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**Economic Commission for Europe****Steering Committee on Trade Capacity and Standards****Working Party on Agricultural Quality Standards****Seventy-fourth session**

Geneva, 12-14 November 2018

**Report of the Seventy-fourth session of the Working Party on  
Agricultural Quality Standards****I. Introduction**

1. The meeting was chaired by Ms. Agnieszka Sudol, Chairperson of the Working Party.
2. The Chief of the Market Access Section of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) opened the seventy-fourth session of the Working Party on Agricultural Quality Standards (WP.7). He expressed his appreciation for the Working Party's valuable work which had resulted in a large portfolio of standards, used and implemented at national, regional and international levels with impact worldwide. He announced that the secretariat had obtained funds for work on quality and food-loss reduction in a new project. This project included many aspects of the Working Party's work and offered the continued possibility of greater knowledge sharing, exchange of best practices and developing the capacities of national agencies on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). He noted that, for example, the work on preventing food loss carried a realistic potential to contribute to the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal 12 on responsible consumption and production. In the past years, the Working Party and its Specialized Sections had also developed new work and helped integrate new producing countries into international trade in a sustainable way. This was considered an important step to initiate impactful changes to a food system facing the challenges of the future such as population growth, climate change and declining resources.
3. He also expressed his appreciation for the Working Party's recent project work, which had demonstrated in many countries the need for assistance in the implementation of standards. This might be an area for the Working Party to consider more to help enlarge the use of standards and international best practice for the benefit of increased quality and less food loss at all levels and along the entire supply chain.
4. He informed the Working Party that its current Vice-Chair, Ms. Ilse van Dijl from the Netherlands, who had been elected last year, could no longer serve in this function. He thanked the delegation of the Netherlands for Ms van Dijl's contribution to the work WP.7.

## **II. Attendance**

5. Representatives of the following countries attended the meeting: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Kazakhstan, Morocco, Netherlands, Philippines, Poland, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America.

6. The European Commission was also represented.

7. The following international organizations, specialized agencies and programmes, and intergovernmental organizations participated in the session: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (Transport Division, UN/CEFACT secretariat), International Nut and Dried Fruit Council (INC) and Interprofession des Fruits et Légumes Frais de France (INTERFEL).

8. Representatives of the following non-governmental organizations, companies, academia and independent experts participated in the session: Boston Consulting Group, Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies (IHEID), Too Good To Go, University of Geneva, and the World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD).

## **III. Adoption of the agenda**

9. The delegations adopted the provisional agenda.

## **IV. Matters arising since the last session**

### **(a) United Nations, Economic Commission for Europe and subsidiary bodies**

10. The Chief of the Market Access Section explained that all United Nations bodies, including UNECE, had taken significant budget cuts in their 2018-2019 budgets. This resulted in the need to use available resources more efficiently. Some of the resource gaps will be bridged through project funds for capacity-building. He informed delegates that the previous UNECE capacity-building project had ended in December 2017 and had received a very positive external evaluation. He also mentioned that during the past year, the secretariat had managed to link the Working Party's work with several other projects and organizations. This will intensify links with other organizations, increase the use and impact of WP.7's work and its link to the Sustainable Development Goal targets.

11. He informed delegations that the most recent session of the Steering Committee on Trade Capacity and Standards had taken place from 3 to 4 May 2018 and focused on the review of a new study on regulatory and procedural barriers to trade in Georgia and the follow-up to previous studies on Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and the Republic of Moldova.

12. He also mentioned that at the UNECE level, an institutional mapping had resulted in the organization's focus on eight Sustainable Development Goals to allow for more effective results, impact and the achievement of the set targets. The work under the Working Party contributed mainly to Sustainable Development Goal 12 on sustainable production and consumption; Sustainable Development Goal 17 on partnerships; and Sustainable Development Goal 8 on decent work and economic growth, as well as other related Sustainable Development Goals. He noted that with the guidance of the UNECE's Executive Secretary, the focus of this work was pooled in four nexus areas; i.e. Sustainable use and management of natural resources; Sustainable and smart cities; Sustainable mobility and smart connectivity; as well as Measuring and monitoring the Sustainable Development Goals. The work under the WP.7 related closely to the two first nexus areas which should be taken into consideration during the elaboration of the Working Party's new Programme of

Work for 2019/2020. He stressed that the Working Party's achievements contributed to the more sustainable future of agricultural trade.

