



Economic Commission for Europe**Steering Committee on Trade Capacity and Standards****Working Party on Agricultural Quality Standards****Specialized Section on Standardization
of Seed Potatoes****Forty-sixth session**

Geneva, 18-19 March 2019

Item 1 of the provisional agenda

Adoption of the agenda**Provisional agenda and annotations ***

Session to be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, Room VIII

I. Provisional agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. Matters arising since the last session:
 - (a) Economic Commission for Europe, subsidiary bodies and the Sustainable Development Goals;
 - (b) Update by the European Commission on new legislation;
 - (c) Recent developments in other organizations.
3. Draft guide on minituber production.
4. Results of the survey on seed potato virus testing methods.
5. Draft survey on bacterial testing methodologies.
6. Discussion on diseases and pests: *Liberibacter*, Andean Potato Weevil and Tomato Potato Psyllid.
7. True Potato Seed.
8. Review of risk-based inspections.

* Delegates attending the meetings are invited to register online at https://uncdb.unece.org/app/ext/meeting-registration?id=_nf_o7 or in the event of difficulties with electronic registration, contact the secretariat by e-mail (Stephen.hatem@un.org). Documents for the meeting and information will be made available online at http://www.unece.org/trade/wp7/ge6_2019.html.

9. Capacity-building:
 - (a) Draft guide on capacity-building;
 - (b) Training films and Seed Potato Guide App;
 - (c) Training workshops.
10. Future work.
11. Other business.
12. Election of officers.
13. Adoption of the report.

II. Annotations

1. Adoption of the agenda

The Specialized Section will adopt the agenda.

Documentation: Annotated provisional agenda (ECE/CTCS/WP.7/GE.6/2019/1)

2. Matters arising since the last session

(a) Economic Commission for Europe, subsidiary bodies and the Sustainable Development Goals

The secretariat will present matters arising from the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) and the 2018 session of the Working Party on Agricultural Quality Standards (WP.7) having an impact on the work of the Specialized Section. The secretariat and delegations will also provide an update on work related to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Documentation: Report of the Working Party on Agricultural Quality Standards (ECE/CTCS/WP.7/2018/2)

(b) Update by the European Commission on new legislation

The representative of the European Commission will provide an update on new legislation relevant to the work of the Specialized Section.

(c) Recent developments in other organizations

Representatives of other organizations and country delegations will inform the Specialized Section about activities taking place in their agencies that are of relevance to the work of the Specialized Section.

3. Draft guide on minituber production

At its 2018 session, the Specialized Section asked the Rapporteur (Australia) and a working group (France, Netherlands, New Zealand, South Africa as well as the European Seed Association) to prepare a draft guide on minituber production, also taking into account provisions from New Zealand's Seed Potato Certification Rule Book. The Specialized Section is invited to review and discuss the draft guide.

Documentation: Draft guide on minituber production (ECE/CTCS/WP.7/GE.6/2019/3)

4. Results of the survey on seed potato virus testing methods

At its 2018 session, the Specialized Section decided to prepare a summary version of the report presented in 2018. The Specialized Section is invited to review this report prepared by

the working group (led by the United Kingdom and Finland with input from Australia, Czech Republic, Sweden, and the United States).

Documentation: Draft summary report of the survey on seed potato virus testing methods (ECE/CTCS/WP.7/GE.6/2019/4)

5. Draft survey on bacterial testing methodologies

Since the March 2018 session of the Specialized section, a working group (led by the United States, with Belgium, Finland, Israel, Netherlands and the United Kingdom) had prepared a new draft survey of bacterial testing methodologies to improve the clarity of the questions. The draft was reviewed at the May 2018 Rapporteurs Meeting (Cusco, Peru). Delegations are invited to discuss the revised draft survey.

Documentation: Revised draft survey on bacterial testing methodologies (ECE/CTCS/WP.7/GE.6/2019/5)

6. Discussion on diseases and pests: *Liberibacter*, Andean Potato Weevil and Tomato Potato Psyllid

The Specialized Section is invited to exchange information concerning on-going research and studies on new and emerging diseases and pests such as *Liberibacter* (presentation by Finland and the United Kingdom), the Andean Potato Weevil pest and the Tomato Potato Psyllid. The Rapporteurs who attended the World Potato Congress in Cusco, Peru, in May 2018 will update the Specialized Section on the latest findings and discussions.

7. True Potato Seed

At its 2018 session, the Specialized Section approved its statement on True Potato Seed. The topic was also discussed at the May 2018 World Potato Congress in Cusco, Peru, and the Rapporteurs meeting held at that time. The Rapporteurs will update the Specialized Section on the discussions.

8. Review of risk-based inspections

The Specialized Section is invited to discuss and exchange experiences on risk-based inspections.

9. Capacity-building

(a) Draft guide on capacity-building

At its 2018 session, the Specialized Section asked the working group (Australia, Belgium, South Africa, United Kingdom and the United States) led by the Rapporteur (Germany) to focus the new UNECE Guide on capacity-building to introduce a seed potato scheme. The Specialized Section is invited to discuss the revised draft guide.

Documentation: Revised draft guide on capacity-building (ECE/CTCS/WP.7/GE.6/2019/6)

(b) Training films and Seed Potato Guide App

As agreed at its 2018 session, the Specialized Section is invited to exchange information on training films and related costs.

The Specialized Section is also invited to review the final version of the Seed Potato Guide App financed by Australia.

(c) Training workshops

As a follow-up to the discussions at the May 2018 Rapporteurs meeting in Cusco Peru, the Specialized Section is invited to consider the possible organization of training workshops in southern Africa or Latin America to enhance the harmonization of seed potato standards and the establishment of certification schemes for the production and trade of seed potatoes.

10. Future work

The Specialized Section will discuss its future work.

11. Other business

Any other issues of interest for the work of the Specialized Section can be discussed under this agenda item.

12. Election of officers

The Specialized Section will elect a Chair and Vice-Chairs. At its forty-fifth session, it elected Mr. John Kerr (United Kingdom) as its Chair and Ms. Hanna Kortemaa (Finland) and Mr. Nigel Crump (Australia) as its Vice-Chairs.

13. Adoption of the report

The Specialized Section will adopt the report of the session.

III. Tentative timetable

Monday, 18 March	15:00 - 18:00	Items 1-4
Tuesday, 19 March	9:30 - 12:30	Items 5-8
	2:30 - 17:30	Items 9-13