



REPORT
OF
THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY CONFERENCE COMMITTEE
ON
A BILL FOR AN ACT TO REPEAL THE NIGERIA FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION
ACT, CAP, N100, LFN, 2004 AND ENACT THE NIGERIA FOOTBALL
FEDERATION AND OTHER MATTERS CONNECTED THEREWITH

MAY, 2019

REPORT OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY CONFERENCE COMMITTEE ON A BILL FOR AN ACT TO REPEAL THE NIGERIA FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION ACT, CAP, N100, LFN, 2004 AND ENACT THE NIGERIA FOOTBALL FEDERATION AND OTHER MATTERS CONNECTED THEREWITH, 2019

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Following the consideration and the passage of the bill for an act to repeal the Nigeria Football Association Act, CAP, N100, LFN, 2004 and enact the Nigeria Football Federation and other matters connected therewith 2019 by the Senate and the House of Representatives, on Tuesday 30th May, 2017 and Thursday, 8th March, 2018 respectively. The two Chambers of the National Assembly set up a Conference Committee to reconcile areas of differences in the Bill.

2.0 MEMBERSHIP

2.1 SENATE

- i. Senator Obinna J. Ogba - Chairman, Conference Committee
- ii. Senator Magnus N. Abe - Member
- iii. Senator Abdulfatai Buhari - Member
- iv. Senator Dino Melaye - Member
- v. Senator Shehu Sani - Member
- vi. Senator Suleiman M. Nazif - Member

2.2 HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

- i. Hon. Danburam Abubakar Nuhu - Co-Chairman
- ii. Hon. Omidiran Ayo Hulayat - Member
- iii. Hon. Lawali Anka Hassan - Member
- iv. Hon. Abiante Awagi-Inombek - Member
- v. Hon. Suleiman Yahaya Kwande - Member
- vi. Hon. Agbo Dennis Nnamdi - Member

3.0 CONFERENCE COMMITTEE ACTION

The Conference Committee met on Tuesday 5th February, 2019 to harmonize the differences in the Bill as passed by both Chambers. The two Chambers passed different versions in the Bill as shown in the table below.

CLAUSES FOR CONFERENCE

S/N	SENATE	HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES	CONFERENCE COMMITTEES RECOMMENDATION
1. Establishment of the Nigeria Football Federation	1 (1) There is hereby established a body to be known as the Nigeria Football Federation (in this Act referred to as "The Federation").	1. (1) There is hereby established a body to be known as the Nigeria Football Federation (in this Bill referred to as "the Federation").	HOUSE VERSION
2 The statutes of the Federation	2 (f) shall encourage the participation of Nigerian youths in the game of football.		HOUSE VERSION
3 Aims and objectives of the Federation		4. (2)(s) all disputes within the Federation and football matters shall be resolved through the alternative dispute resolution mechanisms enshrined in the Statutes of the Federation and other football governing bodies including those of CAF, FIFA and Court of Arbitration on Sports (CAS). The decisions obtained through such alternative dispute resolution mechanisms shall be final and binding on all parties to the disputes; 4(2)(t) participation in the activities of the Federation being voluntary, its	HOUSE VERSION

		members and all participants shall be deemed to have undertaken to waive their rights to take the internal disputes of the Federation and football matters to ordinary courts of law and to resolve all such disputes only through the alternative dispute resolution mechanisms provided in the Statutes of the Federation.	HOUSE VERSION
	5 (1) There is hereby established, for the Federation, a body to be known as the Nigeria Football Federation Congress (in this Act referred to as "the Congress").	5 (1) There is hereby established for the Federation, a body to be known as the NIGERIA FOOTBALL FEDERATION Congress or General Assembly (In this Bill referred to as "the Congress").	HOUSE VERSION
4 Membersh ip of the Congress.	6. The Congress shall consist of all the accredited members of the Federation as outlined in the Statutes of the Federation including the following; (1) State Football Associations; (2) the body representing football referees, as recognised by the Federation; (3) all Football Leagues of the Federation; (4) the body representing football players, as recognised by the Federation; (5) the body representing Coaches or Managers of football clubs, as recognised by the Federation; (6) the Clubs in the first tier League of the Federation;	6. The Congress shall consist of all the accredited members of the Federation as outlined in the Statutes of the Federation.	HOUSE VERSION

