

Kenya Bureau of

Standards

Welcome Message by Mr. Joseph K. Koskey, Managing Director, Kenya Bureau of Standards (KEBS) during the opening ceremony of AFRIMETS (Intra-Africa Metrology System School in Nairobi at the Red Court Hotel on 7th February 2011 at 9.00 am

Hon. Ndiritu Mureithi, Assistant Minister for Industrialization,

His Excellency Per Ludvig Magnus, Ambassador of Norway to Kenya

Mr. Ola Altera, UNIDO Representative in Nairobi

Dr. Wynand Louw, Chairman, Intra Africa Metrology System (AFRIMETS)

Mr. Lalith Goonatilake, Director – Trade Capacity Building Branch, United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)

The representatives of Permanent Secretaries, Ministry of Industrialization/Trade

Mr Michael Onyancha, Director, Department of Weigh ts and Measures

Facilitators and Resource persons,

Distinguished Guests

Ladies and Gentlemen: All Protocols observed.

I welcome you to The 2011 AFRIMETS Metrology School which is the first of its kind to be held in Africa. The Kenya Bureau of Standards (KEBS) and Weights and Measures department is privileged to take part in hosting this event which is graced by internationally renowned scientists as resource persons.

The ten day metrology school will run from 7 to 16 February, 2011 will focus on the balanced presentation of basic knowledge in legal, scientific and industrial metrology in theory and practice including tour of KEBS laboratories, Weights and Measures department and field trips to enterprises in and around Nairobi, to witness applied metrology. The course has attracted participants from over 48 countries to learn from best international practice and exchange experiences of their countries.

In addition to these exciting lectures, other activities are also scheduled, including workshops, industrial visits and practical sessions on measurements at the KEBS laboratories. This balanced approach will cover the theory of measurements, on-the-job practical measurement sessions and finally measurement applications. To maximize the benefit to the students during the ten days in Nairobi and to help them make new friends from around Africa, time off for social interaction has been set aside.

The objective is to provide an opportunity for these future leaders of metrology to obtain an overview of measurements and to establish the essential personal links

and networks that will be so useful for them and the whole community as their careers progress.

Ladies and Gentlemen:

On behalf of the Government of Kenya, we wish to acknowledge the support of our development partners and technical organizations: UNIDO, NORAD, BIPM, OIML and AFRIMETS, for the material and technical assistance that has borne fruit to this ten day training for metrologists from all over the African continent and the developed economies.

Our special appreciation goes to the Kenya Breweries Limited, NewKCC Limited, GlaxoSmithKline Limited, Bamburi Cement Limited, Petroleum and Industrial Services Limited, Brookside Limited and Sameer Africa who have accepted to host industrial visits to give an insight into the practical touch of metrology for the students through industrial study tours to their enterprises.

We heartily welcome you all to Nairobi for this exciting ten day experience. Thank you.