



**Economic and Social
Council**

Distr.
GENERAL

TRADE/WP.7/GE.6/2004/1
18 December 2004

ORIGINAL : ENGLISH

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

COMMITTEE FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY AND
ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT

Working Party on Agricultural Quality Standards

Specialized Section on Standardization of
Seed Potatoes

22 to 24 March 2004, Geneva

PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE THIRTY-FOURTH SESSION

to be held in the Palais des Nations, Geneva,
commencing at 10.00 hrs on Monday, 22nd March 2004

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|-----|---|---|
| 1. | Adoption of the agenda | TRADE/WP.7/GE.6/2004/1 |
| 2. | Matters of interest since the thirty-third session
From | TRADE/WP.7/GE.6/2004/2 |
| | - Working Party on Agricultural Quality
Standards | |
| | - Committee for trade, Industry and
Enterprise Development | |
| | - European Union | |
| | - OECD, WTO, NAPPO, EPPO | |
| 3. | Information on the results of the meetings of the
bureau | TRADE/WP.7/GE.6/2004/2 |
| 4. | Review of the UNECE Standard for Seed
Potatoes | The updated version of the standard is
available on the Internet only at:

http://www.unece.org/trade/agr/standard/potatoes/pot_e.htm |
| (a) | Proposal for a paragraph on IPPC for the
introduction | TRADE/WP.7/GE.6/2004/3 (France) |

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| (b) | Proposal for destination tolerances | TRADE/WP.7/GE.6/2004/4 (Netherlands, United Kingdom and the United States) |
| (c) | Inclusion of provisions for shrivelled tubers (Annex III) | TRADE/WP.7/GE.6/2004/5 (Netherlands, United Kingdom) |
| (d) | Further development of Annex VIII: Images for common scab | TRADE/WP.7/GE.6/2004/6 (France) |
| (e) | Clarification of the definition of viruses in the glossary;
Amendment to annexes II and III | TRADE/WP.7/GE.6/2004/7 (Germany) |
| (f) | Proposals concerning sizing and presentation | TRADE/WP.7/GE.6/2004/8 (Netherlands) |
| (g) | Paper on consistency of the use of the term National designated authority | TRADE/WP.7/GE.6/2004/9 (Italy) |
| 5. | Recommended best handling practices | TRADE/WP.7/GE.6/2004/10 Discussion paper (Canada) |
| 6. | The concept of LMO's in the Standard | TRADE/WP.7/GE.6/2004/11 (Italy, Switzerland) |
| 7. | Superficial necrosis caused by virus (PTNRD) | TRADE/WP.7/GE.6/2004/12 Discussion paper (France, Netherlands, United Kingdom) |
| 8. | Further development of the pest list and mentioning of standard test methods | TRADE/WP.7/GE.6/2004/13 (United Kingdom, France) |
| 9. | Prototype training course for seed potato certification | TRADE/WP.7/GE.6/2004/14 (Italy) |
| 10. | Information on national catalogues on the web site | |
| 11. | Concept paper on Mop Top and Tobacco Rattle | TRADE/WP.7/GE.6/2004/15 (France) |
| 12. | Next meetings and future work | |
| 13. | Preparation of the 60 th session of the Working Party on Standardization of Perishable Produce and Quality Development | |
| 14. | Other business | |
| 15. | Election of officers | |
| 16. | Adoption of the report | |

PROPOSED TIME TABLE

22	March	10.00 – 13.00	Items 1 – 4
		15.00 – 18.00	Item 4
23	March	10.00 – 13.00	Items 5 – 10
		15.00 – 18.00	Items 10 - 15
24	March	10.00 - 13.00	Item 16

ANNOTATIONS

1. Adoption of the agenda

Document for this session: TRADE/WP.7/GE.6/2004/1

According to the Commission's Rules of Procedure, the first item on the provisional agenda is the adoption of the agenda.

2. Matters of interest since the thirty-third session

Document for this session: TRADE/WP.7/GE.6/2004/2

The Specialized Section will be informed on the work of the:

- Working Party on Agricultural Quality Standards
- Committee for Trade, Industry and Enterprise Development
- European Union
- OECD, FAO, NAPPO, EPPO

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

Document for this session: TRADE/WP.7/GE.6/2004/2

This document contains a summary of the extended bureau meeting held in Edinburgh (7 to 10 October 2003).

