

Economic Commission for Europe

Steering Committee on Trade Capacity and Standards

Working Party on Agricultural Quality Standards

Specialized Section on Standardization of Fresh Fruit and Vegetables

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Item 3 (g) of the provisional agenda

Revision of UNECE standards

Revision of UNECE standards - Tomatoes

View of the delegation of Morocco on the UNECE standard for Tomatoes (FFV-36)

Following the proposed compromise of 12/01/2016, and after having consulted with our industry, we revert to you to confirm our position:

In the absence of objective reasons and arguments that support the proposed changes to the UNECE Standard for Tomatoes, 2012 edition, we believe it is appropriate to maintain the provisions of the current version; and, particularly, to maintain the four commercial types defined in the said standard. In this regard, we would like to inform you that our producers, exporters and importers of tomatoes in key export markets did not indicate any disturbances in the trade of tomatoes which would support the idea of reducing the commercial types defined in said standard. We believe that the current version which is in force has the merit of having defined the base elements of the transparent trade of this fruit vegetable.

As to the shape of cherry tomatoes, we propose that this provision be listed as optional under “Provisions concerning marking: B. Nature of Produce”, where the standard can recommend that, if the contents are not visible from the outside, the shape be mentioned in addition to what is foreseen in the current standard.
