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Economic Commission for Europe

Steering Committee on Trade Capacity and Standards

Working Party on Agricultural Quality Standards

Seventy-second session

Geneva, 9-11 November 2016

Item 1 of the provisional agenda

Adoption of the agenda

Provisional agenda and annotations *

Session to be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, together with an international conference on “No time to lose on food loss – Sustainable quality and responsible production and consumption” on Thursday, 10 November 2016.**

I. Provisional agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda
2. Matters arising since the last session:
 - (a) United Nations, UNECE and subsidiary bodies
 - (b) Recent developments in other organizations
3. Specialized Section on Standardization of Seed Potatoes
4. Specialized Section on Standardization of Dry and Dried Produce
5. Specialized Section on Standardization of Fresh Fruit and Vegetables
6. Specialized Section on Standardization of Meat
7. Food waste and standards

* Delegates attending the meetings are invited to register online at <https://www2.unece.org/uncdb/app/ext/meeting-registration?id=KVEkXg> or contact the secretariat either by e-mail (Stephen.hatem@unece.org) or by fax (+41 22 917 0629) for a registration form. Documents for the meeting and information will be made available online at http://www.unece.org/wp7-2016.html#.

** Information on the conference (including the programme and logistics) will be published at http://www.unece.org/wp7-2016.html# as soon as available.

8. Traceability
9. Capacity-building and promotional activities
10. Future work
11. Other business
12. Election of officers
13. Adoption of the report

II. Annotations

1. Adoption of the agenda

The Working Party will adopt the agenda.

Documentation: Annotated provisional agenda (ECE/CTCS/WP.7/2016/1)

2. Matters arising since the last session

(a) United Nations, UNECE and subsidiary bodies

The secretariat will present developments at the United Nations, UNECE and the Steering Committee on Trade Capacity and Standards having an impact on the work of the Working Party on Agricultural Quality Standards.

(b) Recent developments in other organizations

Other organizations active in the area of agricultural quality standards will provide information about their activities.

3. Specialized Section on Standardization of Seed Potatoes

In 2016, the Specialized Section had one regular and one Rapporteurs meeting (Kimberley, South Africa) The Section submitted for adoption by the Working Party the following documents:

Documentation: Report of the forty-third session (ECE/CTCS/WP.7/GE.6/2016/2)

UNECE Standard for Seed Potatoes - amendments
(ECE/CTCS/WP.7/2016/3)

Draft Guide – Seed Potato Tuber Inspection (ECE/CTCS/WP.7/2016/4)

Draft Guide – Operating a Seed Potato Certification Service
(ECE/CTCS/WP.7/2016/5)

4. Specialized Section on Standardization of Dry and Dried Produce

The Specialized Section adopted the change in title of the UNECE Standard for Dates to the UNECE Standard for Dried Dates as requested by the 2015 session of the Working Party. In addition, the Specialized Section finalized the new explanatory brochure for walnut kernels and adopted a standard format for explanatory posters. It was also decided to continue work on the Sampling Plan for Tree Nuts and Dried Produce in conjunction with

the development of inspection guidelines for nuts and dried fruit at the 2017 session. The Specialized Sections submitted for adoption by the Working Party the following texts:

Documentation: Report of the sixty-third session (ECE/CTCS/WP.7/GE.2/2016/2)

Dried Figs (ECE/CTCS/WP.7/2016/6)

Dried Apricots (ECE/CTCS/WP.7/2016/7)

Walnut Kernels (ECE/CTCS/WP.7/2016/8)

Almond Kernels (ECE/CTCS/WP.7/2016/9)

Inshell Pistachio Nuts (ECE/CTCS/WP.7/2016/10)

Dried Grapes (ECE/CTCS/WP.7/2016/11)

Explanatory Brochure for Walnut Kernels

5. Specialized Section on Standardization of Fresh Fruit and Vegetables

The Specialized Section held one regular session this year and organized a special event in celebration of the International Year of Pulses. The Specialized Section continues its work on a new List of Citrus Fruit Varieties and the revision of the Standard Layout. The Section submitted the following texts for adoption by the Working Party:

Documentation: Report of the sixty-fourth session (ECE/CTCS/WP.7/GE.1/2016/2)

Annonas (ECE/CTCS/WP.7/2016/12)

Avocados (ECE/CTCS/WP.7/2016/13)

Sweet Chestnuts (ECE/CTCS/WP.7/2016/14)

Truffles (ECE/CTCS/WP.7/2016/15)

Leeks (ECE/CTCS/WP.7/2016/16)

Aubergines (ECE/CTCS/WP.7/2016/17)

Sweet Peppers (ECE/CTCS/WP.7/2016/18)

Chicory (ECE/CTCS/WP.7/2016/19)

Glossary of Terms (ECE/CTCS/WP.7/2016/20)

Citrus Fruit (ECE/CTCS/WP.7/2016/21)

Garlic (ECE/CTCS/WP.7/2016/22)

Headed Cabbage (ECE/CTCS/WP.7/2016/23)

Table Grapes (ECE/CTCS/WP.7/2016/24)

Apples and list of varieties (ECE/CTCS/WP.7/2016/25)

Tomatoes (ECE/CTCS/WP.7/2016/26)

6. Specialized Section on Standardization of Meat

The Specialized Section held one regular session in 2016; 1 Rapporteurs meeting on eggs and egg products (Geneva); and 2 meetings of the scientific discussion group on eating quality (Warsaw and Geneva). The Specialized Section also held its third seminar on “Meet/Meat 2016: Updates, Trends and New Developments” at its annual session in August 2016.

The Specialized Section submitted for adoption by the Working Party the following texts:

Documentation: Report of the twenty-fifth session (ECE/CTCS/WP.7/GE.11/2016/2)
Eating Quality - proposal (ECE/CTCS/WP.7/2016/27)
Eggs and Egg Products – amendments and revisions
(ECE/CTCS/WP.7/2016/28)
Deer Meat – illustrations and photos (ECE/CTCS/WP.7/2016/29)
Edible Meat Co-Products – illustrations and photos
(ECE/CTCS/WP.7/2016/30)
Retail Meat Cuts – Lamb and Veal (ECE/CTCS/WP.7/2016/31)

7. Food waste and standards

The Chairpersons of the Specialized Sections and the secretariat will inform delegations on the discussions that took place at the 2016 sessions on this subject. Delegations are invited to review the conference on food loss organized within the framework of this Working Party session and decide on further steps.

8. Traceability

The secretariat will update the Working Party on developments since the 2015 Conference on Traceability.

Documentation: Summary update on traceability (ECE/CTCS/WP.7/2016/32)

9. Capacity-building and promotional activities

The secretariat and delegations will exchange information on capacity-building, training and promotional activities that have taken place since the last session of the Working Party or are planned for the near future.

10. Future work

The Working Party will decide on its future work.

11. Other business

Delegations will be invited to take up other issues not previously addressed during the session.

12. Election of officers

The delegations will elect a Chair and Vice-Chair. At its 2015 session, the Working Party elected Mr. Pierre Schauenberg (Switzerland) as Chair and Ms. Agnieszka Sudol (Poland) as Vice-Chair.

13. Adoption of the report

The Working Party will adopt its report, which will be issued as ECE/CTCS/WP.7/2016/2.

III. Tentative timetable

Wednesday, 9 November	10:00 – 13:00	Working group meetings (no interpretation)*
	15:00 – 18:00	Items 1 to 6
Thursday, 10 November	10:00 – 13:00	Conference on food loss
	15:00 – 18:00	Conference on food loss
Friday, 11 November	10:00 – 13:00	Items 7 to 13

*At the time of writing, possible topics identified included: Nuts and dried fruit sampling plan and inspection procedures; Citrus fruit Standard – development of species-specific annexes.