	(7) representatives of the clubs in the second tier League of the Federation; (8) representatives of the clubs in the women League of the Federation; (9) representatives of the clubs in the amateur League of the Federation; (10) Designated Honorary Member.		
5.	5 (1) There is hereby established, for the Federation, a body to be known as the Nigeria Football Federation Congress (in this Act referred to as "the Congress").	5 (1) There is hereby established for the Federation, a body to be known as the NIGERIA FOOTBALL FEDERATION Congress or General Assembly (In this Bill referred to as "the Congress").	HOUSE VERSION
6.	6 The Congress shall consist of all the accredited members of the Federation as outlined in the Statutes of the Federation including the following; (1) State Football Associations; (2) the body representing football referees, as recognised by the Federation; (3) all Football Leagues of the Federation; (4) the body representing football players, as recognised by the Federation; (5) the body representing Coaches or Managers of football clubs, as recognised by the Federation; (6) the Clubs in the first tier League of the Federation;	6 The Congress shall consist of all the accredited members of the Federation as outlined in the Statutes of the Federation	HOUSE VERSION

	(7) representatives of the clubs in the second tier League of the Federation; (8) representatives of the clubs in the women League of the Federation; (9) representatives of the clubs in the amateur League of the Federation; (10) Designated Honorary Member.		
7. Exemption of non-juridical persons.	9 As from the commencement of this Act, the Statutes of the Federation may permit non-juridical persons, associations or groups to participate in the activities of the Federation to such extent as the Federation deems fit but, excluding the right to vote at and be counted for the quorum of the Congress of the Federation.	9 As from the commencement of this Bill, the Statutes of the Federation may permit non-juridical persons, associations or groups to participate in the activities of the Federation to such extent as the Federation deems fit but, excluding the right to vote at and be counted for the quorum of the Congress of the Federation.	HOUSE VERSION
8. Agenda.		13 (2u) questions from members and any other business.	HOUSE VERSION
9.	15 (1) There is established for the Federation an Executive Committee which shall be known as the Nigeria Football Federation Executive Committee (in this Act referred to as "Executive Committee"). (d) duly elected and or appointed by the Congress.	15 (1) There is established for the Federation an Executive Committee which shall be known as the NIGERIA FOOTBALL FEDERATION Executive Committee (in this Bill referred to as "Executive Committee").	
10. Tenure of the executive committee	16 The tenure of office of Members of the Executive Committee, proceedings of the Executive Committee and the other matters connected with the functions of the Executive Committee shall be as stipulated in the Statutes of the Federation.	16 (1) Members (other than ex-officio members) of the Executive Committee shall be elected or appointed, as the case may be, for an initial tenure of four (4) years and may be eligible for re-election or re-appointment for a further four year tenure and no more. (2) Proceedings of the Executive	HOUSE VERSION

		Committee and the other matters connected with the functions of the Executive Committee shall be as stipulated in the Statutes of the Federation.	
11. Powers and powers of the executive committee	18 (2) The Executive Committee may delegate any of its powers to a committee consisting of one or more Executive Committee members, or to the General Secretary or any other person holding any other executive office. Any such delegation may be made subject to any conditions as the Executive Committee may impose and either collaterally with or to the exclusion of its own powers and may be revoked or altered. (3) The Executive Committee may, by power of attorney or otherwise, appoint any person to be the agent of the Federation for such purposes and on such conditions as the Executive Committee shall determine, including authority for the agent to delegate all or any of his powers.	18 (x) the Executive Committee may delegate any of its powers to a committee consisting of one or more Executive Committee members, or to the General Secretary or any other person holding any other executive office. Any such delegation may be made subject to any conditions as the Executive Committee may impose and either collaterally with or to the exclusion of its own powers and may be revoked or altered. (y) the Executive Committee may, by power of attorney or otherwise, appoint any person to be the agent of the Federation for such purposes and on such conditions as the Executive Committee shall determine, including authority for the agent to delegate all or any of his powers.	HOUSE VERSION
12. Responsibilities of the President	20 (2) The President shall have an ordinary vote on the Executive Committee and, whenever votes are equal, shall have a casting vote; (3) If the President is absent or unavailable, such Vice-President as specified by the Statutes, and available shall deputise; (4) Any additional powers of the President shall be contained in the internal organisation regulations of Federation.	20 (h) the President shall have an ordinary vote on the Executive Committee and, whenever votes are equal, shall have a casting vote; (i) if the President is absent or unavailable, such Vice-President as specified by the Statutes, and available shall deputise; (j) any additional powers of the President shall be contained in the internal organisation regulations of Federation.	HOUSE VERSION

