

## PRESS RELEASE

### KEBS launches Welders Certification Scheme

**Nairobi, 10<sup>th</sup> November 2020...** The Kenya Bureau of Standards (KEBS) has launched a Welders Certification Scheme, a training solution aimed at equipping individuals with competencies in welding based on national and international standards.

The scheme introduces a three-year renewable global certification to applicable national and international standards including ISO 15607, ISO 9606-1, ISO 17846, ISO 3834 parts 1-6, ISO 17024, among others.

“We recognise the responsibility and opportunity to address the challenges limiting the growth of trade and industries in our country. The gap on poor quality welds causes pipe and structure failures resulting in loss of containment, production loss, fire which can run to millions of shillings or man-days lost. Through the scheme, we can periodically assess the competence of welders which helps to bridge the gap on poor quality welds and fabrications,” said Lt Col (Rtd.) Bernard Njiraini, Managing Director, KEBS.

The newly launched scheme details requirements for assurance of welding and fabricating competence. It will also provide welders with numerous opportunities for career and professional development as well as networking opportunities.

It is expected that the Welders Certification Scheme will fast track the expansion of industries and sectors such as general Industries transport, mining, building and construction, manufacturing, marine and shipbuilding, oil and gas chemical and energy, informal sector, among others, that incorporate welding as part of their technical and physical operations.

Meanwhile, KEBS awarded the Winners of the 7<sup>th</sup> ARSO (African Organisation for Standardisation) Essay Competition. The three winners, from colleges and universities across the country, will represent Kenya at the regional level of the competition.

Additionally, KEBS reiterated its commitment to enforcing conformity to standards in manufacturing of personal protective equipment (PPEs) and other products sold in the market. Members of the public are encouraged to report any encounters with suspected substandard products the KEBS toll free number 1545.

**#ENDS#**

We encourage the general public to “**Wajibika Na KEBS**” and be on the lookout for products suspected to be substandard and officers suspected to lack integrity. **Wajibika Na KEBS** is a program that allows the public to report cases about substandard products and hindrance to service provision by any KEBS official. **To Wajibika**, use the KEBS Official Mobile App or send text to verify whether the **S Mark permit** on your product is valid by sending the code underneath the **S Mark to 20023 (SM#Code)** to get product validity status details. **To Wajibika**, verify whether the **ISM Mark permit** on your product is valid by sending the code underneath the **ISM Mark to 20023 (ISM#UCRCode)** to get product validity status details. **To Wajibika**, to verify whether the **D Mark permit** on your product is valid by sending the code underneath the **D Mark to 20023 (DM#Code)** to get product validity status details. **To Wajibika**, verify whether the KEBS official you are dealing with actually works for the organization send an SMS to **20023 (HR#Staff Number)** to get employment details. If the details are different, report to **KEBS Toll-Free 1545**

during official working hours **of 8.00 AM to 1.00 PM and 2.00 PM to 5.00 PM, Monday to Friday** except public holidays.

### **About KEBS**

Kenya Bureau of Standards (KEBS) is a statutory body established under the Standards Act (CAP 496) of the laws of Kenya and is a member of the International Organization for Standardization (ISO). KEBS' mandate is to provide standardization and conformity assessment services.

**For more information, please contact KEBS Corporate Communication:**

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