

# Potato Certification Service South Africa

## UNECE Bureau and Rapporteurs Meeting on Seed Potatoes

Kimberly, South Africa, 15, 17 and 18 March 2016

### Draft agenda, and observations

#### I. Draft agenda

1. Specialized Section Publications:
  - (a) Guide to Seed Potato Tuber Inspection
  - (b) Guide to Operating a Seed Potato Certification Service
2. Risk-based inspections
3. Sample sizes
4. True Potato Seed
5. Promotion of the Standard, and capacity-building activities
6. Specialized Section's website
7. PCR techniques for virus testing
8. Future work and other business

#### II. Observations

##### 1. Specialized Section Publications

The Bureau and Rapporteurs are invited to continue the review of:

- the draft UNECE Guide to Seed Potato Tuber Inspection, planned to be issued during 2016.
- the draft Guide to Operating a Seed Potato Certification Service, planned to be issued during 2016.

*Documentation:* Draft Guide to Seed Potato Tuber Inspection

*Documentation:* Draft Guide to Operating a Certification Service

##### 2. Risk-based inspections

The Bureau and Rapporteurs will discuss further work on risk-based inspections, a topic which had been introduced by the delegation of the Netherlands at the October 2014 session of the Specialized Section on Standardization of Seed Potatoes.

### **3. Sample sizes**

Following the initial discussions at the meeting in Oulu, Finland, the Bureau and Rapporteurs are invited to continue to work on amendments to the UNECE Standard for Seed Potatoes related to the size of samples that need to be taken to achieve given confidence levels for the results of field inspection and post-harvest testing.

*Background: At its 2014 session, the Specialized Section had agreed that it would be helpful to develop an indicative table on the sample size for desired confidence levels, as part of the Standard.*

### **4. True Potato Seed**

The Bureau and Rapporteurs will discuss developments in the EU on use of true potato seed for marketing of potato varieties in the commercial market.

### **5. Promotion of the Standard, and capacity-building activities**

The experts will discuss how to promote the UNECE Seed Potato Standard as well as related technical assistance and capacity-building activities.

### **6. Specialized Section's website**

The experts are invited to discuss proposals for improvements to the trilingual List of Diseases, Pests and Defects, available on the UNECE website, as well as improvements of the Specialized Section's page on the UNECE website: [www.unece.org/trade/agr/standard/potatoes/pot\\_e.html](http://www.unece.org/trade/agr/standard/potatoes/pot_e.html)

### **7. PCR techniques for virus testing**

The Bureau and Rapporteurs will discuss a proposed draft survey of current practices for virus testing.

### **8. Future work and other business**

The Bureau and Rapporteurs will discuss the 2016 meeting of the Specialized Section on Standardization of Seed Potatoes, to be held in Geneva on 31 August – 2 September 2016, as well as any other business.

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