#### **Programme of Work of the Working Party**

13. He also stressed the importance of the new Programme of Work of the Working Party which should include the UNECE's focus on the selected Sustainable Development Goals and the nexus approach. He suggested that one possibility could be leaving the standard-setting activities to the Specialized Sections (with the adoption of the standards at the Working Party level) and including specifically the Sustainable Development Goal and the nexus area-related work (such as the work on food loss) and related capacity-building in the Working Party's Programme of Work.

14. The Working Party took note of the proposed Programme of Work (2019-2020) and adopted the work programme for the Specialized Sections under WP.7. In light of the currently ongoing revision of the Working Party's Terms of Reference, the Working Party decided to postpone the adoption of the work programme directly under the Working Party to 11 March 2019, i.e. until after the adoption of the new Terms of Reference. The final Programme of Work will be adopted in an intersessional written approval procedure according to Article 19 of the Working Party Working Procedure. The adopted Programme of Work will be reported to the Steering Committee on Trade Capacity and Standards for its endorsement and, subsequently, presented to UNECE's Executive Committee (EXCOM) for approval.

15. The Working Party recommended the renewal of its mandate for a five-year period from 2019 to 2023 and the update of its Terms of Reference contained in document ECE/EX/2008/L.8 (approved on 8 March 2008) to reflect the inclusion of the Sustainable Development Goals in its work (without the amendments incurring financial implications).

#### **(b) Recent developments in other organizations**

16. The representative from the European Commission informed delegates that the European Union had a limited activity in marketing standards for fruit and vegetables. He noted that the European Union continued to align the 10 specific marketing standards of the European Union with the UNECE standards. He said that at the 2017 session of the Codex Committee for Fresh Fruits and Vegetables, the European Union had supported the harmonization between UNECE and Codex Standards and considered that any duplication of standards should be avoided.

17. The representative from OECD provided an update on current and future activities of OECD and informed delegates that Brazil had officially joined the OECD Fruit and Vegetables Scheme in February 2018. He also noted that Croatia had officially applied to join the Scheme and the evaluation report would be discussed at the Scheme's plenary meeting in December 2018. The OECD Scheme is currently working on five explanatory brochures: leeks, tomatoes, passion fruit, berry fruits and root vegetables. The tomatoes and leeks brochures are expected to be approved by the end of the year. The OECD also informed delegates that Kenya had volunteered to undergo a Peer Review which took place in August 2018 with Finland being part of the Peer Review Team. The report will be presented to the December 2018 plenary meeting for discussion and adoption. He also pointed out that the delegation from Germany had translated the OECD Guidelines on Objective Tests into German; this was available at the OECD website together with the German translations of the brochures for pears, apples, table grapes, chicory, and plums. The OECD thanked the delegation from Spain for hosting the OECD Heads of National Inspection meeting in Seville which discussed among others the internet sales of fruit and vegetables, traceability and organic fruit and vegetables. The OECD participated in standards harmonization meetings organized by the Netherlands (June 2018) and the Slovak Republic (September 2018) and co-hosted a seminar in Sao Paulo, Brazil, (November 2018) to help disseminate the work of the Scheme. The OECD representative stressed the OECD's willingness to enhance collaboration with UNECE and possibly organize a joint seminar in 2019.

18. Delegations noted that UNECE's Working Party on the Transport of Perishable Foodstuffs (WP.11) had recently held its annual session and reviewed the issue of the inclusion of fresh fruit and vegetables in Annex 3, of the Agreement on the International Carriage of Perishable Foodstuffs and on the Special Equipment to be used for such Carriage, the "ATP Agreement", (see <https://www.unece.org/trans/main/wp11/wp11rep.html>). The Contracting Parties of Working Party 11 could achieve no consensus on this subject. Therefore, they had agreed to explore the possibility of including provisions for the transport of fresh fruits and vegetables as recommendations for countries to apply as necessary in a non-legally binding way. The delegations of WP.7 agreed to place this item on the agenda of the 2019 sessions of the Specialized Section on Fresh Fruit and Vegetables and WP.7, and to invite the secretariat of WP.11 to provide more detailed information.

