

Economic Commission for Europe

Committee on Trade

Working Party on Agricultural Quality Standards

**Specialized Section on Standardization
of Fresh Fruit and Vegetables**

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Item 2 (c) of the provisional agenda

Coordination of work between UNECE and OECD Scheme

This note is submitted by the Bureau of the Specialized Section on Standardization of Fresh Fruit and Vegetables for consideration by the Specialized Section and the Working Party.

The purpose of the note is to provide guidelines on the content of the Memorandum of Understanding to be agreed upon between the secretariats of the UNECE and OECD with regard to the development of explanatory material.

1. The text of the MoU will be negotiated between the secretariats and should concern the explanatory material only.
2. Both organizations work on the explanatory material interpreting UNECE standards.
3. UNECE and OECD should avoid working on the same brochures.
4. The Working Party and OECD consult with each other on the priority list for each organization.
5. UNECE and OECD are encouraged to agree on a common layout for the brochures. However, until the agreement has been reached each of the two organizations will continue producing the brochures in the existing layouts.
6. The brochure and the UNECE standard that the brochure interprets are considered to constitute one product. Therefore the content of brochures and other explanatory material should be developed in the closest cooperation between the two organizations.
7. Each organization approves its own brochures and explanatory material. UNECE and OECD should aim at mutual recognition of each other's explanatory material.
8. The OECD Scheme should allow UNECE experts to take part in the development of its explanatory material on an equal footing with the OECD Scheme experts and vice versa.
9. The OECD brochures recognized by the UNECE as interpreting UNECE standards will be translated into Russian and placed on the UNECE website in electronic form.