



United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)

Committee on Trade

Working Party on Agricultural Quality Standards

Specialized Section on Standardization of Fresh Fruit and Vegetables

**Summary of decisions taken at its 53rd session
(May, 2007)**

Claudio Meza



Organizational Structure

General Assembly

Economic and Social Council

Economic Commission for Europe

Committee on Trade

Working Party
on Agricultural Quality Standards



Specialized Section on Standardization of

**Fresh Fruit
and Vegetables**

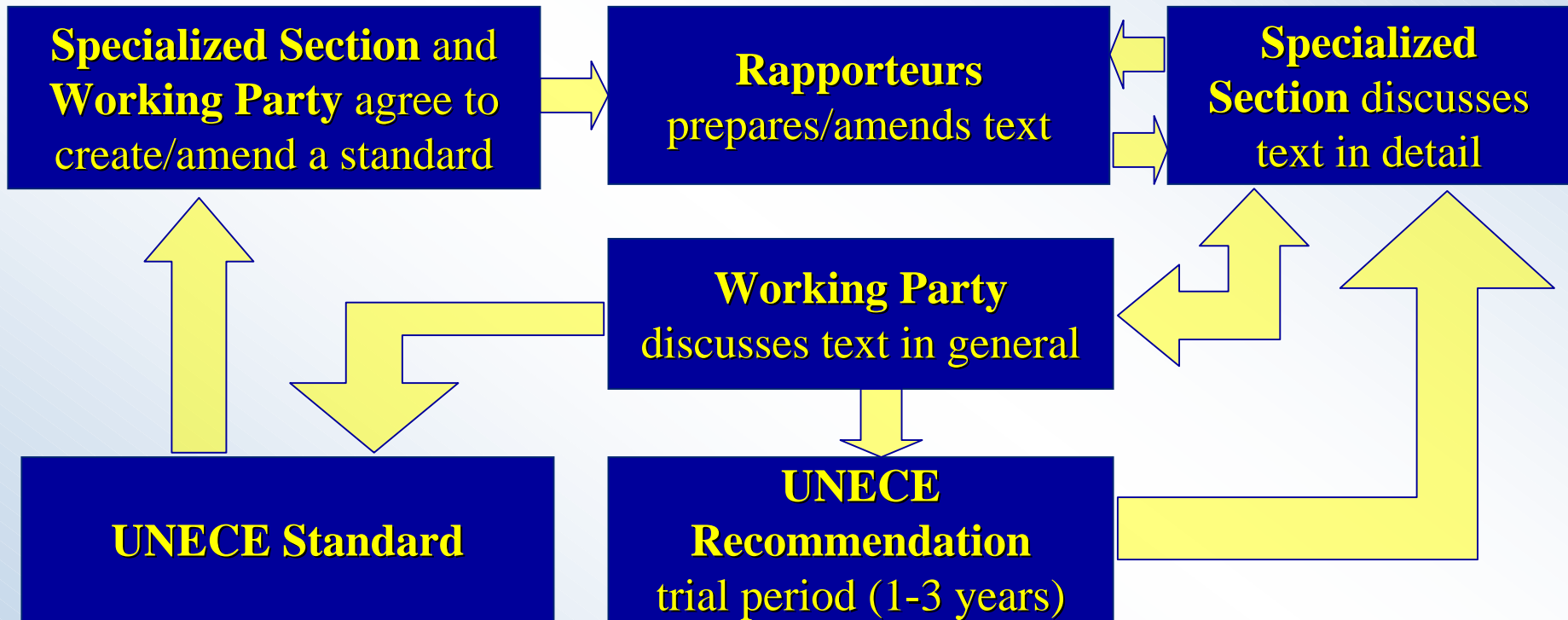
**Dry and
Dried Produce**

**Seed
Potatoes**

Meat

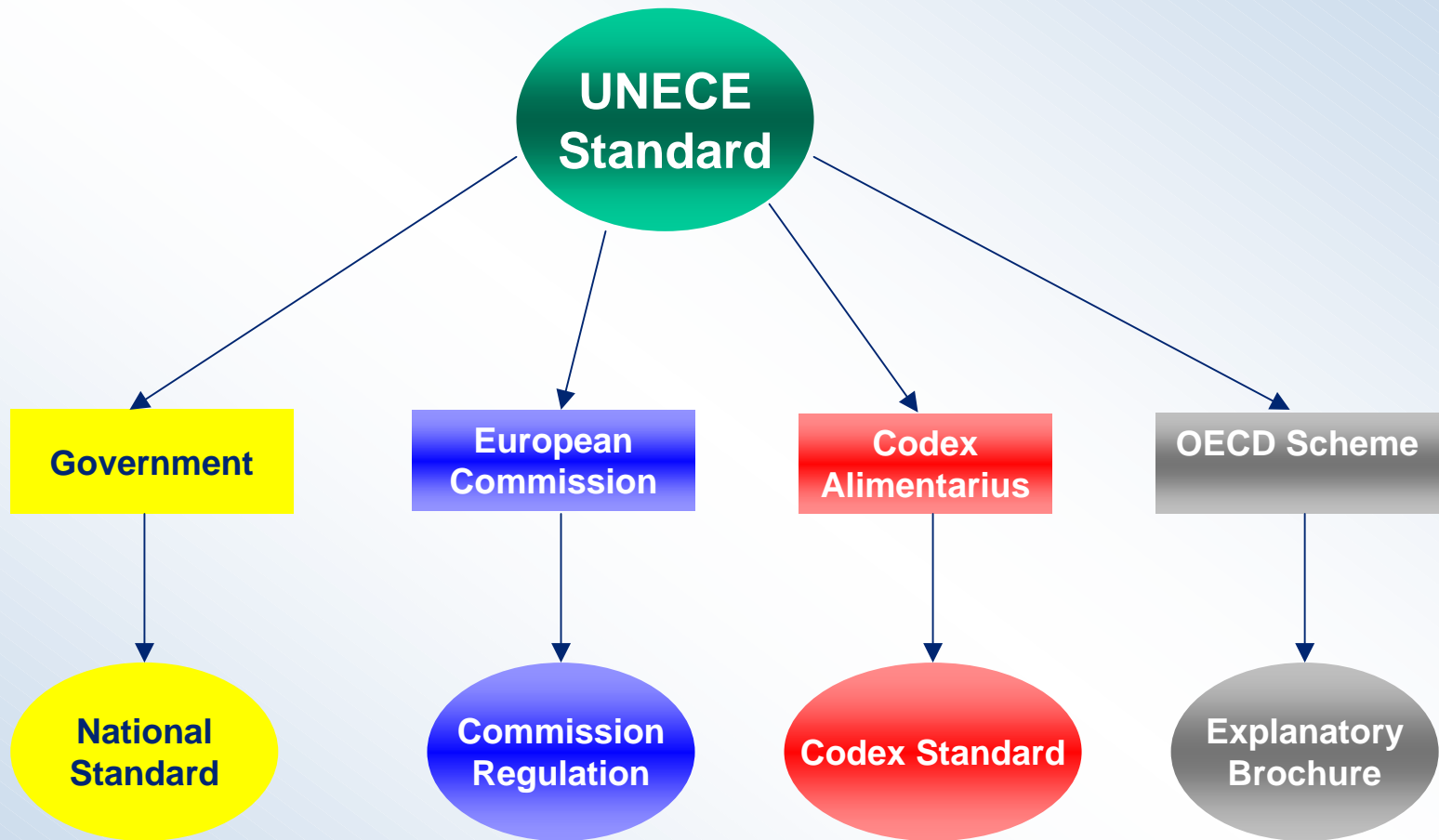


Process of developing a UNECE standard





Implementation of standards





UNECE Specialized Section on Standardization of FFV

Summary of decisions

- Revised the text of the Standard Layout of the Standards for FFV and recommended that the Working Party on Agricultural Quality Standards adopt it for a trial period of one year.
 - **Amendments concerning the point of application and provisions on tolerances and marking.**
 - **To facilitate uniform interpretation of standards and to prevent subjective terms such as “slight defects” becoming trade barriers, it was proposed to amend the Standard Layout with a table on maximum allowances for defects. Delegations decided not to include it in the Standard Layout.**
 - **The Section decided to delete the sentence “The [*produce*] must be carefully picked” from all standards.**
 - **Use of Code Marks: The labelling requirements for code marks have been amended to avoid the use of only code marks without the information required in the Standard Layout. This would make easier tracing the supplier and to comply with food safety requirements.**



UNECE Specialized Section on Standardization of FFV

Summary of decisions

