

2018

Legislative Internship Programme Report



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Policy and Legal Advocacy Centre (PLAC)

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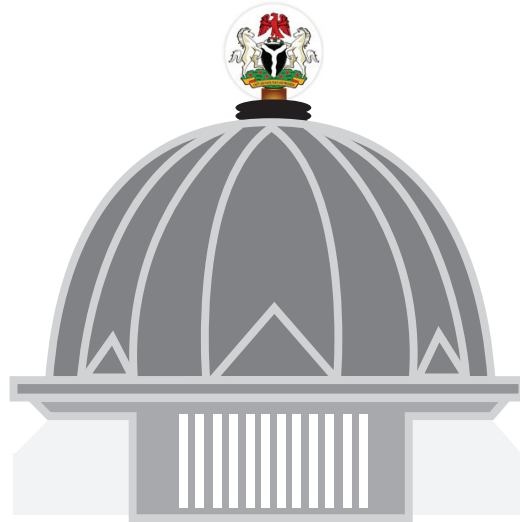
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2018



Legislative Internship Programme Report



Acknowledgement

PLAC is grateful to the European Union (EU) for supporting its Legislative Internship Programme. PLAC is also grateful to the National Assembly Management for their continued support of the Internship Programme.

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BACKGROUND

The Legislature is one of the key institutions in any democracy and it has the responsibility of providing strategic legislation for the country as well as oversight functions over the Executive and Judiciary. The Legislature is one arm of the government that truly provides for the full representation of the people in the direction of the affairs of the country. In Nigeria, most citizens, especially the youth, are unaware of the critical role and significance of Legislature, and as such, fail to participate in important legislative processes such as initiating bills, legislative dialogue and the monitoring of the implementation of government programmes.

As part of its work towards improving citizens' access to government, Policy and Legal Advocacy Centre implemented a Legislative Internship Programme (LIP) which offered young Nigerians the opportunity to gain greater understanding of the Nigerian Legislature and involvement in legislative activities. The Legislative Internship Programme (LIP) provides a platform for participating interns to develop skills while serving with a Legislative Committee or office in the National Assembly. The benefits of participating in the programme are both educational and professional. Interns gained exposure to the field of public affairs during their legislative assignments. In addition, they were able to observe the daily workings of the Legislature and supplement their theoretical knowledge about the role of the legislature and parliamentary democracy through direct participation in the daily routine of Members of the National Assembly.

The interns participated in the Legislative Internship Programme for a period of ten (10) weeks and concluded the programme with a one-day Mock Legislative Assembly (MLA) session.

PLAC has been dynamically involved in resolving the underrepresentation and under-engagement of young persons in formal politics for more than five years through its legislative internship programme. It believes that engaging young people in political activities is critical to the safeguarding, deepening and strengthening of Nigerian democracy.

OBJECTIVES OF THE PROGRAMME

The key objectives of the programme are to:

1. Provide interns with the opportunity of having a comprehensive understanding of legislative practices and processes;
2. Create a platform for interns to understand functions and operations of the Nigerian Legislature;
3. Help the intern understand the importance of self-discipline, social trust and obligations to the society as Nigerian citizens;
4. Offer a challenging ethical content that promotes learning and critical thinking about political issues;
5. Provide administrative assistance to legislators and legislative Committees;
6. Provide an opportunity to increase participation and involvement of young professionals in governance.

The learning objectives for the interns under the programme include the following:

1. Learning the methods involved in researching legislations for committee assignments;
2. Gaining knowledge of the foundation and framework of the legislative processes;
3. Learning legislative terms and their appropriate usage;
4. Acquainting themselves with legislative documents such as Hansard, Notice papers, Order papers etc.; and
5. Understanding the lawmaking process.

PROGRAMME ACTIVITIES

1. Advertisement of Programme in the public media
2. Screening and transparent selection of interns
3. Orientation workshop
4. Deployment of interns to select National Assembly committees
5. Bi-weekly capacity building for interns
6. Mid-term review of internship
7. Debriefing and experience sharing workshop
8. Model Legislative Assembly (MLA)

SELECTION PROCESS

The Legislative Internship Programme (LIP) is targeted at young Nigerians in the early stage of their career development. The Internship Programme is aimed at young Nigerian graduates of any discipline between the ages of 21 and 35 years old.

The selection process for the internship programme was conducted in a very professional and transparent manner. The selection process was also conducted in line with the principle of Federal Character of Nigeria and recognition of gender parity.

The Eligibility Criteria for the programme include:

- (a) First degree in any discipline from a recognized tertiary education institution;
- (b) Completion of NYSC (National Youth Service Corps) Programme;
- (c) Good computer skills; and
- (d) Good verbal and writing skills.

Advertisements for the Internship Programme were published in three widely read National Newspapers - "The Guardian", "Daily Trust" and "ThisDay". There were over 1038 responses to the advert from all the geo-political zones of the Federation. Prospective candidates were expected to submit their curriculum vitae as well as a 300-word statement of purpose indicating the importance of their participation in the internship. Furthermore, individual attributes such as communication abilities, basic knowledge of current political situations, physical demeanor and professional appearances were also given consideration by the selection panel.

After a thorough review of the applications, 103 prospective applicants were shortlisted for the interview stage. At the conclusion of the interviews, 37 candidates (18 women and 19 men) were selected.

PROFILE OF INTERNS

1. GENDER

Male	19
Female	18

2. AGE DISTRIBUTION

21-24	6
25-29	23
30-35	8

3. QUALIFICATION

Bachelors/First Degree	30
Masters/Post-Graduate Degree	7

4. GEOGRAPHICAL SPREAD

North-West Geographical Zone	4
North-East Geographical Zone	6
North-Central Geographical Zone	10
South-West Geographical Zone	4
South-East Geographical Zone	5
South-South Geographical Zone	8

DEPLOYMENT

The successful candidates were deployed to various Committees in the National Assembly (Senate and House of Representatives) for the period of the internship. 13 interns were deployed to the Committees of the Senate, while 20 were deployed to the House Committees. Two interns were deployed to the National Secretariat for Nigerian Legislatures (NSNL), and 2 interns were deployed to the National Assembly Budget and Research Office (NABRO).

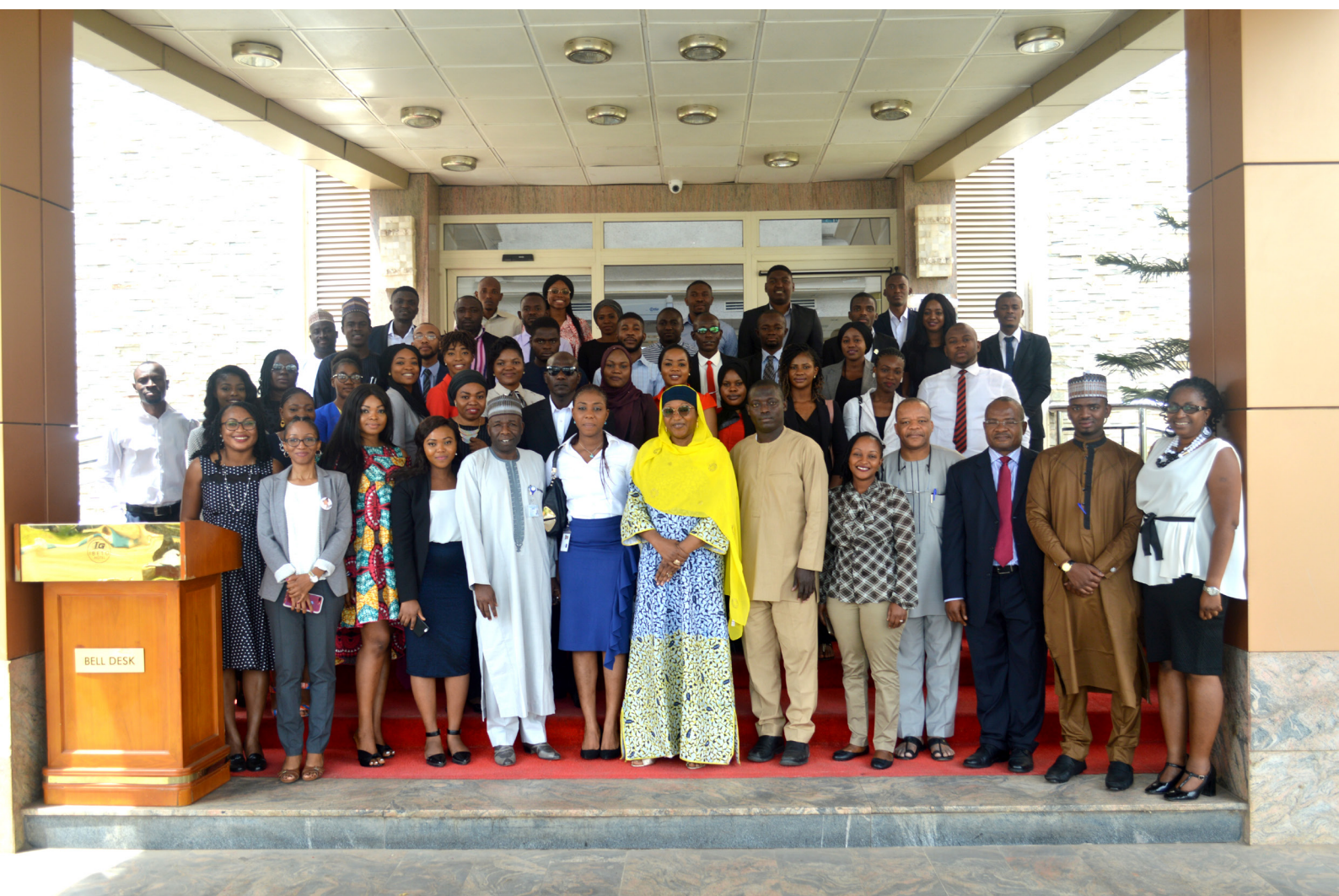
Senate	13
House of Representatives	20
NABRO	2
NSNL	2

RESPONSIBILITIES AND DUTIES OF INTERNS

The responsibilities/duties of interns include:

1. Provide administrative assistance to the Committee Clerk;
2. Attend meetings, take notes, write briefs, minutes and reports where required;
3. Conduct research on proposed legislation, highlighting implications;
4. Analyzing a Bill and identifying similar provisions in existing legislations;
5. Observe proceedings during plenary and providing reports on their observations;
6. Prepare or draft documents and reports as assigned by the Committee Clerk

The interns are expected to commit to 40 hours a week during the internship period. It is expected that interns will act in a professional, ethical and mature manner during the internship. Interns are also expected to maintain the confidentiality of the workplace and respect confidences disclosed to them in the course of their internship and sign an agreement to that effect. Interns must behave in a non-partisan fashion and refrain from outside political activity for the duration of the programme. Also, Interns are not supposed to be assigned partisan political tasks. Therefore, campaign work and/or partisan advocacy is typically not appropriate for interns.



Group photo during the Induction/Orientation programme

Chapter 1

INDUCTION/ORIENTATION OF LEGISLATIVE INTERNS

Monday, 12th February - Wednesday, 14th February 2018

The Orientation/Induction of the interns held from Monday, 12 February to Wednesday, 14 February 2018 in Abuja at Ibeto Hotels. The aim of the orientation/induction programme was to:

1. Provide interns with an in-depth knowledge of the workings of the National Assembly;
2. Gather ideas and thoughts of the interns on their expectations and what they hope to achieve at the end of the programme;
3. Provide interns with information on the rationale behind the implementation of the LIP and what PLAC and the EU seek to achieve.

Furthermore, it was expected that the programme would:

1. Provide interns the opportunity of having a comprehensive understanding of legislative practices and processes;
2. Create a platform for interns to understand functions and operations of the Nigerian Legislature;
3. Help the intern understand the importance of self-discipline, social trust and obligations to the society as a Nigerian citizen;
4. Offer a challenging ethical content that promotes learning and critical thinking about political issues; and
5. Provide an opportunity to increase participation and involvement of young professionals in governance.

OPENING SESSION

The Orientation/Induction Programme was attended by Clement Nwankwo, Executive Director of PLAC; Laolu Olawumi, Program Manager, Governance of the European Union (EU); Hon. Lynda Ikpeazu represented by Mimi Ikpeazu; Clerk to the National Assembly (CNA), represented by Abdulkadir Adamu; Clerk of the House of Representatives, represented by Chinedu Akubueze; Head of International Cooperation Department, Ministry of Budget and National Planning represented by Johnson Bareyei.

Other attendees were resource persons such as Brigadier General Mohammed Sani Danwali, Head of Sergeant–At-Arms of the National Assembly (represented by Manasseh Aliyudah); Dr. Danwanka Shuaibu, National Institute for Legislative and Democratic Studies (NIALDS); and Dr. Rahila Ahmadu. The Chairman, Board of PLAC, Sen. Khairat Abdulrazaq-Gwadabe chaired the programme.

WELCOME REMARKS: Clement Nwankwo, Executive Director PLAC

Delivering the welcome remarks, Clement Nwankwo congratulated the successful candidates for scaling through the interview process. According to him, the Legislative Internship Programme (LIP) was the maiden edition under the European Union Support

for Democratic Governance in Nigeria (EU-SDGN) project. However, PLAC had recorded tremendous successes over the years during the implementation of the LIP.

Clement Nwankwo explained that the importance of the National Assembly as the legislative arm of Government as well as its role in enhancing democratic process in Nigeria could not be over-emphasized. Following the challenges of employment, lack of infrastructure, poor educational system, he noted that it had become imperative for youths to engage public office holders and become active citizens especially in the areas of politics and elections.

In concluding his remarks, he urged the Legislative Interns to use of the opportunity provided as it would further improve on their existing knowledge of democracy in Nigeria as well as provide informed choices for their career goals.



Laolu Olawumi Programme Manager Governance (EU)

OPENING ADDRESS: Laolu Olawumi, Governance Programme Manager, Delegation of the European Union in Nigeria (EU)

Laolu Olawumi in her opening address commended the effort of PLAC and its contributions to enhancing youth participation in Legislative processes. She mentioned that the participation of young people in Nigeria's governance process would ensure that democracy thrives.



Abdulkadir Adamu, Clerk of the House of Representatives

GOODWILL MESSAGE: Sen. Khairat Abdulrazaq-Gwadabe, Chairman Board of PLAC

In her good will message, Sen. Abdulrazaq-Gwadabe emphasized the need for young Nigerians to interact with the legislative arm of the government. Therefore, the programme will provide enormous opportunity to work alongside legislative staff to learn first-hand about public policy, build real-world professional skills, and serve Nigeria.

GOODWILL MESSAGE: Mohammed Sani Omolori, Clerk to the National Assembly, represented by Abdulkadir Adamu, Clerk of the House of Representatives

In his message, Abdulkadir Adamu commended the efforts of Clement Nwankwo for the initiative of engaging young Nigerians as Legislative

interns. He stated that PLAC had been active in building legislative capacity, promoting the tenets of the rule of law and deepening democracy in Nigeria. He expressed optimism over the success of the Internship Programme, mentioning that overtime PLAC had evolved into an outstanding organization particularly on the Constitution review process for which the National Assembly benefitted immensely in terms of research, advocacy and policy analysis.

He congratulated the 2018 Legislative interns on the occasion of the induction ceremony while urging the interns to participate in hands-on legislative ethics, writing and research, and budget exercise. As part of efforts to strengthen collaborations between National

Assembly and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), Adamu mentioned that the National Assembly Civil Society Liaison, which shall be domiciled in the Department of Public Affairs, would be established.

Lastly, he commended the EU for their support in facilitating the exchange of ideas, experiences and building inter-parliamentary networks.

GOODWILL MESSAGE: Presented by Johnson Bareyei on behalf of the Director, International Cooperation Department of the Ministry of Budget and National Planning

Johnson Bareyei in delivering the message, expressed delight over the 2018 LIP induction/orientation ceremony under the EU Support



Johnson Bareyei, Ministry of Budget and National Planning

to Democratic Governance in Nigeria (EU-SDGN) funded under the 11th European Development Fund (EDF) National Indicative Programme. He stated the EU-SDGN programme would among other things strengthen the administration of elections and democratic systems through various institutions. He further informed participants that the Ministry of Budget and Planning had been a part of the consultative process, which led to the formulation and design of the EU-SDGN project. Accordingly, he noted that the Internship Programme would provide interns with the opportunity to learn more about leadership responsibilities and roles as well as develop legislative skills.

In conclusion, he appreciated PLAC for understanding the importance of an active legislature in promoting strong democratic systems and stated that the EU-SDGN project aligns with the Economic Recovery and Growth Plan of the Federal Government for improved governance.

EXPECTATIONS OF THE LEGISLATIVE INTERNS

The Legislative Interns listed their expectations to include:

1. Understanding the workings of the National Assembly while improving on existing knowledge;
2. Developing innovative ideas to critical national issues;
3. Learning about legislative processes and the role of the youth in decision-making process;
4. Gaining enough experience to advocate for the support of women in partisan politics as well as understanding how issues are prioritized by the National Assembly;
5. Understanding how policies are implemented by the National Assembly;
6. Broadening their horizons on politics and its contribution to growth of Nigeria;
7. Improving on their political aspirations while making apt decisions that would advance their career path.

ORIENTATION SESSION

How to be Effective as Legislative Intern: Dos and Don'ts - By Abdulkadir Adamu, Clerk of the House of Representatives (Presented by Chinedu Akubueze).

Abdulkadir Adamu's presentation was delivered by Chinedu Akubueze, which commenced with the definition of the term "Legislative Intern" to mean an "intern recruited to undergo legislative training in a legislative house". According to him, a legislative intern is required to understand legislative processes and practices while adding value and improving his/



Chinedu Akubueze

her knowledge of the legislature. He mentioned that the key qualities of a legislative intern were that a legislative intern must have vast knowledge of the legislature and its procedures; and that a legislative intern must possess the ability to analyze and respond to issues at very short notice.

Furthermore, he mentioned that the Nigerian executive arm of government was inarguably the strongest executive in the world; and as such required a vibrant legislature for balance. He then advised the interns to thread in the path of this vibrancy. In concluding

his session, he instructed the interns to observe rules and regulations and to avoid divulging sensitive information.

Safety and Security Policy in the National Assembly - Brigadier General Mohammed Sani Danwali, Head Sergeant-at-Arms (Presented by Manasseh Aliyuda).

In his presentations, Manasseh Aliyuda gave a brief history of the National Assembly stating that it was bicameral legislature, which was established under Section 4 of the 1999 Constitution (as amended). He noted that the Legislature was made up of 469 Members (109 Members of the Senate and 360 Members of the House of Representatives).



Manasseh Aliyuda

He stated that the procedures of the National Assembly comprised of the following:

- Evacuation Procedure for controlling access of persons; and Protection of Property Procedure for the protection of vital information, document, records, etc. as well as safety of legislators.
- He stated that security equipment deployed within the premises of the National Assembly had been effective following the collaboration of other security agencies such as the Nigerian Police Force (NPF); Department of State Security Services (DSS); Federal Road Safety Corps (FRSC); Nigerian Security and Civil Defense Corps (NSCDC), Fire Service amongst others.

Furthermore, he noted that accessing the National Assembly could be done with ease provided that persons were cleared at the entrance point by the sergeant-at-arms, visiting on appropriate days, possessing an entry pass and dressed in outfits prescribed by the National Assembly. Brigadier Danwali noted that the safety of Legislators and Staff of the National Assembly was priority and as such all security procedures and processes must be adhered to.

An Overview of the National Assembly- Dr. Shuaibu Danwanka, National Institute for Legislative and Democratic Studies-NILDS

Dr. Danwanka in his presentation focused on -

- Establishment of the National Assembly as prescribed in Sections 47, 48 and 49 of the 1999 Constitution (as amended);
- Structure of and Organs of the National Assembly, which constitutes the political and administrative structures.

These he explained could be further divided into the Senate and House of Representatives (Political) and the National Assembly Service Commission (NASC) responsible for personnel services, including recruitment, promotion, discipline, redeployment, transfers etc.; National Institute for Legislative and Democratic Studies (NILDS) established as a research and training institute mandated to provide technical support in the areas of Bill, Budget and Policy Analysis, Bill drafting, policy briefs, Information and Communication Technology (ICT) and training for legislators and staff of the National Assembly to ensure effective legislative services in delivering in mandates.

He explained that the National Assembly Budget and Research Office (NABRO) although yet to be established by law, operated as a research office responsible for simplifying the budget, raising critical issues on budget and budgetary provisions, budget mapping etc. and Public Complaints Commission (PCC), which controlled administrative excesses and sought redress for aggrieved citizens pursuing administrative justice.

On the powers of the National Assembly, Dr. Danwanka outlined the various roles that legislators must play to ensure that the needs of the citizens were integrated into government policy making. He stated that legislators played a critical role in examining and challenging the work of the government and passing proposed legislations.

He further noted that Sections 58 and 59 of the 1999 Constitution (as amended) states the procedure for the passage of Bills into law including the time frame. Before any Bill became law, it must have been passed by both Houses of the National Assembly and received Presidential Assent. According to the 1999 Constitution (as amended), laws are made according to the Exclusive Legislative List, which meant that only the Executive and Legislature could legislate on any of the 68 items contained in the list.



Dr. Rahila Ahmadu

Concluding his presentation, Dr. Danwanka informed participants that the Legislative Arm of the government was the most important symbol of democracy whose judicious exercise of powers would guarantee security, order and development in Nigeria.

The Lawmaking Process - By Dr. Rahila Ahmadu

Dr. Ahmadu commenced her presentation by stating that the objectives which include the law-making powers of the National Assembly and

then discussed the sources, formats and stages through which a bill became law.

Dr. Ahmadu defined a bill as a draft law for approval by the legislature. Section 58(1) of the 1999 Constitution (as amended) prescribed powers for the National Assembly to make laws, exercised by the passage of bills and assented to by the President. She stated that the process of lawmaking was derived largely from the Standing Orders of both Houses and the rulings of the presiding officers.

Dr. Ahmadu explained that bills may originate from the Executive, Legislature, Judiciary and interest groups and were presented to the legislative arm as draft proposals. Dr. Ahmadu discussed Standing Orders of the Senate and House of Representatives and stages of a Bill.

While concluding her presentation, Dr. Ahmadu mentioned that Section 58(4) of the 1999 Constitution (as amended) provides the timeframe for which a President shall signify his



(L - R) Laolu Olawumi, Sen. Khairat Abdulrazaq-Gwadabe, Clement Nwankwo

intent to assent or withhold assent to a bill. At this point, the National Assembly would resolve to accept the reasons given by the President for withholding assent, re-pass the bill with suggested amendments incorporated or override the Veto by passing the Bill again by two-third majority of each House. The Bill would become law and the assent of the President would not be required.

Ethics and Social Responsibility as a Citizen - Laz Apir

Laz Apir defined "ethics" as moral principles that govern a person's behavior or conduct of an activity; and "civic responsibility" as a way of being active and knowledgeable about

public affairs, democratic participation and getting involved in community engagement. This session focused on physical appearance, decorum in speaking, public conduct, civic duties, integrity, environmental protection, mentorship, use of social media tools, cleanliness and community service.

Laz Apir urged the legislative interns to commit to improving their knowledge and skills on the principles and concept of nation building by upholding their civic responsibilities. Apir explained the meaning of ethics as a concept that was built around a citizen's conduct and stating that they border on:

- Dressing – Knowing what to wear, when, where and how to wear it; when to be formal, semi-formal, informal, business casual, smart casual and casual;
- Decorum in speaking – there is no reason for anyone to lose his/her cool and become aggressive.
- Conduct/demeanor – Being firm, focused and fair in one's conduct
- Integrity/honesty – Trustworthiness, reliability, accountability, truthfulness, transparency, openness, and being upright; meaning what you say and saying what you mean.
- Protecting the environment – Solutions to one problem must be solutions for all. Not littering the surroundings with dirt hurts the environment.
- Mentorship – One cannot give what they do not have. Therefore, to be a mentor, one needs to be experienced. Mentorship is based on experience, learning and perception
- Responsible use of the social media – Recognizing that the web is global, permanent, it profiles a user; therefore, engaging with decorum was advised.
- Personal cleanliness – showering daily to ensure good hygiene, fresh breath, and cleanliness in general appearance. Men are advised to shave or groom their hair, wear clean clothing; have a sense of dress style; and optionally use fragrances
- Community service – Giving back to society; joining a service club; mobilizing friends for community work are some of the ways by which one can give back.

He concluded by wishing the interns the best with the programme and advised them to continue with their hard work as they become the next generation of leaders in Nigeria.



Onoride Ezire

At the end of the first day session, Sen. Khairat Gwadabe urged the Legislative Interns to make good use of the mutually beneficial relationship that would be developed through the duration of the programme stating that they are presented to the National Assembly as bright, enthusiastic people who are excited to learn about the intricate world of public policy.

Effect of Rapid Population Growth on National Development – By Onoride Ezire (Country Director, HP+)

The second day started with a presentation by the Country Director of Health Policy Plus, Nigeria (HP Plus), Onoride Ezire. Ezire began with a historical data presentation on the rate

of population growth in Nigeria. He defined population as the number of people within a given geographical location. He stated that population growth was healthy in any given location as insufficient population could pose numerous problems; however, when it continues to grow rapidly, it poses a problem for a country, especially as the natural resources are not increasing, enough to cater for the growing population.

In addressing the population challenge in Nigeria, Onoriode stated the following:

- the policy target of government has been to reduce annual national population growth by 2% or lower;
- total fertility rate needs to be reduced by at least 0.6% every 5 years; and modern contraceptive prevalence increased by 2% every year, though nothing substantial has been done to achieve this;
- the population of Nigeria in 1960 was 38 million but currently stands at an estimated 192million (2017), with a growth rate of about 3.2%;
- the population could double in 20 years at the current growth rate, though the land mass remains the same;
- the population pyramid shows that there are more young people to cater for in Nigeria;
- the yearly birth rate is about 7.5million in Nigeria;
- education is a vital tool for women to curtail their fertility rate with awareness of family planning;
- the message is not to reduce the population of Nigeria but to reduce the rate of population growth due to its impact on development;
- about 33 million children are enrolled in school today, but the number could increase up to 62 million in the next 20. However, the question would be how to increase the number of schools to accommodate the growing number;
- there are about 72,000 doctors in Nigeria today, though WHO recommends 1 doctor to 1000 patients. Nigeria has a ratio of 1 doctor to 3000 patients;
- with the population growth rate, Nigeria needs about 9.9millions jobs annually; however; in 2017, less than 500,000 jobs were created. More people lost their jobs.

In conclusion, he stated that a lot needs to be done in order to curb maternal and infant mortality, and population growth rate control is one of them.

