

# Viwang

## *E-Newsletter*



ISSUE NO: 025 JULY - SEPTEMBER 2022

TBS, the Home of Standards





# Enhance quality to penetrate wide African market, entrepreneurs told



*The Director of Trade Development in the Ministry of Investment, Industry and Trade, Mr. Christopher Mramba (centre), presents an award to one of the winners of the National Quality Awards 2020/2021 during the awards presentation ceremony at TBS offices, Ubungu, Dar es Salaam.*

**By Staff Reporter**

**E**ntrepreneurs have been challenged to enhance the quality of their goods as an important criteria in penetrating the wide African markets.

This was said by the Director of Trade Development in the Ministry of Investment, Industry and Trade, Mr. Christopher Mramba at a National Quality Awards 2021/2022 event.

“Penetrating the wider African market, countries have started to implement the African Continental Free Trade Area (ACFTA) agreement which will be possible and beneficial only if locally made goods are of high quality,” he said.

He added that entrepreneurs should take advantage of the wide African market as Afri-

can countries have approved the African Quality Policy.

Mr. Mramba said the National Quality Awards were established by the members of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) to recognise and promote the business sector; and that it is from that backdrop that the government through the Ministry of Investment, Industry and

Trade established the National Quality Awards that are being coordinated by the Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS).

He said the granting of the National Quality Awards was an indication that this year's awards season had been closed and the 2022/23 season's awards launched.

Speaking on behalf of the TBS Director General, the TBS Director of Standards Development, Mr. David Ndibalema, advised producers and service providers that the best way to protect locally made goods and services is to increase the quality of

the products at affordable costs.

Mr. Ndibalema said manufacturers and services providers should cultivate the culture of producing quality goods to compete with the imported commodities.

"Manufacturers and services providers need to know the difference between quality and competition. This is the best way to boost business and arrive at the fourth industrial revolution," he added.

He said this is the second season of the national quality awards for recognising and congratulat-

ing individuals and institutions that have performed outstandingly in quality in production.

He said the awards are also aimed at sensitizing innovation and improvement of locally made products after meeting national standards.

The Director said the 2021/22 awards have been prepared based on five features namely the best company of the year, the best product of the year, the best service of the year, the best seller of the year and an individual who did better in quality issues.



*A section of entrepreneurs who attended the National Quality Awards ceremony at TBS offices Ubungu, Dar es Salaam.*



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## DC hails TBS for equipping laboratory experts

By Neema Mtemvu

**N**yamagana District Commissioner, Ms Amina Makilagi has hailed the Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS) for organising training to equip the staff working in the quality and investigation laboratories on the science of measurements to enhance efficiency in day-to-day obligations.

"The training imparts you with important skills to enhance efficiency in dealing with quality and investigation and ensure provision of correct results," she said at the opening of the training on behalf of the Mwanza Regional Commissioner.

She added that the training will be an incentive and catalyst in enhancing efficiency in laboratories and provi-

sion of correct test results.

She said Mwanza is a strategic region and that there are ongoing projects including those in the construction and health sectors, thus the training will be useful.

On his part, the TBS Director General, Dr. Athuman Ngenya said the training to laboratory experts will enhance their capacity in handling measurements and testing of the quality of commodities.

Among the participants in the training were the Head of Weigh Bridges from the Tanzania Roads Agency (Tan-Roads), Mr Joseph Kalala and the representative from SGS Tanzania, Suma Mwakyembe.

***"TBS mark of quality:  
An assurance that you  
are buying a quality  
product"***



## TBS partnership with Local Government Authorities commendable

Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS) has entered into cooperation in execution of its powers and functions with the Local Government Authorities.

The reason for this cooperation is to increase the effectiveness of TBS in managing the control of food and cosmetics products throughout the country, hence expanding the scope of products controlled by the Bureau and having a nationwide network in quality and safety control activities for food and cosmetics.

The legal basis for the cooperation is the authority given to the Minister responsible for Investment, Industry and Trade under Section 36 (1) and 36 (3)(g) of the Standards Act, Chapter 130. In sharing these responsibilities and powers, the Minister has also considered section 113 (2) of the Lo-

cal Government (District Authorities) Act, Chapter 287 and section 57(2) of the Local Governments Act, Local Government (Urban Authorities) Act, Chapter 288. These articles require the Authorities to carry out duties assigned by the Government.

The following regulations were therefore enacted under the Standards Act Chapter 130 which governs the implementation of this exercise: a) The Standards (Cooperation in Execution of Powers and Functions) Regulations, 2021, b) The Standards (Recall, Seizure and Disposal of Products) Regulations, 2021, c) The Standards (Fees and Charges) Regulations, 2021, d) The Standards (Registration of Premises and Certification of Products) Regulations, 2021, e) The Standards (Appointment of Inspectors) Notice, 2021 and f) The Standards

(Compounding of Offences) Regulations, 2021.

The Bureau has conducted a series of trainings to the Local Government Authorities (LGAs) officials, aimed at enabling the Authorities to understand the powers and responsibilities given to them by the Bureau so as to better implement these activities in accordance with the laws, regulations and guidelines.

The trainings aimed at enabling the participants to understand the Standards Act Cap.130 and its regulations involved in the management and implementation of these duties; providing clarity on how best to exercise the powers and responsibilities given to them by the Bureau; enabling participants to understand how to conduct inspections of food and cosmetics premises; and educating them on how to handle substandard goods seized during inspections, just to mention a few. Also, the participants were able to understand the online application system that is used to apply for the registration of premises.

The cooperation includes the following specified activities:

- a) registering and inspecting any premises to ascertain compliance with standards, codes of practice and guidelines as prescribed by the Bureau from time to time;
- b) ensuring cleanliness and sanitary nature of the premises, harvesting, slaughtering, milking and fishing operations for raw materials to be used in the manufacture or preparation of food and the environment in which the operations are carried out do not pose a threat to the safety of food;
- c) ensuring contaminants, pests and diseases of animal and plant origin are controlled in such a way that they do not pose a threat to food safety;
- d) taking health measures in food premises, cleanliness of utensils and equipment;

- e) issuing registration certificate for food and cosmetics premises;
- f) receiving information from the Bureau regarding the presence of banned and condemned products or commodities;
- g) informing the Bureau on outbreaks of food related diseases or the presence of banned and condemned products or commodities;
- h) taking lawful, necessary and reasonable measures to prevent the presence of banned and condemned products or commodities in the market; and
- i) taking necessary legal action in relation to violation of Regulations.

