

# Viwang

## E-Newsletter



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TBS, the Home of Standards



*The Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Industry and Trade, Dr. Hashil Abdallah (left) presents a certificate of appreciation to one of the technical experts who participated in standards development for more than 10 years, during the commemoration of the World Standards Day in 2023.*

## Govt urges manufacturers to collaborate with TBS



*The Permanent Secretary for Ministry of Industry and Trade, Dr. Hashil Abdallah officiates at the commemoration of the World Standards Day 2023.*

By Neema Mtemvu

**T**he government has urged manufacturers and other stakeholders to work closely with the Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS) to produce goods with required standards for ease penetration of regional and global markets.

Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Industry and Trade Dr. Hashil Abdallah made the remarks during the commemoration of the 2023 World Standards Day.

He noted that TBS has the mandate of supervising

the development and management of standards in the country adding that TBS in collaboration with various stakeholders has so far managed to prepare over 4 000 Tanzania Standards for various products and services in the country.

He urged citizens and stakeholders to participate in providing opinions in the process of preparing and making standards that meet the needs of the society.

Dr Abdallah said the commemoration of



the World Standards Day is one way of recognising global experts who make voluntary and mandatory agreements published as domestic and global standards to protect consumers' health and environment.

He said the government will continue to create enabling environment to business people and industrial owners in order to boost economic growth including management of standards development and quality of goods.

This move supports the government efforts to put friendly business environment, to improve coordination and management systems of the implementation of its plan, various strategies and programmes.

He said the industry and trade sector is one of

the important pillars in building the country's economy and contribute to gross domestic income because most of the industrial products are sold domestically while others are exported.

On his part, TBS Director General Dr. Athuman Ngenya said the standards watchdog recognizes stakeholders' contribution in developing standards with ultimate goal to protect health of consumers.

"These standards are those specifying safety needs, manufacturing requirements, the needs of consumption and measurements regulations. All these intend to improve goods and services offered in the country," He said.

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

## Viwango E-Newsletter

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**Govt urges manufacturers to  
collaborate with TBS**



The Permanent Secretary for Ministry of Industry and Trade, Dr. Hashi Abdallah, handing over certificate of appreciation to one of the technical expert who participated in standard development for more than for years.

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## Get Quality Mark, TBS advises entrepreneurs

By Deborah Haule

**S**MEs have been advised to take advantage of the government's programme to promote small and medium industries to come out in large numbers and acquire the Quality Mark which is being offered by the Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS) free of charge.

TBS Quality Assurance Officer in the Eastern Zone Mr Francis Moshy, made the call in Dar es Salaam when speaking at an exhibition organized by the Business Registrations and Licensing Agency (BRELA).

Mr Moshy said, "acquiring the Quality Mark will enable them to increase the quality of their products, find reliable markets in the country and abroad and produce products that have the capable to compete in the markets."

"TBS is responsible for registering and ensuring that all products produced in the country and those that come from abroad meet all quality criteria," he added.

Mr Moshy stated that TBS in collaboration with the Small

Industries Development Organization (SIDO) have started a program to ensure entrepreneurs produce quality products that can compete in the market.

For that reason, Mr Moshy said that TBS is responsible to ensure that all products produced by entrepreneurs meet the quality requirements, noting: "It is a must for any entrepreneur who produces products to get the TBS Quality Mark."

One of the entrepreneurs at the exhibition, Mr Werema Julius said he visited the TBS booth to find out how his food business could be verified to enable his customers to get the best and trusted products approved by the government bodies.

He said TBS officials instructed him on all steps to be followed to acquire the TBS Mark of Quality, so he thanked the management of both TBS and BRELA for organizing the exhibition.



## We encourage all stakeholders to participate in National Quality Awards

**Q**uality infrastructure is one of the key areas needed to contribute to the growth and development of investment, manufacturing and business sectors in any country. The use of standards, quality control, certification together with metrology services helps to protect the market for goods and services within the country but also improves their competition positions in the international markets.

Like other quality institutions in the world, Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS) celebrated the World Quality Week in November 2023. The week aimed at raising awareness of the quality management profession. This year's World Quality Week was themed "Quality: Realizing your Competitive Potential".

Addressing quality stakeholders at the climax of the commemorations of the Quality Week held at national level at the University of Dar es Salaam, the Minister for Industry and Trade Hon. Dr. Ashatu Kijaji revealed that the 2023 theme came at the right time for Tanzania, especially at a time when Tanzania had entered the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA).

