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2025 PLAC LEGISLATIVE INTERNSHIP PROGRAMME

MODEL LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY



**MODEL
LEGISLATIVE
ASSEMBLY**

ABOUT PLAC

Founded in 2009, PLAC is an independent, non-partisan, non-profit capacity building organization that works to strengthen democratic governance and citizens participation in Nigeria. Through broad-based technical assistance and training, PLAC works to promote citizens' engagement with government institutions, advocate for legal and policy reforms and promote transparency and accountability in policy and decision making processes.

At the core of our programming is a deep commitment to increase legislative advocacy, promote transparency and good governance, support electoral reforms, enhance citizen's access to public policies and advance anti-corruption campaigns. In its over 15 years of history, PLAC has worked and evolved into a foremost leading institution with capacity to deliver cutting-edge research, policy analysis and advocacy.

Published by



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DELEGATION OF THE EUROPEAN UNION TO NIGERIA AND ECOWAS

The European Union Delegation to the Federal Republic of Nigeria and ECOWAS is a full diplomatic mission representing the European Union in Nigeria with concurrent accreditation to the regional economic body, ECOWAS, headquartered in Abuja.

The Delegation of the European Union to Nigeria and to ECOWAS (the Delegation) is part of the European Union External service and is one of the 140 Delegations throughout the world.

The 2025 PLAC Legislative Internship Programme is one of the programmes supported by the delegation in its Support to Democratic Governance in Nigeria.

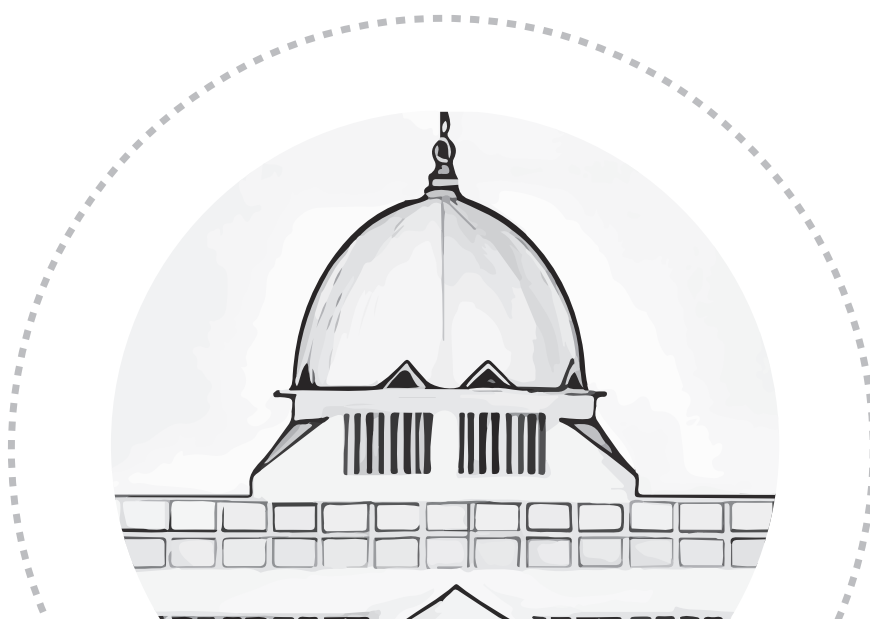


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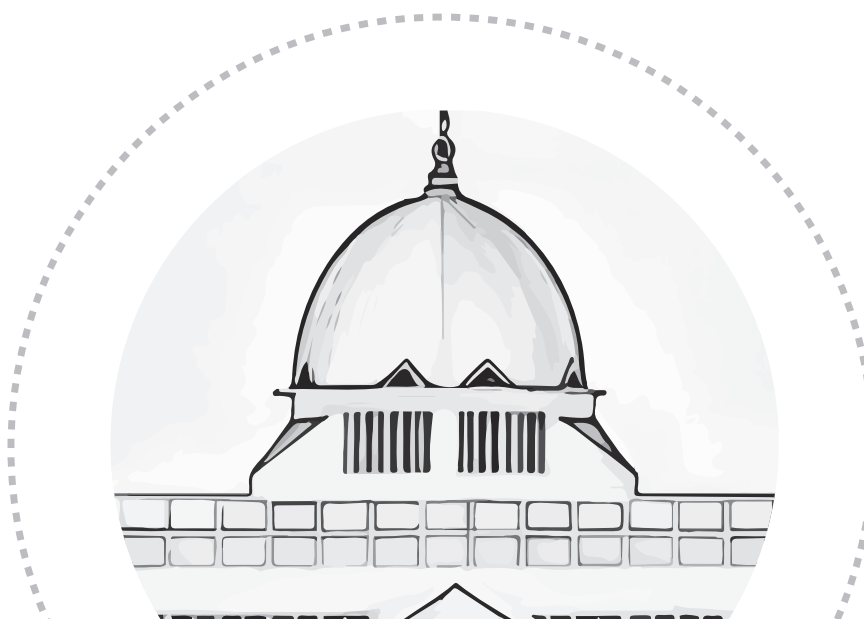
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INTRODUCTION

The 2025 Legislative Internship programme organized by the Policy and Advocacy Centre (PLAC) with support from the European Union has 38 (Thirty) young Nigerians drawn from the six Geo Political Zones and Federal Capital Territory. The interns were deployed to various committees in the Senate and House of representatives to learn legislative practices and procedures to improve their understanding of the National Assembly.

As part of the Internship programme, interns are to carry out a re-enactment of a legislative plenary session through the medium of a mock Legislative Assembly which is patterned after a typical plenary session of the House of Representatives. At the one – day mock plenary session, interns will take on the role of the principal officers and Honourable members to deliberate on topical issues affecting the country.

PLAC's Legislative Internship Programme is supported by the European Union to enhance citizens understanding and participation in the processes of the National Assembly and also to provide a platform for persons from marginalized groups to realize their leadership ambitions and imagine their future leadership potential.

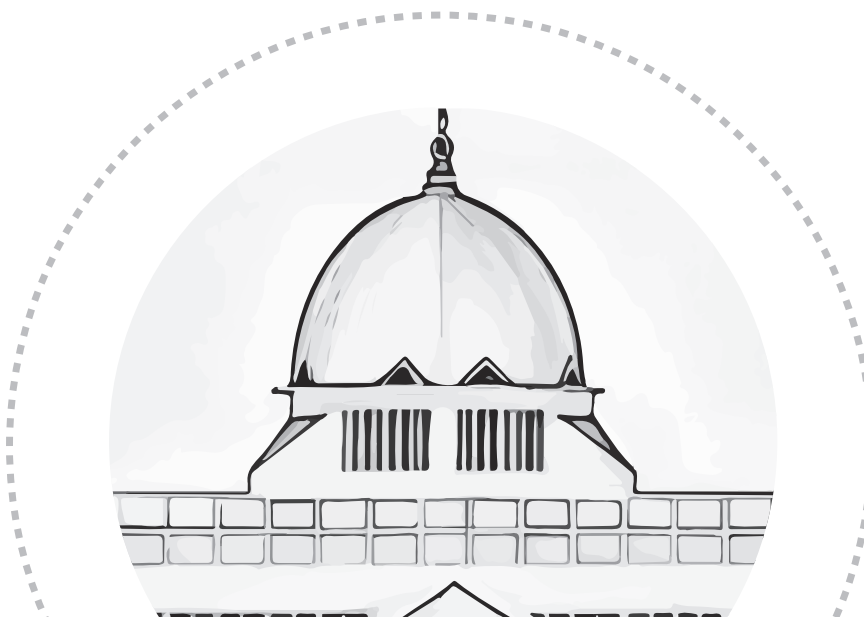


PRINCIPAL OFFICERS IN THE MODEL LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY (MLA)

Sequel to the mock legislative session, interns had practiced their roles at various times at PLAC office and the National Assembly. Interns had also conducted elections to select principal officers from among themselves for the MLA programme.

The following persons emerged as Principal Officers of the MLA

1. Speaker - **Paul Tufwim Dimlong**
2. Deputy Speaker - **Queenette Anthony Oni**
3. Majority Leader - **Alice Eneyo**
4. Deputy Majority Leader - **Muhammad Mukhtar Umar**
5. Minority Leader - **Uchenna Frank Imo**
6. Deputy Minority Leader - **Esther Oluyemi Essien**
7. Chief Whip - **Ismail Abdulkadir**
8. Deputy Chief Whip - **Buba Isa Lawiza**
9. Clerk - **Sokoato Egbeja**
10. Sergeant at Arms - **Jerry Kanyinebi**



AGENDA

Policy and Legal Advocacy Centre (PLAC), with support from the European Union (EU)

PLAC 2025 LEGISLATIVE INTERNSHIP PROGRAMME: MODEL LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY (MLA)

Date: Monday, 15th December 2025

Venue: Transcorp Hilton Hotel, Abuja

Time: 10:00am – 1:00pm

TIME	ACTIVITY
9:30am – 10:00am	Registration of Participants Guests, Resource Persons and Interns are seated
10:00am – 11:00am	SESSION ONE: WELCOME AND OPENING CEREMONY Introduction of guests, resource persons and participants Welcome Remarks Clement Nwankwo <i>Executive Director, PLAC</i> Goodwill Remarks * <i>European Union (EU) Delegation to Nigeria and the ECOWAS</i> * <i>Invited Senators & Honourable Members/ Special Guests</i> Special Remarks Barr. Kamoru Ogunlana, Clerk to the National Assembly (CNA) Opening Remarks/Keynote Rt. Hon. Tajudeen Abbas, PhD, GCON <i>Speaker, House of Representatives</i>

TIME	ACTIVITY
11:00am - 12:00noon	SESSION TWO: MOCK LEGISLATIVE SESSION <i>Plenary Session by Interns of the PLAC 2025 Model Legislative Assembly</i> <i>Led by:</i> Paul Tufwim Dimlong (Plateau) <i>Speaker, 2025 Model Legislative Assembly (MLA)</i> Queenette Anthony Oni (Rivers) <i>Deputy Speaker, 2025 Model Legislative Assembly (MLA)</i>
12:00noon - 12:30pm	SESSION THREE: OBSERVATIONS AND FEEDBACK FROM INVITED LEGISLATORS AND PANELISTS
12:30pm - 1:00pm	SESSION FOUR: PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATES AND PHOTO SESSION * Clement Nwankwo, Executive Director, PLAC * Mr. Gbenga Aruleba, Member, PLAC Board of Directors
1:00pm	Closing Remarks & Lunch

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS PRODUCED FOR THE 2025 MODEL LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

FOURTH REPUBLIC
10TH MODEL LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
FIRST SESSION
No. 27



MODEL LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Thursday, 12th December 2024

1. The House met at 11:00 a.m. Mr. Speaker read the prayers
2. The House recited the National Anthem
3. **Votes and Proceedings**

Mr. Speaker Announced that he has examined and approved the Votes and Proceedings of Thursday, December 12th, 2024

*The **Votes and Proceedings** adopted by unanimous consent*

4. Oaths

Mr. Speaker announced that any member-elect who had not been sworn in come forward to do so. Six members-elect came forward and the clerk administered the oath of office and the newly sworn in members were congratulated by Mr. Speaker.