13. Security Committee	30 There shall be a Security Committee in each State of the Federation and the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja for the purpose of ensuring effective security, safety and maintenance of public order at all football matches played in any particular State or the Federal Capital Territory for such period or occasions as may be determined from time to time.	30 (1) There shall be a Security Committee in each State of the Federation and the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja, comprising of representatives of all relevant security agencies, for the purpose of ensuring effective security, safety and maintenance of public order at all football matches played in any particular State or the Federal Capital Territory for such period or occasions as may be determined from time to time. (2) It shall be the duty of the security agencies to ensure the enforcement of the provisions of subsection (1) of this Bill upon request by Federation and or its members.	HOUSE VERSION
14. Annual report.	39 The Executive Committee shall prepare and submit to the Congress every year a report in such form as the Congress may direct on the activities of the Executive Committee during the immediate preceding year and shall include in the report a copy of audited accounts of the Federation for that year and of the auditors report thereon.	39 (1) The Executive Committee shall prepare and circulate to every member of Congress at least three (3) months before an Ordinary Congress during which it is proposed to be considered a report in such form as the Congress may direct on the activities of the Executive Committee during the immediate preceding year and shall include in the report a copy of the audited accounts of the Federation for that year and the auditor's report thereon. (2) The Executive Committee shall also submit the report mentioned in subsection (1) and a copy of the audited accounts of the Federation to the National Assembly, at least two weeks after submission to the NFF Congress.	HOUSE VERSION
15. Account and audit.		40. (7) That the national Assembly or relevant Committees may investigate or cause an investigation to be carried out with respect only to determining how monies appropriated to the NFF and State	HOUSE VERSION

		grants have been administered.	
16. Income and expenditure	41. (3) Grants and subventions to the Federation may also be paid by the Federal Government in consideration of the following: (a) some commercial rights of the Federation (specifically the Broadcast rights of the Nigeria National representative teams' matches for the Nigerian territory); (b) the position of Football as a National Asset; (c) the role of football in the socio-economic and political development of the Nation; (d) the role of football in strengthening of unity and tranquillity within the nation and the projection of Nigeria's positive image worldwide. (4) The amount of grant approved by the Federal Government shall be paid directly into the Federation consolidated fund (account) en bloc at the beginning of every financial year of the Federal Government.	41.(3) Grants, appropriation and subventions to the Federation may also be paid by the Federal Government in consideration of the following: (a) media or broadcast rights of the Federation, in particular the Broadcast rights of the Nigeria National representative teams' matches for the Nigerian territory), which rights shall be acquired through the National or Public Broadcaster. (b) media or broadcast Rights of the Leagues, in particular the broadcast rights of leagues for Nigeria territory which shall be acquired through National or Public Broadcaster (c) the position of Football as a National Asset, (d) the role of football in the socio-economic and political development of the Nation, (e) the role of football in strengthening of unity and tranquillity within the nation and the projection of Nigeria's positive image worldwide. (4) The amount of grant, appropriation and subvention approved by the Federal Government shall be paid directly into the Federation consolidated fund (account) en bloc at the beginning of every financial year of the Federal Government and or the beginning of the federation financial year, whichever comes earlier.	HOUSE VERSION

