

REPORT OF A BILL FOR AN ACT TO ESTABLISH VETERINARY TEACHING HOSPITALS OF UNIVERSITIES AND VETERINARY SPECIALIST HOSPITALS (CONSTITUTION OF BOARDS, ETC) AND FOR RELATED MATTERS, 2019 (HB. 568).

ENACTED by the National Assembly of the Federal Republic of Nigeria –

PROVISION OF BILL	COMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDATION	REMARK
Application of this Bill. 1. (1) As from the commencement of this Bill, the Board of Management of the Veterinary Teaching Hospitals and the Veterinary Specialist Hospital, Abuja (hereafter in this Bill referred to as the "Board"), controlled by the Government of the Federation and specified in the First Schedule to this Bill shall be constituted for each hospital and have the functions and powers set out in the following provisions of this Bill. (2) The Minister may, from time to time, by order published in the Federal Gazette: (a) vary the list of hospitals specified in First Schedule to this Bill; (b) apply the provisions of this Act to any other Veterinary Teaching Hospital and Veterinary Specialist Hospital that may be established or come under the control of the Federal Government.	Retained	
Composition of each Board. 2. (1) The Board of each hospital shall consist of a Chairman who shall be appointed by the President on the recommendation of the Minister and the following other members (where applicable), that is to say: (a) the Chief Veterinary Medical Director of the hospital; (b) one representative of the Vice-Chancellor of the associate University; (c) Dean or Provost of the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine or College of Veterinary Medicine of the associate University or the Provost of College of Veterinary Surgeons Nigeria in the case of specialist hospital by whatever other name called; (d) one representative of the Minister, who shall be the Director of the Federal Department in charge of veterinary services;	Retained	

(e) one elected member of the Veterinary Council of Nigeria; (f) the Director of Veterinary Services of the host state; (g) one elected representative of the Senate of the associate University; (h) one elected member of the Committee of Consultants of the hospital; (i) the Chairman, Nigerian Veterinary Medical Association of the host state; and (j) One representative of the livestock industry to be appointed by the Minister from the geo-political zone where the hospital is located; (k) the Director of Administration of the hospital who shall be the Secretary to the Board. (2) The President shall on the recommendation of the Minister appoint a person of proven integrity with outstanding ability and experience in the administration of veterinary education and practice as the Chairman of the Board. (3) The Board shall meet at least two times in a year.		
Tenure of office of members. 3. (1) The Chairman and any member of the Board other than a statutory member shall: (a) hold office for only one term of five years on such terms and conditions as may be specified in his letter of appointment; (b) be paid out of money at the disposal of the Board such remuneration and allowances in accordance with scales approved in that behalf by the Federal Government for similar posts and responsibilities. (2) The office of a member of the board shall become vacant if : (a) he resigns his office by notice in writing addressed to the Chairman; (b) his tenure or period covered by his appointment has expired; or (c) there is passed by the Board a resolution	Retained	

declaring: (i) that he has become incapable of discharging his duties by reason of mental or bodily infirmity; (ii) that he has become unfit for membership of the board by reason of the fact that he has an interest in a contract entered into by the Board and has not disclosed that fact; (iii) that he has been absent from three consecutive meetings of the Board without leave of the Board; or (iv) that he has been convicted of an offence which involves moral turpitude; (3) Soon after the office of a member of the Board has become vacant, the authority by which he was appointed or elected shall appoint or elect another person in his place in accordance with the provisions of this Bill. (4) In the absence of a duly constituted Board for the hospital, the Chief Veterinary Medical Director may with the concurrence of statutory members of the Board, carry out such functions of the Board as may be required. (5) The Second Schedule to this Bill shall have effect with respect to the Procedure of the Board and other Matters therein mentioned.		
Appointment and Functions of the Chief Veterinary Medical Director and other Principal Officers. 4. (1) There shall be for each hospital, a Chief Veterinary Medical Director, a Director of Administration, a Director of Finance, Coordinators of Veterinary Services and such other Principal Officers as the Board may approve. (2) (a) A person for the office of Chief Veterinary Medical Director shall possess the following qualifications: (i) be a veterinary surgeon registered with the Council and possess the current practicing licence; (ii) hold the fellowship of the Postgraduate College of Veterinary Surgeons Nigeria or fellowship of other similar institutions recognised as equivalent by the Council in a clinical subject;	Retained	

(iii) must have been a Consultant from a core clinical department of the hospital or of a similar hospital for a minimum of ten years; and

(iv) possess any other qualifications as may be specified by the Board.

