

Goods for pre-shipment inspection

By PIUS RUGONZIBWA

A NEW goods importation procedure to curb dumping of substandard products in the local market comes into effect next month.

The system dubbed Pre-shipment Verification of Conformity to Standards (PVoC)

will replace the current Destination Inspection (DI) which has failed to detect substandard products.

Three foreign companies namely SGS (Switzerland), Intertec International (UK) and Bureau Veritas (France) have been picked as implementing partners of the sys-

tem.

Speaking at the PVoC pre-implementation conference held in Dar es Salaam yesterday, the Deputy Minister for Industry and Trade, Mr Lazaro Nyalandu, said the system aims to protect local market from the influx of substandard goods.

"The system has helped some developing countries control importation of substandard products. Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS) was requested to find out how we could benefit from the system," he stated.

Mr Nyalandu said domestic industries had been ad-

versely affected by the presence of substandard products, citing unfair competition resulting from the cheap goods.

"Inability of local manufacturers to expand their capital stock, restricts the sector from increasing output, thus limiting additional employment opportunities," he said.

Mr Nyalandu mentioned Kenya, Nigeria, Ethiopia, Ghana, Burkina Faso, Zambia, Saudi Arabia, Iran and Jordan as some of the countries using pre-shipment inspection.

TBS Director General Mr Charles Ekerege said three companies were selected after a thorough selection exercise.