17. Access to records.	44. 2. (a) making every member of Federation and bodies to which this act applies responsible, in its administration, management, governance, finances and other related matters therein; (b) making every registered football club responsible, in friendly matches, for organising its matches with respect to but not limited to publicity, security, sale of tickets and concessionary rights; (c) requiring all football clubs, administrators, coaches, referees, match commissioners and such other persons as determined by the Executive Committee involved with football within Federation to be registered with and hold a current licence from the Federation; (d) regulating the activities of football in Nigeria	44 1 (b) may by notice in writing served on any person in charge of the body, club or member of Federation require that person to furnish or cause to be furnished information on such matters as may be specified in the notice. (2) It shall be the duty of any person required to furnish information pursuant to subsection (1) of this section to comply with the notice within a reasonable period of time of not more than 30 working days accept extension is granted by the Federation.	HOUSE VERSION
18. Power to make regulation s.	45. (1) The Nigeria Football Association Act, Cap N110 Laws of the Federation 2004 is hereby repealed. (2) As from the commencement of this Act: (a) all assets, funds, resources and other movable and immovable property vested in the Nigeria Football Association shall, by virtue of this Act and, without further assurance, be vested in the Federation established by this Act; (b) the rights, interests, obligations and liabilities of the Nigeria Football Association existing immediately before the commencement of this Act under any contract or instrument or at law or in equity except for the personnel shall, by virtue of this Act and with further assurance, be assigned to and vested in the Federation established by this Act;	45 The Federation may make regulations generally to give full effect to the provisions of its Statutes and this Bill and, in particular, for: (a) making every member of Federation and bodies to which this Bill applies responsible, in its administration, management, governance, finances and other related matters therein; (b) making every registered football club responsible, in friendly matches, for organising its matches with respect to but not limited to publicity, security, sale of tickets and concessionary rights;	HOUSE VERSION

(c) any contract or instrument as is mentioned in paragraph (b) of this subsection, shall be of the same force and effect against or in favour of the Federation and shall be enforceable as fully and effectively as if instead of the Nigeria Football Association, the Federation established by this Act had been named therein or had been a party thereto.

(3) Any proceeding or cause of action pending or existing or which could have been taken by or against the Nigeria Football Association, immediately before the commencement of this Act in respect, of any right, interest, obligation or liability of the Nigeria Football Association, may be continued, enforced or taken by or against the Federation established by this Act as if the Federation established by this Act and not the Nigeria Football Association had been a party thereto

(c) requiring all football clubs, administrators, coaches, referees, match commissioners and such other persons as determined by the Executive Committee involved with football within Federation to be registered with and hold a current licence from the Federation;

(d) regulating the activities of football in Nigeria.

19.
Repeal.

46. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires –

"Federation" means the NIGERIA FOOTBALL FEDERATION established by section 1 of this Act;

"amateur club" means any club licensed by the authorized Division of the Federation to participate in amateur football either in Nigeria or outside Nigeria;

46. (1) The Nigeria Football Association Act, Cap. N110, Laws of the Federation, 2004 is hereby repealed.

(2) As from the commencement of this Bill –

(a) all assets, funds, resources and other movable and immovable property vested in the Nigeria Football Association shall, by virtue of this Bill and, without further

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"Association Football" means the team sport commonly known as football or soccer, and its variants, played in accordance with the codified rules called Laws of the Game subscribed to by FIFA.

"CAF" means Confederation Africaine de Football or Confederation of African Football, the continental governing body for Association Football in Africa, founded on February 8, 1957, with its headquarters in Cairo, Egypt;

"CAS" means Court of Arbitration for Sports, an independent international body established to settle disputes in sports through arbitration and mediation, founded in 1984, with its headquarters in Lausanne, Switzerland;

"Congress" means the NIGERIA FOOTBALL FEDERATION Congress established by Section 8 of this Act;

"Executive Committee" means the Nigeria Football Federation governing board established by section 4 of this Act;

"Federal Ministry of Sports" means the Federal Ministry charged, from time to time, with responsibility for sports in Nigeria; and Minister shall be construed accordingly;

"FIFA" means Federation International de Football Association or International Federation of Association Football, the world football governing body, founded in May 21, 1904, with its headquarters in Zurich, Switzerland;

"football matters" mean matters, not of a criminal nature or the legality of any law or enactment, concerning the rules

assurance, be vested in the Federation established by this Bill;

(b) the rights, interests, obligations and liabilities of the Nigeria Football Association existing immediately before the commencement of this Bill under any contract or instrument or at law or in equity except for the personnel shall, by virtue of this Bill and with further assurance, be assigned to and vested in the Federation established by this Bill;

(c) any contract or instrument as is mentioned in paragraph (b) of this subsection, shall be of the same force and effect against or in favour of the Federation and shall be enforceable as fully and effectively as if instead of the Nigeria Football Association, the Federation established by this Bill had been named therein or had been a party thereto.