(v) be charged with the responsibility for the execution of the policies and matters affecting the day-to-day management of the affairs of the hospital;

(b) He shall be appointed by the Board following due process which shall include advertisement in at least three national dailies and an interview.

(c) He shall be the Chairman of statutory committees of the hospital.

(d) He shall be responsible to the Board.

(e) He shall hold office for a single term of five years.

(f) He shall be paid such remuneration and allowances in accordance with scales approved in that behalf for Universities Teaching Hospitals by the Federal Government.

Appointment and Functions of Director of Administration

(3) (a) The Director of Administration shall:

(i) be appointed by the Board on the recommendation of the Appointment and Promotion Committee of the hospital; and

(ii) be responsible to the Chief Veterinary Medical Director for the effective functioning of the administrative divisions of the hospital.

(b) He shall be the Secretary to the Board and Committees of the hospital.

(c) He shall conduct the correspondence of the Board, keep the administrative records of the hospital, and perform such other functions as the Board and the Chief Veterinary Medical Director, may assign to him from time to time.

Appointment and Functions of the Director of Finance

(4)(a) The Director of Finance shall:

(i) be appointed by the Board on the recommendation

of the Appointment and Promotions Committee of the hospital; and

(ii) be responsible to the Chief Veterinary Medical Director for the effective functioning of all the financial divisions of the hospital.

(b) He shall keep the records of all financial transactions by the hospital; and perform such other functions as the Board and the Chief Veterinary Medical Director, as the case may be may from time to time assign to him.

Appointment and Functions of the Coordinators of Veterinary Services

(5)(a) There shall be for each Hospital, two or three Coordinators of Veterinary Services

(b) Each coordinator of Veterinary Services shall possess the following qualifications:

(i) be a registered veterinary surgeon with current practicing licence issued by the Council;

(ii) hold the Fellowship of the Postgraduate College of Veterinary Surgeon or Fellowship of similar institutions recognized by the Council;

(iii) must have risen to the grade of Senior Lecturer in the associate of University in the case of a Veterinary Teaching Hospital or equivalent grade in the case of a Veterinary Specialist Hospital; and

(iv) must be a Consultant to the hospital.

(c) Each Coordinator of Veterinary Services shall be appointed by the Board on the recommendation of the Committee of Consultants.

(d) He shall be responsible to the Director for all the clinical, diagnostic and training activities of the hospital as the Director may assign to him.

(e) He shall perform such other functions as the Director may from time to time assign to him.

(f) He shall have a tenure of three years.		
Powers of the board on appointment, promotion, and discipline of staff. 5. (1) Subject to the provisions of this Bill, the Board shall have power to appoint, confirm, promote, advance, discipline and terminate the appointment of any employee, honorary consultants and other honorary staff of the hospital. (2) All appointments, promotion, advancements, approval of study leave, leave of absence and sabbatical leave of employees and of consultants and other similar matters, shall be based on recommendations of the Appointment and Promotions Committee of the hospital. (3) The Board shall pay appropriate clinical allowances to appointed honorary consultants, registrars, interns and doctors on housemanship and such other honorary staff in accordance with scales approved in that behalf for Universities Teaching Hospitals by the Federal Government.	Retained	
Duties of the Board. 6. (1) It shall be the duty of the Board: (a) to approve the construction, equipping, maintenance and operation of such clinics, out-patient departments, laboratories, research, and provide clinical and diagnostic facilities and services during ambulatory and at veterinary field stations and other similar institutions as the board may consider necessary; (b) to approve links with other hospitals and institutions within and outside Nigeria; (c) to approve the recommendation of the Committees in charge of Finance, Tenders, Administrative and Clinical Services, Internship Regulatory, Appointment and Promotion, Staff and Students' Disciplinary and Committee of Consultants and any other committee that may be set up to facilitate the functions of the hospital. (d) to approve colour codes, logos, emblems and other insignia of the hospital; and (e) to approve the representation of the hospital by the Chief Veterinary Medical Director and other principal officers or Staff of the Hospital in any meeting to be held within or outside Nigeria.	Retained	