5. Announcement(s)

Mr. Speaker announced the presence of visitors observing plenary from the Policy and Legal Advocacy Centre (PLAC).

6. Petitions

A petition on behalf of Mr. Kolawole Adeoye on his alleged unlawful indefinite suspension from office as Deputy Director at the Nigeria Customs Service, was presented and laid by Hon. Kehinde Adesanwo (Ekiti);

*Petition referred to the **Committee on Public Petitions***

7. Presentation of Bills

The following Bills were read for the *First Time*:

1. Institute of Science and Technology, Kirfi (Establishment) Bill, 2024 (HB. 2401).
2. Sustainable Finance and Climate Change Mitigation Bill, 2024 (HB. 1896).

8. Presentation of Report(s)

(i) *Committee on Rural Development and Related Matters:*

Motion made and Question proposed, “That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Rural Development on a Bill for an Act to Provide for the Formulation, Implementation and Evaluation of an Infrastructure Development and Implementation Plan; the Development of Rural Market Infrastructure, Connecting Rural Farmers to Urban Centers Through Improved Transport Systems; and for Related Matters, 2024 (HB. 1024)” (*Hon. John Awojobi – Kwara State*)

Agreed to.

Report laid

(ii) *Committee on Youth Development:*

Motion made and Question proposed, “That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Youth Development on a Bill for an Act to Establish the Youth Entrepreneurship Fund to Enhance Youth Employment Opportunities in Nigeria, Provide for Funding and Coordination of Existing Youth Entrepreneurship Programs, and Support Skill Development and Entrepreneurship among Youths; and for Related Matters, 2024 (HB. 1037)” (*Hon. ThankGod Idamoko - Ebonyi State*)

Agreed to.

Report laid

9. A Bill for an Act to Establish National Security Surveillance Systems to Provide for the Installation of Security Cameras on Public Roads, Homes, Schools Businesses, and Public Places to Enhance Public Safety and Internal Security, Facilitate Crime Prevention, Investigation, Prosecution and Coordinated Security Response; and for Related Matters (HB. 1632) – Second Reading

Motion made and Question Proposed, “That the Bill for an Act to Establish National Security Surveillance Systems to Provide for the Installation of Security Cameras on Public Roads, Homes, Schools Businesses, and Public Places to Enhance Public Safety and Internal Security, Facilitate Crime Prevention, Investigation, Prosecution and Coordinated Security Response; and for Related Matters (HB. 1632) be read a Second Time” (*Hon. Godstime Ezekiel – Bayelsa State*)

Debate

Question that the Bill be now read a Second Time – Disagreed to.

Bill stepped down by the leave of the House

10. Need to Investigate the Discrimination of a Nigerian Female Passenger with Disability by Emirates Airline:

Motion made and Question Proposed:

The House:

Acknowledges the Federal Republic of Nigeria's commitment to protecting the rights and dignity of persons with disabilities, as enshrined in the Discrimination Against Persons with Disabilities (Prohibition) Act, 2018, and other international conventions such as the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, to which Nigeria is a signatory.

Concerned by news reports of alleged discriminatory treatment meted out to one Ms. Margaret Adeyileka, a Nigerian female passenger with a disability by Emirates Airline, involving denial of fair access to services and equal treatment provided to other passengers.

Cognizant that such actions against Ms. Adeyileka on Wednesday, December 4, 2024, by Emirates Airline undermine Nigeria's commitment to ensuring inclusivity, non-discrimination, and respect for all citizens irrespective of physical ability or gender.

Notes that the responsibility of the Aviation Sector, under Nigerian and International laws is to ensure that all passengers, including those with disabilities, are treated fairly and respectfully.

Also notes that the International Air Transport Association (IATA) Guidelines advocate for inclusive customer service training for airline staff to provide courteous and effective assistance to passengers with disability;

Aware of the negative implications of such incidents on Nigeria's global image and the possible discouragement it may pose to persons with disabilities traveling through or from Nigeria, it has become imperative to ensure that such discriminatory actions do not go unchecked and that all air passengers, regardless of ability, receive equitable treatment.

Resolves to:

- (i) Mandate the Committees on Aviation and Disability to:
 - (a) investigate the circumstances surrounding the reported incident;
 - (b) review the compliance of all airlines operating in Nigeria with laws protecting persons with disabilities.
- (ii) Urge the Federal Ministry of Aviation and the Nigerian Civil Aviation Authority to strengthen its mechanisms, to ensure that all airlines comply with Nigerian laws and global standards on non-discrimination and disability inclusion.

- (iii) Urge the Federal Government to work with international partners and aviation bodies to promote disability-friendly travel standards for Nigerian citizens globally.

Agreed to.

(HR 345)

Motion referred to the Committee on Disabilities

11. Need to Address the Escalating Inflation Crisis and its Impact on Nigeria's Economy and Citizens:

The House:

Aware that Nigeria is currently experiencing an alarming rise in inflation rates, which has significantly increased the cost of goods and services, thereby eroding the purchasing power of citizens and worsening the living conditions of many;

Concerned that the soaring inflation has disproportionately affected vulnerable groups, including low-income earners, small businesses, and rural communities, pushing more Nigerians below the poverty line;

Cognizant that inflationary pressures are driven by multiple factors, including high energy costs, exchange rate volatility, insecurity affecting agricultural productivity, and structural inefficiencies in the economy;

Notes that the adverse impact of inflation on Nigeria's economic growth, investment climate, and the overall competitiveness of local industries, as well as its potential to exacerbate unemployment and social unrest;

Cognizant of the efforts of the Federal Government and the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) to stabilize the economy through monetary and fiscal measures but observes that more coordinated and sustainable actions are urgently needed to address the root causes of inflation;

Resolves to:

- (i) Mandate the Committees on Finance, Banking, Currency and Other Financial Institutions to investigate the underlying causes of the inflationary trends and assess the effectiveness of existing monetary and fiscal policies in curbing inflation and suggest actionable recommendations for improvement.
- (ii) Urge the Federal Government to:
 - (a) Prioritize the stabilization of food prices by addressing insecurity in agricultural regions and investing in infrastructure to support food production and distribution.
 - (b) Provide targeted interventions, such as subsidies or tax reliefs, for essential commodities and services to ease the burden on low-income households.

- (c) enhance agricultural productivity by subsidising critical inputs such as fertilisers, seeds, and mechanised tools to increase local food production and address food inflation; and
- (iii) Call on the CBN to strengthen exchange rate management to reduce volatility and its impact on inflation.

Agreed to.

Motion referred to the Committee on National Planning and Economic Development

12. *Motion moved and Question proposed*, “That all other motions on the order paper be stepped down and deferred to a later legislative date” - *Agreed to*

13. Consideration of Report(s)

- (i) *Committee on National Security and Intelligence:*
Motion made and Question proposed, “That the House do consider the Report of the Committee on National Security and Intelligence on a Bill for an Act to Prohibit Banditry and Related Offences in Nigeria; to Enhance Security, Provide Justice for Victims, and Promote Socioeconomic Development, and for Related Matters, 2024 and approve the recommendations therein” (*Hon. Sylvia Didam – Kaduna State*)

Agreed to.

Motion made and Question proposed that the House do resolve into the Committee of the Whole to consider the Report – Agreed to.

(HOUSE IN COMMITTEE)

(Mr. Deputy Speaker in the Chair)

A BILL FOR AN ACT TO PROHIBIT BANDITRY AND RELATED OFFENCES IN NIGERIA;
TO ENHANCE SECURITY, PROVIDE JUSTICE FOR VICTIMS, AND PROMOTE
SOCIOECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND FOR RELATED MATTERS, 2024

Clause 1: Objectives and Definition

- (a) Objectives of the Bill:
 - (i) to prevent, combat, and eradicate banditry.
 - (ii) to strengthen law enforcement and judicial systems for addressing banditry.
 - (iii) to rehabilitate victims and reintegrate repentant offenders.
 - (iv) to address the root causes of banditry, such as poverty, unemployment, and resource conflicts, through joint Task force, sensitization and implementing socioeconomic policies.
- (b) Definition and Criminalization of Banditry:

- (i) a person or group engaged in armed violence for financial or territorial gain, coercion, or intimidation of communities shall be deemed guilty of banditry.
- (ii) banditry is classified as a serious offense punishable under this Bill.

