



Kenya Bureau of Standards
Standards for Quality life

NL:00.Cd.03 **2024**

NEWSLETTER

CABINET SECRETARY LAUNCHES KEBS 2023-2027 STRATEGIC PLAN & COBALT 60 SYSTEM



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Investments, Trade and Industry Cabinet Secretary Rebecca Miano cuts a ribbon to officially inaugurate the new Cobalt 60 facility at the KEBS Headquarters. KEBS MD Esther Ngari is on the extreme right.

KEBS SETS AGENDA FOR GROWTH IN TRADE WITH LAUNCH OF 5-YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN

Launch to have lasting impact on country's economic growth and healthcare sector.

KEBS SETS AGENDA FOR GROWTH IN TRADE WITH LAUNCH OF 5-YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN



Investments, Trade and Industry Cabinet Secretary Rebecca Miano while officially launching the Kenya Bureau of Standards Strategic Plan 2023-2027 at the KEBS Headquarters

By Geoffrey Nyerere

The Kenya Bureau of Standards (KEBS) 5-year Strategic Plan lays a strong foundation for the growth of the country's trade, with a key focus on empowerment of Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) to play their rightful role in driving the country's economic revival.

The Strategic Plan 2023-2027 aims to raise competitiveness for locally manufactured products by enhancing their acceptability in the export market. It also provides a roadmap for standardization and is poised to boost MSMEs' ability to tap into regional and international markets.

While launching the plan at the KEBS Headquarters on 6th March 2024, Investments, Trade and Industry Cabinet Secretary Rebecca Miano regretted that locally manufactured products were facing challenges in accessing the export market largely due to non-compliance with quality standards.

"Kenyan enterprises and manufacturers often encounter challenges in penetrating more developed economies largely due to non-compliance with quality control processes", Miano noted, expressing optimism however that the challenge will be addressed by the Strategic Plan.

The CS advised industries targeting global markets, particularly the MSMEs to strictly adhere to standards set by KEBS in order to meet stringent export market requirements. "Our aim is to pivot our economy towards industrialization, selectively nurturing export-oriented industries that also create significant employment opportunities," she stated.

Miano said the Strategic Plan was in line with the government's Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA) and rallied industry partners, businesses, consumers, and government agencies to unite in support of quality standards to help enhance competitiveness of local products and in the process impact

economic growth.

The CS expressed optimism that the Plan would embolden the local industry to engage more robustly with the international market and would create an avenue for closer collaboration between government bodies, the private sector and other key stakeholders.

KEBS Managing Director Esther Ngari said the Strategic Plan charted a bold course for industrial growth, empowering both large industries and MSMEs to spearhead the country's economic advancement.

The MD said the Strategic Plan has enabled the overhaul of regulatory frameworks and service operations in order to free the export sector to leverage on opportunities available in the export market.

She said the Plan will transform business in the country leading to a stronger economy and more benefits for the country and thanked all stakeholders who had an input in its development.

KEBS SPEARHEADS FIGHT AGAINST CANCER WITH COBALT 60 LAUNCH



Kenya Bureau of Standards Director for Metrology & Testing Dr. Henry Rotich shows Cabinet Secretary Rebecca Miano how to operate one of the gadgets at the newly inaugurated Cobalt 60 facility.

By Solomon Kyenze

The Kenya Bureau of Standards (KEBS) has joined the relentless fight against cancer with the launch of Cobalt 60, an advanced system for the calibration of cancer treatment equipment.

The Cobalt 60 radiotherapy calibration system, which is the first of its kind in East Africa and possibly the fourth across Africa, was acquired in collaboration with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

The significance of the facility to the country's fight against cancer was evident from the optimism that greeted its inauguration on 6th March, 2024 by Investments, Trade and Industry Cabinet Secretary Rebecca Miano.

Housed within the KEBS Head offices, the Cobalt 60 will be used to

calibrate cancer equipment ensuring cancer patients are shielded from the consequences of harmful treatment.

The facility whose market value is in excess of Ksh. 250 million will help guarantee that every radiation dose is precise, helping maximize treatment effectiveness while minimizing the side effects that have been associated with poorly administered cancer treatment.

Miano described the launch as a big win for the healthcare sector in terms of calibration of radiotherapy equipment and said it marked a significant change in the country's approach to national development as it blends the country's dedication to economic excellence with innovative healthcare solutions.

The CS said the rising cancer cases

had opened doors for huge investments in the healthcare system to ensure proper diagnosis and treatment of cancer including the installation and commissioning of various cancer treatment centers.

The CS said with the increase in cancer treatment centers in the country there was need for calibration of cancer treatment equipment to ensure patients are not overexposed or underexposed to radiation during treatment.

Miano was taken round the newly installed facility by KEBS Managing Director Esther Ngari, and the Director of Metrology and Testing Department Dr. Henry Rotich. Prof. Shaukat Abdulrazak, Director for the Division for Africa - IAEA Department of Technical Cooperation addressed the launch virtually.



