Draft for Public Comment

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Interested committees:

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Introduction

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Please indicate whether you consider the UK should submit a negative (with supporting technical reasons) or positive vote on this draft. Please indicate if you are aware of any reason why this draft standard should not be published as a British Standard.

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Template for comments and secretariat observations

Date: xx/xx/20xx	Document: ISO/DIS xxxx

1	2	(3)	4	5	(6)	7
MB	Clause No./ Subclause No./Annex **(e.g. 3.1)**	Paragraph/ Figure/Table/Note	**Type of comment**	**Commend (justification for change) by the MB**	**Proposed change by the MB**	**Secretariat observations on each comment submitted**
	3.1	Definition 1	ed	Definition is ambiguous and needs clarifying.	Amend to read '...so that the mains connector to which no connection...'	
	6.4	Paragraph 2	te	The use of the UV photometer as an alternative cannot be supported as serious problems have been encountered in its use in the UK.	Delete reference to UV photometer.	

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DRAFT International Standard

ISO/DIS 8961

Traditional Chinese Medicine — Areca catechu seed

ICS: 11.120.10

ISO/TC **249**/SC **1**

Secretariat: **SAC**

Voting begins on:
2025-08-25

Voting terminates on:
2025-11-17

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Foreword

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This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC*249*, *Traditional Chinese Medicine*.

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Introduction

Areca catechu seed, the dried ripe seed of *Areca catechu* L. (Fam. Palmae), is a well-known traditional Chinese medicine. Currently, it is commonly used as one of the main traditional Chinese materia medica in over 100 prescriptions based on its wide spectrum of biological and pharmacological activities, for treating various gastrointestinal, parasitic and oedematous diseases. The global import and export trade volume is huge with sustainable growth in recent years, and the countries of trade mainly include India, China, Thailand, Malaysia, Burma, Cambodia, Indonesia, Vietnam, Nepal and Bangladesh. However, *Areca catechu* seed still has the following concerns in quality control:

1) The processing method, storage pattern and operation technology of *Areca catechu* seed has not been standardized, which may affect the quality and safety of medicinal materials.

2) The requirements of *Areca catechu* seed are different in different countries, including China, Japan, Korea and Thailand. The applicability of standards is limited and affects international trade.

3) *Areca catechu* seed ranked the 39 in the ISO/TR 23975: 2025 Traditional Chinese medicine — Priority list of single herbal medicines for developing standards, which is in the high priority of developing international standards.

Therefore, an international standard is required for *Areca catechu* seed for quality control of the herb and products.

This document aims to build an international standard for harmonizing the existing standards, as well as ensuring the safety and effectiveness of *Areca catechu* seeds, which will benefit farmers, consumers, enterprises and governments involved in the cultivation, regulation and trade of *Areca catechu* seed.

Examples of national and regional values are given in Annex D.

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