The cooperated functions include:

- a) Receiving applications, grant premise registration certificate and collect fees and charges for slaughterhouses or abattoir, butchery, restaurants, bars and canteen, groceries, food store, posho mills, food vendors, caterers and retail food shops; save for industrial warehouse for pre-packaged food, exporter and importer warehouse for pre-packaged food, supermarkets, hotel containing more than 20 rooms with either restaurant or bar or both;
- b) Conducting routine inspections of food premises and products as per provided guidelines;
- c) Conducting routine inspection of cosmetics premises and products as per provided guidelines;
- d) Conducting inspections of banned and condemned products in the market as per provided guidelines;
- e) Conducting monitoring and evaluation of co-operated functions; and

f) In exercising these cooperation functions, collaborate with all relevant government organs that have been mandated to perform these functions.

In performing the duties outlined, the Local Government Authorities inspectors have the following responsibilities:

a) entering and inspecting any premises to ascertain adherence to standards, code of practice and guidelines issued by the Bureau;

b) seizing non-pre-packed food, pre-packed food, banned and condemned products found in the course of inspection;

c) call for or require any person to produce any documents relating to any products under inspection;

d) disposing banned and condemned products in a manner prescribed by the Bureau;

e) inspecting food and cosmetics premises, their environment, cleanliness of utensils and equipment, hygienic condition of a person who owns, operates or is in charge of food premises;

f) inspecting and taking samples of any commodity or any material or substance used, or

likely to be, or capable of being used or sold; and  
g) taking any reasonable actions as the case may be.

The Bureau's zonal offices shall therefore be the representative of the Bureau within the jurisdiction of relevant authority for which such zone is established. The Bureau then cooperates with the authority with respect to exchange of information and data relating to the performance of the duties, issuance of guidelines; investigation and judicial process; technical interventions; and any other matter relevant to the implementation of regulations.

This move of the TBS Management is commendable as it will increase the effectiveness of TBS in managing the control of food and cosmetics products throughout the country, hence having a nationwide network in quality control and safety activities for food and cosmetics.

In this regard, we call upon the business community to give maximum cooperation to the Local Government Authorities in implementing the activities covered under the arrangement to safeguard people's health, safety and the environment and contribute to the socio-economic development.

***“When you buy a product always look for the TBS mark which assures you of quality, reliability and safety***



## TBS to construct 9.9 bn/- modern labs in Dodoma, Mwanza regions



*TBS Director General, Dr. Athuman Yusuf Ngenya addresses the media (not in photo) regarding the direction of the Bureau for the financial year 2022/2023.*

By Deborah Haule

The Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS) plans to spend 9.9 billion Tanzania shillings in the financial year 2022/2023 on putting up one mega test house in each of the two cities of Dodoma and Mwanza.

The buildings, to be named

Viwango House, are aimed at bringing services closer to clients as well as increasing efficiency in service delivery.

The revelation was made recently in Dodoma by TBS Director General, Dr. Athuman Ngenya while talking to journalists about the organiza-

tion's key priorities and strategies for the 2022/23 fiscal year.

According to him, in the 2022/23 financial year, TBS had outlined its priorities by considering the Bureau's Strategic Plan (2021/2022-2025/2026), the National Five Year Development Plan (FYDPIII) as well



as sectarian policies (entrepreneurs, business and industries).

Also, Dr. Ngenya said, his institution has allocated 27 bn/- that would be spent in refurbishing seven zonal offices – Arusha, Mwanza, Mtwara, Dar es Salaam, Dodoma, Kigoma and Mbeya, as well as increasing the workforce and working equipment in order to expedite service delivery as well as strengthening frequent inspections in order to remove substandard products from the market.

Furthermore, he noted, TBS has allocated 1.6bn/- that would be spent in preparing 630 national standards in different sectors in order to facilitate business that would provide assurance to producers to access markets inside and outside the country as well as ensuring that there is quality assurance to the final consumers.

In this financial year, TBS has also allocated 261m/- for strengthening registration of products and storage areas of food and cosmetics in ensuring that consumers are not using substandard products.

In yet another move, Dr. Ngenya said TBS has allocated 581m/- for improving accreditation of all the working systems, the work that has so far been tasked to TBS.

Dr. Ngenya said the new systems would help consumers to have access to the quality services.

In other priorities, he said the government had allocated 800m/- that will be spent in making assessment and verification of the quality of the various laboratory testing equipment and other testing facilities in industries and hospitals.

“We have also allocated 1.18bn/- for Pre Shipment Verification of Conformity (PVoC) as well as Destination Inspection in efforts to ensure that the country does not fall into a trap of banned products in other countries,” he noted.

PVoC is a conformity assessment procedure used to verify that products to be imported in Tanzania are in conformity with applicable national standards before shipment. It is a con-

formity assessment and verification procedure to specific goods at exporting countries.

As per the legislation, before shipping to Tanzania, all consignments subject to PVoC must obtain the mandatory custom clearance documents and certificate of conformity (CoC) without which the commodities arriving at Tanzania ports will be rejected and fined.

In addition, Dr. Ngenya said the organization is joining the government to sensitize the masses on participation in the Population and Housing Census to be held on 23 August, 2022.

On his part, the Chief Government Spokesman and Director General of the Department of Information, Mr. Gerson Msigwa said that the responsibility of the government through Tanzania Bureau of Standards is to ensure that all products in the country are safe for use.

## *“Buy products with TBS Mark”*

## TBS intensifies war against toxic products

By Neema Mtemvu

**T**anzania Bureau of Standards (TBS) has seized a consignment of expired food and toxic cosmetics products following a special inspection conducted in various parts of the Lake Zone.

TBS Inspector from the Lake Zone Mr. Arnold Kubingwa said the move aims at removing all expired and toxic cosmetics from the market.

