



**264 Standards
 Developed For
 Approval - Pg.3**

JUDICIARY

LAUNCHES UTILITIES, STANDARDS AND WILDLIFE COURT

**UNBS GETS
 NEW STAFF**

The Judiciary of Uganda, on 26th May, officially launched the Utilities, Standards and Wildlife Court at the High Court Gardens. The specialized court will penalize manufacturers of goods and products that do not conform to specified Uganda Standards. The Court, which will be housed at Buganda Road Court premises, will also prosecute culprits involved in stealing of utilities like power, water, vandalism and killing of wildlife among others.



The Chief Justice Bart Katureebe, who presided over the launch, noted that the creation of yet another specialized court is a big step in saving the country's economy from offenders who were taking advantage to steal and vandalize government utilities. Dr. Ben Manyindo, the UNBS Executive Director, appreciated the judicial team for launching the court. He noted that people are adulterating products without due regard to the health and safety of Ugandans. "I carry the voice of

consumers in Uganda and that of UNBS to urge the Court to be mindful of the health and safety in expediting justice and sending a strong message to the offenders to resist from importing, manufacturing, selling and distributing goods that are fake, dangerous and substandard that may at times lead to illnesses, lost revenue and at times death and loss of property," he said. With the launch of this court, the issue of backlog of cases and delay of court hearings will be eliminated.

**UGANDA NATIONAL
 BUREAU OF
 STANDARDS BEGINS
 PROGRAM TO PROMOTE
 CLEAN COOKING
 TECHNOLOGIES - Pg.3**



News!

UNBS HOSTS EAC HEADS OF BUREAUX

The East African Standards Committee (EASC), from 21st to 23rd June 2017, held the 6th Technical Management Board meeting at Sheraton Hotel Kampala, Uganda.

The meeting convened by the EAC Secretariat and hosted by UNBS, was attended by CEOs from National Standards Bureaux of five partner states (Burundi, Rwanda, Kenya, Tanzania, and Uganda). Participants discussed partner states' comments on the draft Standardization, Accreditation and Conformity Assessment (SACA) Amendment Bill, 2016 and development of the Standards Quality Management, Metrology, and Testing (SQMT/EASC) strategic plan 2017 – 2021. The Strategic plan is envisaged to provide guidance on the development and implementation of SQMT activities in the region to enhance fair trade, competitiveness and support the implementation of the Common Market Protocol in line with the EAC Development Strategy. The TMB recommended that the EASC approve the technical content of the draft SACA Bill 2016 taking into considerations the resolutions of TMB.

UNBS BRIEFS MEDIA ON ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2016/17 FINANCIAL YEAR

The UNBS held a press briefing with major media houses to highlight its key achievements for the Financial Year 2016/2017.

Speaking at the media briefing, Mr. David Livingstone Ebiru, Deputy Executive Director, Management and Financial Services, who represented the Executive Director, welcomed the media and informed them that the briefing was part of UNBS' efforts to be accountable to the public.

He highlighted some of the challenges that the Bureau was facing in executing its mandate including inadequate staffing, smuggling of substandard goods on the market but he added that the Bureau was committed to ensuring that it plays its role of protecting consumers from substandard products. He informed the media that UNBS has partnered with government agencies such as Uganda Revenue Authority (URA), Kampala Capital City (KCCA) and the Uganda Police to boost operations in the country. On the issue of delays in service delivery, Mr. Ebiru informed the media that computerized systems have been put in place to reduce turnaround time. He added that UNBS is in the process of constructing modern labs and is set to complete one block in the coming financial year and review the costs of services. Mr. John Paul Musimami, Deputy Executive Director, Compliance informed journalist that in the last financial year UNBS inspected over, 1,000 businesses and

seized goods worth Shs6 billion. He noted that 6,978 non-conforming potentially harmful products were denied entry into the country. The confiscated goods mainly included cosmetics, electrical appliances, secondhand undergarments and beverages. He emphasized that UNBS will continue to carry out regular surveillance exercises to rid the market of substandard products to ensure the health and safety of consumers.