Tanzania effectively joined the free market of 54 African countries with a combined population of an estimated 1.2 billion people and a combined GDP of more than USD 3.4 trillion after the Parliament of the United Republic of Tanzania ratified the agreement establishing the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) on the 9th of September 2021.

According to Dr. Kijaji, AfCFTA is an opportunity for products and services offered by local manufacturers, but to achieve it in its entirety, the products and services must be of the required quality.

It should be noted that African countries aim to improve trade between them to eliminate the vacuum that is caused by the low level of trade between them compared to other continents. Data shows that trade between African countries is 16.6 percent of all foreign trade compared to 68.1 percent between European countries, 59.4 percent between Asian countries and 55.0 percent between the Americas. In her remarks, the Minister hinted that as steps are being taken to improve trade between African countries, it was good time for the nation to get ready to enter the African market; emphasizing that that would only be achieved if the goods and services produced in the country are of the required quality.

She revealed that it was for this reason that the Government through the Ministry of Industry and Trade saw the importance of establishing National Quality Awards and provided a coordination role to TBS and the Tanzania Private Sector Foundation (TPSF) in partnership with other institutions.

The awards are part of the Government's initiative to improve services and products produced in the country through the application of quality standards and regulations to public and private sector institutions to ensure that systems, products and services meet national, regional and international standards requirements.

The competition focused on five sub-categories namely award to the best company of the

year, best product of the year, best service of the year, best seller of the year (international), and the best individual who did well on issues related to quality standards. The five categories were raced into two main categories namely for large-scale companies and small-scale companies. However, there were no participants on the fourth category (best seller of the year) for small and medium enterprises (SME).

Winners of the 2023/2024 National Quality Awards will not only have the opportunity to be better known in the Tanzanian community about their competence in quality issues, but they will also have the opportunity to participate in the East African Community (EAC) Quality Awards Competition and in the Southern African Development Community (SADC) competition and thus, to gain exposure and expand markets.

The national quality awards were presented for the first time in the country in the 2020/2021 season where there was little participation. This year, the fourth season awards, the number of participants has doubled. However, the number is still low compared to the number of manufacturers and service providers in Tanzania.

We commend the government for introducing the National Quality Awards as part of a broader initiative to improve services and products produced in the country. Moreover, we call upon and encourage all stakeholders in product and service sectors to participate in the new National Awards season. This will give them a platform to showcase and brand their products and services, thus improving their competitive advantage in the market.



## Invest in quality infrastructure to bring about economic growth, producers told



*The Director of Trade Development in the Ministry of Industry and Trade, Mr. Sempeho Nyari, addresses the audience during the World Quality Day ceremony in 2023.*

By Deborah Haule

Producers and service providers from the public and private sector have been urged to invest in quality infrastructure as this is one of the most important areas needed to contribute to economic growth and the development of the industrial sector and investment in the country.

Director of Industrial

Development in the Ministry of Industry and Trade Mr. Sempeho Nyari made the call in Dar es Salaam during the commemoration of the World Quality Week in November this year.

He said that this year's theme "Quality: Realizing your competitive potential" aligns with the country's

plans and strategies meant to stimulate investment in quality infrastructure for production of quality products to serve the local and international markets.

He said that in order for the country to benefit from various market opportunities in the East African Community (EAC), Southern African Development Community (SADC) and the



African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), having products with exceptional attractiveness and quality standards is important.

Mr. Nyari said conformity to standards helps to protect the market of products and services thus improving the goods positions in the competitive market.

He said the 6th Phase Government was making efforts to ensure that businessmen and investors have a better and enabling environment to do business productively and thus stimulate national economic growth.

The commemorations also

went along with provision of awards by the Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS) to manufacturers, traders and stakeholders for their outstanding performance in the sector.

The awards were in various categories which include best company of the year, best product of the year, best service of the year, best international trader of the year and the best person adhered to standards.

TBS Board Chairman, Prof. Othman Chande Othman urged producers to continue investing in more creative initiatives in order to perform well in the sector.

“We are happy to see people

competing well to produce quality and attractive products, we have seen major improvement every year during these commemorations,” he said.

For his part TBS Director General Dr. Athuman Ngenya said the commemorations of the World Quality Week has great benefits as it helps encourage and stimulate production of quality products to compete well in the local and international market.

Dr. Ngenya said that the Standards Body will continue monitoring and supervising to ensure that producers and service providers in the country produce quality products that adhere to all the requirements.