"TBS urges traders to ensure that all imported goods meet the country's standards to protect the health of the consumers and domestic industries," he said.

He said TBS will continue to provide education to the public on how to identify goods that have

been banned from being traded in the local markets as well as cultivate a culture of checking expiry dates before buying them.

He insisted that business people are obliged to observe laws and regulations in the preservation of goods before being entered to the markets and preservation in the warehouses, while abstaining from selling expired goods.

He said when business people fail to observe the laws and regulations, TBS will immediately take stern measures against culprits including penalties and incurring huge losses.

On her part, the TBS Lake Zone Quality Assurance Officer, Ms. Elikeny Minja said

expired food products with toxic ingredients are harmful to the health of the people causing diseases like skin cancer.

"We continue providing education to the community on how to identify goods with toxic ingredients that have been banned from the local market," she said, adding that TBS will continue to collaborate with health and trade officers to inspect and remove harmful products from the market.

Mwanza residents, Happiness Enock and Amos Makinga hailed TBS for waging war against toxic and harmful products in the market.



*Substandard products ready for destruction in Mwanza Region.*



## TBS urges EAC traders to abide by standards



*The Director of Human Resource and Administration (TBS), Ms. Viola Masako observes as Quality Assurance Officer, Mr. Tumaini Chimangha enlightens visitors on TBS functions during the East African International Trade Expo at the Diamond Jubilee Hall.*

By Staff Reporter

**T**anzania Bureau of Standards (TBS) has urged traders in East Africa to abide by standards set in their countries to avoid cross border hurdles for easy access to regional markets.

The TBS Marketing Officer, Ms. Deborah Haule said at the East Africa Business Exhibition held recently in Dar es Salaam that the EAC member states

have formally agreed on transit of goods with quality marks.

“When an individual business person from one country sends goods with quality marks to another country, they will not undergo testing for quality ascertainment,” she said.

She said the EAC standards bodies entered into this agreement in order to address busi-

ness impediments and thus it is important for the traders to acquire the quality mark in their respective standards watchdogs.

“This initiative is aimed at facilitating and boosting businesses among the EAC member states and contribute to economic development,” she noted, mentioning food and cosmetic traders in the region.



She said business people in the region are required to certify food and cosmetic goods through the TBS on-line system where they can fill all the needed information and pay the costs required.

She added that TBS also provides Pre-Shipment Verification of Conformity (PVoC) where products inspection is done in the country of origin.

She said after inspection, the trader is given a certificate of conformity. When the trader enters the country TBS reviews the certificate of conformity and inspects the consignment before being entered into the country.

She said when the trader fails to bring the certificate of conformity, he/she is fined 15 per cent of the cargo and

then TBS inspects the cargo.

“When goods are found with some defaults the trader is ordered to send them back to the country of origin or destroy them at own costs,” she said, adding that for goods other than food and cosmetics products, they just follow the PVoC procedures and no need to register them.

*“Quality does not only begin with a letter Q. It must be followed by U”*



## Cassava producers told to observe standards



*A section of stakeholders who attended the training for cassava producers, processors and traders in Masasi.*

By Neema Mtemvu

Cassava producers, processors and traders from four districts in Mtwara and Lindi regions have been urged to observe standards to enable them to compete in the domestic and global markets.

Mr. Sudi made the call recently during the training to cassava producers, processors and traders from four districts namely Nachingwea,

Masasi, Mtama and Newala.

“When you increase cassava output and process in required quality standards, you will successfully support the government in its quest to develop industries, provide jobs to various groups in the society and compete in the markets,” said the Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS) Research and Training Manager, Mr. Hamisi Sudi.

He urged entrepreneurs to put efforts and increase cassava output, observe quality and safety in order to protect the health of the consumers and contribute to economic growth.

“This substantiates the government quest via its institutions to realise the national plans of building strong economy through investment in

the industrial sector,” he said.

On her side, the TBS Southern Zone Manager, Ms. Amina Yassin urged the training participants to understand the government’s intention of growing a robust industrial sector in order to be self-sufficient in producing various goods.

“Managing to produce high cassava output and processing while observing standards can be an important move in developing strong industrial economy in the country,” she said.

Some of the topics discussed during the training were standards and their benefits, requirements of cassava, good cassava farming practices, good cassava processing prac-

tices, good health practices and processing technology.

Statistics show that cassava is the third most important staple food crop in Tanzania after maize and rice where about 1.9 million stakeholders are involved in cassava production and/or other businesses along the entire cassava value chain.

However, there are some challenges contributing to low production and productivity which include low application of improved technologies along the value chain. Other factors are infestation of pests and diseases.

Others are unreliable rainfall due to climatic changes, low levels of investment into cassava sub-sector, inadequate mar-

kets and limited market information amongst stakeholders.

Despite these challenges, cassava has great potential in terms of food and nutrition security, income generation and provision of industrial raw materials.

There are still untapped or dormant markets in the country such as use of cassava products in textile, breweries, pharmaceuticals and animal feed industries, biscuit factories, bio-ethanol and other food and non-food cassava-based products.

Similar to other crops, cassava has strong linkages with non-farm sectors through agro-processing, transportation, urban markets and export trade.

## Government warns importers on violation of import permits

By Gladness Kaseka

**T**he government has warned importers to stop violating their import permits lest stern measures are taken against them.

The warning was issued by the Director of Trade Development of the Ministry of Investment, Industry and Trade, Mr. Christopher Mramba, when speaking

concerning substandard imported iron sheets in Dar es Salaam.

“The Government through its various institutions continues to closely monitor goods imported illegally into the country and take legal measures against all the culprits,” he emphasized.

He urged importers to ad-

here to the laws and conditions laid down on goods qualities to avoid turning the country into a dumping place.

On his part, the TBS Director of Standards Development, Mr. David Ndibalema, speaking on behalf of the Director General, urged business people including importers to adhere to the





*Substandard roofing sheets confiscated at importers' premises.*

permit conditions to avoid incurring losses for bringing substandard goods into the country.

He said when the imported goods are undergoing inspections by TBS, business people are not allowed to distribute, sell or use them.