4. Review of the UNECE Standard for Seed Potatoes

The new version of the standard is available on the Internet only at:
http://www.unece.org/trade/agr/standard/potatoes/pot_e.htm

(a) Proposal for a paragraph on IPPC for the introduction

Document for this session: TRADE/WP.7/GE.6/2004/3 (France)

The delegation of France suggested to include a paragraph on IPPC in the introduction of the standard.

(b) Proposal for destination tolerances

Document for this session: TRADE/WP.7/GE.6/2004/4 (Netherlands, United Kingdom and the United States)

In the paper proposals are made for the inclusion of destination tolerances in the standard for progressive diseases.

(c) Inclusion of provisions for shrivelled tubers (Annex III)

Document for this session: TRADE/WP.7/GE.6/2004/5 (Netherlands, United Kingdom)

Different diseases can cause shrivelling of tubers which in turn leads to a loss of seed vigour. In the document it is proposed to introduce a specific tolerance for shrivelled tubers into the Standard.

(d) Further development of Annex VIII: Images for common scab

Document for this session: TRADE/WP.7/GE.6/2004/6 (France)

The delegation of France is expected to present a new graphic representation of tubers affected by common scab similar to the ones already included for rhizoctonia.

(e) Clarification of the definition of viruses in the glossary;

Amendments to annexes II and III

Document for this session: TRADE/WP.7/GE.6/2004/7 (Germany)

In the paper Germany proposes possible amendments to annexes II, III and VII of the standard as a result of discussions on the pest list.

(f) Proposals concerning sizing and presentation

Document for this session: TRADE/WP.7/GE.6/2004/8 (Netherlands)

At the bureau meeting in Edinburgh proposals to harmonize the UNECE Standard with the EU directive were developed. Further proposals on sizing and presentation are expected from the Netherlands.

(g) Paper on consistency of the use of the term National designated authority.

Document for this session: TRADE/WP.7/GE.6/2004/9 (Italy)

A document is expected from Italy proposing to harmonize the use of the term “national designated authority” in the standard.

5. Recommended best handling practices

Document for this session: TRADE/WP.7/GE.6/2004/10 (Canada)

A discussion paper is expected from Canada concerning best handling practices with the goal to reduce tuber rots.

6. The concept of LMO's in the Standard

Document for this session: TRADE/WP.7/GE.6/2004/11 (Italy, Switzerland)

Italy and Switzerland will present the concept of LMO (living modified organisms) as defined in the Cartagena protocol on biosafety.

7. Superficial necrosis caused by virus (PTNRD)

Document for this session: TRADE/WP.7/GE.6/2004/12 (France, Netherlands, United Kingdom)

The document outlines the occurrence and biology of the virus PVY^{NTN} and examines possible constraints in applying potential quality measures within the context of the UNECE standard.

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

Document for this session: TRADE/WP.7/GE.6/2004/13 (United Kingdom, France)

The document contains the list of diseases and pests as amended in the extended bureau meeting in Edinburgh.

9. Prototype training course for seed potato certification

Document for this session: TRADE/WP.7/GE.6/2004/14 (Italy)

A proposal for an outline of the training course will be prepared by Italy.

10. Information on national catalogues on the web site

11. Concept paper on Mop Top and Tobacco Rattle

Document for this session: TRADE/WP.7/GE.6/2004/15 (France)

A concept paper on Mop Top and Tobacco Rattle is expected from France.

12. Next meetings and future work

The Specialized Section will be informed about plans for meetings of the extended bureau. The next meeting of the Specialized Section has been scheduled tentatively to take place from 2 to 4 May 2005.

13. Preparation of the 60th session of the Working Party on Standardization of Perishable Produce and Quality Development

The Specialized Section is invited to decide which decisions /information should be transmitted to the annual session of the Working Party

14. Other business

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

15. Election of officers

According to the Commission's Rules of Procedure and established practice, the Specialized Section is expected to elect a Chairman and Vice-Chairman. At its thirty-third session the group elected Mr. P.G. Bianchi (Italy) as its Chairman and Mr. P. Miauton (Switzerland) as its Vice-Chairman.

16. Adoption of the report

The Specialized Section will adopt the report of its thirty-fourth 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 :

**Agricultural Standards Unit
UNECE Trade Development and Timber Division
Palais des Nations
Office 432
1211 Geneva 10
Tel: (41) 22 917 2450 Fax: (41) 22 917 0041**

or by e-mail to:

agrstandards@unece.org

Meeting documentation will be available on our homepage:

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