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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

COMMITTEE FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY AND  
ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT

Working Party on Standardization of  
Perishable Produce and Quality Development

Specialized Section on Co-ordination of  
Standardization of Fresh Fruit and Vegetables  
23-26 May 2000, Geneva

PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE FORTY-SIXTH SESSION

to be held in the Palais des Nations, Geneva,  
commencing at 10.00 hrs on Tuesday, 23 May 2000\*

**NOTE by the secretariat:** Document numbers in square brackets have been reserved for papers not yet received by the secretariat at the time of the preparation of the agenda. They will be translated and distributed (if received until 10 weeks before the session) or distributed in the original language only (if received until 6 weeks before the session). If received later they will be distributed at the session as informal papers. They will also be available on the homepage if sent in electronic format.

- |    |   |                                      |
|----|---|--------------------------------------|
| 1. | Adoption of the agenda                                    | TRADE/WP.7/GE.1/2000/1               |
| 2. | Matters of interest arising since the forty-fifth session | TRADE/WP.7/GE.1/2000/2 (Secretariat) |

\* There will be an informal meeting (English only) of the Working Groups on Apples and Pears, Kiwifruit, Citrus Fruit and Cultivated Mushrooms on Monday 22 May 2000. For further details please see the provisional timetable.

GE.00-

## 3. Proposals to revise UN/ECE standards

- (a) Apples and Pears (including list of varieties)
- Text of the UN/ECE recommendation TRADE/WP.7/1999/7/Add.7
  - List of varieties [TRADE/WP.7/GE.1/2000/3 (New Zealand)]
  - Proposal [TRADE/WP.7/GE.1/2000/25 (European Union)]
- (b) Avocados (Maturity requirements) [TRADE/WP.7/GE.1/2000/4 (Spain)]
- (c) Beans [TRADE/WP.7/GE.1/2000/5 (European Union)]
- (d) Citrus Fruit
- Text of the standard in force TRADE/WP.7/1998/9/Add.1 (Secretariat)
  - Text adopted at the last Specialized Section TRADE/WP.7/GE.1/2000/6 (Secretariat)
  - Proposals remaining in discussion TRADE/WP.7/GE.1/2000/7 (Secretariat)
  - Other proposals concerning Citrus Fruit [TRADE/WP.7/GE.1/2000/8]
- (e) Cultivated Mushrooms [TRADE/WP.7/GE.1/2000/9 (Germany, France, Ireland, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom)]
- (f) Kiwifruit [TRADE/WP.7/GE.1/2000/10 (New Zealand, Chile, Germany, Italy and United States)]
- [TRADE/WP.7/GE.1/2000/11 (European Union)]
- (g) Melons [TRADE/WP.7/GE.1/2000/12 (European Union)]
- (h) Peaches and Nectarines
- Proposal for amendments [TRADE/WP.7/GE.1/2000/13 (European Union)]
  - Proposal for amendments TRADE/WP.7/GE.1/2000/14 (Ukraine)
- (i) Peas [TRADE/WP.7/GE.1/2000/15 (European Union)]
- (j) Plums
- Proposal for amendments TRADE/WP.7/GE.1/2000/16 (Ukraine)
  - List of varieties [TRADE/WP.7/GE.1/2000/17 (Germany, South Africa)]

- (k) Table Grapes
  - Proposal [TRADE/WP.7/GE.1/2000/18 (European Union)]
  - Proposal for amendments TRADE/WP.7/GE.1/2000/19 (Ukraine)
- (l) Tomatoes [TRADE/WP.7/GE.1/2000/26 (European Union)]
- 4. Proposal for a draft UN/ECE Standard for Pineapples TRADE/WP.7/GE.1/2000/20 (COLEACP)
- 5. Proposal to include provisions for miniature fruit and vegetables in UN/ECE Standards [TRADE/WP.7/GE.1/2000/21 (European Union)]
- 6. Issues concerning trade marks and names of varieties
  - List of varieties from UPOV TRADE/WP.7/GE.1/2000/22 (Secretariat)
  - List of varieties from OIV [TRADE/WP.7/GE.1/2000/23 (Secretariat)]
- 7. Establishment of a list of countries using code marks
- 8. Exchange of information on non-conformity cases TRADE/WP.7/GE.1/2000/24 (OECD)
- 9. Participation to the Specialized Section
- 10. Acceptances
- 11. Matters of interest arising from the work of
  - (a) Codex Alimentarius Commission
  - (b) European Union
  - (c) OECD Scheme
- 12. Operational activities
- 13. Other business
- 14. Preparation of the next session
  - (a) Future work
  - (b) Date and place
  - (c) Preparation of the 56th session of the Working Party on Standardization of Perishable Produce and Quality Development
- 15. Election of officers
- 16. Adoption of the report

