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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

COMMITTEE FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY AND
ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT

Working Party on Agricultural Quality Standards

Specialized Section on Standardization of
Seed Potatoes

35th Session, 2 - 4 May 2005, Geneva

REPORT ON ITS THIRTY-FIFTH SESSION

Executive summary:

The Specialized Section agreed on the following changes to the UNECE Standard for Seed Potatoes:

- Amendments to the tolerances for scab; inclusion of netted scab
- Introduction of a phrase concerning responsibilities
- Inclusion of a definition for potato leaf roll disease
- Clarification of the interpretation of the size band
- Inclusion of a 0% tolerance for potato rot nematode
- Increased flexibility in the provisions for presentation
- Inclusion of provisions for visual inspection for virus in the direct progeny
- Completion of the annex on sampling
- Explicit inclusion of the notion of traceability.

The outline for a training course on the implementation of the standard was approved. A future session will discuss how to finance and publicize the training course.

The concept of Living Modified Organisms was discussed and will remain on the agenda for future sessions.

Opening of the session

1. The session was held in Geneva from 2 to 4 May 2005 and was chaired by Mr. Pier Giacomo Bianchi (Italy)
2. On behalf of UNECE, Ms. V. Cram-Martos, Chief of the Trade Policy and Governmental Cooperation Branch, welcomed delegations to Geneva and thanked the delegations of Ireland, the United States and Switzerland for hosting meetings of the extended bureau during the intersessional period. These meetings had proven to be effective in making progress with the standard, especially when they had been combined with technical visits. She regretted that the secretariat had not always been able to attend these meetings because of lack of travel funds.
3. She noted the UNECE Standard for Seed Potatoes was evolving into a unique international reference and the intention to develop a training course on seed potato certification was timely.
4. She also informed the group that Mr. Tom Heilandt, after having served as the secretary to WP.7 and its specialized sections for the last seven years, would be leaving in June to take up a post in Rome at the secretariat of the Codex Alimentarius Commission. The Specialized Section thanked Mr. Heilandt for the support he had given to the group and wished him all the best for his future career.

Participation

5. The session was attended by representatives from the following countries: Belgium, Canada, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Netherlands, Poland, Russian Federation, Switzerland, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and United States of America.

1. Adoption of the agenda

TRADE/WP.7/GE.6/2005/1 Provisional Agenda

6. The provisional agenda was adopted, with the deletion of documents TRADE/WP.7/GE.6/2005/6, 7 and 9.
7. The following documents were added to the agenda:
 - INF.1: Consolidated text of the standard with the proposed amendments included (Italy)
 - INF.2: Assessment key for scab (France)
 - INF.3 and 4: Sampling tubers for virus testing (Netherlands)
 - INF.5: Information from The Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD).

2. Matters of interest arising since the thirty-fourth session

TRADE/WP.7/GE.6/2005/2 Matters of interest since the last session

Working Party on Agricultural Quality Standards

8. The Specialized Section noted document TRADE/WP.7/GE.6/2005/2 on the discussion of its work in the Working Party on Agricultural Quality Standards.

European Union

9. Delegations attending meetings in the European Union informed the meeting that the European Union had implemented rules for trade in the varieties submitted for variety listing but not yet included in their catalogue. Discussions on conservation varieties were not yet concluded.

Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development

INF.5

10. The Specialized Section noted the information provided by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).

North American Plant Protection Organization (NAPPO)

11. Delegations attending NAPPO meetings informed the group of the work taking place there including:

- Measures for the detection and identification of nematodes of concern to the importing country
- Diagnostic procedures for ring rot
- Pest-free areas and production sites
- Joint harmonization activities between the European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization (EPPO) and the North American Plant Protection Organization (NAPPO) which will form the foundation for further work under the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) to establish an international phytosanitary standard for seed potatoes.

3. Information on the results of the meetings of the bureau

TRADE/WP.7/GE.6/2005/3 Information on the Results of the Meeting of the Bureau, Dublin

TRADE/WP.7/GE.6/2005/4 Information on the Results of the Meeting of the Bureau, Grand Forks

12. The Specialized Section thanked the hosts of the extended bureau meetings held in Dublin, Ireland, Grand Forks, United States, and Changins, Switzerland. The results of those meetings are covered out below under the relevant agenda items.

