



# Economic and Social Council

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## Economic Commission for Europe

### Steering Committee on Trade Capacity and Standards

#### Working Party on Agricultural Quality Standards

##### Specialized Section on Standardization of Seed Potatoes

##### Forty-fourth session

Geneva, 29 March (p.m.) – 31 March 2017

Item 1 of the provisional agenda

### **Provisional agenda and annotations \***

Session to be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva.

#### **I. Provisional agenda**

1. Adoption of the agenda
2. Matters arising since the last session
3. UNECE Standard for Seed Potatoes - Sampling for lots
4. Sample sizes
5. Blackleg of seed potatoes - Review of the Specialized Section's position
6. Guide on minituber production
7. Survey of potato virus testing methods
8. Survey of bacterial testing methodologies
9. Review of risk-based inspections

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\* Delegates attending the meetings are invited to register online at <https://www2.unece.org/uncdb/app/ext/meeting-registration?id=SFZdUE> or contact the secretariat either by e-mail ([Stephen.Hatem@unece.org](mailto:Stephen.Hatem@unece.org)) or by fax (+41 22 917 0629) for a registration form. Prior to the meeting, delegates are requested to present themselves, with a valid identification card/passport, at the UNOG Security (Pregny gate) to obtain the security badge (in case of a problem, please call 022 917-1514). Documents for the meeting and information will be made available online at [http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=44918#](http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=44918#/).

10. Food loss/waste – the case of seed potato certification
11. True potato seed
12. List of national certification schemes for seed potatoes
13. Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the work of the Specialized Section
14. Promotion and capacity-building – Review of the information leaflet
15. Future work
16. Other business
17. Election of officers
18. Adoption of the report

## **II. Annotations**

### **1. Adoption of the agenda**

The Specialized Section will adopt the agenda.

*Documentation:* Annotated provisional agenda (ECE/CTCS/WP.7/GE.6/2017/1)

### **2. Matters arising since the last session**

#### **(a) UN, UNECE and subsidiary bodies**

The secretariat will present matters arising from the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe and the 2016 session of the Working Party on Agricultural Quality Standards having an impact on the work of the Specialized Section. The secretariat will also update on the status of publications.

*Documentation:* Report of the Working Party (ECE/CTCS/WP.7/2016/2)

#### **(b) 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 Section.

### **3. UNECE Standard for Seed Potatoes - Sampling for lots**

The Specialized Section will review the sampling of lots and relevant provisions in the UNECE Standard for Seed Potatoes and its Annexes

*Documentation:* Amendments to the sampling provisions in the UNECE Standard for Seed Potatoes and its Annexes (ECE/CTCS/WP.7/GE.6/2017/3)

#### **4. Sample sizes**

The Specialized Section is invited to review the revised table for field inspection sample sizes to be added in Annex IX of the UNECE Standard for Seed Potatoes developed by the working group (Rapporteur - New Zealand; European Commission; United Kingdom and United States)

*Documentation:* Draft table for field inspection sample sizes (Annex IX, UNECE Standard for Seed Potatoes) (ECE/CTCS/WP.7/GE.6/2017/4)

#### **5. Blackleg of seed potatoes - Review of the Specialized Section's position**

The Specialized Section is invited to review and propose amendments to its position on Blackleg of seed potatoes which can be found on the UNECE web page: [http://www.unece.org/trade/agr/standard/potatoes/pot\\_e.html](http://www.unece.org/trade/agr/standard/potatoes/pot_e.html)

*Documentation:* Blackleg of seed potatoes – Proposals for amendments (ECE/CTCS/WP.7/GE.6/2017/5)

#### **6. Guide on minituber production**

At the 2016 Specialized Section session, delegations had been invited to send to the coordinators of this project (Australia, Netherlands, New Zealand, South Africa and the United Kingdom) existing practices and national guidelines on the certification of companies producing minitubers. The coordinators - led by Australia - will present an overview of the findings and analysis of existing practices.

*Documentation:* Overview of existing practices and national guidelines on the certification of companies producing minitubers (ECE/CTCS/WP.7/GE.6/2017/6)

#### **7. Survey on potato virus testing methods**

The Rapporteur (Finland) will present the final version of the survey for review, adoption and circulation to relevant authorities. This will, if possible, include a presentation of virus testing methods by Denmark, France, the Netherlands or Switzerland. If this cannot be arranged, the methods will be presented at the next Rapporteurs meeting.

*Documentation:* Survey on potato virus testing methods (ECE/CTCS/WP.7/GE.6/2017/7)

#### **8. Survey on bacterial testing methodologies**

The Specialized Section is invited to discuss whether they would wish to develop and conduct a survey on bacterial testing methodologies to follow on from the work on virus methods as suggested at the 2016 session.

#### **9. Review of risk-based inspections**

The delegations from Australia, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom will provide updates and information on their experiences with risk-based inspections.

## **10. Food loss/waste – the case of seed potato certification**

The Rapporteur (Italy) with input from the delegations from France, Israel, the Netherlands and the United States will present a short overview on the possible use of seed potatoes that do not meet certification requirements as well as the impact of a seed potato quality standard on the progeny and the potato production chain.

*Documentation:* Food loss/waste – the case of seed potato certification  
(ECE/CTCS/WP.7/GE.6/2017/8)

## **11. True potato seed**

The Specialized Section will continue their discussions on the latest developments in the area of true potato seed.

## **12. List of national certification schemes for seed potatoes**

The Rapporteur (Germany) will briefly present the new List of Designated Authorities available on the UNECE web page at [http://www.unece.org/trade/agr/standard/potatoes/pot\\_e.html](http://www.unece.org/trade/agr/standard/potatoes/pot_e.html)

## **13. Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the work of the Specialized Section**

The Specialized section will briefly review the mapping of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and their targets aligned to the work of seed potato certification as well as the draft poster developed by the delegation from Australia and the secretariat.

## **14. Promotion and capacity-building – Review of the information leaflet**

The Specialized Section is invited to review the draft information leaflet on UNECE's capacity-building skills/material to help countries develop their seed potato certification schemes and inspection procedures. The draft was prepared by the delegations of the Czech Republic, Finland, Germany, the United Kingdom and the United States.

*Documentation:* Draft leaflet on capacity-building skills/material  
(ECE/CTCS/WP.7/GE.6/2017/9)

## **15. Future work**

The Specialized Section will discuss its future work.

## **16. Other business**

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

**17. Election of officers**

The Specialized Section will elect a Chair and Vice-Chair. At its forty-third session, it elected Mr. John Kerr (United Kingdom) as its Chair and Ms. Hanna Korttemaa (Finland) and Mr. Nigel Crump (Australia) as its Vice-Chairs.

**18. Adoption of the report**

The Specialized Section will adopt the report of the session.

**III. Tentative timetable**

Wednesday, 29 March	15:00 - 18:00	Items 1- 5
Thursday, 30 March	10:00 - 13:00	Items 5 -8
	15:00 - 18:00	Items 9 -13
Friday, 31 March	10:00 - 13:00	Items 14 - 18