Essential Writing Skills: What You Need to Know About Taking Notes and Minutes Writing – By Emma Ogbeche (Editor, Abuja Inquirer)

Emma Ogbeche gave a detail account of a communication glitch experienced everywhere that took place among the interns – typing on their phones in the middle of a forum or meeting.

He emphasized the significance of note taking and how it enhances the ability to recall important points in any event. In essence, minute writing or note taking promotes active listening and provides a framework for revision. He noted that note taking was essential because studies have shown that 60% of what is learned begins to fade away from memory after 9 hours.

On the skills required for writing, he stated that the interns would be expected to:

- write clearly, creatively and concisely
- communicate thoughts ideas, feeling and experiences
- understand various purposes for writing

In writing minutes, Emma Ogbeche pointed out elements that have to be noted as:

- what was decided
- what was accomplished
- what was agreed on and action for moving forward

He noted that there was no standard format for writing minutes of a meeting. However, every organization could have a format and be consistent with it. He listed the following as a guide:

- The name of the committee meeting
- The date, time and location of the meeting
- The attendees
- The name of the notes taker

Effective note taking requires:

- Recognizing the main ideas
- Identifying what information is relevant to your task
- Having a system of note taking that works for you
- You must reduce information to note and diagram
- Put the information in your own words
- Use recording device if possible

He advised that a note taker should sit where he can hear clearly, distinguish between main points, elaborate the main facts and points, cite examples, etc.

In conclusion, Ogbeche stated that it was pertinent to observe tenses, and use a variety of verbs and abbreviations to keep up the pace of note taking.



Guide to Legislative Plenary Session – by Ambassador Jerry Ugokwe

Amb. Jerry Ugokwe acknowledged the unique opportunity that the PLAC interns have that was not availed to young people of past generations. He recounted events that spurred his interest in politics and how he became a parliamentarian. He also expressed willingness to ensure that democracy survives.

He stated that legislative plenary session was:

1. Where legislators formally sat to deliberate on issues
2. Where committees presented results
3. Where all elected members directly participated on legislative activities
4. Where they followed prescribed procedures in order to ensure orderly conduct

He listed some important documents that were needed in a plenary session as:

- Notice paper
- Order Paper
- Votes and Proceedings
- Hansard



He listed the steps taken at a typical plenary session as –

- I. Formal entry of the speaker
 - a. Approval of votes and proceedings
 - b. Oath of allegiance and other oaths of membership
 - c. Message from the President
 - d. Matters of urgent public importance
 - e. Other announcements
 - f. Petitions
 - g. Personal explanations

- II. Presentation of report by committee chairman and the consideration of report
- III. Order of the day
 - a. First time: The Clerk reads out the short title of the Bill as listed on the order paper
 - b. Second time: The Bill sponsor moves motion for the Bill to be read the second time
 - c. Third time: The House dissolves the plenary to committee of the whole to report on the Bill, after which they return to the plenary
- IV. Motions
 - a. Speaker invites motions from members
 - b. Speaker asks for secondment of motion
 - c. If approved, the amendment is added to original motion
- V. Adjournment: Speaker calls for adjournment and secondment

The interns were divided into 4 groups to do a mock impression of a typical plenary session at the House of Representatives.

Group A	Group B	Group C	Group D
Abubakar Jibrin	Emmanuel Baba Aduku	Timothy Lofty	Amarachi Onyeabo
Daihiru Faisal	Niimatullah Bala Umar	Peter Sam-Tsokwa	Duza Faith Fidelis
Zainab Y. Tanko	Alexandra Aserogun	Abdulkadir A. Adamu	Olowu Olayinka
Hauwa Mohammed Dili	Ismail Bello	Nzewigbo Chinenye	Okpede Akwe Fidelis
Joseph Ethel Chinaza	Susan Odemwigie	Ogundele Damilola Tomiwa	Mishaal Bem
Mariam David-West	Nancy Agati	Ohioma Believe	Ibrahim Muhammed Musa
Tubotein Iboroma	Jane Adindu	Olatunji Abdulmajeed	Nelson Konaghai Okri
Ayokunle Oludare Oluwawehinmi	Rebecca Bareyei	Okiemute Felix	Joseph Uwadiale
	Daniel Nwagboso	Oroh Itsema	

Closing Remarks

Senator Khairat Abdulrasaq-Gwadabe in her closing remarks congratulated the interns for emerging successful after the selection process. She urged them to be good ambassadors because accepting the offer to be an intern means becoming an Ambassador of PLAC. She further explained that PLAC takes its development work with the government in

Nigeria seriously. As such interns are expected to imbibe the same kind of work ethics. The quest for the development of democracy endeared PLAC to ceaselessly engage on a level playing ground to ensure credibility and transparency in the 2015 general elections. This they would continue to do to sustain democratic governance in Nigeria.

She gave highlights of all the topics and issues raised and admonished the interns to portray PLAC in good light in their conduct and be positive-minded, well-groomed and well behaved. She further explained that exhibiting good character would endear them to members of the Committees that they would be deployed to. Senator Gwadabe advised interns to keep a diary or journal for the ten weeks and at the end of the internship, make personal assessment of themselves and what they have achieved.

TOUR TO THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

On February 14, 2018, the 37 interns went on a tour of the National Assembly with Daniella Daniel, Research Assistant, PLAC, in the company of officers from the Sergeant-at-Arms department.



A Cross-Section of the Interns during a tour of the National Assembly



Chapter 2

FIRST BI-WEEKLY TRAINING/MEETING

Monday, 5 March 2018

As part of the internship programme, the bi-weekly trainings for the interns was expected to provide a forum for discussion of crucial society-interest matters. The interns had been deployed to their various committees to serve, observe and learn legislative processes and procedure at the National Assembly the week before. The first training featured discussions on the controversial Gender and Equal Opportunities Bill (GEO Bill), the Electoral Act (Amendment) Bill and the “Not-Too-Young-To-Run” Bill. The objective of the discussion was to engage the interns in a conversation on the Bills and how they will affect Nigeria’s polity if they become laws. As future leaders, it was pertinent to create awareness on the implications of the proposed legislations so that they can begin to set out strategies for engaging the government and the citizens.

WELCOME REMARKS

Clement Nwankwo, Executive Director, PLAC, in his welcome remarks, commended the efforts of the Staff of Policy and Legal Advocacy Centre (PLAC) for working assiduously to ensure that the legislative interns were deployed to various committees in the National Assembly including making certain that relevant security checks and procedures were undertaken. He stated that the deployment of the interns to Standing Committees and departments of the National Assembly would provide the interns with a unique opportunity to experience first-hand the Federal legislative process and offer a broad insight into legislative policy-making process. Furthermore, he noted that as legislative interns working in committees, they are expected to provide vital support by assisting Committee staff in assignments that include administrative support, attend key committee events, communications, conduct legislative research and public relations. Aside from being able to use their knowledge in a professional environment, Nwankwo mentioned that the legislative interns have the opportunities to acquire new skills. According to him, the experience and knowledge acquired during the period of the internship programme can be a great asset and may lead to exciting career opportunities.

Lastly, he encouraged the interns to develop a strong sense of timeliness, professional conduct, commitment and enthusiastic approach to learning.

GOODWILL MESSAGE

Laolu Olawumi, Programme Manager for Governance (EU), delivered a goodwill message in which she emphasized the importance of teamwork. She noted that the legislative interns were part of a dynamic team and as such, should work together collaboratively to accomplish goals. According to her, teamwork is vital to the success of the internship

programme for it will help them understand the strengths and weakness of each team member thereby enabling them to become proficient at multi-tasking, developing systems that allow them to complete task efficiently, quickly and accurately.

Olawumi said that a great team would improve the efficiency of the group, allow for ideas to flourish, help each other improve their performances, and address difficult challenges while trying to maintain their productivity. Finally, understanding these important elements will assist growth in their work placements.

PRESENTATIONS

Gender and Equal Opportunity Bill- presented by Egy Anazonwu, Gender Technical Unit (GTU)

Egy Anazonwu, Gender Technical Unit (GTU) gave the presentation on the "Gender and Equal Opportunity Bill", which she described as pertinent. She took the interns through the objectives of the bill, its implication to the country as well as the steps that have been taken to push for its passage in the National Assembly. She noted that the Bill sought to incorporate and enforce some of the provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Elimination of All forms of Discrimination against Women (UN-CEDAW) and the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and People's Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa. She also explained the challenges and constraints of passing sensitive bills and how legislators try to lobby or work with their colleagues to push for the passage of the bills.



Interns Learning about the Gender and Equal Opportunities Bill

The Making of a Vibrant Legislature through Legislative Committees- Dr. Kassim Waziri

Dr. Kassim Waziri spoke on “The Making of a Vibrant Legislature through Legislative Committees” where he appraised the critical role of the Legislature in a representative democracy and highlighted the functions, duties and responsibilities of Committees that can result to a vibrant legislature. Also, he explained the roles and values of legislative aides, interns and other support staff in the workings of these legislative Committees. He noted that the legislature is the most critical arm of the government because it is the organ, which has the responsibility to formulate the will of the nation and vest it with legal authority and force. Thus, the work of the legislative committees goes a long way in ensuring that this objective is realized.

In his concluding remarks, Dr. Waziri laid emphasis on the importance of providing support that would strengthen the activities of their placement committee, as it will facilitate optimal performance resulting to laudable achievement.

Electoral Act (Amendment) Bill: A Review and Analysis- Hon. Emeka Ughanze

Hon. Emeka Ughanze’s presentation on the “Electoral Act (Amendment) Bill: A Review and Analysis” was an appraisal of the 44 amendments proposed in the Electoral Act (Amendment) Bill, 2018 by the National Assembly, some of which had generated a lot of controversies among the general public.

He emphasized on the following few proposed amendments to the Electoral Act:

- Amendment of Section 8 which provides penalties for a member of a political party who hides that fact in order to be appointed into any capacity in the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC);
- Amendment of Section 9, which mandates INEC to keep a National Register of voters and voters register in an electronic format;
- Amendment of Section 15(1), which authorizes INEC to produce a printed, duplicated, copied or electronic voters’ registers for each state.
- Amendment to Section 25 (1A), which provides for the order of elections into offices of President, Vice-president, Governor, Deputy Governor, Membership of Senate and House of Representatives and State Houses of Assembly.

He explained that the proposed order of election under Section 25(1A) was:

- (a) National Assembly Elections
- (b) Houses of Assembly and Governorship Elections
- (c) Presidential Election

However, the Principal Act provides for Presidential Election before House of Assembly and Governorship

Other Sections that he discussed as proposed amendments include: Sections 18(2); 19; 19(1a); 19(4); insertion of new section 25(1a), (2), (3); Sections 30(1); 31(6) and (8); 33(1a); 34(1); insertion of a new subsection 34(2) and 34(3); Sections 35(1); insertion of new subsections 36(3); 38(2); 43(4)(a)(b)(c); 44(3); 44(4) and (5); 49(2); 52(2); 53(2); 76(a)(1);



Hon. Nnaemeka Ughanze at the First Bi-Weekly Meeting/Training

78(4) and (5); 87(1); Sections 87(2),(3),(4),(5), (6) (7) (10) (16); insertion of a new subsection 91; Section 92; 100; 100(6); insertion of new sections 138 (1)(b); 138(3); 140(4); 142(a); 143(3); and amendments to Sections 151 and 152.

In concluding his presentation, Hon. Ughanze stated that the passage of the proposed amendment to the Electoral Act had generated a lot of debate, mainly because of Section 25. A school of thought calls it unconstitutional because the order of elections is within the exclusive power of INEC, while another school of thought argues that INEC does not have exclusive powers to prescribe the sequence or order of elections. He advised that the Courts need to interpret the law in order to clarify the issue and lay the debate to rest.

Not Too Young to Run Bill: Implication to the Nigerian Polity – Cynthia Mbamalu, Co-founder, YIAGA

On the “Not Too Young to Run Bill: Implication to the Nigerian Polity”, Cynthia Mbamalu noted that the National Population Council (2017) had projected a youth population of about 61,306,413. According to her, about 50% or more of the registered voters are young people, for this reason, the Not Too Young Run was a movement that focused on deepening democracy in Nigeria.

During the 2015 General elections, young people had served in various capacities such as election administration, citizens’ observers and security. The Not Too Young to Run Bill was intended to reduce the age qualification for Office of the President and Vice President; Senate, House of Representatives and State Houses of Assembly. The “Not-To-Young-To Run Bill”, when passed and assented to, would create leadership alternatives, set

new norms and practices, as well as build a generation of young people who can create fresh leadership identity for the country. It, therefore, was necessary that young people understand democracy for development and build models of responsive leadership. Cynthia Mbamalu stated that the support of young persons like the interns was very crucial to the passage of the Bill and that they had the duty to sensitize others, both young and older to garner support for the Bill.

POST-TRAINING ACTIVITY

The Model Legislative Assembly (MLA) is one of the key activities under the Legislative Internship Programme. The MLA is a mock simulation of a legislative plenary session of the Nigerian National Assembly where the interns would demonstrate their understanding of legislative proceedings and how legislators deliberate on issues. It is intended to improve the interns' ability to speak to an issue in both an extemporaneous and impromptu manner and to reveal their knowledge of parliamentary procedure.

The interns formed a committee, "PLAC Legislative Interns' Electoral Committee (PLIEC)", to organize the election where the interns would elect from amongst themselves, persons who will play the roles of principal officers during their mock session of a legislative plenary session of the House of Representatives. The PLIEC was chaired by Faith Duza Gaza.

The election was participatory and inclusive as both male and female interns vied for the various offices. At the end of the election process, the following persons emerged as the principal officers: -

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Speaker of the MLA | - Abdulkadir Abdullahi Adamu |
| 2. Deputy Speaker of the MLA | - Nancy Agati |
| 3. Majority Leader of the MLA | - Jane Adindu |
| 4. Minority Leader of the MLA | - Joseph Edose Uwadiale |
| 5. Chief Whip of the MLA | - Ibrahim Muhammed Musa |
| 6. Deputy Majority Leader of the MLA | - Olayinka John Olowu |
| 7. Deputy Minority Leader of the MLA | - Funmilayo Areh |
| 8. Deputy Majority Whip of the MLA | - Ismail Bello |
| 9. Minority Whip of the MLA | - Felix Okiemute |
| 10. Deputy Minority Whip of the MLA | - Believe Ohioma |

Chapter 3

SECOND BI-WEEKLY TRAINING AND MID-TERM REVIEW

Monday, 19th March 2018

This meeting was to provide the interns with the opportunity to put in use, some of the experiences garnered from the internship programme so far at the National Assembly. The interns had been deployed to various committees of the Senate and House of Representatives, to provide support, learn and gain experience in legislative processes and procedure. The interns had completed 5 weeks as part of their 10-week programme and had started preparation for the mock legislative session scheduled at the end of the programme.

The training involved experience-sharing sessions by Hon. Chukwuka Onyema, (Deputy Minority Leader, House of Representatives); Hon Oluwole Oke, (Chairman, House of Representatives Committee on Public Procurement) and Stephanie Adanu (a 2014 PLAC Legislative Intern) as well as a presentation on understanding fully the functions of a legislator. The training was also an opportunity for the interns to put into practice their knowledge and understanding on legislative deliberations during plenary sessions.

PRESENTATIONS

Experience Sharing: Brief on the work of a Deputy Minority Leader- Hon. Chukwuka Onyema, Deputy Minority Leader, House of Representatives.

Hon. Onyema, in his presentation "Experience Sharing: Brief on the work of a Deputy Minority Leader" spoke on the importance of Presiding Officers in the Legislature and pointed out that the presiding officers were legislators who had been elected by the Members of the House of Representatives or Senate to chair meetings, to maintain order and to protect the rights of Members. He further stated that they were responsible for ensuring that legislative activities are conducted on the basis of equality and impartiality. According to Hon. Onyema, the Presiding Officers were empowered to ensure that the Standing Orders and Rules of both Chambers were the final authority when conducting legislative affairs/matters.

He pointed out that a Minority Leader and a Deputy Minority Leader were part of the Presiding Officers of the Legislature and noted that both Minority and Deputy Minority Leaders were the principal leaders of the opposition party (minority party) and were responsible for developing strategies, negotiating agreements, conducting the activities, leading the debates on issues and scrutinizing feedback on issues deliberated upon on behalf of the minority party.





(L-R) Clement Nwankwo, Hon. Chukwuka Onyema Dep. Minority Leader, House of Representatives, Hon. Oluwole Oke

Mastering the functions of a Legislator: Lawmaking, Representation and Oversight - Hon. Busayo Oluwole Oke, Chairman, House Committee on Public Procurement

Hon. Oluwole Oke's presentation on "Mastering the functions of a Legislator: Lawmaking, Representation and Oversight" centered on the functions of a legislator in the National Assembly. He explained that a legislator performs legislative functions and mandate as provided in the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (as amended). He also explained on the role of the legislator in relation to his/her constituents.

Experience Sharing from Past Intern - by Stephanie Adanu (2014 intern)

Stephanie Adanu also shared her experience as a legislative intern in 2014 organized Legislative Internship Programme by PLAC, which was supported by the British Government's Department for International Development (DfID). She gave a brief highlight of her internship experience stating that the internship programme had given her the opportunity to learn more about the activities of the National Assembly. While working with the Office of the Chief of Staff of the Deputy Speaker, Adanu explained that most of her tasks varied from writing reports to bill analysis and bill drafting, which tremendously improved her communication skills, both written and oral.

Stephanie Adanu urged the current legislative interns to show dedication and commitment to their job as that would enable them to succeed and improve on existing skills while developing new ones.

Simulation Exercise: Legislative Plenary Session – Ambassador Jerry Ugokwe (former Member, House of Representatives)

The first simulation exercise of the MLA was conducted during the Second Bi-Weekly Training Programme/Mid-Term Review Meeting. Amb. Jerry Ugokwe led the interns through a brief discussion on legislative documents of the National Assembly, which comprises of Order Paper, Notice Paper, Votes and Proceedings, Committee Reports, Bills, Resolutions, and Journals.

Dr. Ugokwe noted that the Order Paper contained the notice of activities to be conducted during a legislative plenary session of the Senate or the House of Representatives. For the simulation exercise, the interns were asked to carry out a role-play of a legislative plenary session of the House of Representatives.

The simulation exercise was primarily used to assess the level of competency and knowledge of the activities conducted during a plenary session at the House of Representatives. During the exercise, the legislative interns were provided with information on their roles and resources needed to conduct a successful plenary session. Following the exercise, the legislative Interns were able to demonstrate their abilities, knowledge and understanding of the different elements of a legislative plenary session conducted by legislators in the National Assembly.

The interns produced the following documents for the exercise:

- Order Paper;
- Six different 'mock' bills sponsored by themselves to reflect the challenges Nigeria was facing across the six geo-political zones.

The interns, during the mock plenary session, introduced motions for adoption, debated the motions and came up with resolutions on how to move forward.

CONCLUSION

There were remarkable improvements on the part of the interns with regards to their knowledge of legislative procedure at the programme. The simulation exercise had afforded them the opportunity to act and communicate like elected legislators during plenary sessions, and the level of confidence of the interns had greatly improved during the first 4 weeks of the programme.

The interns had learnt the correct names of their constituencies, how to address themselves while playing representatives, as well as who their representatives really were; which a lot of them did not know at the time of the induction. The evaluation questionnaire that they completed at the inception of the programme showed that only 7% knew anything about legislative practice and processes and 84% knew the names of their representatives. Further practice of a legislative plenary session would improve their knowledge of legislative practices and processes.

Chapter 4

THIRD BI-WEEKLY TRAINING/MEETING

Friday, 13th April 2018

The specific objectives of the third and last training/meeting with the legislative interns were to provide the interns with the requisite skills needed for legislative work and an opportunity to discuss some of the experiences garnered from the internship programme so far at the National Assembly while preparing for the forthcoming Model Legislative Assembly (MLA).

Omolara Akinyeye gave the welcome remarks on behalf of Clement Nwankwo, the Executive Director – PLAC. She stated that the meeting was meant to provide the interns access to the tools they required to broaden their knowledge in legislative practices and processes. She advised the interns to seek guidance in any area that they found difficult or unclear, and to always confer with their Committee Clerks before taking any step in furtherance of their work at the National Assembly.

PRESENTATIONS

Solomon Ntuen of the National Assembly gave the only presentation at the meeting. His presentation was focused on the need for persons to balance competing interests (i.e. National and Personal interests) when working or serving in a public office either as a public servant or elected public office holder. National interest of a state is a product of social values and is enclosed in the social consciousness and the cultural identity of the people. Personal interest is the opposite of national interest.

The balancing of national interests vis-à-vis personal interests is what gives rise to good governance, which is, defined as an orientation geared towards bettering the life conditions of the citizens in any political environment. Thus, good governance can be achieved where stakeholders and public offices put national interests above personal interests, and these can be achieved through these means:

1. Citizens participation in the affairs of the nations without bias;
2. Fight against corruption, corrupt practices and nepotism;
3. Accountability; and
4. Transparency.

In conclusion, he opined that any elected or appointed representative, whether in politics, public service, community service and the like, is by nature expected to owe allegiance to those he is privileged to represent thereby putting national interest absolutely above personal interests.

SIMULATION EXERCISE: LEGISLATIVE PLENARY SESSION – Dr. Jerry Ugokwe

For the simulation exercise, the interns gave a mock legislative plenary session of the House of Representatives in preparation for the Model Legislative Assembly (MLA) under the guidance of Dr. Ugokwe who put them through the process and pointed out

the correct procedure to be taken at every step. The second simulation exercise was to assess the interns' level of competency and knowledge of the activities conducted during a legislative plenary session. The Interns had made impressive improvements in their presentations as well as the knowledge and understanding of the different elements of a legislative plenary session as undertaken by legislators in the National Assembly.

The interns produced the following documents for the exercise:

- (1) The Votes and Proceedings of the debates of the last mock plenary session of 19th March 2018; and
- (2) An Order Paper.

The interns took active part in the simulation exercise and used the parliamentary documents that they had developed to do so. The simulation exercise afforded the interns the opportunity to practice how a legislative plenary session was conducted in preparation for the Model Legislative Assembly (MLA).

CONCLUSION

The training/meeting was to create awareness on conflict of interests that public officers face in executing their mandate. It was important for the interns to understand the level of sacrifice and commitment required to hold a public office successfully. It was believed that a number of the interns may run for elective positions or serve in any other capacity in the public domain and it was important for a senior public officer to share their experience in his numerous years as a public officer.



A Cross-Section of Interns during the presentation by Solomon Ntuen, Director of Management, Senate

Chapter 5

RADIO MESSAGING AND INTERACTION WITH THE HEAD OF THE EUROPEAN DELEGATION

Friday, 20th April 2018

Radio Messaging To Mobilize Support For Youth Participation In Government

The 2018 Legislative internship programme with the National Assembly formerly ended on Thursday April 19, 2018, and the radio show was an avenue to share the experience that the interns had garnered. The interns, through the radio show created awareness of the opportunity for young Nigerians to intern at the National Assembly as well as promote youth inclusion and participation.

The interns were accompanied by PLAC's Senior Programme Officer, Brenda Anugwom, to the Hot "98.3" FM radio station in Abuja to discuss the benefits of the programme to their political aspiration in Nigeria. The 15-minute show aired at 10:15am on April 20, 2018. The six interns who represented the 2018 group were Ibrahim Mohammed, Believe Ohioma, Duza Faith Gaza, Daniel Nwagboso, Timothy Lofty, and Olayinka Olowu.

In sharing their experiences, Timothy Lofty announced that he would be running for office after the tremendous learning opportunity that he had as a legislative intern. Other interns like Olayinka Olowu and Daniel Nwagboso explained that they had acquired personal growth from participating in the programme, while Duza Gaza and Believe Ohioma discussed the wealth of knowledge that they had taken away.

The interns concluded the radio show in time to prepare for their meeting with the Head of the Delegation of the European Union in Nigeria and in ECOWAS, Ambassador Ketil Karlsen later that day.

Meeting With The Head Of Delegation, European Union (EU) In Nigeria

On April 20, 2018, the European Union Ambassador to Nigeria and to ECOWAS, Ketil Karlsen invited the interns for a briefing at the EU office, and to give them the opportunity of learning more about the various ways that the EU supports Nigeria. The meeting was facilitated by the EU Programme Manager for Governance and Democracy, Laolu Olawumi.

The welcome address was made by Ambassador Ketil Karlsen, who welcomed the interns and staff of Policy and Legal Advocacy Centre present at the meeting. During his remarks, he stated that the EU was Nigeria's largest trading partner, and together with the government of Nigeria, the EU was looking for possible ways of fostering development, while tackling issues of mobility/migration and insecurity.

The Executive Director of PLAC, Clement Nwankwo gave opening remarks at the meeting. In his remarks, he noted that the interns had acquired a number of skills in just 10 weeks, as they had participated in public hearings, debates, legislative briefings and committee meetings. He stated that for a country that had suffered 30 years of military rule, democracy was the only remedy for recovery and investing in young people would secure the future of the country. He stated that one of the objectives of the internship was to prepare the young professionals for leadership roles.

As the meeting progressed, the interns had the opportunity to meet: -

- 1) Kurt Cornelis (Head of Delegation Cooperation)
- 2) Pauline Torehall (Head of Political Section)
- 3) Filippo Amato (Head of Trade and Economic Section)
- 4) Isabel Candela (Head of Economic Cooperation and Energy Section)
- 5) Jens Hoegel (Head of Health, Nutrition and Resilience Section)
- 6) Stefania Marrone (Head of Regional Cooperation)
- 7) Communication team
- 8) ECHO team

The visit afforded interns the opportunity to visit the EU office in Abuja and met with heads of departments, interact with them and learn what they do in their various capacities. It was a great learning experience for them and they took away a lot from the discussions with the heads of departments as well as the Ambassador.



