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Standards BULLETIN

JUNE 2019

UNBS Celebrates 30 Years with Blood Donation Drive

The Uganda National Bureau of Standards (UNBS) launched celebrations to mark thirty years of service with a blood donation drive in partnership with Uganda Blood Transfusion Services to cater for the increasing demand for blood among health centers across the country.



Hon. Amelia Kyambadde launching the UNBS@30 logo

"Quality is life, life is quality"



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Speaking at the function as the Chief Guest, the Minister of Trade Industry and Cooperatives, Hon. Amelia Kyambadde, commended UNBS for the initiative to address the increasing demand for blood in hospitals. "Our hospitals are in constant need of blood and I want to thank you for undertaking such an activity as part of your

“ In 1994 UNBS developed the first Uganda Standard US 201:1994 portable drinking water; to-date we have developed 3,621 standards which have contributed to government efforts to promote locally manufactured products under the Buy Uganda, Build Uganda (BUBU) policy, Dr. Manyindo said. ”

corporate social responsibility," Hon. Kyambadde said. Hon. Kyambadde also commended UNBS for introducing the Use of Distinctive Mark Regulation 2018 which

makes it mandatory for goods covered by compulsory standards to be certified before they are allowed on the market. "This regulation will go a long way in improving the competitiveness of locally manufactured products. It is in line with the policy target of certifying 75% of locally manufactured products," Hon. Kyambadde said.

The Executive Director, UNBS, Dr. Ben Manyindo highlighted key achievements of UNBS over the 30 years. Dr Manyindo noted that UNBS started by offering limited services but it has since transformed into fully fledged standardization body offering a full range of services including standards development, product and management systems certification, product testing, calibration of equipment, verification of measuring equipment, imports inspection, and market surveillance, among others.

"In 1994 UNBS developed the first Uganda Standard US 201:1994 portable drinking water; to-date we have developed 3,621 standards which have contributed to government efforts to promote locally manufactured products under the Buy Uganda, Build Uganda (BUBU) policy," Dr. Manyindo said.

He noted that UNBS laboratory

testing at UNBS has grown from carrying out relatively simple tests like PH, moisture content and product dimensions, to offering complicated tests such as pesticide residue analysis of foods and detection and quantification of veterinary drug residues in foods of animal origin and detection and quantification of pathogenic (disease causing) microorganisms in food and non-food products.

Dr. Manyindo added that the UNBS labs are now internationally accredited which means their results are recognized globally. "Our labs now act as centers of excellence in training other laboratory practitioners from industry and other government institutions both from Uganda, the EAC region, and many African countries," Dr. Manyindo added. UNBS has also decentralized its services to regional offices in Gulu, Mbale and Mbarara to increase access of its services upcountry. UNBS also has offices Lira, Katwe, Jinja that focus on weights and measures.

Dr. Manyindo noted that UNBS has automated most of its services to improve efficiency and accessibility. "All our electronic services can be accessed on the UNBS mobile app and website," he said.



UNBS accredited to offer ISO Certification; launches new Systems Certification Mark

The Uganda National Bureau of Standards (UNBS) held a breakfast meeting on 12th June 2019 with stakeholders to celebrate its accreditation by the South African National Accreditation System (SANAS) to offer International Organisation for Standardisation (ISO) Management Systems Certification.



The Minister of Trade, Industry and Cooperatives, Hon. Amelia Kyambadde launches the New Systems Certification as part of the celebrations to mark UNBS accreditation to offer ISO certification.

The SANAS accreditation means that UNBS is now internationally recognised to provide certification services to organisations for Food Safety Management Systems (ISO 22000) and Quality Management Systems (ISO 9001). During the celebrations, UNBS also launched the new systems certification mark.

Speaking at the ceremony, the Chief Guest, the Minister of Trade Industry and Cooperatives, Hon. Amelia Kyambadde, noted that the UNBS accreditation is important to Uganda because it will enable local companies to get certified to international standards which will allow them access to international markets. "One of the Policy Objectives in the National Standards and Quality Policy Implementation Plan is to support the Private Sector especially MSMEs to conform to set standards and to comply with technical regulations," Hon. Kyambadde said.

According to ISO, a management system is "the way in which an organization manages the inter-related parts of its business in order to achieve its objectives including, among others, product or service

quality, operational efficiency, environmental performance, health and safety in the workplace." UNBS joins acclaimed multinational service providers of ISO management systems certification that comply with international requirements.

