



**Economic and Social
Council**

Distr.
GENERAL

ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/GE.2/2008/1
7 April 2008

Original: ENGLISH

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

COMMITTEE ON TRADE

Working Party on Agricultural Quality Standards

Specialized Section on Standardization of Dry and Dried Produce

Fifty-fifth session
Geneva, 23-27 June 2008

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA

The meeting of the Specialized Section will start at 10:00 on Monday 23 June¹.

Preliminary timetable		
Monday, 23 June	10.00 – 18.00	Preparatory discussions on Standard Layout, standards and recommendations
Tuesday, 24 June	10.00 – 13.00	Items 1 – 3
	15.00 – 18.00	Items 3 (continued) and 4
Wednesday, 25 June	10.00 – 13.00	Items 4 (continued) and 5
	15.00 – 18.00	Items 5 (continued) and 6
Thursday, 26 June	10.00 – 13.00	Items 7 – 10
	15.00 – 18.00	Working groups
Friday, 27 June	10.00 – 13.00	Item 11

¹ Delegates attending meetings at the Palais des Nations should complete the registration form, downloadable from www.unece.org/trade/agr 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, delegates are requested to present themselves with a valid identification card/passport at the UNOG Security and Safety Section, located at the Pregny entrance to obtain a security badge to enter the Palais (in case of a problem, please call 022 917 12 65). Documents for the meeting and information for Geneva visitors are available on the website mentioned above.

I. PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Adoption of the agenda
2. Matters of interest since the last session
 - (a) UNECE and subsidiary bodies
 - (b) Other organizations
3. Standard Layout
4. Review of UNECE recommendations
 - (a) Pistachio kernels and peeled pistachio kernels
 - (b) Dried peaches
 - (c) Blanched almond kernels
5. Revision of UNECE standards
 - (a) Hazelnut kernels
 - (b) Inshell walnuts
6. New UNECE standards
 - (a) Inshell macadamia nuts and macadamia kernels
 - (b) Whole dried chilli peppers
7. UNECE colour gauge for inshell walnuts and walnut kernels
8. Other business
 - (a) Dates, whole
 - (b) Work by the OECD Scheme on the sampling plan
9. Future work
10. Election of officers
11. Adoption of the report

II. ANNOTATIONS

Item 1. Adoption of the agenda

Documentation: Annotated provisional agenda (ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/GE.2/2008/1)

The delegations will adopt the agenda.

Item 2. Matters of interest since the last session

(a) UNECE and subsidiary bodies

The secretariat will present the decisions taken by the 2007 sessions of the Committee on Trade and of the Working Party on Agricultural Quality Standards having an impact on the work of the Specialized Section.

Documentation: Report of the Committee on Trade (ECE/TRADE/C/2007/19)
Terms of reference (ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/2007/12)
Working procedures (ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/2007/13)
Report of the Working Party (ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/2007/27)

(b) Other organizations

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

Item 3. Standard Layout

The Specialized Section will revise the Standard Layout, which was adopted by the Working Party for a trial period until the end of 2008.

Documentation: 2007 Standard Layout

Item 4. Review of UNECE recommendations

The Specialized Section will review the following recommendations, which were adopted by the 2007 session of the Working Party for trial use until November 2008. All these recommendations have been aligned with the 2007 Standard Layout.

(a) Pistachio kernels and peeled pistachio kernels

Documentation: The Recommendation (DDP-10: Pistachio kernels and peeled pistachio kernels)

The delegations will decide whether section "C. Classification" of the Provisions concerning quality should be excluded from the Recommendation. It was pointed out at the previous session

of the Specialized Section that the industry does not use this part of quality provisions. Other changes may be introduced in the text depending on the results of the trial period.

(b) Dried peaches

Documentation: The Recommendation (DDP-...: Dried peaches)

The delegations will decide if they would like to make changes to the text of the Recommendation. No specific issues were explicitly mentioned for testing during the trial period.

(c) Blanched almond kernels

Documentation: The Recommendation (DDP-...:Blanched almonds kernels)

The Specialized Section will revisit provisions concerning quality and size tolerances. One specific issue for the participants to decide is the inclusion of the category “pieces” in the table of tolerances.

Item 5. Revision of UNECE standards

The delegations will consider the following standards recommended for revision by the Specialized Section and the Working Party.

(a) Hazelnut kernels

Documentation: The Recommendation (DDP-04: Hazelnut kernels)

The section “IV. Provisions concerning tolerances” will be revisited to clarify the question of including “old crop” in footnotes to the table of tolerances and the definition of produce in section “IV. B. Size tolerances”. The Working Group composed of France, Germany, Spain, Turkey (Rapporteur) and the United States will suggest final wording of the text of the Standard.

(b) Inshell walnuts

Documentation: UNECE Standard for Inshell Walnuts (ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/2007/21)
The Standard (DDP-01: Inshell Walnuts)

The Specialized Section will discuss the Table of Tolerances of the revised text of the recommended Standard for Inshell Walnuts (ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/2007/21), which was not approved at the 2007 session of the Working Party, because it did not reflect industry practices. The 2002 version of the Standard (DDP-01) is currently in trial until 2009.

Item 6. New UNECE standards

The Specialized Section will discuss the following texts.

(a) Inshell macadamia nuts and macadamia kernels

Documentation: Draft Standard for inshell macadamia nuts (ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/GE.2/2008/2)
Draft Standard for macadamia kernels (ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/GE.2/2008/3)

At its 2007 session the Specialized Section left the text of this standard as work in progress. The delegations will discuss the definition of the produce to solve the question of covering the produce distributed in pieces. They will also revisit provisions concerning presentation.

(b) Whole dried chilli peppers

Documentation: Draft Standard for whole dried chilli peppers (ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/GE.2/2008/4)
Explanatory note from Mexico (INF. 1, Informal document)

The delegation of Mexico will present the draft Standard for whole dried chilli peppers.

Item 7. UNECE colour gauge for inshell walnuts and walnut kernels

The United States will present a revised colour gauge for discussion.

Documentation: Draft UNECE colour gauge for inshell walnuts and walnut kernels
(ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/GE.2/2008/5)

Item 8. Other business

The secretariat will present the revised questionnaire on the use of UNECE standards, the restructured website of the Working Party and the updated list of authorities. Any other issues of interest for the work of the Specialized Section can be discussed under this agenda item.

(a) Dates, whole

Documentation: The Standard (DDP-08: Whole Dates)
Explanatory note from Tunisia (INF. 2, Informal document)

The delegation of Tunisia has requested that the delegations of Germany, Poland, Switzerland and the United Kingdom remove their reservations from the UNECE Standard for Whole Dates (DDP-08).

(b) Work by the OECD Scheme on the sampling plan

The OECD Scheme will inform the Specialized Section on progress made on this issue.

Item 9. Future work

The Specialized Section will discuss its future work.

Item 10. Election of officers

The Specialized Section will elect a Chair and Vice-Chair. At its fifty-fourth session the group elected Mr. Dorian LaFond (United States) as Chair and Mr. Sait Sözümert (Turkey) as Vice-Chair.

Item 11. Adoption of the report

The Specialized Section will adopt the report of the session.

* * * *