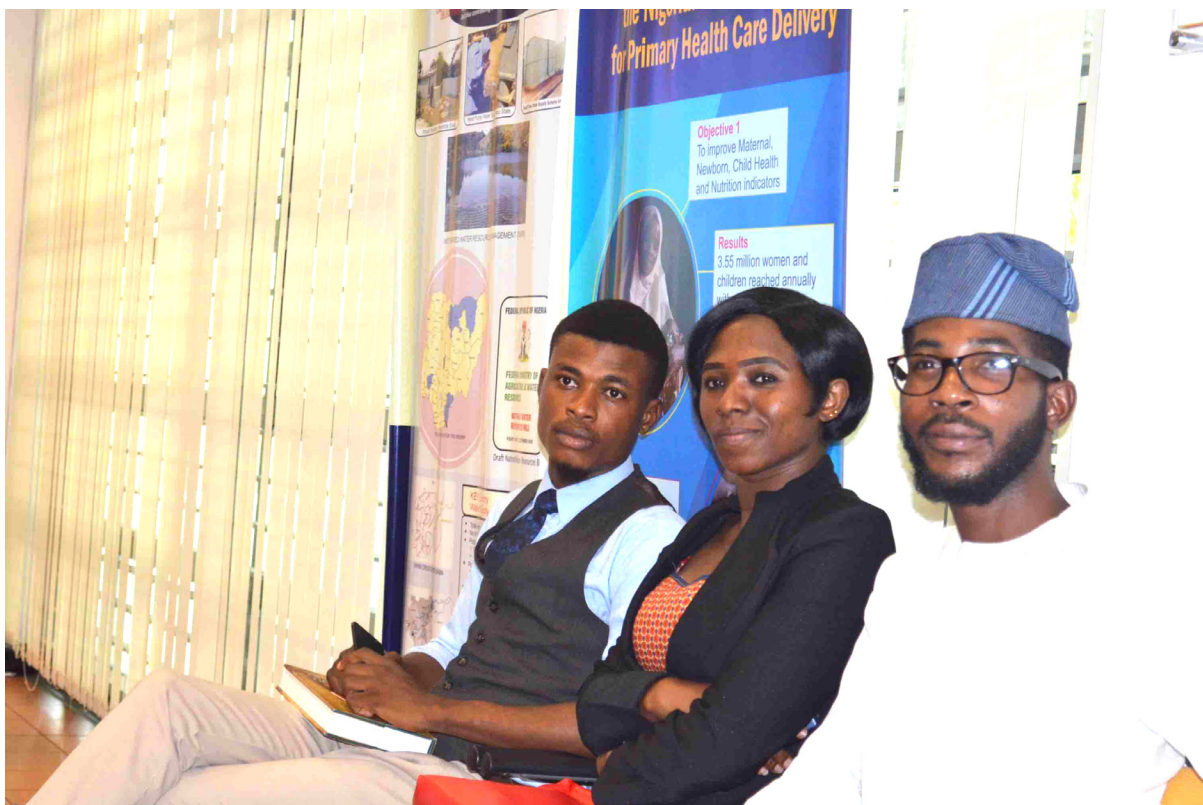
Ambassador Ketil Karlsen addressing the Interns at the EU Delegation Office



(L-R) Mariam David-West, Amarachi Onyeabo, Konaghai Nelson Okri



A Cross-Section of Interns in the Meeting with the Ambassador



(L-R) Ifeoluwa Fawoye, Alexandra Aserogun and John Olayinka Olowu



Kurt Cornelis, Head of Delegation Cooperation, EU

Chapter 6

THE MODEL LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY (MLA)

Monday, 23rd April 2018

INTRODUCTION

The main Model Legislative Assembly held on Monday, 23rd April 2018. The Model Legislative Assembly (MLA) is one of the key activities under the Legislative Internship Programme implemented by the Policy and Legal Advocacy Centre (PLAC) with the support of the European Union (EU) Delegation in Nigeria. The Model Legislative Assembly (MLA) is a mock legislative session modeled after the procedure for floor debate/plenary session in the National Assembly. It was designed to improve the interns' ability to speak to an issue in both an extemporaneous and impromptu manner and to reveal their knowledge of parliamentary procedure. It was to also help the interns gain knowledge and develop skills that will foster and promote civic engagement. It was further hoped that the interns would become aware of, and be active participants, in the Nigerian democratic process through the simulation. In attendance were:

1. Sen. Khairat Abdulrazaq-Gwadabe (Board Chair, PLAC)
2. Hon. Chukwuka Wilfred Onyema (the Deputy Minority Leader of the House of Representatives),
3. Hon Ochiglegor Idagbo (Deputy Chairman, House of Representatives Committee on Legislative Budget and Research)
4. Patrick Giwa (the Deputy Clerk of the House of Representatives) who was representing the Clerk of the National Assembly,
5. Manasseh Aliyuda (representing Sergeant-At-Arms, National Assembly),
6. Dr. Jerry Ugokwe (former Member, House of Representatives)
7. Gbenga Aruleba (PLAC Board Member)
8. Clerks of various committees of the National Assembly

OPENING SESSION

Welcome Remarks By Clement Nwankwo, Executive Director, Policy And Legal Advocacy Centre (PLAC)

Clement Nwankwo gave the opening remarks where he spoke on the importance of the Legislature and the internship programme in the Nigerian democracy. He noted that the Legislature enjoys a very special and important privilege in every democratic state. The legislature is the assembly of the elected representatives of the people and represents national public opinion and power of the people. The will of the state is formulated and expressed through laws made by the legislature.

He also noted that the legislature checks the excesses of the Executive as well as the Judiciary. Without a legislative branch, there would be executive dictatorship. Even with the challenges and the problems that have bedeviled the legislative arm, it was important that the institution be protected and not undermined so that it could perform its constitutional mandate to the people and country.

Clement Nwankwo stated that the Legislative Internship Programme was designed to provide a platform for the young professionals to develop skills while serving with Legislative Committees or offices in the National Assembly. He noted that the internship was to also galvanize these young persons to either seek elective public office in the forthcoming elections or participate in further engagements on public policy issues. He believed that with the experience gained during the internship programme would help them make more impact when elected into public office, whether executive or legislative offices. He also stated that with the experience gained in the National Assembly, the interns should become more politically involved and ensure that they are registered to participate/vote in the elections.

Concluding his speech, he appreciated the European Union for their support and the Clerks and Staff of the National Assembly for their collaborative efforts in ensuring that the interns got a worthwhile experience during the internship period.

Opening Remarks By Mohammed Ataba Sani-Omolori, Clerk To The National Assembly (Represented By Patrick Giwa)

He opened his remarks by appreciating PLAC for the internship programme initiative as well as the European Union Delegation to Nigeria for supporting the programme. He noted that the legislative branch was one of the least understood government bodies by citizens, particularly in terms of its functions, mission, processes and procedures. Misconception of the role of the legislature often creates wrong expectations and discontent from the citizenry. The Legislative Internship programme by PLAC is one of the key steps to bridging this knowledge gap by giving the youth an opportunity to learn about the workings of the National Assembly. He noted that institutions, both government and civil society organisations, should constantly create platforms for the development and empowerment of youths for the full realization of their potentials.

In concluding his remarks, he urged the interns to appreciate the internship programme and utilize the knowledge gained for good use in the society.



Patrick Giwa, Representative of the Clerk to the National Assembly at the Model Legislative Assembly

Goodwill Message By Hon. Chukwuka Wilfred Onyema, Deputy Minority Leader, House Of Representatives

Hon. Chukwuka Onyema spoke on the benefits of the legislative internship programme and commended PLAC for initiating such a programme for the youths. He noted that the benefits of participating in the programme were both educational and professional. He believed that the interns gained valued experience and exposure to policy deliberations and public affairs during the internship programme. Therefore, with the new knowledge gained, it would be possible for the interns to be better legislative aides and even better parliamentarians if they seek elective positions.

Goodwill Message By Hon. Ochiglegor Idagbo, Deputy Chairman, House Committee On Legislative Budget And Research

He spoke on the importance of the internship programme and the need for interns to effectively make use of their exposure to the legislative process in their future endeavours. Though the benefits of a legislative internship as compared to a more traditional company-based, private sector internship are somewhat different, the importance of exposing a young professional/youth to the political process and the policy environment points that the benefits of a legislative internship are growing in importance.

He encouraged interns to become more sensitive to political and social issues and always be engaged in important issues. The internship programme should act as a spur to the young persons into becoming better citizens and aspire to serve in public office, whether elected or appointed. He also noted that the one of primary responsibilities of legislators is to make laws; however, legislators are to make laws that are beneficial to their constituents and the nation at large. Thus, interns should imbibe the attitude of service to the people because it is an essential element in nation building.

In conclusion, he noted that, whether an intern decides to pursue a career in government or not, the internship experience provides an increased appreciation for the important role the legislature plays in the lives of citizens.



Goodwill Remarks By Manasseh Aliyuda, Sergeant-At-Arms, National Assembly

Manasseh Ahunir commended the interns for the successful completion of the programme. He also commended their conduct and behaviour throughout the period. He noted that there was no security incident involving the interns and that PLAC should be proud of the quality of interns selected. Finally, he wished them well in their future undertakings.

Opening Address By Sen. Khairat Abdulrazaq-Gwadabe, Chairman, Board Of Trustees, Policy And Legal Advocacy Centre (PLAC)

Senator Gwadabe's address focused on the importance of the legislature, legislative activities and the role of the youth in Nigerian democracy. She stated that the Legislature needs to be sustained and protected because legislative activities promote true democratic practice in a country. It is therefore imperative that all stakeholders should

defend the institution of the legislature against negative external influence or harassment.

She commended the interns for their good conduct and noted that there were no negative feedbacks from the National Assembly on their activities or actions. She believed that their internship programme was a great opportunity for most of them to work in the legislative branch and this would always be an important time in their lives and important experience. After working there, they will have both contacts and experience leading them closer to where they want to be and what they want to do. Aside the internship programme, the youth should be very interested in legislative as well as political activities in the country. Also, they should always seek out opportunities to engage their elected representatives in public policy discussions and contribute to debates on legislations at public hearings.



INTERNSHIP EXPERIENCE SHARING

The Interns spoke on some of their experiences during the Internship Programme and these experiences include:

- (a) Learning about the important work and activities that are done in the National Assembly;
- (b) Importance of teamwork as well as communication with other colleagues;
- (c) Improved knowledge of the Legislature as well as its functions;
- (d) Observe and learnt from the legislative plenary sessions and public hearing proceedings;
- (e) Learnt and understood how to draft legislative documents such as order papers, motions as well as legislative memos; and
- (f) Meeting and interacting with legislators for the first time and having positive and friendly reception.

Review Of Interns' Conduct And Contributions By Committee Clerks

Some of the Clerks of the Committees which the Interns were deployed to gave their comments and reviews of the performance and conduct of the interns during their internship period at the National Assembly. The Clerks include:

- (1) Grace Edu, House Committee on Women in Parliament;
- (2) Freedom Osolo, Senate Committee on Ethics, Privilege and Public Petitions;
- (3) Muhammed Bai'kko Ibrahim, House Committee on Human Rights;
- (4) Omale A. Adoyi, House Committee on Public Petitions;
- (5) Adeniyi Joseph, Senate Committee on Public Accounts; and
- (6) Morayo Agbi, NABRO

The summaries of their reviews are as follows:

- (a) Interns were hardworking, dedicated and diligent with their assigned responsibilities and task;
- (b) Interns resumed to work on time and didn't exhibit any form of truancy;
- (c) A lot of the interns showed high level of creativity in performance of tasks given to them;
- (d) Clerks commended some of the interns desire and willingness to learn about the activities and procedures of the National Assembly; and
- (e) The period of the internship was too short and that there are more issues which they would have loved to expose the interns to;

Overall, the comments and reviews of the Committees' Clerks were positive and they generally suggested that the period of the internship should be a bit longer so that the experiences of the interns would be richer and that the committees can really benefit from the unique skills of the interns.



MODEL LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY (MLA)

Interns were assigned to six groups, representing the geo-political zones in Nigeria. The interns drafted and debated on Bills, which reflected current challenges faced in the regions they represent, and motions on issue they felt needed to be addressed in Nigeria. The interns have had time to research and to prepare to speak on these issues while they worked with committees in the National Assembly. The interns also prepared the Order Paper that guided the proceedings of the MLA Session.

Abdulkadir Abdullahi Adamu, the elected Speaker of the MLA presided over the plenary session. Other interns also played the roles of the Principal Officers such as Deputy Speaker, Majority Leader and Minority Leader. During the MLA session, the Bills and Motions were deliberated on and resolutions from the debates were adopted.

The Bills presented by interns include (See Annex 6):

- A Bill for an Act to establish the North-East Security Institute for the Purpose of Undertaking High Quality Research and Related Activities to Develop Lasting Solutions to Nigeria's Security Issues and other Related Matters;
- A Bill for an Act to Enhance Girl Child Education, Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination and Violence against the Girl Child in the North West Nigeria and other Related Matters;
- A Bill for an Act to regulate Election Funding in the Southwest and all other Matters Ancillary Thereto.

The motions moved include:

- The House resolved to summon the Vehicle Inspection Office (VIO) boss to explain why his personnel are not checking road worthiness of vehicles on Nigerian roads as a matter of urgent national importance by Hon. Daniel Nwagboso;
- A motion for an urgent need for Policy and Legal Advocacy Centre (PLAC) to create employment absorption pathways for its legislative interns was moved by Hon. Nancy Agati;
- An urgent need to improve the state of the tourism and travel in Nigeria was moved and seconded.

The resolutions reached were to:

- Urge the Federal Government to complete all on-going projects and award contracts for the development of world class infrastructure;
- Urge the Federal Government to investigate the hike in the transportation fares as well as complete all railway projects to ease movement in the country;
- Urge the Federal Government to invest more in wildlife reserves, ranches, museums and resorts across the several States in the country;
- Urge the Federal Government to end all security challenges and restore peace to the country;
- Urge the management of PLAC to consider and look into the urgent need to absorb some of the interns;
- Urge the management of PLAC to utilize the knowledge, skills, and competencies acquired by interns and engage interested interns during election observation activities and other PLAC programmes. Interns – past and present should form an alumni association.

Finally, the PRAYERS were:

- PLAC should liaise with National Assembly to consider legislative interns as legislative aides at National Assembly;
- PLAC should urge the EU to continue its support for the internship programme and provide employment to interns as well.

REVIEWS AND COMMENTS BY PANELISTS

GBENGA ARULEBA (Journalist/TV Anchor on Africa Independent Television)

Gbenga Aruleba expressed delight over the excellence and perfection of the MLA played out by the interns, especially the leadership role exhibited by Abdulkadir Adamu, the Speaker. He commended the performance of all interns for presenting sound arguments to the issues raised and Bills that they presented. He also noted that they have done exceptionally well in understanding and representing a plenary session of a legislative chamber after just a short time at the National Assembly. In conclusion, he urged PLAC and the National Assembly to consider exceptional interns for possible employment so that the knowledge and skill would be put to use.

CHRISTINA UDE (Founder, Reading Hamlets and a Young Political Activist)

Christina Ude gave positive feedback to the interns on their performance and commended their presentation during the MLA plenary session. She noted that most of the interns were motivated and passionate during the plenary session and this was an important feature in encouraging more participation of young persons in politics. She said that young people usually have an array of ideas and perspectives, and it was important to allow them to always express themselves and their ideas. This, to her, was essential to the deepening and growth of democracy in Nigeria.

Christina Ude noted that there were several mediums whereby young persons can express their views on the polity, and the legislative internship programme was one of such medium. She advised the interns to use the opportunity to cultivate their desire to participate in the political process as well as contest for political office. She noted that presently, there were very few youths in politics and encouraged the interns to consider running for elective positions as the country's future lay in their hands.

FREEDOM OSOLO, CLERK, (Senate Committee On Ethics, Privileges And Public Petitions)

Freedom Osolo commended the contributions of the interns deployed to his committee and noted that they had contributed immensely to the other committees to which they were deployed. He said that the interns were very qualified and sound, and implored PLAC and National Assembly to consider strategic ways of engaging the interns in the future. He further recommended that PLAC liaise with National Assembly Commission (NASSCOM) to explore ways of integrating the interns into the system of the National Assembly.

DR. RAHILA AHMADU (Former Director, National Secretariat of Nigerian Legislatures)

She commended the conduct and performance of the interns during the MLA plenary session and described their confidence and creativity as exceptional. She noted that

their performance evidenced their seriousness to become leaders in the near future. She stated that the knowledge and skills acquired by the interns during the internship programme would make them very good and qualified candidates for legislative aide positions in the National Assembly. In conclusion, she commended PLAC for the work in the National Assembly and their contributions to improving democratic practices in Nigeria.

CONCLUSION

In her concluding remarks, Senator Abdulrazaq-Gwadabe expressed appreciation to both PLAC and the EU for the successful implementation of the Legislative Internship programme, which she believed, provide a strong platform for young persons to learn about the activities of the legislature. She also commended the transparency of the selection process and believed that it reflected on the quality of the interns selected as well as their contributions to the activities of the committees where they were assigned. Senator Abdulrazaq-Gwadabe hoped that the knowledge gained during the internship programme would be useful to the interns and encourage more participation in the political process.



(L-R) Amb. Jerry Ugokwe, Sen. Khairat Abdulrazaq-Gwadabe, Hon. Chukwuka Onyema, Hon. Ochiglegor Idaagbo and Manasseh Aliyuda

PROGRAMME ACHIEVEMENTS/SUCSESSES

PROGRAMME ACHIEVEMENTS

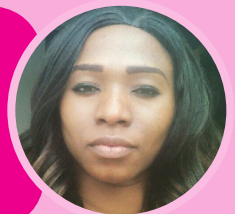
- Improved knowledge of Interns on the workings of the National Assembly: Interns reported having improved knowledge of the functions and activities of the National Assembly and the Legislators
- Improved Participation in Legislative Activities: The internship was a good opportunity for interns to participate in the activities of the National Assembly for the first time.
- Development of Interns' research and communication skills:
- Enhanced Professional and Educational Experience: The interns' professional and educational experience were enhanced through this work for programme since they are given a unique opportunity to observe governmental and legislative processes from the point of view of the legislators themselves.
- Increased Interest in Politics and Governance Issues: In addition to the improvement in interns' understanding and appreciation of the legislature, some interns expressed an increased interest in occupying legislative positions or public office.
- Employment Opportunity: Several interns have gained employment with Civil Society Organizations working to promote good governance in Nigeria.

INTERNS' COMMENTS ON THE INTERNSHIP PROGRAMME



This program has transformed my mindset on democracy, legislation and policy advocacy. I acquired technical skills like drafting of Bills, Votes and Proceedings, Order paper, Notice paper and extensive knowledge of the Constitution and Standing orders, necessary for legislation and governance. And a strong network of people who can contribute immensely to the making and implementation of new laws and policies. Additionally, it has developed my capacity to effectively represent while upholding the values of democracy to harness its dividends and protect national interest. - **Abdulkadir Abdullahi Adamu**

I am indeed honoured to be a part of this experience; I am better learned in legislative matters, so much that I look forward to enrolling in the National Institute for Legislative and Democratic studies. The legislative arm of government is a very honourable place to serve because it brings you close to governance as it affects you - **Alexandra Aserogun**



The legislative internship programme, with its focus on youth engagement with state institutions, can also serve as a catalyst for escaping capability traps that bedevil policy formulation and implementation in Nigeria. The programme can help infuse knowledge, skills and competencies of the legislature and its structures and processes in young Nigerians. - **Emmanuel Baba Aduku**

The Legislative internship programme was a learning opportunity. It enhanced my understanding of the extent and the procedures employed by the Nigeria Legislature in checking the Executive and its agencies. It was also interesting to note that relevant stakeholders are given an opportunity to contribute to the process of law making through public hearing platform - **Amarachi Onyeabo**



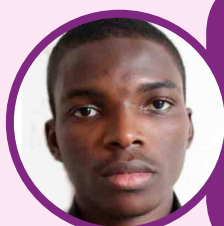
I had an unforgettable and a wonderful experience during the course of my internship programme at PLAC... My view was broadened about the Committee on land transport and i was able to know what ministries, departments and agencies that are under the Committee... I will also categorically say that the experience i had will make a better future leader for Nigeria. - **Faisal Dahiru**

This programme has deepened my knowledge of legislative affairs and enhanced my capacity to contribute to the development of Nigeria through effective participation in areas of governance. - **Areh Funmilayo**



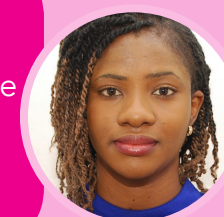
This is an experience I will not forget in a hurry. In the course of the PLAC Internship program, I met interesting people and made new friends from different socio-cultural backgrounds, and it in no small measure helped in broadening my horizon. - **Fidelis Okpede**

All in all, my experience was an eye opener. I have been able to properly understand the legislative process in Nigeria. I have also had an insider view on how it is to work in the National Assembly. I have seen certain shortfalls and discrepancies that if they are checked properly and corrected, the law making process will be smoother, better and more beneficial to the citizens of the country. I will now use the knowledge gained to participate in the law making process the best way I can in the nearest future. - **Believe Ohioma**



This internship program gave me the opportunity to understand the legislative arm of government better and has helped me to understand that the Legislature is the backbone of any country's democracy and the prime policymakers in any democratic state. I am very confident that the experience will serve as a reference point for my future decisions.- **Ibrahim Mohammed**

I learnt and carried out legislative journalist functions of taking down minutes of all Senate plenary Sessions as well as reviewing daily newspapers on contents relating to the National Assembly. I also had the opportunity of working with fellow journalists of various media houses. I must say it was an amazing training for me and of course a boost to my Curriculum Vitae. - **Jane Adindu**



The internship has offered me the opportunity to understand the inner workings of the National Assembly; more specifically, its interaction with State Legislatures as well as Foreign Legislative Houses through the National Secretariat of Nigeria Legislatures [NSNL]. These have contributed immensely to my growth as an individual which I am confident has better equipped me in my quest to continually contribute my quota to National growth.- **Ifeoluwa David**

Initially, I had a different notion and perception about the National Assembly and legislators as a whole but now I have utmost respect for elected representatives and I am more interested in politics than I was. Personally, the internship Programme has increased my knowledge about Legislative Arm of the Government. It has afforded me with the opportunity to mix up with great minds from different parts of Nigeria and also made new friends from different professions.- **Konaghai Okri Nelson**



I am grateful to be have been selected for this programme. It has been a wonderful experience and a chance to meet new people and interact with young individuals who are committed and aspire to enhance the political, economic and social situation in Nigeria. At this point, I feel more confident to enlighten fellow Nigerians and indeed, anyone who is interested in the affairs of this nation, on the activities of the National Assembly. - **Ismail Bello**

I gained professional knowledge, legislative skills, knowledge and exposure that I won't forget in a bit. My communication skills and confidence level has increased and I made new friends. For me, this was not just an internship program, it was a transformation ground. - **Nancy Agati**



The primary aim of the internship I must say on my part was achieved. Apart from the legislative knowledge gained, the administrative knowledge acquired is Unquantifiable. Relationship in a working environment is another added value and Individual conduct in a public place is also a priceless experience.

I equally believed that another intent of this scheme is to expose African youths, specifically Nigeria youth to leadership and provide them while re-engineering their mindset towards their responsibilities as a leader and as a citizen. This I must affirm was achieved in me. - **Tajudeen Habeeb**

My perspectives about some legislators have changed as a result of this programme and I presently believe that some of the legislators' actions are for the nation's interest and not for personal interest. My knowledge about the budget process was increased, my interactive and communication skills have also improved.- **Nzewigbo Chinenye Cynthia**





The 2018 PLAC Internship programme also enabled me to meet and network with 36 other wonderful Young Nigerians, and we worked together to achieve mutual goals. I am very confident and strongly believe that the knowledge and experience that I have gained as well as the network/ relationship that I built during the course of the internship programme will help me unlock opportunities and achieve my heart's desires in my future endeavors.- **Joseph Edose Uwadiale**

I can say that my personal expectation of the programme was adequately met because I acquired the knowledge that I desired. I wanted to know how the legislature influences the Nigerian budget and economic policies, which I learnt during my stay in NABRO.- **Ogundele Damilola**



The internship programme was indeed an experience for me because meeting people with different disciplines yet having the decorum of understanding among ourselves was indeed commendable. Most importantly, PLAC gave me the platform to stand for legislative Transparency and advocacy. It was indeed an experience worth craving for.- **Tubotein Boma Iboroma**

The internship programme helped to improve my writing skills generally as I learnt how to write official reports. It also boosted my legal research and analytical skills and enhanced my interpersonal skills. - **Rebecca Bareyei**



LESSONS LEARNED

At the end of the internship, interns were asked to submit a final report on their internship at the National Assembly. Evaluation forms were also used to evaluate the knowledge and insights gained during the programme. Based on the reports submitted, evaluations received, and experiences shared by both interns and committee clerks, the following lessons were garnered:

- (1) The National Assembly is a key partner in the programme and their support as well as approval are critical in the successful implementation of the programme. It is therefore important that the already existing positive relationship should be maintained.
- (2) Deployment of the interns to various Committees can be made more efficient if the National Assembly management sends the letters to the Committee Clerks ahead, before the interns resume work with the Committees. This would smoothen the deployment and resumption process.
- (3) The internship programme is more effective when it runs at the beginning of the year before the annual legislative break. This affords the interns the opportunity to learn from both the administrative staff and the members of the Committees. The internship programme was organized at the beginning of the year, which enabled the interns fully experience legislative processes and procedure.
- (4) The duration of the internship seemed inadequate considering the time it took for the interns to receive deployment letters and settle in within their Committees, before they started work in the National Assembly. Therefore it is pertinent that the effective date of the start of the internship becomes the date that deployment letters are received and not when the orientation and induction commence.



