



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****Sixty-eighth session**

Web-based, 6—8 May 2020

Item 1 of the provisional agenda

Adoption of the agenda**Provisional agenda and annotations ***

Session to be held as a Webinar on 6, 7, and 8 May (3-6 pm). Please note the slightly altered agenda with some items made available in writing only.

a) Written matters - documents posted for comments on ECE website in advance of the meeting for information

1. Electronic quality certificates for fresh fruit and vegetables. – UNECE - CEFACT secretariat to provide background document before 6 May
2. Promotion and capacity-building – UNECE Agricultural Standards secretariat to provide background document for publication before 6 May

b) Webinar

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. Matters arising since the last session:
 - (a) United Nations, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe and subsidiary bodies;
 - (b) Recent developments in other organizations.
3. Revision of standards:

Delegations will be asked to introduce their proposals. Questions and comments to the proposing country; Approval either directly in-session or after a set consultation and approval period in writing.

- (a) Citrus fruit;
- (b) Table grapes (South Africa);

* Delegates attending the meetings are encouraged to register online at <http://indico.un.org/e/wp7/ffv-68th-2020.html> or in the event of difficulties with electronic registration, contact the secretariat by e-mail (Stephen.hatem@un.org). Documents for the meeting are available online at <http://www.unece.org/trade/wp7/ffv-68th-2020.html>.

- (c) Carrots (Germany);
 - (d) Persimmons (Germany);
 - (e) Updating lists of varieties (apples, pears, plums) (Germany);
 - (f) Other standards: Beans, Headed Cabbage, Sweet Peppers (Germany)
4. Introduction to the proposals: Standard Layout for United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Standards for Fresh Fruit and Vegetables
- (a) Proposal by the delegation from Germany to amend the Standard Layout for UNECE standards on fresh fruit and vegetables
 - (b) Proposal by the delegation from the United Kingdom to amend the tolerances for quality and size within Class II
 - (c) Discussion paper submitted by the delegation from the Netherlands on the proposal to increase the total tolerance allowed within Class II tolerances
5. Introduction to the proposals: Sustainable Development Goal 12 and sustainable practices: food loss and food waste
- Minimum marketing quality guidelines -written comments (Germany)
- Update by secretariat
6. Introduction to the proposals: Code mark registry. (Germany)
7. Other business.
8. Future work.
9. Election of officers.
10. Adoption of the report.

II. Annotations

a) Written matters - documents posted for comments on ECE website in advance of the meeting for information

1. Electronic quality certificates for fresh fruit and vegetables (summary report available on UNECE website)

The UN/CEFACT secretariat will update the Specialized Section on the electronic quality certificate and the collaboration with the relevant group of the United Nations Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business (UN/CEFACT).

2. Promotion and capacity-building (summary report available on UNECE website)

The secretariat will provide information about their promotional and capacity-building activities and preview upcoming events and training.

b) Webinar

1. Adoption of the agenda

The delegations will adopt the agenda virtually.

Documentation: Annotated provisional agenda (ECE/CTCS/WP.7/GE.1/2020/1/RevWeb) based on (ECE/CTCS/WP.7/GE.1/2020/1)

2. Matters arising since the last session

(a) United Nations, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe and subsidiary bodies

The secretariat will present recent matters arising from the United Nations, the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), the Steering Committee on Trade Capacity and Standards and the Working Party on Agricultural Quality Standards (WP.7) having an impact on the work of the Specialized Section.

Documentation: Report of the seventy-fifth session of the Working Party on Agricultural Quality Standards (ECE/CTCS/WP.7/2019/2)

(b) Recent developments in other organizations

Representatives of other organizations and country delegations will inform the Specialized Section about activities taking place in their agencies that are of relevance to the work of the Specialized Section.

3. Revision of standards

Delegations will be asked to introduce their proposals. Questions and comments to the proposing country; Approval either directly in-session or after a set consultation and approval period in writing.

(a) Citrus fruit

The Specialized Section is invited to review the proposed changes and continue the discussions on outstanding issues in view of a possible approval.

Documentation: Revised Standard for Citrus Fruit
(ECE/CTCS/WP.7/GE.1/2020/3)

UNECE Standard for Citrus Fruit (FFV-14)

(b) Table grapes

At its 2019 session, the Specialized Section decided to postpone to the 2020 further revisions. The Specialized Section is invited to review and discuss the proposals.