4. Review of the UNECE Standard for Seed Potatoes

13. The reservations contained in the UNECE Standard were reviewed and maintained. Concerning the reservation in footnote 3, the delegation of the United Kingdom informed delegations that in Scotland the tolerance for virus in the growing crop for basic class II seed potatoes was being amended to comply with the UNECE tolerance level. The situation in the rest of the United Kingdom was under review.

4(a) Netted scab

TRADE/WP.7/GE.6/2005/4 Report of the Extended Bureau Meeting in East Grand Forks, USA

Background

14. At the last session, discussions of the list of pests and diseases and the assessment key had shown that two different kinds of scab existed (common scab and netted scab), but this fact was not yet adequately covered by the standard.

Discussion

15. In the proposal from the bureau, a less strict tolerance for pre-basic class seed potatoes had been suggested for netted scab than for common scab. After some discussion the group concluded that the main point was to raise awareness about the different symptoms of scab but to treat them in the same way in the tolerances. The group agreed that the less strict tolerance would apply to all scabs caused by *Streptomyces spp.* The pest list would be amended accordingly and the secretariat agreed to ask Sweden whether they needed to maintain their reservation.

Text agreed on

16. In annex III amend paragraph 4 to read:

“4. Scab caused by *Streptomyces spp* (common and netted): Tubers affected over a specified percentage of their surface (see annex VIII)
Pre-basic TC (0% surface cover) 0 per cent by weight
all other categories (>33.3% surface cover) 5 per cent by weight”

17. The summary table of tolerances will be amended accordingly.

4(b) Proposal for destination tolerances

TRADE/WP.7/GE.6/2005/4 Report of the Extended Bureau Meeting in East Grand Forks, USA

TRADE/WP.7/GE.6/2005/5 Discussion Paper on Provisions Acknowledging Potential Deterioration of a Lot Attributable to Progressive Diseases

Background

18. The UNECE Seed Potato Standard defines quality tolerances at the export control point. However, importing countries often believe that these are the quality standards to be applied at the point of import. This is achievable for most of the diseases and defects listed in annex III as they do not develop during transport. However, as a number of potato pathogens cause diseases that can progress during storage and shipment, there is a risk that while a tolerance may have been met at the point of export it may not be met at the point of import.

Discussion

19. The bureau proposed including a new paragraph in the introduction concerning the responsibilities for ensuring the application of the standard and the quality of the lot. The bureau also proposed to include a paragraph in chapter III “Provisions concerning quality” stating that the conditions of the seed potatoes at export should be such as to enable them to arrive in satisfactory condition at their destination. A similar phrase is included in all UNECE standards for fruit and vegetables.

20. The Specialized Section agreed to include in the introduction the proposed text on responsibilities.
21. The proposed text for Chapter III was not agreed on as several delegations regarded it as being open to interpretation. Some delegations said they would like to include at least one sentence to raise awareness about the possible effects of progressive diseases during storage and transport. However, no text was agreed on.
22. The Specialized Section decided to discuss issues related to satisfactory condition of goods at destination at the next bureau meeting, taking into account the planned results of the wider discussion on international arbitration. The text agreed on at this session would be re-examined at that stage.
23. The secretariat provided copies of “INCOTERMS 2000”, containing terms used to define responsibilities for shipment. This text had been originally produced by the UNECE and was now maintained and published by the International Chamber of Commerce.

Text agreed on

24. Insert a new paragraph 4.4 into the introduction (the following paragraph is to be renumbered):

“The responsibility of the NDA is to ensure the application of the provisions and conditions as specified in the standard. The responsibility for the quality of the lot remains with the owner.”

4(c) Definition of leaf roll disease

TRADE/WP.7/GE.6/2005/4 Report of the Extended Bureau Meeting in East Grand Forks, USA

25. To complete the work on ensuring the consistency of definitions in the Standard, a definition for leaf roll had been developed by the bureau. The Specialized Section agreed on the definition, with some amendments.