Mr. Musimami said a number of stakeholder engagements had been undertaken to educate the masses on standards and related issues. Engagements with traders under KACITA, clearing agents, importers, dealers in tyres had been carried out to teach as well as interact with them to understand the challenges they face. Mr. Deus Mubangizi, Manager, Testing, who represented Deputy Executive Director, Standards, informed media that the directorate's key priority was building the capacity of Micro Small and Medium Scale Enterprise (MSMEs) which employ the largest number of people in the country. He noted that Standards were developed to support SMEs and a number of them were certified. He noted that UNBS developed a list of standards covering textiles, steel and furniture to support the Buy Uganda Build Uganda initiative championed by the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Cooperatives (MTIC). The media briefing was also an opportunity for UNBS staff to meet with editors and build relationships for future engagements.

UNBS BEGINS PROGRAM TO PROMOTE CLEAN COOKING TECHNOLOGIES



The UNBS Certification department conducted a workshop to validate plans for cook stove certification as well as to seek feedback from sector stakeholders on standards and the certification criteria. UNBS is spearheading standards and labeling program for clean cook stoves in order to promote the use of clean, efficient, sustainable, affordable and usable cooking technologies and fuels in Uganda. Speaking at the workshop, Mr. Stanley Ahimbisibwe, the Commissioner Ministry of Trade Industry and Cooperatives noted the promotion of local products, in this case cook stoves, under the BUBU program initiated by the ministry. He also highlighted the importance of certification for cook stoves if sector players are looking to expand their reach to regional markets. Prof. Okure Mackay, Technical Committee Chairperson presented the overview of the standard US 761:2007 and as part of the standard development process. He requested participants for their input and feedback regarding the standard. UNBS received support from United Nations Foundation to review US 761:2007 Energy efficiency stoves- Household biomass stoves – Performance requirements and test methods, and to review standards and labelling program for cook stoves in Uganda.



264 STANDARDS DEVELOPED FOR APPROVAL

A total of 264 final draft Uganda Standards have been developed by the relevant Technical Committees for consideration, approval and declaration as Uganda Standards.

Of the 264 draft standards, 104 have been recommended by the relevant Technical Committees for declaration as compulsory standards. The draft standards have been evaluated for impact on safety and health of consumers or users of the products. The draft standards were therefore recommended for consideration and forwarding to the Minister responsible for trade for declaration as compulsory standards in accordance with section 18 of the Act. In addition there are 6 national standards (initially approved as national standards on 13th December 2016), in Section 3.5, under the Medical devices' sector that are being recommended by Technical Committee, UNBS/TC 14, to the NSC for recommendation to the Minister for declaration as compulsory standards. This follows their evaluation by the Technical Committee for impact on the health and safety of consumers. The standards include; 44 standards under Management and services: human resource management,

occupational health and safety, drinking water and waste water management, trade facilitation, anti-bribery, food safety management, conformity assessment, application of ISO 9001, leisure and hospitality management and environmental management; halal and oil and gas industry. 87 standards for Chemicals and consumer products: chemicals and environment, textiles, leather, paper and related products, petroleum and medical devices, 38 standards for Engineering: mechanical engineering and metallurgy, packaging and packaging products, electro technology, furniture and ICT; and 95 standards under Food and agriculture: fruits, vegetables, spices and processed products; fish and fishery products; cereals, pulses and related products and processes; milk and milk products; oilseeds, fats and oils; meat, poultry and processed products; animal feeds and feeding stuffs; food packaging and materials in contact with food; food additives and contaminants; and agrochemicals and veterinary drugs. UNBS is mandated to formulate national standards. Standards are developed through Technical Committees composed of experts drawn from academia, government, industry, consumer groups and civil society. Technical Committees are responsible for recommending Final Draft Uganda Standards (FDUS) to the National Standards Council (NSC) for approval and declaration as Uganda Standards. Section 15 of the UNBS Act (Cap 327, as amended) provides that the NSC may declare standard specifications or codes of practices as national standards for use in Uganda. The NSC may also amend or revoke (withdraw) such declarations. In addition, Section 18 of the UNBS Act (Cap 327, as amended) provides that the NSC may recommend certain national standards for declaration as compulsory by the Minister responsible for trade.



UNBS MEETS TRADERS

In an effort to understand stakeholders' issues and concerns, the UNBS import inspection team held a Pre-Export Verification of Conformity (PVoC) clinic with traders in Kampala.

The Clinic was to enlighten the traders on the new changes in the UNBS processes and to generate feedback on how best UNBS can improve the PVoC services. Ms. Linda Kobere from the Imports inspection department informed the traders about PVoC as a trade facilitation tool. She encouraged that KACITA and UNBS should

partner in the conformity assessment journey.

