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**Economic Commission for Europe**

Steering Committee on Trade Capacity and Standards

**Working Party on Agricultural Quality Standards**

**Specialized Section on Standardization**

**of Seed Potatoes**

**Forty-seventh session**

Geneva, 16-17 March 2020

Item 3 of the provisional agenda

**Revision of the Standard for Seed Potatoes**

Proposal to revise the Standard for Seed Potatoes \*[[1]](#footnote-2)\*

Submitted by the secretariat

The following document was prepared by the delegation from Finland. It contains a proposed new definition in the annex of the standard on minimum conditions to be satisfied in the production of Pre-basic TC seed potatoes. Proposed changes are highlighted. Delegations are invited to review and discuss the proposed revision in view of their approval.

This document is submitted according to ECE/CTCS/2017/10 section II c, ECE/CTCS/2018/2 section VII a, and A/74/6 (Sect.20), para 20.37; and Supplementary.

Annex I

Minimum conditions to be satisfied in the production of initial stock and Pre-basic Tissue Culture (TC) seed potatoes

Micropropagation material

1. Pre-basic Tissue Culture (TC) seed potatoes must be produced from initial stock. The initial stock must have varietal identity.

2. Initial stock shall be known to be free from, at least, the following pests:

* *Clavibacter michiganensis*subsp*. sepedonicus* (ring rot)
* *Ralstonia solanacearum* (brown rot)
* *Pectobacterium* spp. and *Dickeya* spp. (syn. *Erwinia* spp.)
* *Candidatus* Liberibacter *solanacearum*
* *Candidatus* Phytoplasma *solani*
* Potato spindle tuber viroid
* Potato viruses X, Y, S, M and A
* Potato Leaf Roll Virus

3. The satisfaction of the conditions under item 2 shall be established by appropriate tests as approved by the Certification Authority (CA)

Production of Pre-basic TC seed potatoes

4. The facilities and procedures used for the production of Pre-basic TC seed potatoes may be approved by the CA.

The facilities and procedures used for the production of Pre-basic TC seed potatoes should include:

* Measures to avoid contamination from pathogens and pests, e.g. protected environment, double door entry, protective clothing, dedicated footwear or disinfection. The record-keeping system should document the source of the material and the volume of production;
* Pest-free growing medium;
* All reasonable husbandry practices for the prevention or spread of pathogens and pests.

5. The satisfaction of conditions and the tolerances prescribed for Pre-basic TC seed potatoes in annexes II, III and IV shall be established by official inspection and/or testing as approved by the CA.

1. \* Submitted on the above date to allow for finalization of proposed changes. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)