (INDECOPI), the Peruvian Institute of Agricultural Innovation (INIA), the International Potato Center (CIP) and the USPTO	Lima and Cusco, Peru	May 2016	4,920
Seminar on the Enforcement of Plant Breeders' Rights under the UPOV Convention, organized by the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD) of Viet Nam in cooperation with UPOV and the USPTO, and with the assistance of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF) of Japan	Hanoi, Viet Nam	September 2016	3,280
Train-the-Trainer Course on Plant Variety Protection under the UPOV Convention for officials of the African Intellectual Property Organization (OAPI) in cooperation with the Ministry of Economic Affairs of the Netherlands and WIPO (in French)	Geneva, Switzerland	November-December 2016	13,120
Workshop on the benefits of the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention for policies related to agriculture and food security, organized by UPOV in collaboration with AECID, OEVV, USPTO and WIPO	Montevideo, Uruguay	December 2016	8,200
<b>TOTAL:</b>			<b>169,867</b>

7. The expenditures in 2016 relating to the Special Project Fund were less than budgeted. As a result, the Special Project Fund has a balance of 13,957 Swiss francs.

PROPOSAL TO DISBURSE THE BALANCE OF THE SPECIAL PROJECT FUND

8. It is proposed that all the remaining balance of 13,957 Swiss francs of the Special Project Fund be used in 2018 for activities in the context of the UPOV training and assistance strategy presented in document CC/89/4 "Special Project Fund", taking into account:

- (a) the priorities set out in paragraph 4 of this document; and
- (b) the clarification of expenditure on agency staff involved in the administration of activities in the context of the UPOV training and assistance strategy in the Special Project Fund, as set out in paragraph 5 of this document.

9. *The Consultative Committee is invited to:*

*(a) note the activities that have been supported by the Special Project Fund;*

*(b) agree that all the remaining balance of the Special Project Fund be used in 2018 for activities in the context of the UPOV training and assistance strategy presented in document CC/89/4 "Special Project Fund", taking into account:*

*(i) the priorities set out in paragraph 4 of this document; and*

*(ii) the clarification of expenditure on agency staff involved in the administration of activities in the context of the UPOV training and assistance strategy in the Special Project Fund, as set out in paragraph 5 of this document.*

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