



**Kenya Bureau of
Standards**

Standards for Quality life

Tel: 0206948000/439/423/456 | Toll Free Line 1545 | E-Mail: pvoc@kebs.org | www.kebs.org

PROTOCOLS FOR IMPORTATION AND TRADE IN USED TEXTILES AND SHOES (MITUMBA)

Following the declaration of COVID -19 as a global pandemic, Kenya Bureau of Standards (KEBS) issued a public notice on 31st March 2020 temporarily suspending importation of used textiles and shoes (Mitumba) as a precautionary measure to mitigate against the risk of infection with coronavirus.

Pursuant to further research and new knowledge corroborated by World Health Organisation (WHO), Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) among other research organisations and resumption of effective inspection mechanisms at the countries of origin, KEBS wishes to notify the public that:

1. The Government through the Ministry of Industry, Trade & Enterprise Development; Ministry of Health; and KEBS held several consultations culminating to the development of protocols to guide on the importation and sale of used textiles and shoes.
2. The main purpose of the protocols is to enhance protection and safety of traders and users while handling used textiles and shoes to avoid the spread of coronavirus. The protocols have been published on **KEBS' website www.kebs.org**.
3. For proper management of verification of conformity to protocols, KEBS advises as follows:
 - a) All importers of used textiles and shoes shall **REGISTER** with KEBS by filling the registration form that is available and can be downloaded from the KEBS website.
 - b) Clearance of used textiles and used shoes shall be undertaken through Kilindini port and Inland Container Depot Nairobi (ICDN).

KEBS urges importers, dealers and buyers of used textiles and shoes to adhere to the guidelines provided in the protocols.

MANAGING DIRECTOR

#WajibikaNaKEBS

Verify the authenticity of KEBS quality marks by use of the KEBS Official Mobile App or sending a text to 20023; SM#Permit Number / ISM#UCR Number / DM#Permit Number.

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