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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

COMMITTEE ON TRADE

Working Party on Agricultural Quality Standards

Sixty-second session
Geneva, 6-9 November 2006

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA

The sixty-second annual session of the Working Party on Agricultural Quality Standards will be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, from Tuesday, 7 to Thursday, 9 November 2006¹. Working groups will have the possibility to meet on Monday, 6 November. The secretariat will provide additional information for their meetings closer to that date. The annotated provisional agenda and tentative timetable for the session are presented below.

¹ Delegates attending meetings at the Palais des Nations should complete the registration form, downloadable from <http://www.unece.org/trade/agr/meetings/registr.htm> and transmit it to the secretariat either by e-Mail (alissa.mayor@unece.org) or by fax ((41) 22 917 06 29). Prior to the meeting, the delegates are requested to present themselves with a valid identification card/passport at the UNOG Security and Safety Section, located at the Pregny gate to obtain a security badge to enter the Palais (in case of a problem please call 022 917 12 65). Documents for the meeting are available on the website at <http://www.unece.org/trade/agr>. Additional information for visitors is available at: <http://www.unece.org/meetings/practical.htm>

I. PROVISIONAL AGENDA

ITEM	DESCRIPTION		DOCUMENT SYMBOL
1.	Adoption of the agenda		ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/2006/1
2.	Matters of interest since the last session		
	(a)	Concentrating agricultural quality standards work in the UNECE	(See annotations)
	(b)	Other organizations	
3.	Specialized Section on Standardization of Fresh Fruit and Vegetables		ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/GE.1/2006/2
	(a)	Texts recommended for adoption as revised/new UNECE standards	
		Early and Ware Potatoes	ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/2006/2
		Melons	ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/2006/3
		Truffles	TRADE/WP.7/GE.1/2004/25/Add.8
	(b)	Texts recommended for adoption as UNECE recommendations	
		Table Grapes (in trial until 2007)	ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/2006/4
		Bilberries and Blueberries (in trial until 2006)	TRADE/WP.7/GE.1/2004/25/Add.5
		Cherries (in trial until 2007)	ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/2006/5
		Peaches and Nectarines (one-year trial extension until 2007)	ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/2006/6
		Ceps (trial until 2007)	ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/2006/7
4.	Specialized Section on Standardization of Dry and Dried Produce		ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/GE.2/2006/10
	(a)	Standard Layout for UNECE Standards on Dry and Dried Produce	ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/GE.2/2006/10/Add.1
	(b)	Text recommended for adoption as revised/new UNECE standard	
		Inshell Hazelnuts (one-year trial until 2007)	ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/GE.2/2006/10/Add.4
	(c)	Texts recommended for adoption as UNECE recommendations	
		Inshell Almonds (one-year trial extension until 2007)	ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/GE.2/2006/10/Add.3
		Pistachio Kernels and Peeled Pistachio Kernels (one-year trial extension until 2007)	TRADE/WP.7/GE.2/2005/19/Add.2
	(d)	Converting draft new UNECE standards into the new Standard Layout	(See annotations)
5.	Specialized Section on Standardization of Seed Potatoes		ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/GE.6/2006/13

	(a)	Text recommended for adoption as revised UNECE Standard	ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/2006/8 ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/2006/8/Add.1
		List of Diseases	ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/2006/9
6.	Specialized Section on Standardization of Meat		ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/GE.11/2006/9
	(a)	Text recommended for adoption as new UNECE Standard	
		UNECE Standard for Turkey Meat	ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/2006/10 ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/2006/10/Add.1 ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/2006/10/Add.2
	(b)	Texts recommended for adoption as revised UNECE Standards	
		UNECE Standard for Bovine Meat	ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/2006/11 ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/2006/11/Add.1 ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/2006/11/Add.2
		UNECE Standard for Ovine Meat	ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/2006/12 ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/2006/12/Add.1 ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/2006/12/Add.2
		UNECE Standard for Chicken Meat	ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/2006/13 ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/2006/13/Add.1 ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/2006/13/Add.2
		UNECE Standard for Porcine Meat	ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/2006/14 ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/2006/14/Add.1 ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/2006/14/Add.2
	(c)	Status of publications on existing standards	ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/2006/15
	(d)	Information on the meetings of rapporteurs	
7.	Publications		
	(a)	Explanatory brochure on Plums	ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/2006/16 ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/2006/16/Add.1
8.	General questions concerning the work of WP.7 and its Specialized Sections		
	(a)	Alignment of the conformity certificate with the United Nations Layout Key	ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/2006/17
	(b)	Sales packages	ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/2006/18
	(c)	Review of the work of the Working Party	ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/2006/19
9.	Capacity-building activities		
10.	Other business		
11.	Programme of work		
	(a)	Calendar of meetings	
	(b)	Future work	
12.	Election of officers		
13.	Adoption of the report		

II. ANNOTATIONS

ITEM 1. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The proposed provisional agenda and timetable are presented to the Working Party for approval.