## TBS creates awareness in Mtwara Region

By Rhoda Mayugu

Over 6,000 people in Masasi, Nanyumbu, Newala and Tandahimba districts and Mtwara Mkindani municipality have benefited from training on quality and standards offered by the Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS).

The awareness training conducted in the Tanzania's southern region as part of the Bureau's campaign aimed at

increasing the understanding of quality and standards issues.

TBS Marketing Officer Mr. Mussa Luhombero said that when wrapping up one of the trainings that the Bureau is geared towards providing education to the public so that they cultivate interest of reading information on labels of the product before buying them.

“We want to ensure that the public buys products whose quality have been proven, along with encouraging small entrepreneurs to certify their products, including traders to register food and cosmetics premises,” he said.

Mr. Luhombero said that the public education campaign has been held in various places with gatherings of





*TBS Senior Quality Assurance Officer, Mr Barnabas Paul educates the public on products safety and quality during an awareness campaign in Mtwara.*

people including markets, bus stands, auctions and other open areas with gatherings.

On his part, TBS Senior Quality Assurance Officer Mr Barnabas Paul, emphasized entrepreneurs and businessmen to ensure that they sell products certified by TBS and the owners of food and cosmetic products to register them. Mr Paul stated that the registration of the premises is in accordance with the requirements of the law and not otherwise and explained about

the importance of standards in their daily lives including protecting the safety and health of users of the respective products and for producers, the standards guarantee reliable markets and to make the respective products withstand the competition in the market.

He asked manufactures and the public in general to ensure that they become ambassadors to promote quality in the communities they live in and provide information at any TBS office located near them or call

the TBS service centre in case they encounter challenges related to product quality issues during purchases.

One of the beneficiaries, Ms Halima Abdallah said that before the education, when she was going to buy products, the only criterion she was using was to check for price relief instead of checking if its quality was confirmed or not. Out of the 6,220 citizens who received the education, 158 are entrepreneurs who produce various products

## Manufacturers urged to abide by standards



*The Deputy Minister of Industry and Trade, Hon. Exaud Kigahe signs in the visitors' book at the TBS pavilion during the Tanzanite Exhibition in Manyara.*

By Deborah Haule

**T**anzania Bureau of Standards (TBS) has urged manufacturers in Manyara Region to abide by national standards in order to produce quality goods for easy access to domestic, regional and international markets.

The remarks were made by TBS Quality Assurance Officer Mr Pius Mwakalinga at Manyara Trade Fair organised by the Tanzania Chamber of Commerce Industry and Agriculture (TCCIA) in Manyara region.

“Manufacturers in the country and the region at large can reap immense benefits by producing goods that meet the required standards including building consumers’ confidence,” he said.

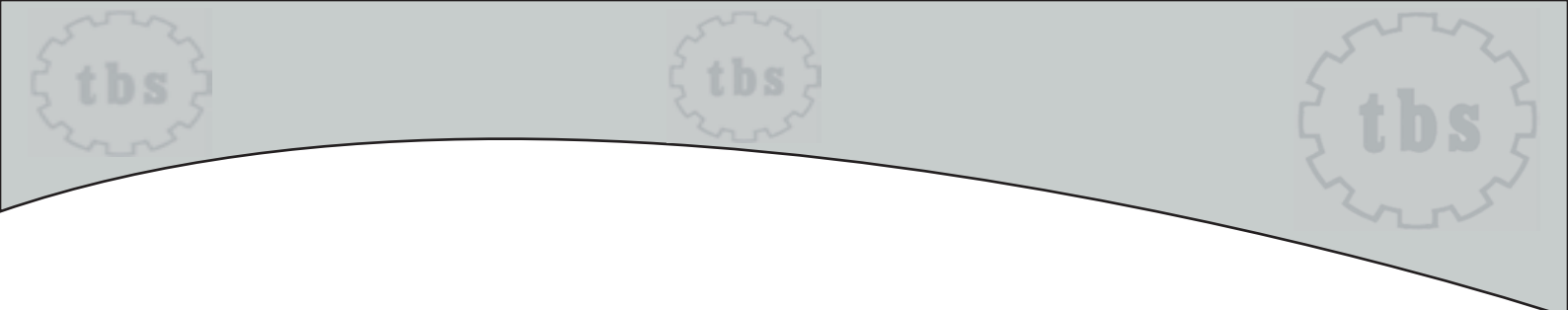
He said TBS used the Manyara trade fair to provide education to entrepreneurs on things required to be done in order to produce goods that meet the country’s standards.