Text agreed on

26. Include the following definition in annex VII:

“Potato Leaf Roll Disease: is a severe virus disease, caused by PLRV. Plants are usually smaller than healthy plants and sometimes stunted. The top of the plant is paler and the leaves are more erect than usual.—Older lower leaves roll upward and become brittle, such that they can be easily broken (metallic rustling), when squeezed gently. Primary infection may cause a slight rolling of the upper leaves, sometimes accompanied by discoloration.”

4(d) Further development of annex VIII: Images for common scab/ netted scab

TRADE/WP.7/GE.6/2005/4 Report of the Extended Bureau Meeting in East Grand Forks, USA

27. The Specialized Section decided to maintain the present assessment key in the Standard and discuss new images at the next bureau meeting based on a proposal from Germany.

4(e) Interpretation of the size band

TRADE/WP.7/GE.6/2005/4 Report of the Extended Bureau Meeting in East Grand Forks, USA

Background

28. At the last session it was found that the sizes indicated on the label could be interpreted in different ways. At its meeting the bureau suggested a harmonized interpretation, to be endorsed by the Specialized Section.

Discussion

29. The phrase proposed by the bureau was discussed extensively. There was agreement that the objective should be to ensure that when a size (indicated by minimum and maximum values) was given on the label, the sizes of the seed potatoes in the lot should be distributed "naturally" between those values (the way that they are grown). They should not be sorted such as to be all close to the minimum or maximum value because this could mislead the buyer.

Text agreed on

30. Add the following new paragraph to the end of chapter IV:

“The lot shall conform to the distribution of tuber sizes of the harvested crop within the size specified on the label.”

4(f) Inclusion of tomato spotted wilt virus and potato rot nematode

TRADE/WP.7/GE.6/2005/4 Report of the Extended Bureau Meeting in East Grand Forks, USA

Background

31. When reviewing the list of pests and diseases it had been found that these were agents included in other regulations but not in the UNECE Standard.

32. The bureau proposed to create a discussion paper on tomato spotted wilt virus to monitor the situation and to include the potato rot nematode in the Standard.

Discussion

33. The Specialized Section agreed to the proposals made by the bureau. The delegation of the United Kingdom offered to prepare a discussion paper on tomato spotted wilt virus for one of the forthcoming sessions.

Text agreed on

34. In annex III add at the end of B:
"...and *Ditylenchus destructor*”

4(g) Provisions concerning presentation**4(h) Homogeneity/size of the lot**

TRADE/WP.7/GE.6/2005/4 Report of the Extended Bureau Meeting in East Grand Forks, USA

Background

35. The bureau proposed to update the current rules concerning presentation, making them more flexible. They also pointed out that homogeneity was an important value for customers and was more related to quality than to presentation. They proposed to move the requirement to “Provisions concerning quality”.

Discussion

36. There was some discussion on the term “sufficiently homogeneous” for lots. Concern was expressed that the word “sufficiently” was open to interpretation. There was no consensus about moving this provision to the “Provisions concerning quality”.

37. It was mentioned that the entire Standard was a quality standard and that in other UNECE standards provisions concerning uniformity of quality were included under “Presentation”. The term “sufficiently” was also used extensively in other standards and the OECD Scheme on the Application of International Standards for Fruit and Vegetables was dealing with the interpretation of this and other terms.

38. It was decided to agree on the text, with some amendments. The delegations of Canada, France and the United States will work on clarifying subsection (iii) *Nature of contents of containers* .

Text agreed on

39. Replace the term “unit of presentation” with “container” wherever it occurs in the Standard.

40. Replace the current provisions concerning presentation with the following:

“VI. PROVISIONS CONCERNING PRESENTATION**(i) Condition of containers**

Bags must be new; other containers may be reused provided that they are clean.

(ii) Closing of containers

Containers shall be closed officially or under official control in such a manner that they cannot be opened without damaging the official sealing device or without leaving evidence of tampering on the official label provided for in section VII(i).