Documentation: Provisional agenda and annotations
ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/2006/1

ITEM 2. MATTERS OF INTEREST SINCE THE LAST SESSION

(a) Concentrating agricultural quality standards work in the UNECE

The secretariat will inform delegations of the progress made both by itself and the Committee on Trade in implementing the decision to concentrate the agricultural quality standards activities of the UNECE and OECD within the UNECE. This decision was set out in the Work Plan on UNECE Reform (E/ECE/1434/Rev.1). In revising the Geneva Protocol, the consequences of the eventual transfer of the OECD activities to UNECE must be taken into account.

The secretariat will also inform the delegations of the Terms of Reference of the new Committee and about how the Committee envisages improving the work.

Documentation:

Concentrating agricultural quality standards work: draft transition plan	ECE/TRADE/C/NONE/2006/1
Geneva Protocol	TRADE/WP.7/2005/9/Add.1
Strengthening the UNECE Committee on Trade	ECE/TRADE/C/2006/3
Committee on Trade: Draft Terms of Reference	ECE/TRADE/C/2006/10

(b) Other organizations

The delegations will be informed about the activities of:

- Codex Alimentarius Commission
- European Union
- OECD Scheme for the Application of International Standards for Fruit and Vegetables

ITEM 3. SPECIALIZED SECTION ON STANDARDIZATION OF FRESH FRUIT AND VEGETABLES

The Chairperson of the Specialized Section will inform the Working Party of the outcome of the fifty-second session of the Specialized Section. The Working Party will be invited to take decisions on the standards and recommendations proposed for adoption.

Documentation: Report of the fifty-second session
ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/GE.1/2006/2

(a) Texts recommended for adoption as revised/new UNECE standards

Documentation:

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------|
| • Early and Ware Potatoes | ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/2006/2 |
| • Melons | ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/2006/3 |
| • Truffles (new standard) | TRADE/WP.7/GE.1/2004/25/Add.8 |

(b) Texts recommended for adoption as UNECE recommendations

- | | |
|---|-------------------------------|
| • Table Grapes
(in trial until 2006) | ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/2006/4 |
| • Bilberries and Blueberries
(in trial until 2006) | TRADE/WP.7/GE.1/2004/25/Add.5 |
| • Cherries
(in trial until 2007) | ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/2006/5 |
| • Peaches and Nectarines
(one-year trial extension until 2007) | ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/2006/6 |
| • Ceps (in trial until 2007) | ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/2006/7 |

ITEM 4. SPECIALIZED SECTION ON STANDARDIZATION OF DRY AND DRIED PRODUCE

The Chairperson of the Specialized Section will inform the Working Party of the outcome of the fifty-third session of the Specialized Section. The Working Party will be invited to take decisions on the standards and recommendations proposed for adoption.

Documentation: Report of the fifty-third session
ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/GE.2/2006/10

(a) Standard Layout for UNECE Standards on Dry and Dried Produce

The Specialized Section will present the revised Standard Layout to the Working Party for information. They decided to test the revised layout on the new standards and on the recommendations under trial. They will discuss the results at the next meeting of the Section and decide whether or not to recommend the document to the Working Party for approval in 2007.

Documentation: Standard Layout for UNECE Standards on Dry and Dried Produce
ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/GE.2/2006/10/Add.1

(b) Text recommended for adoption as revised/new UNECE standard

Inshell Hazelnuts (in trial until 2007).

Documentation: UNECE Standard for Inshell Hazelnuts
ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/GE.2/2006/10/Add.4

(c) Texts recommended for adoption as UNECE recommendations

1. Inshell Almonds (one-year trial extension until 2007)

Documentation: UNECE Standard for Inshell Almonds.
ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/GE.2/2006/10/Add.3

2. Pistachio Kernels and Peeled Pistachio Kernels (one-year trial extension until 2007)

Documentation: UNECE Standard for Pistachio Kernels and Peeled Pistachio Kernels
TRADE/WP.7/GE.2/2005/19/Add.2

(d) Converting draft new UNECE standards into the new Standard Layout

The Specialized Section decided to convert the following draft new UNECE standards into the new Standard Layout.

- Blanched Almonds (Spain)
- Inshell Macadamia Nuts and Macadamia Kernels (United States)
- Inshell Pecans and Pecan Kernels (United States)
- Dried Peaches (United States)
- Inshell Peanuts and Peanut Kernels (United States)

The Specialized Section recommended the suspension of the work on the following draft new UNECE standard:

- Dried Peppers

ITEM 5. SPECIALIZED SECTION ON STANDARDIZATION OF SEED POTATOES

The Chairperson of the Specialized Section will inform the Working Party on the outcome of the thirty-sixth session of the Specialized Section and on the meetings of the extended bureau held in 2006. The Working Party will be invited to take decisions on the standard and recommendations proposed for adoption.