He said they also used the platform to inform manufacturers and other entrepreneurs on the need to acquire Quality Mark of standards 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 bear the standard mark.

He said the government has been putting





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more efforts to build 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 to quality standards.

He said providing education on issues related to standards is one of the efforts that TBS is putting to support the government 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 explained that the certification services of goods produced by SMEs are done by TBS free of charge.

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

***“Quality is remembered long after the price is forgotten. Always use TBS-certified products”***



# TBS eyes for efficiency of cargo inspection in ports



*Members of the TBS Board of Directors pose for a photo with members of the TBS Management and staff during their official visit at the TBS Bagamoyo Port Office.*

By Gladness Kaseka

**T**anzania Bureau of Standards (TBS) has pledged to address challenges in cargo inspections particularly in ports so as to increase efficiency of ports operations in the country.

TBS Board of Directors Chairperson Prof. Othman Chande Othman said during the visits of the TBS Board

of Directors to Mbweni and Bagamoyo small ports areas that the tour aimed to learn and witness various challenges encountered by TBS inspectors in those areas and devise solutions in order to increase efficiency in consignment inspections.

“We have come to listen to their challenges and find swift

solutions in order to ease consignment inspections in the small ports around Bagamoyo and Mbweni areas,” he noted.

On his part, TBS Eastern Zone Manager Mr. Francis Mapunda thanked the TBS Board for the visit as it would help to increase efficiency in cargo inspections in the area.

“

We thank the TBS Board for visiting and providing guidelines for improving cargo inspections in the small ports of Mbweni and Bagamoyo areas,” he said.

Mr. Mapunda urged business people to ensure that their consignments are inspected by TBS to avoid

incurring losses when they are seized in the market

## TBS issues 145 licences, certificates to manufacturers



*The TBS Director of Quality Management, Mr. Lazaro Msasalaga (right), issues a standards mark licence to one of the manufacturer during a grant of licence ceremony in Dar es Salaam.*

By Deborah Haule

**T**anzania Bureau of Standards (TBS) issued 145 licences and certificates to Eastern and Southern Zone manufacturers between June and November this year after their products complied to the relevant standards.





These include six Management Systems Certificates and 13 licenses to producers who had the TBS licenses but have added another product.

Out of the 145 licences and certificates issued, 60 licences and certificates were issued to Small and Medium Entrepreneurs (SMEs).

Speaking during the event held in Dar es Salaam in November, TBS's Director of Quality Management Mr. Lazaro Msasalaga hailed the entrepreneurs for meeting such important criteria to obtain Quality Mark that guarantee them access to regional and global markets.

"These certificates and

licenses reflect the producer's commitments since your products have met the required standards, so you are required to continue producing quality products to gain more confidence from buyers, thus guaranteeing a reliable market," said Mr. Msasalaga.

He added that the certificates granted to the manufacturers highlight the great impact of the entrepreneurial career classes conducted by the Small Industries Development Organisation (SIDO) which paved the way for certification.

He further explained that the event slogan dubbed "Quality: Realizing your Competitive Potential" is a reminder to producers to endeavor to

produce quality products and be able to compete in markets.

"As the law instructs on the production of quality products for final users, you should also take it as a reminder towards the quality products which will ensure customers' trust in markets," he added.

However, he further called upon producers who pretend to produce quality products for the certificate and later on continue to produce low-quality products that they should stop since they endanger the final user's well-being.

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



# TBS told to increase efforts in inspection



*TBS Inspection Officer, Mr. Magesa Mwizarubi educates entrepreneurs on products safety and quality during an awareness campaign in Tabora.*

By Staff Reporter

**T**anzania Bureau of Standards (TBS) has been urged to put more efforts in conducting time to time inspections especially in the food and cosmetics premises in an effort to protect consumers' health.

Kaliua District Acting Executive Director Mr Gibson Milambo made the call during an awareness campaign by TBS in the district.

He said it's true that the Bureau has been undertaking the obligation of protecting health of consumers by ensuring that only quality products remain in the market but more efforts are needed to conduct impromptu inspections to remove low quality products from the market.

"You are doing a good job. However, I would like to ask you (TBS) to continue conducting



regular inspections especially in foods and cosmetics premises and be able to remove sub standards products,” said Mr Milambo.

At the gathering, TBS managed to continue with public education programme on the importance of checking products validity to enable and protect buyers from consuming expired goods.

