

WORKSHOP ON THE COOPERATION AND HARMONIZATION IN PLANT VARIETY PROTECTION IN THE ASIAN REGION

Tokyo, October 5, 2007

JOINT STATEMENT

All of the participants of “the Workshop on the Cooperation and Harmonization in Plant Variety Protection in the Asian Region” recognized the importance of the existence of an effective and internationally-harmonized Plant Variety Protection (hereafter referred to as “PVP”) system in each country for not only promotion of agriculture and forestry by encouraging breeding and introduction of new plant varieties but also expansion of international trade of the agricultural and forest products. The importance of strengthening each system while harmonizing them is also recognized. Under this mutual recognition and the understanding of the importance of the UPOV Convention and the role of UPOV for the harmonization of PVP systems in accordance with UPOV convention in each country, the participants adopted the joint statement below.

Participants encourage;

- To understand the situation of each country surrounding PVP and specific circumstances behind it.
- To consider the establishment of a continuous forum in view of the importance of discussion to explore possible cooperative activities for the development of PVP in the East Asian region.
- To promote mutual cooperation, depending on the degree and needs of each country, by sharing experience and knowledge in the region particularly capacity building.
- To set up the secretariat rotationally by year on each country's willing.