Question that clause 1 stands part of the Bill – Agreed to

Clause 2: Institutional Framework

- (a) There should be established the National Banditry Prevention and Response Task Force (The Task Force)
 - (i) the Task Force shall be a multi-agency body comprising the Nigerian Police Force, Armed Forces, Civil Defence Corps, and other relevant agencies.
- (b) Powers and functions of the Task Force:
 - (i) Coordinate national efforts to combat banditry.
 - (ii) Conduct intelligence-led operations in affected areas.
 - (iii) Oversee community policing initiatives and train local security personnel.
- (c) Community Policing and Local Vigilante Regulation
 - (i) State governments shall establish regulated vigilante groups to support law enforcement.
 - (ii) All community security activities shall be supervised by the Task Force to ensure compliance with human rights standards.

Motion moved and Question proposed, “That Clause 2 be amended by deleting 2c(i)” – Agreed to

Question that clause 2 as amended stands part of the Bill – Agreed to

Clause 3: Penalties and Victim Support

- (a) A person found guilty of banditry shall face a minimum of 40 years imprisonment, life imprisonment, or death if the act results in loss of life.
- (b) Collaborators, financiers, or sponsors of banditry shall face a minimum of 30 years imprisonment, or life imprisonment and asset forfeiture.
- (c) The Federal Government shall provide compensation to victims of banditry.
- (d) Psychological and medical rehabilitation services shall be made available to victims.

Question that clause 3 stands part of the Bill – Agreed to

Clause 4: Socioeconomic Interventions

- (a) The Federal Government shall:
 - (i) Implement development projects in high-risk areas, including schools, hospitals, and infrastructure.
 - (ii) Introduce skills acquisition and employment programs to address unemployment and poverty.
- (b) Bandits who voluntarily surrender their arms and renounce violence may be granted conditional amnesty, subject to vetting and rehabilitation.

Question that clause 4 stands part of the Bill – Agreed to

Clause 5: Operational Strategies

- (a) Intelligence Gathering and Sharing:
 - (i) Law enforcement agencies shall strengthen intelligence-sharing mechanisms to combat banditry activities.
 - (ii) Surveillance technologies, including drones and tracking systems, shall be deployed in affected areas.
- (b) The Federal Government shall:
 - (i) Allocate 20% of the national security budget shall be allocated to combating banditry.
 - (ii) leverage international partnerships for technical and financial support.
- (c) Whistleblowers providing actionable intelligence shall receive monetary rewards and protection under witness protection programs.

Question that clause 5 stands part of the Bill – Agreed to

Clause 6: Monitoring and Review

- (a) Monitoring, Evaluation, and Reporting:
 - (i) An annual report on the implementation of this Bill shall be submitted to the National Assembly.
 - (ii) The National Human Rights Commission shall monitor compliance with human rights standards.

Question that clause 6 stands part of the Bill – Agreed to

Clause 7: Interpretation

- (a) In this bill
"Banditry" refers to organized violent crimes such as robbery, kidnapping, cattle rustling, attacks on individuals or communities, and other related offenses.

"Task Force" refers to the National Banditry Prevention and Response Task Force established under this Bill.

"Victim" refers to any individual, group, or community harmed by acts of banditry.

Question that clause 7 stands part of the Bill – Agreed to

Clause 8: Citation

This Bill may be cited as the Banditry Prevention and Response Bill, 2024.

Question that clause 8 stands part of the Bill – Agreed to

Explanatory Memorandum

This Bill seeks to provide a comprehensive framework to combat banditry in Nigeria by defining and criminalizing banditry, establishing prevention and enforcement mechanisms, ensuring justice for victims, and addressing the socioeconomic factors contributing to the menace.

*Question that Explanatory Memorandum stands part of the Bill – **Agreed to***

*Motion made and Question Proposed, “That the Bill be referred back to the Committee on National Security and Intelligence for further scrutiny” – **Agreed to***

Chairman to report progress of the Bill in Plenary

(HOUSE IN PLENARY)

Mr. Deputy Speaker in the Chair reported that the House in Committee of the Whole considered the Report on a Bill for an Act to Prohibit Banditry and Related Offences in Nigeria; to Enhance Security, Provide Justice for Victims, and Promote Socioeconomic Development, and for Related Matters, 2024 and approve Clauses 1 to 8, Explanatory Memorandum, Long Title of the Bill and the resolve that the bill be referred back to the Committee on National Security and Intelligence for further scrutiny.

*Question that the House adopt the report of the Committee of the Whole – **Agreed to***

14. Adjournment

That the House do adjourn till Thursday, 12th December 2025 at 11:00am (Hon. Aminu Harsanu Guyaba – House Majority Leader)

The House adjourned accordingly at 2:00 pm

Paul Tufwim Dimlong
Speaker

ORDER PAPER PRODUCED FOR THE 2025 MODEL LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

**FOURTH REPUBLIC
10TH MODEL LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
THIRD SESSION
No. 26**



MODEL LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

ORDER PAPER

Monday, 15th December 2025

-
1. National Anthem
 2. National Pledge
 3. Prayers
 4. Approval of the Votes and Proceedings
 5. Oaths
 6. Messages from the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (If any)
 7. Messages from the Senate of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (If any)
 8. Messages from Other Parliament(s)
 9. Announcement (s)
 10. Petitions
 11. Matters of Urgent Public Importance
 12. Personal Explanation

PRESENTATION OF BILLS

1. Desertification Control and Climate Resilience (Establishment) Bill, 2025 (HB. 100) – *First Reading*
Hon. Hadiza Adamu Fika (Yobe State)
2. Trademark Act (Amendment) Bill, 2025 (HB. 120) – *First Reading*
Hon. Nsude Chioma Esther (Enugu State)
3. National Social Safety-Net Coordinating Agency (Establishment) Act, 2025 (HB. 122) – *First Reading*
Hon. Oruwori Ayebakuro (Bayelsa State)

PRESENTATION OF REPORTS

Report of the Committee on Aids, Loans and Debts Management

Hon. Omolade Ademiluyi

“That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Aids, Loans and Debts Management on the Request to Implement New External Borrowing in the 2025 Appropriations Act, Refinance Maturing Eurobonds, and issue a Debut Sovereign Sukuk in the International Capital Market”
(Referred: 10/11/2025)

Report of the Committee on Special Duties and Aviation

Hon. Bridget Abiem

“That the House do receive the Report of the Committees on Special Duties and Aviation on a Bill for an Act to Amend the Nigerian Safety Investigation Bureau Act, 2022 and for Related Matters”
(HB. 2108) (Referred: 10/12/2025)

ORDERS OF THE DAY

BILLS

1. A Bill for an Act to Prohibit the Sale, Purchase, and Consumption of Alcohol by Persons under 18 years of age, and for Related Matters (HB.7562) - *Third Reading*.
Hon. Bridget Abiem (Benue State)
2. A Bill for an Act to Mandate the Teaching and Incorporation of the Nigerian Sign Language and Braille System into the Curriculum of all Secondary and Tertiary Educational Institutions in Nigeria and for Related Matters (HB.6726) - *Second Reading*.
Hon. James Oladiran (Ondo State)

MOTIONS

3. **NEED FOR A COMPREHENSIVE GOVERNMENT FRAMEWORK ON IDP REINTEGRATION, SECURITY ASSESSMENT AND HOUSING SOLUTIONS IN NORTHERN NIGERIA**

Hon. Adela Yongo (Adamawa State), Hon. Hadiza Adamu Fika (Yobe State), Hon. Fatima Bukar Lamisula (Borno State), Hon. Muhammad Mukhtar Umar (Bauchi State), Hon. Buba Lawiza Isa (Gombe State) and Hon. Bako Tokpobeya Miracle (Taraba State)

The House:

Notes that between 2008 and 2024, statistics indicate that 15.1 million people have been internally displaced across Nigeria due to conflict, violence and natural disasters, and that majority of these internally displaced persons (IDPs) are Northerners, with the highest demographic originating from North-Eastern Nigeria;

Further notes that recent insecurity incidents since August have triggered new waves of displacement, adding thousands more to an already overstretched humanitarian situation;
Concerned that despite these new and ongoing displacements, many of the older IDPs remain in designated camps and refuges, having neither been properly reintegrated into their home communities nor resettled elsewhere;

Aware that IDP camps and refuges are inherently temporary structures, intended only as short-term emergency relief, and lack the stability and community fabric needed for displaced persons to rebuild their lives;

Concerned that prolonged displacement and unstable living conditions within camps have contributed to heightened unemployment and idleness, which, in turn, have been linked to an increase in crime and protection risks, including sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV), petty theft, and vulnerability to recruitment by criminal or terrorist groups;

Urges immediate and coordinated government action to address these risks in order to prevent the recruitment of IDPs into criminal gangs, bandit networks or terrorist organisations, and to protect the safety, dignity and integrity of displaced populations;

Aware of the National Policy on Internally Displaced Persons (2012, revised 2021), and concerned that implementation across states remains inconsistent, poorly coordinated, or in some cases entirely absent, despite the immediate need for reintegration and resettlement planning;

Accordingly, the House resolves to:

- i. *Urge* the Federal Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Poverty Alleviation, in collaboration with security agencies, to conduct a comprehensive Security and Viability Assessment (SVA) of IDP origin communities to determine areas safe for return, suitable for phased return, or requiring relocation;
- ii. *Further urge* the Federal Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Poverty Alleviation to develop a legally backed IDP Reintegration, Housing and Community Stabilisation

Framework to guide sustainable reintegration and ensure that no IDP camp is closed without a secure, dignified and sustainable alternative for its resident;

- iii. *Call on* the National Commission for Refugees, Migrants and Internally Displaced Persons (NCFRMI) to commence reintegration processes in communities assessed as safe and to develop a clear, time-bound roadmap outlining federal, state and local government roles in return, relocation and resettlement activities;
- iv. *Mandate* the Committees on Humanitarian Affairs, Disaster Management, Security and Social Development to assess the current status of IDP camps and reintegration efforts nationwide and report back to the House within one (1) month.