The Chairperson, National Standards Council said, the accreditation will go a long way increasing the competitiveness of Ugandan products and services in international markets. She called on the private sector use the accreditation as an opportunity to standardize their systems and processes to conform to ISO Standards, thereby giving customers confidence that you able to meet their expectations.

The UNBS Executive Director, Dr. Ben Manyindo said: "The accreditation means that UNBS has been accepted and recognised at international level to offer ISO management systems certification in a competent, consistent and impartial manner."

"This accreditation will give Ugandan companies an opportunity to certify their organisational systems and processes at an affordable cost to

demonstrate that their services meet international standards and therefore capable of meeting customer expectations," Dr. Manyindo said.

"The certificates issued by UNBS are now recognised worldwide thereby facilitating international trade. It gives us a competitive advantage in a market dominated by large foreign multinationals. We intend to use this accreditation to expand our market share of ISO certification," Dr. Manyindo added.

This accreditation adds to the UNBS chemistry and microbiology laboratories which are internationally accredited by SANAS.

SANAS is a signatory to the International Accreditation Forum (IAF) which gives it world-wide recognition as a competent body for carrying out independent evaluation of certification bodies against recognised standards. International accreditation agreements provide a mechanism that allows accredited certificates to be accepted around the world which reduces the risk of products and services being rejected in international markets.

UNBS Contracts new General Goods PVoC Service providers

Uganda National Bureau of Standards has contracted TUV Rheinland, Intertek International Ltd, Société Générale de Surveillance S.A (SGS) as the new service providers for Pre-Export Verification of Conformity (PVoC) for general goods effective 1st June 2019.



UNBS Deputy Executive Director, Mr. David Livingstone Ebiru signs a contract with the TUV Rheinland Managing Director, Mr. Fares Naouri, to provide PVoC inspection services across the world.

The three service providers were contracted after a competitive procurement process. They will be responsible for carrying out conformity assessments of general goods worldwide to ascertain that meet comply with standards before they are imported into the country in line with the Imports Inspection and Clearance Regulation, 2018.

1. TUV Rheinland

Middle East FZE 4EA, 401 of P.O. Box 293542, Dubai, United Arab Emirates.
Tel: +971561753276, +256752603128

2. Intertek International Ltd

1-9 Brook Street Brentwood, Essex, England, CM14 5NQ, United Kingdom

3. Société Générale de Surveillance S.A (SGS)

of 1 Place des Alpes, 1211 Geneva 1, Switzerland

The following are the contact details of their Uganda Country Offices:

1. Intertek International Ltd
UAP Nakawa Business Park
Block A 2nd Floor
Plot 3 - 5, PORTBELL ROAD,
Kampala, Uganda
Telephone: +256414231990
Fax: +256 414 232 990
Mobile: 0756 720547
Email: info.ugandapvoc@intertek.com
Website: www.intertek.com

3. SGS Uganda Limited

1st Floor Block B
Plot 1, Kololo Hill Drive

P.O. Box 63
Kampala – Uganda

Tel: +256 392 739 966 / +256 204 971 003

Direct line : +256 204 971 008

Mobile: +256 794 974 408 / +256 772 739 968

Email: barbra.sayuni@sgs.com

Website: www.ug.sgs.com

Furthermore, UNBS resumed Pre-export Verification of Conformity (PVoC) in the country of export for used motor vehicles effective 31st March 2019 (Bill of lading date). This is applicable for used motor vehicles being imported from the following countries: Japan, UAE, UK, Hong Kong, Singapore and South Africa. The inspection has been contracted and assigned to East Africa Automobile (EAA) and Jabal Kilimanjaro Auto Mech as the only two approved service providers for the inspection of used motor vehicles for road worthiness until further notice.