The Cobalt 60 radiotherapy calibration system which will be used to calibrate cancer treatment equipment.

The CS thanked the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) for collaborating with the KEBS to acquire the facility.

The KEBS MD said the launch was a culmination of years of dedicated collaboration with the IAEA which started in 2008. She pointed out that IAEA has been helping KEBS to foster innovation and capacity building citing support with Cobalt 60 as a critical leap forward in cancer treatment.

Dr. Rotich, in an interview said the facility was available for use by all regional healthcare facilities and would lead to time and cost efficiency for users who previously shipped their equipment to South Africa, Egypt, Morocco or outside Africa for calibration often at a hefty time and money cost.

The Director thanked IAEA for the continued collaboration and assured the country that the facility was installed with strict adherence to safety requirements.

Let's do this together

Report cases to KEBS

1545
Meet us halfway



www.kebs.org

KEBS TO PARTNER IEC-GIF TO MANAGE LOCAL BATTERY E-WASTE

By Urbanus Kissiu

The Kenya Bureau of Standards (KEBS) has entered into a partnership with the International Electrotechnical Commission Global Impact Fund (IEC-GIF) to manage battery e-waste into renewable energy resources.

The IEC-GIF has provided Ksh. 58 million to fund the initiative dubbed "Turning Battery E-Waste into E-Resources" which will run for two years.

IEC Global Impact Fund representatives led by Matthew Doherty, a Senior Advisor and Officer, who was visiting Kenya towards the end of February held consultations with KEBS senior management led by Managing Director Esther Ngari. KEBS representatives later joined him to inaugurate the project in Athi River.

The project will support Small Medium Enterprises-led environmental Innovations in the next two years with IEC-GIF providing grants for the implementation of solutions that address specific global environmental, governance and societal challenges.



International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) National Committee of Kenya President Cyrus Khalusi (left) presents a memento to Senior Advisor & Officer IEC Global Impact Fund Mathew Doherty during the announcement of partnership between KEBS and IEC that aims to turn battery e-waste into renewable energy resources. Looking on is KEBS Human Resource and Administration Director Chris Kibett (right).

Doherty, who was accompanied by local Director of the IEC AFRC François Ahoti, underscored the importance of local collaborations with KEBS and the Kenya National Committee of the International Electrotechnical Commission (KNCIEC) for the success of the initiative.

"It's an honour to collaborate with Kenyan partners and stakeholders on this crucial initiative. Our goal is not just to mitigate the environmental impacts of battery e-waste but to spark a broader movement towards sustainability and innovation in the region", he said.

The KEBS MD while welcoming the initiative said, "This partnership with the IEC Global Impact Fund represents a pivotal movement for Kenya in leading sustainable practices within Africa. By turning battery e-waste into valuable resources, we're not just addressing an environmental challenge, we're setting a precedent for innovation in the continent."

She said Kenya was honoured to be selected as the first beneficiary of

the inaugural fund and said the project's success hinges on the immediate impact of the investment as well as demonstration of a sustainable model that can continue beyond the initial funding period.

Through the initiative, IEC-GIF and other partners aim to establish a blueprint for sustainable development that can be replicated across Africa and beyond.

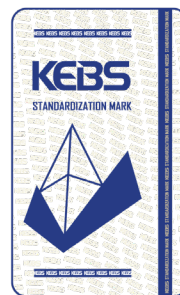
“It's an honour to collaborate with Kenyan partners and stakeholders on this crucial initiative. Our goal is not just to mitigate the environmental impacts of battery e-waste but to spark a broader movement towards sustainability and innovation in the region”



Kenya Bureau of Standards

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KENYA QUALITY POLICY DRAFT RELEASED



Participants at a stakeholder engagement in Kisumu to discuss the draft national quality policy

By Solomon Kyenze

A draft Kenya Quality Policy that will reduce national quality challenges including technical barriers on trade has been formulated.

The draft policy will govern implementation of Standardization, Metrology, Accreditation, and Conformity Assessment activities and align relevant policies, legal and regulatory framework needed to support and enhance the quality, safety and environmental soundness of goods, services and processes.

The policy, a product of the Ministry of Investments, Trade and Industry was unveiled at a stakeholders consultative forum presided over by the Principal Secretary in the State Department for Industry Dr. Juma Mukhwana that included participants from the public and private sector.

Dr. Mukhwana explained that the policy will create a sustainable and

effective quality infrastructure system which will in turn inspire the production of globally competitive products and services with an assurance of consumer and environmental protection, health and safety of the citizenry.

"Quality infrastructure is required for the effective operation of domestic markets, and its international recognition is important to enable access to foreign markets. It is a critical element in promoting and sustaining economic development, as well as environmental and social well-being of the country", the PS said.

He said the policy will assist in addressing the country's national quality challenges thus further reducing the effect of technical barriers on trade while serving the needs of government, businesses, and consumers.

Some of the challenges include low capacity, limited skills, inadequate

awareness, inconsistency in policies, legal, regulatory, and institutional framework, weak coordination and synergies among actors, inadequate coverage of emerging markets and slow adoption of Quality infrastructure changes, and risks.