Cross Section of the Interns with Gbenga Aruleba, Amb. Jerry Ugokwe, Patrick Giwa, CL



ment Nwankwo, and Sen. Khairat Abdulrazag-Gwadabe after the Model Legislative Assembly

ANNEXES





Abdulkadir Abdullahi Adamu
Taraba State



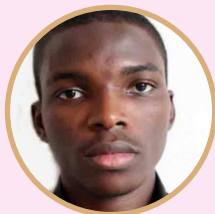
Nancy Shin'ame Agati
Plateau State



Jane Adindu
Imo State



Joseph Uwadiale Edose
Edo State



Ibrahim Muhammed
Kebbi State



Olayinka Olowu
Ogun State



Funmilayo Areh
Kogi State



Ismail Bello
FCT



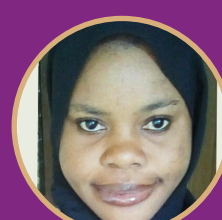
Believe Ohioma
Edo State



Felix Okiemute
Delta State



Abubakar Jibrin
Niger State



Zainab Yahaya Tanko
Sokoto State



Amarachi C. S Onyeabor
Abia State



Ayokunle Oludare
Oluwawehinmi
Ondo State



Chinenye Nzewigbo
Enugu State



Damilola Ogundale
Ekiti State



Daniel C. Nwagboso
Abia State



Emmanuel Baba Aduku
Kogi State



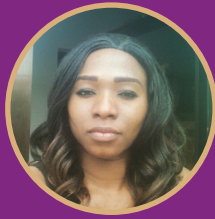
Ethel Joseph Chinaza
Enugu State



Faisal Dahiru
Gombe State



Faith Gaza Duza
FCT



Alexander Aserogun
Kogi State



Fidel Okpede
Nasarawa State



Hauwa Mohammed Dilli
Borno State



Ifeoluwa Fawoye
Osun State



Konaghai Nelson Okri
Cross River State



Maryam David West
Adamawa State



Mishael Bem Afa
Benue State



Niimatullah Umar
Kano State



Olatunji Abdulmajeed
Kwara State



Oroh Itsema Roheemat
Edo State



Peter Sam-Twokwa
Taraba State



Rebecca Bareyei
Bayelsa State



Susam Odemwingie
Edo State



Tajudeen Habeeb
Kwara State



Timothy Lofty
Adamawa State



Tubotein Iboroma
Rivers State

ANNEX 2: DEPLOYMENT LIST

S/N	NAME	STATE	SEX	COURSE OF STUDY	Deployment
1	Amarachi Chinwe Onyeabor	ABIA	F	Law (LL.B)	House Committee On Human Rights
2	Nwagboso Daniel C.	ABIA	M	Mass communication (Bsc)	Senate Committee On Communications
3	Lofty Timothy	ADAMAWA	M	English Language (B.A)	House Committee On Rules And Business
4	Mariam A. David West	ADAMAWA	F	Law (LL.B)	House Committee On Justice
5	Bareyei Rebecca Ebibulaimi	BAYELSA	F	Law (LL.B)	Senate Committee On Judiciary, Human Rights & Legal Matters
6	Mishael Bem Afa	BENUE	M	Computer Science (Bsc)	House Committee On Information And Communication Technology (ICT)
7	Dili Hauwa Mohammed	BORNO	F	Law (LL.B)	HOUSE COMMITTEE ON INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS (IDPS)
8	Nelson Konaghai Okri	CROSS RIVER	F	Genetics and Biotechnology (Bsc)	Senate Committee On Science And Technology
9	Okiemute Felix	DELTA	M	Library and Information Science (B.Sc)	Senate Committee On Tertiary Institutions And TETFUND
10	Oroh Itsema Roheemat	EDO	F	Economics (Bsc)	House Committee On Appropriation
11	Susan Odemwigie	EDO	F	Microbiology (Bsc)	House Committee On Environment
12	Uwadiale Joseph Edose	EDO	M	Chemistry (Bsc); Analytical Chemistry (M.Sc)	Senate Committee On Petroleum Downstream Sector

13	Believe Ohioma	EDO	F	Law (LL.B; LL.M)	House Committee On Women In Parliament
14	Ogundele Damilola Tomiwa	EKITI	F	Economics (Bsc)	National Assembly Budget And Research Office (NABRO)
15	Joseph Ethel Chinaza	ENUGU	F	Agricultural Technology (B.Agric Tech)	House Committee On Agriculture, Production And Services
16	Cynthia Chinenye Nzewigbo	ENUGU	F	Economics (B.Sc)	National Assembly Budget And RESEARCH Office (Nabro)
17	Faith Duza Gaza	FCT	F	Law (LL.B); LL.M	Senate Committee On Anti-Corruption & Financial Crimes
18	Ismail Bello	FCT	M	Industrial Technology Education (B.Tech)	Senate Committee On Ethics, Privileges & Public Petitions
19	Dahiru Faisal	GOMBE	M	Chemical Engr. (B.Sc)	House Committee On Land Transport
20	Jane Adindu	IMO	F	Mass Communication (B.Sc)	Senate Committee On Media & Public Affairs
21	Niimatullah Bala Umar	KANO	M	Physics (B.Sc)	House Committee On Science And Technology
22	Ibrahim Muhammed Musa	KEBBI	M	Accounting and Finance (BA)	House Committee On Capital Market
23	Aserogun Alexandra Kehinde	KOGI	M	Theatre Arts (B.A)	House Committee On Public Service Matters
24	Emmanuel Baba Aduku	KOGI	M	Sociology (B.Sc); Sociology (M.Sc)	Senate Committee On INEC

25	Funmilayo Oluwaseyi Areh	KOGI	F	Theatre Arts (B.A)	House Committee On Culture And Tourism
26	Olatunji Kolapo Abdulmajeed	KWARA	M	Political Science (B.Sc)	House Committee On Public Petition
27	Tajudeen Habeeb	KWARA	M	Telecommunication Science (B.Sc.)	House Committee On Telecommunications
28	Okpede Fidelis Akwe	NASARAWA	M	Law (LL.B, B.L)	House Committee On FCT And Judiciary
29	Abubakar Jibrin	NIGER	M	Business Administration (B.Sc)	Senate Committee On Public Accounts
30	Olayinka John Olowu	OGUN	M	International Law and Diplomacy (B.Sc)	House Committee On Foreign Affairs
31	Ayokunle Oludare Oluwawehinmi	ONDO	M	English Language (B.A); Master of Arts (M. A.) Literature in English	Senate Committee On Ethics, Privileges & Public Petitions
32	Fawoye Ifeoluwa David	OSUN	M	Law (LL.B)	National Secretariat For Nigerian Legislatures
33	Nancy Agati	PLATEAU	F	B.A (French); M.A (International Law and Diplomacy)	Senate Committee On Foreign Affairs
34	Tubotein Boma Iboroma	RIVERS	F	LL.B (Law); Legal Drafting (M.Sc.)	National Secretariat For Nigerian Legislatures
35	Tanko Zainab Yahaya	SOKOTO	F	Law (LL.B)	Senate Committee On Rules And Business
36	Peter Sam Tsokwa	TARABA	M	Law (LL.B); LL.M	House Committee On Electoral & Political Party Matters
37	Abdulkadir Abdullahi Adamu	TARABA	M	Business Information Technology (B.Sc)	House Committee On House Services



UNDER REPRESENTATION OF WOMEN IN ALL POLITICAL STRUCTURES IN NIGERIA by Zainab Yahaya Tanko

Political Participation is a voluntary act which encompasses wide range of political activities, including voting at elections, contesting for political and party offices, attending political rallies, joining political parties and many more. Although these political activities are considered to be “free zone” to all qualified citizens, especially in liberal democracies irrespective of disparities in wealth, education and gender, in African countries particularly Nigeria shows that certain cultural values have systematically over the years impeded female gender from participating in politics, at least to a certain degree which to some extent tend to re-define the tenets of participatory democracy.

Today many countries of the world are making efforts to bridge the gap between men and women in politics. But in Nigeria the representation of women in government even though has improved, is still very low compared to what is obtainable in other nations of the world, particularly in the developed nations. The representation of women in the 2015 election was poor; five (5) women out of the fourteen (14) persons contested for the vice presidency while fourteen (14) men contested for the post of president, only 1 (one) woman contested. Seven women made it to the Senate out of 109 members, while in the House of Representatives, out of 360 members fourteen were women. There has been no woman governor since 1999 except when the governor of Anambra State, Peter Obi was impeached for a month, but was re-instated after he won his court case the woman governor stepped down to her deputy position.

The participation of women in governance and politics is of strategic importance not only for women empowerment, but because it has wider benefits and impact. Disadvantaged people and groups can obtain fair representation only if they are present in election assemblies. Based on this, women and men should be represented at every level of decision making - locally, regionally and nationally, particularly where resources are distributed and allocated.

In 1985, Nigeria ratified the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women of 1979 (CEDAW). But it is worthy of note that the operation of the 30

Articles in the Convention in Nigeria has not been achieved. Nigeria has made several efforts to ensure the participation of women who are excluded from participation in governance issues through the adoption and creation of some institutions that will facilitate the full participation of women in governance. However, the question here is, are these institutions and agencies fully implementing the Charters and Treaties Nigeria has signed and ratified?

Even with the affirmative action of 35% representation of women in political and non-elective positions in Nigeria, the number of women in legislative houses is not encouraging as a result of patriarchal dominance in Nigeria. In elective positions in Nigeria since, 1999, it is evident that women have not reached 10% representation. The problems many a time are the stringent measures that our political parties put in place for a person to qualify to run for the elective positions.

When we have this kind of system in our governance process, how can women make concrete decisions when they are excluded in the process of making the decisions? Why have we not implemented to its fullest the Charters and Conventions that Nigeria has signed and ratified. This problem is better imagined than witnessed in the rural areas where culture and tradition have their own effect in the participation of women in governance. Individual participation and involvement in governance to make a difference is more or less seen as an aberration of the norm and a misnomer.

It is therefore, necessary that we revisit the level of inequalities and disparity that exist in Nigeria, if we will make good development impact in the lives of all citizens. The more time and opportunities that women have to contribute to the house hold income, and ownership of land and other income generating ventures, the better their chances of seeking justice in their community.

Our old policies of early marriage and lack of educational opportunities to the girl child should be revised so as to align with the changing standards in the world today. To consolidate on the current gains, women leadership organizations, government and relevant stakeholders should continue to advocate for the amendment of legislations to favour the protection of women from abuse; empower them economically, socially and politically, especially through the enforcement of affirmative action and allocation of quotas for women in politics and decision making positions.

Political parties should promote women's participation more effectively, and should develop accountability mechanisms and seek technical assistance from civil society to meet this obligation. INEC should conduct a focused awareness drive on female voter registration and run specific voter education campaigns for women during elections. Nigerian civil society organizations should lead and promote gender training and orientation for political parties.



NATIONAL INTEREST VERSUS PERSONAL INTEREST: THE STELLA ADADEVOH EXAMPLE

by Rebecca Bareyei

In August 2014, Nigerians woke up to the news about a dreaded viral disease known as Ebola, which can be contracted through human contact with an infected person. The entire nation was horrified. As expected of Nigerians, 'experts' proffered solutions some of which included things like chewing of bitter kola and having a bath with salt and warm water. Others took it a step further to include drinking salt water. With the swift response of medical practitioners, the Federal Government and the World Health Organisation, Ebola was contained. On the 20th of October 2014, Nigeria was declared Ebola –free. This freedom however came at a price- the death of some Nigerian doctors and nurses who chose to place the interest of the nation above their lives.

National interest, often referred to by the French expression *raison d'état* (reason of State) refers to a country's goals and ambitions whether economic, military or cultural. Jean de Silhon described it as "a mean between what conscience permits and affairs require." Its historical evolution was to make the State "a knowing machine, a work of reason". Here, the State ceases to be derived from the divine order and is thus subject to its own particular necessities. National Interest means survival - the protection of the physical, political and cultural identity against encroachments by other nation-states (J. Morgenthau). Security is a vital component of national interest. Other variable components include prosperity, peace, ideology, justice, prestige, aggrandizement and power.

The Ebola Viral Disease (EVD) first appeared in 1976 in two simultaneous outbreaks in the present day South Sudan and the Democratic Republic of Congo. On 23rd March 2014, World Health Organisation African Regional Office reported an outbreak of the disease in Guinea. After that, five additional West African countries including Liberia later reported cases of Ebola. Fruit bats are known to be the virus' host.

The index case of Ebola in Nigeria was a Liberian Diplomat by name Patrick Sawyer. He purportedly flew into Nigeria to attend an ECOWAS summit in July 2014. He however fell ill on arrival and was admitted at the First Consultant Hospital in Lagos because the general hospitals were on strike. He was being treated for malaria. Dr Adadevoh had never seen an Ebola case before, but according to her son, she was very disturbed because it looked as if blood was seeping through his skin. She knew it was not malaria.

When she asked him where he had been and he said Liberia, she immediately suspected that it could be Ebola. She decided to isolate the patient. It was however a battle. The Liberian Ambassador pressurized her to release him, threatening to file charges against her for kidnapping Patrick Sawyer. She was obstinate in her refusal to let him leave saying it was for the greater good. Had she given in to the pressure, the resultant effect would have been catastrophic. The patient died in the hospital from the virus while Dr Adadevoh and some of her colleagues became infected. She tested positive on the 4th of and died on the 19th of August 2014. As a result of her report, the government declared a National Public Health Emergency while the Ministry of Health set up an Ebola Emergency operation Centre.

Dr Stella Ameyo Adadevoh was born on 27th October 1956. She attended university of Lagos and university of London. She however moved back to Nigeria to continue her career as she always wanted to make an impact on the healthcare system in Nigeria. She was a selfless doctor who was dedicated to her profession, working seven days in a week. She was the great-granddaughter of Herbert Macaulay. It must be noted that Dr Adadevoh was credited as having reported the first case of swine flu in 2012.

As a result of her heroic actions, she was a recipient of several posthumous awards including the Nigerian American Medical foundation "Nigeria's Hero of the Year", Security and Exchange Commission "Number 1 Humanitarian everyone should know about(2014)", International Medical Corps UK "woman who shaped 2014" and The Guardian "Number 1 global thinker of 2014" among several others .

LESSONS LEARNT

Dr Stella Adadevoh died as a true patriot and in service to Nigeria. The average Nigerian places self-interest before anything else, however, this brave woman thought otherwise. The practice during the 'Ebola days' was that people took hygiene more seriously as there was mass awareness on washing of hands and the use of sanitizers. However, when the nation was declared Ebola free, the lackadaisical attitude to personal and public health continued.

The National Anthem is a call to serve our fatherland to ensure that the labours of past heroes like Herbert Macaulay who died fighting for the entity called Nigeria do not go in vain. This is a call to Nigeria to remember our heroes and tell the next generation their stories.

In conclusion, anyone can make a difference in any sphere of life. One must not be a politician to be part of nation building. Let us always place Nigeria first as Nigeria is the issue.





CITIZEN'S PARTICIPATION IN GOVERNANCE AND POLICY MAKING AS A MEANS OF ENSURING DEMOCRACY, GOOD GOVERNANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY

by Joseph Edose Uwadiale

A democratic system of government is one in which the citizens exercise power to elect representatives from among themselves to form a governing body, such as a parliament. The elected persons who become public office holders are those who emerge victorious in the elections with majority of votes. In Nigeria, 29th of May of every year is regarded as democracy day to commemorate the restoration of democracy when the newly elected Olusegun Obasanjo took office as the President of Nigeria in May 1999 ending multiple decades of military rule that began in 1966 and had been interrupted only by a brief period of democracy from 1979 to 1983. The Legislative arm of government (or parliament) is what truly marks out a country as a democratic country and its key functions include: Representation, Lawmaking and Oversight. Nigeria practices a bicameral (two-tier) legislature which are the Senate and the House of Representatives. Although, Nigeria has recorded some achievements since it began practicing democracy, Nigeria is still yet to reap the full dividends of democracy.

For any country to experience democracy, the participation of her citizens in governance and policy making is vital and this will also lead to good governance and accountability among public office holders. Citizens do participate in governance and public policies through public hearings, engagement of the media and civil society organizations. But the big questions still remains whether the decisions of majority of Nigerians are actually reflected during decision and policy making? An example is when billions of US dollars are borrowed for one reason or the other without proper consultations of the citizens. In a diverse country like Nigeria, the preference of citizens would differ from one region to another. People from the North East region are more likely to prefer addressing security challenges, while those from the South-South region will likely prefer addressing environmental pollution challenges.

Citizen's participation in governance will only result in good governance and accountability when it yields greater influence for ordinary people, especially the poor and socially excluded. In order for this to happen, citizen's participation must not only reflect the preferences of ordinary people but also enable those preferences to shape outcomes. There should be forums (formal or informal) where citizens can air their voices, concerns and affect decisions either through lobbying or demonstrating collectively.

Although, Nigerians of recent are more politically aware of happenings in the polity, there is the need to ensure that Nigerians are not only aware but also participate in governance in order to achieve democracy, good governance and accountability. This will happen, when the confidence of citizens is developed so that more people will participate in the voting process, policy formulation, implementation and monitoring. There is also the need to create an enabling environment that will allow citizens develop a countervailing power to counter, reduce, and perhaps even neutralize, any power-advantage of powerful actors in the political space of the society. For instance, through association in union strike, pressure group, non-governmental and civil society organizations. There is also the need to respect human rights where the rights of citizens who exercise their civil political rights such as freedom of speech and information, and push for equal access to justice, among others are not treated unlawfully and unfairly.

Transparency and accountability are also imperative in boosting the confidence of citizens so that their preferences are given due consideration and ensure that decision-makers are held accountable for their actions and in-actions.

In conclusion, without an enabling environment for citizens to air their views or concerns, develop a countervailing power to neutralize or counter the power advantage of powerful actors in the society or polity and a transparent decision-making process, Nigerian citizens cannot be certain that their views and aspirations will receive due consideration.

Without adequate procedures and institutions for holding the policy and decision makers accountable for their actions and inactions, citizens cannot ensure that decisions agreed upon through participatory processes will be brought forward and implemented.



PLAC LEGISLATIVE INTERNSHIP PROGRAMME: A FIRST HAND EXPERIENCE TO LEGISLATIVE PROCESS IN NIGERIA

by Konaghai Okri Nelson

"A mind that is stretched by new experience can never go back to its dimension" Reflecting back to the 2018 Legislative Internship Programme organized by Policy and Legal Advocacy Centre (PLAC) with the support of the European Union in Nigeria avails Nigerian youths of the opportunity to learn firsthand experience of the workings of the Legislative Arm. it is aimed at increasing legislative advocacy, enhancing citizens' participation in Nigeria, interest in governance, creating greater public understanding and appreciation of the Nigerian legislative.

Claire Fagin says "Knowledge will bring you the opportunity to make a difference". Going by what PLAC has impacted on us (interns), it is exciting to have gained knowledge and opportunities from all spheres of life. As an intern of the 2018 Programme, it is important to share benefits of the internship and truly appreciate the purpose of the Programme. Firstly, you cannot fully understand the workings of the legislature except you have a firsthand experience about legislature; secondly it avails you of the adequate knowledge needed to advocate for and fully participate in politics. The internship made this clear to us.

We have different experiences in our places of deployment. Personally, I have been encouraged to fully participate in politics irrespective of my gender; to promote justice, defend the rights of humans and also respect and support any elected representative. In as much as every country is not perfect, a lot of us see the National Assembly as a place where legislators enrich themselves and make laws to favour them. Digging deep and facing reality, the National Assembly is more than we take it; unfortunately we have a diluted notion about it. But all thanks to PLAC for availing me with this opportunity and making me to be a good source of enlightenment to the masses.

More so, public hearings were organized in the course of my internship programme and I found them to be very educating and interesting; and also any legislator who defaults is put to order. In addition, I had series of questions which were clarified.

These are just a few of the numerous activities carried out by the National Assembly that most people do not know about, just as I was prior to this legislative internship programme.

It should also be noted that the legislators are humans and there is more to what we see on National Television; legislators sit and deliberate on National issues which most time do not get to the public.

At this point, I must say that this internship program has been an eye opener to me and has given me a firsthand knowledge on how Bills are drafted and passed into laws and most importantly I have realized the need to fully participate in democratic process (citizens participation) and also promote transparency in all I do. Interestingly, I will play my own part to see that my country becomes a better place for me and my generation.

In conclusion, I call on Nigerian youths to seek participation in the annual PLAC legislative internship programme, as participation (screening and selection) process is free and fair. This is a lifetime experience and I cherish it so much.

My profound gratitude goes to PLAC and European Union for making this internship programme a success.





2018 LEGISLATIVE INTERNSHIP PROGRAM: A PLATFORM FOR SELF RE- DISCOVERY by

Nancy Shin'ame Agati

A real life is full of different kinds of experiences and people learn through experiences, that is why it is said that experience is the best teacher. Experience is a valuable thing in life because it helps us to learn first-hand at any given time. I had an amazing experience of a lifetime during the 2018 legislative internship program which was organised by Policy and Legal Advocacy Centre (PLAC), a non-partisan, non-governmental organisation committed to strengthening democratic governance and citizens' participation in governance in Nigeria, with the support of the European Union.

As its mandate is to enhance citizens' engagement with state institutions and promote transparency and accountability in policy and decision- making processes, has been the reason why the legislative internship program was birthed. This program aids young Nigerian professionals with various disciplines from all the geo-political zones of Nigeria to be trained and exposed to the workings of the National Assembly.

Before this internship program, my knowledge of the workings of the legislature of our country was vague, I did not understand their role and the magnitude of the responsibilities saddled on them. Watching them on the television deliberate, made me feel they were just a bunch of people making a lot of noise. PLAC has helped widen my understanding of the workings of the National Assembly, their roles and responsibilities and practical details of the step by step processes in law making and legislative practices.

As a graduate of French Language with a masters' degree in International Law and Diplomacy, I have honed my interest on law related matters, diplomatic issues and politics. This internship came at the right time for me to increase my knowledge and participate in the policy making processes of my country.

With my background, I received with great joy the news of my deployment to the Senate committee on Foreign Affairs. Unfortunately for me, the committee at the time of my posting had little or no activity at the time but notwithstanding I was assigned to attend plenary sessions.

My experience at the chamber exposed me to various processes and proceedings of the National Assembly, though we were taught the theoretical aspect during our training/ orientation, the experience was awesome. I now know how bills are passed into law, how committees operate, how hearings are conducted (public and investigative) and how the whole structure operates. At a point I felt I was also a law maker because sitting in the same chamber with our Legislature was a euphoric experience.

The internship program was not ordinary for me because it was a platform for me to rediscover myself. It immensely built my confidence and has challenged me and made me retrace my steps. This led to my election as the Deputy Speaker of our Model Legislative Assembly (MLA). I met amazing people, made new friends, interacted with brilliant minds and was trained on several aspects of legislative proceedings.

From the experience I garnered from the internship program, I have realised that there is a big gap between the legislature and the citizens. The citizens do not understand the responsibilities placed on our Legislature. Lack of understanding of legislative processes greatly contributes to the reason why the youths are not participating politics as much as they should.

The legislators work tirelessly to pass laws, they also take time to listen to public opinions and stakeholders' opinion before passing laws.

Thanks to PLAC and the EU, I have now improved in my human relations; I have a broader knowledge of the workings of the National Assembly. I can now go out there with my head high knowing that I am an agent of change fully equipped with legislative skills and can actually influence other youths to demand for transparency, accountability and good governance from people in public offices and who know that I might eventually come back to the National Assembly as a lawmaker.

ORIENTATION AND INDUCTION AGENDA

POLICY AND LEGAL ADVOCACY CENTRE (PLAC) WITH THE SUPPORT OF EUROPEAN UNION (EU)

ORIENTATION/INDUCTION PROGRAMME FOR LEGISLATIVE INTERNS
February 12 – 14, 2018

Agenda

Day One	February 12, 2018
9:00 am – 10:00am	Registration of Participants Guests, Resource Persons and Participants are seated
10:00 am – 11:00am	WELCOME AND OPENING CEREMONY – Centenary Hall Introduction of guests, resource persons and participants Welcome Remarks Clement Nwankwo Executive Director, PLAC Opening Address Laolu Olawumi Programme Manager - Governance, European Union in Nigeria Keynote Address Rt. Hon. Yakubu Dogara Speaker, House of Representatives of the Federal Republic of Nigeria

	<p>Goodwill Messages</p> <p>Hon. Lynda Chuba Ikpeazu House of Representatives</p> <p>Sani Omolori Clerk to the National Assembly</p> <p>Head, International Cooperation Department Ministry of Budget and Planning</p>
11:00am – 11:30am	Tea Break
11:30am – 12:30pm	<p>ORIENTATION SESSION</p> <p>How to be Effective as a Legislative Intern: - Dos and Don'ts Abdulkadir Adamu - Clerk of the House of Representatives</p> <p>Safety and Security Policy in the National Assembly Brigadier Gen. Mohammed Sani Danwali (Rtd.) Sergeant-at-Arms, National Assembly</p>
12:30pm – 1:30pm	<p>An Overview of the National Assembly Dr. Shuaibu Danwanka National Institute for Legislative Studies, Abuja</p>
1:30pm – 2:30pm	<p>TRAINING SESSION</p> <p>The Process of Lawmaking: From Bill to an Act Dr. Rahila Ahmadu Former Director, NSNL</p>

2:30pm – 3:30pm	Lunch
3:30pm – 5:00pm	Ethics and Social Responsibility as a Citizen Laz Apir
Day Three	Tuesday, February 13, 2018
9:00 am – 10:30am	TRAINING SESSION Effect of Rapid Population Growth on National Development Onoriode Ezire <i>Country Director, Health Policy Plus Nigeria</i>
10:30 – 11:30am	Essential Writing Skills: What you Need to Know about Note-Taking and Minutes Writing Emma Ogbeche <i>Editor, Abuja Inquirer</i>
11:30 – 11:45am	Tea Break
11:45am – 1:30pm	A Guide to Legislative Plenary Session Ambassador Jerry Ugokwe <i>Former Member, House of Representatives</i>
1:30 – 2:30 pm	Break-out Session Group exercise facilitated by Ambassador Ugokwe (Each group has a task to develop a legislative document – Order Paper, Votes & Proceedings, Hansard and notice paper using a hypothetical scenario)
2:30 pm	Lunch
3:00pm – 5:00pm	Presentation of the group work (development of an Order Paper, Votes & Proceedings and analysis of the Electoral Act (Amend) Bill)
5:00pm	Wrap – up session

	Wednesday February 14, 2018
10:00 am	A Tour to the National Assembly
4:00 pm	Final Evaluation
	Thursday February 15, 2018
10:00 am	Check-out

FIRST BI-WEEKLY TRAINING AGENDA

POLICY AND LEGAL ADVOCACY CENTRE (PLAC)

WITH THE SUPPORT OF

EUROPEAN UNION (EU)

THE FIRST BI-WEEKLY TRAINING PROGRAMME FOR LEGISLATIVE INTERNS

Monday, March 5, 2018

Agenda

Time	
9:30 am – 10:00am	Arrival and Registration of Participants
10:00 – 10:15am	Welcome Remarks Clement Nwankwo Executive Director, PLAC Opening Address Laolu Olawumi Programme Manager - Governance, European Union in Nigeria
10:15 – 10:45am	Brief presentation on the Gender and Equal Opportunities Bill (GEO Bill) – Implications and Next Steps Towards Achieving this year's Theme of the International Women's Day (#PressForProgress) Eqy Anazonwu Gender Technical Unit (GTU)
10:45 – 11:15am	Discussions

11:15 - 11:30am	Tea Break
11:30noon – 12:15pm	A Review of the Various Provisions of the Constitution (amend.) Bill and their implications Prof Kassim Waziri
12:15 – 12:45pm	Discussions
12:45 – 1:15pm	Electoral Act (amendment) Bill: A Review and Analysis Hon. Emeka Ughanze
1:15 – 1:45pm	Discussions
1:45pm – 2:15pm	Not Too Young To Run Bill – Implication to the Nigerian Pol-ity Cynthia Mbamalu, YIAGA
2:15 – 2:45pm	Discussions
2:45 – 3:30pm	Lunch
3:30 - 4:00pm	Evaluation and Closing Remarks Omolara Akinyeye Program Manager, PLAC

