



MALAWI BUREAU OF STANDARDS

Promoting Standardization and Quality Assurance in Malawi

PRESS RELEASE

COMMEMORATION OF THE 2024 WORLD STANDARDS DAY

The Malawi Bureau of Standards (MBS) is a statutory organization established in 1972 by an Act of Parliament, Cap 51:02 (Revised as Act No. 14 of 2012), with a 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.

Every year, on 14th October the MBS joins the members of the standards community in commemorating the World standards day. Globally, the commemoration of this day is led by the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC), International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), as a way of paying tribute to the collaborative efforts of the thousands of experts worldwide, who develop voluntary technical agreements that are published as International Standards.

The standards community worldwide commemorate the day, led by National Standards Bodies and other bodies affiliated to these international standards setting bodies, in their respective countries.

The International theme for the 2024 World Standards Day is **"Shared Vision for a Better World: Spotlight on Strategic Development Goal 9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure in the Age of Artificial Intelligence (AI)"**. The theme recognizes that International Standards are the backbone of global progress. They ensure interoperability, security, and sustainability, fostering global collaboration to accelerate innovation through AI. The theme purports that together, we can build a world where resilient infrastructure, sustainable industrial growth, and cutting-edge innovation – powered by artificial intelligence and supported by international standards – drive economic transformation, today and for future generations.

As a member of ISO, the Malawi Bureau of Standards (MBS) joins the international community in commemorating the 2024 World Standards Day.

In Malawi, the World standards Day will be celebrated whilst recognizing that collaboration is key to the achievement of the Strategic Development Goals. Having experienced cyclones in the recent past years, we recognize that the climate continues to change. Therefore, the standards community and the whole of the built environment must be resilient and ready to face the challenges ahead. With this in mind, and recognizing the progress that the world standards community makes together for the greater good, the 2024 Malawi's Celebration of World Standards Day (WSD) will be celebrated by the theme, **"A Shared Vision for a Better World: Role of standards in mitigating climate change."**

For the effects associated with climate change to be mitigated, it will require the cooperation of many public and private partners, and the use of all available tools, including standards and conformity assessment procedures. This will also require changing some of the practices that contribute to climate change, such as deforestation.

In Malawi, the SDGs are supported through the Malawi Growth and Development Strategy III (MGDS III) which aim to build a productive, competitive and resilient Malawi. Among others, standards play a key role in the implementation of MGDS III and the Malawi Agenda 2063. It is in this spirit that the MBS has engaged different stakeholders to participate in the commemoration of this year's World Standards Day through a conference that will be held at Crossroads Hotel in Lilongwe on 17 October 2024, where stakeholders will be sensitized on existing Malawi Standards related to climate change and also on AI.

The MBS appreciates the efforts and expertise that all stakeholders play during standards development process and wish them a happy World Standards Day.

DIRECTOR GENERAL