4. **NEED TO PROVIDE PERIMETER SECURITY, CCTV SURVEILLANCE, AND RAPID RESPONSE SYSTEMS FOR FEDERAL UNITY SCHOOLS ACROSS NIGERIA**

Hon. Queenette Anthony-Oni, Hon. Alice Eneyo, Hon. Precious Agharese, Hon. Ayebakuro Oruwori, Hon. Blessing Ekwere, Hon. Jerry Kanyinebi, Hon. Samuel Ntibi

The House:

Notes the rising vulnerability of Federal Unity Schools to violent attacks, including the recent kidnapping of 25 schoolgirls from Government Girls Comprehensive Secondary School, Maga, Kebbi State on 17 November 2025, and recalls earlier incidents such as the Chibok abduction which underscore longstanding security gaps in these institutions;

Further notes that many Unity Schools lack basic protective infrastructure, such as perimeter fencing, CCTV surveillance, controlled access gates, adequate lighting, and functional monitoring systems, leaving them exposed to intrusion, kidnapping, and other criminal activity;

Aware that several Unity Schools are situated in remote or semi-rural areas with wide landmass, unfenced boundaries, bushy surroundings, and multiple informal access routes, making them highly susceptible to night-time infiltration and unmonitored movement of unknown individuals, thereby exposing students to preventable danger;

Concerned that the absence of modern security technology such as CCTV cameras, motion detectors, alarm systems, and digital monitoring hubs, makes it difficult for school authorities and security agencies to detect, record, or respond swiftly to threats, often leaving incidents unnoticed until they escalate;

Further concerned that many of these schools operate without a dedicated rapid response mechanism or structured emergency communication channel with nearby police formations, meaning that even when threats are identified, help is often delayed, increasing the risk of casualties or successful abductions;

Recognizes that safeguarding schools is a shared responsibility that requires coordination between the Federal Ministry of Education, Federal Ministry of Interior, Nigeria Police Force, Civil Defence Corps, and relevant State Governments where these schools are located;

Recalls that the Safe Schools Initiative, launched to strengthen protection for educational institutions, highlighted the urgent need for perimeter security, surveillance, emergency response plans, and community-based intelligence systems which remain only partially implemented in many Unity Schools;

Believes that providing comprehensive, technology-driven security systems, including perimeter fencing, CCTV monitoring, controlled access gates, floodlights, and a functional rapid response framework will significantly deter criminal attacks, strengthen early-warning capacity, and protect the lives and well-being of students and staff across the federation;

Resolves to:

- i. Urge* the Federal Ministry of Education to conduct an immediate nationwide security audit of all Federal Unity Schools to identify gaps in perimeter protection, surveillance systems, access control, and emergency response capabilities.
- ii. Urge* the Federal Ministry of Education and the Federal Ministry of Interior to prioritise the installation of perimeter fencing, CCTV systems, controlled access gates and other essential security infrastructure in high-risk Unity Schools.
- iii. Call* on the Nigeria Police Force and the NSCDC to strengthen implementation of the Safe Schools Initiative and establish a coordinated rapid-response mechanism for Unity Schools.
- iv. Urge* the Federal Ministry of Interior to work with school management and local communities to enhance early-warning and community-based intelligence systems around Unity Schools.
- v. Mandate* the House Committees on Basic Education and National Security & Intelligence to ensure compliance and report back within six (6) weeks.

5. NEED TO REGULATE RISING RATES OF RENTAL APARTMENTS AND AGENCY DUES IN THE FEDERAL CAPITAL TERRITORY, ABUJA

Hon. James Oladiran, Hon Esther Essien, Hon Khadijah Ajede, Hon. Omolade Ademiluyi, Hon. Praise-God Awoyemi, Hon. Kayode Ibimilua, Hon Faith Ajiboye.

The House:

Notes that the Federal Capital Territory (FCT), Abuja, as Nigeria's administrative centre, requires well-regulated, affordable, and accessible housing systems to support residents, public and civil servants, young professionals, and low-income individuals;

Aware that rental prices in the FCT have risen sharply in recent years, with reports from housing market observers and tenant associations indicating increases in some districts ranging from 50% to well over 100%, thereby intensifying financial hardship and deepening the housing crisis for residents;

Concerned that while professional practice standards generally place agency and legal fees at approximately 10% of annual rent, concerns have been raised that, in the FCT, some unregulated agents now charge between 20% and 30%. exploiting the absence of an enforceable regulatory structure through caution fees, service and maintenance charges;

Also concerned that these unchecked rent increases and multiple exploitative agency fees have led to forced evictions, overcrowding, homelessness, leading to heightened insecurity, and displacement of low and even middle-income households;

Further concerned that there is currently no operational rent regulation framework applicable to the FCT to protect tenants from arbitrary charges and exploitative real estate practices;

Convinced that a clear, enforceable rent and tenancy regulation mechanism is urgently required to safeguard residents, promote orderly urban development, and reduce housing vulnerability.

Mindful of the provisions of the Federal Capital Territory Act and the Nigeria Urban and Regional Planning Act, which empower the Federal Government to prescribe planning standards, housing policies and regulatory guidelines applicable within the FCT;

Resolves to:

(i) *urge* the Federal Capital Territory Administration (FCTA) to adopt and enforce a Rent and Tenancy Regulation Framework for the FCT that includes: regulated limits on annual rent increases; transparent and legally capped agency/service fees; mandatory licensing of estate

agents; strengthened tenant protections; and periodic review of housing supply and market conditions to ensure sustainability.

(ii) *also urge* the Federal Capital Territory Administration (FCTA) to enforce the accreditation and licensing of all estate agents and property managers operating in the FCT, and publish a publicly accessible registry of approved operators to curb fraudulent practices;

(iii) *further urge* the Federal Ministry of Housing and Urban Development to develop and expand affordable housing initiatives in the FCT, including exploring public–private partnerships and other financing mechanisms, subject to budgetary approval.

(iv) *mandate* the Committees on Housing and Habitat and FCT to convene a public investigative hearing involving relevant MDAs, FCTA, estate developers, tenants’ associations and other relevant stakeholders on rent regulation mechanisms for the FCT.

(v) *mandate* the Committees to report back to the House within four (4) weeks for further legislative action.

6. **NEED TO CURB THE RISING WAVE OF DRUG ABUSE AND NARCOTIC SUBSTANCE USE AMONG NIGERIAN YOUTHS**

Hon. Paul Dimlong (Plateau State), Hon. Bridget Abiem (Benue State), Hon. Iman Yerima Abubakar (FCT), Hon. Maryam Muhammad Dankogi (Niger State), Hon. Sokoato Joshua Egbeja (Kogi State), Hon. Lilian Ari (Nasarawa State), Hon. Shehu Hauwa Ayinke (Kwara State)

The House:

Notes the rising incidence of hard drugs and narcotic substance abuse among young people in Nigeria, including codeine, tramadol, rohypnol, illicit opioids, cannabis, and crystal methamphetamine popularly known as mkpurumiri.

Further notes that recent reports from the National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA) indicate widespread distribution and consumption of these substances in both urban and rural areas, with associated impacts on public health, safety, and social stability.

Aware that the increasing prevalence of drug use has escalated incidents of insecurity, heightened cases of gender-based violence, contributed to school dropouts, and intensified social unrest and public health pressures, posing a serious threat to national productivity and long-term stability.

Also aware that Nigeria currently has one of the highest drug-use prevalence rates in West Africa, with millions of young people at risk due to easy access, peer pressure, unemployment, and lack of community awareness.

Concerned that if urgent steps are not taken, the country may experience an uncontrollable surge in addiction-related deaths, violent behaviour, and long-term socio-economic consequences.

Resolves to:

- (i.) Urge the NDLEA to intensify enforcement operations targeted at dismantling distribution networks and prosecuting offenders in accordance with the NDLEA Act.
- (ii.) Call on the Federal Ministries of Health, Education, and Youth Development to strengthen early intervention, rehabilitation, and school-based sensitization programmes and ensure these programmes address the relationship between substance abuse and gender-based violence.
- (iii.) Urge the Federal Ministry of Information and National Orientation, through the National Orientation Agency (NOA) to intensify nationwide awareness campaigns targeting schools, marketplaces, motor parks, worship centres, and online platforms.
- (iv.) Encourage State Governments, through the National Economic Council, to establish Community Anti-Drug Abuse Watch Groups in partnership with traditional rulers, religious institutions, civil society, and youth organisations.
- (v.) Mandate the Committees on Health, Youth Development and Narcotics/Drug Abuse to jointly review existing drug-control interventions, identify gaps in prevention and rehabilitation systems, and recommend legislative measures within six (6) weeks.