He insisted that TBS will continue to take stern measures

against business people who will not abide by the conditions stipulated in their import permits.

Earlier, the TBS Imports and Export Control Manager Eng. Saidi Mkwawa informed the Director of Trade Development that when the iron sheets consignment entered the country, TBS took sample and found that they were of substandard.

He said after the consignment was found to be of low quality, the importer was legally obliged to send back the cargo or destroy it at his own costs and that the company accepted that the poor-quality iron sheets should be destroyed.

## TBS provides real-time services at 46th DITF



*TBS Quality Assurance Officer, Mr. Stephen Minja talks to the visitor at the TBS pavilion during the 46th Dar es Salaam International Trade Fair.*

**By Staff Reporter**

**T**anzania Bureau of Standards (TBS) has used the 46th International Trade Fair (DITF) at Dare es Salaam Mwalimu Nyerere Fair Grounds to provide various services to its clients.

This was revealed in Dar es Salaam by the Bureau's Public Relations Officer, Ms. Neema Mtemvu, as she briefed reporters on the huge response of people visiting its pavilion.

She said at this year's Fair, TBS

came up differently, as many services were provided on the spot, including listening to and working on public complaints.

"Other services provided at the TBS pavilion include public education on the procedures for



registration of cosmetic products and hotels and restaurants, products standards and many other services,” she said.

She added that Fair participants and the general public who for one reason or the other failed to call at the Bureau’s offices were gracefully served at the show.

The PRO added that TBS continues to verify the quality of products produced by the small and medium entrepreneurs for free and that all they need is to

have an introductory letter from the Small Industries Development Organization (SIDO).

She added that once goods produced by entrepreneurs receive quality certification, they can be sold to the EAC markets without having to be verified again by the country in question due to the existing protocol signed by EAC partner states.

Speaking to this paper, Anarose Itembe, a visitor at the TBS pavilion expressed her

pleasure on TBS services provided at the fair and added that she would embark on a process to verify the quality of her products with the Bureau.

“I assure TBS that when I go back to my home area in Kibondo I will be a good will ambassador to fellow entrepreneurs and encourage them to visit TBS offices for quality verification of the products they make in order to capture markets in Burundi and DRC,” she said.

## TBS engages motor vehicle inspection agent

By Gladness Kaseka

Used motor vehicles imported from Japan will now be inspected on the spot before being brought into the country, to comply with the regulation on Pre-shipment Verification of Conformity to Standards (PVoC).

Eng. Saidi Mkwawa, the Imports and Exports Control Manager at the Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS) said at a press conference recently that henceforth vehicle inspection will be conducted by EAA Co. Ltd based in Japan.

“Inspection charge is \$150 per vehicle, thus no extra cost is involved,” he said, noting that vehicles bought and being exported before would be inspected by TBS without additional charges.

PVoC is designed to stem repair costs to vehicle buyers, he stated, elaborating that the Bureau is seeking out other vehicle inspection agents in the UK, Dubai and Singapore. Used vehicles importers and dealers will be notified when the agents are picked, he said.

The Standards Act Cap. 130 mandates TBS to undertake pre-shipment verification conformity (PVoC) to standards — a conformity assessment procedure used to verify that products to be imported into Tanzania are in conformity with applicable national standards before shipment.

Before shipping to Tanzania, all consignments subject to PVoC must obtain the mandatory custom clearance documents and certificate of conformity (CoC) without which the commodities arriving at Tanzanian Ports will be rejected or fined. As for imported used motor vehicles, they must be accompanied with a Certificate of Road Worthiness (COR).

As per procedure, the PVoC contractor evaluates the compliance of the used motor vehicle with the requirements of the relevant standard. If full compliance is established, an inspection certificate/ Certificate of Road Worthiness (COR) is issued.

## TBS trains laboratory experts in Lake Zone



*Laboratory experts in the Lake Zone during training in metrology*

By Neema Mtemvu

Staff dealing with production and measurement in industries, institutions and those working in hospitals laboratories from four Lake Zone regions have been equipped with knowledge in metrology science to help them produce correct measurements in their activities.

The training was conducted by the Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS) in Kagera, Mwanza, Mara and Shinyanga regions with the theme of "Metrology, key for quality control."

Speaking during the training, the TBS Director of Testing and Metrology Eng. Johannes Maganga said the Bureau offers training in measurements science to help the nation get correct measurement standards.

"The training focused on enhancing their understanding of metrology systems in the country and globally, the obligations and national metrology laboratory services as well as certificate of calibration," he said, adding that the training further aimed at enhancing the



capacity of the experts in handling measurements and testing the quality of commodities.

Eng. Maganga said TBS performs calibration of laboratory equipment and provides correct measurements and later authenticates the quality of the measurement.

“After the training, we will visit the experts in their work areas to see how they use the equipment,” he said and insisted that the knowledge imparted on measurements will be provided regularly.

“We believe that after the training, the participants will work based on qual-

ity and correct measurements,” he noted.

Eng. Maganga said one of the functions of the national metrology laboratory is to preserve national measurements, provide calibration services, represent the country globally in all issues related to measurements and offer training and advice on measurements.

The TBS Metrology Manager, Ms. Stella Mrosso said the training on metrology took aboard workers in production and measurement in industries and institutions and laboratory experts from hospitals.

*“Quality begins on  
the inside... and  
then works its way  
out”*



## Over 5,000 Mwanza residents get TBS education on standards



*Awareness campaign in Mwanza Region*

By Gladness Kaseka

A total of 5,446 people including women entrepreneurs from five districts in Mwanza Region have been provided with education on various issues related to standards and procedures to be followed in order to get licences to use the TBS quality mark.

The education was provided by TBS from 5th to 19th September this year in the districts namely Sengerema, Kwimba, Misungwi, Ilemela and Magu.

Speaking here after the completion of the campaign, the TBS Public Relations and Marketing Manager, Ms. Gladness Kaseka said

during the period, they provided public education on various obligations performed by the Bureau particularly on standards.

“Through this campaign we have been able to reach 5,446 people after following them in their places where they conduct various economic activities including markets, auctions and other public places,” she said.

