

**Order of the Minister of Agriculture, Rural Development and Water and Forests
No. 1579-02 of 8 Rajeb 1423 (16 September 2002) establishing the composition,
responsibilities and operation of the advisory committee for the protection of plant
varieties.**

(OG No 5054 of 07/11/2002, page 1302)

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND WATER AND FORESTS,

Having regard to Decree No 2-01-2324 of 27 Hijja 1422 (12 March 2002) taken for the application of Law No 9-94 on the protection of plant varieties, in particular its Article 7,

ORDERS:

ARTICLE 1. The Advisory Committee for the Protection of Plant Varieties, provided for in Article 7 of Decree No 2-01-2324 of 27 Hijja 1422 (12 March 2002) mentioned above, shall be responsible for giving an opinion to the Minister in charge of agriculture on any application for a plant variety certificate and generally, on all questions relating to the protection of plant varieties.

ARTICLE 2. (amended and supplemented by Order No 2273-13 of 07/17/2013 – OG No 6196 of 10/17/2013, p2419) - The Advisory Committee for the Protection of Plant Varieties shall be composed of the following members or their representative:

- the Director General of the National Food Safety Office, chairman of the committee;
- the Director of the Production Sectors Development, Vice-president;
- the Director of Administrative and Legal Affairs;
- the Director of Strategy and Statistics;
- the Director of Education, Training and Research;
- the Director of the National Institute of Agricultural Research;
- the Director of the Hassan II Agronomic and Veterinary Institute;
- the President of the National Interprofessional Federation of Seeds and Plants;
- the President of the Association of Agriculture Chambers of Morocco.

ARTICLE 3. (amended and supplemented by Order No 2273-13 of 07/17/2013 – OG No 6196 of 10/17/2013, p2419) - The Secretariat of the Advisory Committee for the Protection of Plant Varieties shall be provided by the National Food Safety Office.

ARTICLE 4. (amended and supplemented by Order No 2273-13 of 07/17/2013 – OG No 6196 of 10/17/2013, p2419) - The committee shall meet each year in two ordinary sessions, the first in April and the second in September. The committee may also meet, in extraordinary session, upon convocation by its president. The committee shall only deliberate validly if at least 6 of its members, or their representatives, are present. Decisions shall be taken by a majority of the members present or represented; the president's vote shall be decisive in the event of a tie.

ARTICLE 5. The committee may set up specialized commissions of experts and call upon any person whose opinion it deems necessary.

ARTICLE 6. This Order shall be published in the Official Gazette.

Rabat, 8 Rajab 1423 (16 September 2002).

The Minister of Agriculture, Rural Development and Water and Forests, ISMAIL ALAOUI