(2) Subject to this Bill, the Board shall have power to do anything which, in its opinion, is calculated to facilitate the carrying out of its functions under this Bill. (3) The Board shall be responsible to the Minister. (4) The Administrative and Clinical Services Committee shall power to prescribe professional dress codes for consultants, registrars, para-veterinary staff, laboratory and other staff and students while on diagnostic, surgical, curative, public health, preventive medicine and ambulatory services of the hospital.		
Financial provision. 7. (1) The Hospital shall maintain a fund from which shall be defrayed all expenditure incurred by the hospital. (2) There shall be paid and credited to the fund: (a) such sums as may be provided by the Federal Government for the purpose of this Bill by way of grant and budget appropriation; and (b) such other funds or moneys as may from time to time accrue to the hospital from fees charged for any services and facilities provided by the hospital, including the provision of tuition, treatment, accommodation, donations, lease and sale of properties and from any other sources and for other services rendered by the hospital. (3) The Board shall with the approval of the Minister have power to borrow money from recognised financial institutions for exigencies.	Retained	
Powers of the Chief Veterinary Medical Director. 8. (1) The Chief Veterinary Medical Director of Veterinary Teaching or Specialist hospital and the Manager or Director of a veterinary practicing premises registered by the Council shall have power to purchase locally or import, store, dispense and sell any veterinary drug, vaccines, vitamins, biologics, animal feeds, agro chemicals and veterinary devices required for animal health care. (2) A veterinary surgeon registered by the Council may be appointed to serve as the clinician or as the Manager or Director of a veterinary practicing premises, an abattoir a livestock farm or a zoological garden.	Retained	

(3) The Chief Veterinary Medical Director or in any other Officer of the hospital shall not have power to sell, lease, transfer or otherwise dispose of any movable or immovable assets of the hospital unless such disposal has been approved by the board. (4) Any person who obstructs or in any way interferes with the Chief Veterinary Medical Director or a veterinary surgeon or a prescribed officer in the performance of his duties as prescribed in this Section, or in any way disturb activities in the hospital or in the veterinary practicing premises, shall be deemed to have committed an offence, punishable on conviction to a fine of not less than 500,000 naira or imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months or both.		
Discipline of staff and students. 9. (1) There shall be two bodies known as staff disciplinary committee and students' disciplinary committee to handle disciplinary issues involving staff and students of the hospital, respectively. (2) Membership of each of staff disciplinary committee and students' disciplinary committee shall include the Chief Veterinary Medical Director who shall be the Chairman, the Dean of the College or Faculty of Veterinary Medicine of associate University, head of clinical departments, one representative of committee of consultants, one Coordinator of Veterinary Services, the legal officer or legal adviser to the hospital and the President or Chairman of the union or association to which the staff or student under trial belongs, who may attend the meeting in attendance if he is not a statutory member. (3) If any: (a) person employed as a clinical, technical, administrative or in any capacity by the hospital is accused of a misconduct, scandalous conduct or a serious misconduct or of any wrong conduct and should be removed from office or punished in any way or (b) a student of the hospital is accused of an unruly behaviour or indecent behaviour or examination misconduct or of any wrong doing, the Chief Veterinary Medical Director may issue a query to such a staff or student and if in his opinion, the allegation has merit, he shall forthwith refer the matter to the appropriate disciplinary committee. (4) If in the opinion of the Chief Veterinary Medical Director, the continuing presence of the staff or student on duty or in the hospital premises is prejudicial to investigation or other	Retained	

interests of the hospital, he may suspend such a staff or student for a period not exceeding three months and shall report the suspension to the staff disciplinary committee or the students' disciplinary committee as the case may be.

(5) Any staff placed on suspension, interdiction or disciplinary probation by the Chief Veterinary Medical Director or on the recommendation of the staff disciplinary committee shall be paid half of his monthly emolument during the period of his suspension, interdiction or disciplinary probation and the disciplinary committee upon the expiration period of suspension shall consider the case against the person and come to decision as to:

(a) whether to continue such person's suspension and if so, on what terms (including the proportion of his emoluments to be paid to him);

(b) whether to reinstate such person; or

(c) whether to terminate the appointment of the person concerned or his studentship; or

(d) whether to take such lesser disciplinary action against such person, as the disciplinary committee may determine; and in any case where the staff or student disciplinary committee, pursuant to this section, decides to continue a person's suspension or decides to take further disciplinary action against a person, the staff or student disciplinary committee shall before the expiration of a period of three months from such decision come to a final determination in respect of the case concerning any such person.

(6) Where a staff under trial is acquitted of the allegations against him or he is to be warned or reprimanded, his emoluments that was withheld during the period of his suspension shall be paid to him, but if he is retired from service or his appointment is terminated, he shall not be entitled to the proportion of his emoluments that was withheld.

(7) Any staff facing the disciplinary procedure cannot be considered for promotion to the next grade until the case against him is disposed of by the staff disciplinary committee.

