

## THE COUNCIL,

Having regard to Article 5(a) and (c) of the Convention on the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development of 14th December 1960;

Having regard to the Decision of the Council of 4th February 1969 Establishing an OECD Scheme for the Application of International Standards for Fruit and Vegetables, as amended Doc. Nos. C(68)134(Final), C(69)118(Final), C(69)119(Final), C(70)119(Final), C(70)181(Final), C(73)139(Final), C(76)47(Final), C(76)48(Final), C(76)49(Final) and C(78)85(Final);

Having regard to the Decision of the Council of 30th July 1963 Establishing a Control Certificate under the OECD Scheme for the Application of International Standards for Fruit and Vegetables Doc. No. C(63)104(Final);

Having regard to the Decisions of the Council of 28th July 1964 and 31st May 1976, concerning the Quality Control of Produce Exported under the OECD Scheme for the Application of International Standards for Fruit and Vegetables Doc. Nos. C(64)117(Final) and C(76)50(Final);

Having regard to the Recommendation of the Working Party on Standardization of Perishable Produce of the Committee on Agricultural Problems of the Economic Commission for Europe concerning the establishment of a control certificate aligned with the ECE layout-key for commercial documents;

On the proposal of the Committee for Agriculture;

## DECIDES:

1. The countries which participate in the OECD Scheme for the Application of International Standards for Fruits and Vegetables (hereinafter called the "Scheme") shall establish a quality control at exportation of the produce in respect of which they participate in the Scheme.
2. The purpose of the control shall be to ascertain on the basis of the packages inspected that the quality and classification of the produce exported under the Scheme are in conformity with the standards applied under the Scheme.
3. Control operations shall be carried out according to the rules set out in Annex I hereto, which forms an integral part of the present Decision, by the service authorised by each country participating in the Scheme to issue the control certificate comparable to the model set out in Annex II to this Decision.
4. The purpose of the control certificate shall be to attest that the appropriate national service has verified, on the basis of an examination by sampling, that the consignment in question is in conformity with the standard applied under the Scheme. That service shall be responsible to the corresponding services of importing countries participating in the Scheme for the statements attesting quality in the control certificate.
5. The control certificate shall be applicable as from 1st January 1982, in trade relations between the countries participating in the Scheme. However, any country participating in the Scheme may implement the control certificate before that date if it so wishes.
6. The national representatives responsible for the implementation of the Scheme shall report to the Secretary-General where necessary on the application of this Decision and on any difficulties encountered. The substance of this report shall be submitted by the Secretary-General for consideration at a Plenary Meeting of the Scheme as provided by the Decision of the Council referred to above.
7. This Decision shall replace the Decisions of the Council of 30th July 1963, 28th July 1964 and 31st May 1976, referred to above, which will be repealed as from 31st December 1981.

## ANNEX I

### Rules concerning quality control operations for produce exported under the Scheme

1. Control. The national service authorised to control the quality of the produce exported under the Scheme shall appoint officials (hereinafter called "inspectors") who have received appropriate technical training to carry out the control operations as described below. The inspectors have the necessary powers of control.

2. Request for control. The exporter should apply to the national service authorised to carry out the control, to have this control carried out, for each consignment to be exported.

This application must contain all information necessary to identify the consignments and to permit the carrying out of the control.

3. Time and place of control. Control shall normally take place at the despatching stage, either during preparation or before loading the produce, the packages being ready for despatch when the inspector arrives.

However, control may be carried out after the produce is loaded, but if in that case adequate inspection of the loaded consignments is not possible the inspector shall require it to be unloaded.

An inspection may also take place either during transport or before crossing the frontier.

4. Methods of control. Control shall be carried out by sampling. The inspector shall select the packages to be inspected, taking care that they are representative of the consignment as a whole. The number of packages examined shall be sufficient to satisfy the inspector that the whole consignment is or is not acceptable.

The produce contained in the packages presented for control shall be completely removed from the packaging. The inspector may dispense with this requirement only if the type and mode of packaging are such that he can examine the produce entirely without removing it from the packaging.

5. Assessment of quality. Control shall cover all the general and special characteristics required by the standard for the quality class indicated on the packages making up the consignment.

6. Marking. The inspector must check that all the particulars required by the standard appear on the package and that they conform with the findings of control.

