



***INAUGURATION OF THE 9TH NATIONAL STANDARDS COUNCIL
(NSC)***

TUESDAY 16th AUGUST, 2022

**REMARKS BY MINISTER OF TRADE INDUSTRY AND
COOPERATIVES**

The Hon. Ministers of State Present, the Permanent Secretary MTIC, the Chairperson and Members of the 9th National Standards Council (NSC), UNBS Executive Director and your Management Team, Invited Guests.

Allow me start by congratulating the Chairperson and Members of the 9th National Standards Council (NSC) for successfully being appointed after a very rigorous process which has taken almost six (6) months.

I must confess that it was not an easy task for us to choose you Members from a pool of equally very competent and eligible Ugandans.

I therefore believe that you were selected purposely to make a contribution as Board Members in one of the very critical institution of Government, the Uganda National Bureau of Standards (UNBS).

The Bureau is responsible for developing, promoting and enforcing National Standards in order to promote fair trade and competition, promoting access of Ugandan made products to export market and regulating the quality of both imported and locally manufactured

products which may be harmful to the safety and health of consumers and the environment.

The Bureau's role is therefore key in realizing Government Programs such as Buy Uganda Build Uganda (BUBU), Imports Substitution and Export Promotion by ensuring improved quality of Ugandan Made Products.

You have joined the Bureau at the time when there are high expectations and demand for UNBS services in the country in relation to reducing the prevalence on substandard products on the market as well as promoting access of Ugandan products to Export Markets.

I want to thank the Executive Director and your Management Team for maintaining stability and good performance of the Bureau during the absence of the Board.

I believe that with the New Council now in place, you will do much better as a team for the good of both the Bureau, but most importantly for the good of the Sector and the Country at large.

Dear Chairperson and Members of the 9th National Standards Council (NSC), as you may be aware or will be finding out, the Bureau is a very unique Institution in that most of the learning of its business is done on the job when you are inside.

I therefore encourage you to be open minded and be eager to learn about the mandate of the Bureau so that you can be able to effectively execute your roles, among which include the approval of national standards for application in trade and industry.

My Ministry will continue to support your efforts to address some of the challenges which the Bureau is currently facing, especially those relating to funding and staffing which we have been lobbying for some time now. Resource Mobilization for the Institution is also one of the key roles the Board.

As I conclude, I want to urge you to demonstrate good governance and lead by example as Board Members, because all the eyes and ears will be on you. Encourage team work and cordial working relationship between the Board and Management to ensure stability and efficiency of service delivery of the Bureau.

I therefore encourage Management undertake induction and orientation of the new Council Members to UNBS activities and processes so that they can settle down quickly and begin performing of their duties as provided for in the UNBS Board Charter.

Finally, I wish to thank the Permanent Secretary and her team for ensuring that the Bureau gets the New Council as quickly as possible given the critical role Council plays in the standardization process.

I thank you all for listening.

I say all these,

FOR GOD AND MY COUNTRY