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**ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE**

COMMITTEE ON TRADE

Working Party on Agricultural Quality Standards

Specialized Section on Standardization of Seed Potatoes

Thirty-ninth session  
Geneva, 15-17 March 2010

**ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE THIRTY-NINTH SESSION<sup>1</sup>**

To be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva,  
from 15 to 17 March 2010

**I. PROVISIONAL AGENDA**

1. Adoption of the agenda
2. Matters of interest since the last session
3. Information on the results of the meetings of the Bureau
4. List of diseases and pests

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<sup>1</sup> Delegates attending meetings at the Palais des Nations should complete the registration form, downloadable from <http://www.unece.org/trade/agr/welcome.htm> and transmit it to the secretariat either by e-mail ([alissa.mayor@unece.org](mailto: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 gate 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.

5. Internal defects
6. Non-compliance at destination
7. Field inspection practices
8. Post-harvest evaluation
9. Questionnaire on varietal identity and purity
10. Demonstration trials
11. Promotion of the Standard
12. Future work
13. Other business
14. Election of officers
15. Adoption of the report

## II. ANNOTATIONS

### 1. Adoption of the Agenda

Documentation: Annotated provisional agenda (ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/GE.6/2010/1)

The delegations will adopt the agenda.

### 2. Matters of interest since the last session

Documentation: Report of the Working Party (ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/2009/24)  
Comparison of the UNECE Standard with RUCIP rules (INF.1, Informal document)

[Legal advice on the change in the title of UNECE standards \(INF.9, Informal document\)](#)

The secretariat will inform the participants about the outcomes of the November 2009 session of the Working Party. [The delegates will express their views regarding the cover page of the Standard for Seed Potatoes bearing in mind the legal advice on the title of UNECE standards. The delegates will also decide on the need to have a procedure for intersessional approval of changes to the Standard.](#)

The delegation of Europatat will present the results of the comparison of the UNECE Standard with provisions in the RUCIP rules, particularly concerning tolerances for defects and diseases allowed for seed potato tubers.

### **3. Information on the results of the meetings of the Bureau**

Documentation: Meetings of the Bureau (GE.6/BUR/2008 - Emmeloord, Netherlands;  
GE.6/BUR/2009/7 - Cairo; GE.6/BUR(2)/2009/8 - Belgium/Luxembourg )  
[Changins Bureau meeting report \(INF.6, Informal document\)](#)

The Chairperson will inform the Specialized Section on the outcome of the Extended Bureau meetings held in Emmeloord, Cairo, Belgium/Luxembourg [and Changins](#).

### **4. List of diseases and pests**

Documentation: Definitions of rots (ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/GE.6/2010/2)  
[Definitions of rots, proposal by the UK \(INF.8, Informal document\)](#)

The Specialized Section will decide on including in the list the two pictures of soft rot submitted by the delegation of the United Kingdom, and the picture of *Dickeya chrysanthemi* submitted by the delegation of Germany.

The delegations of the Netherlands, the United Kingdom and the United States will present definitions of soft and dry rots for annex VII of the Standard.

### **5. Internal defects**

Documentation: Internal defects (ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/GE.6/2010/3)  
Proposal on defects caused by insects (INF.2, Informal document)  
[Internal defects, proposal by Germany \(INF.5, Informal document\)](#)

The Working Group composed of the delegations of Belgium (rapporteur), France, Germany, the Netherlands and the United States will propose how to address internal defects, including tuber moth damage, in the Standard. The Specialized Section will first consider the definition of internal defects that should take into account the results of the discussion on internal rust spot and spraing, blue or black spot bruise, and glassiness, which took place at the October 2009 Extended Bureau meeting in Belgium/Luxembourg.

The delegation of France will present its proposal on adding a point on defects caused by insects to annex III of the Standard.

### **6. Non-compliance at destination**

Documentation: Non-compliance at destination (ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/GE.6/2010/4)

The Specialized Section will decide on including in the Standard a new annex on international dispute settlement. The text of the annex, drafted by the delegation of the United Kingdom, was discussed and agreed upon at the Extended Bureau meeting in Belgium/Luxembourg.

## **7. Field inspection practices**

Documentation: Field inspection practices (ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/2010/5)

At its October 2009 meeting, the Extended Bureau reviewed and approved the text on field inspection practices drawn up by the delegation of the United Kingdom. The Specialized Section will decide where to insert this text, as a new annex, in the existing sequence of annexes in the Standard.

## **8. Post-harvest evaluation**

Documentation: Post-harvest evaluation (ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/GE.6/2010/6)  
Proposal on statistical comparability (INF.3, Informal document)

The Specialized Section will revisit the text on post-harvest evaluation presented by the delegation of the United States at the October 2009 meeting of the Extended Bureau. The delegations will decide on how to amend annexes IV and VII of the Standard to incorporate new provisions on post-harvest evaluation.

The delegations of Denmark (rapporteur), the Netherlands and the United Kingdom will submit a proposal on how to reflect, in annex IX of the Standard, the importance of securing statistical comparability of the evaluation results.

## **9. Questionnaire on varietal identity and purity**

Documentation: Varietal identity and purity (ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/GE.6/2010/7)

The Specialized Section will finalize the draft questionnaire on varietal identity and purity, the first draft of which was discussed at the October meeting of the Extended Bureau.

## **10. Demonstration trials**

Documentation: Demonstration trials protocol (ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/GE.6/2010/8)

The delegations of Denmark, France (rapporteur), the Russian Federation, Switzerland and the United Kingdom will present a draft technical protocol for demonstration trials for consideration by the Specialized Section.

The delegation of the Russian Federation will report on the progress made in preparing a demonstration trial in 2011 in that country.

## 11. Promotion of the Standard

Documentation: Draft workshop programme (INF.4, Informal document)

The delegation of Indonesia has confirmed its offer to host a regional workshop on seed potatoes during the week of 18-22 October 2010. The Specialized Section will consider a draft programme of the workshop to be prepared by the Steering Group composed of delegations from the host country, Canada, France, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom, the United States, as well as the Chairman and the secretariat.

## 12. Future work

Documentation: [Reproductive cycles, proposal by Germany \(INF.7, Informal document\)](#)

The Specialized Section will decide on its future work, including an update of the overview of the national schemes for certification of seed potatoes. [It will also decide on collecting information on the number of reproductive cycles of seed for inclusion in the UNECE national standards comparisons, and on the inclusion in the Standard provisions for the validity period for the inspection certificates.](#)

## 13. Other business

Any other questions of interest can be discussed under this agenda item.

## 14. Election of officers

The Specialized Section will elect a Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson. At its thirty-eighth session the group elected Mr. Pier Giacomo Bianchi (Italy) as its Chairperson and Mr. Willem Schrage (United States) as its Vice-Chairperson.

## 15. Adoption of the report

The Specialized Section will adopt the report of the session.

### III. PRELIMINARY TIMETABLE

Monday, 15 March	10:00 – 13:00	Items 1-4
	15:00 – 18:00	Items 5-6
Tuesday, 16 March	10:00 – 13:00	Items 7-8
	15:00 – 18:00	Items 9-10
Wednesday, 17 March	10:00 – 13:00	Item 11-15