

PRESS RELEASE

Kenya to join the globe in marking World Metrology Day

Nairobi, 13th May 2021 ... Kenya, through the Kenya Bureau of Standards (KEBS) will join the world to mark the World Metrology Day.

Celebrated annually on 20th May, World Metrology Day commemorates the anniversary of the signing of the Metre Convention in 1875. The treaty provides the basis for a worldwide coherent measurement system that underpins scientific discovery and innovation, industrial manufacturing, and international trade, as well as the improvement of the quality of life and protection of the global environment.

This year's celebrations are organised under the theme, **'Measurement for Health'** with aim to create awareness of the important role measurement plays in modern medicine, and patient protection.

"This year's theme is especially significant as the world responds to the COVID-19 pandemic. From calibrating equipment that are used in the testing of samples for presence of the virus, to calibrating equipment that are used in the testing of personal protective equipment, to calibrating medical devices such as ventilators and those used in storing vaccines to ensure that the efficacy of vaccines is maintained, metrology has been key in the fight against COVID-19." says Lt Col (Rtd.) Bernard Njiraini.

Over the years metrology has played a central role in scientific discovery and innovation in health healthcare championing advances in surgery, radiology, pharmacology, dentistry, audiology, among others. More recently, metrology has also been involved in vaccine development. This has been possible because of the accurate identification and measurement of RNA (Ribonucleic acid) molecules.

Locally, metrology has contributed to developing technical standards to support and ramp up manufacturing of quality personal protective equipment (PPEs) such as masks and development of locally manufactured medical devices such as ventilators to support the government in the fight against COVID-19.

"By finding new ways to test, diagnose and treat, and develop innovative medical devices that provide accurate and reliable results, metrology provides a base to enhance global measures undertaken to promote medical practice and reduce the impact of the global health crisis," he adds.

The event will be graced by various government officials including Hon. Betty Maina, Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Industrialization, Trade and Enterprise Development (MolTED), among others.

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, Metrology, and conformity assessment services.

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