Ms. Kaseka said the number of people reached include various entrepreneur groups including 96 women entrepreneurs in Mwanza Region.

"We informed entrepreneurs on procedures needed to get the licence of using the standards mark of quality and how it can help them penetrate wide domestic and foreign markets," she said.

Furthermore, she said TBS provided education to entrepreneurs on things required to be done in order to produce goods that meet national standards.

She said they used the opportunity to provide awareness to the people on the need to buy goods certified by TBS, checking expiry dates of the goods and how to communicate with the Bureau for airing their views and challenges.

She said they also told citizens to report immediately to TBS when they come across expired products in the market and those which have been banned for use in the country.

"Citizens have thanked the organization for see-

ing the need to provide them with such information on standards because they have been facing major challenges, but they did not know what to do. But now they have even promised to get into war against substandard goods because they are able to contact TBS," she said.

Ms. Kaseka said the government has been putting more efforts to build a strong economy which is sustainable and it is from this backdrop that TBS is continuing to provide education to producers and consumers on the need to abide by standards.

She explained further that the certification of goods produced by entrepreneurs is done by TBS free of charge.

She said entrepreneurs are required to get an introductory letter from the Small Industries Development Organization (SIDO) and from there TBS starts the certification process.

## TBS impounds, destroys low quality goods worth 400m/-

By Deborah Haule

**T**anzania Bureau of Standards (TBS) has destroyed a consignment of nine tonnes of various products worth 400m/- in Mkuranga District, Coast Region, which were found not to meeting the requirements of the standards, thus unsafe for human consumption.

Speaking after the burning of the products, TBS Acting Director of Compliance and

Enforcement, Dr. Candida Shirima said most of the products destroyed were cosmetics containing toxic ingredients or banned ingredients, foods and other expired products as well as second-hand materials.

"The items were seized at different times in various markets and shops in Dar es Salaam, Coast and Morogoro regions through inspections conducted

by the Bureau. The shipment of destroyed goods weighs 9 tonnes and is worth 400m/-".

He added by saying that TBS does not enjoy destruction of goods, but does so to protect the health of the community.

The low quality goods are brought to the market by unscrupulous traders who import substandard products by passing



them across informal borders or using cover-up techniques.

Dr. Candida said there is a rise in the number of patients of various ailments due to the use of inferior goods that lead to increased medical costs, affect the workforce and increase dependency, which affecting the household income and the

national economy as a whole.

She urged the business owners to ensure compliance with laws and regulations and standards so as not to import, produce, sell or distribute products that do not meet quality and safety criteria to protect consumers and boost the country's economy.

TBS will continue to strengthen its regulatory measures to ensure that imports and products produced locally meet the requirements of the standards and will continue to take appropriate measures when improper products enter the market.



*Destruction of substandard goods seized by TBS inspectors in markets*



## TBS warns traders against selling expired goods

By Mussa Luhombero

**T**anzania Bureau of Standards (TBS) has warned business people against selling expired goods because they are detrimental to human health and the country's economy.

The warning was issued by the TBS Inspector in the Central Zone, Mr. Domisiano Rutahala, after impounding and destroying various expired products including food and cosmetics worth more than 100m/-.

"Some products like cosmetics may become toxic and when they are used after the expiration date they can be a source of life threatening diseases like cancer," he said.

He added that the expired food products may lose some important nutrients when they are used after their expiration date.

Mr Rutahala said however that most of the cosmetics products seized and destroyed were those which have been banned from being used in the domestic market because they have toxic ingredients.

He said the expired products destroyed TBS were impounded in all districts in Singida, Dodoma and

Tabora regions as a result of inspection conducted at different times since last year to August this year.

According to Mr. Rutahala, selling cosmetics with toxic ingredients may cause dangerous diseases including skin cancer, affect reproductive system, foetus growth in the womb and cancer.

He said TBS will continue to conduct inspection in various parts of the country to uproot products that are of low quality and have exceeded their expiration date.

He urged all business people dealing with cosmetics to visit the TBS website where they can access various information on banned cosmetics in the local market.

Mr Rutahala said business people may incur huge losses when they continue dealing with expired and banned products in the domestic market. Apart from paying heavy fines, they are supposed to pay all costs to be used for destroying the impounded products.

***"The bitterness of poor quality remains long after low price is forgotten! Always use TBS-certified products"***

# Control food and cosmetics quality, local governments officers told

By Neema Mtemvu

**T**rade and health officers in Mwanza Region are required to understand the government's intention in making sure it has an extensive network for the control of the quality and safety of food and cosmetics in the country.

The call was made recently by the Acting Mwanza Regional Administrative Secretary, Mr. Daniel Machunda at the opening of a training seminar for trade and health officers from Mwanza Region in regard to laws, regulations and guidelines for the implementation of the collaboration between TBS and the office of the President's Office – Regional Administration and Local Government (PO-RALG).

He called upon seminar participants to understand that mentioned laws, regulations and guidelines have been endorsed by PO-RALG and the Ministry of Investment, Industry and Trade.

"I believe that this seminar is the right way

to bring more benefits in the control of food and cosmetics in our region and the nation in general as well as in making sure the people are promptly served when in need," he said.

Meanwhile, speaking on behalf of TBS Director General, TBS Director of Quality Management, Mr. Lazaro Msasalaga said the training was aimed at empowering officials in executing their duties.

He explained that similar training sessions have been held in other regions including Mtwara, Tanga, Coast and Kigoma and are expected to be held in all regions in the country.

He said TBS has been making inspections on quality control in collaboration with Local Governments officials, hence he believed the training would increase work performance in regard to the assurance of quality and safety of food and cosmetics products in the country.

***“Misuse of TBS quality mark is a criminal offence punishable under the Standards Act No. 2 of 2009”***

## TBS urges entrepreneurs to abide by national standards



*TBS officers enlighten visitors on TBS functions during the TCCIA exhibition held in Mwanza Region*

**By Gladness Kaseka**

**T**anzania Bureau of Standards (TBS) has urged entrepreneurs to abide by the country's standards in order to produce quality goods for easy access to domestic and regional markets.