The official system of closing shall comprise either the incorporation into the system of the label mentioned above if it is without a string-hole or in all other cases, by the application of an official seal.

Re-closing shall be carried out only by the NDA or under its control.

(iii) *Nature of contents of containers*

Each container shall contain tubers of the same variety, category, class, size and origin.

A lot should be sufficiently homogeneous.”

4(i) Visual inspection versus testing

TRADE/WP.7/GE.6/2005/4 Report of the Extended Bureau Meeting in East Grand Forks, USA

Background

41. The bureau proposed to include a description of the methodology for conformity checks, which can be either a visual examination or testing.

Discussion

42. Delegations were informed that the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) had introduced a new standard on inspection, which broadened the definition of inspection to include “visual” and “testing”. The Specialized Section was of the opinion that the text proposed by the bureau was the most practical for seed potatoes and agreed to it.

Text agreed on

43. Annex IV, paragraph 5 should be read as follows:

“The incidence of virus in the direct progeny may be determined by inspection and/or testing of tubers or plants derived from a sample of tubers from the crop. Annex IX describes the principles of developing a sampling regime for this purpose.”

44. The definition of testing in annex VII should be amended as follows:

“The use of one or more procedures, other than inspection for determining the presence of a pathogenic agent or for varietal identification.”

4(j) Improvement of annex IX (sampling)

TRADE/WP.7/GE.6/2005/4 Report of the Extended Bureau Meeting in East Grand Forks, USA

45. The delegation of the Netherlands proposed data and graphs to clarify the practical use of annex IX on sampling and to include 0.5 % and 2 % in the table of tolerances, considering that these tolerances were now part of the standard for virus.

Text agreed on

46. The Specialized Section agreed to include the data and the graphs provided by the Netherlands in annex IX. An exchange of practices of taking samples for tuber inspection will take place at the next meeting of extended Bureau.

4(k) Proposal to rename the term “National Designated Authority”

47. The delegation of the United States explained that in their country seed potato certification was under State authority. They enquired about the possibility of deleting the word “national” from the name and amending the definition so that the term used was compatible with their situation.

Text agreed on

48. In the standard rename “National Designated Authority” to “Designated Authority”.

49. In the definition of “Designated Authority” amend “national legislation” to read “legislation”.

5. Improvement of annex IX (sampling)

TRADE/WP.7/GE.6/2005/4 Report of the Extended Bureau Meeting in East Grand Forks, USA

50. The delegation of Canada said that they had examined the question but found it difficult to make any recommendations for the standard. The Specialized Section agreed to delete the item from the agenda.

6. The concept of LMOs in the Standard

TRADE/WP.7/GE.6/2005/4 Report of the Extended Bureau Meeting in East Grand Forks, USA

51. The discussion concerning living modified organisms was continued in the bureau and the proposal made by the Chairman at the last session was amended. The proposal was an effort to overcome the problem of different terms acceptable in the United States and in Europe by using the definition agreed in the Cartagena Protocol.

52. The delegation of the Russian Federation informed the Specialized Section that they had worked on the implementation of the Protocol and that to date a number of countries had not ratified it. There were different prospects of using it. They said that the Protocol contained a complicated new procedure for risk assessment which had not been tried in practice. In all discussions about the Protocol it should be taken into account that there were socioeconomic reasons behind it and it was not a technical standard such as that of the UNECE.

53. The delegations of the United States and Canada said that as their countries had not ratified the Protocol they would not want to make reference to it in the UNECE Standard because that would reduce the chances of applying the Standard in their countries.

54. The Specialized Section thanked the Chairman for his continued efforts to develop a proposal on this important topic. It was considered an important subject that could not be ignored by the group and the proposal should therefore remain on the agenda. The delegation of the Russian Federation agreed to cooperate with the Chairman to further refine the proposal and to monitor new developments in the area.

