

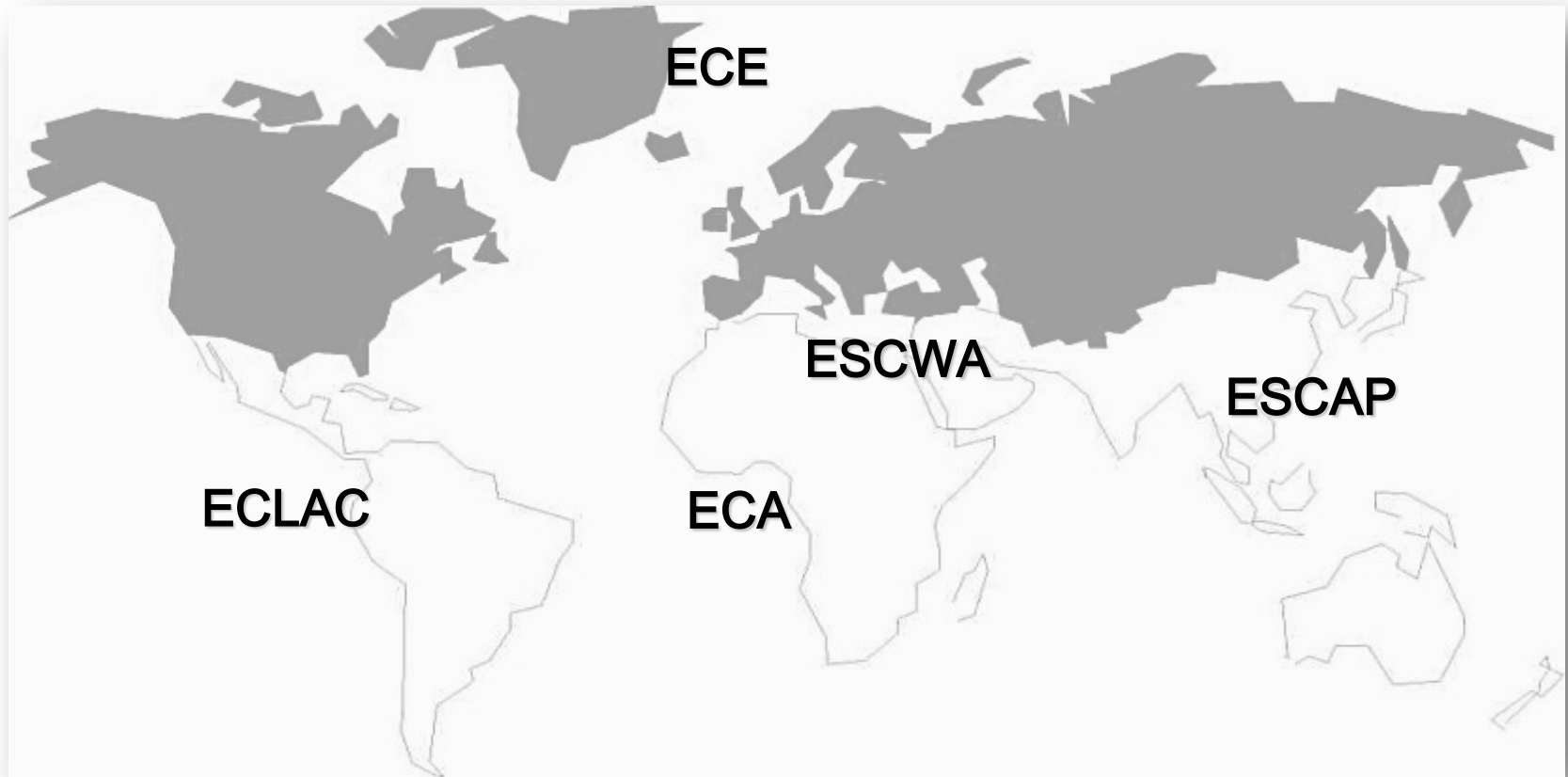


UNECE commercial quality standards for nuts and dried produce

Liliana Annovazzi-Jakab
Izmir, Turkey, July 2015



Five Regional Commissions of the United Nations



UNECE is the only Regional Commission to develop agricultural quality standards

All UN Member states participate in the work





UNECE

Quality for trade since 1949

**Working Party on
Agricultural Quality
Standards**

Four Specialized Sections:

- Fresh Fruit and Vegetables (58 standards; Explanatory brochures for Sweet Peppers, Pineapples, Chilli Peppers)
- Dry and Dried Produce (28 standards; Explanatory brochures for Whole Dried Chilli Peppers and Walnuts)
- Seed Potatoes (1 standard)
- Meat (16 standards, plus 2 egg standards)

UNECE Agricultural Quality Standards

United Nations General Assembly

United Nations Economic and Social Council

United Nations ECE
(and all other Regional Commissions)

UNECE Committee on Trade

**UNECE Working Party of Agricultural Quality Standards
(WP.7)**



UNECE Specialized Sections

Fresh Fruit and
vegetables

Dry and dried
Produce

Seed
potatoes

Meat

HOW WE DEVELOP STANDARDS:

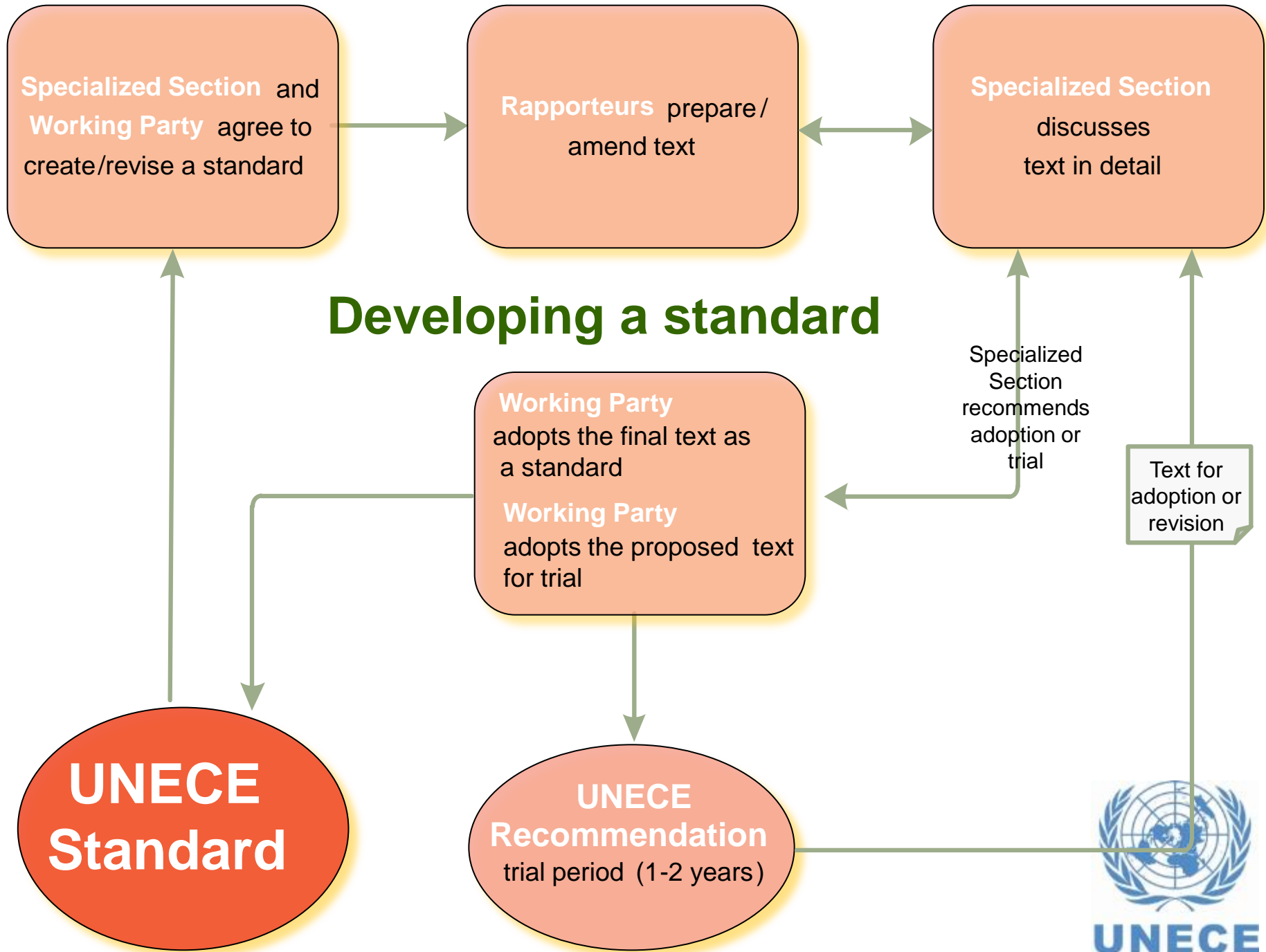
Demand-driven, inclusive and open development and adoption process