SECOND BI-WEEKLY TRAINING/MID-TERM REVIEW MEETING AGENDA

POLICY AND LEGAL ADVOCACY CENTRE (PLAC) WITH THE SUPPORT OF EUROPEAN UNION (EU)

SECOND BI-WEEKLY TRAINING AND MID-TERM PROGRAMME FOR LEGISLATIVE INTERNS

Date: - Monday, March 19, 2018
Venue: - Treasure Hall, Ibeto Hotel, Abuja

Agenda

Time	
9:30 am – 10:00am	Arrival and Registration of Participants
10:00 – 10:15am	Welcome Remarks Clement Nwankwo Executive Director, PLAC
10:15 – 10:40am	Experience Sharing: Brief on the work on a Deputy Minority Leader Hon. Chukwuka Onyema Deputy Minority Leader, House of Representatives

10:40 – 11:10am	Mastering the Functions of a Legislator: Lawmaking, Representation and Oversight Hon. Busayo Oluwole Oke Chairman, House Committee on Public Procurement
11:10 – 11:40am	Chairing a Committee in the House of Representatives: Experience Sharing Honourable Nnenna Ukeje Chairman, House Committee on Foreign Relations
11:40 – 12:15am	Discussions
12:15 – 12:30pm	Tea Break
12:30 – 1:00pm	Experience Sharing from Past Intern by Stephanie Adanu
1:00pm – 1:15pm	Simulation Exercise: Legislative Plenary Session by Dr. Jerry Ugokwe Brief on a typical legislative plenary session
1:15 – 2:45pm	Mock Session Practice by the interns
2:45 – 3:30pm	Lunch
3:30 – 4:00pm	Evaluation and Closing Remarks Omolara Akinyeye Program Manager, PLAC

THIRD BI-WEEKLY MEETING

**POLICY AND LEGAL ADVOCACY CENTRE (PLAC)
WITH THE SUPPORT OF
EUROPEAN UNION (EU)**

THIRD BI-WEEKLY TRAINING PROGRAMME FOR LEGISLATIVE INTERNS

Date: Friday, April 13, 2018

Venue: - Centenary Hall, Ibeto Hotel, Abuja

Agenda

Time	
9:30 am – 10:00am	Arrival and Registration of Participants
10:00 – 10:15am	Welcome Remarks Clement Nwankwo Executive Director, PLAC
10:15 – 10:40am	National Interest and Other Interests: The Balancing Act Solomon Ntuen Director, Management Services, Senate
10:40 – 11:10am	Discussions
11:10 – 11:50pm	Tea Break

11:50 – 1:40pm	<p>Simulation Exercise: Legislative Plenary Session</p> <p>Mock Legislative Plenary Session</p> <p>Facilitated by Amb. Jerry Ugokwe</p> <p><i>Former member, House of Representatives</i></p>
1:40pm – 2:00pm	<p>Evaluation and closing</p> <p>Closing Remarks</p> <p>Omolara Akinyeye</p> <p>Program Manager, PLAC</p>
2:00pm	Lunch

MODEL LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY SESSION

POLICY AND LEGAL ADVOCACY CENTRE (PLAC)
WITH THE SUPPORT OF
EUROPEAN UNION (EU)
Welcomes you
MODEL LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY (MLA)
Monday April 23, 2018

Agenda

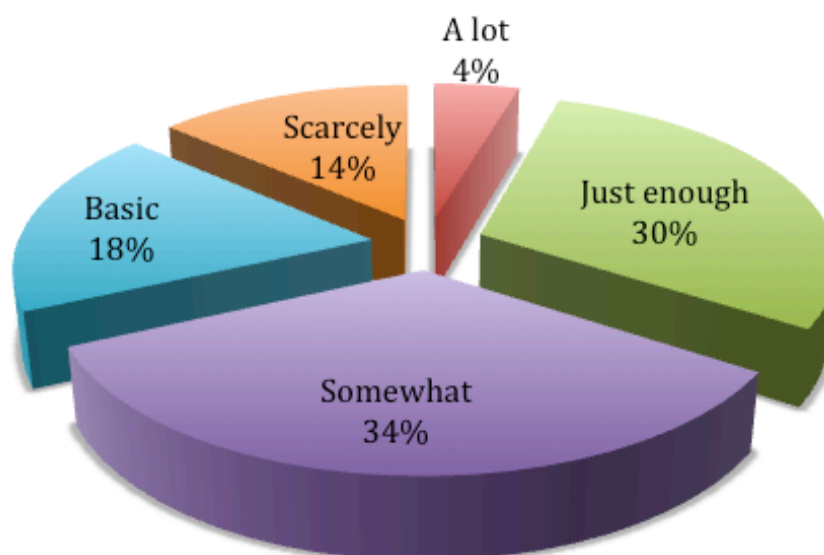
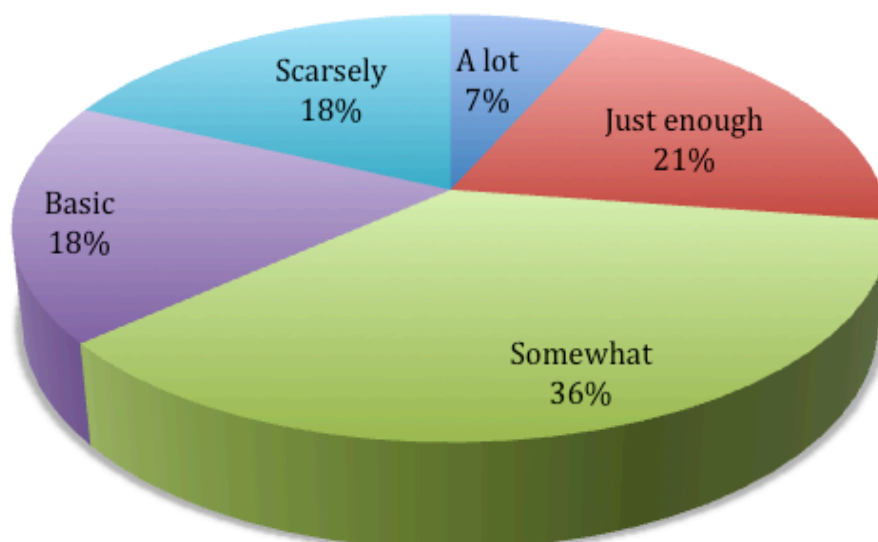
Time	April 23, 2018
9:30 am – 10:00am	Registration of Participants Guests, Resource Persons and Participants are seated
10:00 am – 11:00am	WELCOME AND OPENING CEREMONY – Centenary Hall Introduction of guests, resource persons and participants Welcome Remarks Clement Nwankwo Executive Director, PLAC Opening Address H.E. Amb. Ketil Karlsen Head of the Delegation, European Union in Nigeria Brigadier Gen. Mohammed Sani Danwali (Rtd.) Sergeant-at-Arms, National Assembly

	<p>OPENING REMARKS</p> <p>Hon. Ochiglegor Idagbo House of Representatives, National Assembly</p> <p>Brigadier Gen. Mohammed Sani Danwali (Rtd.) Sergeant-at-Arms, National Assembly</p>
11:30am - 1:30pm	<p>MOCK LEGISLATIVE SESSION</p> <p>Plenary Session led by the leader of the group Abdulkadir A. Adamu Speaker of the 2018 Model Legislative Assembly (MLA)</p> <p>Deliberation on Bills by the interns</p>
1:30pm	<p>Closing of the Plenary Session</p> <p>Resolutions</p>
1:30pm – 2:00pm	<p>PANELISTS</p> <p>Gbenga Aruleba Journalist/ Anchor, Focus Nigeria on AIT</p> <p>Christina Eligwe Founder, Reading Hemlets (Young Political Activist)</p>

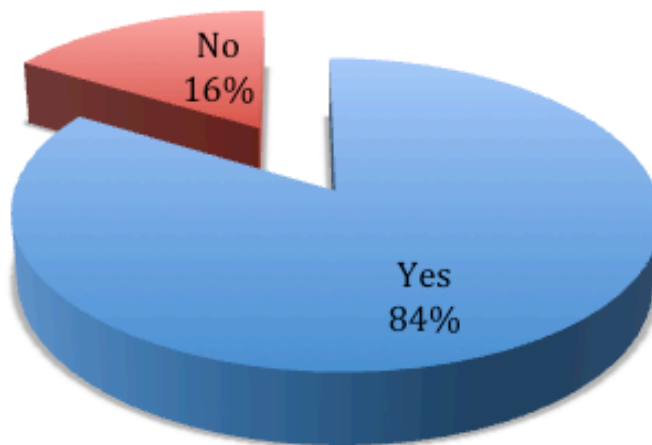
	<p>Freedom Osolo</p> <p>Clerk, Senate Committee on Ethics, Privileges and Public Petitions</p> <p>Presentation of Certificates</p> <p>Vote of Thanks by Senator Khairat Abudulrazaq-Gwadabe</p>
2:00pm – 2:15pm	Closing
2:30pm	Lunch

ORIENTATION AND INDUCTION PROGRAMME

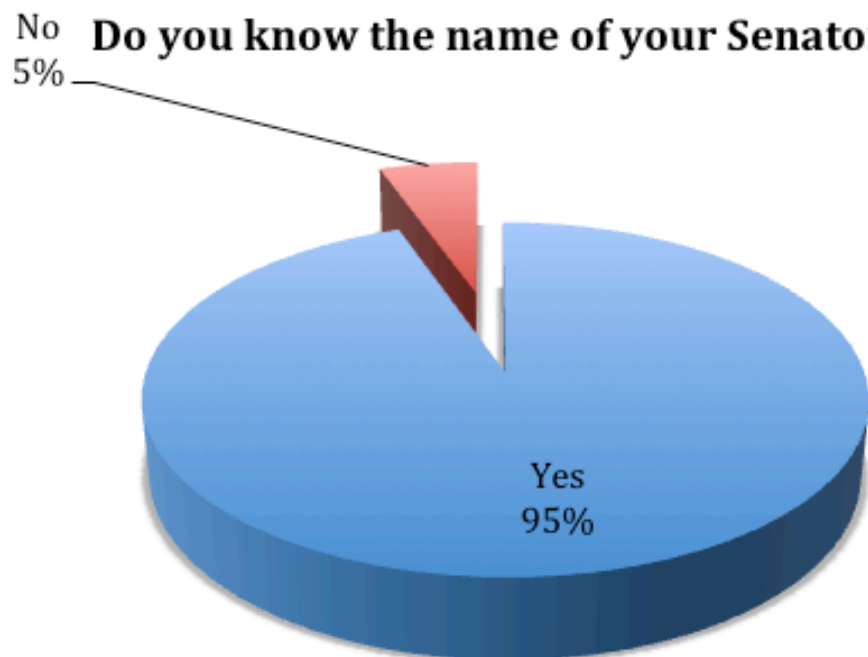
1. Pre-Evaluation of participants on their political awareness level at the beginning of the program

To what extent do you feel you know the Nigerian National Assembly?**To what extent are you knowledgeable about legislative practices and processes**

Do you know the name of your Representative at the House of Representatives?

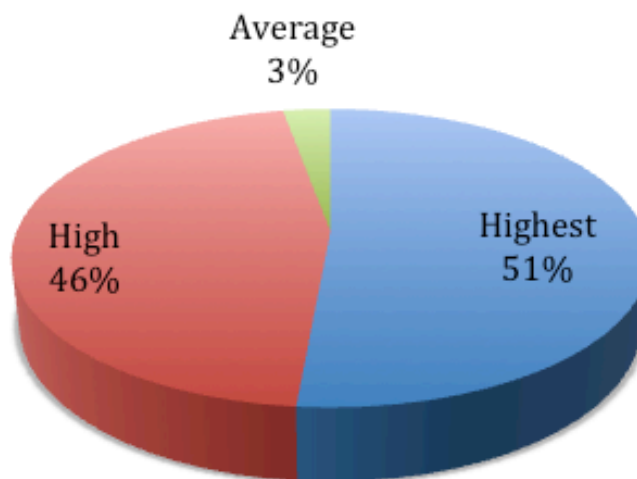


Do you know the name of your Senator



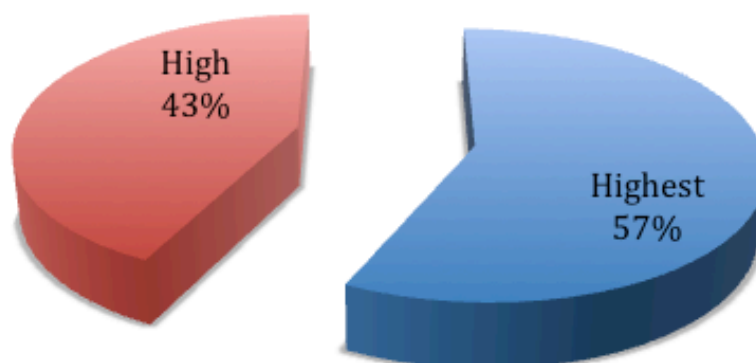
2. Evaluation to know the impact of the sessions on the interns – February 12, 2018
 - i. An Overview Of The National Assembly

Rate your understanding of the session on a scale of 1 to 6, with 6 being the highest and 1 being lowest



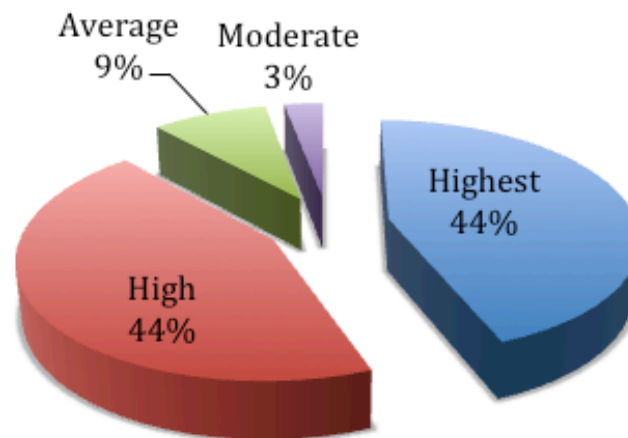
- ii. The Process Of Lawmaking

Rate your understanding of the session on a scale of 1 to 6, with 6 being the highest and 1 being the lowest



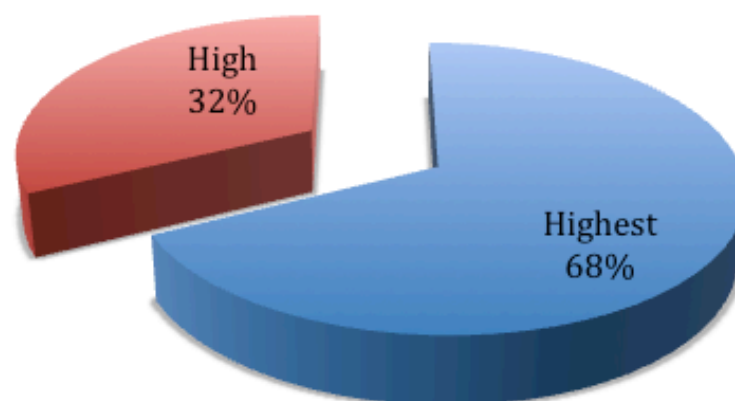
iii. Ethics And Civil Responsibility

Rate your understanding of the session on a scale of 1 to 6, with 1 being the lowest and 6 being the highest

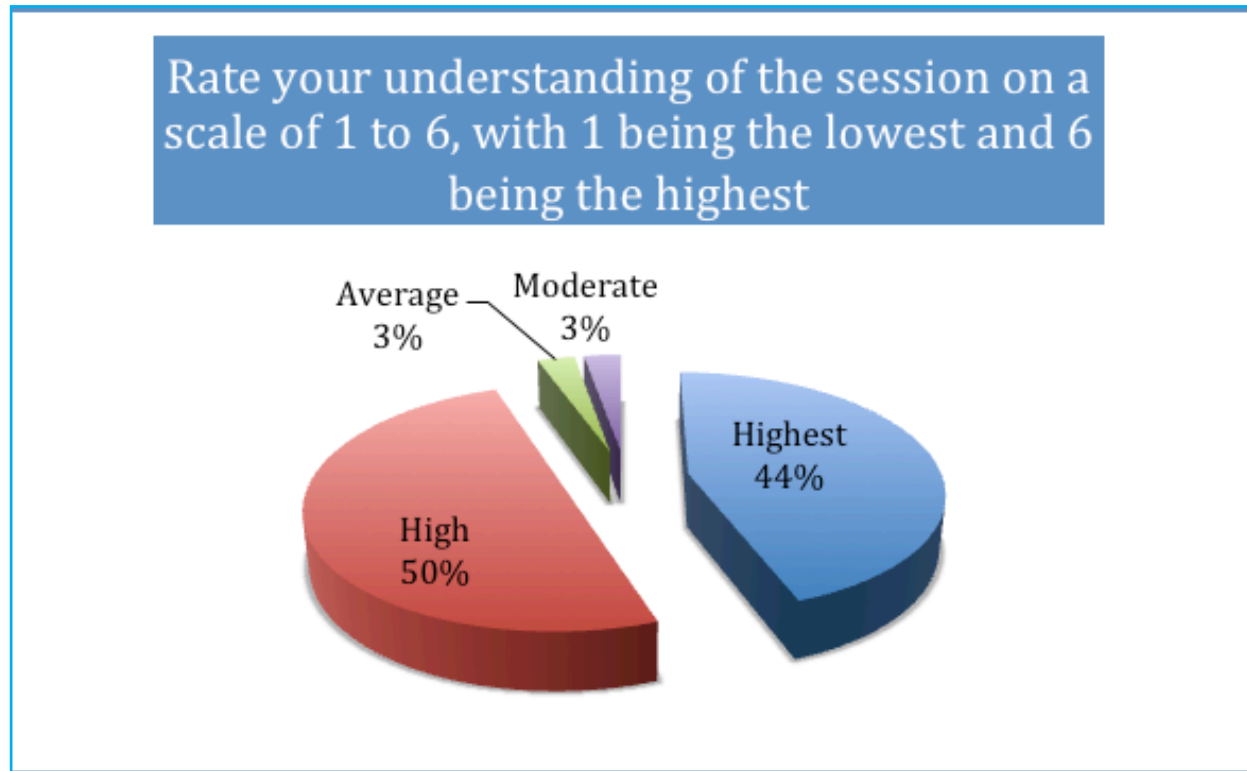


iv. Overall Rating Of The Program

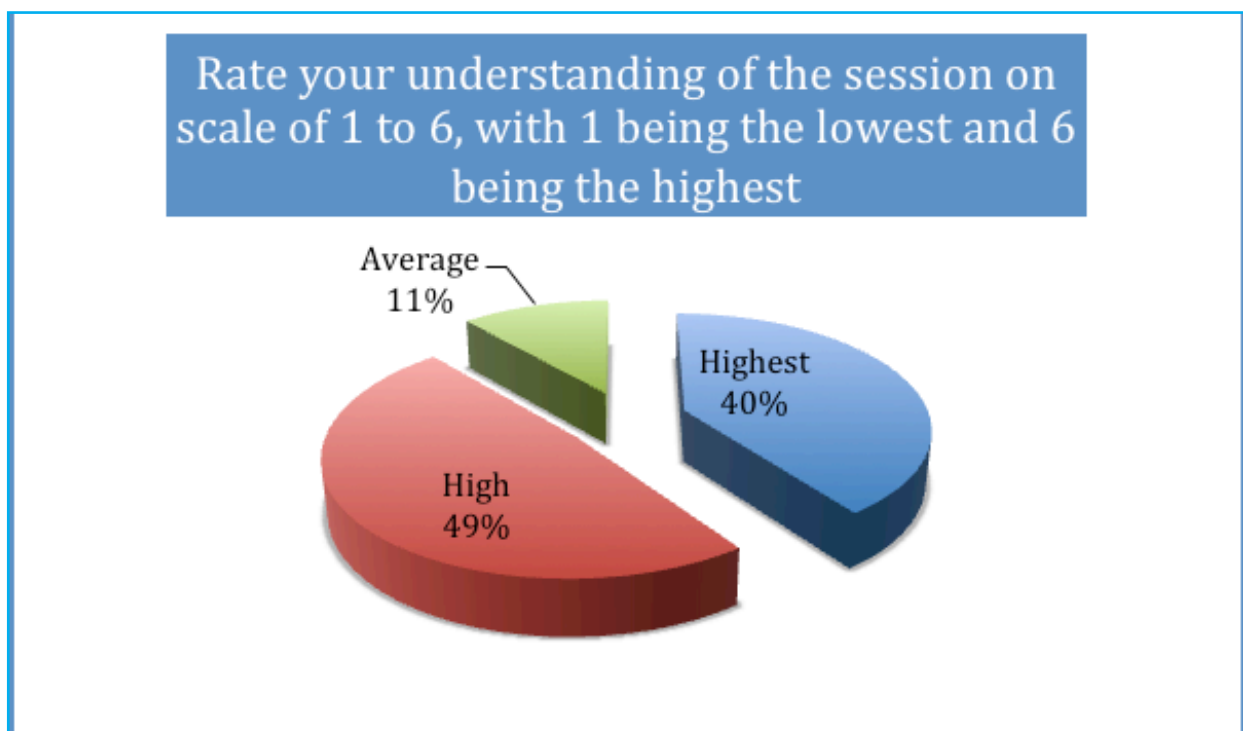
On a scale of 1 to 6, rate the program as a whole, with 6 being the highest and 1 being the lowest



3. Evaluation to learn the impact of the sessions on participants – February 13, 2018
 - i. Effects Of Population On National Development

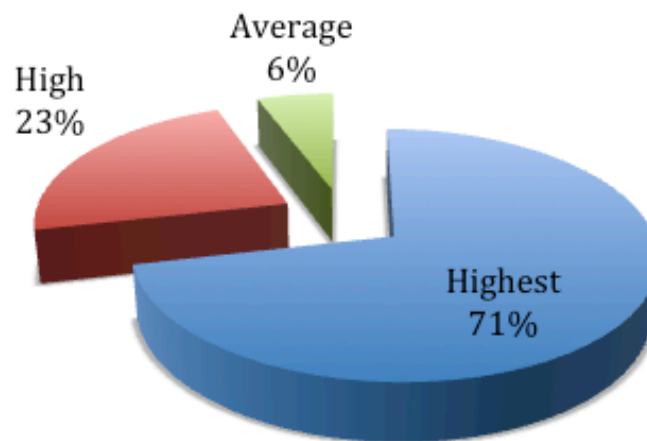


- li. Effective Writing Skills: Note Taking And Minutes Writing



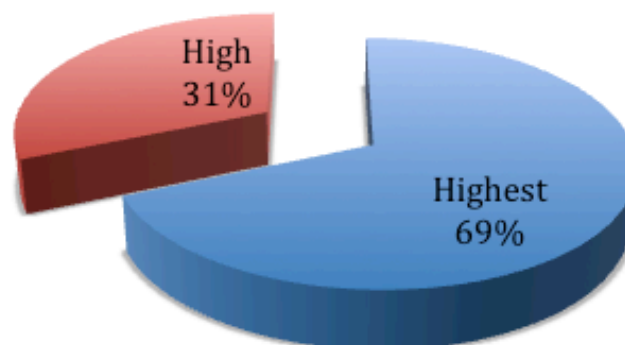
lii. Guide To Legislative Plenary Session

Rate your understanding of the session on a scale of 1 to 6, with 1 being the lowest and 6 being the highest



iv. Overall Evaluation Of The Program On The Second Day

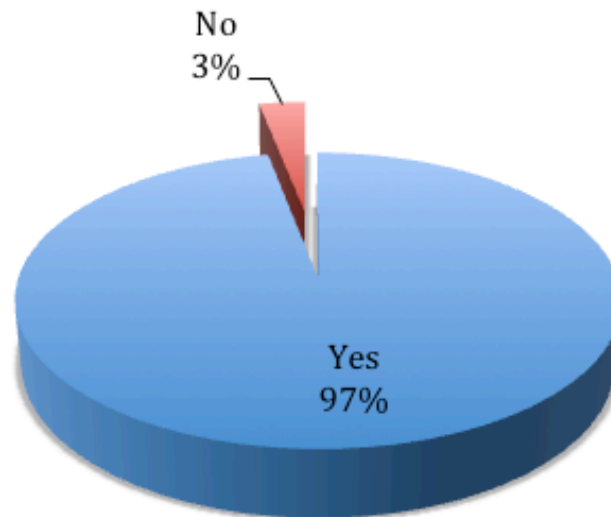
Rate the entire day's program on a scale of 1 to 6, with 6 being the highest and 1 being the lowest



FIRST BI-WEEKLY TRAINING

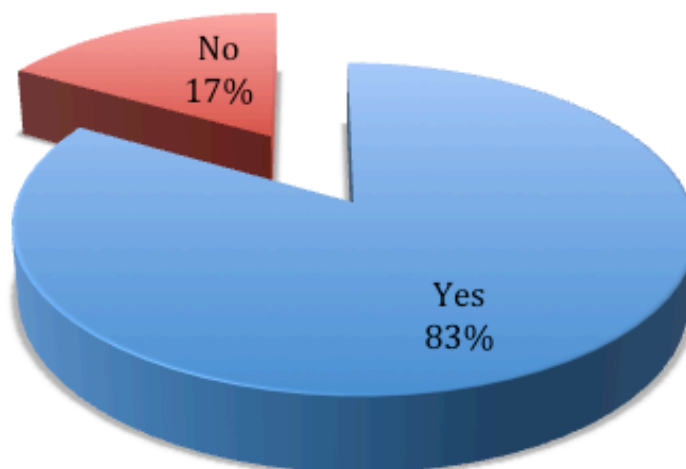
1)

Do you understand the GEO Bill better after this training?



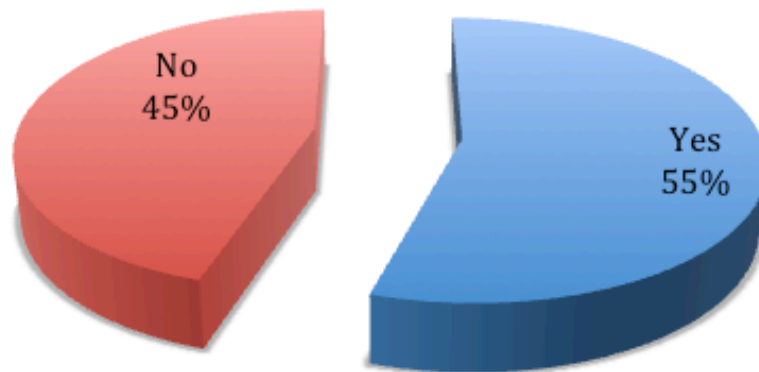
2)

Do you support the passage of the GEO Bill?



