



MALAWI BUREAU OF STANDARDS

Promoting Standardization and Quality Assurance in Malawi

PRESS RELEASE

RECALL/WITHDRAW OF IMPORTED MEAT AND MEAT PRODUCTS

The Malawi Bureau of Standards (MBS) is a statutory organisation established in 1972 by an Act of Parliament, Cap 51:02 (Revised as Act No. 14 of 2012), with the mandate to promote metrology, standardization and quality assurance of commodities and of the manufacture, production, processing or treatment thereof; and further to provide for matters incidental to or connected with standardization.

The MBS would like to inform the general public that following the outbreak of "listeria bacteria" originating from meat and meat products in the Republic of South Africa (RSA), it has immediately instituted vigorous inspections in all the cities, i.e Blantyre, Lilongwe, Mzuzu and Zomba, and in all the shops that stock imported meat and meat products from RSA and other countries in the region. During the inspections, MBS inspectors will be removing the affected meat and meat products from the shops and collecting samples of the same for laboratory analysis.

The MBS will also impound and/or quarantine meat and meat products at border posts to prevent entry of the same into the country and this will remain in force until the exercise and related Orders are revoked.

The inspections are being implemented in accordance with Section 39 of the MBS Act and the Imports Quality Monitoring Regulations (2016) in an endeavor to protect Malawian consumers from exposure to health hazards related to consumption of microbiologically contaminated meat products.

The general public is also advised to desist from buying and consuming imported meat and meat products until further advice from competent authorities. The general public should also alert or inform the MBS of any shopping outlets found stocking imported meat and meat products for appropriate action.

The MBS will take appropriate legal actions, including confiscating the banned meat/meat products and imposing default charges, in the event that such products are found on the market after this press statement.

Director General

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