



United Nations Economic Commission for Europe

International Workshop for the Customs Union countries: “Agricultural quality standards, food safety and traceability”

Moscow, Russian Federation, 24 – 26 March 2014

REPORT

The workshop was organized jointly by UNECE, Rosstandart and SUPR (Association of Consumer Market Operators).

The promotional activities over the five past years have resulted in adopting UNECE standards as national and CIS-wide standards and in their increased use in practice by wholesale and retail traders. The participants asked for more training, as well as for the translation of the OECD explanatory brochures into Russian.

Rosstandart, Kubanagrostandart, SUPR have agreed to work with each other to achieve the following goals:

- Set up a centre to provide information on quality standards and explanatory material.
 - Draw on the experience of the EU countries (e.g. Germany, Sweden, United Kingdom) to prepare a programme for training inspectors on how to apply quality standards in practice:
 - define priorities with regard to products
 - translate the OECD brochures into Russian
 - initiate the development of a new brochure, for example on the standard for cabbages, at the UNECE or OECD and contribute substantively to its development.
 - Hold two seminars a year (in autumn and spring) over the period of three years in order to consider all the standards adopted in Russia.
 - Use in practice the OECD guidelines for inspections, objective tests, risk analysis and training of inspectors (www.oecd.org/tad/fv).
 - Develop risk analysis systems and apply them in practice.
 - Draw on the experience of quality control companies, wholesale and retail traders to help inspectors form a broader view on quality requirements.
 - Explore the possibility of training of inspectors from Russia in one of the EU countries.
 - Ask UNECE to provide technical assistance in achieving these goals.
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