**Proposed timetable**

Monday, 22	May	10.00 - 13.00	Informal Working Groups (English only): Apples and Pears, Kiwifruit
		15.00 - 18.00	Informal Working Groups (English only): Citrus Fruit, Cultivated Mushrooms
Tuesday, 23	May	10.00 - 13.00	Items 1 - 3
		15.00 - 18.00	Item 3
Wednesday, 24	May	10.00 - 13.00	Item 3
		15.00 - 18.00	Item 4 - 6
Thursday, 25	May	10.00 - 13.00	Items 7 - 15
Friday, 26	May	10.00 - 13.00	Item 16

**ANNOTATIONS****Item 1 Adoption of the agenda**

According to the Commission's Rules of Procedure, the first item on the provisional agenda is the adoption of the agenda.

**Item 2 Matters of interest arising since the forty-fifth session**

Document TRADE/WP.7/GE.1/2000/2 sums up the relevant outcome of the fifty-fifth session of the Working Party on Standardization of Perishable Produce and Quality Development.

**Item 3 Proposals to revise UN/ECE standards****(a) Apples and Pears (including list of varieties)**

*Discussion at the last session:* see TRADE/WP.7/GE.1/1999/15 paras. 13-21

*Discussion at the Working Party:* see TRADE/WP.7/1999/7 paras. 34-35

Documents for this session:	TRADE/WP.7/1999/7/Add.7	Recommendation adopted by the Working Party
	[TRADE/WP.7/GE.1/2000/3	List of varieties (New Zealand)]
	[TRADE/WP.7/GE.1/2000/25	(European Union)]

**Background:** At the last session of the Specialized Section a proposal for a revision of the main text of the standard as proposed by the working group was agreed and transmitted to and adopted by the Working Party as a UN/ECE recommendation for a one year trial period. The list of varieties is expected to be finalized at this session. The Specialized Section had also agreed that the working group should begin drafting a proposal to split the standard into two (one for apples and one for pears) to simplify the provisions. This was authorized by the Working Party.

**(b) Avocados (Maturity requirements)**

Document for this session: [TRADE/WP.7/GE.1/2000/4 (Spain)]

**(c) Beans**

Document for this session: [TRADE/WP.7/GE.1/2000/5 (European Union)]

**(d) Citrus Fruit**

*Discussion at the last session:* see TRADE/WP.7/GE.1/1999/15 paras. 27-49

*Discussion at the Working Party:* see TRADE/WP.7/1999/7 paras. 38-42

Documents for this session:	TRADE/WP.7/1998/9/Add.1	Text of the standard in force (Secretariat)
	TRADE/WP.7/GE.1/2000/6	Text adopted at the last Specialized Section(Secretariat)
	TRADE/WP.7/GE.1/2000/7	Proposals remaining in discussion (Secretariat)
	[TRADE/WP.7/GE.1/2000/8]	Other proposals concerning Citrus Fruit

**Background:** At the last session a revision of the standard was adopted by the Specialized Section. No consensus was found on the question of maturity requirements and the inclusion of provisions for green skinned oranges. Several reservations concerning the items still under discussion had been entered into the text. The Working Party discussed the text and decided not to adopt it but to return it to the Specialized Section for further discussion. The Working Party stressed that it accepted all amendments contained in TRADE/WP.7/GE.1/2000/6 and the discussion on these items should not be reopened at the next session of the Specialized Section. The Working Party invited the Specialized Section to discuss maturity requirements and green skinned oranges again at the next session to try to find a solution or compromise for the diverging positions.