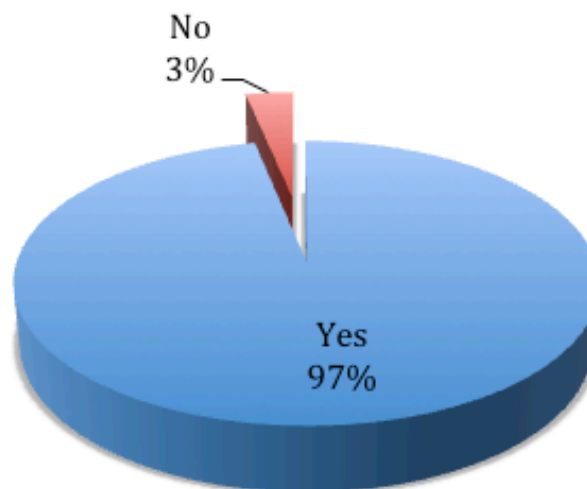
3)

**Should the President assent to the Electoral Act
(amend.) Bill?**



4)

Do you support the "Not-Too-Young-To-Run" Bill?



EVALUATION: COMMENTS BY THE INTERNS

Do You Support the Gender and Equal Opportunities Bill? Why?

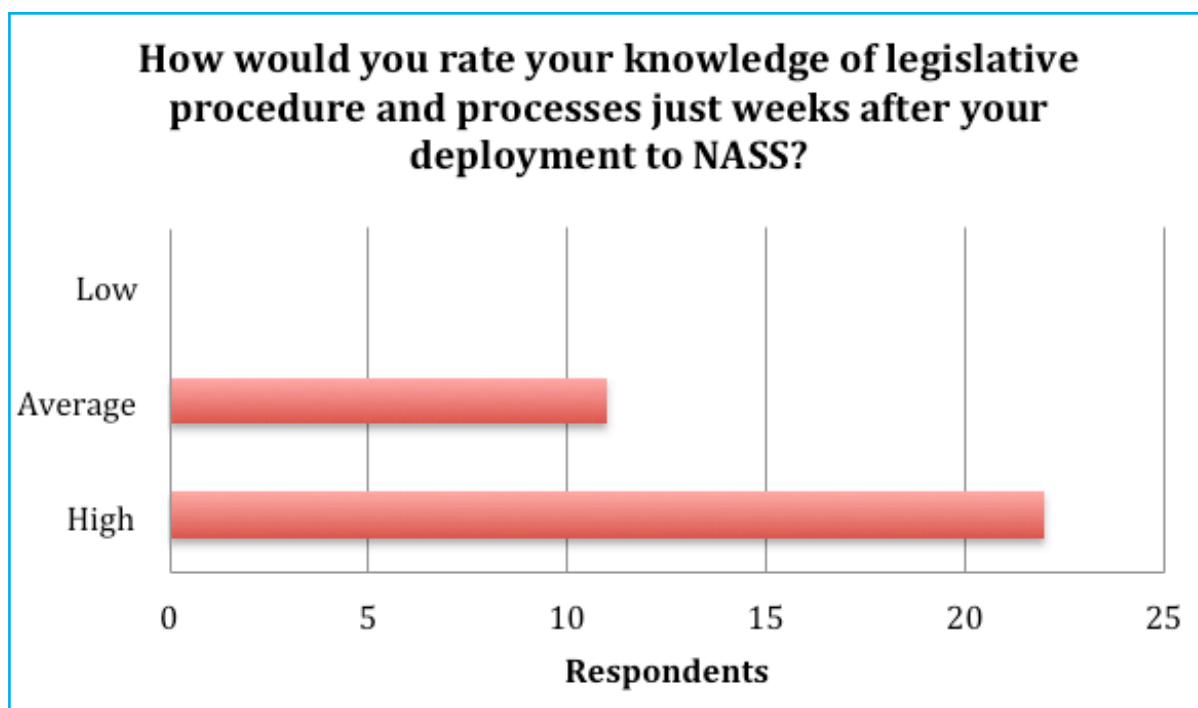
- 1) No, because the Bill generates the issue of gender. Instead the Bill should be specific on one issue, for e.g. gender equality on inheritance
- 2) Yes, it provides for the protection and validation of human and peoples' rights in Nigeria
- 3) Yes, because it will give women more opportunities to participate in governance
- 4) No, I think more work needs to be done on sensitization. We also need to know that this Bill is wide
- 5) Yes. This is because both male and female are citizens of the country, so equal rights should be given to both parties involved
- 6) From the information I have received so far, I lean towards the passage of the GEO Bill. However, a proper study of the Bill will help me take a more precise stance
- 7) Yes, because it addresses not only the issues about women alone but also the equal opportunities for both genders
- 8) No they need to narrow the Bill, we are not created equally
- 9) Yes, to give equal opportunities to persons to participate in different endeavors of life
- 10) Yes, it provides opportunity for women to participate fully in politics and help improve the Nigeria economy and nation building at large
- 11) Yes, I personally believe in equal opportunities for all. It is time Nigeria moved beyond cultural and religious beliefs to a mere civilized entity
- 12) Yes, women constitute a large number of the nations population. Its only fair that laws are favorable to them politically, culturally and in the work place
- 13) Yes, encourage gender equality irrespective of the gender
- 14) Yes, it is a good case

Should the President assent to the Electoral Act (amend.) Bill? Why?

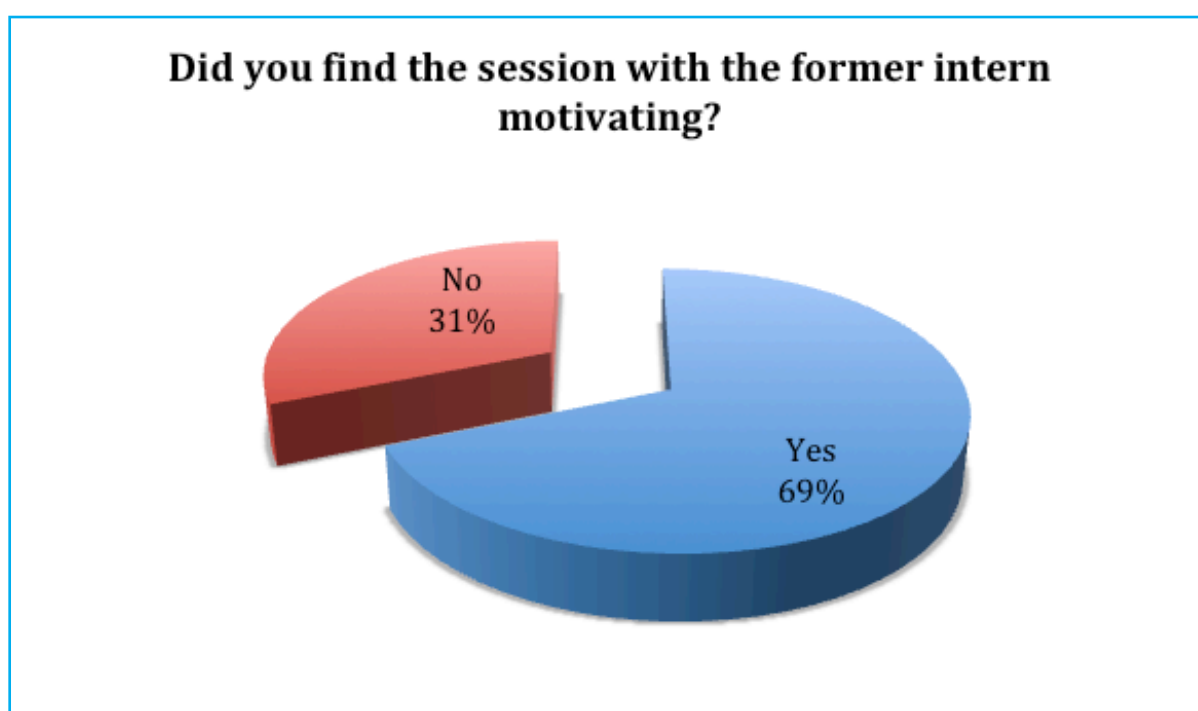
- 1) Yes, because it makes provisions for all the lapses in our electoral processes
- 2) Yes, it allows for electoral checks and balances
- 3) No, it needs to be revisited to alter some provisions that are not realistic
- 4) Yes, because it will help in the development and growth of the country as a whole
- 5) The prices of the forms for running for public offices should be reduced to the lowest level or better still should be eradicated to level zero
- 6) Yes, the Bill proposed to deal with some grey areas in the electoral process in Nigeria and it seeks to introduce a new level of accountability on the part of the candidates
- 7) Yes. The Bill proposes all corrections and other bothering issues concerning elections
- 8) Yes, because it will improve our electoral process
- 9) Yes, to enable and improve further free and fair elections
- 10) Yes, this will go a long way to cover the loopholes which most candidates in the past have exploited for their benefits
- 11) Most people vote using the "band wagon effect" during Senate/Presidential elections. It will save a lot of electoral/tribunal issues. It will state in clear terms how the next election will be run
- 12) Yes, to open up more space and allow more people who have been disenfranchised to run.

SECOND BI-WEEKLY TRAINING AND MID-TERM PROGRAMME FOR LEGISLATIVE INTERNS

1.

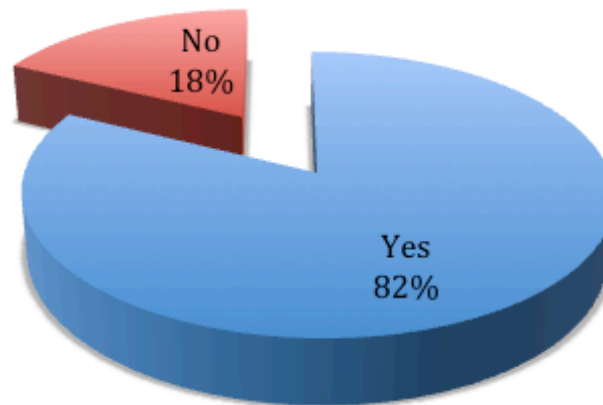


2.



3.

Would you consider running for office after the experience-sharing with the legislators?



Annex 6 - Picture Gallery





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C 1

A BILL
FOR
AN ACT TO ENHANCE GIRL CHILD BASIC EDUCATION, ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF
DISCRIMINATION AND VIOLENCE AGAINST THE GIRL CHILD IN NORTH WEST NIGERIA
AND OTHER RELATED MATTERS

Sponsored by Hon. Zainab Yahaya Tanko

Co-sponsors

Hon. Ibrahim Mohammed Musa

Hon. Niimatullah Bala Umar

[] Commencement

ENACTED by the PLAC Assembly of the Federal Republic of
Nigeria as follows:

1. Notwithstanding the provision of any other law or enactment in Nigeria, the best interest of a Girl Child should be of paramount consideration in all endeavors.

2. Upon the commencement of this Act, In every action concerning a girl child, whether undertaken by an individual, public or private body, institutions or service, court of law, or administrative or legislative authority, the best interest of the girl child shall be the primary consideration.

3. This Act, seeks to eliminate all forms of discrimination against the girl child

- (a) Eliminate negative cultural attitude and practices against girls.
- (b) Promote and protect the rights of the girl-child and increase awareness of her needs and potentials.
- (c) Eliminate discrimination against girl child in education, skill development and training.
- (d) Eliminate discrimination against girls in health and nutrition.
- (e) Eliminate the economic exploitation of the girl child and child labour.
- (f) Eradicate violence and exploitation and to protect girls affected by armed conflict.
- (g) Promote the girl-child's awareness of and participation in social, economic and political life.
- (h) Strengthen the role of the family in improving the status of the girl-child.

Objectives

4. (1) A girl child shall be given such protection and care as is necessary for the well-being of the girl child, taking into account the rights and duties of the parents, legal guardian, or other individuals, institutions, services, agencies, organisation or bodies legally responsible for the girl child.

Protection of the
Girl Child

(2) In giving effect to the provisions of this Act, every person, institution, service, agency, organisation and body responsible for the care or protection of girl-children shall conform with the appropriate authorities, particularly in the areas of safety, health, welfare, education, number and suitability of their staff and competent supervision.

5. (1) Every girl child shall have the right to free, compulsory and universal basic education and it shall be the duty of the North West geopolitical zones governors in Nigeria to protect such rights.

(2) Every parent or guardian shall ensure that the girl child or female ward attends and completes her:

(a) Primary school education; and

(b) Junior secondary education.

(3) Every parent, guardian or person who has the care and custody of a girl child who has completed her basic education, shall endeavor to send the girl child to senior secondary school, except as provided for in subsection (4) of this section.

(4) Where a girl child to whom subsection (3) of this section applies is not sent to senior secondary school, the child should be encouraged to learn an appropriate trade and the employer of the girl child shall provide the necessities for learning the trade.

(5) Where a girl child becomes pregnant, before completing her education she shall be given the opportunity, after delivery, to continue with her education, on the basis of her individual ability.

(6) Where a parent, guardian or person who has care and custody of a girl child, fails in the duty imposed on him under subsection (2) of this section, commits an offence, he/she will be liable:

(a) on first conviction to be reprimanded and ordered to undertake community service.

(b) on second conviction to a fine of twenty thousand naira or imprisonment for a term not exceeding one year or to both such fine and imprisonment; and

(c) on any subsequent conviction to a fine not exceeding fifty thousand naira or imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years or to both such fine and imprisonment.

(7) The provision of this section shall not apply to girl children with mental disabilities.

6. A girl child shall not be subject to any form of discrimination merely by reason of her belonging to a particular community or ethnic group or by reason of her place of origin, sex, religion or political bias.

7. Punishment for girl child marriage betrothal. A person:

(a) Who marries a girl-child; or

(b) To whom a girl-child is betrothed; or

(c) Who promotes the marriage of a girl-child; or

(d) Who betroths a girl child,

Commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine of N500, 000; or imprisonment for a term of fifteen years or to both such fine and imprisonment.

8. This Act shall be in force for a period of fifteen years after which it shall be reviewed by the National Assembly.

9. Any person who performs any act or does anything or refuses, fails and /or neglected to carry out his lawful duties with the intention to frustrate the implementation of this Act is said to have committed an offence; and upon conviction shall be liable to two

years imprisonment or fine of N500,000 (Five Hundred Thousand Naira) or both.

10. For the purpose of this Bill, a child is:

(a) Every human being below the age of eighteen years.

(b) A girl-child is any female human being below the age of eighteen years.

Interpretation

11. This bill may be cited as the Enhancement of Girl-Child Education in North West Nigeria (Establishment) Bill, 2018.

Citation

EXPLANATORY NOTES

This Bill seeks to eliminate discrimination against the girl-child and violation of the rights of the girl-child, which often result in less access for girls to education, nutrition and physical and mental health care and in girls enjoying fewer of the rights, opportunities and benefits of childhood and adolescence than boys and often being subjected to various forms of cultural, social, sexual and economic exploitation and to violence and harmful practices, such as female infanticide, rape, incest, early marriage, forced marriage, prenatal sex selection and female genital mutilation.

A BILL
FOR
AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF MODULAR REFINERIES IN THE SOUTH-SOUTH GEOPOLITICAL ZONE, NIGERIA.

Sponsors:

Hon Joseph Edose Uwadiale
Hon. Tubotein Boma Iboroma
Hon. Believe Ohioma
Hon. Felix Okiemute
Hon. Itsema Roheemat Oroh
Hon. Konaghai Okri Nelson
Hon. Mariam A. David-West
Hon. Rebecca Ebibulaimi Bareyei
Hon. Susan Odemwigie

ENACTED by the House of PLAC, Federal Republic of Nigeria as follows:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>1. The primary objectives of this Act shall be to:-</p> <p>(a) establish a framework for the creation of viable, sustainable, commercial oriented refineries; and to encourage large production and distribution of petroleum products.</p> <p>(b) promote local content development through the participation of Nigerians (stakeholders) especially the host communities in the ownership and day-to-day running of the refineries.</p> <p>(c) reduce the problem of oil bunkering and illegal refining in the Niger Delta (South-South) region through the engagement of unemployed youths during the various phases of the project from mobilization, construction, commissioning and operation.</p> <p>(d) halt the destruction of the eco-system (including flora and faunas) as a result of oil bunkering, illegal oil refining and the destruction of stolen crude and assets such as barges and boats by security agencies operating in the Niger Delta area.</p> <p>(e) reduce insecurity and foster a safe and conducive business environment in the Niger Delta region.</p> <p>(f) enhance Nigeria's capacity to meet the demand of its citizen's local consumption of refined petroleum products such as gasoline/petrol (PMS), Diesel (AGO), and kerosene/jet fuel (DPK).</p> <p>(h) Improve Nigeria's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) from the export and sale of refined petroleum products to other countries.</p> | <p>Objectives of the Act</p> |
| <p>2. This Act applies to the establishment and operation of modular refineries within the South- South geographical region of Nigeria.</p> | <p>Application and scope</p> |
| <p>3. (1) No person shall establish and operate a Modular Refinery in the region unless it's establishment is authorized by the State Government where it is located; PROVIDED:</p> <p>(a). license is obtained at the relevant Agency known by law enacted by the National and State House Assembly.</p> <p>(b). it comply with all regulatory, legal, social, health and environmental requirements as stipulated by relevant Federal and State agencies of government.</p> | <p>Licenses and Permits</p> |
| <p>4. (1) There shall be a Six Member-Committee (in this Bill referred to as "the Committee) to monitor and supervise the operations of the refineries established in the different location.</p> <p>(2) The members of the committees are;</p> | <p>Appointment and composition of Committee</p> |

- (a) Chairman;
- (b) Secretary; and
- (c) Four members.

(3) The members of the committee shall be representatives of their State.

(4) Subject to subsection (2) of this section, the appointment of chairman and secretary of the committee shall be rotational within the region.

5. (1) Any person or organization who intend to establish a Modular Refinery as prescribe by this Act must carry out a demography study in the Host Community where the project will be established.
 (2) The Demography study should take into consideration all stakeholders in the community by engaging women, men and youth leaders.
 (3) As a means of community social responsibility, any person or organization who intends to establish a Modular Refinery in the Region must carry out a community development project that reflects the desires of stakeholders after due consultations/engagements
 Social Considerations
6. (1) Any person or organization who intends to establish a Modular Refinery in the region must carry out the following Impact Assessment:
 (a) Health Impact Assessment study in the host and neighboring community where the project will be established PROVIDED;
 (i) the assessment should be led by a Certified Medical Consultant;
 (ii) the Health Assessment will put into consideration the prevailing health condition(s) in the community.
 (b) Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) study in the host community PROVIDED
 (i) the assessment is conducted by a Certified Environmental Consultant, taking into consideration the quality of soil, water, air, meteorological and also the type of vegetation (flora) and animals (fauna) in the host community before project establishment.
 (ii) the assessment will consider the risk of environmental pollution and its effect on the region.
 (2) If any deteriorating effect is observed during project establishment or operation, the project should be immediately stopped and the root cause of the deteriorating effect should be investigated and necessary mitigation measures employed to prevent any negative impacts on the environment.
 (3) Waste (toxic and non-toxic) generated in the project site should be properly managed adopting internationally best practices.
 Health and Environmental Safety
7. (1) Employment of semi-skilled and unskilled workforce during the construction phase of the project shall reflect a ratio of 50% from the host community, 20 % from other indigenes in the state where it is established and 30% percent from other indigenes in the Region and shall be done fairly, transparently and without discrimination.
 (2) Employment of skilled workforce during the construction and operation phase shall reflect a ratio of 40 % from host community, 20 % from other indigenes of the State where it is established, 25% from other region and 10 % from other part of Nigeria and shall be done fairly, transparently and without discrimination.
 (3) Recruitment into administrative and operational functions (roles) shall be based on merit and the prerequisite competences for such positions and shall be done without discrimination, fairly and transparently.
 (4) Professional, competence development and capacity building trainings should be conducted for workforce from time to time and evidences of such trainings presented to relevant Federal and State regulatory agencies of government.
 (5) Any person or organization that operates a Modular Refinery in the region must adhere to National and International labour laws for employment and staff welfare.
 Employment of workforce

<p>8. (1) A risk Assessment of different phases of the project during mobilization to site, construction, operation, decommissioning and abandonment should be performed by a risk assessment expert.</p> <p>(2) Any person or organization that intends to establish or operate a Modular Refinery in the region must put in place risk mitigation measures for any unforeseen risk(s) that may result during the construction or operational phase of the project; to ensure workers/employees safety.</p> <p>(3) The project should be sited away from residential areas at a distance specified by relevant Federal and State regulatory agencies of government.</p> <p>(4) Necessary emergency response and contingency plans must be in place during project construction, operational and decommissioning/ abandonment phase.</p> <p>(5) The project site should have a medical facility or be within the proximity of a medical center.</p> <p>(6) The project site should have a Designated First Aider (DFA) and a Fire Warden (FW) in the ration of 1 DFA: 1 FW: 20 staffs.</p> <p>(7) The project site should have an ambulance, a defibrillator, anti-venom, fire extinguisher and other emergency devices/ equipment.</p>	General Safety
<p>9. (1) Financing of Modular Refineries in the Region should be in the ratio:</p> <p>(a) Federal Ministry of Petroleum Resources (25%);</p> <p>(b) Federal Ministry of Niger Delta Affairs (25%);</p> <p>(c) State Government (35%); and</p> <p>(d) Local Government (15%).</p>	Project Financing
<p>10. Any person or organization that is authorized and granted license to establish or operate a Modular Refinery in the region must comply with provisions of other National Laws and Regulations concerning Refineries.</p>	Compliance (Regulatory and Legal)
<p>11. (1) Any person or organization who acts in breach of grant of license in section 10 of this Act, commits an offence and shall be liable upon conviction to:</p> <p>(a) a fine of not less than the initial fee of the licenses/permits;</p> <p>(b) a fine not exceeding ten times the initial fee for the licenses/permits;</p> <p>(c) forfeiture of all assets (moneys, lands, vehicles, facility, plant installations and equipment's) used for such venture to the Federal Government of Nigeria;</p> <p>(d) imprisonment for a term not less than six months; and</p> <p>(e) both fine, forfeiture and imprisonment as may be deemed fit by a competent law of justice.</p> <p>(2) Any person or organization who fails to abide by the requirement of Demographic study of section 5 of this Act shall be penalize and punished in the following ways:</p> <p>(a) revocation of licenses and permits.</p> <p>(b) a fine not exceeding ten times the initial fee for the licenses/permits.</p> <p>(c) both revocation of licenses/ permits and fine.</p> <p>(3) Any person or organization who endangered the Health and Environment of the region commits an offence and shall be liable upon conviction to:</p> <p>(a) a fine of #10,000,000,000; to be given to the Host and Neighboring community according to the extent of the damage;</p> <p>(b) in failure to pay the fine in paragraph (a) above, the committee shall forfeiture all assets (moneys, lands, vehicles, facility, plant installations and equipment's);</p> <p>(c) revocation of licenses and permits; and</p> <p>(d) both fine, forfeiture and imprisonment as may be deemed fit by a competent Court of Law.</p> <p>(4) Any security agencies that seizes materials (crude oil, vehicles, facility, plant installations and equipment's) used for illegal bunkering, refining or any such activities that will impact negatively on the environment, should not burn such seized items but rather hand them over to the relevant government agencies.</p>	Offence and Penalties
<p>12. The relevant provisions of all existing enactment or Laws shall be read with such modifications as to bring them into conformity with the provisions of this Act.</p>	
<p>13. In this Act unless the context indicates otherwise:</p>	Interpretation

“bunkering” means illegal exploration of oil and gas.
 “region” means the South-South zone in Nigeria.
 “Stakeholders” means recommended Men, Women and Youth in the community.
 “South-south” means the 6 geographical states carved politically from Niger Delta, that is, Akwa Ibom, Bayelsa, Cross Rivers, Edo, Delta and Rivers state.
 “the committee” means committee in charge of the supervision and promotion of the establishment of the modular refineries in the South-South Geographical Zones.

14. This Act may be cited as the Modular Refineries (Establishment) Bill, 2018.

Short Title

SCHEDULE

Schedules

Membership of the Committee.

1. The Members of the Committee shall possess the following qualification:
 - (a) must be an indigene of the representing state;
 - (b) must be nominated and elected by the majority of the indigenes of the state;
 - (c) must be someone who has made an impact in the state.

PB. 141

A BILL

Commencement

FOR

AN ACT TO ESTABLISH A DRY INLAND PORT FOR SOUTH EAST NIGERIA IN ABA, ABIA STATE OF NIGERIA TO ENHANCE THE TRANSPORTATION OF GOODS, COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES AND OTHER RELATED MATTERS.*SPONSORS:*

Hon. Amarachi Onyeabo
Hon. Daniel Nwagboso
Hon. Jane Adindu
Hon. Ethel Chinaza Joseph
Hon. Cynthia Chinenye Nzewigbo

BE IT ENACTED BY THE House of PLAC of the Federal Republic of Nigeria as follows:

*PART I**Establishment and Constitution of the Authority*

1. (1) As soon as may be, after the commencement of this Act, there shall be established, to be known as the Inland Dry Port Authority (in this Act referred to as "the Authority").

Establishment and
Incorporation of the
Inland Dry Port
Authority

(2) The Authority shall be a body corporate, with perpetual succession and a common seal and shall have power to sue and be sued in its corporate name and to acquire, hold and dispose of movable and immovable property for the purpose of its functions under this Act.

2. (1) There is hereby established for the Authority, a governing Board which shall consist of-

Establishment and
Membership of the
Governing Board

(a) a chairman;

(b) one person to represent the Federal Ministry of Transport;

(c) five persons with experience in shipping and commercial matters;

(d) the managing director of the Authority; and

(e) the executive directors of the Authority.

(2) The chairman and members of the Board, other than *ex-officio* members, shall-

(a) be appointed by the President on the recommendation of the

Minister; and

(b) be persons with proven integrity and with relevant cognitive experience.

(3) The Board shall have a secretary, who shall be the head of the legal department of the Authority.

(4) The supplementary provisions set out in the First Schedule to this Act, shall have effect with respect to the proceedings of the Board and the other matters contained therein.

3. The chairman and other members of the Board, other than *ex-officio* members--

Tenure of Office, etc

(a) shall hold office for a period of four years on such terms and conditions as may

be specified in their letters of appointment; and

(b) may be reappointed for one further period of four years.

4. (1) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 3 of this Act, a member may at any time be removed from office by the President, for inability to discharge the functions of his office (whether arising from infirmity of mind or body or any other cause) or for misconduct.

