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**ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE**

COMMITTEE ON TRADE

Working Party on Agricultural Quality Standards

Specialized Section on Standardization of Seed Potatoes

Thirty-seventh session  
Geneva, 19 - 21 March 2007

**ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE THIRTY-SEVENTH SESSION**

To be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva,  
starting at 10:00 on Monday, 19 March 2007

**I. PROVISIONAL AGENDA**

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|---|---|
| 1. Adoption of the agenda                                   | ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/GE.6/2007/1                    |
| 2. Matters of interest since the last session               | ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/2006/20<br>ECE/TRADE/C/2006/18 |
| 3. Information on the results of the meetings of the Bureau | ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/GE.6/2007/2                    |
| 4. Review of the UNECE Standard for Seed Potatoes           | INF.1 (Informal Document)                       |

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\* Reissued for technical reasons.

- (a) Further development of Annex VIII:  
Assessment key for common and netted scab, and powdery scab
- (b) Further development of Annex VI:  
Discussion on the aim of comparative trials
- (c) Amendment of the provision concerning quality with reference to sampling and homogeneity of the lot ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/GE.6/2007/3
5. Arbitration rules/dispute settlement ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/GE.6/2007/4
6. Exchange of practices for taking samples for tuber inspection ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/GE.6/2007/5
7. Superficial necrosis caused by virus (PTNRD) ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/GE.6/2007/6
8. Images to complement the List of Diseases and Pests
9. Information on national catalogues of varieties and Designated Authorities INF.2 (Informal Document)
10. Preparation of 2007 session of Working Party 7
11. Promotion of the Standard TRADE/WP.7/GE.6/2005/11, annex 1  
ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/GE.6/2007/7
12. Future work
13. Other business
14. Election of officers
15. Adoption of the report

## II. PROPOSED TIMETABLE

Monday, 19 March 2007	10.00-13.00	Items 1 – 4
	15.00-18.00	Item 4
Tuesday, 20 March 2007	10.00-13.00	Items 5 – 7
	15.00-18.00	Items 8 – 14
Wednesday, 21 March 2007	10.00-13.00	Item 15

### III. ANNOTATIONS TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

#### 1. Adoption of the agenda

The delegations will be invited to adopt the agenda.

#### 2. Matters of interest since the last session

The Specialized Section will be informed on the work of the:

- Working Party on Agricultural Quality Standards
- Committee on Trade
- European Union
- Other international organizations

#### 3. Information on the results of the meetings of the Bureau

The Chairperson will inform the Specialized Section on the outcome of the Extended Bureau meetings held in Arras, France (document ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/GE.6/2007/2) and in Nyon, Switzerland. The report on the Arras meeting contains the proposals for amendments to the Standard and other information that will be referred to under different agenda items.

#### 4. Review of the UNECE Standard for Seed Potatoes

The 2006 version of the standard is available on:

[http://www.unece.org/trade/agr/standard/potatoes/pot\\_e.htm](http://www.unece.org/trade/agr/standard/potatoes/pot_e.htm)

The text of the standard including the changes proposed for discussion at this session is contained in an informal document (INF.1).

##### (a) Further development of Annex VIII: Assessment key for common and netted scab, and powdery scab

The Specialized Sections will discuss the assessment key for common and netted scab, and powdery scab on the basis of the new pictures selected by the bureau at its meeting in Arras.

##### (b) Further development of Annex VI: Discussion on the aim of comparative trials

The Bureau will propose the changes to the text of Annex VI for consideration by the Specialized Section.

**(c) Amendment of the provision concerning quality with reference to sampling and homogeneity of the lot**

The Bureau will present the amendments to the text of section III (D. Sampling) proposed at the meeting in Arras. The discussion will also be based on document ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/GE.6/2007/3 on homogeneity of a lot, submitted by the United Kingdom.

**5. Arbitration rules/dispute settlement**

Delegations will consider this item on the basis of the paper prepared by France and discussed by the Extended Bureau in Arras (ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/GE.6/2007/4). The Specialized Section will take into consideration the opinion expressed by WP.7 on this issue at its November 2006 session (ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/2006/20, para. 33).

**6. Exchange of practices for taking samples for tuber inspection**

National sampling practices will be summarized in document ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/GE.6/2007/5. Information for this document will be collected by means of the questionnaire prepared by the Netherlands, United Kingdom and United States, and sent out to countries in November 2006. The Specialized Section will discuss how annex III of the standard could be complemented with descriptions of generally used inspection procedures.

**7. Superficial necrosis caused by virus (PTNRD – Potato Tuber Necrotic Ringspot Disease)**

A revised paper on PVYntn by the Netherlands and United Kingdom (ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/GE.6/2007/6) will be submitted for consideration of this agenda item. The paper will be amended with the results of research on PVY carried out by INRA (L'institut national de la recherche agronomique) of France.

**8. Images to complement the List of Diseases and Pests**

The Specialized Section will discuss ways of illustrating potato diseases with images on the UNECE website. Countries and the secretariat will provide pictures to support the discussion.

**9. Information on national catalogues and Designated Authorities**

Any information received at the secretariat will be distributed at the meeting through an informal document (INF.2).

**10. Preparation of 2007 session of Working Party on Agricultural Quality Standards**

The Specialized Section will be invited to decide which decisions/information should be transmitted to the 2007 session of the Working Party, bearing in mind the recommendation expressed by the Working Party at its 2006 meeting (ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/2006/20, para. 45).

## **11. Promotion of the Standard**

Participants will discuss and decide on the programme to promote the Standard at the POTATO RUSSIA 2007 congress (ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/GE.6/2007/7). The Specialized Section will be invited to propose other promotional and capacity-building activities.

## **12. Future work**

The Specialized Section will discuss its future work.

## **13. Other business**

Any other questions of interest can be discussed under this agenda item.

## **14. Election of officers**

The Specialized Section will elect a Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson. At its thirty-sixth session the group elected Mr. Pier Giacomo Bianchi (Italy) as its Chairperson and Mr. Willem Schrage (United States of America) as its Vice-Chairperson.

## **15. Adoption of the report**

The Specialized Section will adopt the report of the session.

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### **Note**

Contributions should be sent to the secretariat either on diskette/CD-ROM by mail to:

**Agricultural Standards Unit  
UNECE Trade and Timber Division  
Palais des Nations  
Office 432  
1211 Geneva 10  
Tel: (41) 22 917 2450 Fax: (41) 22 917 0041**

Or by e-mail to:

[agristandards@unece.org](mailto:agristandards@unece.org)

Documents for the meeting are available on our webpage:

<http://www.unece.org/trade/agr/welcome.htm>