
19 October 2018

**TRADE AND AGRICULTURE DIRECTORATE
COMMITTEE FOR AGRICULTURE**

OECD Seed Schemes

**DRAFT AGENDA OF THE TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP MEETING OF
THE OECD SEED SCHEMES**

29 January - 1 February 2019, Buenos Aires, Argentina

The Draft Agenda was developed by the Secretariat. It is circulated to Permanent Delegations, National Designated Authorities and Observers.

The registration for the meeting can be done on the following website:
<http://oecd.mavens.com.ar/index.html>.

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JT03437831

Timetable:

28 January 2019	14:00 – 17:30	Bureau Meeting
29 January 2019	08:00 – 18:00	Ad-Hoc Working Group Meetings (see Annex I)
30 January 2019	08:00 – 17:00	Technical Fieldtrip
31 January 2019	09:00 – 17:30	Technical Working Group Meeting
01 February 2019	09:00 – 17:30	Technical Working Group Meeting (continued)

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Contact local organisers:

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Place:

Hotel Scala, Buenos Aires

Bernardo de Irgoyen 740

San Telmo,

Ciudad Autonoma de Buenos Aires

Argentina

Language:

English

NB: For practical and budgetary reasons, no paper copies of the documents mentioned below will be made available to participants in the Meeting room. Delegates are kindly requested to bring with them their own copies

WEDNESDAY, 30 JANUARY 2019 (08:00 – 17:00)

8:00 – 17:00

Item 1. Technical Field Trip

The programme of the technical field trip will be circulated in a separated document

THURSDAY, 31 JANUARY 2019 (09:00 - 12:30)

9:00

Item 2. Opening statements by the Representative of Argentina, OECD Secretariat and the Chair of the Technical Working Group

The representative of Argentina, The OECD Secretariat and Ms Kristiina Dygryte, Chair of the TWG will open the meeting

9:10

Item 3. Adoption of the Draft Agenda[TAD/CA/S/A\(2019\)1](#)

Delegations will be invited to approve the draft agenda of the meeting.

For approval

9:15

Item 4. Agriculture and OECD Seed Varietal Certification in Argentina

Oral Presentation

The representative of Argentina will give an overview on the agriculture of the country, particularly focusing on the national seed sector and the implementation of the OECD seed varietal certification system.

For information and discussion

9:40

Item 5. Draft summary record of the Technical Working Group Meeting (27 June 2018, Paris, France)[TAD/CA/S/M\(2018\)2](#)

Delegates will be invited to approve the summary record of the previous Technical Working Group Meeting held on 27 June 2018 in Paris, France.

For approval

9:50

Item 6. Report of the Bureau Meeting

Oral Report

The Secretariat will provide an oral report on the outcomes of the Bureau Meeting held on 28 January 2019.

For information

10:00

Item 7. Varietal Mixtures of the Same Species

Progress report by the Chair of the Ad-Hoc Working Group (Chair: Mr Eddie Goldschagg)

Item 7.a. Possible inclusion of the Maize Seed Scheme into Rule 12 on Mixtures of Certified Herbage Seed

[TAD/CA/S/RD\(2017\)17/REV3](#)

Presentation by the Chair of the Ad-Hoc Working Group

The 2018 Annual Meeting could not agree on the inclusion of the Maize Seed Scheme into Rule 12 on Mixtures of Certified Herbage seed as more clarification was requested on the rationale of the proposal. Delegates will be invited to discuss the outcomes of the AHWG meeting with the view to prepare a recommendation to the Annual Meeting. In terms of the two-year sunset clause effected on this proposal, discussion of this point will be ended at the 2019 Annual Meeting.

For discussion and recommendation

10:30 Coffee break

11:00

Item 7.b. Draft proposal for the amendment of the OECD Seed Schemes to make provision for the certification of seed lots consisting of varietal mixtures of the same species

[TAD/CA/S/RD\(2015\)1/REV2](#)

Presentation by the Chair of the Ad-Hoc Working Group

The 2018 Annual Meeting agreed to continue the discussion on the possible introduction of general rules on varietal mixtures of certified seed of the same species, which could be applied to all schemes. Delegates will be invited to discuss the outcomes of the AHWG meeting with the view to prepare a recommendation to the Annual Meeting. In terms of the two-year sunset clause effected on this proposal, discussion of this point will be ended at the 2020 Annual Meeting.

For discussion and recommendation

11:45

Item 8. Seed Schemes labelling

Oral report

Progress report by the Chair of the Ad-Hoc Working Group (Chair: Ms Jolanta Wyszatkiewicz, Poland)

Item 8.a. Stapling methods in use in the US

Oral presentation

[TAD/CA/S/RD\(2019\)1](#)

Presentation by US

At the last TWG meeting, delegates discussed stapling methods especially those, which may be considered for use under the OECD Seed Schemes (heavy-duty staplers). Several NDAs requested more clarifications on these methods. The Delegate from US will provide an overview on the current stapling methods

including illustrations. Delegates will be invited to discuss the use of the different stapling methods with the view to recommend guidelines the Annual Meeting.