## **V. Sustainable Development Goals and the work under the Working Party on Agricultural Quality Standards - Updates**

19. The Head of the Agricultural Quality Standards Unit presented the work on the Sustainable Development Goals by the Specialized Sections on Fresh Fruit and Vegetables, Dry and Dried Produce, Seed Potatoes and Meat. The secretariat also mentioned that the Specialized Section on Meat and on Dry and Dried Produce had held successful symposiums on sustainable trade and production related to Sustainable Development Goals 8 and 12.

20. The secretariat presented the concept, scope, value statement and feasibility of an online market place to make the currently invisible and lost food available. She explained that it would be developed and tried in pilot projects for local use first and cross-border use later and mentioned that the project was scalable and included plug-ins for existing systems and methodologies (e.g. quantification methodologies, traceability or certification). She stressed that the uptake and use of such a platform required strong partners at domestic level (governments, non-governmental organizations, private sector) to ensure long-term ownership and maintenance. Plug-ins for retail or consumer interfaces could be envisaged at later stages.

21. The centralized online marketplace aims at preventing and reducing food loss and food waste; providing a fully traceable trustworthy system to the buyers as well as additional income possibilities and employment in rural areas, including for women and youth; increasing the possibilities for improved food security; and addressing Sustainable Development Goals 2, 8 and 12. The marketplace offers governments, the private sector, non-governmental organizations, certification bodies, and others to collaborate on a single platform and to quantify, track, monitor and report the food-waste impact annually at all levels (including small-scale farmers) to collect data for better forecasting and recommendations.

22. In addition, it contributes to the reduction of the large environmental impact of food produced that is currently lost and helps align and meet the government's environmental mandates and targets with international commitments. It contributes to building an inclusive production system for all parties in the supply chain; more efficient agricultural trade and distribution mechanism; and provides a strong incentive to bring together small-scale producers to improve their competitiveness and market power to reach markets.

23. Delegations strongly supported and welcomed this project which provides a solution to the problem from the roots addressing food loss eventually at all levels—national, regional and international—and opening interesting and economic development opportunities. Caution was expressed as to produce traded under the private labels of the large retailers and the possible difficulties to re-sell or repurpose them. It was also suggested to consider the inclusion of logistics arrangements and market information systems as additional plug-ins. The secretariat explained that the platform would also include buyers from e.g. the hospitality sector and was meant to make food available to buyers who are outside the mainstream supply chains. The electronic platform would make it possible to change the traditional trading flows and partners. The challenge, the secretariat explained, was the complexity of registration and uptake. To avoid possible overlap with already existing applications at the retail and consumer levels, it was agreed to focus the marketplace on business-to-business

and business-to-government transactions. The aim of this marketplace was to foster inclusive, sustainable development.

24. To advance the project further and to include all aspects, the secretariat invited the Working Party to reflect on possible fund-raising opportunities. Those should be communicated to the secretariat in the coming months.

25. The secretariat also invited WP.7 to reflect on possible next steps to promote and advance the work on Sustainable Development Goals which could include a campaign on food loss prevention and joint projects with other UNECE work in the nexus areas.

26. The 2018 session of the Working Party included on its second day the third UNECE-FAO conference on food loss with presentations on subjects of interest to all four Specialized Sections and organized in partnership with the FAO Liaison Office in Geneva. The programme and the presentations are available at: <http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=47828>.

## **VI. Revision of the Terms of Reference of the Working Party**

27. At its seventy-third session (Geneva, 7–8 November 2017) the Working Party had formed an open working group on the revision of its Terms of Reference to prepare a written proposal for discussion. Delegations discussed at length the draft text (ECE/CTCS/WP.7/2018/3) and amended the provisions of the Mission statement and the Terms of Reference. Attention was given to the inclusion of the Working Party's contributions to the Sustainable Development Goals and their targets. The revised text is available at <http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=47828>.

28. As consultations were not conclusive, delegations requested time to further consult on the draft text. They were invited to submit any additional comments to the secretariat by 10 January 2019. The final Revised Terms of Reference will be adopted in an intersessional written approval procedure by 11 February 2019 according to Art.19 of the Working Procedure of the Working Party. The adopted revised Terms of Reference will be reported to the Steering Committee on Trade Capacity and Standards for endorsement and, subsequently, presented to UNECE's Executive Committee for approval.