- **All UN member countries participate with the same rights**
- **Input comes from all parties involved** (public and private; producing and importing countries) at all stages (development and evaluation before standards are adopted).
- **Cooperation with all other international organizations** (such as FAO, OECD, EU) and NGOs (observers)

Flexible, inter-active, responsive process (revisions when needed)

- **Standards are adapted** to reflect emerging new varieties or changing producing, marketing, trading and regulatory conditions
- Standards can be **revised at any moment per request**
- Decisions are taken on a **consensus basis**





The Scope of UNECE standards

UNECE Standards have a **simple structure** with **produce –specific tolerances**

Since 2002 new Standard Format (aim: ALIGN all standards)

SCOPE:

Standards apply to produce **intended for direct consumption** or for food when intended to be mixed with other products for direct consumption without further processing. **NOT to produce for industrial processing.**

PURPOSE:

define the quality requirements at the export-control stage, after preparation and packaging.



UNECE's cooperation partners

- Cooperates extensively with many international governmental organizations (such as OECD, Codex, FAO, EU) and NGOs
- Works with professional organizations and the private sector

UNECE draft standards go through an important trial phase and consultative process

Result:

- Including industry concerns helps develop standards that reflect trading practices, rather than normative ideals of what the product requirements should be.
- Increased use of standards by industry