Speaking during the campaign, TBS Public Relations and Marketing Manager, Ms Gladness Kaseka said the reason for undertaking the public education programme was to create awareness on the importance of checking product’s validity before purchasing.

“The awareness we are providing to the public will help the consumers to properly make good selection of products in markets,” said Ms Kaseka.

On his Part, TBS Inspection Officer Mr Magesa Mwizarubi insisted SMEs to buy and sell the

products that have and meet the required quality standard only. He also advised foods and cosmetics dealers to register their business premises to avoid disturbances.

Mr Magesa explained to the public on the need to understand the importance of standards in their lives as well as to entrepreneurs that the certification and registration services are offered free of charge.

He also encouraged the public to provide information immediately to TBS in case they meet incidences of counterfeit and expiry goods in the markets.

Through this campaign which was extended to numerous districts including Igunga, Kaliua, Sikonge, Uyui and Tabora, TBS managed to reach 5,615 citizens among them, 215 were SMEs.

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



## Adhere to standards, salt stakeholders challenged



*Mtwara Regional Commissioner, Col. Ahmed Abbas Ahmed (second left, seated) poses with other leaders and salt stakeholders during training on products safety and quality in Mtwara region.*

By Deborah Haule

Salt dealers in the country have been asked to produce and package the product as per standards requirements so as to protect consumers' health and penetrate both local and international markets.

Mtwara Regional Commissioner, Col. Ahmed Abbas Ahmed made the call while opening a

two-day training for salt stakeholders in Mtwara aimed to solve quality challenges in the salt industry in the country.

The two-day training has been provided by the Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS) with the aim of building capacity to salt stakeholders so that the beneficiaries produce quality products that meet

the standards requirements.

"This is in line with the government's ambition to develop the industrial sector so that the country can be self-sufficient in the production of various products," Said the RC.

RC Ahmed said that the training has come at the right time when the government is deter-





mined to develop industries to provide employment in various cadres as well as enable products manufactured in the country to compete in local, regional and international markets.

“Therefore, I urge you participants of this training to listen carefully and contribute to the topic so that you can gain expertise and use it when you return back to your activities,” said Col. Ahmed.

Opening the training in Lindi District, Lindi Regional Administrative Secretary, Ms. Zuwen

ary said that the training for salt stakeholders has come at the right time especially by highlighting that the government is fighting to ensure that the products produced in the country meet standards’ requirements in order to compete in the market.

Zuwen asked the participants to make good use of the training opportunity for the improvement activities in the salt sector while commending TBS for the good preparation of the training and asked for such kind of training to be continuous all over the country.

The training was based on the requests of the stakeholders through various meetings of the integrated committee to solve quality challenges in the salt industry in the country.

Presenters who took part in the training were from various government institutions namely Small Industries Development Organization (SIDO) and Tanzania Industrial Research and Development Organization (TIRDO).

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

# Pricey consequences of subpar quality assurance in the manufacturing industry



**Mohamedi Kaila**

**Q**uality assurance (QA) is energetic in the manufacturing industries to ensure that products meet standards requirements, comply with regulations and satisfy customer expectations. However, when QA processes are inadequate or neglected, the consequences can be significant, impacting product quality, customer satisfaction and the overall reputation and profitability of manufacturing businesses.

The manufacturing industry is a foundation of the global economy, producing goods ranging from automobiles and electronics to food and pharmaceuticals. Quality assurance (QA) is indispensable in manufacturing to maintain

consistency, reliability and safety in products.



**'Manufacturing industry forms the cornerstone of the global economy'**

**Source: <https://www.bing.com>**

Insufficient QA in manufacturing can lead to poor product quality, resulting in defects, malfunctions and recalls. Poorly manufactured products

not only fail to meet customer expectations but also pose safety risks and legal liabilities for manufacturers. Whether it is a faulty component in an

electronic device or contamination in a food product, quality deficiencies can damage brand

reputation and erode consumer trust.



Source: <https://www.bing.com>

Poor QA practices in manufacturing can lead to increased costs due to rework, scrap and warranty claims. Addressing quality issues after production incurs additional expenses, including labor, materials, and downtime. Additionally, QA failures can have significant financial implications for manufacturers, affecting profitability and competitiveness in the market.

Inconsistencies in product quality due to poor QA can weaken customer confidence and faithfulness. Dissatisfied customers are likely to seek alternatives from other

competitors, leading to loss of market share and revenue for manufacturers. Negative feedback and online reviews from customers further damage brand reputation, making it challenging to regain trust and attract new customers in the future.