(8) In case of any misconduct involving a student registered for a degree or a diploma program of the associated University, the decision of the students' disciplinary committee of the hospital shall be forwarded to the appropriate disciplinary committee of

the associate university for concurrence. (9) If the Board, after considering the report of the staff Disciplinary Committee or the Student disciplinary Committee is satisfied that the person in question should be removed or that the studentship of a student be terminated as aforesaid, the Board may approve to remove him by a letter signed on the direction of the Board. (10) It shall be duty of the person by whom a letter containing the decisions of the staff disciplinary committee or the students' disciplinary committee or the Board is signed to cause a copy of the letter to be served as soon as reasonably practicable on the person to whom it relates. (11) In case of professional misconduct involving a staff or a student who is a veterinary surgeon or a para-veterinary staff and where the veterinary ethics or ethics of any other professional body is suspected to be violated by the action or inaction of the staff, the Chief Veterinary Medical Director shall hereafter forward the report to the Council or other professional body concerned for further sanctions. (12) The disciplinary procedure on any staff or student of the hospital shall be conducted in accordance with the provisions of the Third Schedule to this Bill.		
Appeal against the decision of the disciplinary committees. 10. (1) In case a person is dissatisfied with the decisions of the staff disciplinary committee or of the students' disciplinary committee against him, he shall within a period of 21 days from the date of the letter communicating the decision, address a petition to the Board to reconsider his case. (2) The decision of the Board on the matter shall be final.	Retained	
The bye-laws regulating behavior of the public. 11. (1) The Board may, with the approval of the Minister, make regulations and bye-laws: (a) as to the access of members of the public either generally or of a particular class, to premises under the control of the board and as to the orderly conduct of members of the public on those premises; and (b) for safeguarding any property belongings to or controlled by the board from damage by members of the public; (2) Bye-laws made under this section shall not come into force until they are confirmed by the Minister and published in such manner as he may direct.	Retained	

(3) Bye-laws made under this section provide that a breach of the bye-laws or of a particular provisions of the bye-laws shall be punishable by a fine not exceeding 200,000 Naira and or by imprisonment for such a term as may be specified but not exceeding three months. (4) Bye-laws made under this section shall not apply to any member of the board and shall not, in their application to a particular institution, apply to an officer or servant of the board employed in connection with the institution or to a student at the institution.		
Inspection of hospitals controlled by the Board. 12. (1) The Minister may send a visitation panel of three persons, two of whom shall be honourary consultants from universities other than the one being inspected to inspect the hospital and submit a report to the Minister. (2) The Minister shall after due consideration, pass the report and recommendations of the panel to the board for implementation as may be appropriate.	Retained	
Modes of giving directives. 13. Any directive, notice, report, representation or request authorized or required to be given or made under this Bill shall be in writing and may without prejudice to any other method of service, be served by post.	Retained	
Estimates and expenditures. 14. (1) The Chief Veterinary Medical Director shall prepare and submit to the Minister not later than 30th day of June in each financial year or as may be specified by the Minister, an estimate of its income and expenditure during the next succeeding financial year, and such estimates shall be submitted by the Minister for approval by the Federal Executive Council. <i>Accounts and Audits</i> (2) The Chief Veterinary Medical Director shall keep proper accounts in respect of each financial year and shall cause the accounts to be audited not later than five months after the end of the financial year to which the accounts relates. (3) The Board has power to approve fees charged for any services and facilities provided by the hospital, including in particular the provision of tuition, treatment, accommodation and for other services rendered by the hospital.	Retained	

(4) The Board shall with the approval of the Minister have power to borrow money from recognised financial institutions for exigencies.		
Annual reports. 15. (1) The Chief Veterinary Medical Director shall prepare and submit to the Federal Executive Council, through the Minister, not later than 30th day of June in each year, a report in such form as the Minister may direct on the activities of the hospital during the immediate preceding financial year and shall include in such a report a copy of the audited accounts of the hospital for that year. (2) The Chief Veterinary Medical Director shall render to the department in charge of veterinary services and also to the department in the ministry coordinating the affairs of the hospitals, at such times and in such forms as may be specified, disease records, statistical and other epidemiological returns as either of the departments may from time to time require.	Retained	
Powers of the Board in relation to expansion and coordination of the hospitals. 16. (1) The Board shall be responsible for laying down general policies and guidelines relating to major expansion programmes of the hospital and the provisions of facilities for the training of the students of the hospital and it shall be the duty of the Chief Veterinary Medical Director to execute such policies and to keep within such guidelines. (2) The Board shall have power to approve the establishment of new departments, schools or units for the hospital.	Retained	
Power of Minister to give directives. 17. (1) The Minister may give to the Board directive of a general character or relating generally to particular matters (but not to any individual person or case) with regard to exercise by the Board of its functions under this Bill, and it shall be the duty of the Board to comply with the directions, but no direction shall be given which is inconsistent with the duties of the Board under this Bill. (2) Before giving a direction under subsection (1) of this section, the Minister shall serve a copy of the proposed direction on the Board and shall afford the Board an opportunity of making representation to him with respect to the direction; and after considering any representations made to him in pursuance of this subsection, the Minister may give the direction either without modification or with such modifications as appear to be appropriate having regard to the representations.	Retained	