The Contact details of contracted Service Providers for used motor vehicles inspection are as follows:

1. East Africa Automobile Service Co. Ltd

101, 1-20-5 Rinkan, Yamato city;
Kanagawa 242-0003, Japan
Tel: +81 46 205 7611
Mob: +971 566950210
Fax: +81-46-205-7610
Email: info@eaa-s.com
www.eaa-s.com

Japan:

HEAD OFFICE

1 Chome-20-5 Rinkan, Yamato-shi,
Kanagawa-ken 242-0003 Japan
Telephone: +81 046 205 7611
Fax: +81 046 205 7610
Email: info@eaa-s.jp
Singapore:
STA Vehicle Inspection Center,
302 Sin Ming Road,
575627 Singapore
Telephone: +65 6452 1398
Email: info@eaa-s.jp

South Africa

Automotive Consultants SA (PTY) Ltd
Unit 6, River Gardens 172 Premary
Ridge Reservoir Hills Durban, Kwa-
Zulu Natal Contact: Ms Kelly Govender
Telephone: +27 76 758 3938 Email:
vehicleinspections1@gmail.com
United Kingdom:

Capstan House Opposite Berth 24

Tilbury Port
Essex RM18 7HL
Telephone: +44 7717893519
Email: info@eaa-s.com
www.eaa-s.com

2. Jabal Kilimanjaro Auto Elect. Mech.

P.O. Box 68232, Sharjah, U.A.E.
Tel: +9716-5319361;
Fax: +9716 5319362
Email: jkilimanjaro_07@yahoo.com
Website: www.jkmanjaro.comWebsite

UNBS Gets New Solar Battery and Panel Testing Equipment

Uganda National Bureau of Standards (UNBS) on 24th June 2019 received electrical testing laboratory equipment that conduct tests on solar Photovoltaic (PV) equipment.



UNBS Deputy Executive Director – Standards, Ms Patricia Bageine Ejalu receives testing equipment to conduct tests on solar Photovoltaic (PV) equipment from DFID Programme Manager Ms Lydia Nandawula at UNBS Head Office.

The donation was received from the Department for International Development (DFID) through the United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF).

This is part of the activities where UNCDF contracted CREEC in partnership with Energy Without Borders to implement a Consumer Protection and Awareness campaign on behalf of the Uganda Solar Energy Association [USEA] for off-grid solar in support of the priority actions outlined in the Energy Africa Compact with support from the Department for International Development (DFID).

As part of the program, several activities have been carried out namely; developing a quality assurance framework for the solar sector, awareness campaigns and solar technician trainings conducted both in West Nile and the Eastern region and a capacity building training for both UNBS and URA market surveillance team.

The two laboratory testing equipment- the Cadex C8000 battery testing system and the Seaward PV200 solar panel tester were received by the Acting Executive Director Ms. Patricia Ejalu.

While handing over the equipment, the UNCDF representative Mr. Julius Mugalu noted that local development is about improving quality of life at the grassroots level.

"Increasing the capacity and fiscal space of authorities such as UNBS can empower secondary cities, towns, and rural areas to contribute in important ways to national social and economic development goals. This calls for an approach that mobilizes public and private resources, especially at the domestic level, for investment in resilient local economies and societies," he said.

Speaking at the handover ceremony held at UNBS headquarters, Ms Ejalu thanked UNCDF, CREEC and DFID for

the much needed support saying it goes a long way in ensuring that the solar equipment market is able to rely on UNBS test methods to ensure safe and long lasting products.

"As the standards body charged with the mandate of ensuring that products on the market are safe, we are continually trying to deliver on our mission with limited budgets. As a result, essential equipment for testing is often too costly and inaccessible and yet the industry is growing. We are grateful to our partners and donors for this generous donation to help in this regard," she said.

This equipment will go a long way in building the capacity of UNBS and increase the quality of solar panels and batteries on the Ugandan market. The handover was officiated by top officials from DFID Uganda, UNCDF, USEA, and CREEC.

UNBS gets ISolution System and Video Conferencing Facilities

Uganda National Bureau of Standards on 27th May 2019 received an ISolution and Video Conferencing facilities from from USAID and the East Africa Investment Hub.



UNBS Executive Director, Dr. Ben Manyindo with Mr Mac Shiman, the Chief of Party, East Africa Investment Hub sign documents to acknowledge receipt of ISolution and Video Conferencing facilities from USAID and the East Africa Investment Hub.

The facilities will benefit UNBS through increased efficiency of the process of standards development by improving the public enquiry process, enhancing transparency, openness and awareness on new standards and to facilitate information and documents disseminations to national experts as well as reducing cost of participation in standardization at regional and international level.

UNBS secured the in-kind Grant from USAID, through the East Africa trade and Investment Hub. The grant included;

- Payment of ISolutions' subscription fees to ISO/CS for the 1st year of ISolutions acquisition.
- Facilitation to the consultant from the ISO/Cs to travel to UNBS to undertake local system configuration and initial training.
- Procurement and installation of ICT equipment including one unit of

video conferencing facility and seven laptops.

