



# STANDARDS UPDATE

h - April  
Standards Development Department

## 1 Standards news briefs

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*This bi-monthly newsletter is a publication of the Standards Development Department of UNBS and it highlights the activities undertaken by the departmental staff, as well, meetings and workshops attended.*

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### Establishment of new technical committees

#### TC 14

A new technical committee (TC) on Medical Devices Standards, UNBS/TC 14, has been established to deal with a number of medical devices such as mechanical contraceptives and medical gloves among others. At the international level, a technical committee, ISO/TC/157, exists of which Uganda is an observer member. With the increase in importation of a number of brands of condoms, there is need for standardization of these devices to ensure the health and safety of consumers. UNBS/TC 14 has developed a standard that is meant to assist the importers and manufacturers of condoms. Standards for medical gloves which are used for patient examination and surgical use are also being discussed by TC 14.

#### TC 15

"Halaal" is a term used to describe anything permissible under Islamic law. This includes human behaviour, speech, communication, clothing, conduct manner and dietary laws. As regards food, the law stipulates the types of food that can and cannot be eaten and also the proper method of slaughtering an animal for consumption. With a Muslim population of approximately 33%, Uganda is one of the 57 member countries of Organization of Islamic Conference (OIC) and thus there is a growing consumer demand for halaal certified products. A new technical committee on Halaal Integrity Standards, UNBS/TC 15, has been established in response to this demand, and is expected to deal with aspects of halaal concerning the integrity, credibility, technical and administrative aspects. At OIC level, Uganda participated in discussions of three draft standards concerned with halaal food, certification and accreditation. As a way forward, the committee is tasked with adoption of these standards as national standards through discussions with stakeholders.



Halaal meat at a butchery in Turkey

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normal practice”*

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## Standards approval, July 2009

In the period January - June 2009, a total of 107 Uganda standards have been developed in the areas of food and agriculture, engineering and chemicals and consumer products. Of these, 94 are food and agriculture standards in the sectors of animal feeds, potato products and spices with the aim of supporting value addition in these products. Nine standards have been developed under chemicals and consumer products and these include cosmetics, medical devices and cosmetics; these were developed to guide both the manufacturers and traders and also for the protection of consumer health. The remaining four standards were developed under engineering standards and these include particleboard standards, with the aim of providing guidance in the tendering and procurement process, and guiding both the manufacturers and traders.

## 2 Draft standards highlights

### *DUS 854:2009, Garages - General guidelines for maintenance, service and repair of vehicles and motor cycles*

Over the years, the garage industry has grown throughout Uganda, ranging from the “upper-end” garages to the smaller makeshift ones. With this increase comes a challenge of service provision which is seen as a major problem. A general lack of trust between customer and garages is commonplace nowadays due to disservice by garages to the customers. To try and curb this challenge, a new standard DUS 854:2009, *Garages - General guidelines for maintenance, service and repair of vehicles and motor cycles*, under the technical committee on Transport and Communication Standards, UNBS/TC 10, has been developed that will set minimum requirements for garages to adhere to when providing a service, so as to ensure honest and fair treatment to clients. These guidelines encourage garages to raise their standards and generally, the image of the trade to rebuild customer confidence. The guidelines lay down the principles of maintenance, service and repair of vehicles and also the basic principles that can be used by any procuring agency whether public or private when procuring garage services.



Car owners of vehicle like this one are to expect better services with the future implementation of DUS 854

### *DUS 870:2009, Quality Management Systems - Requirements for cleaning service organizations*

Gone are the days where organizations, most especially in the corporate world, acquire in-house cleaners as part of their staff. Lately, a number of cleaning companies have evolved with organizations and home owners acquiring more of their services. With this in mind, it is necessary for these cleaning companies to provide good quality services to their clients. The technical committee on Management Service Standards, UNBS/TC 10, has developed a standard, DUS 870:2009, *Quality Management Systems - Requirements for cleaning service organizations* which provides policies, processes and procedures and supporting documentation that guide cleaning companies in establishing customer centered organizations.