Miscellaneous. 18. (1) All other veterinary teaching hospitals, veterinary specialist hospitals and veterinary practicing premises in Nigeria owned by the States or private persons, shall be registered by the Council and shall operate in accordance with regulations, rules and guidelines issued by the Council. (2) The hospital and veterinary practicing premises registered by Council shall have power to conduct disease surveillance, inspection and clinical services in livestock farms, zoological gardens, wildlife parks, fish ponds, abattoirs, life animal markets, fish and meat markets, cold rooms and other places where live or dead animals are kept and managed. (3) Any person who operates any other veterinary teaching hospital or veterinary specialist hospitals or any private veterinary practicing premises without registration with the Council commits an offence and liable on conviction to a fine not less than one million naira or imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months or to both fine and imprisonment . (4) The Head of a clinical department shall be a fellow as well as an honorary consultant of the hospital, but in a situation that the head of an academic department of the associate university did not meet the criteria in this section, the most senior honorary consultant in that department shall serve the hospital as its acting head. (5) The Council and each Veterinary Surgeon practicing in Nigeria shall ensure the protection of animal welfare in all circumstances. (6) Following the commencement of this Act, the Minister shall set up a Department in the Ministry to coordinate the activities of the hospitals and other similar institutions.	Retained	
Interpretation. 19. In this Bill, unless the context otherwise requires: “animal” means horse, mule, donkey, camel, cattle, buffalo, sheep, goat, swine, dog, cat, laboratory animals, rabbit, lion, tortoise, snakes, crocodiles, and poultry including domestic fowl, turkey, duck, goose, pigeon, guinea fowl, ostrich, bees, aquatic animals which shall include fish, molluscs and crustaceans and any other domestic or wild animal species; “Associate University” means the University from which the hospital derived its name in the case of a Veterinary Teaching Hospital and whose students receive aspects of their training from the hospital;	Retained	

“Board” means the Veterinary Teaching Hospital Management Board or the Veterinary Specialist Hospital Management Board;

“Chairman” means the Chairman of the Board;

“Council” means the Veterinary Council of Nigeria;

“Committee of Consultants” means a body of duly appointed Consultants to the Veterinary Teaching Hospital;

“Core clinical department” means a department of the associate Faculty or College of Veterinary Medicine teaching the subjects of surgery, medicine, their genology, public health and preventive medicine and any other core clinical department that may be established;

“Council” means the Veterinary Council of Nigeria;

“Department” shall include academic, clinical or service department of the hospital;

“examination misconduct” shall include any acts or inaction of any staff or student especially in around the examination hall or carried out in any other place which is considered to be inimical to the integrity of the examination process;

“functions” includes powers and duties;

“Honourary consultant” means an academic staff of the Faculty or College of Veterinary Medicine of the associate University who has been appointed by the board as a consultant to the hospital;

“Honourary registrar” means an academic staff of the Faculty or College of Veterinary Medicine of the associate University who has been appointed by the board as a clinician to the hospital;

“Hospital” means the Veterinary Teaching Hospital and the Veterinary Specialist Hospital, and includes all institutions however called of the hospital;

“Hospital consultant” means a hospital registrar who has been appointed by the board as a consultant to the hospital;

“indecent behavior” shall include sexual gestures, drunkenness, indecent dressing, crossing the lawn, violation of environmental rules of the hospital, disregard for the dress code of the hospital, and any other behaviour that the disciplinary committee may regard as indecent behavior;

“Minister” means the Minister charged with responsibility for matters relating to Animal health and production;

“misconduct” means a specific act of wrong doing or an improper behaviour which is inimical to the image of the hospital such as habitual lateness to work, delays in treating official records, failure to keep records, unauthorised removal of public records, dishonesty, negligence, insubordination, refusal to carry out assignment, disregard for the dress code of

the hospital, malingering and any action or inaction which the disciplinary committee may regard as a misconduct;

“Para-veterinary staff” means a veterinary nurse, an animal health technologists, a veterinary radiographer, a laboratory scientists or technologist, veterinary pharmacists who assist the veterinary surgeons in carrying out some veterinary duties under supervision;

“President” means the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria;

“scandalous conduct” means immoral behaviour, unruly behaviour, drunkenness, foul language, assault, battery, improper dressing, sleeping on duty, discourteous behaviour to the public, sexual harassment, hawking merchandise within hospital premises, and any action or inaction which the disciplinary committee may regard as a scandalous conduct.

