

**Report on  
(KEBS) Quality Management System  
to AFRIMETS TC-QS**

*By*

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**Date: 07-07-2019**

## Agenda

1. Information on the national metrology system (**National Quality Infrastructure**)
2. Quality policy.
3. Organogram of the NMI.
4. QMS processes and steering mechanisms in the organization.
5. Current accreditations/international recognition.
- 6. Current status of transition plan to ISO 17025:2017**
7. List of updated calibration capabilities covered by the QMS
8. Continuous improvement
9. Audits / external review
10. Addressing weak and strong points
11. Addressing solutions for problems encountered

- The Kenya Bureau of Standards (KEBS) was established in 1974 through an Act of parliament Cap 496.
- KEBS Metrology Department serves as the National Metrology Institute (NMI)
- It is custodian of National measurement standards and provides traceability of those measurement to the SI Unit.
- Provides dissemination of the SI units to industry

The Kenya Bureau of Standards Metrology Department is committed to providing quality Metrology services that consistently meet its customers' requirements and endeavour to exceed their expectations in an impartial and professional manner.

The Management of KEBS Metrology shall provide the necessary resources towards the effective implementation and continual improvement of the Quality Management System that complies with ISO/IEC 17025:2017.

Signed: .....

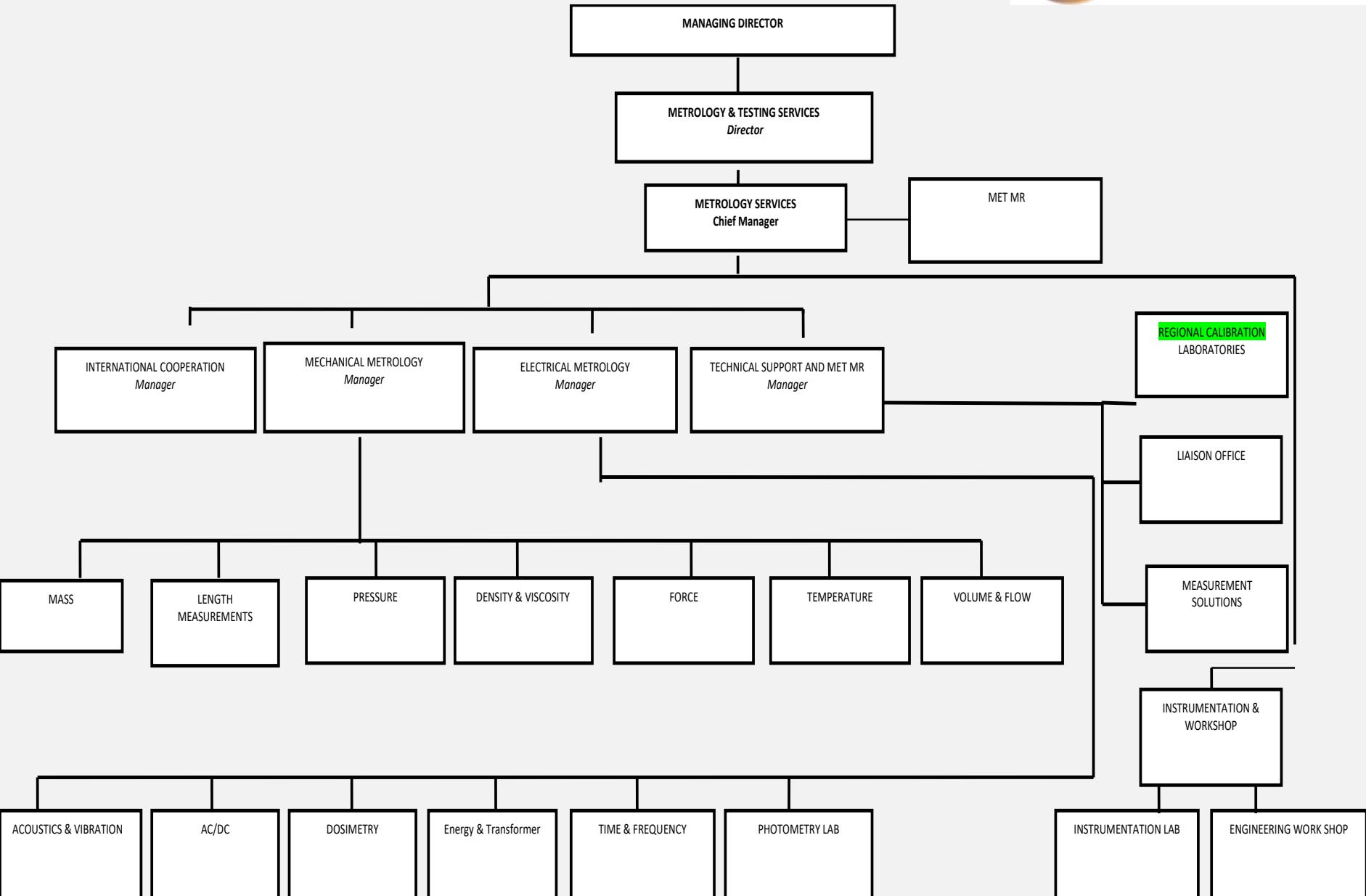
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Director- Metrology and Testing Services Division