**(e) Cultivated Mushrooms**

*Discussion at the last session:* see TRADE/WP.7/GE.1/1999/15 paras. 50-51

Document for this session: [TRADE/WP.7/GE.1/2000/9 (Germany, France, Ireland, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom)]

**Background:** The informal working group composed of France, Ireland, Netherlands, the United Kingdom and Germany as rapporteur has met in France to draw up a consolidated proposal based on discussions and documents presented at the last session.

**(f) Kiwifruit**

*Discussion at the last session:* see TRADE/WP.7/GE.1/1999/15 paras. 52-53

Documents for this session: [TRADE/WP.7/GE.1/2000/10(New Zealand, Chile, Germany, Italy and United States)]  
[TRADE/WP.7/GE.1/2000/11 (European Union)]

At the last session the working group reported that further work was necessary on the following topics: definition of maturity indicators, wording for sizing methods and creation of a list of varieties. The group proposed to continue its work in liaison with International Kiwi Fruit Organization (IKO) and present a new proposal at this session.

**(g) Melons**

Document for this session: [TRADE/WP.7/GE.1/2000/12 (European Union)]

**(h) Peaches and Nectarines**

Documents for this session: [TRADE/WP.7/GE.1/2000/13 (European Union)]  
TRADE/WP.7/GE.1/2000/14 (Ukraine)

**(i) Peas**

Document for this session: [TRADE/WP.7/GE.1/2000/15 (European Union)]

**(j) Plums**

*Discussion at the last session:* see TRADE/WP.7/GE.1/1999/15 paras. 56-57

Documents for this session: TRADE/WP.7/GE.1/2000/16 (Ukraine)  
[TRADE/WP.7/GE.1/2000/17 (Germany, South Africa)]

**Background:** At the last session the list of varieties was discussed. Further proposals concerning this question are expected. A proposal for amendments was received from the Ukraine.

**(k) Table Grapes**

*Discussion at the last session:* see TRADE/WP.7/GE.1/1999/15 paras. 58-61

Documents for this session: [TRADE/WP.7/GE.1/2000/18 (European Union)]  
TRADE/WP.7/GE.1/2000/19 (Ukraine)

**Background:** At the last session the list of varieties and the use of trade marks was discussed. Further proposals concerning this question are expected. The use of trade marks will also be discussed under agenda item 6. A proposal for amendments to the standard was received from the Ukraine.

**(I) Tomatoes**

Documents for this session: [TRADE/WP.7/GE.1/2000/26 (European Union)]

**Item 4 Proposal for a draft UN/ECE Standard for Pineapples**

*Discussion at the last session:* see TRADE/WP.7/GE.1/1999/15 paras. 58-61

*Discussion at the Working Party:* see TRADE/WP.7/1999/7 para. 48

Document for this session: TRADE/WP.7/GE.1/2000/20 (COLEACP)

**Background:** At the last session it was agreed to elaborate a UN/ECE standard for pineapples. This was subsequently authorized by the Working Party. The delegation of COLEACP suggested to create a working group for the elaboration of a draft standard and agreed to coordinate this group as a rapporteur.

**Item 5 Proposal to include provisions for miniature fruit and vegetables in UN/ECE Standards**

*Discussion at the last session:* see TRADE/WP.7/GE.1/1999/15 paras. 75-78

Document for this session: [TRADE/WP.7/GE.1/2000/21 (European Union)]

**Background:** At the last session the United Kingdom presented a proposal and the Specialized Section felt that it was a good approach but needed further consultations. Countries were invited to send comments to the delegation of the United Kingdom, who would present a new document at the next session.

