

SIM-PTB Workshop on NMI-Metrology User Relations

**March 2nd to March 5th 2009
Queretaro, Mexico**

St.Kitts and Nevis Bureau of Standards

OVERVIEW

St.Kitts and Nevis Bureau of Standards

- Formally established with the passage of National Bureau of Standards Act, 1999
- Major responsibility of protecting the environment, health and safety of consumers

Mission Statement

- The goal of the St.Kitts and Nevis Bureau of Standards is to deliver the highest quality service in the areas of Legal Metrology, particularly weights and measures, testing of food, water, and environmental testing and to establish standards of safety and quality for all goods in the Federation and to monitor these goods for compliance in order to foster the improve quality of life for the people of St.Kitts and Nevis.

Key Responsibilities

- To prepare, promote and generally adopt standards on a national, regional or international basis relating to structures, commodities, materials, articles and other things offered to the public commercially
- To promote standardization, quality assurance and simplification in the industry and commerce

Key Responsibilities

- To prepare, frame, modify or amend specifications and codes of practice
- To act as the custodian of the national standards of mass, length, capacity, time, temperature and electrical measurement
- To test precision instruments, gauges and scientific apparatuses, for the purpose of determining the accuracy and the calibration of standards used in industrial and commercial activities

Key Responsibilities

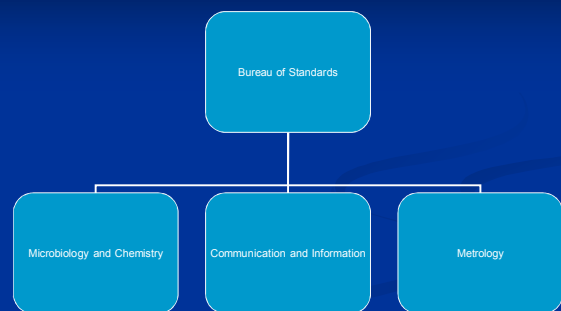
- To maintain testing laboratories for the purpose of testing and providing facilities for examining commodities, products, materials, processes, and in so doing to conduct such research and investigation as may be necessary.
- To facilitate the implementation of standards in the Federation.

Key Responsibilities

- To certify those products, commodities and processes that conform to the national standards
- To collect and disseminate information on standards and related technical matters, nationally, regionally and internationally

Key Responsibilities

- To co-ordinate the efforts of producers and users of materials, products, appliances, processes and methods, for the improvement of the materials, products, appliances, processes and methods
- To recognize as a national standard, in relation to an article or process, any standard established by any other body approved by the Bureau
- To do such other things as may be necessary to provide for standardization in the Federation



Enquiry/Focal Points

- To function as the National Codex Focal Point
 - act as link between Codex Secretariat and the country
 - receive all Codex final texts (standards, codes of practice, guidelines and other advisory texts and working documents of Codex sessions and ensure that they are circulated to those concerned within the country
 - send comments on Codex documents or proposals to the Codex Alimentarius Commission or its subsidiary bodies and /or the Codex Secretariat

Enquiry/Focal Points

- To function as the National Codex Focal Point
 - act as the liaison point with the food industry, consumers, traders, and all other concerned to ensure that the government is provided with an appropriate balance of policy and technical advice on which to base decisions relating to issues raised in the context of the Codex work
 - act as a channel for the exchange of information and coordination of activities with other Codex members

Enquiry/Focal Points

- To function as the enquiry point for (WTO) TBT agreement
- One of the provisions under the TBT Agreement requires members to have a minimum institutional infrastructure that includes a national standards body as enquiry point and a notification authority
- A key objective of the agreement is to achieve increased transparency in standards, technical regulations and conformity assessment for the purpose of facilitating global trade

Chemistry and Microbiology Units

- Responsible for providing analytical and technical services necessary for providing the basis for standards development and compliance monitoring
- training workshops in the control of food safety and quality as it relates to improve monitoring of the industry including processing, imported foods, food service and street food sectors.

Chemistry and Microbiology Units

- Provide services to Farmers in the areas of soil, fertilizer and plant tissue analyses.
- Assist agro-processors of fruit juices, confectioneries and sauces in developing products of a consistent standard

Metrology

- Management of the national system of metrology; verification and calibration of scales, balances and other measuring devices within the Federation.
- It provides the basis for fair trading in a domestic economy and international trading in the global market place

Awareness Raising

- To constantly raise the general awareness of the public on the role that standards play in everyday life.
- To provide information to the public in technical matters that should be of interest to them
- To inform the government and the public of articles that could possibly be imported into the country or activities that may be deleterious to their personal, physical or economic well being.
- To advise the government on technical matters, particularly as they relate to health, safety and the environment.

Awareness Activities

- Workshops/seminars for stakeholders including government agencies to discuss a wide range of topics including:
 - meeting local and international standards through product testing
 - Draft national and regional standards

- Participate in Consumer week of activities during the month of March, highlighting the role and activities of the Bureau of Standards
- Take the opportunity to make presentations at stakeholders seminars/workshops
- Participate in the Department of Agriculture annual Agricultural Exhibition
- Program for work attachment for 2 students during summer vacation

- Video including newly developed capacity of the Bureau of Standards, activities of the Food Safety Monitoring programme, highlights of training workshops and footage of food processing industries.
- CD's on laboratory services were produced for agro-processors, schools, colleges, farmers, and tourism industry.

Upcoming Activities

- April: The importance of Traceability, Verification and Calibration Services
- Target groups: SME's, Public Sector Bodies, Trade Unions, Media, Chamber of Industry and Commerce, Manufacturers Association, Ministry of Trade Industry and Commerce, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Health and Public Health officials, Water Authority, Medical Laboratories, Testing Laboratories, Academia, Shipping Association, Farmers
- June: Quality Infrastructure workshop covering ISO 17025, ISO15189 and Quality Management Systems

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Problems

- Government Minister responsible for the Bureau of Standards which falls under the Ministry of Consumer Affairs is also the Minister with responsibility for other substantive portfolios, e.g. International Trade, Industry, Finance and Commerce
- Due to limited resources no designated information officer
- Do not have a web page

THANK YOU