Removal from office, etc

(2) A member of the Board may resign his appointment by a notice in writing under his hand addressed to the President and that member shall, on the date of the receipt of the notice by the President, cease to be a member of the Board.

5. A member of the Board shall be paid such emoluments, allowances and benefits as the President may, from time to time, approve.

Emoluments, etc

6. (1) A member of the Board who is directly or indirectly interested in any matter being deliberated on by the Board or is interested in any contract made or proposed to be made by the Authority shall, as soon as possible after the relevant facts have come to his knowledge, disclose the nature of his interest at a meeting of the Board.

Disclosure of interest

(2) A disclosure under subsection (1) of this section shall be recorded in the minutes of meetings of the Board and the member shall-

(a) not, after the disclosure, take part in any deliberation or decision of the Board; and

(b) be excluded for the purpose of constituting a quorum of any meeting of the Board for any deliberation or decision, with regard to the subject matter of which his interest is so disclosed.

PART II

Functions and powers

7. The functions of the Authority shall be to

Functions of the
Authority

(a) provide and operate, in the port, such facilities as appear to it

best calculated to serve the interest of Nigeria;

(b) maintain, improve and regulate the use of the port;

(c) ensure the efficient management of port operations, optimal allocation and use of resources, diversification of sources of revenue and guaranteeing adequate returns on its investments, in order to contribute effectively to the wellbeing of the Nigerian society;

(d) provide, for the approaches to the port, such pilotage services and lights, marks and other navigational services and aids;

(e) provide facilities for-

(i) towing, moving or parking of vehicles, in entering or leaving the port or its approaches;

(ii) the loading and unloading of goods or embarking or disembarking of passengers in or from a vehicle;

(iii) the lighterage or the sorting, weighing, warehousing and handling of goods; and

(iv) for the carriage of passengers or goods;

(f) manage, supervise and control or take part in the management, supervision or control of any company or undertaking in which the Authority is interested, by reason of shareholding or otherwise and for that purpose appoint and remunerate directors, accountants, other experts and agents;

(g) provide and use appliances for the towage or protection, or salvage of life and property or for the prevention of fire within the port and on vehicles used for freight;

(h) control pollution arising from oil or any other substance from vehicles using the port limits or their approaches;

(j) provide and operate such other services as the Minister may, from time to time, require; and

(k) carry out such other activities which are connected with or incidental to its other functions under this Act.

8. The Authority shall have power to-

Powers of the Authority

(a) Construct, execute, carry out, equip, improve, work and develop ports;

(b) Invest and deal with the monies of the Authority not immediately required on such securities or in such investments and manner as may, from time to time, be expedient;

(c) erect, construct, lay down, enlarge, maintain and alter any building, erection and work which may seem directly or indirectly necessary or convenient for any of its purposes;

(d) act as consultants and advisers in relation to ports and port operations in

Nigeria or in any part of the world;

(e) carry on the business of carrier by land or rail, ware- houseman or any other business desirable for the functions of the Authority;

(f) acquire any undertaking of any registered business that affords facilities for the loading, unloading or warehousing of any goods in any port in Nigeria;

(g) appoint, license and manage drivers of vehicles;

(h) insure all goods and consignments that are in the custody of the Authority;

(i) control the erection and use of warehouses in any port or its approaches;

(j) buy any property, and sell, let, lease or otherwise dispose of any property, which appears to the Authority to be unnecessary for its purposes;

(k) enter into agreement with any person for the supply, construction, manufacture, maintenance or repair by that person of any property, movable or immovable, necessary for the purposes of the Authority;

(l) enter into agreement with any person for the operation or the provision of any of the port facilities which may be operated or provided by the Authority;

(m) provide, appoint, license and regulate weighers and meters for measuring goods in any port in Nigeria;

(n) reclaim, excavate, enclose, raise or develop any of the lands acquired by or vested in the Authority;

(o) win sand from the ports and their approaches for such purposes as it may deem fit;

(p) do anything for the purpose of advancing-

(i) the skills of persons employed by the Authority; or

(ii) the efficiency of the equipment of the Authority or of the manner in which that equipment is operated, including the provision by others of the facilities for training, education and research;

(q) provide residential accommodation, houses, hostels and other like accommodation for its deserving employees on terms and conditions to be determined, from time to time, by the Authority, in order to promote the welfare of its employees;

(r) purchase, take on lease or in exchange or otherwise acquire, hold, manage, work, develop the resources of and turn to account any estate, land, building, tenement, and other real property of any description, including leasehold or other tenure and wheresoever situate and any interest therein and any right connected therewith, and in particular, to acquire or take over estates situated, in Nigeria;

(s) grant loans to its deserving and needy employees for the purposes specifically approved by the Authority on such terms and conditions to be determined by the Authority at its discretion and in such a manner as is likely to increase the effectiveness of such employees in their service to the

Authority, or otherwise for the purpose of the functions of the Authority;

(*t*) provide loans to any of its employees for the purpose of –

(i) building a house; (ii) purchasing a plot of land on which to build a house; and (iii) purchasing a house for the employee's use or for the residential use of the employee's family, on such terms and conditions to be determined by the Authority, at its discretion;

(*u*) purchase or otherwise acquire, take on lease, construct, maintain, work and use any warehouses, buildings, yards and every kind of property, structure, appliance and anything necessary for equipping, salvaging and assisting vehicles;

(*v*) form, establish or incorporate subsidiaries or affiliate companies, whether wholly or jointly, with other persons or organisations for the purpose of carrying out any of the functions of the Authority; and

(*w*) do such other things as are necessary for the successful performance of its functions under this Act.

9. The Authority may perform or exercise any of its functions or powers under this Act, other than the power to make regulations, through an officer or agent of the Authority or through any other person authorised by the Authority in that behalf.

Power to act through officer or agent, etc

PART III

Staff

10. (1) There shall be, for the Authority, a managing director to be appointed by the President.

Managing director and executive directors of the Authority

(2) The managing director-

(*a*) shall hold office for a period of five years, on such terms and conditions, as may be specified in his letter of appointment; and

(*b*) may be reappointed for a further period of five years.

(3) The managing director shall be the chief executive of the Authority and be responsible-

(*a*) for the execution of the policy and the day-to-day administration of the Authority;

(*b*) for the direction, supervision and control of all other employees of the Authority and, subject to such restrictions as the Board may impose, for disposing of all questions relating to the service of the employees, their pay, allowances and privileges;

(*c*) for matters concerning the accounts and records of the Authority.

(4) The President shall appoint for the Authority, three executive directors to assist the managing director in the performance of his functions under this Act.

(5) An executive director-

(*a*) shall hold office for a period of four years, on such terms and conditions as

may be specified in his letter of appointment;

(b) may be reappointed for a further period of three years; and

(c) perform such functions as may, from time to time, be assigned to him by the managing director and the Board.

11. (1) The Authority shall appoint such other persons as employees as it may deem necessary for the efficient performance of its functions under or pursuant to this Act and shall have power to pay persons so employed such remuneration (including allowances), as the Authority may, from time to time, determine.

Other staff of the Authority, etc.

(2) The Authority may, with the approval of the Minister, make regulations generally relating to the conditions of service of employees of the Authority, and in particular, but without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing, may make regulations relating to-

(a) the appointment, dismissal, discipline, pay and leave of, and the security to be given by, the employees;

(b) appeals by the employees against dismissal or other disciplinary measures;

(c) the grant of pensions, gratuities and other retiring allowances to the employees and their dependants, and the grant of gratuities to the estates or dependants of deceased employees of the Authority;

(d) the establishment and maintenance of medical benefit funds, superannuation funds and provident funds, and the contributions payable to and the benefits receivable from those funds.

12. (1) Service in the Authority shall be approved service for the purpose of the Pensions Act, and accordingly, an officer and other persons employed in the Authority shall in respect of their service in the Authority be entitled to pensions, gratuities and other retirement benefits as are prescribed under that Act.

Service in the Authority to be pensionable

[Cap. P4.]

(2) Nothing in this section shall prevent the appointment of a person to any office, on terms, which preclude the grant of a pension and gratuity in respect of that office.

(3) For the purposes of the application of the Pensions Act, any power exercisable under the Act by the Minister or other authority of the Federal Government (not being the power to make regulations under section 23 thereof) is hereby vested in the Board and shall be exercisable by the Authority and not by any other person or authority.

(4) Subject to subsection (2) of this section, the Pensions Act shall in its application by virtue of this section to any office, have effect as if the office were in the civil service of the Federation within the meaning of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria 1999.

PART IV

Financial provisions

13. The Authority shall maintain a fund which shall consist of-

Fund of the Authority

- (a) all sums collected as charges, levies and fees under this Act;
- (b) all other sums collected or received by the Authority for services rendered by the Authority;
- (c) all monies borrowed and capital raised by the Authority under this Act or any other enactment;
- (d) such other sums as may be received by the Authority from other sources;
- (e) all other assets which may, from time to time, be vested in or accrue to the course of discharging its functions under or pursuant to this Act.

14. (1) Without prejudice to the power of the Authority to set aside from its revenue appropriate amounts for replacement, contingencies and other purposes, the Authority shall establish and maintain a general reserve fund and such other reserve funds as the Minister may, from time to time, approve.

Reserve funds

(2) The management of the reserve funds, the amount to be credited to and charges to be made against the reserve funds and any other application of the monies comprised in the reserve funds, shall be as the Authority may, with the approval of the Minister, determine.

15. Any excess of the Authority's revenues for any year over its outgoings and charges for that year, shall be applied for such purposes as the Authority may determine, but no part of the excess shall be applied otherwise than for the purposes of the Authority.

Power to borrow money temporarily

16. (1) The Authority may, with the approval of the Minister, borrow money or raise capital, otherwise than from the Government, by the issue, in such form as may be approved, of stock, bonds, promissory notes, loan certificates or other documents of title, for all or any of the following purposes, that is-

Application of surplus revenue

- (a) the performance of its functions under this Act;
 - (b) the provision of its working capital;
 - (c) the redemption or repayment of any capital raised or money borrowed, which the Authority is required or entitled to redeem or repay; and
 - (d) the provision of money for meeting any expenditure which is properly chargeable to capital account.
- (2) For the purposes of payment of interest, repayment or redemption, monies borrowed or capital raised under this section, shall rank equally with all other monies borrowed or capital raised under this section.
- (3) The payment of interest on and the repayment or redemption of any money borrowed or capital raised under this Act, shall have priority over the payment of interest on any money borrowed or capital raised from the Government

Power to borrow money and raise capital from non-Government sources

under section 17 of this Act.

(4) Money borrowed by the Government for the exclusive purpose of re-lending to the Authority and, accordingly, re-lent to the Authority, shall be deemed to be money borrowed otherwise than from the Government and, shall, accordingly, be deemed to be money borrowed or capital raised under this section.

(5) Money owed by the Authority under an arrangement by which the money is allowed to remain unpaid for a period greater than one year, shall be deemed to be money borrowed under this section.

17. The Authority may borrow money, other than money borrowed by the Government for the exclusive purpose mentioned in section 16 (4) of this Act, or raise capital from the Government in such manner and on such terms and conditions as the Minister may approve for all or any of the purposes mentioned in section 16 (1) of this Act.

Power to borrow money from Government sources, etc.

18. (1) The Authority may, with the approval of or general authority given by the Minister, borrow temporarily, by way of loan, overdraft or otherwise, such sums, repayable on demand or within one year after the date of borrowing, as the Authority may require for meeting its obligations and discharging its functions under this Act.

(2) The sums specified under subsection (1) of this section, may be borrowed from the Government or from any other person on such terms and conditions as may be approved by the Minister.

19. The Authority may invest all or any part of its monies in such manner as may be approved by the Minister.

Investment of monies

20. (1) The Board shall cause to be prepared, not later than 30 September in each year, an estimate of the expenditure and income of the Authority during the next succeeding year and when prepared, they shall be submitted through the Minister to the President for approval.

Annual estimates, accounts and audit

(2) The Board shall cause to be kept proper accounts of the Authority and proper records, in relation thereto and when certified by the Board, the accounts shall be audited by auditors appointed by the Authority from the list and in accordance with the guidelines supplied by the Auditor-General for the Federation.

21. (1) The Authority shall, not later than six months after the end of each year, submit to the Minister a report on the activities of the Authority during that year.

Annual report and periodical returns

(2) The report shall be prepared in such form, contain such particulars and compiled in such manner, as the Minister may, after consultation with the Authority, from time to time, direct.

22. (1) The Authority shall be exempted from the payment of income tax on any income accruing from investments made by the Authority or otherwise howsoever.

Exemption from tax

(2) The provisions of any enactment relating to the taxation of companies or trust funds shall not apply to the Authority.

23. (1) The Authority may accept gifts of land, money or other property on such terms and conditions, if any, as may be specified by the person or

Power to accept gifts

organisation making the gift.

(2) The Authority shall not accept any gift if the conditions attached by the person or organisation making the gift are inconsistent with the functions of the Authority under this Act.

PART V

Provisions relating to land

24. (1) When there is any hindrance to the acquisition by the Authority of any land or building required for carrying into effect any of the provisions of this Act, the President may -

Compulsory acquisition
of land

(a) on the application of the Authority and after such inquiry as he may think fit, declare that the land or building is required for the services of the Authority; and

(b) direct that action be taken under the provisions of the Land Use Act for acquiring the land or building for the Federal Government or, as the case may

require, for revoking any rights thereto, and for determining the compensation to be paid to the parties interested.

[Cap. L5.]

(2) On the making of a declaration under subsection (1) of this section, the land to which it relates shall be deemed to be land required for a public purpose within the meaning of the Land Use Act.

[Cap. L5.]

(3) When a land or building has been acquired or the rights to it has been revoked, as provided in this section, the President may -

(a) vest the land or building in the Authority by means of a certificate under the hand and seal of the Chief Federal Lands Officer, to the effect that the land or building has been made over to the Authority; or

(b) as the case may require, direct that a right of occupancy in respect of the land or building be granted to the Authority.

(4) The compensation, if any, for an acquisition or a revocation, as the case may be, under this section, shall in the first instance be paid by the Federal Government, but the Authority shall refund to the Federal Government any compensation so paid and all incidental expenses incurred by the Federal Government.

(5) All authorities within Nigeria shall give effect to any direction given by the President in accordance with the provisions of this section.

(6) The Authority may use the land or building acquired under this section for any purpose connected with its functions under this Act.

25. (1) The Authority shall not, without the approval in writing of the President, alienate, mortgage, charge or lease any immovable property, which has been vested in the Authority or in respect of which a right of occupancy

Restrictions on alienation
of land

has been granted to the Authority.

(2) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (1) of this section, the Authority may alienate, charge or mortgage any immovable property for a period not exceeding five years and may terminate, revoke or release any mortgage of, charge on or lease of any immovable property vested in it.

PART VI

Declaration of ports

26. (1) The Minister may, by order-

(a) declare any place in Nigeria and any navigable channel leading into that place, to be a port within the meaning of this Act;

Power to declare places,
etc., as ports, their limits
and approaches

(b) specify the limits of any place declared, as a port in accordance with paragraph (a) of this subsection;

(c) declare any navigable channel leading into a port to be an approach to that port, within the meaning of this Act.

(2) The places specified in the Second Schedule to this Act, shall be deemed to be ports, and the limits of those ports shall, until other provision is made in accordance with paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of this section, be the limits declared and in force immediately before the commencement of this Act, including-

PART VII

Regulation of ports

27. The Authority may appoint a port master in respect of a port.

Power to appoint port
master

28. (1) The Authority may, with the approval of the Minister, make regulations for the maintenance, control and management of any port and for the maintenance of good order therein, and, in particular and without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing power, may make regulations for all or any of the following purposes, that is-

Power of Authority to
make port regulations

(a) regulating traffic within the limits of a port or the approach to a port;

(b) regulating the parking and stations to be occupied by vehicles and the removal of vehicles from one parking lot, or station to another parking lot or station and the time within which the removal shall be effected;

(c) regulating vehicles whilst taking in or discharging or cargo;

(d) keeping free passages of such width as is deemed necessary within any port and along or near to the landing places and other similar works in or adjoining the port and for marking out the spaces to be kept free;

(e) regulating traffic, preventing obstruction, keeping order and ensuring the safety of the port and any cargo in it;

(f) regulating the use of fires and lights and the signals to be used and

measures to be taken, by day and by night, in case of fire in a port;

(g) enforcing and regulating the use of navigating lights or signals and of signal lights by vehicles;

(h) regulating the manner in which vehicles arriving a port, shall be boarded by the port master, and the information to be supplied to him by the driver of the vehicle;

(i) prohibiting chipping, scaling or noisy repairs on vehicles, except at such places and at such times as may be prescribed or as the harbour master may appoint;

(j) regulating, whether by way of prohibition or otherwise, the disposal of refuse or other objects in any port or in the approach to any port and the casting or depositing of any dead body, ballast, rubbish, or other thing into any port or in the approach to any port, in contravention of this Act and for the redemption on payment of expenses and a penalty, within a time limit to be fixed, of anything forfeited;

(k) providing for the forfeiture of anything found in any port or in the approach to any port in contravention of this Act;

(l) prescribing the duties of drivers of vehicles carrying gunpowder or other explosive or dangerous cargo, and of persons engaged in or supervising the shipping, unshipping, landing and transporting of the cargo;

(m) regulating and licensing weighing and metering of goods; and

(n) regulating and licensing porters and carriers and other labourers employed in the working of port facilities.

(2) For the breach of any regulation made under subsection (1) of this section, the Authority may prescribe, as a penalty, a fine not exceeding N5,000 and, in the case of a continuous breach, a further fine not exceeding N500 a day for every day after the first day during which the breach continues, or a term of imprisonment not exceeding twelve months or both such fine and imprisonment.

PART VIII

29. (1) Where any part of the premises vested in or in the possession of the Authority is appointed a customs area for the purposes of the Customs and Excise Management Act, the Authority shall-

Authority to set apart
customs area

(a) set apart and maintain that area; and

(b) provide office accommodation in that area in such manner as the Nigerian Customs Service may require for the use of persons entitled to collect duties of customs.

(2) The cost of setting apart and maintaining a customs area and of providing office accommodation in the customs area under subsection (1) of this section, shall be borne by the Nigerian Customs Service.

30. (1) The Authority may make bye-laws for the control and management of the premises vested in or in the possession of the Authority and the maintenance of good order in the premises and, in particular may, without

Power of the Authority to

prejudice to the generality of the foregoing power, make bye-laws for all or any of the following purposes-

make bye-laws for control, etc., of the port

(a) regulating, declaring and defining the places vested in or in the possession of the Authority on and from which goods shall be landed and shipped;

(b) regulating the manner in which and the conditions under which the loading and discharging of vehicles shall be carried out;

(c) regulating the use of any shed, warehouse and railway vested in or in the possession of the Authority;

(d) the exclusion and removal from the premises of the Authority of idle and disorderly or other undesirable persons and trespassers;

(e) regulating the conduct of persons employed in the port and premises vested in or in the possession of the Authority;

(f) setting up pollution control guidelines and monitoring oil spillage, dumping of waste and garbage by vehicles arriving at the port.

(2) For the breach of any regulation made under subsection (1) of this section, the Authority may prescribe, as a penalty, a fine not exceeding N5,000 and, where the breach is a continuous breach, a further fine not exceeding N500 for every day after the first day during which the breach continues or imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months or both such fine and imprisonment.

(3) The Authority shall keep at its office in each port, a copy of the bye-laws made under this section which are for the time being in force and shall allow any person to inspect it, without the payment of a fee, at all reasonable times.

PART IX

Dues and rates

31. (1) Subject to this Part of this Act, the Authority shall levy such port dues and rates on every ship-

Port dues and rates

(a) entering or leaving a port or the approach to a port in respect of the passengers, animals or cargo carried on the ship;

(b) arrested at any place within the port, as the Authority may, by regulations made under section 30 of this Act, prescribe.

(2) The Authority may charge such dues as it deems fit in respect of every movement of a vehicle within a navigation district.

32. (1) Subject to this Part of this Act, the Authority shall levy such port dues and rates on every vehicle-

(a) entering or leaving a port or the approach to a port in respect of the passengers, animals or cargo carried on the vehicle;

(b) arrested at any place within the port, as the Authority may, by regulations made under section 28 of this Act,

(1) The driver of a vehicle arriving in a port shall produce or supply to the Authority-

(2) The particulars required by subsection (1) of this section shall be produced or supplied in such form and within such time as may be prescribed.

33. (1) The driver of a vehicle shall, when applying for the clearance of his vehicle outwards from a port, produce or supply to the Authority-

Driver to supply
information on arrival

(a) a list of all outward passengers and animals;

(b) the best account in writing, in his power, of the kinds, quantities and weights of all cargo shipped on board in the port;

(c) such other information in relation to the ship, passengers, animals or cargo thereof as may be prescribed.

(2) The particulars required to be produced or supplied under subsection (1) of this section shall be delivered to such officer of the Authority and in such form as may be prescribed.

Driver to supply
information on
proceeding outwards

34. Port dues and rates payable in respect of-

(a) passengers, animals and cargo inwards, shall be paid at the time of the report of the vehicle inwards;

(b) passengers, animals and cargo outwards, shall be paid before loading commences; and

(c) any vehicle under arrest within a port, shall be paid before the vehicle departs the port.

35. The following persons shall be liable for the payment of port dues and rates-

Time of payment of port
dues

(a) the driver or owner of the vehicles;

(b) in the case of port dues or rates payable in respect of passengers, animals or cargo inwards, every consignor or agent of the vehicle who has paid or made him- self liable to pay any charge on account of the vehicle in its port of arrival or discharge;

(c) in the case of PORT dues or rates payable in respect of passengers, animals and cargo outwards, every consignee or agent of the vehicle who has paid or made himself liable to pay any charge on account of the vehicle in its port of departure;

(d) in the case of port dues or rates payable in respect of any vehicle under arrest, every consignee, agent or any other person causing the arrest of the vehicle.

36. When port dues or rates are paid by a person who, not being the owner or master of the vehicles, is made liable by paragraph (b) or paragraph (c) of section 34 of this Act, that person may retain, out of any money in his hands received on account of the vehicle or its owner-

Consignee or agent may
retain port dues out of
owner's monies

(a) the amount of the port dues or rates paid by him; and

(b) any reasonable expenses he may have incurred by reason of that payment or liability.

37. (1) The Authority shall have a lien on any goods for the amount of all rates leviable under this Act in respect of those goods, and shall be entitled to seize and detain them until the rates are fully paid.

Authority to have lien on goods

(2) Rates shall become payable, in the case of goods-

(a) to be landed, immediately on the landing of the goods;

(b) to be removed from the premises of the Authority or to be shipped, before the goods are removed or shipped.

(3) The lien for rates shall have priority over all other liens and claims, except claims for money payable to the Government of the Federation or of a State.

37. (1) If the master or owner of a ship, or his agent, or the person by whom the goods are landed, at or before the time of landing from the ship of any goods at any wharf or other premises of the Authority, gives notice in writing that those goods are to remain subject to a lien for freight, primage or general average or charges to an amount to be mentioned in the notice, the goods shall continue to be liable to the same lien, if any, for the charges as they were subject to before the landing of the goods.

Lien for freight preserved after landing if notice given

(2) The Authority shall retain the goods at the risk and expense of the owner of the goods until the lien is discharged as mentioned in section 38 of this Act, or until the Authority is entitled under the provisions of this Part of this Act to sell the goods.

38. The Authority may permit goods liable to a lien to be removed without regard to the lien, on production to the Authority of a document purporting to be-

Power of Authority to sell if rates not paid or lien not discharged

(a) a receipt for the amount claimed as due; or

(b) a release for the amount of any lien to which goods are liable under section 37 of this Act, from the person by or on whose behalf a notice has been given under that section, if it is satisfied as to the authenticity of the document.

39. (1) If the rates payable to the Authority in respect of any goods are not paid, or if the lien for freight, primage, general average or charges when a notice under section 37 of this Act has been given is not discharged, the Authority may, and in the latter event, if required by or on behalf of the person claiming the lien for freight, primage, general average or charges, shall-

Discharge of lien by payment or release

(a) at the expiration of ninety days from the time when the goods were placed in its custody; or

(b) if the goods are of a perishable nature, at such earlier period, not less than 24 hours after the landing of the goods as the Authority may think fit, sell, by public auction, the goods or so much as is necessary to satisfy the duty, expenses, rates and other claims directed under this Part of this Act to be paid out of the proceeds of the sale.

(2) The Authority shall, before putting up goods for sale under subsection (1) of this section, give thirty days' notice of the sale by publication in the *Gazette*

and at least two widely read national newspapers, unless the goods are of so perishable a nature as, in the opinion of the Authority, to render their immediate sale necessary or advisable, in which case the notice shall be given as the urgency of the case admits.

(3) If the address of the owner of the goods or of his agent has been stated on the manifest of the cargo, or in any of the documents which have come into the hands of the Authority or is otherwise known and the address is within Nigeria, notice shall also be given to the owner of the goods by letter delivered at that address or sent by post.

(4) The title of a *bona fide* purchaser of goods sold under this section shall not be in- validated by reason of the omission to send a notice under this section, and the purchaser is not bound to inquire whether the notice has been sent.

Application of proceeds
of sale

40. (1) The proceeds of any sale made in accordance with section 39 of this Act shall be applied as follows, and in the following order-

(a) first, in payment of any customs and excise duties and State warehouse rent owed in respect of the goods;

(b) second, in payment of the expenses of the sale;

(c) third, in payment of the rates and expenses due to the Authority in respect of the goods; and

(d) fourth, in payment of the freight and other claims or lien of which notice has been given under section 37 of this Act,

(e) and the surplus, if any, shall be paid to the owner of the goods on demand.

(2) Where demand is not made within one year from the sale of the goods, the surplus of the proceeds of sale shall be paid to the general account of the Authority, and all rights of the owner to the payment shall be extinguished.

41. (1) Subject to the provisions of this Part of this Act, the Authority may make regulations

Power of Authority to
make regulations for levy
of dues and rates

(a) for the levying of dues and rates;

(b) prescribing the conditions on which any work or service in respect of which any rate is levied will be performed or provided by the Authority;

(c) prescribing the officer of the Authority to whom any return of information required by this Part of this Act shall be delivered and the place of the delivery and the time within which it shall be made;

(d) prescribing the officer of the Authority to whom dues or rates shall be paid, the place of payment and the time within which payment shall be made;

(e) providing for the exemption of any vehicle or class of vehicles, passengers, animals or goods from all or any dues or rates or the remission of any dues or rates or any part thereof;

(f) prescribing anything required to be prescribed by this Part of this Act;

(g) generally for giving effect to the provisions of this Part of this Act.