(3) Any proceeding or cause of action pending or existing or which could have been taken by or against the Nigeria Football Association, immediately before the commencement of this Bill in respect, of any right, interest, obligation or liability of the Nigeria Football Association, may be continued, enforced or taken by or against the Federation established by this Bill as if the Federation established by this Bill and not the Nigeria Football Association had been a party thereto.

and conditions for the voluntary participation of persons, natural and juridical, in the activities of the Federation; or relating to the administration, governance and composition of the Federation and other bodies subordinate to it, as provided in the Statutes of the Federation and this Act; or arising from the application or enforcement, by the Federation and its subordinate bodies, of the rules and conditions for participation in their activities or, of the Laws of the Game;

"IFAB" means International Football Association Board, the body that determines the Laws of the Game of Association Football, founded in 1886, with its headquarters in Zurich, Switzerland;

"Laws of the Game" means the laws of the game of Association Football as determined or authorized by the International Football Association Board ("IFAB") and, subscribed to by FIFA;

"League" means the competition, subordinate to and organised by the Federation or any other body or entity authorized, delegated or licensed by the Federation to organise league competition, in accordance with the Statutes of the Federation;

"Member of the Executive Committee or Congress: includes the President of the Executive Committee or Congress;

"Misconduct" means misconducts as defined in the Statutes of the Federation and the Public Service Rules;

"professional club" means any club licensed in accordance with the Club Licensing System and the Statutes of the Federation to participate in professional football either in Nigeria or outside Nigeria;

	"WAFU" means the West Africa Football Union founded in 1975.		
20. Interpretation.	47. This Act may be cited as the Nigeria Football Federation Bill, 2017. SCHEDULE SUPPLEMENTARY PROVISIONS RELATING TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE <i>Proceedings of the Executive Committee</i> 1. Subject to the provisions of the Statutes of the Federation and this Act the Executive Committee may make standing orders regulating the proceedings of the Executive Committee and any of its Committees. 2. A meeting of the Executive Committee shall be presided over by the President or in his absence, the longest serving Vice President, or such person as may be designated by the Statutes of the Federation, or if they are unable to attend a particular meeting, the members present at the meeting shall elect one of their member to preside at that meeting. 3. The quorum at a meeting of the Executive Committee shall be as stipulated in the Statutes of the Federation. 4. Where on a special occasion, the Executive Committee desires to obtain the advice of a person on a particular matter, the Executive Committee may co-opt that person to be a member for as many meetings as may be necessary and that person while so co-opted shall have all rights and privileges of a member, except that he shall not be entitled to vote or count towards a quorum.	47. In this Bill, unless the context otherwise requires — "amateur club" means any club licensed by the authorize Division of the Federation to participate in amateur football either in Nigeria or outside Nigeria; "Association Football" means the team sport commonly known as football or soccer, and its variants, played in accordance with the codified rules called Laws of the Game subscribed to by FIFA; "CAF" means Confederation Africaine de Football or Confederation of African Football, the continental governing body for Association Football in Africa, founded on February 8, 1957, with its headquarters in Cairo, Egypt; "CAS" means Court of Arbitration for Sports, an independent international body established to settle disputes in sports through arbitration and mediation, founded in 1984, with its headquarters in Lausanne, Switzerland; "Congress" means the NIGERIA FOOTBALL FEDERATION Congress established by section 8 of this Bill; "Executive Committee" means the Nigeria Football Federation governing board established by section 4 of this Bill; "Federal Ministry of Sports" means the Federal Ministry charged, from time to time, with responsibility for sports in Nigeria; and Minister shall	HOUSE VERSION