The TBS Manager for the Lake Zone, Eng. Joseph Ismail said during the 17th Mwanza East Africa Trade Fair (MEATF) that

there are immense benefits for entrepreneurs producing goods according to standards.

"Entrepreneurs can reap immense benefits by producing goods that meet the required standards including building consumers' confidence and fetching high market price," he said.

He said TBS used the Mwan-

za trade fair to provide education to entrepreneurs on things required to be done in order to produce goods that meet the country's standards.

He said they also used the trade fair to inform entrepreneurs on the need to acquire the quality mark provided by TBS as an important prerequisite for easy access to wide





domestic and regional markets.

He said apart from entrepreneurs, TBS also used the trade fair platform to provide education to the general public on the need of buying quality goods that have the standards mark.

He said the government has been putting more efforts to build a strong economy which is sustainable and it is from this backdrop that TBS is continuing to provide education to producers and consumers on the need to abide by standards.

He said providing education on issues related to standards is one of the efforts that TBS is emphasizing to support the government's quest to build an inclusive economic growth.

"We also used the trade fair platform to provide education to entrepreneurs that they can observe safety and quality of goods to compete in both local and global markets," he noted.

He said East African member states have agreed that goods

with quality certification can penetrate the regional market without any business impediments.

He explained that the certification of goods produced by entrepreneurs is done by TBS free of charge.

He said entrepreneurs are required to get an introductory letter from the Small Industries Development Organization (SIDO) and from there TBS starts the certification process.

# TBS intensifies fight against sub-standard products

By Gladness Kaseka

**T**he Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS) is eager to intensify its efforts of taking sub-standard products off the shelves.

The Bureau said recently that it will not relent in phasing out the substandard products from the market, further insisting that those found culpable will be brought to justice.

"TBS is continuing with scrutiny of such products and we have deployed enough inspectors to seize and detain any

goods which are unfit for human use," explained Mr. Degratius Ngatunga, TBS Acting Manager for the Northern Zone on the side line of the Zonal Agri Fair at Themti Grounds.

Mr. Ngatunga said the standards watchdog will continue with monitoring of products in the Tanzania market to ensure that they conform to relevant standards with respect to health, safety and environmental requirements, and to ensure that fair

trade practices are promoted.

He hinted that TBS was mulling over introducing stiffer penalties with a view of protecting end users.

"It is therefore my humble appeal to traders to cooperate in removing substandard products which continue to flood the market," he said.

The TBS Acting Manager urged local Small and Medium Enter-



*TBS officer shows one of the banned cosmetics product to a visitor during the Farmers Exhibition (Nane Nane) held in Arusha Region.*

prises (SMEs) to visit the Bureau to acquire the standards mark of quality for their products.

According to Mr Ngatunga, the mark was given for free for MSMEs, urging them to make the most of the opportunity presented by the government.

The “tbs” standards mark on a product indicates that samples of the product are independently and routinely tested and

certified by the Bureau against relevant Tanzania standards.

Apart from enabling people to buy products with confidence, the “tbs” standards mark also protects the manufacturers from competing with inferior products and enables them to prove to the market that their products satisfy all the requirements specified in the standards.

TBS is a national standards

body for Tanzania established by the government as part of the efforts to strengthen the supportive infrastructure for industry and commerce sectors across the economy within the country. One of its statutory functions is to undertake measures for quality control of commodities, services and environment of all descriptions and to promote standardization in industry and trade.

# 5G: Specifications, deployment options and challenges



Frank komba

## 1. introduction

Mobile communication has been advancing since the deployment of first-generation (1G) mobile communication in the early 1980s which was analog and limited in several countries such as Nordic Mobile Telephone (NMT), Advanced Mobile Phone Services (AMPS), and Total Access Communication System/Japanese Total Access Communication System (TACS/JTAGS), to the adoption of digital and globally accepted generations like 2G, 3G, 4G and most recently 5G. This advancement comes nearly after every decade and, in a nutshell, provides an alarm for countries to prepare for early deployment after every 10 years.

Advancement in mobile communication is prompted much by the exponential increase in the number of users who are connected to the internet with data-driven demands. Data-driven demands like digital identity, e-learning, and social interaction (social media, blogs, online TVs) generated by individuals, business entities and governments are of huge volume. The advancement of mobile communication has also shifted its benchmark from communication between individuals to the communication between individuals and devices and device-to-device

under an umbrella of the internet of things (IoT) which leaps the total available traffic.

All these advancements require a huge data rate and hence huge bandwidth which the legacy network (2G, 3G, and 4G) fades to guarantee. The International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and 3GPP standardized International Mobile Telecommunication (IMT 2020) commonly known as 5G to address the demands for massive connection of devices, enhanced broadband, and ultra-reliable services. etary quality, obesity and risk of non-communicable diseases.

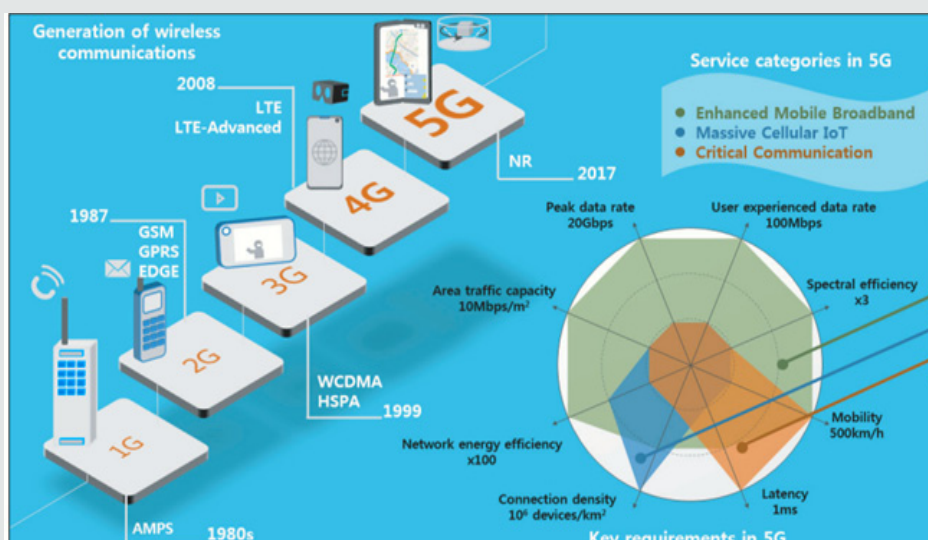


Figure 1: Evolution of wireless communication and 5G performance indicators



According to ITU, “5G is the next generation of mobile standards that promises to deliver improved end-user experience by offering new applications and services through gigabit speeds, and significantly improved performance and reliability”. Standardized in 2017, 5G is designed to offer enhanced mobile broadband (e-MBB) with a theoretical data rate of 1Gbps, massive machine-type communications (m-MTC) capable of connecting 1 million devices within 1 km<sup>2</sup>, and ultra-reliable and low latency (URLL) of approximately 1ms latency and reliability of 99.999% improving the mobile user experience.