## **VII. Revision of the Working Procedures of the Working Party**

29. As part of the revision of its Working Procedures, WP.7 reviewed the proposals on how to handle, during the full revision of standards, reservations placed by countries in the previous text of the standard. The Working Party agreed that during a full revision of a standard, it should be the responsibility of the country that had initially placed the reservation to consider the need to sustain the latter in the new version during the discussion phase and at Specialized Section level. The secretariat would be tasked to inform the country absent during these discussions.

30. The Working Party adopted the following procedure which will be included in the its Working Procedures:

- “Specialized Section: The Specialized Section announces the full revision of a standard. At this stage, all previous reservations contained in this standard will be removed. During the discussion process at Specialized Section level, countries have the possibility to express their concerns and include reservations, in case a consensus cannot be reached.
- Secretariat: If the country that had initially placed the reservation is absent during the discussion process at Specialized Section level, the secretariat may contact the country delegation.
- Working Party: If the country considers the reservation discussed at Specialized Section level remains necessary, it will be sustained.”

## VIII. Capacity-building and promotional activities

31. The secretariat reviewed its capacity-building activities including those under the Russian Voluntary Fund (Shushary seed potato laboratory); and under the new United Nations Development Account project (UNDA-11) which included the September 2018 workshops on “Quality matters – sustainable trade of fruits, vegetables and nuts” held in Tashkent, Uzbekistan, for Central Asia, as well the conceptualization of a food-loss marketplace application. She also outlined activities funded by partner organizations such as the Asian Development Bank (ADB) Cross-border Trade Workshop, Pingxiang, China on food quality and trade; the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) -funded/International Executive Service Corps (IESC) -implemented project on Exporting Quality in the Dominican Republic with three workshops; the translation of the UNECE Seed Potato Disease Guide into Spanish for South American countries funded by Potato USA; the funding of the production and printing of the UNECE explanatory Guide for Walnut Kernels (California Walnut Board and the California Walnut Commission); the translation of the UNECE dried apricot posters into Kyrgyz, Tajik and Uzbek languages (Hilfswerk Austria International and Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GIZ); and a seed potato application funded by Australia. The Specialized Section specific and promotional activities included working sessions on the development of a UNECE Sampling Plan for nuts and dried fruit in Naples, Italy, in May 2018, and in Izmir, Turkey in November 2018; the promotion of the work of the UNECE Specialized Section on Seed Potatoes in the World Potato Congress, Cusco, Peru, in May 2018 ; the UNECE-FAO Symposium on Nuts and Dried Fruit for a sustainable future and a tasting event held in June 2018 in Geneva; as well as the July 2018 symposium on sustainable international e-trade for meat also in Geneva.

32. The secretariat thanked all delegations whose experts had supported UNECE in the capacity-building and promotional activities in 2018. She also informed the Working Party about the progress made by the Central Asian region with regard to the adoption, use and implementation of UNECE standards and the development of guidance material. She outlined the activities of the Central Asian Working Group (Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan) which was currently meeting in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, to promote the use and the implementation of UNECE standards in the region.

33. Capacity-building and promotional activities planned in 2019 by UNECE included workshops on food loss and quality in several regions together with national and regional partners.

34. The delegation from Germany informed the meeting participants that the International Meeting on Quality Control of Fruit and Vegetables will take place in Bonn, Germany, from 25 to 27 March 2019.

## IX. Electronic quality certificates for fresh fruit and vegetables

35. A representative from the United Nations Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business (UN/CEFACT) secretariat updated delegation on the progress made on the development of an electronic quality certificate for fresh fruit and vegetables which had been initiated at the May 2018 session of the Specialized Section on Fresh Fruit and Vegetables and in the United Nations Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business. She noted that the Agricultural domain of UN/CEFACT had finished its work on the Business Requirements Specifications in November 2018. They will probably be open for public review at the end of November 2018. She explained that it was expected that the Requirement Specification mapping could be adopted in April 2019; the XML Schemas could be ready by October 2019 and the Implementation guidelines and user guide by December 2019, i.e. the scheduled closure of the project.