Members of KACITA expressed their dissatisfaction with the way the process was handled citing problems such as lengthy turnaround time of testing samples. They also mentioned that they did not understand the requirements of imports as UNBS has not made them clear to the traders. They added that although there are some unscrupulous traders, there are also a majority of genuine traders who are being frustrated by UNBS.

However, Ms. Kobere assured the traders that UNBS is an organization that promotes trade and is therefore interested in making trade as smooth a process as possible. She also reiterated that the Bureau will continue to survey the market for traders who cheat customers and remove sub-standard products from the market to protect consumer health and safety.

She however added that UNBS is working around the clock to ensure that the turnaround time for testing of samples be reduced to avoid traders losing money. She concluded that the issues raised were noted to be addressed. A follow up meeting with all stakeholders would be arranged for the traders.

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ANIMAL FEEDS STANDARDS LAUNCHED

The Minister of Trade, Industry and Cooperatives (MTIC), in collaboration with the in collaboration with Insects for Poultry and Fish Feeds (INSFEED) project, on 27th June at Makerere University, launched the Uganda Standard (US 1712:2017) on dried insect products for compounding animal feeds. UNBS developed the standard together with stakeholders including farmers, researchers, nutritionists, traders, Ministry of Trade Industry and Cooperatives and Ministry of Agriculture Animal Industry and Fisheries. The standard was approved on 2nd June in

the last National Standards Council and it provides requirements for quality, safety and the type of insects that can be used in production of animal feeds. Speaking at the launch the Assistant Commissioner Ministry of Trade, Industry and Cooperatives hailed the project and UNBS for the step into making agriculture affordable and sustainable for all. At the launch UNBS carried out demonstrations to teach farmers and other agribusiness entrepreneurs on how to implement the standard.

The Standard is expected to reduce production costs of animal feeds by reducing overreliance on expensive animal inputs. The standard is a result of research, initiated by INSFEED, into identification of suitable insect species that can be substituted with the more expensive feeds, assessing the potential market and nutritional attributes of the products for small scale farmers. As a standards and regulatory body, UNBS was consulted to develop a standard for this purpose.



UNBS AT THE ARSO GENERAL ASSEMBLY



The UNBS Executive Director, Dr. Ben Manyindo, attended the 23rd General Assembly of the African Organisation for Standardisation (ARSO) held in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso.

The meeting was held from 26th to 30th June 2017 under the theme: “Celebrating the year 2017 as the Year of Quality Infrastructure in Africa” and it attracted delegates from all ARSO member states and beyond. ARSO is an intergovernmental Organization established to harmonize African Standards and conformity assessment procedures in order to reduce Technical Barriers to Trade and therefore promote intra-African and international Trade as well as enhance the industrialization of Africa.

UNBS GETS NEW STAFF

In an effort to build its internal capacity and meet the growing demand for its services, the UNBS recruited a number of staff as follows:

ATUHAIRE BRIDGET
PRINCIPAL INSPECTOR - COMPLIANCE AND QUALITY ASSURANCE

NAMUBIRU LAETITIA
PRINCIPAL INSPECTOR - NATIONAL INSPECTION

WALYEND NICHOLAS
PRINCIPAL QUALITY MANAGEMENT OFFICER

OMAIDO MOSES
PRINCIPAL HUMAN RESOURCE OFFICER- LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT

RICHARD BABALANDA
PRINCIPAL PROCUREMENT OFFICER

GODWIN BONGE MUHWEZI
PRINCIPAL PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER

ALUPO EVA
STORES OFFICER

The Bureau also is currently running an internship programme to train the next generation of leaders in developing standards, measurements and conformity assessment. The interns have been given the opportunity to train at the bureau in the different departments of UNBS for 10 weeks.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- # 25th source of the Nile expo organized by National Farmers Federation from 17th – 23rd July 2017
- # Nuclear Science and Technology exhibition on 17th July 2017
- # ISO Regional training on managing National Standards and development projects and programs from 5th-8th September 2017
- # CODEX meeting on fresh fruits and vegetables from 2nd- 6th October 2017

UNBS SEIZES SUBSTANDARD GOODS

The UNBS is mandated to carry out regular inspections of the market to ensure that traders are selling genuine products in the right quantities.

More often UNBS Surveillance Officers come across traders dealing in sub-standard and adulterated products. Recently, UBS Surveillance Officers intercepted the goods mentioned below.