7. Superficial necrosis caused by virus PVY^{NTN} (PTNRD)

TRADE/WP.7/GE.6/2004/12

TRADE/WP.7/GE.6/2005/4 Report of the Extended Bureau Meeting in East Grand Forks, USA

55. The subject had been addressed in a concept paper at the most recent meeting. The conclusion had been that, at the time, a methodology to check and distinguish the relevant strains of PVY^{NTN} virus was not available.

56. The delegation of France reported that in the meantime progress had been made. They proposed to prepare a new paper on how to address the methodological problems. They offered to organize a meeting with other interested parties in their research institute specializing in this issue. The delegation of the United Kingdom offered to cooperate with France on the paper.

8. Further development of the list of pests and diseases and mentioning of standard test methods

TRADE/WP.7/GE.6/2004/16/Add.1

TRADE/WP.7/GE.6/2005/4 Report of the Extended Bureau Meeting in East Grand Forks, USA

57. The secretariat will include in the list the amendments proposed by the bureau and the Specialized Section. The updated list will be published in an addendum to the report (see TRADE/WP.7/GE.6/2005/11/Add.1).

9. Prototype training course for seed potato certification

TRADE/WP.7/GE.6/2005/4 Report of the Extended Bureau Meeting in East Grand Forks, USA

58. The Specialized Section agreed to the outline of the training course as proposed by the bureau. It will be published in annex 1 to this report.

59. The Specialized Section felt that to offer this training course to promote application of the standard it would be necessary to:

- Have funds available for the course
- Create promotional material (brochure) on the work of the Specialized Section
- Have a coordinator for fund raising and organization.

60. The secretariat informed delegations that assistance could be given with the printing of promotional material but that the content had to come from the experts. Concerning fund raising some efforts could be made by the secretariat but with the present secretariat resources little time was available for that task.

10. Information collected by the secretariat:

(a) **National catalogues**

(b) **National designated authorities**

61. The secretariat will include the information received in annex 2 to this report.

11. Traceability of seed potatoes

TRADE/WP.7/GE.6/2005/4 Report of the Extended Bureau Meeting in East Grand Forks, USA
 TRADE/WP.7/GE.6/2005/11 Proposal Relating to the Traceability of Seed Potatoes

Background

62. The bureau had discussed how the concept of traceability could be included in the standard and had drafted a proposal for discussion by the Specialized Section.

Discussion

63. The delegation of France introduced a paper in which they explained how traceability of seed potatoes was defined and implemented in France. They felt that this was a most important topic for all types of goods and was already included implicitly in the standard.

64. The Specialized Section thanked France for the preparation of the document and agreed to the text proposed by the bureau.

Text agreed

65. In chapter III amend B. Classification to read as follows:

“Seed potatoes shall be classified according to variety and the standards given below. Their classification shall be subject to official control in the producing country. The NDA is responsible for the maintenance of all classification data to provide traceability. Seed potatoes shall be placed in two classes within each of three categories as defined below.”

66. Add the following definition to annex VIII (Glossary):

“**Traceability:** A system of documentation that enables the source and performance of a lot to be tracked during the classification process.”

12. Next meetings and future work

TRADE/WP.7/GE.6/2005/4 Report of the Extended Bureau Meeting in East Grand Forks, USA

67. The Specialized Section will be informed about plans for meetings of the extended bureau. The next meeting of the extended bureau has been scheduled to take place in Rostock, Germany, from 24 to 27 October 2005.

68. The provisional dates of the next meeting of the Specialized Section are from 20 to 22 March 2006.

69. Future work will include the following items:

- Arbitration rules/ dispute settlement (France)
- LMO (Russia, Italy)
- Images for common and netted scab (Germany)
- Implementation of the standard (in the light of regular changes)
- Reference to the UNECE standard on the label
- Concept of direct progeny
- Discussion on annex VI (comparative trials)
- Size of the lot/ Homogeneity of the lot (Canada, United States, France)

- Development of promotional material on the UNECE Standard for Seed Potatoes
- Exchange of practices for taking samples for tuber inspection
- Paper on PTNRD (France)
- Paper on distribution of TSWV (United Kingdom)

70. A draft agenda for the next session is contained in annex 3 to this report.

13. Preparation of the next session of the Working Party on Agricultural Quality Standards

71. A consolidated version of the standard, including the amendments made at the current session, will be transmitted to the Working Party for adoption.

