

# CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of  
the United Nations



World Health  
Organization

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**Agenda Item 7**

**EXEC 70 CRD 03**

**Original language only**

**JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME**  
**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION**  
**Seventieth Session, WHO Headquarters**  
**Geneva, Switzerland**  
**30 June-3 July 2015**

**Europatat**  
**European Potato Trade Association**

## Europatat request of “Observer status” to the Codex Alimentarius Commission

(a) Official name of the organization in different languages (with initials)

Europatat, the European Potato Trade Association.

(b) Full postal address, Telephone, Facsimile and Email, as well as Telex and website addresses as appropriate.

EUROPATAT

European Potato Trade Association

Rue de Trèves 49-51, bte 8

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Belgium

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[secretariat@europatat.eu](mailto:secretariat@europatat.eu)

[www.europatat.eu](http://www.europatat.eu)

(c) Aims and subject fields (mandate) of organization, and methods of operation. (Enclose charter, constitution, by-laws, rules of procedures, etc.). Date of establishment

Europatat has been established in 1952 and was one of the first European organisations in the agriculture wholesale trade. Europatat’s objectives are:

- to improve the commercial and international activities of the potato trade;
- to protect the professional interests and the commercial function on a European and International level;
- to represent the profession in and at all official and international organisations.

As early as in 1956 Europatat established the first Rules and Usages for the Inter European Trade in Potatoes codifying professional usages and instituting a simple and effective procedure for valuation and arbitration, henceforth known under the name RUCIP. Since that time RUCIP has been used for nearly all European transactions.

Europatat is located in Brussels and in its day-to-day work the association keeps regular contact with the services of the European Commission as well as the European Parliament. Besides this, Europatat has received since its establishment the encouragement and support of various official organisations such as the UN-ECE, the FAO or the OECD. Furthermore, Europatat enjoys the day-to-day synergies of a shared office with other EU associations involved in the agri-produce trade.





(d) Member organizations (name and address of each national affiliate, method of affiliation, giving number of members where possible, and names of principal officers. If the organization has individual members, please indicate approximate number in each country. If the organization is of a federal nature and has International Non-Governmental Organizations as members, please indicate whether any of those members already enjoy observer status with the Codex Alimentarius Commission).

Initially set up by national organisations to protect the interests of the wholesale potato merchants, its membership is now open to individual companies active in the potato trade. The full list of members is available in the website at the following address:

[http://www.europatat.eu/asp/members/list.asp?cat\\_id=53](http://www.europatat.eu/asp/members/list.asp?cat_id=53)

(e) Structure (assembly or conference; council or other form of governing body; type of general secretariat; commissions on special topics, if any; etc.).

Europatat is an international non profit association according to Belgian law, it is structured around a General Assembly, a Board and six commissions. The Board consists of the association's President, Vice-President and the Treasurer, and is assisted by an Advisory Committee composed of the Chairmen of each of the six commissions. All Board members are elected for a mandate period of two years. At present Europatat has 6 commissions:

- Seed potatoes, chaired by Jan van Hoogen
- Early potatoes, chaired by Giulio Romagnoli
- Ware potatoes, chaired by Ferdi Buffen
- Packers, chaired by Peter Van Steenkiste
- RUCIP, chaired by Eric Bargy
- Technical & Regulatory issues, chaired by Colin Herron

Emerging or specific issues can be tackled through Ad Hoc working groups.

(f) Indication of source of funding (e.g. membership contributions, direct funding, external contributions, or grants).

Europatat is an international non profit association according to Belgian law. All funding comes from membership fees.

(g) Meetings (indicate frequency and average attendance; send report of previous meeting, including any resolutions passed) that are concerned with matters covering all or part of the Commission's field of activity.

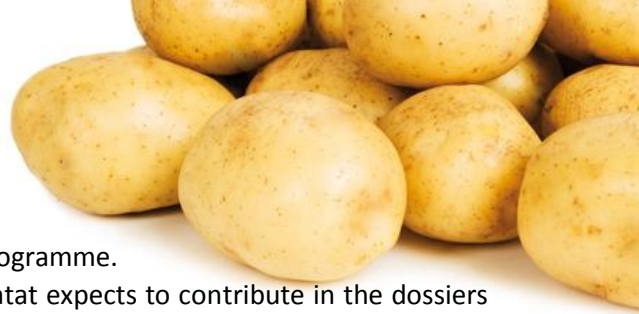
Europatat celebrates its Assembly General Meeting once a year. Europatat's Board meets two to three times a year, as do the different commission. The latest activity report can be found at:

[http://www.europatat.eu/asp/about\\_europatat/page.asp?doc\\_id=496](http://www.europatat.eu/asp/about_europatat/page.asp?doc_id=496)

(h) Relations with other international organizations:

Europatat has received since its establishment the encouragement and support of various official organisations such as the UN-ECE, the FAO or the OECD. Europatat supports the UN-ECE quality standards for early and ware potatoes as a guideline for minimal standards for early and ware potatoes.





(i) Expected contribution to the Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme.

Based on the technical expertise provided by its members, Europatat expects to contribute in the dossiers that might arise in the work of the joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme. As the Association representing the Potato Trade in Europe, Europatat is in a unique position to gather and provide valuable information and useful feedback to the Programme.

(j) Past activities on behalf of, or in relation to, the Codex Alimentarius Commission and the Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme (indicate any relationship by national affiliates with the Regional Coordinating Committees and/or the National Codex Contact Points or Committees for at least the last three years preceding the application).

Europatat has no history on this, except for the Association's active role in the UN/ECE on standardisation of potatoes, fruit and vegetables, where the Secretary General at the time (Mr Romain Cools, currently Secretary General of Belgapom and member of Europatat) attended several meetings in Geneva. Members of Europatat at the national level do have relations and are active in their respective countries.

(k) Area of activity in which participation as an observer is requested (Commission and/or Subsidiary Bodies).

Interest in joining as an observer to the work of the Codex Committee on Fresh Fruits and Vegetables.

(l) Previous applications for observer status with the Codex Alimentarius Commission, including those made by a member organization of the applicant organization. If successful, please indicate why and when observer status was terminated. If unsuccessful, please indicate the reasons you were given.

No previous applications.

(m) Languages (English, French or Spanish) in which documentation should be sent to the International Non-Governmental Organization.

English

(n) Name, Function and address of the person providing the information.

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(o) Signature and date.

Raquel Izquierdo de Santiago  
Europatat Secretary-General  
Brussels, 17 December 2014