### DRAFT UGANDA STANDARDS ON SOAPS

US 52, Toilet soap; US 54, liquid detergent; and US 55, powdered laundry detergent have recently come up for review as Uganda standards. The first edition of each of these standards was in 2002. Due to technological advances over the years, there is need for this review of the standards, so as to align Uganda's soap products with these developments. Currently, Uganda chairs the East African standards sub-committee on soap standards, thus the need for review and eventual harmonization of these standards. In addition, a new standard on antibacterial soap, DUS 886-1:2009, *Antibacterial Toilet Soap - Specification - Part 1 Solid Cake*, giving minimum requirements on this soap product, is currently under discussion by the technical committee on Chemicals and Consumer Products Standards, UNBS/TC 5.



### DUS 853:2009, *Code of practice for solar water heating systems – Design, installation, testing and maintenance*

Energy management is the process of monitoring, controlling and conserving energy. It can be achieved by the acquisition of power-saving, monitoring and control equipment. The advantages of energy management include its cost effectiveness, reduction of carbon emissions, thereby protecting the environment, among others. UNBS/TC 13, the Energy Management Technical Committee is in the process of discussing DUS 853, *Code of practice for solar water heating systems – Design, installation, testing and maintenance*. Solar water heating systems include storage tanks and solar collectors. Installation is dependent on the solar resource, climate, local building code requirements and safety issues. Maintenance of the heaters is necessary to keep the system running smoothly. The main requirements of a solar water heating system are that it should absorb energy efficiently and transmit the heat generated with a minimum loss to a storage unit ready for use. Thus it is important that the design fulfill this requirement for the efficient functioning of the system.

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## TC Meeting calendar

### July 2009

22/7	TC 13	Discussing standards on solar water heating systems
29/7	TC 14	Discussing standards on medical devices
27/7	TC 2	Discussing standard on Good Agricultural Practices (GAP)
30/7	TC 10	Discussing cleaning service standards

### August 2009

4/8	TC 2	Discussing standard on Good Agricultural Practices (GAP)
6/8	TC 10	Main committee meeting
11/8	TC 10	Discussing standards on garages
11/8	TC 2	Discussing standard on Good Agricultural Practices (GAP)
13/8	TC 5	Discussing standards on soaps
19/8	TC 13	Discussing standards on solar water heating systems
19/8	TC 10	Discussing standard on cleaning and maintenance of floors
20/8	TC 10	Main committee meeting
25/8	TC 15	Inaugural meeting of Halaal Integrity standards Technical Committee
26/8	TC 13	Discussing standards on solar water heating systems
27/8	TC 14	Discussing standards on medical devices
27/8	TC 5	Discussing standard on antibacterial soap

**NOTE:** All TC Meetings are held in the Committee Room at UNBS, Kanjokya House, unless specified otherwise.

## Meeting and workshops attended

### July 2009

25/5 - 18/7	Training on Product development and quality assurance of selected agro-industrial products, Bangkok, Thailand
12/7 - 17/7	International workshop on Standards and Quality, Selangor, Malaysia
23/7	Meeting at Ministry of Tourism, Trade and Industry on "One Village One Product" (OVOP) Programme, Kampala
23/7	Sugar Sector Working Group meeting, Kampala
27/7	Workshop on Farmer Field Schools (FFS) needs assessment organized by Horticulture Promotion Organization of Uganda, Kampala

- 27/7 Meeting with animal feeds regulators to create awareness about animal feeds standards and discuss on implementation, Kampala
- 31/7 Meeting with Uganda Coffee Development Authority (UCDA) on proposal for development of standards in the coffee sector, Kampala

## August 2009

- 3/8 - 8/8 Workshop on the development of quality standards and grading protocols for gourmet Robusta coffee by Uganda Coffee Development Authority (UCDA), Kampala
- 11/8 - 14/8 Assessment tours of OVOP Projects in Masaka and Bushenyi districts
- 12/8 Consultative workshop on quality control for stove manufacturing companies, Kampala
- 13/8 - 14/8 Assessment tours of OVOP Projects in Soroti and Lira districts
- 17/8 Beauty Alliance Fair, Kampala
- 19/8 Discussion of team proposal on OVOP activities, Kampala
- 24/8 - 29/8 Study tour on groundnut value chain development and market access organized by VECO, Western Kenya
- 26/8 Discussion of team proposal on OVOP activities, Kampala
- 28/8 National launch of OVOP activities, Kampala

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