“serious misconduct” shall include a specific act of very serious wrongdoing such as absenteeism, general inefficiency, falsification or suppression or damage to records, absence from duty without leave, cultism, false claim against government official, engaging in partisan political activities, bankruptcy and serious financial embarrassment, unauthorised disclosure of official information, bribery, corruption, embezzlement, misappropriation, advanced fee fraud and holding more than one full paid jobs, nepotism, divided loyalty, sabotage, cybercrime, willful damage to public property, examination misconduct and any action or inaction which the disciplinary committee may regard as a serious misconduct;

“State” means a state in Nigeria;

“Student” means a person enrolled at an associate University for the purpose of pursuing a course of study leading to the award of Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree, any other undergraduate or Postgraduate degree and non-degree programmes of the associate University and shall include persons registered for the Fellowship or any other academic and clinical programme of the Postgraduate College of Veterinary Surgeons Nigeria;

“unruly behavior” means disorderly behaviour indicating lack of self-restraint especially on the premises of the hospital. Such acts may include reckless driving, disturbance of peace, damage to hospital or other persons’ property, defacing public building or facilities, insubordination, throwing missiles, fighting, pilfering, and other action or inaction which the students disciplinary committee may regard as unruly

behavior; “Veterinary practicing premises” includes a veterinary hospital or clinic, ambulatory practice, veterinary diagnostic laboratory, aquatic animal practice, a veterinary pharmacy animal hotel, animal or dog boarding kennel, animal breeding or reproduction unit, animal security outfit, and any other place where diseases in animals are diagnosed and treated and where veterinary drugs, biologics, vitamins, animal feeds, veterinary vaccines, veterinary devices, agro-chemicals and other equipment for restraining and treating animals are stored, dispensed and sold; and “veterinary surgeon” means person registered to practice as a veterinary surgeon by the Veterinary Council of Nigeria.		
Citation 20. This Bill may be cited as the University Veterinary Teaching Hospitals and Veterinary Specialist Hospital Abuja (Constitution of Boards) Bill, 2019.	Retained	
SCHEDULES FIRST SCHEDULE <i>[Section 1(1)]</i> LIST OF VETERINARY TEACHING HOSPITALS AND VETERINARY SPECIALIST HOSPITALS (a) the University of Ibadan, Veterinary Teaching Hospital, Ibadan; (b) the Ahmadu Bello University, Veterinary Teaching Hospital, Zaria; (c) the University of Nigeria, Veterinary Teaching Hospital, Nsukka; (d) the University of Maiduguri, Veterinary Teaching Hospital, Maiduguri; (e) the Usmanu Danfodiyo University, Veterinary Teaching Hospital, Sokoto; (f) the University of Agriculture, Veterinary Teaching Hospital, Makurdi; (g) the Federal University of Agriculture, Veterinary Teaching Hospital, Abeokuta;	Retained	

(h) the Michael Okpara University of Agriculture, Veterinary Teaching Hospital, Umudike (i) the University of Abuja, Veterinary Teaching Hospital, Abuja; (j) the University of Ilorin, Veterinary Teaching Hospital, Ilorin; (k) the University of Jos, Veterinary Teaching Hospital; Jos; (l) the University of Benin, Veterinary Teaching Hospital, Benin City; (m) the Veterinary Specialist Hospital, Abuja; (n) any other Veterinary Teaching or Specialist Hospital that may be established from time to time and added to the list by the Minister.		
SECOND SCHEDULE <i>[Section 3(5)]</i> PROCEDURE OF THE BOARD OF THE VETERINARY TEACHING HOSPITAL Proceedings Relating to the Board 1. (a) The Chairman of the Board shall preside at all meetings of the Board. (b) In the absence of the Chairman, or when in the opinion of the Board, the Chairman is temporarily unable to perform the functions of his office, a person elected by the Board shall perform those functions. (c) Where the Board desires to obtain the advice of any person upon any particular matter, the Board may co-opt that person to be member for any meeting or meetings of the Board. (d) The Board may invite a legal practitioner to its deliberations in advisory capacity. (e) No person other than members of staff of the hospital on assigned on duty to the Board shall be present at any meeting of the Board except on the invitation of the Chairman.	Retained	

Meetings of the Board

2. (a) The Board shall hold its meeting twice in a year and may hold such other meetings and emergency meeting as the Chairman of the Board may determine.