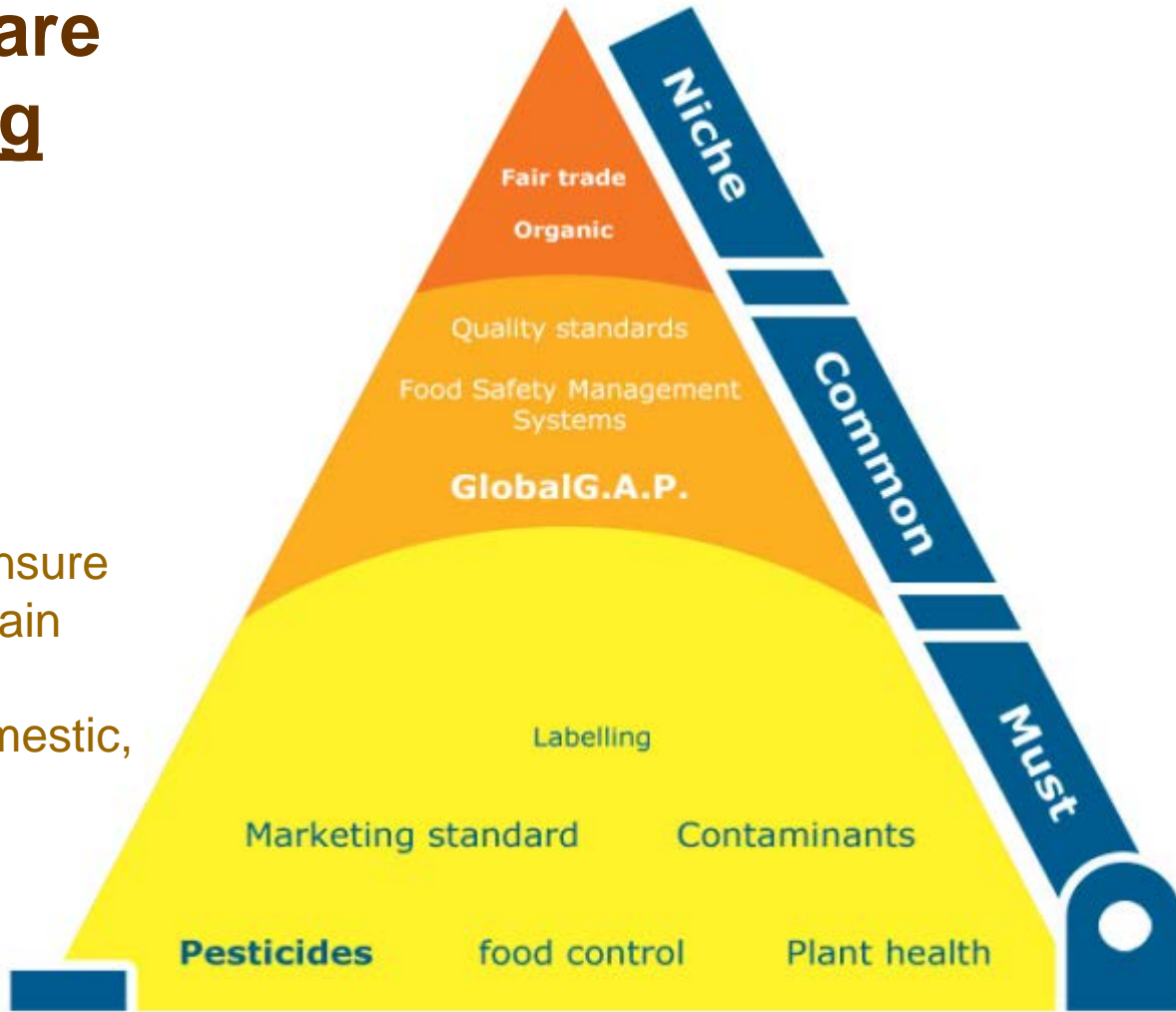


UNECE standards are voluntary marketing standards for international trade

incorporated into national legislation

- As export requirements to ensure that the produce have a certain quality level
- As a requirement for the domestic, export and import markets

incorporated into commercial contracts



UNECE DRY AND DRIED PRODUCE Standards (28)



Product	Published/Last revised REVISION SCHEDULE
Standard Layout	2011
Almonds, inshell	2007
Almond kernels, blanched	2009
Almond kernels	1986/2003
Apples, dried	998/2012
Apricots, dried	1996
Brazil nuts, inshell	2013
Brazil nut kernels	2013
Cashew kernels	1999/2013
Chilli peppers, whole dried	2013
Dates	1987/2010
Figs, dried	1996/2004
Grapes, dried	1992
Hazelnut kernels	2010
Hazelnuts, inshell	1970/2007
Macadamia kernels	2011
Macadamia nuts, inshell	2010
Mangoes, dried	2013
Peaches, dried	2008
Pears, dried	1996/2012
Pineapples, dried	2014
Pine nut kernels	1993/2013
Pistachio kernels and peeled pistachio kernels	2010
Pistachio nuts, inshell	1990/2004
Prunes	1988/2003
Tomatoes, dried	2007
Walnut kernels	1983/2001
Walnuts, inshell	1970/2002/2013

