



Kenya Bureau of Standards

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Our Ref. No: **KEBS/ISO/JTC1/34/**.....

Date: **2008-12-05**

Dear Sir / Madam;

SUBJECT: PROPOSED ADOPTION OF ISO/IEC 29500

ISO/IEC 29500 is a standard for word-processing documents, presentations and spreadsheets that is intended to be implemented by multiple applications on multiple platforms. One of its objectives is to ensure the long-term preservation of documents created over the last two decades using programmes that are becoming incompatible with continuing advances in the field of information technology.

ISO/IEC 29500:2008 comprises the following four parts:

- ISO/IEC 29500-1:2008, *Information technology – Document description and processing languages – Office Open XML File Formats – Part 1: Fundamentals and Markup Language Reference* (5 570 pages)

This defines a set of XML vocabularies for representing word-processing documents, spreadsheets and presentations, based on the Microsoft Office 2008 applications. It specifies requirements for Office Open XML consumers and producers that comply to the strict conformance category.

- ISO/IEC 29500-2, *Information technology – Document description and processing languages – Office Open XML File Formats – Part 2: Open Packaging Conventions* (138 pages)
This defines a general-purpose file/component packaging facility, which is built on top of the widely used ZIP file structure.

- ISO/IEC 29500-3, *Information technology – Document description and processing languages – Office Open XML File Formats – Part 3: Markup Compatibility and Extensibility* (46 pages)
This defines a general-purpose mechanism to extend an XML vocabulary.

- ISO/IEC 29500-4, *Information technology – Document description and processing languages – Office Open XML File Formats – Part 4: Transitional Migration Features* (1 475 pages)
This defines a set of XML elements and attributes, over and above those defined by ISO/IEC 29500-1, that provide support for legacy Microsoft Office applications; that is, those prior to the 2008 release. It specifies requirements for Office Open XML consumers and producers that comply to the transitional conformance category.

There is a request to adopt this standard (all parts) into a Kenya standard and we request you as a stakeholder to complete the attached forms and email them back to us by the stated due date.

Z I Mwatha
Attach.