7. NEED FOR FEDERAL AND STATE GOVERNMENTS TO ESTABLISH INSTITUTIONALISED LEADERSHIP AND PUBLIC SERVICE MENTORSHIP PROGRAMMES FOR NIGERIA'S NEXT GENERATION OF PUBLIC SECTOR LEADERS

Sponsors:

Hon Philemon Adeyemi, Hon Usman Haruna, Hon Hannatu Haruna Usara, Hon Surajo Abubakar Ibrahim, Hon Ismail Abdulkadir, Hon Abubakar Sadiq Dikko

The House:

Notes that Nigeria's long-term governance capacity depends on deliberate, sustained investment in leadership development and public-service mentorship programmes that equip young Nigerians for effective participation in national and subnational governance;

Further notes that Nigeria currently lacks a legally established leadership pipeline at federal or state level, resulting in fragmented, inconsistent mentorship initiatives that rely heavily on political will, donor funding or shifting administrative priorities;

Aware that programmes such as the Legislative Mentorship Initiative (LMI), the Nigeria Governors' Forum Internship, the PLAC Legislative Internship, and state-based initiatives like the Kashim Ibrahim Fellowship (KIF) have demonstrated value but remain largely non-institutionalised, with some discontinued due to leadership transitions, funding gaps, or absence of statutory backing;

Concerned that the absence of predictable, legally anchored mentorship pathways undermines Nigeria's ability to cultivate a competent, ethical and values-driven next generation of public leaders equipped in policy analysis, governance systems, service delivery, and administrative leadership;

Worried that federal and state institutions face widening human-capital gaps, accelerated retirement of senior bureaucrats, and inadequate inflow of trained young professionals—threatening institutional memory, policy continuity, innovation capacity and long-term national development;

Recognizes that advanced democracies sustain public-sector excellence through institutionalised leadership pipelines such as the U.S. Presidential Management Fellowship, the U.K. Civil Service Fast Stream, and South Africa's Public Service Graduate Programme;

Worried that without urgent legislative attention, Nigeria risks perpetuating a pattern of uncoordinated recruitment, weak succession planning, limited institutional innovation, and continued absence of a strategic leadership pipeline for public service;

Resolves to:

- i. *Urge* the Federal Government, through the Office of the Head of the Civil Service of the Federation and relevant Ministries, to develop and launch a *National Leadership and Public Service Mentorship Framework* establishing a structured, merit-based annual fellowship for young Nigerians across governance and public administration sectors.

- ii. *Urge* State Governments to develop and institutionalise corresponding *State Leadership and Public Service Fellowship Programmes* to strengthen their public-sector talent pipelines and provide structured training and mentorship opportunities for young professionals.
- iii. *Mandate* the relevant House Committees to engage federal and state executives, MDAs, leadership institutes, and development partners to review existing models and propose an oversight and sustainability framework, and report back to the House within six (6) weeks.

8. **NEED FOR THE BAN OF FIRECRACKER (A.K.A KNOCKOUTS) IN THE YULETIDE SEASON FOLLOWING THE SECURITY UNREST IN NIGERIA**

Hon. Uchenna Frank Imo (Abia State), Hon. Great Ezeanya (Anambra State), Hon. Ruth Chisom Onyeugo (Imo State), Hon. Chioma Esther Nsude (Enugu State), Hon. Benjamin Emeka Orogwu (Ebonyi State):

The House:

Notes that the yuletide season, covering Christmas, New Year celebrations and associated festivities, is traditionally characterised by large gatherings, public celebrations and increased movement of people across the country;

Also notes that the use of firecrackers (popularly known as knockouts) has become a widespread cultural practice during this period, with adults and children commonly detonating them in neighbourhoods, markets, worship centres, and other public spaces;

Aware that the recurrent detonation of firecrackers has already commenced in anticipation of the yuletide season, and that many of these devices produce sounds similar to gunshots and improvised explosive devices, especially in urban and semi-urban communities;

Worried that, in the context of Nigeria's current security challenges—marked by incidents of banditry, kidnapping, armed attacks, and bomb explosions—the indistinguishable sounds of firecrackers may cause panic, obstruct early detection of real threats, and create opportunities for criminals to disguise attacks under the cover of such detonations;

Concerned that this situation could heighten public anxiety, strain community vigilance systems, and further complicate the ability of security agencies to respond swiftly and accurately to genuine distress signals during a period already marked by increased mobility and mass gatherings;

Cognizant that Section 14(2)(b) of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended) affirms that the security and welfare of the people shall be the primary purpose of government;

Resolves to:

- (i) *Urge* the Federal Government and relevant security agencies to regulate and restrict the use of firecrackers in high-risk security areas during the yuletide season, and to designate controlled locations and approved time periods for their use, to prevent confusion during security response operations.
- (ii) Also urge that any organised fireworks display or ceremonial use of firecrackers during the festive season shall require prior notification to, and clearance from, the relevant security agencies in the affected locality.
- (iii) *Call on* the Inspector-General of Police to direct State Commissioners of Police to enforce compliance with these restrictions and to apprehend individuals or groups engaged in the sale or use of prohibited firecrackers in violation of established guidelines; and
- (iv) *Mandate the* Committee on Interior and Committee on Police Affairs to monitor compliance with these directives, liaise with relevant security agencies and report back within two weeks.

CONSIDERATION OF REPORT

9. Report of the Committee on National Security and Intelligence

Terrorism (Prevention and Prohibition) (Amendment) Bill, 2025

Hon. Surajo Abubakar Ibrahim:

“That the House do Receive and Consider the Report of the Committee on National Security on a Bill For an Act to Amend The Terrorism (Prevention And Prohibition) Act, 2022 to Criminalise Unauthorised Engagement Or Communication With Terrorist Or Bandit Groups; To Prohibit Ransom Payments; Create Offences Relating To Interference With Counter-Terrorism Operations; and Strengthen Federal Oversight Of All Engagements With Proscribed Groups; and for Related Matters, 2025 and approve the recommendations therein" (HB.69) (Laid:14/10/2025).

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COMMITTEE MEETINGS

S/N	Committee	Date	Time	Venue
1.	Ethics and Privileges	Monday, 15 th December, 2025	2:00pm	Committee Room 06 (White House) Assembly Complex
2.	Public Petitions	Monday, 15 th December, 2025	3:00pm	Committee Room 429 (New Building) Assembly Complex
3.	National Security	Monday, 15 th December, 2025	1:00pm	Conference Room 231 (New Building) Assembly Complex
4.	Agriculture	Monday, 15 th December, 2025	2:00pm	Committee Room 460 (New Building) Assembly Complex

MATTER OF URGENT NATIONAL IMPORTANCE

Urgent Need to Address the Abduction and Murder of Venerable Edwin Achi and to Strengthen Nationwide Security Response to Kidnappings

Sponsor:

Hon. Queenette Anthony-Oni (Khana/Gokana Federal Constituency, Rivers State).

The House:

Notes with deep concern the abduction on 28 October 2025 and subsequent murder of Venerable Edwin Achi, an Anglican priest in Kaduna State, who was kidnapped by armed bandits while returning from pastoral duties.

Further notes that despite efforts by his family and church to secure his release, the late cleric was killed in captivity, while his wife and daughter remain abducted, with their condition and safety unknown.

Worried that this incident reflects an alarming pattern of kidnappings, attacks on rural communities, places of worship, and vulnerable citizens across the country, heightening fear and eroding public confidence in the nation's security architecture.

Concerned that continued insecurity undermines economic stability, national cohesion, and the constitutional right to life under Section 33 of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended).

Resolves to:

- i. **Observe** a minute's silence in honour of the late Venerable Edwin Achi.
- ii. **Urge** the Nigerian Police Force, the Department of State Services (DSS), the Nigerian Army, and the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC) to take immediate, coordinated, intelligence-led action to secure the swift and safe release of the abducted wife and daughter of the late cleric.

- iii. **Further urge** the Chief of Army Staff, the Inspector-General of Police, the Director-General of the DSS, and the Commandant-General of the NSCDC to intensify rescue operations in Kaduna State and other high-risk regions, and to ensure that the perpetrators of this heinous act are apprehended and handed over for prosecution.
- iv. **Mandate** the Committees on National Security and Intelligence, Police Affairs, Defence, and Interior to investigate the circumstances surrounding the abduction and killing, assess the adequacy of the current security response, and report back to the House within two (2) weeks for further legislative action.

LIST OF BILLS PRODUCED FOR THE MODEL LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

NORTH CENTRAL

A Bill For An Act To Prohibit The Sale, Purchase, And Consumption Of Alcohol By Persons Under 18 Years Of Age, And For Related Matters

NORTH EAST

A Bill For An Act To Establish The National Desertification Control And Climate Resilience Agency To Coordinate National Efforts For The Prevention, Control And Management Of Desertification; To Promote Climate Resilience Through Sustainable Land Management, Community-Driven Adaptation Strategies, Afforestation And Reforestation Programmes, Restoration Of Degraded Ecosystems, And For Related Matters.

NORTH WEST

A Bill For An Act To Amend The Terrorism (Prevention And Prohibition) Act, 2022 To Criminalise Unauthorised Engagement Or Communication With Terrorist Or Bandit Groups; To Prohibit Ransom Payments; To Create Offences Relating To Interference With Counter-Terrorism Operations; To Strengthen Federal Oversight Of All Engagements With Proscribed Groups; And For Related Matters.

SOUTH EAST

A Bill For An Act To Amend The Relevant Provisions Of The Trademark Act Cap T13 Laws Of The Federation Of Nigeria 2004 To Include Certificate Of Registration With Corporate Affairs Commission As A Key Requirement Of Trademark Registration And To Have A Uniform Record With Corporate Affairs Commission And For Other Related Matters

SOUTH SOUTH

A Bill For An Act To Establish The National Social Safety-Net Coordinating Agency (NASSCA); To Provide For Its Functions, Powers, Governance Structure, Funding, Programme Implementation Mandate, Data Management Responsibilities, And For Related Matters.

SOUTH WEST

A Bill For An Act To Mandate The Teaching And Incorporation Of The Nigerian Sign Language And Braille System Into The Curriculum Of All Secondary And Tertiary Educational Institutions In Nigeria; And For Related Matters

BILLS DRAFTED BY INTERNS

**NORTH
CENTRAL**

A BILL FOR AN ACT TO PROHIBIT THE SALE, PURCHASE, AND CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOL BY PERSONS UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE, AND FOR RELATED MATTERS

Sponsored by: Hon. Paul Dimlong, Hon. Bridget Abiem, Hon. Iman Yerima Abubakar, Hon. Maryam Muhammad Dankogi, Hon. Sokoato Joshua Egbeja, Hon. Lililian Ari, Hon. Shehu Hauwa Ayinke

ENACTED by the Model Legislative Assembly, Policy Legal and Advocacy Centre(Cohort 2025) as follows-

1. Commencement

This Act shall come into force on the date it is assented to by the President.