The policy will at the same time support effective operation of domestic markets while enhancing Kenya's conformity to internationally recognized standards.

It has been formulated within the framework of the national long-term policy blueprint; the Kenya Vision 2030 and the Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA) and has adhered to the provisions of the Kenya Constitution (2010) which recognize the concurrent jurisdiction of the National Government and County Governments in relation to trade matters.

The policy has also been guided by agreements to which Kenya is signatory to notably: The World Trade Organization (WTO) agreements, (GATT, 1994), the East African Community (EAC) and Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) Treaties, EAC-EU Economic Partnership Agreement, the African Caribbean Pacific Cotonou Agreement, the Kenya-US Free Trade Agreement, and the African Free Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA).

The Ministry has embarked on public participation forums targeting several counties where the public can give feedback on the national quality policy.

International Women's Day

March 8th is a special day for women all over the world. Aptly named International Women's Day (IWD), the date provides an opportunity to recognize women for their achievements without regard to divisions, whether national, ethnic, linguistic, cultural, economic or political. To commemorate IWD 2024, several women in leadership at the Kenya Bureau of Standards shared special message on the significance of the day.



Tunapoadhimisha Siku ya Wanawake Duniani, ninaomba tutambue mchango wa wanawake duniani. Ujasiri wao, ubunifu wao, na azma yao thabiti hututia moyo sote kufuatilia ubora na kuweka viwango vya juu katika kila uga. Pamoja, tuendelee kuelekeza mustakabali wa usawa na mafanikio yasiyo na kikomo.

Esther Ngari - Mkurugenzi Mkuu-KEBS



Investing in women's empowerment always reaps immense benefits. We celebrate all women that are doing great exploits across the world and the societies, including men, that are invested in empowering them #investinwomen

Caroline Outa-Ogweno - Regional Manager Lake Region.



As we celebrate International Women's Day, it is important to know that being a woman is a full circle. Within her is the power to create, nurture, and transform. #happyinternationalwomensday

Verah Akomo - Ag. Corporate Communications Manager



Being loyal to the cause, dream, believe, inspire.

Jacqueline Kang'iri - Regional Manager, Mount Kenya Region.



No country can ever truly flourish if it stifles the potential of its women and deprives itself of the contributions of half of its citizens. What women bring to the table can no longer be overlooked. Let us, therefore, be inspired to be inclusive of women.

Miriam Kahiro - Legal Services and Corporation Secretary



Women have standards and are strong and graceful with boundaries. This is no attitude!

Grace W.A Onyango - Chief Manager, Marketing and Customer Care



We celebrate women in all aspects of life, where there is passion, grace will always follow.

Tania Monica - Senior Standards Officer, Standards Development and International Trade



The future is female

Jane Ndinya - Chief Manager, Supply Chain

Strategic Plan 2023-2027 Launch



Cakes galore: National Standards Council and Kenya Bureau of Standards top management preparing to cut two cakes to commemorate the launch of the KEBS Strategic Plan 2023-2027 and the Cobalt 60.



Kenya Bureau of Standards Managing Director Esther Ngari delivers her speech during the launch of the KEBS Strategic Plan 2023-27.



Kenya Bureau of Standards Finance and Strategy Director Mohammed Adan makes a presentation during the launch of the organization's Strategic Plan 2023-2027.



Kenya Bureau of Standards Legal Services Director and Corporation Secretary Miriam Kahiro (2nd left) prepares to give a token of appreciation to some of the team members who won during the Strategic plan internal campaign competition



Kenya Bureau of Standards staff members following the proceedings during the launch of the KEBS Strategic Plan 2023-2027.

Cobalt 60 Launch



Kenya Bureau of Standards Head of Dosimetry Grace Ateka takes the Investments, Trade and Industry Cabinet Secretary Rebecca Miano (2nd right) through the Cobalt 60 system when the Cabinet Secretary launched the facility at KEBS headquarters.



Investments, Trade and Industry Cabinet Secretary Rebecca Miano is helped out of her dustcoat after inaugurating the Cobalt 60 facility at the KEBS offices.



Cabinet Secretary Rebecca Miano plants a commemorative tree at the Kenya Bureau of Standards when she visited to launch the Cobalt 60 facility as well as the KEBS 2023-2027 Strategic Plan.



The Cabinet Secretary for Investments, Trade and Industry Rebecca Miano (Left) is escorted to the Cobalt 60 facility by Kenya Bureau of Standards Managing Director Esther Ngari (Centre) and the Director of the Metrology and Testing Department Dr. Henry Rotich (Right)



National Standards Council and Kenya Bureau of Standards top management viewing the Cobalt 60 facility when it was launched



Happiness is not a matter of intensity but of balance,
order, rhythm, and harmony.

Thomas Merton



Kenya Bureau of Standards
Standards for Quality life



Protecting Quality, Ensuring Standards

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The Kenya Bureau of Standards monthly newsletter is designed by The ARCrayon Limited

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SM#20023