14. Other business

72. No discussions were held under this item.

15. Election of officers

73. The Vice-Chairman, Pierre Miauton (Switzerland), announced that he would not be standing for re-election because the responsibility for seed potatoes had come under a different department due to reorganization. He thanked the group for the years of good cooperation. He said that he appreciated the friendly and constructive atmosphere in the group, especially in the extended bureau meetings, which offered the opportunity to observe different certification practices. He wished the group success for the future and proposed Mr. G. Bianchi (Italy) for re-election as Chair and Mr. W. Schrage (United States) for election as Vice-Chair.

74. The Specialized Section agreed to the proposal made by Mr. Miauton and wished him all the best for the future.

75. Mr. Schrage thanked delegations for the confidence shown in him but cautioned that before accepting he would have to confirm with the different organizations sponsoring his participation whether they agreed to his taking on this responsibility because of the additional travel costs it might involve.

16. Adoption of the report

76. The Specialized Section adopted the report of the session on the basis of a draft prepared by the secretariat.

Annex 1: Prototype for a Two-Day Training Course for Seed Potato Certification

Introduction: The development of a prototype training course is considered important by the Specialized Section to support the implementation of the Standard.

Aim: To promote the Standard for international trade in seed potatoes and to encourage its implementation.

Target Groups: All those potentially interested in using the Standard including: officials, professionals in the field, National Certification Authorities, regional organizations, importers and exporters.

Outline of the programme

1. Introduction:

- The role of UNECE in the standardization of trade
- Elements of international trade (WTO, IPPC, Cartagena Protocol)

2. Seed Production and Marketing

- Background to the genetics of potatoes, variety registration, plant breeders rights
- Elements of seed production (maintenance, multiplication, grading and packing)
- Epidemiology of potato diseases as related to seed potato production and certification
- Role of seed certification

3. Standards for certifications

- UNECE Standard on seed potatoes
- Overview of other phytosanitary organizations and schemes
- Examples of national schemes.

Trainer requirements:

- Should have expertise covering the situation in different countries.
- For optimum training, four trainers are required to cover the different aspects of seed potato certification.

Annex 2: Replies to the questionnaire

The following questions were sent by the secretariat to all UNECE members and other countries presumed to have an interest in seed potato certification:

- (1) **Checking of the compilation on National Certification Schemes - additional replies**
- (2) **Information concerning the national designated authority (NDA)**

Which in your country is/are the organization(s), agency/agencies for:

- (i) Application of the UNECE Standard, its implementation. (para 4.2 Introduction)
 - (ii) Designation of varieties acceptable for certification. (Chapter I)
 - (iii) Providing the official description of the variety and a reference sample. (Chapter II)
 - (iv) Official certification. (Chapter I, annexes V, VII)
 - (v) Official sampling. (Annex VI, point II.2)
-
- (3) **Information on the national catalogue of potato varieties**

The secretariat received the following replies:

Country	Corrections to NCS	NDA	National Catalogue
Belgium	Yes	<p>Ministerie van de Vlaamse Gemeenschap Administratie Beheer en Kwaliteit Landbouwproductie Dienst Normering en Controle Plantaardige Productie Simon Bolivarlaan 30 - 12° verd - B - 1000 BRUSSEL</p> <p>Ministère de la Région wallonne Direction générale de l'Agriculture Division de la Recherche, du Développement et de la Qualité Direction de la Qualité des produits Chaussée de Louvain 14 - bâtiment "Place" - B - 5000 NAMUR</p> <p><u>nirmala.plasman@diplobel.be</u></p>	No website but available from the NDA in electronic format.
Finland	no	<p>Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MMM) has authorized Plant Production Inspection Centre (KTTK) Seed Testing Department to do the official certification and sampling of seeds and seed potatoes</p> <p><u>hanna.kortemaa@mmm.fi</u></p>	The national variety list available only in paper format not on the website.
Italy	no	<p>(i) ENSE (Ente Nazionale Sementi Elette) except Bolzano Province. In the Bolzano Province: "Assessorato dell'Agricoltura – Ufficio frutti viticoltura Servizio Fitosanitario"</p> <p>(ii) Ministero delle Politiche Agricole – Dipartimento della Qualità dei prodotti agroalimentari e dei servizi – Direzione Generale per la qualità dei prodotti agroalimentari e la tutela del Consumatore – Ufficio QTC – Servizio Sementi.</p> <p>(iii) ENSE (iv) see (i) (v) see (i)</p>	www.politicheagricole.it/mipa/banchedati/mnuRVV.htm