2. Objectives of the Act

The objectives of this Act are to-

- (a) protect minors from the harmful physical, mental, and social effects of alcohol;
- (b) prohibit the sale, purchase, consumption, and handling of alcohol by persons under 18 years of age;
- (c) prevent the employment of minors in alcohol-related activities;
- (d) promote public health, safety, and responsible behavior regarding alcohol;
- (e) empower enforcement agencies to ensure compliance and accountability.

PART I

PROHIBITION OF ACCESS TO ALCOHOL BY MINORS

3. Prohibition of Sale of Alcohol to Minors

- (1) No person shall sell, offer for sale, supply, or expose for sale any alcoholic beverage to a person under 18 years of age.
- (2) A person who contravenes subsection (1) commits an offence and is liable on conviction to-
 - (a) a fine of not less than ₦250,000; or
 - (b) imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months; or
 - (c) both.

4. Prohibition of Purchase of Alcohol by Minors

- (1) A person under 18 years of age shall not purchase or attempt to purchase alcohol.
- (2) A minor who contravenes this section shall be referred by an enforcement officer to a responsible parent, guardian, or child protection agency for counselling or intervention.

5. Prohibition of Consumption of Alcohol by Minors

- (1) A minor shall not consume alcohol in any licensed premises or public location.
- (2) Any minor found consuming alcohol shall be handed over to the appropriate authority for guidance, rehabilitation, and educational intervention.

6. Prohibition of Employment of Minors in Alcohol-Related Activities

- (1) No person or business shall employ or engage a minor in-
 - (a) sale, supply, or service of alcohol;
 - (b) distribution, storage, or handling of alcohol;
 - (c) advertisement, marketing, or promotion of alcoholic beverages.
- (2) A person who contravenes subsection (1) commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine of not less than ₦500,000.

PART II

REGULATION OF PREMISES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

7. Duties of Owners of Alcohol-Selling Premises

- (1) A person who owns, manages, or operates a premises where alcohol is sold shall-
 - (a) verify the age of all customers purchasing alcohol using acceptable identification listed in the Schedules;
 - (b) display in a conspicuous place a notice as provided in the Schedules.
- (2) A person who fails to comply with subsection (1) commits an offence and is liable to a fine of not less than ₦300,000.

8. Responsibilities of Parents and Guardians

(1) A parent, guardian, or caregiver shall not knowingly permit a minor under their care to consume alcohol.

(2) A parent who violates this section may be referred for counselling, parenting education, or intervention as may be prescribed by the relevant child welfare authority.

PART III

ENFORCEMENT

9. Enforcement Powers

(1) The Nigeria Police Force, Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps, and any State Alcohol Control Agency shall enforce this Act.

(2) Enforcement officers may-

- (a) enter any premises where alcohol is sold for inspection at reasonable times and in accordance with applicable search and privacy laws;
- (b) demand production of age-verification records;
- (c) arrest persons reasonably suspected of violating this Act;
- (d) seize alcoholic beverages sold or supplied in violation of this Act.

PART IV

OFFENCES AND PENALTIES

10. General Offences

Unless otherwise stated, any person who violates any provision of this Act commits an offence and is liable on conviction to-

- (a) a fine of not less than ₦200,000; or
- (b) imprisonment for a term not exceeding 3 months; or
- (c) both.

11. Jurisdiction

A Court of competent jurisdiction shall have jurisdiction over offences under this Act.

12. Regulations

The Minister responsible for Health may make regulations to give full effect to the provisions of this Act, including the amendment or addition to the Schedules.

13. Interpretation

In this Act-

“alcohol” means any substance containing more than 0.5% alcohol by volume, including spirits, beer, wine, and fermented drinks;

“minor” means a person under the age of 18 years;

“premises” includes bars, restaurants, clubs, hotels, supermarkets, shops, kiosks, and any location where alcohol is sold or consumed;

“sell” includes offering for sale, supply, distribution, or any form of transfer for value or otherwise.

14. Short title

This bill may be cited as the **Prohibition of Alcohol Access to Minors Act, 2025**.

SCHEDULE

(Sections 7(1)(a), 7(1)(b), and 9(2)(b))

Supplementary Provisions Relating to Age Verification, Notices, and Record-Keeping in Alcohol-Selling Premises

Age Verification

1. **Subject to this Bill**, all owners, managers, or operators of premises where alcohol is sold shall verify the age of every customer purchasing alcohol using acceptable identification documents as provided in this Schedule.
2. Acceptable identification documents for the purpose of age verification include-
 - (a) National Identity Number (NIN) Slip or Card;
 - (b) International Passport;
 - (c) Driver’s Licence;
 - (d) Voter’s Card;
 - (e) any other government-issued identification approved for age verification purposes.
3. An owner, manager or operator of a premises shall refuse to sell alcohol to any person who fails to produce a valid identification document confirming that he or she is 18 years of age or older.

4. A failure to comply with paragraphs 1-3 of this Schedule constitutes a contravention of **section 7(1)(a)** of this Bill.

Mandatory Notices

5. All premises selling alcohol shall display a notice in the following format-

NOTICE:

SALE OF ALCOHOL TO PERSONS UNDER THE AGE OF 18 IS PROHIBITED BY LAW. VALID IDENTIFICATION REQUIRED.

6. The notice referred to in paragraph 5 shall-
 - (a) be displayed at the main entrance of the premises;
 - (b) be displayed at all points of sale where alcohol is sold;
 - (c) be presented in a clearly visible format not smaller than 30 cm × 40 cm;
 - (d) be displayed in English and in at least one major local language predominant in the area.
7. A failure to display the notice in accordance with paragraph 6 constitutes a contravention of **section 7(1)(b)** of this Bill.

Record-Keeping

8. All owners, managers or operators of alcohol-selling premises shall maintain accurate records of all alcohol sales, including-
 - (a) the date of sale;
 - (b) the type and quantity of alcoholic beverage sold;
 - (c) the identification document used for age verification;
 - (d) the signature or acknowledgement of the purchaser confirming age.
9. The records referred to in paragraph 8 shall be-
 - (a) maintained for a minimum period of 12 months;
 - (b) produced for inspection upon request by an enforcement officer in accordance with section 9(2)(b) of this Bill.
10. A failure to maintain or produce records in accordance with this Schedule constitutes an offence under this Bill.

Enforcement and Compliance

11. Enforcement officers may enter and inspect any premises where alcohol is sold for the purpose of verifying compliance with this Schedule, including inspection of age-verification records and confirmation of displayed notices.
12. Any person who contravenes any provision of this Schedule commits an offence and shall be liable upon conviction under the penalties prescribed in sections 3, 7, and 10 of this Bill.

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

This Bill seeks to prohibit the sale, purchase, employment, and consumption of alcohol by persons under the age of 18 years. It establishes clear offences and penalties for violations, promotes public health and safety, and empowers relevant authorities to enforce compliance. The Schedules provide guidance on acceptable identification documents for age verification and the notices that must be displayed in alcohol-selling premises.

The background of the image is a solid blue color with a white topographic map pattern. The pattern consists of numerous concentric, irregular lines that create a sense of depth and texture, resembling a contour map of a mountainous or hilly area.

**NORTH
EAST**

THE NATIONAL DESERTIFICATION CONTROL AND CLIMATE RESILIENCE (ESTABLISHMENT) BILL, 2025

A Bill

For

An Act to Establish the National Desertification Control and Climate Resilience Agency to Coordinate National Efforts for the Prevention, Control and Management of Desertification; to Promote Climate Resilience through Sustainable Land Management, Community-Driven Adaptation Strategies, Afforestation and Reforestation Programmes, Restoration of Degraded Ecosystems, and for Related Matters.

Sponsors: Hon. Muhammad Mukhtar Umar

Hon. Hadiza Adamu Fika

Hon. Adela Yongo

Hon. Bako Tokyobeya Miracle

Hon. Buba Lawiza Isa

Hon. Fatima Bukar Lamisula

[] Commencement

Enacted by the Model Legislative Assembly of the Policy and Legal Advocacy Centre:

PART I — ESTABLISHMENT, OBJECTIVES AND FUNCTIONS OF THE AGENCY

1. Establishment of the Agency

(1) There is established the National Desertification Control and Climate Resilience Agency (in this Bill referred to as “the Agency”).

(2) The Agency shall:

- (a) be a body corporate with perpetual succession and a common seal and may sue and be sued in its corporate name; and
- (b) acquire, hold, and disburse property, whether movable or immovable, real or personal.

- (3) The headquarters of the Agency shall be in Abuja, and it may establish zonal, state and field offices as the Board may determine.

2. Objectives of the Agency

The objectives of the Agency shall be to:

- (a) prevent, control and reverse desertification and land degradation in Nigeria;
- (b) promote climate resilience in vulnerable ecosystems and communities;
- (c) strengthen afforestation, reforestation and ecological restoration programmes;
- (d) coordinate national early warning systems for drought and desert encroachment;
- (e) support State and Local Governments in sustainable land management; and
- (f) prioritise interventions in the North East geopolitical zone due to the severity of desertification impacts.

3. Functions of the Agency

(1) The Agency shall be responsible for:

- (a) coordinating national policies to prevent and control desertification;
- (b) developing and maintaining national standards and guidelines for sustainable land management practices;
- (c) serving as the national monitoring, evaluation and reporting authority for desertification and climate resilience targets;
- (d) collect, generate, analyse and maintain geospatial, scientific and socio-economic data on desertification and establish a national desertification information system;
- (e) advising the Federal Government on national policies on desertification, land management, ecological restoration and climate resilience;
- (f) supporting State Governments in developing and implementing land restoration and resilience programmes;
- (g) collaborating with relevant MDAs to harmonize programmes and track progress;
- (h) facilitate donor coordination and national reporting under international environmental agreements;

- (i) undertake such other functions with its national coordinating mandate.