- Support towards training of the larger stakeholders (TC members) in ISolutions application.

The ISolution system and Video Conferencing facilities were received by the UNBS, Executive Director, Dr. Ben Manyindo.

While handing over the facilities, the East Africa Trade Hub and Investment representative said the facilities are part of the Uganda's participation in the Worlds standards development initiative. He also noted that the facilities will add value to the implementation of standards.

Speaking at the handover ceremony held at UNBS headquarters, Dr. Manyindo thanked USAID Uganda Mission and the East Africa Trade Hub for the support given towards the

accomplishment of the project.

"UNBS would like to thank the American People for supporting the economic growth of Uganda through various initiatives. We also would like to thank the East Africa Trade Hub for the effective coordination that guaranteed the success of the project. We trust that the cooperation already established will continue to grow and look towards to many more engagements as we deliver services to the people of Uganda," he said.

UNBS is committed to ensuring that the ISolution system remain working to facilitate standards development process to deliver better quality standards.

The handover was officiated by officials from USAID and East Africa Development Hub.

UNBS, MAAIF hold stakeholder training in veterinary residue management in animal products

Uganda National Bureau of Standards (UNBS) together with Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries (MAAIF), on 23rd May 2019, co-hosted a Food Safety workshop supported by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) to enhance systematic national monitoring programme for residues for veterinary drug residues in a range of foods of animal origin.



UNBS Deputy Executive Director – Standards, Ms Patricia Bageine Ejalu with participants at the Food safety workshop

The objective is to provide support to Uganda in strengthening the food safety control system with focus on veterinary drug residues in animal products other than beef and to enhance systematic national monitoring of contaminants, specifically veterinary drug residues. Speaking at the opening of the workshop, the Deputy Executive Director-Standards, Mrs. Patricia Bageine Ejalu emphasized the need to enhance competitiveness of Ugandan products even before export.

“We need to move away from crisis management and establish a mechanism to combat challenges before they happen.” She said.

She thanked IAEA for the support, both in terms of equipment and technical expertise to ensure that Ugandan products can be accepted on the international market.

Uganda faces a number of food safety challenges, among which are that there is no body mandated to handle all food safety issues leading to

coordination problems and scattered data and information.- Fragmented Food Safety System, limited national data on food safety problems resulting from drug and chemical residues and other contaminants in foods, implementation of policies and enforcement of regulations and food safety standards is very weak, a lack of a national Residue monitoring plan in animal products except for fish & honey and limited resources allocated and little earmarked for

UNBS Hosts TMEA National Organising Committee

The 35th TradeMark East Africa (TMEA) National Oversight Committee meeting was held at Standards house. The meeting was chaired by the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of East African Community Affairs Uganda, Ms. Edith Mwanje who thanked UNBS for hosting the meeting.

The meeting considered a broad range of issues: economic and trade affairs, foreign affairs, tourism, security and youth affairs.

The UNBS Deputy Executive Director-Standards Ms Patricia Ejalu thanked all members for coming to UNBS and she appreciated TMEA for the support provided to UNBS during strategy 1 and 2 and was looking forward to the continued partnership with TMEA, its partners and donors.

"As UNBS we appreciate all NOC members for your efforts in overseeing implementation of TMEA supported projects in Uganda", she said.

On a project level, the chairperson acknowledged the work done by TMEA to ensure that the Elegu one stop border point constructed infrastructure had been occupied by border agencies as well as the South Sudan Customs Services. In addition, women cross border traders had also occupied the space to provide women with opportunities for trade at the border.

Ms Patricia Ejalu reported that UNBS has improved real time generation of reports through automation of its services. She added that clearance time had reduced from an average of 2 days to an average of 1.5 hours

for consignments with certificates of conformity.

The meeting which included a visit to the Materials laboratory that houses the Universal Testing Machine (UTM) donated to UNBS by TMEA noted the impact of trade facilitation especially at the border points.

The meeting was attended by the Uganda Revenue Authority Commissioner General Ms Doris Akol, the Assistant Commissioner General Mr. Dickson Kateshumbwa, and the TMEA Country Director, economists from DFID and officials from TMEA Kenya and Burundi.