36. The Chair of the Working Party thanked the UN/CEFACT Agricultural domain group for its fast and efficient work. The secretariat noted that advice had been provided during the development process by country delegates from the Specialized Section on Fresh Fruit and Vegetables, highlighting the excellent cooperation between the two bodies.

## X. Specialized Section on Standardization of Meat

37. The Chairpersons of the Specialized Sections presented the work of their Sections since the 2017 session of the Working Party, as well as current and future activities. The presentations are available on the UNECE website at: <http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=47828>.

38. In 2018, the Specialized Section on Meat held one regular session as well as an international symposium on sustainable international e-trade for meat. The Chairperson of the Specialized Section on Meat presented in detail the Section's work highlighting the symposium which had demonstrated how countries and the private sector developed and implemented electronic commerce, electronic inspection methods and e-certifications to increase the efficiency of the international trade of meat; enhanced cross-border e-commerce solutions by facilitating procedures; and developed new ways of applying international standard language to facilitate the trade of meat on electronic platforms. He stressed that the electronic solutions presented at the symposium also provided examples of how to prevent food waste caused by produce held back for regulatory or administrative reasons and reduced the risk for food fraud.

39. He reviewed the Specialized Section's work on eating quality and its technical and practical implications including beef carcass assessment methods, beef and veal meat and fat colour, and marbling, to coordinate eating quality research consistency worldwide. He emphasized that the collaborative research work on eating quality would continue in the next years and the Specialized Section would be involved in this work.

40. He also noted that the Specialized Section had stressed the importance of the Sustainable Development Goals for its work and decided to discuss in more detail the linkages between its work area and the contribution to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.

41. The Working Party adopted:

- Report of the twenty-seventh session
- Goose meat – amendment and revisions
- Ovine meat – amendment and revisions
- Porcine meat – amendments and revisions
- Recommended guidelines to the UNECE bovine standard (Eating quality)

and thanked the Specialized Section for its excellent work throughout the year.

## XI. Specialized Section on Standardization of Fresh Fruit and Vegetables

42. The Specialized Section held one regular session this year. The Chairperson of the Specialized Section on Fresh Fruit and Vegetables presented in detail the work of the Section. She mentioned that the Specialized Section had submitted to the Chair of the electronic working group of the Codex Alimentarius Committee for Fresh Fruits and Vegetables (CCFFV) a comprehensive comparison document between the UNECE standard for early and ware potatoes and the proposed draft standard developed by CCFFV. She noted the ongoing discussions by the Specialized Section on the concept of tolerances and definition of limits for the defects allowed in the standards. She highlighted that all fresh fruit and vegetables standards had been aligned with the new UNECE Standard Layout provisions in English, French and Russian. She also informed delegations that the Specialized Section was in the process of preparing minimum marketing quality guidelines as well as code of good practice for fresh fruit and vegetables as part of their work on Sustainable Development Goal 12 and the prevention of food loss.

43. She presented the revised standards for adoption. The delegation from Turkey noted that his country needed more time to consult with their industry on the proposed amendment

to the sizing provisions in the Standard for Cherries. The discussions were postponed to the 2019 Specialized Section session. If necessary, an intersessional procedure at the level of the Working Party would be initiated after the Specialized Section to adopt amendments to this standard.

44. The delegation from Germany and France informed the Working Party that more time was needed to consult on the proposed amendments to the standards for cauliflower (Germany) and broccoli (France). Both standards would be discussed at the 2019 Specialized Section session.

45. The Working Party adopted:

- Report of the sixty-sixth session
- Standard for Sweet peppers

and thanked the Specialized Section for its excellent work throughout the year.

## **XII. Specialized Section on Standardization of Dry and Dried Produce**

46. The Chairperson of the Specialized Section on Standardization of Dry and Dried Produce reviewed in detail the work of the Specialized Section and presented the revised standards and the new recommendations submitted for adoption. In 2018, the Specialized Section held one regular meeting and organized an international symposium on the sustainable trade of nuts and dried fruit and a tasting event. In addition, two technical meetings took place in Naples, Italy, and in Izmir, Turkey, to develop a sampling plan and inspection guidelines for nuts and dried fruit.

47. He noted that the work on an explanatory poster for inshell pistachio nuts had progressed well and remained a work in progress. The Specialized Section had approved the development of additional posters for walnut kernels, inshell walnuts, dried figs and dried grapes. He also informed the Working Party that the delegation from Tajikistan presented that Central Asia Explanatory Brochure for Dried Apricots which would be reviewed in detail at the 2019 session of the Specialized Section.