As described by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) in the Digital Economy Report

of 2021, “The 5G technology is expected to have a positive impact on customer experience of mobile devices in terms of Internet quality connection and increased data volumes”. For 5G to support both coverage and capacity, it was standardized to operate in low band (<1GHz), mid-band commonly known as the C-band (Sub 6GHz), and high-band known as millimeter wave  $\square$  mmWaves (>24GHz) which are grouped in Frequency Range (FR) as FR1 and FR2 to offer the channel bandwidth of 100MHz and 50MHz- 400MHz respectively.

The 5G network is designed to operate in either Standalone (SA) or Non-standalone (NSA) deployment options to realize the key performance indicators (KPIs) of e-MBB, m-MTC, and URLL. Non-standalone 5G

uses an improved 4G network (standardized as Long Term Evolution-LTE) as an anchor for the 5G new radio (NR) using the multi-radio access technology-dual connectivity (MR-DC) to support a 5G NR to offer only the e-MBB services. Here, the Evolved Packet Core (EPC) provides the core network services to both LTE node known as evolved nodeB(enodeB) and 5G-NR. In Standalone 5G, a 5G core must be installed to control the NR and enhanced LTE (e-LTE). The choice of which option to deploy depends on many factors, like user equipment (UE) readiness, ease of deployment, and the current status of the LTE network. The deployment options are numbered from 1-7 depending on the architecture of the deployment

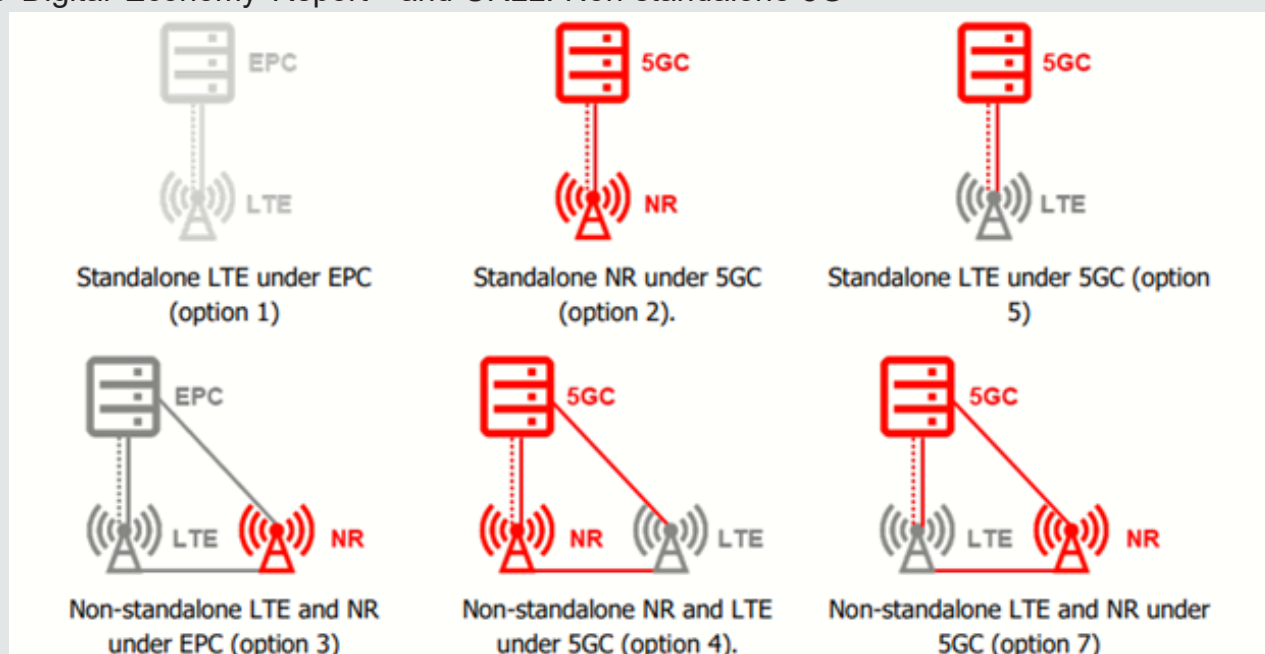


Figure 2: 5G deployment scenarios



Several challenges are facing the stakeholders while deploying 5G in their countries including choice of deployment option, the poor backhaul network, RF coverage and planning, availability of radio spectrum (Managed by the Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority-TCRA), and availability of workforce. Taking the radio spectrum, for example, the availability and price of radio spectrum are a huge block toward 5G deployment as the 5G operates in the frequency bands like C-band and mmWave which were not allocated to mobile communication or are currently used for other services like Airplane altimeters and meteorological services. The price of radio spectrum in African countries is very high compared to the rest of the world which according to the Global System for Mobile Communications Associa-

tion (GSMA), “exacerbates the challenge of overcoming the coverage gap in the region”. To cushion the aforementioned challenges, there should be coordinated efforts by all stakeholders in the ICT sector in Tanzania as highlighted in the National Information and Communication Technology Policy of 2016. Guided by the Standards Act Cap. 130 and the National ICT Policy, the Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS) is one of the key players in supporting the growth of the ICT Sector in Tanzania as it is mandated to ensure the quality and safety of all ICT-related products from the User Equipment (UE) to the equipment used to build up the ICT infrastructures. In the National ICT Policy, for example, TBS was highlighted as a key player to address the ICT standardization issues and it was challenged to use the existing standards and de-

velop new ones to facilitate the realization of the policy and hence stimulate the growth of the ICT sector. Particularly, standardization and quality assurance are important in the ICT sector to ensure interconnection and interoperability within the sector. To fill in that context, TBS houses a lot of ICT-related standards through which the quality and safety of ICT-related products are assured and it is readily available to coordinate all required efforts to support the growth of the ICT sector including the deployment of 5G in Tanzania to leverage the benefits of the data-driven digital economy.

