OECD Fruit and Vegetables Scheme
A common fruit and vegetables quality inspection system

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OECD Trade and Agriculture

International Workshop on Commercial Quality Standards for Fresh Fruit and Vegetables for Countries of Southeast, Central and Eastern Europe
Dubrovnik, Croatia 17th - 20th October 2011
The OECD is an intergovernmental organisation with 34 Member countries. It celebrates its 50th anniversary in 2011.

The mission of the OECD is to promote policies that will improve the economic and social well-being of people around the world.

Main activities:

- Work with governments to understand what drives economic, social and environmental change.
- Measure productivity and global flows of trade and investment
- Analyse and compare data to predict future trends
- Set international standards
OECD Fruit and Vegetables Scheme

- The Scheme was established in 1962.
- It is one programme within the Codes & Schemes Unit.
- Budget: Part II (self financing)
- Membership:
  - Open to all members of UN or WTO
  - 25 F&V Scheme’s Members at present
- 2010 OECD Agriculture Ministerial Meeting:
  - “Appropriate regulatory and policy framework is needed.”
Objective:

Trade facilitation through harmonised application and interpretation of international F&V Standards.
Activities:

– **Core activity: Framework for an export quality inspection system**
  - International standards
  - Inspection methods
  - Conformity Certificate

– **Supporting activities**
  - Meeting of the Heads of National Inspection Services
  - Peer reviews
  - Market analysis
  - Capacity building, training courses and workshops
  - Explanatory materials (brochures, colour charts)
  - Guidelines
OECD Standards

Standards:

Until 1992, the OECD developed fruit and vegetables standards.

Today, the Scheme applies international standards adopted from:

- UNECE
- Codex Alimentarius Commission

OECD Inspection Methods

• Part of the Council Decision on the Scheme, as one important basis of the Scheme’s activities (Annex II to C(2006)95).

• Unique in international trade.

• Applied by many countries and EU Member States and recommended by the UNECE.

• The inspection methods are under revision (2011).

OECD Conformity Certificate


- It attests that the consignment conform with the standard applied under the Scheme, verified by the official control service.

- It is applied by many countries, including EU Member States. UNECE also refers to this certificate.

**APPENDIX I: MODEL CONFORMITY CERTIFICATE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Exporter</th>
<th>OECD Scheme</th>
<th>CONFORMITY CERTIFICATE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

- 2. This certificate is for the exclusive use of official services
- 3. Country of origin
- 4. Country of destination
- 5. Identification of means of transport
- 6. Space reserved for national regulations
- 7. Number (and kind) of packages
- 8. Nature of product (variety when specified by the standard)
- 9. Quality class
- 10. Total weight in kg gross

- Customs office of departure
- Place and date of issue
- Duration of validity
- Signature (name in block capitals)
- Seal of Authorized Control Service

**Observations**

*When the product is re-exported, indicate its origin after the nature of the produce*

**Format of the certificate:** printed on a 297 mm x 210 mm sheet
OECD Explanatory brochures

- 22 brochures are available.

- 2010 publications: apricots; peaches & nectarines; citrus fruits; apples.

- 2011 publications (in the pipeline): hazelnuts; asparagus

- Ongoing work: melons; onions; watermelon; garlic
OECD range concept

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Oranges</th>
<th>Extra Class Cat. «Extra»</th>
<th>Class I Cat. I</th>
<th>Class II Cat. II</th>
<th>Out of Grade Non-conforme</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Internal Navels Ombilics internes</td>
<td>1, 2, 3</td>
<td>4, 5, 6</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
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• The OECD’s core strengths is its ability to offer its members a framework to compare experiences and examine “best practices” in a host of areas.

• Peer review has been used at the OECD since the organization was established. The OECD peer review process has been adopted by many other international organizations.

• 4 OECD Peer Reviews of National Fruit and Vegetables Quality Inspection System (5th is in the pipeline).
OECD Guidelines

- Guidelines on Objective tests to determine quality of Fruit and Vegetables
- Guidelines on Notification of Non-conformity
- Guidelines on Risk Analysis
- Guidelines on Inspector’s trainings
- Guidelines on Quality Inspection (under development)
OECD Meeting of Heads of National Inspection Services

Objectives:

• To facilitate discussions between inspection services on major problems, developments and challenges in the fruit and vegetables sector and quality inspection system.

• To provide an update on the latest developments in inspection techniques and tools, and to harmonise the application of the OECD Scheme.

• To present developments in the fruit and vegetables sector and quality inspection system in the Host Country.
Capacity building, workshops and training courses

- International training course in Slovakia

- 2010 -2011: OECD Workshops in Kenya

- Plan to develop closer cooperation on capacity building activities in developing countries with other international organisations, such as FAO and Codex Alimentarius Commission.
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