(b) The meetings of the Board shall be held on such days and at such place and time as the Chairman of the Board may determine.

(c) If the Chairman is required to do so by notice in writing given by not less than six other members of the Board, he shall summon a meeting of the Board to be held within thirty days from the date on which the notice is given.

Committees

3. (a) The Board may sit in two or more divisions.

(b) The Board may appoint one or more Committees to carry out, on behalf of the Board, such of its functions as the Board may determine.

(c) A Committee appointed under this paragraph shall consist of the number of persons determined by the Board, and not more than one-third of those persons may be persons who are not members of the Board; and a person other than a member of the Board shall hold office on the Committee in accordance with the terms of the instrument by which he is appointed.

(d) A decision of a Committee of the Board shall be of no effect until it is confirmed by the Board.

Quorum

4. (a) Any seven members of the Board shall constitute the quorum.

(b) The presence of a legal practitioner invited in advisory capacity and a person co-opted to attend a meeting shall not count towards the constitution of a quorum.

(c) If no quorum is formed an hour after the time appointed for the meeting, the meeting, if an ordinary meeting, shall be adjourned by the members present to a later date or sine die, and if an emergency meeting, shall stand adjourned to a later date.

Order of Business

5. Unless the meeting otherwise resolves, the order of business at an ordinary meeting shall be as follows:

- (i) call to order;
- (ii) minutes of the last meeting;
- (iii) matters arising from the last meeting;
- (iv) issues to be discussed; and
- (v) any other business.

Voting Proceedings of Board

6. (a) The Board shall decide issues by voting where necessary.

(b) Every member of the Board shall be entitled to vote on any question coming or arising before the Board, and all such questions shall be determined by a majority of the members present and voting thereon.

(c) Voting shall be by show of hands or by secret balloting.

(d) In the event of a tie in the number of votes cast, the Chairman shall have a second or casting vote.

(e) A legal practitioner invited to a meeting in advisory capacity and a co-opted person invited to a meeting of the Board shall not be entitled to vote on any question at any meeting.

Appearance before the Board

7. (a) All persons appearing before the Board as an appellant or as a witness shall testify before the Panel on oath.

(b) The Oath may be administered by the Director of Administration and Secretary to the Board or his representative.

(c) The Board's decision on any matter shall be final.

Miscellaneous

8. (a) Any document authorized or required by virtue of this

Bill to be served on the Board, shall be served on the Secretary. (b) The Board may act notwithstanding any vacancy in its membership; and the proceedings of either body shall not be invalidated by any irregularity in the appointment of a member of that body, or by reason of the fact that any person who was not entitled to do so took part in the proceedings of that body. (c) A person shall not by reason only of his appointment as a legal assessor to the Board or as a member of the Board, be treated as holding an office or emolument under Federal Government or the Government of a State. (d) Any expenses of the Board or any of its Committee shall be defrayed by the hospital. Citation 9. This Regulation may cited as the Procedure of the Board of the Veterinary Teaching Hospital, 2019.		
THIRD SCHEDULE <i>[Section 9(12)]</i> DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES FOR STAFF AND STUDENTS OF THE VETERINARY TEACHING HOSPITAL Powers of the disciplinary committees 1. (1) The staff disciplinary committee or the students disciplinary committee shall have power to: (a) make additional regulations or amend existing regulations for its operations, but such regulations shall not have effect until they are approved by the board; (b) co-opt any person to serve as a member of the staff disciplinary committee or student disciplinary committee; (c) invite any staff, student or other persons that may provide useful information on any matter, to witness before the staff disciplinary committee or the students disciplinary committee; and (d) set up a panel consisting of three persons including at least two of its members to carry out specific investigation on any matter before it, but shall not include the head of department or any	Retained	

relation of the staff or student on trial or the complainant in each case.

(2) Regulations made in section 1(a) of this Schedule, need not be published in the Federal Gazette but the Chief Veterinary Medical Director shall bring them to the notice of all staff and students as the case may be in such manner as he may deem from time from time.

Meeting of the Disciplinary Committees

2. (1) The staff disciplinary committee and the students' disciplinary committee shall meet at least three times year.

(2) The quorum of the staff disciplinary committee and the students' disciplinary committee shall be four, of whom at least two shall be Head of clinical departments, provided that the presence of any co-opted person or anyone attending the meeting in attendance shall not count towards the constitution of a quorum.

Disciplinary procedures

3. (1) The staff disciplinary committee or students' disciplinary committee on receiving a report in accordance with section 8(3 and 4) of the Principal Act shall:

(a) give notice of those allegations in writing to the person; and

(b) afford him reasonable opportunity to defend himself including an opportunity to make representations in writing and in person on the matter to the staff disciplinary committee or the students' disciplinary committee as the case may be.

