

New Standard to Boost Safety of Cosmetics Trade in the Country

The Kenya Bureau of Standards (KEBS) has approved standard KS 2937:2021 to regulate the safety of cosmetic products in the country. The standard developed covers the innovations in the cosmetics industry to ensure the quality and safety of the consumer is prioritized via adherence to good manufacturing practices during sourcing of raw materials for the cosmetics, preparation and eventual production of branded cosmetic products destined for sale in the Kenyan market.

As a thriving global industry valued at about 670 billion dollars by the Euromonitor International, entrepreneurs who also import cosmetic products into the country must continuously ensure all products destined to the Kenyan market adhere to the Kenya Standard **KS 2937:2021**.

"The standard prescribes important parameters in the manufacturing of cosmetics such as raw material requirements, places limits on presence of heavy metal contaminants, and microbiological limits. In addition, these general guidelines determine general and specific requirements for the quality, fitness for use and safety of



Lt Col (Rtd.) Bernard Njiraini,
Managing Director, KEBS

the products for the consumers," says KEBS Managing Director Lt Col (Rtd.) Bernard Njiraini.

The Kenya Standard is a wholesome reference point on quality assurance guidance to various stakeholders in the cosmetic industry including; manufacturers, importers, traders, testing bodies, research bodies, institutions of higher learning and regulatory bodies.



KEBS moves to authenticate the quality and sources of meat products

The Kenya Bureau of Standards has approved 11 standards that will safeguard consumers from fraudulent sellers of meat products. They prescribe the procedure to be used in the screening, testing and analysis of the samples obtained for authentication in cases of both fresh cuts and meat derived products.

The Standards apply to various animal products such as cows, sheep, goats, chicken, pigs, horses and donkeys. It provides direction on the use of molecular techniques and DNA material obtained from the meat products, and will be relevant to government agencies such as the Department of Veterinary Services, the Ministry of Health and market surveillance teams who may utilize these standards to establish the source

and quality of the meat, especially in cases where its authenticity is in doubt.

"Once implemented, the standards shall benefit various players in the meat industry such as meat processors and supermarkets to authenticate the source of their meat through accurate and precise test methods which are key to consumer safety," adds KEBS Managing Director Lt Col (Rtd) Bernard Njiraini.



Production of supplementary rabbit feeds will benefit from new approved Kenya Standard

Rabbit farming, due to the growing demand of high quality meats and the small spaces required to rear them, is on the increase and has become an attractive sector for livestock and domestic farmers in the country. The Kenya Bureau of Standards has developed Kenya Standards **KS 2325-1:2021 Rabbit feed - Specification Part 1: Complete Feed** and **KS 2325-2:2021 Rabbit Feed- Specification Part 2: Supplementary Feed** to guide the production of quality and safe feeds for healthy rabbits

"The Standards address issues such as nutrient requirements, quality and safety attributes of the processed feeds as well as labelling requirements - which are useful for guiding quality control tests, quality assurance decisions and certification processes," says KEBS Managing Director Lt Col (Rtd) Bernard Njiraini.

KEBS has also developed methods of tests in support of the feed industry. These standards provide procedures for determination of important quality, nutrition and safety components in raw

materials and feed products - such as calcium phosphate, nitrogen/protein content, crude ash, moisture levels (among others) and residues of veterinary drugs in animal products.

The standards are aimed at supporting the improvement of quality assurance checks and provide objective procedures for application by stakeholders in the animal feed industry such as regulators, manufacturers and importers.







KEBS introduces rehabilitation standards to mitigate the harmful impact of substance use disorders (SUDs)

The Kenya Bureau of Standards (KEBS) has introduced three national standards that guide on management practices of mental health and substance use disorder (SUD). Substance use disorder and mental health are currently major public health problems, with studies indicating that over 10% of Kenyans aged between 15 and 65 years have an alcohol use disorder while one in five adolescents globally is reported to have ever used at least one substance in their lifetime

"The four standards (listed below) address critical issues in the development of a good treatment and rehabilitation centre that include the needs assessment of the clients, mobilization of target population, settings, evidence-based interventions, personnel, resources, management, ethical consideration, documentation and monitoring and evaluation with the aim of providing patient-focused standardized service delivery approach that assures effective and quality care across the private and public sector."

The implementation of these standards is expected to improve the service delivery of substance use disorder treatment by providing health services that are safe, accessible and of quality through a competent workforce. In addition, the standards shall guide the establishment of a needs assessment and mental health needs of all clients that are key in ensuring recovery and reduce the incidence of relapse upon completion of the treatment.

The rehabilitation standards include;

-  **KS 2941-1:2021, Management of persons with substance use disorders, Part 1- Community outreach, prevention and early intervention**
-  **KS 2941-2:2021 Management of persons with substance use disorders, Part 2- Outpatient treatment**
-  **KS 2941-3:2021 Management of persons with substance use disorders, Part 3- Residential treatment**
-  **KS 2941-4:2021 Management of persons with substance use disorders, Part 4- Recovery management**

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