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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
Item 11 of the provisional agenda

PROMOTION OF THE STANDARD

Note by the secretariat ^(*)

This note presents information on the “POTATO RUSSIA 2007” congress and exhibition and on the next meeting of the Extended Bureau of the Specialized Section.

^(*) The present document has been submitted after the official documentation deadline by the Trade and Timber Division due to resource constraints.

I. POTATO RUSSIA 2007 CONGRESS

1. The first International Russian Potato Congress and Exhibition, "POTATO RUSSIA 2007", will be held from 21 to 23 August. The congress and exhibition will be held on 21-22 August at the Exhibition Centre in Moscow, and field demonstrations will take place on 23 August, in Korenevo, outside Moscow, at Lorkh VNIKH (Lorkh All-Russian Research Institute for Potato Growing). More information about the congress can be found at: <http://www.europoint-bv.com/events/?potatorussia>.

2. At its October 2006 meeting, the Extended Bureau asked the secretariat of the Working Party to investigate the possibility of promoting the Standard for Seed Potatoes at the POTATO RUSSIA 2007 congress. The secretariat discussed this possibility with the management of Lorkh Institute and received a positive reply. It was agreed that the UNECE would present its Standards on Seed Potatoes and on Early and Ware Potatoes at the congress.

3. The secretariat asked Europoint (Holland), the main organizer of the congress, to include in the congress programme the UNECE presentation: "UNECE standards for certification, marketing and commercial quality control of seed potatoes and early and ware potatoes". The title of the presentation was agreed upon with the Bureau of the Specialized Section. The presentation has been accepted for inclusion in the programme of the congress.

II. MEETING OF THE EXTENDED BUREAU

4. The management of the Lorkh Institute has kindly offered the Specialized Section the opportunity to hold its Extended Bureau meeting in the building of the Institute at Korenevo around the dates of the Congress. The exact dates, the agenda and other arrangements for the Extended Bureau meeting will be discussed at the March meeting of the Specialized Section.