**Item 6 Issues concerning trade marks and names of varieties**

*Discussion at the last session:* see TRADE/WP.7/GE.1/1999/15 paras. 58-61

Documents for this session: TRADE/WP.7/GE.1/2000/22 List of varieties from UPOV  
(Secretariat)  
[TRADE/WP.7/GE.1/2000/23 List of varieties from OIV  
(Secretariat)]

**Background:** It was said at the last session that the use of trade marks was a subject that did not only concern table grapes but also other produce. Therefore this question was put on the agenda for future meetings. The secretariat has contacted UPOV and OIV for their list of varieties. It was also mentioned that another group within the UN/ECE dealt with this question. The secretariat will provide more information during the session.

**Item 7 Establishment of a list of countries using code marks**

*Discussion at the last session:* see TRADE/WP.7/GE.1/1999/15 paras. 79-81

**Background:** At the forty-second session it had been agreed to discuss the issue of establishing a list of countries using code marks (proposal by the Canadian delegation). The Canadian Food and Drug Regulations require that the name and address of the responsible party by or for whom a prepackaged product is manufactured or produced, must be declared on any label panel except the bottom in either French or English. The address must be complete enough for postal purposes. Therefore, the packer/exporter code mark is not acceptable in Canada. Canada suggests that a list of the countries be made whereby the packer/exporter code mark is acceptable. The purpose of this suggestion is to inform packers/exporters where the code mark is not acceptable because of the national legislation requirement.

**Item 8 Exchange of information on non-conformity cases**

*Discussion at the last session:* see TRADE/WP.7/GE.1/1999/15 paras. 82-83

Document for this session: TRADE/WP.7/GE.1/2000/24 (OECD)

**Background:** At the last session the delegate of the OECD Scheme said that the scheme had developed a document on this question based on EU material for the exchange of information. She offered to provide this document to the secretariat who would distribute it for the next session.

**Item 9 Participation to the Specialized Section**

*Discussion at the last session:* see TRADE/WP.7/GE.1/1999/15 paras. 84-88

**Background:** The secretariat is keeping in close contact with the other regional commissions of the United Nations (ESCWA, ECLAC, ECA). Delegations are invited to make any further proposals to increase participation.

**Item 10 Acceptances**

*Discussion at the last session:* see TRADE/WP.7/GE.1/1999/15 paras. 89-91

**Background:** The secretariat prepared a consolidated document for the last session which listed by country which standards have been accepted. The document will be updated as soon as up-to-date information from all countries has been received.

**Item 11 Matters of interest arising from the work of**

(a) **Codex Alimentarius Commission**

(b) **European Union**

(c) **OECD Scheme**

**Item 12 Operational activities**

*Discussion at the last session:* see TRADE/WP.7/GE.1/1999/15 paras. 94-103



**Background:** There was a discussion on this question at the last session. Delegations are invited to report on recent activities.

**Item 13 Other business**

**Item 14 Preparation of the next session**

**(a) Future work**

Delegations are invited to make proposals for future work of the Specialized Section.

**(b) Date and place of the next session**

**(c) Preparation of the 56th session of the Working Party on Standardization of Perishable Produce and Quality Development**

Delegations are invited to mention any item that should be brought to the attention of the Working Party.

**Item 15 Election of officers**

According to the Commission's Rules of Procedure and established practice, the Specialized Section is expected to elect a Chairperson and a Vice-Chairperson. At its forty-fifth session the Group elected Mr. D. Priester (United States) as its Chairperson and Ms. U. Bickelmann (Germany) as its Vice-Chairperson.

**Item 16 Adoption of the report**

The Working Party will adopt the report of its forty-sixth session on the basis of a draft prepared by the secretariat.

**NOTE BY THE SECRETARIAT:**

Contributions should be sent to the secretariat either on diskette by mail to :

**Food Standards Officer, UN/ECE Trade Division  
Palais des Nations, Office 432  
1211 Geneva 10  
Tel: (41) 22 917 2450 Fax: (41) 22 917 0041**

**email: [agrstandards@unece.org](mailto:agrstandards@unece.org)**

Meeting documentation will be available on our homepage:

**<http://www.unece.org/trade/agr/welcome.htm>**

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