Documentation: Proposals by the delegation of South Africa - Standard for Table Grapes
(ECE/CTCS/WP.7/GE.1/2020/4)

UNECE Standard for Table Grapes (FFV-19)

(c) Carrots

The Specialized Section is invited to review the proposal by the German delegation.

Documentation: Proposal by the delegation of Germany - Standard for Carrots
(ECE/CTCS/WP.7/GE.1/2020/5)

UNECE Standard for Carrots (FFV-10)

(d) Persimmons

The Specialized Section is invited to review the proposal by the German delegation.

Documentation: Proposal by the delegation of Germany - Standard for Persimmons
(ECE/CTCS/WP.7/GE.1/2020/6)

UNECE Standard for Persimmons (FFV-63)

(e) Updating lists of varieties (apples, pears, plums)

The Specialized Section is invited to review the proposal by the German delegation.

Documentation: Proposal by the delegation of Germany - Updating lists of varieties (apples, pears, plums) (ECE/CTCS/WP.7/GE.1/2020/8)
UNECE Standard for Apples (FFV-50)
UNECE Standard for Pears (FFV-51)
UNECE Standard for Plums (FFV-29)

(f) Other standards

Following the requests for revisions from delegations, the Specialized Section will review the following standards: Beans, Headed Cabbage, Sweet Peppers

Documentation: Proposals to amend UNECE standards (ECE/CTCS/WP.7/GE.1/2020/9)

4. Standard Layout for United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Standards for Fresh Fruit and Vegetables

The Specialized Section is invited to continue the review of the Standard Layout and discuss proposed topics including, among others, increasing the total tolerance allowed within Class II tolerances; uniformity in size when size is done by count as well as the use of size indication (metric/imperial).

Documentation: Proposal by the delegation from Germany to amend the Standard Layout for UNECE standards on fresh fruit and vegetables (ECE/CTCS/WP.7/GE.1/2020/10)

Proposal by the delegation from the United Kingdom to amend the tolerances for quality and size within Class II (ECE/CTCS/WP.7/GE.1/2020/11)

Discussion paper submitted by the delegation from the Netherlands on the proposal to increase the total tolerance allowed within Class II tolerances (ECE/CTCS/WP.7/GE.1/2020/12)

Reference: Standard Layout for UNECE standards on fresh fruit and vegetables (2017) - <http://www.unece.org/trade/agr/standard/fresh/ffv-standardse.html>

5. Sustainable Development Goal 12 and sustainable practices: food loss and food waste

Under the topic of Sustainable Development Goal 12, the leader of the working group (Germany) will present the revised draft minimum marketing quality guidelines for review and discussion by the Specialized Section.

The Specialized Section is also invited to discuss a proposal to add provisions to the adopted UNECE Code of Good Practice to help guide and ensure quality along the marketing and supply chain in lesser developed countries.

The secretariat will provide an update of activities related to the work of the Working Party and the secretariat on food loss and waste.

The delegation from the Netherlands will introduce for discussion the topic of possible involvement of retail/supermarket organizations at the international level in the debate on lowering requirements (often stricter than public and others) and reducing food loss and waste.

Documentation: Minimum marketing quality guidelines (ECE/CTCS/WP.7/GE.1/2020/13)
Code of good practice (ECE/CTCS/WP.7/GE.1/2020/14)

Simply Measuring - quantifying food loss and waste: UNECE food loss and waste measuring methodology for fresh produce supply chains (ECE/CTCS/WP.7/GE.1/2020/15)

6. Code mark registry

The Specialized Section is invited to exchange views on and experiences with the UNECE code mark registry.

7. Other business

Any other issues of interest for the work of the Specialized Section can be discussed under this agenda item.

8. Future work

The Specialized Section will discuss its future work.

9. Election of officers

The Specialized Section will elect a Chair and Vice-Chair. At its sixty-seventh session, it elected Ms. Ulrike Bickelmann (Germany) as Chair and Mr. Cyril Julius (South Africa) as Vice-Chair.

10. Adoption of the report

The Specialized Section will **adopt the report of the session in a written procedure after the virtual meeting** (to be issued as ECE/CTCS/WP.7/GE.1/2020/2).
