

Bureau chief: \$\$\$ woes retarding pace of steelpan standardisation

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THE BUREAU of Standards is unable to accelerate the pace of the standardisation process of the steelpan, because of a lack of manpower and financial resources. According to Gene Hutchinson, Bureau Director, although pan has been declared the national instrument since last year, the organisation has

not received additional finances to speed up its work on pan standards.

He conceded that there is need to quicken standardisation to stem the flood of commercial interest by overseas manufacturers bent on stealing this country's musical innovation of the century.

But his major objective

as head of the standards organisation is to attempt to meet the needs and requirements arising from other important issues in the country requiring equal attention.

He identified the current dangers of used tyres, the hazards associated with high pesticides residues and toxicity lev-

els, export garments, noise levels and environmental pollution as likely subjects screaming for attention.

According to the bureau head, current emphasis is being laid on the certification of local manufacturing production and services under the International Standards Organisation series 9000.

All products, procedures, systems and processes in design and manufacture, will be covered by the universal standard directly linked to the country's export drive.