Documentation: Report of the thirty-sixth session
ECE/TRADE/WP.7/GE.6/2006/13
ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/2006/8 (Seed Potatoes Standard-Part 1)
ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/2006/8/Add.1 (Seed Potatoes Standard-Part 2)
ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/2006/9 (Seed Potatoes List of Diseases)

(a) Text recommended for adoption as revised UNECE standard

The Specialized Section recommended the adoption of the text contained in ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/2006/8 and ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/2006/8/Add.1 as revised UNECE Standard for Seed Potatoes and its List of Diseases contained in ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/2006/9. The Working Party will be asked to approve these recommendations.

ITEM 6. SPECIALIZED SECTION ON STANDARDIZATION OF MEAT

The Chairperson of the Specialized Section will inform the Working Party on the outcome of the fifteenth session of the Specialized Section that was held in Brisbane, Australia and on the meeting of rapporteurs held in 2006. The Working Party will be invited to take decisions on the standards and recommendations proposed for adoption.

Documentation: Report of the fifteenth session
ECE/TRADE/WP.7/GE.11/2006/9

(a) Text recommended for adoption as new UNECE Standard

Documentation:

1. UNECE Standard for Turkey Meat
ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/2006/10
ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/2006/10/Add.1
ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/2006/10/Add.2

(b) Texts recommended for adoption as revised UNECE Standards

Documentation:

1. UNECE Standard for Bovine Meat
ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/2006/11
ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/2006/11/Add.1
ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/2006/11/Add.2
2. UNECE Standard for Ovine Meat
ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/2006/12
ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/2006/12/Add.1
ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/2006/12/Add.2
3. UNECE Standard for Chicken Meat
ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/2006/13
ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/2006/13/Add.1
ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/2006/13/Add.2

4. UNECE Standard for Porcine Meat
ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/2006/14
ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/2006/14/Add.1
ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/2006/14/Add.2

(c) Status of publications on existing standards

The secretariat will inform the Working Party of the status of the publications on the updated standards for bovine, chicken, llama/alpaca and ovine meat.

Documentation:

1. UNECE Standard for Llama/Alpaca Meat
ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/2006/15

(d) Information on the meetings of rapporteurs

The Working Party will be informed about the outcome of the meetings of rapporteurs held in 2006.

ITEM 7. PUBLICATIONS

(a) Explanatory brochure on Plums

The Working Party will be informed about progress made on the development of this publication.

Documentation: Explanatory brochure on Plums
ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/2006/16
ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/2006/16/Add.1

ITEM 8. GENERAL QUESTIONS CONCERNING THE WORK OF WP.7 AND ITS SPECIALIZED SECTIONS

(a) Alignment of the conformity certificate with the United Nations Layout Key

Documentation: Conformity Certificate
ECE/TRADE/WP.7/2006/17

The Working Group on the Conformity Certificate prepared a proposal in cooperation with the United Kingdom trade facilitation organization, SITPRO. The proposal aims at aligning the Conformity Certificate with the UN Layout Key and to define continuation sheets to allow several lots to be treated on one certificate.

The Specialized Section on Fresh Fruit and Vegetables discussed the text and agreed on the changes as contained in ECE/TRADE/WP.7/2006/17. It is submitted to the Working Party for adoption.

(b) Sales packages

Documentation: Sales Packages
ECE/TRADE/WP.7/2006/18

The working group (Czech Republic, France, Germany (rapporteur), the United States and the European Community) will present a new document on the definition of sales packages.

(c) Review of the work of the Working party

The secretariat will present a note summarizing the results of the survey conducted in December 2005 - January 2006.

Documentation: Review of the work of the Working party
ECE/TRADE/WP.7/2006/19

ITEM 9. CAPACITY-BUILDING ACTIVITIES

The secretariat and delegations will provide information on capacity-building activities for 2006-2007.

ITEM 10. OTHER BUSINESS

Participants may wish to discuss any other issues of interest for the work of the Working Party.

ITEM 11. PROGRAMME OF WORK

(a) Calendar of meetings

The calendar of sessions of the Specialized Sections and the Working Party will be presented for the consideration of the Working Party.

(b) Future work

Delegations will be invited to propose areas of future work for the Working Party.

ITEM 12. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

According to the Commission's Rules of Procedure and established practice, the delegations are expected to elect a Chair and two vice-chairs. At its last session, the Working Party elected Ms. Viera Baričicová (Slovakia) as Chairperson and Ms. Niina Kauhajärvi (Finland) and Mr. Csaba Gáspár (Hungary) as Vice-Chairpersons.

ITEM 13. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

The Working Party will adopt its major decisions. The final report will be produced by the secretariat, after the annual session, according to the Committee's rules of procedure as found in TRADE/2005/19.

III. TENTATIVE TIMETABLE

Monday, 6 November		Working groups, as necessary
Tuesday, 7 November	10.00 – 13.00	Items 1 – 4
	15.00 – 18.00	Items 4 – 9
Wednesday, 8 November	10.00 – 13.00	Items 10 – 12
Thursday, 9 November	10.00 – 13.00	Item 13

Contributions should be sent to the secretariat by e-mail to:

agristandards@unece.org

Or on diskette/CD-ROM to:

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All documentation can be found on the website at:

<http://www.unece.org/trade/agr>