Country	Corrections to NCS	NDA	National Catalogue
Mexico	yes	National Seed Inspection And Certification Service (SNICS) Av. Presidente Juárez núm. 13 Col. El Cortijo, C.P. 54000 Tlalnepantla, México	not received
Slovakia	yes	Central Controlling and Testing Institute in Agriculture) Matúškova 21 833 16 Bratislava Slovak Republic h.majdekova@uksup.sk	http://www.zbierka.sk/periodika.asp?pr=11&id=872# http://www.uksup.sk/main.php?dir=struktu&file=oos These two websites contain information on National Catalogue of Registered Varieties (first link) and second one contains information on Variety Testing Department of Central Control and Testing Institute in Agriculture.
Switzerland	yes	Swiss Federal Office for Agriculture Swiss Seed and Plant Service Mattenhofstr. 5 CH-3003 Bern Phone: +41 31 322 2550 Fax: +41 31 322 2634 lukas.barth@blw.admin.ch	http://www.admin.ch/ch/d/sr/c/916_151_6.html

Annex 3: PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE THIRTY-SIXTH SESSION*

to be held in the Palais des Nations, Geneva,
commencing at 10.00 hrs on Monday, 20 March 2006

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|-----|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. | Adoption of the agenda | TRADE/WP.7/GE.6/2006/1 |
| 2. | Matters of interest since the last session | TRADE/WP.7/GE.6/2006/2 |
| 3. | Information on the results of the meetings of the bureau | TRADE/WP.7/GE.6/2006/3 (Report Rostock) |
| 4. | Review of the UNECE Standard for Seed Potatoes | |
| | (a) Concept of direct progeny | TRADE/WP.7/GE.6/2006/4 |
| | (b) Reference to the UNECE standard on the label | TRADE/WP.7/GE.6/2006/5 |
| | (c) Further development of Annex VIII: Images for common scab/ netted scab | TRADE/WP.7/GE.6/2006/6 (Germany) |
| | (d) Paper on distribution of tomato spotted wilt virus | TRADE/WP.7/GE.6/2006/7 (United Kingdom) |
| | (e) Discussion on annex VI (comparative trials) | TRADE/WP.7/GE.6/2006/8 |
| | (f) Homogeneity/size of the lot | TRADE/WP.7/GE.6/2006/9 (Canada, United States, France) |
| 5. | Arbitration rules/ dispute settlement | TRADE/WP.7/GE.6/2006/10 (France) |
| | Exchange of practices for taking samples for tuber inspection | |
| 6. | The concept of LMO's in the Standard | TRADE/WP.7/GE.6/2006/11 (Russian Federation, Italy) |
| 7. | Superficial necrosis caused by virus (PTNRD) | TRADE/WP.7/GE.6/2006/12 (France) |
| 8. | Further development of the pest list and mentioning of standard test methods | |
| 9. | Prototype training course for seed potato certification; discussion on funding and implementation | |
| 10. | Development of promotional material on the UNECE Standard for Seed Potatoes | |
| 11. | Information collected by the secretariat on National catalogues and Designated authorities | |
| 12. | Implementation of the standard (in the light of regular changes) | |
| 13. | Next meetings and future work | |
| 14. | Preparation of the next session of the Working Party on Agricultural Quality Standards | |
| 15. | Other business | |
| 16. | Election of officers | |
| 17. | Adoption of the report | |