



Fairtrade Fruits & Vegetables Standard Main Changes

Fairtrade Fruits & Vegetables Standard for Small-scale Producer Organisations (SPO) and Traders

The revised Fairtrade Fruits & Vegetables Standard for Small-scale Producer Organisations (SPO) and Traders is the result of a full review undertaken in 2024. The revised Fairtrade Fruits & Vegetables Standard was approved in two meetings by the Standards Committee in December 2024 and July 2025.

This document identifies the key changes made to the Standard and includes a table describing in more detail the extent of the changes made, following the structure of the revised Standard.

This document does not describe the content of the changes in full detail. It does not replace a detailed study of the revised standard, and it is not part of the Standard.

Key changes:

- Full review of the standards for Fresh Fruit, Fresh Vegetables, and Prepared and Preserved Fruits and Vegetables.
- Merge of the standards for Fresh Fruits, Fresh Vegetables, and Prepared and Preserved Fruits and Vegetables
- Alignment with changes in the Fairtrade Trader Standard.

Overview of the new Fairtrade Fruits & Vegetables Standard:

This table shows the most important changes. New requirements or sections are marked as 'New'.

The Fruits & Vegetables Standard will replace the merged standards starting in 1st January 2027, becoming applicable to all organisations at that moment.

Overview of the new Fruits & Vegetables Standard:

This table shows the most important changes, specifying whether these are modifications or new additions.

Standard section	Type of change	New Standard 2026	Comments
1. General Requirements			
1.1 Certification	New	- 1.1.1 Producer Organisation	The 2 years requirement allows for a certain level of business and organizational maturity to have the chance to comply with Fairtrade standards (without a need for excessive producer support), and the market related requirement covers the need for any new PO and for all POs as a whole that Fairtrade works from a cost benefit point of view i.e. without Fairtrade sales there is no additional investment available to deal with compliance costs due to FT standards.
2. Trade			
2.1 Traceability	Amended	- 2.1.1 Traceability System	Requirement now includes an increased level of traceability in Fairtrade supply chains.
2.2 Trading With Integrity	New	- 2.2.1 Fairtrade Contracts Conditions	The addition of this requirement is to reduce the unfair practices that occur when some traders offer to buy under Fairtrade terms if the producer also sells them in conventional terms at a discount to offset the price paid in the Fairtrade transaction.
	New	- 2.2.2 Fairtrade Minimum Price along the supply chain	This change provides safeguards for producers and traders along the supply chain so that the price they receive is at least the minimum price, and no discounts on price are allowed.
	New	- 2.2.3 Fair payment terms	This provides safeguards for producers to reduce payment conditions demanded by the traders along the supply chain.

Standard section	Type of change	New Standard 2026	Comments
3. Production			
3.1 Environmental Protection	Amended	- 3.1.1 Integrated pest management	To improve the environmental provision in the fruit & vegetable standard, it is proposed to extend the scope of the requirement to all the producer organisations of fruits and vegetables.
	New	- 3.1.2 Environmental risk assessment	The fruit and vegetable standards rely mostly on requirements in the generic standards to cover the environmental and climate change topics. During the research phase, stakeholders raised the concern that this should be addressed actively in this standard.
	New	- 3.1.3 Environmental action plan development	Once the organisation has conducted the risk assessment, it is important to use the data gathered to create plans that provide actionable measures to manage the risks identified.
	New	- 3.1.4 Environmental action plan implementation	As the final logical step in response to the environmental risk, the implementation step is one of the most important, as it provides the actions needed to respond to the identified risk.
4. Business and Development			
4.1 Contracts	Amended	- 4.1.1 Fairtrade contracts for payers	To standardise the contracts for fresh fruit and fresh vegetables, and complement the requirements as needed.
	Amended	- 4.1.2 Contracts for oranges for juice	To increase transparency between the first three actors of the supply chain.
4.2 Price and Fairtrade Premium	Amended	- 4.2.5 Payment to individual members	To extend the applicability of the already existing requirement for fresh fruit to the fresh vegetables market.
	Amended	- 4.2.6 Premium reporting	To extend the applicability of the already existing requirement for fresh fruit to the fresh vegetables market.

Standard section	Type of change	New Standard 2026	Comments
4.3 Timely payment	Amended	- 4.3.1 Payment terms at EXW level	To extend the applicability of the already existing requirement for fresh fruit to the fresh vegetables market.
	Amended	- 4.3.2 Payment terms FOB level	To extend the applicability of the already existing requirement for fresh fruit to the fresh vegetables market.
	Amended	- 4.3.6 Timely payment of FMP for oranges for juice	Existing requirements merged (FF HLO 5.4.13 and FF SPO 4.3.6, and in the P&P HLO 5.5.4 and in P&P SPO 4.3.6) from the Fresh Fruit Standard and the Prepared and Preserved Fruit Standard.
4.5 Sharing risk	Amended	- 4.5.1 Information to be included in a quality claim	To extend the applicability of the already existing requirement for fresh fruit to the fresh vegetables market. Additional information is introduced to be provided when issuing a quality claim.
	Amended	- 4.5.6 Charging costs of quality claims	It now includes the sorting and destruction costs
	New	- 4.5.16 Payment terms in case of retro-certification	It now stipulates a payment timeline in cases where the buyer applies retro-certification.
	Amended	- 4.5.17 Informing producers of retro-certification	The requirement now includes a timeline to inform the producers that the buyers have applied for retro-certification
	Amended	- 4.5.18 Informing the certification body of retro-certification	The requirement now includes a timeline to inform the certification body that the buyer applied for retro-certification.