	<i>Committees</i> 5. Subject to its standing order, the Executive Committee may appoint such number of standing and ad-hoc committees as it thinks fit as guided by the Statutes of the Federation to consider and report on any matter with which the Executive Committee is concerned. EXPLANATORY NOTE (This note does not form part of the above Act but is intended to explain its purpose) The Act provides for the Establishment of the NIGERIA FOOTBALL FEDERATION to administer, manage, govern and control the game of Federation football in Nigeria with the objective of improving and strengthening the standards of football. The Federation shall function strictly in accordance with the provisions of its statutes, the rules and regulations made from time to time by the international bodies it is affiliated to and the provisions of this Act.	be construed accordingly; "Federation" means the NIGERIA FOOTBALL FEDERATION established by Section 1 of this Bill; "FIFA" means Federation International de Football Association or International Federation of Association Football, the world football governing body, founded in May 21, 1904, with its headquarters in Zurich, Switzerland; "football matters" mean matters, not of a criminal nature or the legality of any law or enactment, concerning the rules and conditions for the voluntary participation of persons, natural and juridical, in the activities of the Federation; or relating to the administration, governance and composition of the Federation and other bodies subordinate to it, as provided in the Statutes of the Federation and this Bill; or arising from the application or enforcement, by the Federation and its subordinate bodies, of the rules and conditions for participation in their activities or, of the Laws of the Game; "IFAB" means International Football Association Board, the body that determines the Laws of the Game of Association Football, founded in 1886, with its headquarters in Zurich, Switzerland; "Laws of the Game" means the laws of the game of Association Football as determined or authorized by the International Football Association Board ("IFAB") and, subscribed to by FIFA; "League" means the competition, subordinate to and organised by the	
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		Federation or any other body or entity authorized, delegated or licensed by the Federation to organise league competition, in accordance with the Statutes; "Member of the Executive Committee or Congress" includes the President of the Executive Committee or Congress; "Misconduct" means misconducts as defined in the Statutes of the Federation and the Public Service Rules; "National Sports Commission" or "NSC" means the National Sports Commission or the National Sports Commission Board established under an Act of the National Assembly or where it has ceased to exist, an official body within the Federal Ministry of Sports for the time being charged with the statutory functions usually or hitherto performed by the National Sports Commission; "professional club" means any club licensed in accordance with the Club Licensing System and the Statutes of the Federation to participate in professional football either in Nigeria or outside Nigeria; "WAFU" means the West Africa Football Union founded in 1975.	
21.		48 This Bill may be cited as the Nigeria Football Federation Bill, 2019. SCHEDULE SUPPLEMENTARY PROVISIONS RELATING TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE <i>Proceedings of the Executive</i>	

		<i>Committee</i> 1. Subject to the provisions of the Statutes of the Federation and this Bill the Executive Committee may make standing orders regulating the proceedings of the Executive Committee and any of its Committees. 2. A meeting of the Executive Committee shall be presided over by the President or in his absence, the Vice President, or such person as may be designated by the Statutes of the Federation, or if they are unable to attend a particular meeting, the members present at the meeting shall elect one of their member to preside at that meeting. 3. The quorum at a meeting of the Executive Committee shall be as stipulated in the Statutes of the Federation 4. Where on a special occasion, the Executive Committee desires to obtain the advice of a person on a particular matter, the Executive Committee may co-opt that person to be a member for as many meetings as may be necessary and that person while so co-opted shall have all rights and privileges of a member, except that he shall not be entitled to vote or count towards a quorum. <i>Committees</i> 5. Subject to its standing order, the Executive Committee may appoint such number of standing and ad-hoc committees as it thinks fit as guided by the Statutes of the Federation to consider and report on any matter with which the Executive Committee is concerned.	
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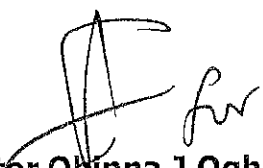
		EXPLANATORY NOTE (This note does not form part of the above Act but is intended to explain its purpose) The Act provides for the Establishment of the NIGERIA FOOTBALL FEDERATION to administer, manage and govern and control the game of association football in Nigeria with the objective of improving and strengthening the standards of football. The Federation shall function strictly in accordance with the provisions of its statutes, the rules and regulations made from time to time by the international bodies it is affiliated to and the provisions of this Bill.	
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4.0 RECOMMENDATION

After a thorough scrutiny of the Bill as passed by the two Chambers, the Conference Committee adopted House version.

5.0 CONCLUSION

The Conference Committee wishes to express its gratitude to the Senate and House of Representatives for the opportunity to serve.


Senator Obinna J Ogba
Chairman, Conference Committee


Yakubu A. Mohammed
Clerk, Conference Committee