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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****Seventieth session**

Geneva, 16-18 May 2022

Item 9 (a) of the provisional agenda

**Revision of standards****Proposal by the delegation of Spain to amend the standard for onions****Submitted by the delegation of Spain**

The following proposals was submitted for consideration by the Specialized Section.

For reference to earlier discussions, please consult the Specialized Section's 2021 report (ECE/CTCS/WP.7/GE.1/2021/2), paragraphs 71-73 as well as the post-session document. Both are available at: <https://unece.org/info/events/event/351164>.

This document is submitted according to ECE/CTCS/2021/2 Decision 2021-07-02 and Decision 2021-07-07, ECE/CTCS/WP.7/2021/2 paragraph 66, and A/76/6 (Sect.20).

*Proposal:* The delegation from Spain would like to modify the provisions concerning the sizing as follows:

Under Section III. Provisions concerning sizing

Size is determined by the maximum diameter of the equatorial section.

The minimum diameter shall be 10 mm.

To ensure uniformity in size, the range in size between produce in the same package shall not exceed:

- 5 mm where the diameter of the smallest onion is 10 mm and over but under 20 mm. However, where the diameter of the onion is 15 mm and over but under 25 mm, the difference may be 10 mm
- 15 mm where the diameter of the smallest onion is 20 mm and over but under 40 mm
- 20 mm where the diameter of the smallest onion is ~~40~~30 mm and over but under ~~60~~65 mm.
- 30 mm where the diameter of the smallest onion is ~~60~~50 mm and over but under 80 mm.
- 40 mm where the diameter of the smallest onion is 70mm or over.



*Reason:* The Spanish exporting sector of onion would like to increase the range in size between onions permitted in the same package as they have an ever-increasing demand of onions with range in size, among others, of 55 mm to 85 mm in the same package. This request of importers can't be done as the current provision in the standard doesn't allow this. Therefore, they would like to consider this topic to be discussed in the next meeting.

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