PART II — POWERS OF THE AGENCY

4. Powers of the Agency

(1) The Agency shall have powers to:

- (a) formulate and enforce national guidelines and codes of practice relating to land degradation, drought preparedness and ecological restoration;
- (b) coordinate national afforestation and climate resilience strategies;
- (c) collect, compile, generate and maintain data, including geospatial and remote-sensing information, on desertification trends and operate a national database for that purpose;
- (d) conduct inspections, field assessments and compliance monitoring in collaboration with State Governments;
- (e) issue national advisory directives for preventing land degradation and managing vulnerable ecosystems;
- (f) establish national frameworks for early warning systems on drought, desert encroachment and related climate hazards;
- (g) enter into partnerships with public and private institutions; and
- (h) perform such incidental powers as are necessary to carry out its coordinating mandate.

(2) Nothing in this Act shall be construed as limiting or derogating from the powers of State Governors over land pursuant to the Land Use Act.

PART III — ESTABLISHMENT, COMPOSITION AND FUNCTIONS OF THE GOVERNING BOARD

5. Establishment of the Governing Board of the Agency

(1) There is established for the management of the Agency, a Governing Board of the Agency (in this Bill referred to as “the Board”) which shall be constituted and have the functions and powers set out in this Bill.

(2) The Board shall be responsible for the formulation of policies and general administration of the Agency.

6. **Composition of the Board**

The Board shall consist of:

- (a) a Chairman appointed by the President and subject to confirmation by the Senate;
- (b) the Director-General of the Agency;
- (c) one representative each from the following Federal Ministries not below the rank of Director:
 - i. Ministry of Environment;
 - ii. Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security;
 - iii. Ministry of Water Resources;
 - iv. Ministry of Finance;
 - v. Ministry of Science and Technology;
 - vi. Ministry of Budget and National Planning;
- (d) one representative of the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA);
- (e) one representative of the National Agency for Green Great Wall (NAGGW);
- (f) one representative of the National Environmental Standards and Regulations Enforcement Agency (NESREA);
- (g) one representative of the National Biosafety Management Agency (NBMA);

- (h) one representative of the Nigerian Meteorological Agency (NiMET);
- (i) one expert in climate science, forestry, or land management nominated by the Nigerian Academy of Science; and experts in environmental management, climate science, or land use.
- (j) one representative of registered civil society organisations working in environmental conservation.

7. Tenure of Office

(1) Subject to the provisions of Section 3 of this Act, the Chairman and members of the Board (other than ex-officio members), shall each hold office for four years and may be reappointed for one further term of four years and no more.

(2) A member may resign by notice in writing addressed to the President.

8. Meetings of the Board

(1) The Board shall meet at least four times in a year.

(2) The quorum for a meeting of the Board shall be one-third of its members including the Chairman or the Director-General.

(3) The Board may regulate its own procedures.

9. Allowances

Members of the Board shall be paid such allowances as are approved by the Revenue Mobilisation Allocation and Fiscal Commission.

10. Inter-Agency Collaboration

The Agency shall, in the performance of its functions, maintain close cooperation with—

- (a) the National Agency for the Great Green Wall;
- (b) the National Environmental Standards and Regulations Enforcement Agency (NESREA);
- (c) the Forestry Research Institute of Nigeria;
- (d) the Nigerian Meteorological Agency (NiMET);
- (e) the National Space Research and Development Agency (NASRDA);
- (f) State Ministries of Environment; and
- (g) other relevant institutions,

for the purpose of harmonising national interventions and promoting integrated landscape management.

PART IV — THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL AND STAFF OF THE AGENCY

11. Appointment of the Director-General

(1) There shall be for the Agency a Director-General who shall be appointed by the President; and subject to confirmation by the Senate.

(2) The Director-General shall:

- (a) be the chief executive and accounting officer of the Agency;
- (b) possess not less than 15 years' experience in environmental management, climate science, forestry, or related fields; and
- (c) hold office for four years and may be reappointed for one further term.

12. Removal of the Director-General

The Director-General may be removed from office by the President for:

- (a) misconduct;
- (b) inability to discharge the functions of the office;
- (c) conviction for a criminal offence; or
- (d) serious violation of the policies of the Agency.

13. Staff of the Agency

The Agency may appoint such staff as are necessary for the performance of its functions.

14. Pensions

(1) Service in the Agency shall be approved service for the purposes of the Pensions Reforms Act.

(2) The officers and other persons employed in the Agency shall be entitled to pensions, gratuities and other retirement benefits as enjoyed by persons holding equivalent grades in the public service of the Federation. [Act No. 4, 2014]

(3) Nothing in subclauses (1) and (2) shall prevent the appointment of a person to any office on terms which preclude the grant of pension and gratuity in respect of that office.

PART V — LAND DEGRADATION CONTROL AND DESERTIFICATION MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK

15. Establishment, Criteria and Procedure of Classification Criteria

- (1) The Agency shall develop a National Desertification Classification Framework categorizing areas into:
 - (a) Severely Desertified Areas;
 - (b) Moderately Desertified Areas;
 - (c) High-Risk Vulnerable Areas.
- (2) Classification shall be based on measurable indicators including:
 - a) Vegetation cover loss percentage;
 - b) Soil fertility depletion and erosion severity;
 - c) Water scarcity levels;
 - d) Rate of sand dune encroachment;
 - e) Historical climate data;
 - f) Livelihood vulnerability assessment;
 - g) Satellite imagery and environmental monitoring data;
 - h) Such other indicators as may be determined by the Agency.
- (3)
 - (a) The Agency shall conduct baseline environmental assessments of all northern and other at-risk States every five years
 - (b) The Agency shall publish a National Desertification Map identifying and grading all affected areas.
 - (c) Once published, classified areas must be formally gazetted and communicated to affected State and Local Governments.
 - (d) States may request a reclassification, but such requests must be supported with evidence and are subject to Agency verification.

16. Mandatory Policies and Interventions for Classified Areas

- (1) Every State or Local Government with a classified area shall, within 12 months of such classification, introduce and implement a Desertification Response Policy covering:
 - A. land-use control measures;
 - B. afforestation and community-based restoration plans;
 - C. restrictions on harmful practices such as indiscriminate tree cutting and over-grazing;
 - D. water resource protection and recharge protocols;
 - E. disaster-risk preparedness guidelines.

- (2) States and Local Governments shall submit annual implementation reports to the Agency, detailing:
- (a) activities undertaken;
 - (b) compliance by land users;
 - (c) enforcement actions;
 - (d) measurable outcomes and improvements.

17. Community-Based Land Restoration

- (1) The Agency shall, within 12 months of the commencement of this Act, develop and publish a Community-Based Land Restoration Programme for all classified desertification-affected areas
- (2) The Programme shall:
- (i) Identify priority degraded land zones, based on the classification criteria established under Section 15 of this Act;
 - (ii) Provide mandatory training modules for farmers, pastoralists, and community land users on soil regeneration, water retention, and anti-desertification methods;
 - (iii) Establish an incentive framework, including grants, seedlings, tools, and conditional support, tied to compliance with approved sustainable land-use practices;
 - (iv) Deploy technical field teams to provide on-site support to communities; and
 - (v) Operate without prejudice to the implementation mandate of the National Agency for the Great Green Wall (NAGGW) within designated Great Green Wall corridors

18. National Afforestation and Reforestation Plan

The Agency shall:

- (1) Prepare issue, and review every five years a National Afforestation and Reforestation Plan, setting out annual planting targets, species selection guidelines, and State-specific restoration benchmark;
- (2) Enter into binding implementation agreements with State Governments, Local Governments, NGOs, communities and relevant MDAs in accordance with Section 10, specifying roles, timelines, land area allocations, monitoring mechanisms, and reporting obligations; and

- (3) Publish annual progress reports on afforestation and reforestation outcomes for each State, including survival rates, hectares restored, and budget utilization.

19. Sustainable Land Use Guidelines

- (1) The Agency shall, within 18 months of this Act, develop, issue, and gazette National Sustainable Land Use Guidelines, prescribing standards for:
 - (a) land cultivation practices;
 - (b) grazing and pasture management;
 - (c) tree-cutting and vegetation clearance;
 - (d) soil and water conservation structures; and
 - (e) permitted and prohibited land-use activities in classified areas.
- (2) State Governments shall, within 12 months of the issuance of the Guidelines, domesticate and implement them through corresponding State Regulations, bylaws, or directives, and shall establish enforcement units to ensure compliance.
- (3) Local Governments shall integrate these Guidelines into local land allocation, farming schemes, and community development plans.

20. Climate Resilience and Early Warning Systems

The Agency shall develop, operate and maintain:

- (1) A national multi-hazard early warning system for drought, desert encroachment, land degradation and related climate risks, including real-time monitoring stations in all classified areas.
- (2) Risk communication channels, including SMS alerts, radio broadcasts, and community notice systems, to disseminate timely warnings to vulnerable populations.
- (3) Community-based adaptation protocols, including water harvesting initiatives, emergency grazing plans, community shelterbelt systems, and training for local resilience committees.

PART VI — FINANCIAL PROVISIONS

21. Funding of the Agency

The Agency shall be funded by:

- (a) annual budgetary allocations by the Federal Government;
- (b) grants and loans from national and international partners;
- (c) donations and endowments; and
- (d) such other sources as may be approved by the Board.

22. Desertification and Climate Resilience Trust Fund

- (1) There shall be a Desertification and Climate Resilience Trust Fund established.
- (2) The Fund shall be applied to programmes and projects approved by the Board.

23. Accounts and Audit

- (1) The Agency shall keep proper accounts.
- (2) The accounts shall be audited annually by auditors appointed by the Auditor-General for the Federation.