48. The Chair of the Specialized Section thanked the secretariat for its work in Central Asia and stressed that one result of UNECE's capacity-building work was that the Central Asian countries had engaged in UNECE's work and, for the time, led the development of a new standard (for dried melons).

49. He also thanked contributors and the secretariat for the excellent organization of the symposium on "Sustainable trade of nuts and dried fruit" held during the meeting of the Specialized Section. This had demonstrated the importance of sustainability in the international trade of these products and the relevance of the Specialized Section's work for producing countries worldwide. Based on the success of this symposium, he announced that the Specialized Section would organize a follow-up event in 2019.

50. The representative from the International Nuts and Dried Fruit Council (INC) informed delegates that the INC had prepared a second technical information kit (macadamia nuts) for their 750-member companies. This kit, which is available on the INC web site, includes the provisions of the UNECE quality standards as the only internationally recognized minimum requirements for dry and dried produce.

51. The Working Party adopted:

- Report of the sixty-fifth session
- Recommendation for Prunes for a 1-year trial period
- Recommendation for Dried coconut kernel pieces for an additional 1-year trial period
- Recommendation for Dried melons for a 1-year trial period
- Recommendation for Dried papayas for 1-year trial period



- Standard for Dried bananas

and thanked the Specialized Section for its excellent work throughout the year.

### **XIII. Specialized Section on Standardization of Seed Potatoes**

52. The Chairperson of the Specialized Section on Standardization of Seed Potatoes reviewed in detail the work of the Specialized Section. In 2018, the Specialized Section had held one regular meeting and a Rapporteurs meeting (Cusco, Peru) in May 2018. He noted the Specialized Section's work on the Sustainable Development Goals which had also been presented at the World Potato Congress in Cusco (Peru).

53. He also noted that the Specialized Section has launched a large-scale virus-testing survey which had resulted in a high response rate, a detailed and rich data set and the possibility to prepare a best practice report. A second survey on bacteria testing would be launched in 2019.

54. He stressed that the Specialized Section had recognized that the production of true potato seed was also covered by the UNECE standard. This, he noted, opened opportunities of this technology for new markets in the future, particularly, horticultural growers outside traditional seed tuber supply chains. The Specialized Section had therefore prepared a statement on True Potato Seed which was submitted to the Working Party for adoption. He also presented the amendments to the Standard for Seed Potatoes.

55. The Section's future work would include several new items including a draft guide on minituber production; new and emerging diseases and pests; as well as capacity building (including updates on funding of e-learning videos) and updates by the European Commission on new legislation.

56. The Working Party adopted:

- Report of the forty-fifth session
- Standard for Seed Potatoes (ECE/CTCS/WP.7/2018/19)
- True Potato Seed statement (ECE/CTCS/WP.7/2018/20)

and thanked the Specialized Section for its excellent work throughout the year.

### **XIV. Future work**

57. The Working Party decided to consider the following items for its future work. The exact topics would be determined once its new Programme of Work had been adopted (March 2019), at the latest by July 2018:

- Food loss, food waste and food supply - focus on sustainable cities
- Code of good handling practices to prevent food loss
- Food trade, food loss and the transport of perishable goods
- An international conference on sustainable consumption and production related to SDG 12.

58. Further topics of interest to the Working Party should be sent to the secretariat in the coming months.

### **XV. Other business**

59. The following meetings are planned for 2019:

- Specialized Section on Seed Potatoes: 18-19 March
- Specialized Section on Fresh Fruit and Vegetables: 13-15 May
- Specialized Section on Dry and Dried Produce: 24–26 June

- Specialized Section on Meat: 9-11 September
- Working Party on Agricultural Quality Standards: 19-21 November

60. Possible changes in venue and dates will be communicated in due course.

## **XVI. Election of officers**

61. The delegations elected Ms. Agnieszka Sudol (Poland) as Chair and Mr. Guy Lambrechts (Belgium) as Vice-Chair.

## **XVII. Adoption of the report**

62. The Working Party adopted its decisions during the session and the report of the session (ECE/CTCS/WP.7/2018/2) in written procedure.

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