



**Economic and Social  
Council**

Distr.  
GENERAL

TRADE/WP.7/GE.1/2000/2  
2 March 2000

ORIGINAL : ENGLISH

---

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  
Forty-sixth session, 23 to 26 May 2000, Geneva

Item 2 of the Provisional Agenda

MATTERS OF INTEREST ARISING SINCE THE FORTY-FIFTH SESSION

Note by the secretariat

This document summarizes the outcome of the fifty-fifth session of the Working Party on Standardization of Perishable Produce and Quality Development.

## **Fifty-fifth session of the Working Party on Standardization of Perishable Produce and Quality Development**

**Excerpt taken from the report TRADE/WP.7/1999/7, paras. 33-51:**

### **Report of the Meeting of Experts on Coordination of Standardization of Fresh Fruit and Vegetables**

Documents: TRADE/WP.7/GE.1/1999/15

TRADE/WP.7/1999/INF.1, ../INF.2, ../INF.3,..../INF.4

33. Chairman of the group Mr. D. Priester (United States) presented the report of the group. He said that the attendance of the session had been very good, with delegates from 26 countries, the European Community and several organizations represented. He informed that an informal meeting of several working groups had been held the day before the session and that this method had made it possible to make progress on many standards.

#### *Apples and Pears*

34. Work on the text of the standard was finalized. Work on the list of varieties will be finalized at the next session and annexed to the standard.

35. Following the proposal from the Specialized Section, the text as contained in TRADE/WP.7/1999/INF.1 was adopted as a UN/ECE Recommendation for a one-year trial period. The recommendation will be published in TRADE/WP.7/1999/7/Add.7.

#### *Asparagus*

36. Following the proposal from the Specialized Section, the amendments as contained in TRADE/WP.7/1999/INF.3 and based on the amendments to the draft Codex standard, were adopted. They will be included in a consolidated version and published as a revised UN/ECE standard in TRADE/WP.7/1999/7/Add.8.

#### *Broccoli*

37. Following the proposal from the Specialized Section, the corrected standard as contained in TRADE/WP.7/1999/INF.4 was adopted. The text will be published as a revised UN/ECE standard in TRADE/WP.7/1999/7/Add.9.

#### *Citrus Fruit*

38. A revision of the standard (as contained in TRADE/WP.7/1999/INF.2) had been agreed by GE.1 and proposed to the Working Party for adoption as a revised UN/ECE standard. Maturity requirements and green skinned oranges will be discussed in an informal working group and at the next session according to the report of GE.1.

39. In the proposed text, reservations concerning the items still under discussion had been entered. It was felt by several delegations (Greece, Netherlands and Russian Federation) that it would be regrettable to publish

a standard containing reservations concerning items which were still on the agenda. Therefore they were not in favour of adopting the text at present.

40. Because no consensus could be found, document TRADE/WP.7/1999/INF.2 was not adopted.

41. The Working Party stressed that it accepted all amendments contained in TRADE/WP.7/1999/INF.2 and the discussion on these items should not be reopened at the next session of the Specialized Section.

42. 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.

#### *Cultivated Mushrooms, Kiwifruit*

43. Work on the revision of the standards continues in informal working groups.

#### *Peaches and Nectarines*

44. Italy will for the time being stop the experiment of bulk transport because of lack of participation from the industry.

#### *Plums*

45. As proposed by the Specialized Section, the amended list of varieties for plums as contained in TRADE/WP.7/1999/INF.3 was adopted. The revised standard will be published in TRADE/WP.7/1999/7/Add.10.

#### *Table Grapes*

46. The issue of trade marks and names of varieties was discussed and several amendments to the list of varieties were agreed.

47. The Working Party decided because of the request from Greece to delete the proposed amendment concerning the variety "Rasaki" and adopted the remaining amendments as contained in TRADE/WP.7/1999/INF.3. The revised standard will be published in TRADE/WP.7/1999/7/Add.11.

#### *Pineapples*

48. Following the proposal from the Specialized Section, the Working Party authorized the creation of a new UN/ECE standard for Pineapples.

#### *Future Work*

49. Work on individual standards: Apples and Pears, Maturity requirements for Avocados, Beans, Citrus Fruit, Cultivated Mushrooms, Kiwifruit, Pineapples, Plums and Table Grapes.

50. Other work: Issues concerning trade marks and names of varieties, Operational activities, Acceptances, Provisions for miniature fruit and vegetables, Establishment of a list of countries using code marks, Exchange of information on non-conformity cases, Promotion of the work of the Specialized Section, Information from other international organizations.

51. The Working Party approved the report of the Specialized Section including the future work