



## **Economic and Social Council**

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### **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**

**Sixty-fourth session**

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Item 7 of the provisional agenda

**Revision of the Standard Layout**

### **Revision of the Standard Layout for UNECE Standards on Fresh Fruit and Vegetables \***

The following document contains proposed amendments (highlighted) submitted by the delegation of Germany. Delegations are invited to send their comments to the Secretariat by 1 April 2016.

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\* This document was submitted on the above date due to delayed input from delegations.

## UNECE Standard Layout for Fresh Fruit and Vegetables

### II. Provisions concerning quality

The UNECE standards may be applied at all levels of marketing. Therefore, the first paragraph should be amended as follows:

“The purpose of the standard is to define the quality requirements for *{name of produce}* at the export-control or dispatch stage after preparation and packaging.”

Alternatively, the words “at the export-control stage” could be deleted.

#### B. Maturity requirements

The Standard Layout should contain an optional section on maturity requirements.

For non-climacteric fruits the text should read: “The *{name of produce}* must be sufficiently developed and display satisfactory ripeness.”

For climacteric fruits the text should read: “The development and state of maturity of the *{name of produce}* must be such as to enable them to continue their ripening process and to reach a satisfactory degree of ripeness.”

### VI. Provisions concerning marking

#### A. Identification

The option to replace name and physical address of the packer and/or dispatcher by an officially recognized code mark is not working properly in international trade. It is no problem to apply this option within a country where the authority recognizing or issuing a code mark is known. In trade between two countries it is always difficult to get information on the competent authority who could provide information on the company behind that code.

In trade we see more and more packages labelled with name and physical address of the importer or the seller. Which would be fine as long as this company would be able to trace back to the packer and/or dispatcher. Therefore, the following amendments are proposed:

“Packer and/or dispatcher/shipper:

Name and physical address (e.g. street/city/region/postal code and, if different from the country of origin, the country) ~~or a code mark officially recognized by the national authority~~<sup>1</sup>.

This indication may be replaced by name and physical address of the importer [or seller] which must be preceded by „imported by [or sold by]” (or equivalent denomination/abbreviation). In this case, the marking shall also include a code representing

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<sup>1</sup> ~~The national legislation of a number of countries requires the explicit declaration of the name and address. However, in the case where a code mark is used, the reference “packer and/or dispatcher (or equivalent abbreviations)” has to be indicated in close connection with the code mark, and the code mark should be preceded by the ISO 3166 (alpha) country/area code of the recognizing country, if not the country of origin.~~

the packer and/or the dispatcher. The holder/seller shall give all information deemed necessary by the inspection body as to the meaning of this code.”