Item 8.b. Draft Catalogue on Label Security Methods in participating countries

[TAD/CA/S\(2018\)3/REV1](#)

Presentation by the Secretariat

For discussion and recommendation

Item 8.c. Draft proposal to include information on weight of seed / number of seed into the OECD label

[TAD/CA/S/RD\(2019\)2](#)

Presentation by the Coordinating Centre and the Secretariat

Delegates at the last TWG meeting discussed the possibility to include weight of the seed or number of seed, contained in the container to which the label is attached, on the OECD label as compulsory information as it is frequently requested by the users and required by the national or regional seed varietal certification regimes. Delegates will be invited to discuss the draft proposal with the view to prepare a recommendation to the Annual Meeting.

For discussion and recommendation

12:30 -14:00 Lunch break

THURSDAY 31 JANUARY 2019 (14:00 - 17:30)

14:00

Item 8.d. Possible exclusion of the number of containers from the OECD certificate

[TAD/CA/S/RD\(2019\)3](#)

Presentation by Denmark

The TWG Meeting in June 2018 agreed to discuss the possible exclusion of the number of containers from the OECD certificate in line with the ISTA Orange Certificate. Denmark will present the background and details of this issue.

For discussion and recommendation

Item 8.e. OECD Specimen label repository

[TAD/CA/S/RD\(2017\)4/REV4](#)

Presentation by the Secretariat

The OECD Secretariat will provide a brief update on the status of the internal OECD Specimen label repository.

For information and discussion

14:45

Item 9. Revision of the provisional measures and standards introduced for seed production of hybrid barley varieties

[TAD/CA/S/RD\(2018\)4](#)

Presentation by the Coordinating Centre

The provisional measures and standards for seed production of hybrid barley varieties will be ended on 31 December 2020. The 2018 Annual Meeting requested the development of a draft proposal on how to continue the OECD varietal certification of hybrid barley after this deadline. Delegates agreed that these OECD standards would be considered based on the EU standards introduced for hybrid barley. The Coordinating Centre will introduce the first draft proposal for discussion with the view to develop a draft proposal to the Annual Meeting

For discussion and recommendation

15:30 Coffee break

16:00

Item 10. Draft Guidelines on acceptance and control of new seed production techniques

[TAD/CA/S/RD\(2019\)5](#)

Progress report by the chair of the AHWG (US)

The 2018 Annual Meeting established a new Ad-Hoc Working Group on acceptance and control of new seed production techniques. This AHWG was also to discuss the development of seed varietal certification standard for hybrid ryegrass. The Chair will provide a progress report on the work of the group since the 2018 Annual Meeting.

For discussion and recommendation

16:45

Item 11. Capacity building activities

Item 11.a. Progress report on the work on the draft training module on seed biology/breeding/production

[TAD/CA/S/RD\(2019\)6](#)

Presentation by OECD Consultant

The 2018 Annual Meeting agreed to continue the development of training modules. One of the priorities is the module on seed biology, breeding and protection. The OECD Secretariat and a Consultant will provide a progress report on the work done since the 2018 Annual Meeting.

For discussion and recommendation

Item 11.b. Progress report on the work on the draft training module on traceability and information management

[TAD/CA/S/RD\(2019\)7](#)

Presentation by an OECD Consultant

The 2018 Annual Meeting agreed to continue the development of training modules. One of the priorities is the module on traceability and information management. The OECD Secretariat and a Consultant will provide a progress report on the work done since the 2018 Annual Meeting.

For discussion and recommendation**Item 11.c. Update on recent OECD capacity building activities**

Oral report

Presentation by the Secretariat

The Secretariat will provide an overview of recent OECD capacity building activities since the 2018 Annual Meeting. Delegations will be invited to update the TWG on recent OECD capacity building activities organised in their respective countries.

For information and discussion*17:30 End of session***FRIDAY, 1 FEBRUARY 2019 (09:00 - 12:30)**

9:00

Item 12. E-learning system in the UK (to be confirmed)

Oral presentation

Presentation by UK

The 2018 Annual Meeting discussed the possibility to develop e-learning system on the OECD's seed varietal certification system. The UK volunteered to introduce their national system to help moving forward with this discussion.

For information and discussion

9:30

Item 13. Intervention processes after certification (Maintaining the certification integrity of coated seed lots)[TAD/CA/S/RD\(2017\)8/REV4](#)

Progress report by the Ad-Hoc Working Group (Chair: Canada)

The Chair of the Ad-Hoc Working Group will introduce the progress made on this work since the 2018 Annual Meeting. Delegates will be invited to discuss the draft proposal of the group with the view to prepare a recommendation to the 2019 Annual Meeting.

For discussion and recommendation**Item 13.a. Revision of Rule 7.8 on Blending of lots of the same variety**[TAD/CA/S/RD\(2019\)8](#)

On the proposal of the TWG, the 2018 Annual meeting agreed to revise Common Rule 7.8 on Blending lots of the same variety. It was agreed that the AHWG on Intervention Processes after Certification would undertake this work. The Chair of the AHWG will present a draft proposal for discussion with the view to develop a recommendation to the Annual Meeting.