7. Findings of control. If the inspector finds that the percentage of substandard produce exceeds the tolerance allowed for the class and size indicated on the package, he shall refuse to issue the control certificate without prejudice to any measures that may be taken on the national level.

The inspector may propose the downgrading or reconditioning of the produce if this appears feasible.

If he finds that the percentage of substandard produce is close to the maximum tolerance allowed, he must examine a further sample before taking the necessary decision.

8. Control certificate. After completion of the control operations and if classification in the category, as well as the preparation and marking of the packages making up the consignment, are considered to conform with the provisions of the standard, the inspector shall, after ascertaining that all appropriate steps have been taken to prevent substitution of the goods inspected, issue the control certificate completed

in accordance with the rules contained in the explanatory notes, concerning the utilisation of the control certificate set out in the Appendix. This certificate shall be appended to the international consignment note or the customs or other documents accompanying the produce.

9. Exchange of information. The national services authorised to exercise control may exchange between them any information concerning findings of control, regarding both the state of the produce and the reasons for which it may possibly have been either sent back, downgraded or upgraded.

1 Exporter		OECD SCHEME		CONTROL CERTIFICATE	
		No. _____			
2 Packer as indicated on packing (if other than exporter)		This certificate is for the exclusive use of control services			
		3 Control service			
6 Identification of means of transport		4 Country of Origin *		5 Country of destination	
		7 Space reserved for national regulations **			
8 Number (and kind**) of packages	9 Nature of produce (variety when specified by the standard)	10 Quality class	11 Total weight in kg gross/net ***		
12 The above-mentioned control office certifies that, on the basis of an examination by sampling, the consignment referred to above conforms, at the time of inspection, with the standards in force.					
Customs office of departure **		Place and date of issue			
Duration of validity **** _____ days					
Inspector (name in block capitals)					
Signature : _____		Seal of Control Service			
13 Observations :					
* When the produce is re-exported, indicate its origin after the nature of the produce.      ** Optional. *** Delete where inapplicable.      **** Valid up to point of exit of the exporting country (including day of inspection).					

## APPENDIX

### EXPLANATORY NOTES ON THE USE OF THE CONTROL CERTIFICATE

The following notes are intended to help produce inspectors to use the control certificate.

#### Box No. 1

Name and address of the exporter or exporting firm. An identification code issued or approved by the official service may also be useful.

#### Box No. 2

Name and address or identification code indicated on the packages if they differ from those given in Box No. 1. It is not necessary to complete this box when the exporter and packer are one and the same person. The entry "various" may be used if there are several packers.

#### Box No. 3

Title or acronym of the official national control service.

#### Box No. 4

Name of the producing country when the produce is inspected in that country. When the produce is re-exported or is of various origins (national and foreign), the country of origin must be indicated in Box No. 9 immediately after specification of the nature of the produce. Box No. 4 must then remain empty or be deleted.

#### Box No. 5

Name of country to which the produce is being sent. However, if the country of final destination is not yet known at the time of inspection - particularly in the case of transport by sea or air - this entry may be replaced by the indication "unknown".

#### Box No. 6

Number of wagon, registration number of lorry, number of container, name of vessel (possibly indicating "by sea") or "by air".

#### Box No. 7

Specify any national regulations relating to the export of the produce in question.

#### Box No. 8

Number and type of packages (boxes, trays, cartons, etc.). Specification of the type of package is optional.

Box No. 9

Type of produce (apples, peaches, etc.) followed by the name of the country of origin where produce is re-exported or is of various origins (national and foreign). Name of the variety (Golden Delicious, Dixired, etc.) when specified by the standard.

Box No. 10

Specify the quality class: EXTRA, I or II.

Box No. 11

Specify the total net or gross weight of the consignment as indicated on the weighing slip or consignment note.

Box No. 12

- Customs office of departure: specify the place where the consignment must be cleared. This entry is optional.
- Duration of validity: specify the number of days for which the certificate is valid, i.e. up to the point of departure from the exporting country (including the day of inspection). The number of days is fixed by the competent national authorities on the basis of criteria specific to each country (nature of produce, season, place of production, etc.).
- Inspector: name of the person who inspects the consignment.
- Signature: signature of the person who inspects the consignment.
- Place and date of issue: place where the goods are inspected and date on which the certificate is issued.

Box No. 13

Reserved for any additional observation. The inspector should delete this box when no observations are entered.

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In adopting this Decision, the Council AGREED to its derestriction.