



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****Seventy-first session**

Geneva, 9–11 May 2023

Item 7 (a) of the provisional agenda

Review of existing standards:**Discussion of proposals resulting from the last session****Proposal by the delegation of Spain to amend the standard
for onions****Submitted by the delegation of Spain**

The following proposal was submitted to the Specialized Section for consideration.

For reference to earlier discussions, please consult the reports of the 2021 and 2022 sessions of the Specialized Section (ECE/CTCS/WP.7/GE.1/2021/2, paragraphs 71–73, and ECE/CTCS/WP.7/GE.1/2022/2, paragraphs 42–43).

I. Proposal

Spain proposes the following changes to the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) Standard FFV-25 concerning the marketing and commercial quality control of onions.

Under section III. Provisions concerning sizing:

“Size is determined by the maximum diameter of the equatorial section.

The minimum diameter shall be 10 mm.

To ensure uniformity in size, the range in size between produce in the same package shall not exceed:

- ~~5 mm where the diameter of the smallest onion is 10 mm and over but under 20 mm. However, where the diameter of the onion is 15 mm and over but under 25 mm, the difference may be 10 mm~~
- 15 mm where the diameter of the smallest onion is ~~20 mm and over but under 40 mm~~
- 20 mm where the diameter of the smallest onion is 40 mm and over but under ~~70~~55 mm
- 30 mm where the diameter of the smallest onion is ~~70~~55 mm or over.”



II. Justification

The Spanish exporting sector of onions would like to increase the range in size between onions permitted in the same package as they have an ever-increasing demand for onions with range in size, among others, of 55 to 85 mm in the same package. This request from importers cannot currently be satisfied as the current provision in the standard does not allow that size range. Thus, Spain proposes to change the size ranges as shown above.