42. The Authority may, either alone or with any other person, enter into any

Power of entry to

ship within the limits of any port, in order to ascertain the dues or rates payable in respect of the ship. ascertain dues, etc.

43. The Authority shall not be liable for any loss arising from delay to, detention of, or deviation in the carriage of goods unless the delay, detention or deviation is caused by want of reasonable foresight and care on the part of the Authority or of its employees, but the Authority shall not, in any circumstance, be liable for any loss arising from delay to, detention of, or deviation in the carriage of goods- Liability for delay of goods

(a) where there has been fraud on the part of the consignors; or

(b) unless a document acknowledging the receipt of the goods for carriage by the Authority has been given; or

(c) which at the time when the delay, detention or deviation occurred, were being carried by any transport service other than one provided by the Authority or under the control of the Authority; or

(d) where there is a loss in a particular market, whether held daily or at intervals; or

(e) where the delay, detention or deviation arises from-

(i) insufficient or improper packing; or

(ii) a riot, civil commotion, strike, lock-out, stoppage or restraint of labour from whatever cause, whether partial or general.

44. (1) Subject to the provisions of this Act or any contract, the Authority shall not be liable for the loss, mis-delivery or detention of or damage to goods-- Liability for loss of goods

(a) delivered to, or in the custody of the Authority, otherwise than for the purpose of carriage;

(b) accepted by the Authority for carriage, where the loss, mis-delivery, detention or damage occurs otherwise than when the goods are in transit,

except when the loss, mis-delivery, detention or damage is caused by want of reasonable foresight or care on the part of the Authority or any employee of the Authority.

(2) The Authority shall in no case be liable under subsection (1) of this section for a loss, mis-delivery, detention or damage arising from-

(a) an act of God;

(b) an act of war or of the enemies of the State;

(c) an arrest or a restraint or seizure under any legal process;

(d) an act or order of the Government;

(e) a declaration of goods as overtime or abandoned goods or the sale, auction, destruction or any other kind of disposal made pursuant to the declaration;

(f) an act or omission of the consignor, consignee or depositor or of the servant or agent of any such person;

(g) a fire, flood, tempest, riot, civil commotion, strike, lock-out, stoppage or restraint of labour from whatever cause, whether partial or general;

(h) an inherent liability to wastage in bulk or weight, latent or inherent defect, vice or natural deterioration;

(i) a deficiency in the contents of an unbroken package; or

(j) an insufficient or improper packing, or a leakage from a defective drum, container or package.

PART X

Legal proceedings

45. (1) No suit shall be commenced against the Authority before the expiration of a period of one month after written notice of intention to commence the suit shall have been served on the Authority by the intending plaintiff or his agent and the notice shall clearly and explicitly state-

Legal Proceedings

(a) the cause of action;

(b) the particulars of the claim;

(c) the name and place of abode of the intending plaintiff; and

(d) the relief which it claims.

(2) In an action or suit against the Authority, no execution or attachment or process in the nature thereof shall be issued against the Authority, but any sums of money which may, by the judgment of the court, be awarded against the Authority shall, subject to any directives given by the Authority, be paid from the general reserve of the Authority.

(3) For the purposes of this section and this Part of this Act-

"suit" means a civil proceeding commenced by writ of summons or in such other manner as may be prescribed by rules of court and includes an action, but not a criminal proceeding.

46. The notice referred to in section 45 of this Act and any summons, notice or other document required or authorised to be served on the Authority in connection with a suit by or against the Authority, may be served by-

Service of documents

(a) delivering it to the managing director; or

(b) sending it by registered post, addressed to the managing director, at the head office of the Authority.

PART XI

Evasion of Dues and Rates

47. A master or an owner of a vehicle, or an owner or a consignor or consignee of any goods who, by any means whatsoever, evades or attempts to evade any of the dues or rates leviable under this Act-

Evasion of dues and rates

(a) is guilty of an offence and liable on conviction to a fine of N10,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding twelve months or to both such fine and imprisonment; and

(b) is, in addition, liable to pay to the Authority, as penalty, double the amount of the dues or rates he evaded or attempted to evade.

48. An employee of the Authority who, with intent to defraud, demands or receives from any person liable to pay any dues or rates imposed under the provisions of this Act, in respect of any matter, any greater or lesser amount than is authorised to be levied by the regulations for the time being in force in respect of that matter, is guilty of an offence and liable on conviction to a fine of N10,000 or imprisonment for a term not exceeding twelve months or to both such fine and imprisonment.

Demanding improper amounts

PART XII

Miscellaneous provisions

49. The Authority may, with the approval of the Minister, make regulations, in addition to those specified in this Act, generally for the purposes of giving full effect to this Act.

Regulations

50. Interpretation

In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires-

"animals" means animate things of every kind, except human beings;

"approach to a port" means any navigable channel declared to be an approach to a port under section 30 of this Act;

"Authority" means the Aba Inland Dry Port Authority, established under section 1 of this Act;

"beacon" means any light, mark or sign, used as an aid to navigation;

"cargo" includes all kinds of movable personal property, other than animals;

"Company" means the Aba Inland Dry Port Authority;

"dues" includes ships' dues and harbour dues;

"goods" includes baggage, animals (whether alive or dead) and all other movable property of any kind whatsoever;

"managing director" means the managing director of the Authority;

"driver" when used in relation to any vehicle, means the person having command or charge of the vehicle for the time being;

"Minister" means the Minister for the time being charged with responsibility

for matters relating to maritime shipping and navigation;

"navigable channel" means any channel where navigation is possible;

"rates" means rates levied by the Authority under Part IX of this Act;

"train" includes locomotive, engine, tender, motor, coach, wagon, trolley and rolling stock of any kind, used whether separately or in conjunction with a railway;

"vehicle" means a vehicle, other than a train or ship;

"vesting day" means the day this Act comes into force;

"warehouse" includes any building and place, when used by the Authority for the purpose of warehousing or depositing goods.

Citation

51. This Act may be cited as the Aba Dry Inland Port Authority Act.

ELECTION FUNDING REGULATION BILL 2018

ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

Sections

- 1.Objective of the Act
- 2.Commencement
- 3.Short Title
4. Application and Scope
5. Duration
6. Interpretation Section
7. Personal Contribution by candidates
8. Campaign financing committee
9. Qualification of members of campaign financing committee
10. Constitution of campaign finance committee
11. Registration of campaign finance committee
12. Failure to register campaign finance committee
13. Late registration of campaign finance committee
14. Account of finance campaign committee
15. Quarterly financial report
16. Method of soliciting funds
17. Prohibition in relations to fundraising
18. Regulations of monies donated
19. Prohibition of misappropriation of funds by election funding committee.

A BILL FOR AN ACT TO REGULATE ELECTION FUNDING IN NIGERIA AND ALL OTHER MATTERS ANCILLARY THERETO.

Sponsor: Hon. Ifeoluwa David Fawoye

Co-Sponsors: Hon. Ayokunle Oluwawehinmi

Hon. Ogundele Damilola Tomiwa

Hon. Olayinka Olowu

Enacted by the House of PLAC, Federal Republic of Nigeria as follows:

1. The primary objective of this bill shall be to
 - a. Regulate the way elections are funded in Nigeria
 - b. Monitor the sources of monies utilized in the funding of elections in Nigeria
 - c. Ensure financial transparency in election processes in Nigeria.
 - d. Eliminate godfatherism in the Nigeria political scene.
 - e. Ensure a more inclusive electioneering process, which is not limited only to the wealthy in the society but all classes of persons in the society.

2. The provisions of this Act shall come into force as from the day it is published in the official gazette of the National Assembly.

3. This Act may be cited as the “Election Funding Regulations Act 2018”

4. This Act shall apply to all elections held within the territory of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

5. This Act shall continue to be enforced until repealed in a manner prescribed by law.

6. In this Act, unless the context otherwise suggests:
 - a. “Bank” shall mean a Commercial bank duly licensed to operate in Nigeria.
 - b. “Candidate” shall mean any person duly nominated by a political party registered in Nigeria to stand for election in the name of the said Political Party.
 - c. “Committee” shall mean Election Funding Committee
 - d. “Commission” shall mean the Independent National Electoral Commission.
 - e. “Election” shall mean election to a political office in Nigeria and shall not include party primaries held by different political parties.
 - f. “Party” shall mean a political party duly registered with the Independent National Electoral Commission.

7. Every candidate running for a political office in Nigeria shall not spend out of his/her own pocket an amount exceeding 5% (five percent) of the total amount spent on his/her own campaign for the said political office.

8. Every candidate running for a political office in Nigeria shall constitute a campaign financing committee for the purpose of financing his/her campaign.
 - a. The committee once constituted shall have a chairperson and such number of members not less than 5(five)

Objectives

Citation

Application

Candidates
running cost

Campaign
Financing
Committee

<p>b. The committee once constituted shall have an assistant chairperson who shall assist the chairperson and act in his/her stead in case of absence or unavailability.</p> <p>c. The candidate shall be at liberty to increase the numbers of the committee as he/she deems fit.</p>	
<p>9. A person shall not be qualified to act as a chairperson, assistant chairperson or member of a campaign financing committee if such a person is found to be</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. A person of unsound mind ii. An undischarged bankrupt iii. A person having been convicted of a crime bordering on financial dishonesty within 10(ten) years of the date preceding the date of his purported nomination. 	
<p>10. Every candidate shall constitute on his/her behalf a campaign financing committee within 30(thirty) days after which such candidate has been nominated by his/her party.</p>	Time for constitution of campaign financing committee
<p>11. (1)The campaign financing committee once constituted shall be registered with the Commission not later than 15 days from the date of its constitution.</p> <p>(2)The names and personal information of each member of the committee shall be forwarded to the commission for approval.</p> <p>(3) The commission shall have the right to prescribe the conditions for registration from time to time as it deems fit.</p>	Registration
<p>12. Failure by a candidate to register his/her campaign financing committee shall be a ground for disqualifying such candidate from the elections.</p>	
<p>13. Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 12 above, a candidate who fails to register his campaign financing committee within the 15 days provided above shall be entitled to do same subject to the following conditions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Payment of a fine of 50,000.00 for everyday the default occurs. ii. Proof of compliance with all the conditions for registration as prescribed by the Commission. iii. The commission shall not accept the registration of any defaulting committee except it is provided with detailed reports of all its financial dealings prior to the date it seeks to be registered with the commission. 	Failure to Register
<p>14. (1) Every Committee once constituted shall operate an account with a bank in Nigeria from which all its financial dealings shall be conducted.</p> <p>(2)The bank shall send a quarterly report of all financial dealings conducted for the committee to the commission for record purpose.</p> <p>(3)Failure of the bank to send the report as prescribed by sub-section 2 above shall be an offence and shall be liable to a fine not less than 20,000,000.00 (twenty million) Naira only.</p>	Bank Account
<p>15. The committee shall send its quarterly financial report to the commission detailing all its financial dealings as it pertains to the said quarter.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. It shall be an offence to falsify financial reports sent to the commission. 2. Any person who falsifies financial report sent to the commission shall be liable to a prison term not less than five years or a fine of 10 million Naira or both. 3. When a candidate who participates in the falsification of financial report is sworn in and his misconduct is later discovered, it shall be an impeachable offence or an offence warranting the recall of such a candidate in the manner required by law. 	Quarterly Financial Reports
<p>16. The committee in raising money for the funding of the election of the candidate on whose behalf it has been constituted shall seek donations from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Individuals 	Donations

- ii. Civil society groups and Non-Governmental Organizations
- iii. Interest groups.

17. (1) It shall be an offence for a committee to solicit or accept financial donations from:

- a. Any foreign Government.
- b. Any foreign Organization
- c. Any foreign Agency
- d. Any Non-Governmental Organization whose head office is not based in Nigeria
- e. Any serving elected government official.

(2). Any person found guilty of contravening the provision of Section 17(1) above shall be liable upon conviction to imprisonment for a term not less than 5 years

18. (1) An individual shall not donate to any election committee an amount exceeding 1,000,000.00 within a period of 3 months.

(2) A Civil society group and Non-Governmental Organization shall not donate to a committee an amount exceeding 10,000,00.00 within a period of 3 months.

(3) An interest group shall not donate to a committee an amount exceeding 10,000,000.00 within a period of 3 months

19. (1) All monies received as donations by a committee shall be expended towards the funding of the campaign of an individual on whose behalf they have been constituted.

(2) It shall be an offence punishable with term of imprisonment not less than five years to misappropriate funds generated by the committee.

Offences
and
Punishment

Limitations
on
Donations

**A BILL
FOR
AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE NORTH-EAST SECURITY INSTITUTE FOR THE PURPOSE OF
UNDERTAKING HIGH-QUALITY RESEARCH AND RELATED ACTIVITIES INTO
NIGERIA’S SECURITY ISSUES AND RELATED MATTERS INCIDENTAL THERETO**

Sponsored by Hon. Abdulkadir Abdullahi,

*Co-Sponsors: Hon. Loftly Timothy, Hon. Maryam David West, Hon. Hauwa Mohammed Dili, Hon. Peter
Sam-Tsokwa, Hon. Faisal Dahiru*

Commencement	[Enactment
Enacted by the House of PLAC, Federal Republic of Nigeria as follows:		
1.(1) There shall be established the North-East Security Institute (in this act referred to as “Institute”)		Establishment of North-East Security Institute Bill
a. it shall be a body corporate with		
b. perpetual Succession and a Common Seal.		
c. may sue and be sued in its corporate name.		
2. The objectives of this institute shall be to research and promote security, education and tolerance in Nigeria.		Objectives of the Institute
3.(1) There is hereby established for the institute a governing council (in this act referred to as “The Council”) which shall, subject to this Act, have general control of the institute.		Establishment and Membership of governing council
(2) The council shall consist of:		
(a) a Chairman and four other members.		
(b) one representative each of the following.		
i. Office of the National Security Adviser.		
ii, Ministry of Defense.		
iii, Ministry of Interior.		
iv, Department of State Security Services.		
4.(1) The chairman and members of the council shall hold office for		
a) A term of four years in the first instance and maybe reappointed for one further term of four years and no more.		
b) For such terms and conditions as may be specified in this letter of appointment.		
5. (1) Notwithstanding the provision of section 4 of this act, a person shall cease to hold office as the chairman or member of the council if		
a) he becomes bankrupt, suspends payment or compounds with these creditors.		
b) he is convicted of a felony or any offences involving dishonesty or fraud		
c) he becomes of unsound mind or is incapable of carrying out his duties		
d) he is guilty of serious misconduct in relation to his duties		
e) he resigns his appointment by a letter addressed to the president		
(2) a member of the council may be removed by the president on the recommendation of the National Assembly, if he is satisfied that it is not in the interest of the institute or the interest of the public for the member to continue in office.		Removal

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------|
| <p>6. (1) The Council shall formulate the policies of the institute and shall be charged with the general control of such policies, and of the finance and property of the institute.</p> <p>(2) ensure that the institute is satisfied with the persons possessing high communicative competence in security processes and administration.</p> <p>(3) ensure proper management of the assets of the institute.</p> <p>(4) ensure effective organization of the institute in accordance with the provisions of this Act.</p> <p>(5) subject to this Act provide for the welfare and discipline of the staff of the institute and</p> <p>(6) perform such other duties as the president may give.</p> | <p>Functions of the Council</p> |
|---|---------------------------------|

PART II FUNCTIONS AND POWERS OF THE INSTITUTE

Functions of the Institute

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>7. The institute shall:</p> <p>a) serve as a centre to develop a critical mass of security planners and managers for the effective and efficient planning and managing of security in Nigeria.</p> <p>b) the institute shall be charged with the responsibility of conducting quality academic and professional research, training and advocacy on security in Nigeria</p> | <p>Functions of the Institute</p> |
| <p>8. The institute shall have powers to</p> <p>a) Develop actions plans against terrorism and violent crimes and report to the government about implementation of the plans.</p> <p>b) appoint a committee of experts for government and non-government to deliberate on the areas of terrorism and violent crimes.</p> <p>c) engage in training programs for best practice research and teaching on terrorism and violent crimes.</p> <p>d)sensitize the Nigerian public on the need to support the government in fighting terrorism and violent crimes.</p> <p>e) provide interface between security agencies and civil societies</p> <p>f) engage policy makers, industry representatives, and the public about the causes and consequences of terrorism and violent crimes</p> <p>g) encourage private sector participation and collaborate with national and international organizations on research and training on issues relating to its mandate</p> | <p>Terrorism and Violent Crimes</p> |
| <p>9. The institute shall have the power to;</p> <p>a) advice the federal government on policy matters relating to internally displaced persons, refugees and migrants</p> <p>b) ensuring that that the integration approaches for protecting and assisting internally displaced persons, refugees and migrants are mainstreamed into policies and practices of relevant agencies, line ministries and local authorities</p> <p>c) identifying, mobilizing and coordinating internally displaced persons, refugees and migrants camp management agencies and partners and ensuring coordination among other sectors responding to their assistance and protection and needs</p> <p>d) evaluating the performance of internally displaced persons, refugees and migrants</p> <p>e) ensuring the protection and assistance of internally displaced persons during and after displacement as well as during return, replacement and reintegration</p> | <p>Internally Displaced Persons, Migrants and Refugees</p> |
| <p>10. The institute shall have the power to;</p> <p>a) Develop and advice the federal and state governments on policies and matters relating to conflict between farmers and herders</p> | <p>Farmers/Herders Conflict</p> |

- b) develop programs that will create lasting peace between farmers and herders
- c) ensure that negotiations and interventions between farmers, herders, federal government, state, local governments and private bodies are conducted with fairness
- d) ensure the protection and assistance of victims of clashes during and after displacement as well as during return, replacement and reintegration
- e) ensure that government, private, non-governmental organizations do not exploit or take advantage in any form of victims of conflict
- f) ensure adequate relief is provided to victims
- g) develop and conduct educational programs to educate farmers and herders and reduce illiteracy
- h) provide opportunities for the advancement of education of farmers and herders
- i) collaborate with national, international, government and private organizations on initiatives that will improve the life of farmers and herders
- J) enter into agreements with any organization or individual on the improvement of the lives of farmers and herders
- k) request and be allocated lands belonging to federal, state or local government free of charge in any state once there is a clear statement of purpose and correlation with execution of its mandate.

11. The institute shall have the power to;

- a) Develop and advice the federal and state governments on policies and matters affecting border security
- b) develop programs that will enrich the capacity of relevant agencies on border security
- c) organize conferences, seminars, workshops locally or internationally on matters relating to border security
- d) invite officials of federal, state, local governments or private and foreign organizations and facilitate their visa or resident permit and be given priority service
- e) collaborate with federal, state, local governments, private, international and non-governmental organizations in undertaking its activities where necessary
- f) accept gifts, donations and grants for any of its programs or activities
- g) provide support to border communities in any form.

Border Security
issues

III- STAFF OF THE INSTITUTE

12.(1) There shall be for the institute a Director General who shall be;

- a.** appointed by the President, on the recommendation of the Council;
- b.** The chief executive and accounting officer of the institute and;
- c.** responsible for the execution of policies and day to day administration of affairs of the Council.

Director General
of the Institute

(2) The Director-General shall hold office for a term of 5 years and maybe reappointed for a further term of 5 years and no more and on such terms and conditions as may be contained in his letter of appointment.

13. The institute shall appoint for the institute from time to time such other persons to assist the Director- General in the performance of the functions under this act.

Other Staff of the
Institute

14. It is hereby declared that the service in the institute shall be approved services for the purposes of the Pensions Act, and accordingly employees of the institute shall be entitled to pension, gratuity and other retirement benefits in respect of that office.

Pensions [Cap 346
LFN]

PART IV – MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

15. No suit shall be commenced against the institute before the expiration of a period of one month after written notice of intention to commence the suit shall have been served on the institute by the intending plaintiff or his agent and notice shall clearly and explicitly state the

Legal Proceedings

- a) the cause of action
- b) particulars of the claim
- c) name and place of abode of the intending plaintiff
- d) relief which he claims

16. As from the commencement of this Act, any officer or staff employee in the management cadre who is newly employed, promoted or transferred shall undertake training or orientation in Security planning and administration at the institute for such period.

Mandatory training
for Staff

17. This Bill may be cited as the North-East Security Institute (Establishment, Etc.) Bill, 2018.

Short Title

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

This Bill seeks to establish the North-East Security Institute for the purpose of undertaking high-quality research and related activities into Nigeria's security issues and related matters.

A BILL
FOR
AN ACT TO RECOGNIZE THE NORTH CENTRAL ZONE AS
THE MIDDLE BELT GEOPOLITICAL ZONE AND OTHER
RELATED MATTERS

Sponsored by Hon. Fidelis Akwe Okpede

Co-sponsors

Hon. Alexandra Aserogun
Hon. Duza Faith Gaza
Hon. Emmanuel Baba Aduku
Hon. Jibrin Abubakar
Hon. Funmi Areh
Hon. Ismail Bello
Hon. Peter Sam Tsokwa
Hon. Mishael Bem
Hon. Nancy Shi' name Agati
Hon. Tajudeen Habib

[
Commencement]

ENACTED by the National Assembly of the Federal Republic of Nigeria as follows:

- 1.** Notwithstanding the provision of any other law or enactment in Nigeria, best interest of the Middle Belt geopolitical zone to be of paramount consideration in all actions.
- 2.** Upon the commencement of this Act, in every action concerning the Middle Belt geopolitical zone, whether undertaken by an individual, public or private body, institutions or service, court of law, or administrative or legislative authority, the best interest of the Middle Belt geopolitical zone shall be the primary consideration.
- 3.** This Act, seeks to formally rename the North Central geopolitical zone as the Middle Belt geopolitical zone
 - (a) Recognize in all spheres the peoples of the Middle Belt geopolitical zone as a bonafide geopolitical zone in the Federal Republic of Nigeria
 - (b) Promote economic development of the Middle Belt geopolitical Zone..
 - (c) Address political, economic and social problems particular to the Middle Belt geopolitical Zone.
 - (d) Create a framework for the Middle Belt geopolitical zone to forge unity as a people with a shared heritage and common destiny.
- 4.** (1) The identity of the peoples of the Middle Belt is to be protected from being subsumed into the Hausa/Fulani ethnic nationality.
 - (2) It shall be an offence for any individual, body, or organization to term the Middle Belt geopolitical zone as Hausas or see peoples of the geopolitical zone as belonging to the Hausa/Fulani ethnic group
 - (3) The peoples of the Middle Belt geopolitical zone shall be addressed based on the ethnic nationality they belong to

Objectives

Identity

	<p>5.(1) Agriculture, Mineral Resources, Human Capital, Tourism, and Technology shall form the pillars of the Middle Belt Geopolitical zone economy.</p> <p>(2) There shall be the establishment of a central museum and subsidiary offices in all states of the geopolitical zone to create awareness on the diverse identities of the peoples of the Middle Belt.</p>	Economy
	<p>6. There is established a body to be known as the Middle Belt Development Commission (MBDC).</p> <p>(a) The commission shall be responsible for developing the Multi-Year Middle Belt Development Plan (MYMDP).</p> <p>(b) The commission shall be responsible for developing and implementing work plans for all the states and local government areas that make up the Middle Belt geopolitical zone.</p>	Middle Belt Development commission
	<p>7. Every state in the Middle Belt shall have a Localized Security Apparatus (LSA). The LSAs shall consist of:</p> <p>(a) Governing Board.</p> <p>(b) Representatives from each state of the Middle Belt.</p> <p>(c) The LSAs shall work with the Joint Task Force to maintain peace and order in the state.</p>	Localized Security Apparatus
	<p>8. This Act shall be in force for a period of twenty years after which it will be reviewed by the National Assembly.</p>	
	<p>9. Any person who performs any act or does anything or refuses, fails and /or neglected to carry out his lawful duties with the intention to frustrate the implementation of this Act is said to have committed an offence; and upon conviction shall be liable to two years imprisonment or fine of N500,000 (Five Hundred Thousand Naira) or both.</p>	Offences and Penalties
Citation	<p>10. This bill may be cited as the Middle Belt Geopolitical Zone Bill, 2018.</p>	Citation

EXPLANATORY NOTES

This Bill seeks to rename and recognize the current North Central geopolitical zone as the Middle Belt geopolitical zone, thereby preserving the individual and collective identities of the peoples of the Middle Belt, and prevent the peoples of the Middle Belt from being subsumed into the Hausa/Fulani or any other ethnic nationality, and promote the unity of the peoples of the Middle Belt as a people with a shared history, heritage and a common destiny, and to articulate the social and economic development of the geopolitical zone.

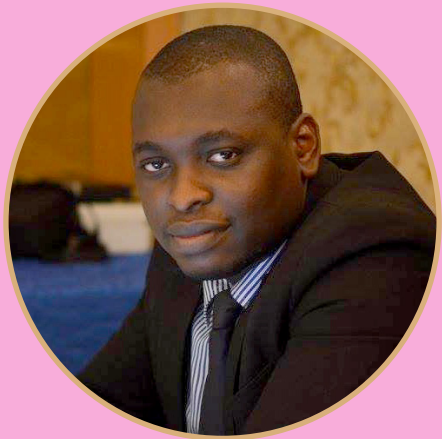
PLAC INTERNSHIP PROGRAMME TEAM



Omolara Akinyeye
Programme Manager



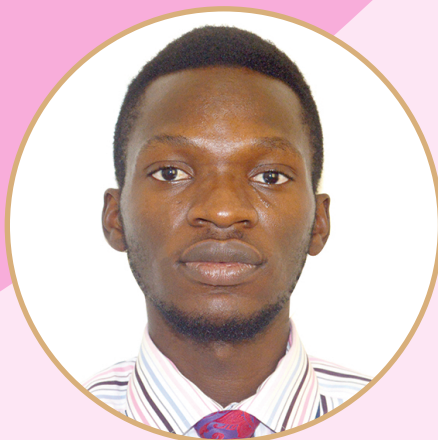
Brenda Anugwom
Senior Programme Officer



Emem Udoh
Programme Assistant



Femi Fakoya
Accounts Assistant



Oludare Kehinde
IT Assistant

About PLAC

Policy and Legal Advocacy Centre (PLAC) is a non-governmental organization committed to strengthening democratic governance and citizens' participation in Nigeria. PLAC works to enhance citizens' engagement with state institutions, and to promote transparency and accountability in policy and decision-making processes.

The main focus of PLAC's intervention in the democratic governance process is on building the capacity of the legislature and reforming the electoral process. Since its establishment, PLAC has grown into a leading institution with capacity to deliver cutting-edge research, policy analysis and advocacy. PLAC receives funding support from donors and other philanthropic sources.



EUROPEAN UNION

