



**Economic and Social  
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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 Standardization of  
Early and Ware Potatoes  
(Sixteenth session, 24 - 25 March 2003, Geneva)

**PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE SIXTEENTH SESSION**

to be held in the Palais des Nations, Geneva,  
commencing at 10.00 hrs on Monday, 24 March 2003

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

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|----|--|---|
| 1. | Adoption of the agenda   | TRADE/WP.7/GE.5/2003/1  |
| 2. | Election of Officers   |   |
| 3. | Matters of interest since the fifteenth session concerning the           |   |
| -  | Working Party on Agricultural Quality Standards                          | TRADE/WP.7/GE.5/2003/2  |
| -  | Committee for Trade, Industry and Enterprise Development                 |   |
| -  | OECD Scheme  |   |
| -  | EUROPATAT  |   |
| 4. | Review of the UNECE standards on Early and Ware Potatoes<br>(FFV 30, 31) | TRADE/WP.7/GE.5/2001/8<br>TRADE/WP.7/2001/9/Add.9<br>TRADE/WP.7/2001/9/Add.10 |
|    |  | [TRADE/WP.7/GE.5/2003/4]  |

- 5 Comparison of inspection methods, sizing methods, sampling methods and control of "washed" potatoes
- 6 Revision of the UNECE General Conditions of Sale for Potatoes and review of RUCIP 2000 TRADE/WP.7/GE.5/2001/8  
[TRADE/WP.7/GE.5/2003/5]
- 7 National legislation for early and ware potatoes [TRADE/WP.7/GE.5/2003/3]
- 8 Report on national provisions for traceability [TRADE/WP.7/GE.5/2003/3]
- 9 Possible cooperation with the UNECE Specialized Section on Standardization of Seed Potatoes
- 10 Preparation of the next session
  - (a) Future work
  - (b) Date and place of the next session
  - (c) Preparation of the 59th session of the Working Party on Standardization of Perishable Produce and Quality Development
- 11 Other business
- 12 Adoption of the report

**PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE**

Date	Time	Agenda item
Monday 24 March	10h – 13h 15h – 18h	1 - 4 5 - 11
Tuesday 25 March	14.30h – 17.30h	12
Wednesday 26 – Friday 28 March	Specialized Section on Standardization of Seed Potatoes	

## 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 Election of Officers**

According to the Commission's Rules of Procedure and established practice, the Meeting of Experts is expected to elect a Chairman and a Vice-Chairman. At its fifteenth session the Group re-elected Mr. Debaveye (Belgium) as its Chairman and elected Ms. Zgorska (Poland) as Vice-Chairperson. Since this time Mr Debaveye has informed the secretariat that he has taken on new functions and will not be able to continue serving as chairman.

### **Item 3 Matters of interest arising since the fifteenth session**

Document for this session: TRADE/WP.7/GE.5/2003/2

Document TRADE/WP.7/GE.5/2003/2 sums up the relevant outcome of the fifth and sixth sessions of the Committee for Trade, Industry and Enterprise Development and the fifty-seventh and fifty-eighth sessions of the Working Party on Standardization of Perishable Produce and Quality Development.

The Specialized Section will also be informed about the progress made on the development of an explanatory brochure for early and ware potatoes by the OECD Scheme (which was agreed by the plenary meeting of the scheme) and any developments of interest concerning EUROPATAT. Representatives of these organizations have been invited to participate at the session.

### **Item 4 Review of the UN/ECE standards on Early and Ware Potatoes (FFV 30, 31)**

Background documents: TRADE/WP.7/GE.5/2001/8 (Report of the last session)  
TRADE/WP.7/2001/9/Add.9 (UNECE Standard for Early potatoes)  
TRADE/WP.7/2001/9/Add.10 (UNECE Standard for Ware potatoes)

Document for this session: [TRADE/WP.7/GE.5/2003/4] (Proposals)

At the last session the standards were amended concerning the definition of long varieties and the inclusion of an indicative list of long varieties of irregular shape. Delegations are invited to report on their experiences with these changes.

The tolerance for sizing were also discussed (see TRADE/WP.7/GE.5/2001/8, paras. 9 to 13). The UNECE Standards sets it at 5% which was considered difficult to reach by some delegations. It was decided that delegations would research in their countries if the prescribed tolerances were reached and then report to the next session.

Replies – if received – and any other proposals concerning the standards were reproduced in document 2003/4.

### **Item 5 Comparison of inspection methods, sizing methods, sampling methods and control of "washed" potatoes**

At the last session the delegation of Germany announced that they would possibly present their system at this session.

**Item 6 Revision of the UNECE General Conditions of Sale for Potatoes and review of RUCIP 2000**

Discussion at the last session: TRADE/WP.7/GE.5/2001/8, paras 32-42

Document for this session: [TRADE/WP.7/GE.5/2003/5]

At the last session RUCIP 2000, the revision of RUCIP (Règles et Usages du Commerce Intereuropéen des Pommes de Terre et les Règlements d'Expertise et d'Arbitrage du Comité Européen), developed by EUROPATAT in cooperation with other organisations was presented in detail. It was discussed if the UNECE General Conditions of Sale for Potatoes were adopted in 1973 and last revised in 1979 should be kept and updated or if in some way reference should be made to the RUCIP rules. No consensus could be found at the last session. It was decided that delegations should examine the UNECE Conditions of Sale and consult with their trade to obtain a firm position for this session. Any information received is collected in 2003/5.

**Item 7 National legislation for early and ware potatoes**

Document for this session: [TRADE/WP.7/GE.5/2003/3]

At the last session delegations were invited to provide their national legislation to the UNECE secretariat. Information was received by Germany and Poland for the last session. Any further information – if received – will be collected in 2003/3.

**Item 8 Report on national provisions for traceability**

Document for this session: [TRADE/WP.7/GE.5/2003/3]

At the last session it was decided that each delegation should report on their national provisions for traceability. Any replies will be collected in 2003/3.

**Item 9 Possible cooperation with the UNECE Specialized Section on Standardization of Seed Potatoes**

The session of the Specialized Section is held in the same week as the Specialized Section on Standardization of Seed potatoes to make it possible for delegations to attend both sessions and to evaluate if a cooperation between the two meetings could be useful.

**Item 10 Preparation of the next session**

- (a) Future work
- (b) Date and place of the next session
- (c) Preparation of the 59th session of the Working Party on Agricultural Quality Standards

**Item 11 Other business**

**Item 12          Adoption of the report**

The Working Party will adopt the report on its sixteenth 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 0629**

or by email to:

**agristandards@unece.org**

Meeting documentation will be available on our homepage:

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

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