**\* Frank Charles Komba is a Quality Assurance Officer at TBS.**

***“For safety and higher efficiency, always buy TBS-marked/certified electrical appliances”***

# The role of research in promoting standardization



Maneno Ally

**S**tandardization is the process of developing and implementing technical standards based on the consensus of different parties that include firms, users and government organizations. Standardization process helps to specify characteristics of products, processes and services that protect human life, safety and the environment

Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS) is the statutory national standards body for Tanzania, recognized regionally and internationally. Through TBS, the country has an established national system for formulation of national standards. This system is based on the 'consensus principle' which works through the use of technical committees which draw members

from all stakeholder groups including industries, government ministries and institutions, research institutions, higher learning institutions, business organizations and consumers.

Research is a systematic investigation intended to provide scientific evidences and increase the stock of knowledge. It involves the collection, organization and analysis of information to increase understanding of a topic or issue. Research evidence can help decision-makers understand a problem, frame options to respond appropriately, and address implementation considerations for interventions in specific contexts. When used appropriately, research evidence can help decision-makers build on the success of others and avoid repeating the failures of others by learning from systematic studies of their impacts and experiences.

To be able to arrive at informed scientific conclusions in its mandated functions namely standardization, quality assurance, metrology and testing, the Bureau has been conducting applied research in various standardization areas. The research has mainly been aimed at informing the standardiza-

tion process through scientific data collection and analysis. This is in line with the establishing Act, the Standards Act, Cap 130, which provides for research on standardization and related subjects.

Research has an important role in the society. As the saying goes, no research, no right to speak. Generally, research leads to innovations and product improvement, thus creating more competitive products and services for the local and export markets and providing solutions to problems facing the society. In standardization, research has a role of providing data and scientific, empirical evidences for development and implementation of standards to ensure people's safety, health and environmental soundness.

Worldwide, companies use standards as an effective strategic instrument. For example, standards can be used at an early stage of product development to prepare the market for a new product.

Based on the objective of standardization, various areas of research can be identified. One such area is product standardization — the process





of setting uniform characteristics for a particular good. Product standardization involves making sure that a product upholds certain standards for item quality, service delivery or appearance in every market. It is the right choice for companies looking to prioritize efficiency or brand consistency and enhance customer satisfaction.

Product standardization research focuses on approaches to limit product variety to a certain range such as size and quality level of the product. A central role product standardization research plays is the concept of mass customization, that is producing customized goods for a mass market. At company level, research in product standardization will help on the better understanding of the potential of standardization as a strategic instrument,

thus instilling motivation to become more involved in standards work even at national, regional and international levels.

The field of service standardization is also an emerging research area. Regarding the increasing importance of services in society and economics, service standardization has the potential to become the dominating research field in future.

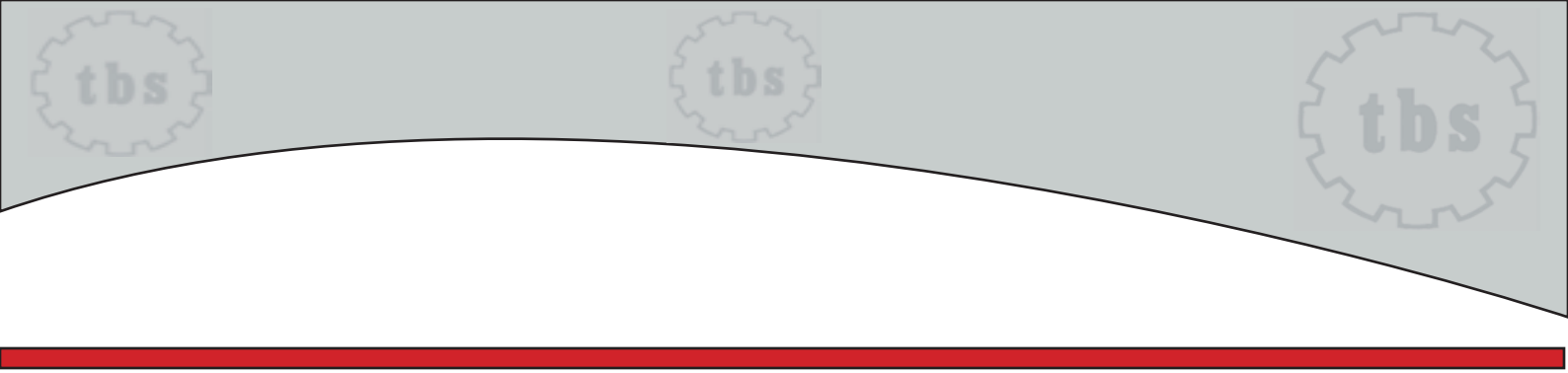
At national level, the importance of research in standardization cannot be overemphasized. The application of research in standardization is pivotal in identifying gaps and proposing scientific solutions to improve safety and quality of products and services, thus contributing to the improved livelihood. Research helps to understand and communicate how standards support economic growth,

protect consumers and the environment. It is therefore important for all stakeholders in standardization to invest in research when setting requirements for products and services for the betterment of the society.

The complexity of products, processes and services in an industrial environment is increasing. The cause of the increasing complexity lies in individualization of customer needs and rapid technological change which leads to complexity on a technical level (for example product variety). Since standardization is an approach to manage this complexity, it is increasingly important to incorporate research this area for informed decision making.

**\* Mr. Maneno Ally is a Standards Officer at TBS.**

# ***“TBS mark – A symbol for quality”***





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