(2) Any person on trial or appearing as a witness before the staff disciplinary committee or the students' disciplinary committee shall testify on oath.

(3) In a situation that a case against a person under suspension is not concluded within three months, the staff disciplinary committee or the students' disciplinary committee may extend his suspension for a specified period.

(4) The decisions of the staff disciplinary committee and of the students' disciplinary committee shall be arrived at by consensus or through a positive vote by a simple majority of

members present.

(5) Each case before the staff disciplinary committee or the students' disciplinary committee shall be considered on its own merit.

(6) The decision of the staff disciplinary committee and of the students' disciplinary committee shall not be faulted by reason of any vacancy in the membership of the committee.

Disciplinary penalties

5. (1) The staff disciplinary committee or the students' disciplinary committees shall submit its report to the Board which shall include observations on whether the person is guilty of the allegation or not and a clear determination of the appropriate punishment for the staff or student if he is confirmed to be guilty.

(2) The staff disciplinary committee or students' disciplinary committee upon concluding investigation and trial, may recommend to the Board that the staff or student be acquitted if the allegations against him cannot be established.

(3) In case the person is confirmed to be guilty, the appropriate disciplinary committee may recommend that:

(a) the staff be reprimanded in writing, subjected to a loss of annual increment or delay in promotion for a specified period, interdicted, surcharged, loss of headship or other administrative position or responsibility, deferment of confirmation of appointment, disciplinary probation for a specified period, demotion, forced resignation (non-compliance leads to termination of appointment), termination of appointment, or dismissal;

(b) the student may be reprimanded in writing, subjected to a loss of privilege or disciplinary probation for a specified period, surcharged, rusticated for a specified period or expelled.

(4) In all cases, disciplinary sanctions shall depend on the level of involvement, the gravity of the offence and the person's previous disciplinary records.

Handling of special cases

6. (1) For a good cause, any member of staff or a student may be suspended from his duties for a specified period or his

appointment may be terminated or he may be reprimanded or warned by the Chief Veterinary Medical Director based on the recommendations of the staff or students' disciplinary committee, and for the purposes of this section, "good cause" means:

(a) a conviction for a criminal offence by a court of law which the staff disciplinary committee or students' disciplinary committee considers to be such as to render the person concerned unfit for the discharge of the functions of his office; and

(b) any physical or mental incapacity which the staff disciplinary committee or students' disciplinary committee, after obtaining medical advice, considers to be such as to render the person concerned unfit to continue to hold office or take part in the training activities of the hospital in case of a student;

(c) conduct of a scandalous or other disgraceful nature which the staff disciplinary committee considers to be such as to render the person concerned unfit to continue to hold office; or

(d) conduct which the staff disciplinary committee considers to be such as to constitute failure or inability of the person concerned to discharge the functions of his office or to comply with the terms and conditions of his service.

(2) Where a staff or a student is found guilty of embezzling funds belonging to the hospital, a client or union or an association recognized by the hospital, the Chief Veterinary Medical Director shall take steps to:

(a) recover the amount from the salary or other emoluments of the staff in addition to other sanctions that the staff disciplinary committee may impose on him; or

(b) recover the amount from the student concerned or his parents or guardian may be made to refund the funds in addition to other sanctions that the staff disciplinary committee or students' disciplinary committee may impose on him.

Handling a case of criminal offence

7. (1) Where a staff or a student is suspected to have committed

such criminal offence as rape, cultism, murder, vandalism, armed robbery, possession of fire arms, possession, use of or trafficking in hard drugs, arson, advanced fee fraud, the Chief Veterinary Medical Director shall report the case to the police for investigation and possible prosecution and inform the staff disciplinary committee or the students' disciplinary committee as the case may be. (2) The relevant disciplinary committee shall place such a staff or student on suspension if he is arraigned in court and may decide to terminate his appointment or studentship if he is convicted. (3) If the Board, after considering the report of the Staff or Student Disciplinary Committee is satisfied that the person in question should be removed as aforesaid or given less sanction, the board may approve to remove him or sanction him accordingly by a letter signed on the direction of the Board. Citation 8. This Regulation may be cited as the Disciplinary Procedure for Staff and Students of the Veterinary Teaching Hospital, 2019.		
EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM This Bill seeks to provide legal backing for the Veterinary Teaching Hospitals of Universities and Veterinary Specialist Hospital and to transfer the management of the Veterinary Teaching Hospitals from the Federal Ministry Education to the Federal Ministry of Agriculture.	Retained	