Manufacturers are subject to numerous regulations and standards governing product quality, safety and environmental impact. Failure to comply with these requirements due to poor QA practices can result in fines, penalties and legal consequences. Regulatory compliance issues not only

affect individual manufacturers but also tarnish the reputation of the entire industry.

Poor QA in manufacturing can disrupt supply chains, affecting production schedules and delivery timelines. Quality issues in components or raw materials sourced from suppliers can lead to production delays and shortages, impacting downstream operations and customer satisfaction. Maintaining robust QA processes throughout the supply chain is crucial for ensuring product integrity and continuity of operations.



Source: <https://www.bing.com>



Finally, Quality assurance is essential for maintaining product quality, customer satisfaction and competitiveness in the manufacturing industry. Poor QA practices can have far-reaching consequences. Manufacturers must prioritize QA efforts to mitigate risks, maintain standards and safeguard their reputation and profitability. By investing in robust QA processes and continuous improvement initiatives, manufacturers can enhance product quality, meet customer expectations and prosper in an increasingly competitive marketplace.

**Mr. Mohamedi Kaila is a Standards Officer at Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS).**

## Importance of standards in ensuring food safety



**Mary Ottaru**

Global agricultural value chains have become complex, and food products are often grown, processed and consumed in different countries. While these trends have contributed to increasing the quantity and diversity of foods available to consumers throughout the world, with the increased volumes of traded foods, food safety risks are also increased.

Food safety has a critical role in assuring that food stays safe at every stage of the food chain - from production to harvest, processing, storage, distribution, all the way to preparation and consumption.

Unsafe food is a major social and development challenge and public health cannot be improved if the food reaching the consumer is not safe.

The World Health Organization (WHO 2015) estimates that more than 600 million people fall ill and 420 000 die every year from eating contaminated food. As for the economic price tag, according to the 2018 World Bank Report,

unsafe food costs low-and middle-income economies alone about US\$ 95 billion in lost productivity annually and also unsafe food limits its trade. The good news is that most foodborne diseases are preventable.

Safe food is a primary determinant of human health. It is a basic human right to have access to safe and healthy food. In seeking to guarantee this right, governments must ensure that available food meets safety standards.

Different food control measures have been developed to ensure availability of safe and nutritious food and standard is one of the major component in food control



system.

Standard defined as a document, established by consensus and approved by a recognized body, that provides, for common and repeated use, rules, guidelines or characteristics for activities or their results, aimed at the achievement of the optimum degree of order in a given context. Standards provide a reliable basis on which common expectations can be shared regarding specific characteristics of a product, service or process.

Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS) amongst other responsibilities to ensure food safety in the country, has the mandate to formulate, promulgate and implement national standards in different sectors including Food and Agriculture sector. Since its inception in 1975, the Bureau has developed hundreds of such standards and provided guidance for improving food safety and nutrition.

Food standards ensure food safety and quality by addressing all food-related issues such as quality and hygienic requirements, contaminants including toxins, heavy metals, residues of veterinary drugs and pesticides, hygienic practices such as Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) and Good Hygienic Practices (GHP), additives, nutrition, food packaging and labelling and methods of

sampling and analysis. Management Standards such as Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP) and Food Safety Management (FSM) System provide a solid foundation for food business operators to ensure safety of the food they produce across the entire value chain. Furthermore, Standards provides guidance on inspection requirements of food products.

To achieve food safety objectives, food standards should be based on risk analysis using the best, most up-to-date and robust scientific advice. For this reason, Tanzania food standards are risk based approach, relying on existing international standards such as Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC) and ISO Standards, adopting risk assessment conducted and use of available published studies.

The principles enshrined in the standardization process work to ensure that food standards contribute in protecting public health and ensuring fair practices in the food trade.

Moreover, National food controls play a pivotal role in protecting the health of consumers and ensuring fair practices in trade. The Bureau regularly inspect and analyses food products for compliance with the set food standards.

Therefore, food producers are responsible to ensure that the food they produce comply with the requirements of the standards set to ensure safety and health of consumers and to gain market access. They should be aware of and understand the hazards associated with the food they produce, transport, store and sell, and the measures required to control those hazards relevant to their business, so that food reaching consumers is safe and suitable for use.

While recognizing that food safety is a shared responsibility, the World Food Safety Day should be an opportunity to strengthen our efforts to ensure that the food we eat is safe from production level to the folk.

**Ms. Mary Ottaru is a Standards Officer at Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS).**



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in Global Trade**