- Amended texts on Cherries, Table Grapes, Ceps and Apples for approval as revised/new UNECE standards.



UNECE Specialized Section on Standardization of FFV

Summary of decisions

- Adopted revised texts on Apricots, Cucumbers and Peaches and Nectarines as recommendations for trial use until the end of 2008.



UNECE Specialized Section on Standardization of FFV

Summary of decisions

- **Early and Ware Potatoes:**

The delegation of France proposed to include two quality classes of potatoes in the Standard, reword provisions concerning minimum requirements and quality tolerances, and amend the text with two annexes describing the defects allowed in Class I and Class II for ware potatoes and for early potatoes.

The Specialized Section decided to revisit the issue of introducing quality classes in the Standard at its 2008 meeting.



UNECE Specialized Section on Standardization of FFV Summary of decisions

- The UNECE cooperation task force and the OECD exploratory task force met jointly during the meeting to advance work on concentrating activities in agricultural quality standards within UNECE.



UNECE Standards for Fresh Fruit and Vegetables



Annonas	Headed Cabbages	Garlic	Potatoes: early & ware
Apples	Carrots	Horse-radish	Radishes
Apricots	Cauliflowers	Kiwi fruit	Raspberries
Artichokes	Chinese Cabbages	Leeks	Ribbed celery
Asparagus	Cherries	Lettuce and endives	Rhubarb
Aubergines	Citrus fruit	Mangoes	Scorzonera
Avocados	Cucumbers	Melons	Spinach
Beans	Courgettes	Onions	Strawberries
Bilberries and Blueberries	Cultivated mushrooms	Peaches and Nectarines	Sweet peppers
Broccoli	Edible sweet chestnuts	Pears	Table grapes
Brussels sprouts	Fennel	Peas	Tomatoes
	Fresh figs	Pineapples	Watermelons
		Plums	Witloof chicory



UNECE Agricultural Quality Standards

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