# Metrology Services Quality Objectives

- To maintain the custody of the National Measurement Standards as per the relevant applicable laws of Kenya.
- To offer traceability to the international system of measurements (SI).
- To realise, maintain and disseminate (calibrate) the SI Units of measurement in the most efficient and effective manner always and to produce accurate and acceptable calibration results within acceptable uncertainties
- To support the National Measurement System needs in the country by availing the necessary national measurement standards, consultancy, Training and advisory services.
- To carry-out relevant research and development work in metrology.

# TC-QS Committee



- **QMS Processes and Steering Mechanisms**

There is an office for the Corporate Quality Management Representative(QMR) and departmental QMR playing a supplementary role apart from the normal duties.

Has the following roles for QMS:

- Organizing external and internal audits/reviews
- Organizing and secretary of management review meetings
- Organizing QMS document reviews
- Ensuring effective implementation of QMS
- Submitting QMS reports as required

- For the transition it was found necessary to have a transition committee
- Appointed on 2018-11-05 comprising of 9 members and 4 members for overseeing the transition process
- The overall objective is to steer the department to a smooth transition



# Current Accreditation and International Recognition

The department has international accreditation from DAKKS of Germany (D-K-15101-01-00) in five fields of measurement viz:

- DC & Low Frequency
- Temperature
- Force
- Pressure
- Volume

- The Quality system had been approved by AFRIMETS but expired in 2017.
- The review was to take place same year(based on 2005) version but due to various challenges did not happen.
- Now decided to conduct review based on the revised standard after putting everything in place

# Current Status of the Transition Plan

- The quality manual was reviewed in 2018 though there are additional improvements suggested for further review.
- Key staff for the implementation of the revised standard have been trained externally and internally for the transition
- The remaining major activity is the review of operating procedures that has taken a while to be implemented and conduction of internal audits, management review and submission of the documentation to AFRIMETS for review
- The self imposed deadline for all that to happen is September 2019

### List of Updated CMCs Covered by the QMS

- There are 19 lines in both AUV and Chemical metrology after 6 More lines were added in the field of AUV
- Force and DC & Low Frequencies submitted their CMCs for Intraregional review-the challenge being delay in QS review

# Continuous Improvement

- We are in the final phase in implementing a metrology LIMS to automate our processes including calibration
- We have acquired new equipment to expand and widen scope
- We have acquired new staff to replace the ones retired and
- We are on course to transition to the revised standard
- Continuous staff trainings

# Audits/External Review

- DAkkS issued KEBS with an accreditation certificate for the previously assessed scopes on 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2018
- The peer review by AFRIMETS is still pending subject to KEBS being fully prepared for it under the revised standard
- The department conducted internal audits but under the 2005 version

# Addressing Weak and Strong Points

- See Continuous improvements
- As the sole national metrology institute we strive to deliver our mandate as our strong point
- As a state agency bureaucracy is a big challenge when swift decisions are required- seeking support from management
- Limited resources- lobbying management and government for support

# Solutions for Problems encountered

- DAkkS as an our accreditation body at times has not been supporting KEBS- continuing with discussions with them for an amicable solution
- Internal discussion to have KENAS accredit some of our laboratories especially the regional ones
- Use of metrology LIMS to ease our processes



**Thank You**