**UNECE
STANDARD**

Implementing UNECE Standards

GOVERNMENT

EU

**FAO/WHO
Codex
Alimentarius**

OECD

**PRIVATE
SECTOR**

**National
Standard**

**EU
Regulation**

**Codex
Standard**

**Explanatory
Brochures**

**Reference in
Contracts**



Production, export and standards





Arrival at destination, inspection (import), and standards





**Over the years UNECE
has evolved into a
platform
for the development of
agreed trading
language/standards for
global trade in
agricultural produce**



CHALLENGES

Today, the UNECE, national, regional, international regulators and the private sector have to:

- take into account **new import and export markets** beyond the traditional
- Deal with **more, and diverse players, more complex international supply chains** and retailers that operate globally
- **Address concerns of consumers** about the origin of their food, its safety and quality



UNECE's approach:

WIDER SCOPE

UNECE has become networking platform linking experts and expertise from different areas:

trade facilitation; electronic business; risk management and risk assessment; environmental concerns; supply chain management; transport issues; promotion and capacity-building.

AIM: increase competitiveness, inclusive sustainable development, link issues and actors and create jobs

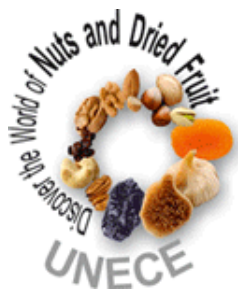


Examples – WIDENING THE SCOPE:

New capacity-building projects, guides, assessment studies, policy advise and train-the trainer seminars

- “Information management in agrifood chains for trade facilitation”
- “Participation in cross-border agricultural food supply chains”
 - Scheduled events:
 - Training material (with ESCAP, FAO, OECD, ITC, national authorities)
 - Workshops Individual country focus (trade facilitation and agri-food roadmap)