“ *The Bureau will continue to rid the market of goods that do not meet the required standards and culprits will be prosecuted in courts of law.* ”

GOODS	QUANTITY	REASON FOR SEIZURE	WAY FORWARD
ADULTERATED LIQUID DETERGENT (JIK BRAND, HARPIC BRAND) AND VIM	201 liters of jik 108 liters harpic 79 kg vim	Adulterated products are suspected not meet requirements of relevant standards.	The goods were seized and transferred and handed over to cps, kampala together the suspect. the cid officers attached to unbs are following up the case.
ANTIBACTERIAL LIQUID SOAP (DETTOL)	72 cartons	The liquid soap was being re-labelled and thus suspected not to meet requirements of the standard.	The goods were seized and transferred to UNBS Head Office and the case will be reported to police for prosecution.
ADULTERATED LIQUID DETERGENT (JIK BRAND, HARPIC BRAND)	117 empty bottles	Exhibits relating to counterfeiting of JIK detergent. 1. Empty JIK Bottles (117 Bottles) 2. Stickers with JIK Label (1 Roll) 3. Stickers with Harpic Label (20 Pieces) 4. Paper Box labelled JIK (1 Box) 5. Red Bottle Tops/Caps (13 Pieces)	The goods were and handed over to police at Kafumbe Mukasa road police post where the case was registered under ref No: SD 13/21/06/017. The case was reported to CID Officers attached to UNBS for follow up.

UNBS NOTIFIES THE PUBLIC OF SUBSTANDARD GOODS ON MARKET

UNBS wishes to inform and warn the general public that electrical and electronic products whose brand names are listed here on the right under category I, II, III, IV, V and VI do not meet safety and performance requirements of the compulsory Uganda standard specifications.

CATEGORY I » COMPACT FLUORESCENT LAMP; WHITE LIGHT ENERGY SAVER BULBS

MAX CATA	CIXING	PAMA	PROXY
APOLLO	LONGSTAY	LESO	PHILUX
PAMA	PROXY	TOPMAX	KUNPENG
ONIX			

CATEGORY II » PORTABLE SOCKET OUTLET

RK TRUST (KING CANADA) BRAND	LANWANG BRAND
BEST ASTRA ENGLAND BRAND	ANQUAN BRAND
POWER KING ENO BRAND	GREENCOW BRAND
GUOKANG BRAND	

CATEGORY III » PORTABLE IMMERSION HEATERS

SADEK BRAND	RUSSIAN BRAND
HEJ BRAND	GERMAN BRAND
XIN FANG FAN BRAND	EDEER BRAND
BADA BRAND	MARSHAL BRAND
BESTWAYS BRAND	

CATEGORY IV » DRY ELECTRIC IRON (FLAT IRON)

HETECH BRAND	HE-HOUSE BRAND
ROYAL MASTER BRAND	

CATEGORY V » ELECTRIC CORDLESS AUTOMATIC KETTLE

MENGACHI BRAND MQ – 201A	GEEPAS BRAND GMG 186
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CATEGORY VI » ELECTRIC BLENDER

GOOD KITCHEN MODEL GK99



UNBS DESTROYS SUB-STANDARD PRODUCTS IN MBALE

Uganda National Bureau
of Standards destroyed
substandard goods worth Shs50
million that were seized from
Mbale.

About 90 per cent of the goods were electrical products including extension cables, solar panels, primary batteries, percolators, sockets, compact fluorescent lamps, tiles, blenders etc. Others were cement and motorcycle helmets

Innocent Namara, Senior Inspector said the goods were intercepted at border points. She warned traders against importing items which do not meet requirements of the standards.

She further said helmets failed drop tests parameter, electrical products failed resistance to abnormal heat and conductor diameter and cement failed a comprehensive strength test.

Namara noted that the MOU signed between UNBS and URA has helped in ensuring that substandard goods are not released from the customs areas before they are destroyed or re-exported.

UGANDA NATIONAL
BUREAU
OF STANDARDS



HEAD OFFICE

Plot 2-12 Bypass Link Bweyogerere | Business and industrial park | Telephone: 0414 534357

Email : unbs@infocom.co.ug

OTHER OFFICES

Uganda National Bureau of Standards
Plot M217 Nakawa | Industrial Area
P. O. Box 6329 Kampala - Uganda

TOLL FREE : 0800133133

Telephone : 0414 222367 / 505995

Fax : 0414 286123 | Email: info@unbs.go.ug

www.unbs.go.ug