For discussion and recommendation*10:30 -11:00 Coffee break*

11:00

Item 14. The role of biochemical and molecular techniques in describing / identifying varieties

Progress report by the Chair of the Ad-Hoc Working Group (Chair: Mr Gerry Hall, UK)

Item 14.a. Revised draft proposal for the revision of Part III of the Guidelines for Control Plot Tests and Field inspection of Seed Crops

TAD/CA/S(2015)4/REV6

The TWG will be invited to discuss the proposed revision of Part III of the Guidelines for the Control Plot Tests and Field Inspection of Seed Crops with the view to submit a recommendation to the 2019 Annual Meeting.

For discussion and recommendation

Item 14.b. Draft list of BMT methods in use by participating countries and validation of BMT methods

[TAD/CA/S/RD\(2016\)6/REV4](#)

Presentation by the Secretariat

Delegates will be invited to discuss the updated draft list of Biochemical and Molecular Techniques with the view of its finalisation and to submit a recommendation to the 2019 Annual Meeting.

For discussion and recommendation

Item 14.c. Draft proposal to modify the Rules and Regulations to clarify the role of BMT in the OECD Seed Varietal Certification System

[TAD/CA/S/RD\(2019\)9](#)

The 2018 Annual Meeting agreed to review the Rules and Regulations in order to clarify the role of BMT in the OECD seed varietal certification system, if necessary. The draft proposal will be presented for discussion with the view to prepare a recommendation to the Annual Meeting.

For discussion and recommendation

12:30 -14:00 Lunch break

FRIDAY, 1 FEBRUARY 2019 (14:00 - 17:30)

14:00

Item 15. Addressing critical issues in the OECD Seed Schemes - Evaluation of issues of implementation of the Schemes since the 2018 Annual Meeting

[TAD/CA/S/RD\(2018\)4/REV2](#)

Presentation by the Secretariat

The Secretariat will give provide an update on critical issues and fraud cases which occurred in participating countries since the 2018 Annual Meeting

For information and discussion

14:30

Item 16. EU Fraud Alert System (to be confirmed)

Oral presentation

Presentation by the European Commission

The European Union will be invited to present the newly established reporting system for fraud cases.

For information and discussion

15:00

Item 17. Developing an OECD Seed Alert system

[TAD/CA/S/RD\(2019\)10](#)

Presentation by the Secretariat

The 2018 Annual Meeting approved the Action Plan for the delivery of the Strategic Plan. Developing a seed alert system got a high priority in this document. The Secretariat will invite delegates to discuss the details of this reporting system with the view to prepare a recommendation to the 2019 Annual Meeting

For discussion and recommendation

15:30 Coffee break

16:00

Item 18. Preliminary 2018 Seed Statistics

[TAD/CA/S/RD\(2019\)11](#)

Presentation by the secretariat

The Secretariat will present the preliminary seed statistics for verification.

For information and discussion

Item 18.a. Possible improvements to the OECD Seed Statistics

Oral presentation

Presentation by the Secretariat

Delegates will be invited to discuss the possible improvements to the statistics including the type of information collected, the type of analysis to be provided to participating countries and the use of this information in the improvements to the OECD seed varietal certification system.

For information and discussion

16:30

Item 19. Other business

Depending on the agenda as approved and the time available

17:00

Item 20. Confirmation of outcomes

The TWG will be invited to approve the outcomes of the TWG meeting.

For approval

17:30 End of meeting

ANNEX I
SCHEDULE OF AD-HOC WORKING GROUP MEETINGS¹

29 January 2019, Buenos Aires, Argentina

TIME	AD-HOC WORKING GROUP	MEMBERS
08:00 - 09:20	Intervention processes after certification	Austria, Canada (leader), the Netherlands, New Zealand, South Africa, UK, Coordinating Centre
09:30 - 11:00	Acceptance and control of new seed production techniques	Bulgaria, Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, New Zealand, South Africa, UK, US (leader), EU, AOSA, ESA, ISF, Coordinating Centre
11:30 -13:00	Mixtures of Varieties of the Same Species	Denmark, Canada, France, South Africa (leader), US, UK, ASTA, ESA, ISF, Coordinating Centre
14:30 16:00	Biochemical & Molecular Techniques	Australia, Austria, Canada, France, India, New Zealand, UK, US, AOSA, UPOV, ISTA, ESA, ISF, Coordinating Centre
16:30 18:00	Labelling	Denmark, Egypt, India, New Zealand, The Netherlands, Poland (leader), South Africa, UK, EU, ESA, ISF, ISTA, Coordinating Centre

¹ In order to maintain the efficiency of the work of the Ad-Hoc Working Groups these meetings are reserved only for the members of the respective groups. Delegates who are not a member of these groups may participate in the meetings as observers subject to the capacity of the meeting room.