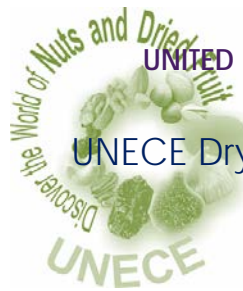
PROMOTING THE WORK OF THE UNECE

Specialized Section on Dry and Dried Produce - 2013



PROMOTING THE WORK OF THE UNECE Specialized Section on Dry and Dried Produce

Lectures on nutrition and health benefits; production and processing



UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

UNECE Dry and Dried Produce Standards in International Trade

Go nuts for health

Nuts, nutrition and health

18 June 2013

14:00

Salle VIII



Prof. Jordi Salas-Salvadó,

Director, Human Nutrition Unit,

Rovira i Virgili University, Reus,

Spain



UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

UNECE Dry and Dried Produce Standards in International Trade



From trees to your table

Behind the scenes – production, science and processing

19 June 2013

14:00

Salle VIII



Mr. Sam Keiper

Dried Fruit Association California, USA

Mr. Lothar Boers

Eurofins Laboratories, Germany





Dried Fruit and Nuts Expo UNECE Commission session April 2015





Dried Fruit and Nuts Expo UNECE Commission session April 2015





Dried Fruit and Nuts Expo April 2015

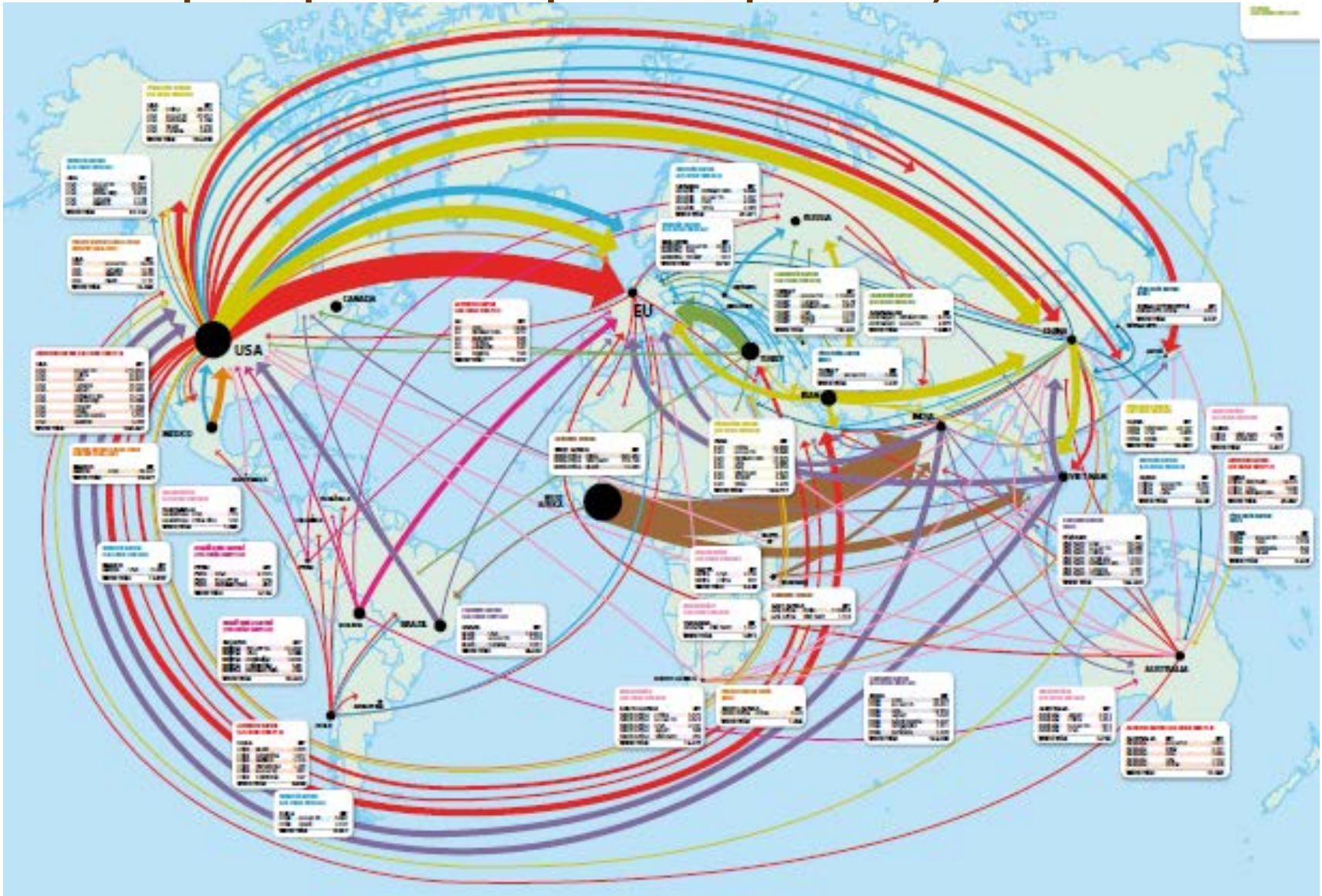


UNECE standards are recommendations used on a **voluntary** basis to make trading easier.

UNECE standards for Dry and Dried Produce have become standards for use in international trade



United Nations Economic Commission for Europe UNECE covers the largest dried fruit and nut market in the world (based on per capita consumption & expenditure) source INC



Global nature of trade in nuts and dried fruit require standards reflecting this

UNECE's strengths

- simple structure of UNECE standards,
- open development and adoption process
- many years of experience (close to 30 standards)
- large pool of international experts (public and private sector)
- strong public and private sector support and use



THANK YOU



Liliana
Annovazzi-
Jakab

[liliana.annovazzi-
jakab@unece.org](mailto:liliana.annovazzi-jakab@unece.org)