UNBS attends the ISO workshop on marketing and communication in Geneva, Switzerland

Following the success of the ISO regional workshop on Marketing and Communication for English Speaking Countries in East, Central, Southern and West Africa, that was hosted by Uganda National Bureau of Standards (UNBS) and sponsored by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) in November 2018 in Uganda, a follow up workshop coupled with the ISO Marketing and Communications Forum was held in Geneva, Switzerland.

UNBS was represented by the Senior Information Officer Mr. Maurice Musuga who attended the intensive three-day program, which included both pre-workshop and post-workshop assignments from 3-5th April.

The regional workshop was implemented as part of the ISO Action Plan for Developing countries 2016-2020 that aims to support the development and/or strengthening of the national quality infrastructure (NQI) of developing countries and promote increased involvement of developing country members in international standardization.

The objectives of the workshop were to equip participants with knowledge on how to; identify the market and customers for standards, establish

marketing and communication plans and the ISO commercial policy for the sales of standards.

The workshop aimed at sharing experience on Marketing and Communication with regard to the work done by each organization following the ISO regional workshop. Communication and marketing staff from ISO member countries exchanged information about their action plans developed to overcome challenges related to communication and marketing of Standards.

The workshop was also an opportunity for participants to share and learn from each other's best practices. The ISO Marketing and Communication Forum was designed for ISO member communication and marketing staff, and was a great

opportunity to meet peers and exchange what works and what does not when it comes to marketing and communication about standards and standardization.

The Plenary sessions covered topics of interest to individuals working in both communication and marketing, and a number of breakout sessions were organized to enable us to explore in smaller groups specific topics designed to target the communicator or the marketer.

Uganda presented a paper on the "IMPROVING THE VISIBILITY AND CORPORATE IMAGE OF UNBS" which highlighted the UNBS Communication and Marketing Strategy, and the work done in promoting the use and compliance to Uganda Standards.

UNBS and Ministry of Energy Sensitise Arua Residents on Fuel Quality and Quantity

Each year, the fuel marking and quality monitoring program organizes a fuel campaign to sensitize the public on issues related to fuel quality and quantity served in retail stations as a commitment to satisfy the requirements of the relevant Uganda standards.



UNBS and Ministry of Energy Staff under taken sensitization on fuel quality and quantity.

The awareness campaign was held in West Nile region of where the team met with motorists, cyclists and the general public to raise awareness on issues of fuel quality and quantity.

During the campaign, UNBS and FMP sensitized stakeholders from different fuel station outlets and the focus was on how to detect pumps that dispense less fuel, and quality of fuel.

Rev. Frank Tukwasibwe the Commissioner for petroleum supply

said fuel tankers often have the quality of their fuel altered at borders. "We are aware that when these tanks load the fuel, the quality is known and documented, but when they reach the border, the quality changes from what is reflected in the documents," Tukwasibwe said.

The sensitization exercise was organized by Uganda National Bureau of Standards (UNBS) and Fuel Marking and Quality Monitoring Program (FMP).

The Fuel Marking and Quality Monitoring Program (FMP) is a government Program designed to control and monitor the quality of petroleum products in the entire supply chain in Uganda. The program is to detect adulteration and dilution of fuel and/or the entry of unmarked (smuggled or dumped) fuel into the Ugandan market. This is done at the entry points (Busia, Malaba and Mutukula borders).

UNBS hosts YMCA students on a study tour

Every year, Uganda National Bureau of Standards (UNBS) welcomes secondary school, college and university students to spend the day at work with them. On a visit to our headquarters, they get a glimpse into the practical world of work, and they get a behind-the-scenes learning experience too.

UNBS hosted 100 students from Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA) Institute to a curriculum-focused tour. The visit included a presentation on the services that UNBS offers and their relevance to the students' courses,

followed by a tour of the Materials laboratory where students were able to see test methods firsthand. UNBS' Principal Public Relations Officer, Mr. Godwin Muhwezi informed the students about the history of the

UNBS in Uganda, its achievements and its role in the economic development of the country as regulator of the manufacturing sector.



UNBS soccer team poses for a photo

CORPORATE GAMES RESULTS

SOCCER

UNBS 0: 3 Uganda Baati

UNBS 3: 0 ORYX

UNBS 1: 2 Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development

BASKETBALL

UNBS lost but the MVP was Solomon Rukundo who scored 3 pointers

VOLLEYBALL

UNBS won the two games with Felix Walire in good command of the team