24. Annual Reporting and Accountability

- (1) The Agency shall prepare and submit to the Federal Executive Council, through the Minister, not later than 30th June in each year, a report on the activities of the Agency during the immediate preceding year, and shall include in such report, a copy of the audited accounts of the Agency for that year and the auditors report.
- (2) The report shall further detail;
 - (a) progress on desertification control;
 - (b) implementation of climate resilience measures;
 - (c) financial statements of the Agency; and
 - (d) inter-agency coordination with the NAGGW and other relevant bodies.

PART VII — OFFENCES AND PENALTIES

25. Offences

A person who:

- (a) wilfully engages in unauthorised activities that cause or accelerate desertification;
- (b) destroys or removes vegetation in protected or vulnerable areas; or
- (c) obstructs an authorised officer of the Agency,

commits an offence.

26. Penalties

- (1) An individual convicted under this Act is liable to a fine of not less than ₦5,000,000; or imprisonment for two years; or both.
- (2) A corporate body convicted under this Act is liable to a fine of not less than ₦50,000,000.

PART VIII — MISCELLANEOUS

27. Regulation-Making Powers

The Minister responsible for Environment may make regulations on the recommendation of the Agency for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this Act.

28. Interpretation

In this Bill:

“**Agency**” means the National Desertification Control and Climate Resilience Agency.

“**Desertification**” means land degradation in arid, semi-arid and dry sub-humid areas resulting from climatic variations or human activities;

“**Climate resilience**” means the ability of a system or community to anticipate, adapt to, and recover from climate-related impacts.

29. Citation

This Bill may be cited as the National Desertification Control and Climate Resilience (Establishment) Bill, 2025

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

This Bill seeks to establish the National Desertification Control and Climate Resilience Agency as the national coordinating and regulatory body responsible for policy direction, monitoring, data management, environmental standards and strategic planning for desertification control and climate resilience across the Federal Republic of Nigeria. The Bill complements the mandate of the National Agency for the Great Green Wall (NAGGW), which shall continue to undertake field-level implementation and community-based projects within the Great Green Wall corridor. The new Agency shall provide national coordination, harmonise standards, strengthen monitoring, data, and early warning systems, and guide Federal and State environmental policies, with particular priority to the North East geopolitical zone where desertification impacts are most severe.

The background of the entire image is a blue topographic map with white contour lines. The lines are irregular and wavy, creating a textured effect. In the center, there is a white rectangular box with a thin white border. Inside this box, the words "NORTH" and "WEST" are written in a bold, white, sans-serif font, stacked vertically.

**NORTH
WEST**

Terrorism (Prevention and Prohibition) (Amendment) Bill, 2025.

Sections:

1. Insertion of section 10A.
2. Insertion of section 12A.
3. Insertion of section 16A.
4. Insertion of section 21A.
5. Insertion of section 32A.
6. Amendment of Section 48.
7. Substitution of subsection 48(3).
8. Insertion of section 48A.

**A BILL
FOR**

AN ACT TO AMEND THE TERRORISM (PREVENTION AND PROHIBITION) ACT, 2022 TO CRIMINALISE UNAUTHORISED ENGAGEMENT OR COMMUNICATION WITH TERRORIST OR BANDIT GROUPS; TO PROHIBIT RANSOM PAYMENTS; TO CREATE OFFENCES RELATING TO INTERFERENCE WITH COUNTER-TERRORISM OPERATIONS; TO STRENGTHEN FEDERAL OVERSIGHT OF ALL ENGAGEMENTS WITH PROSCRIBED GROUPS; AND FOR RELATED MATTERS.

Sponsors: (Hon. Surajo Abubakar Ibrahim, Hon. Ismail Abdulkadir, Hon. Hannatu Haruna Usara, Hon. Philemon Ajeje, Hon. Usman Haruna Abubakar, and Hon. Abubakar Sadiq Shehu).

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

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>1. This Bill may be cited as the Terrorism (Prevention and Prohibition) (Amendment) Bill, 2025, and shall come into force on the date of its assent by the President.</p> | <p>Commencement</p> |
| <p>2. The Terrorism (Prevention and Prohibition) Act, 2022 (in this Bill referred to as “the Principal Act”) is amended as set out in the following sections of this Bill.</p> | <p>Amendment of the Principal Act</p> |
| <p>3. The Principal Act is amended by inserting immediately after section 10 a new section “10A” as follows—</p> <p>“10A.—(1) The Nigeria Sanctions Committee shall be responsible for developing, determining, and recommending to the President the terms, conditions, standards, and procedures applicable to any engagement, communication, or contact with any terrorist group, bandit group, or proscribed organisation.</p> <p>(2) No federal ministry, department, agency, security institution, or authorised person shall initiate, conduct, or participate in any form of engagement or communication with a terrorist or bandit group except—</p> <p>(a) in accordance with the procedures and conditions prescribed by the Nigeria Sanctions Committee;</p> <p>(b) with the written approval of the National Security Adviser; and</p> <p>(c) under the authority of the President, acting on the recommendation of the Committee.</p> <p>(3) The procedures and conditions prescribed under subsection (1) shall include—</p> <p>(a) risk and threat assessments;</p> <p>(b) operational guidelines for approved contact or dialogue;</p> <p>(c) mandatory intelligence documentation and reporting frameworks;</p> <p>(d) accountability and record-keeping standards;</p> <p>(e) human rights and humanitarian safeguards; and</p> | <p>Insertion of section 10A: Terms, Conditions and Procedures for Engagements with Terrorist or Bandit Groups by the Nigeria Sanctions Committee</p> |

prevents abuse.

(4) The Nigeria Sanctions Committee may recommend to the President specific federal agencies, institutions, or persons to be designated as competent authorities for any approved engagement, subject to—

- (a) security clearance;
- (b) specialised training; and
- (c) demonstrated capability to handle sensitive counter-terrorism communication.

(5) Any engagement, communication, or negotiation undertaken in violation of subsection (2) shall be deemed unauthorised for the purposes of section 12A and shall attract the penalties prescribed under that section.

(6) For the purposes of this section—

“engagement” includes any meeting, communication, indirect contact, negotiation, dialogue, peace parley, or exchange of assurances, incentives, or terms with a terrorist group;

“Committee” means the Nigeria Sanctions Committee established under this Act.”

4. Section 12 of the Principal Act is amended by inserting immediately after it a new section “(12A)” as follows:

“**12A.** — (1) A person who without lawful authority, directly or indirectly enters into any form of negotiation, engagement, dialogue, meeting, communication, arrangement for the purpose of peace settlement with any terrorist group, bandit group, or proscribed organisation or an individual commits an offence.

(2) For the purpose of subsection (1), a person acts without lawful authority unless the engagement is—

- (a) expressly approved in writing by the National Security Adviser; and
- (b) conducted by, or in coordination with, the National Counter-Terrorism Centre or any other body designated by the President upon the recommendation of the Nigeria Sanctions Committee,

(3) Any person who contravenes subsection (1)—

- (a) commits an offence and is liable on conviction to imprisonment for a term of not less than 20 years;
- (b) shall, in the case of an elected official or any person protected by constitutional or statutory immunity, be liable to proceedings in accordance with applicable constitutional or statutory frameworks.

**Insertion of section
12A: Unauthorised
Negotiation,
Engagement or
Communication
with Terrorist**

(4) Any other person who contravenes subsection (1) commits an offence and is liable on conviction to imprisonment for a term of not less than 10 years and not more than 15 years,

(5) For the purposes of this section—

“engagement” includes any meeting, parley, communication, negotiation, peace settlement, surrender arrangement, incentive offering, or any act capable of conferring benefit on, or receiving assurances from, a terrorist or bandit group; “public official” includes any person elected, appointed, recognized, or exercising authority at the federal, state, local government or traditional level.”

5. The Principal Act is amended by inserting immediately after Section 16 a new section 16A as follows—

(1) Any federal ministry, department, agency, security institution, or authorised person that conducts or participates in any approved engagement, contact, communication, negotiation, or dialogue with any terrorist group, bandit group, or proscribed organisation shall, within 72 hours of such engagement, submit a written report to the President through the Office of the National Security Adviser.

(2) A report submitted under subsection (1) shall include—

- (a) the nature and purpose of the engagement;
- (b) the parties involved in the engagement;
- (c) the time, place, and method of communication;
- (d) intelligence and operational information obtained;
- (e) any commitments, assurances, or statements made by the parties; and
- (f) any other information required by the National Security Adviser.

(3) The National Counter-Terrorism Centre shall maintain a central and confidential national register of all reports, engagements, intelligence notes, assessments, and related documentation submitted under this section.

(4) No authorised engagement or communication shall be considered valid or lawful unless—

- (a) it complies with the terms and conditions as shall be determined by the Nigeria Sanctions Committee;
- (b) it receives written approval from the National Security Adviser; and
- (c) it is reported in accordance with this section.

(5) Any failure to comply with the reporting obligations under this section—

(a) shall constitute unauthorised engagement for the purposes of section 12A; and

**Insertion of section
16A: Mandatory
Reporting of All
Approved
Engagements and
Communications
with Terrorist or
Bandit Groups”**

12A(4).

(6) For the purposes of this section—

“engagement” has the meaning assigned under sections 12A(5);
“authorised person” refers to any officer or individual authorised
in conformity with section 12A(2)(a) and 12A(2)(b).

6. The Principal Act is amended by inserting immediately after Section 21 a new section “21A” as follows—

**Insertion of section
21A: Prohibition of
Ransom Payment
and Ransom-
Financing**

“**21A.**— (1) A person who, directly or indirectly, provides, pays, offers, collects, transfers, delivers, conceals, arranges, facilitates, negotiates, or otherwise contributes any money, asset, property, vehicle, goods, service, or other valuable consideration as ransom to any terrorist group, bandit group, or proscribed organisation commits an offence.

(2) A person who knowingly or with reasonable grounds to suspect that the funds, property, vehicles, goods, services, or any other consideration provided by them will be used for ransom or ransom-financing commits an offence under this section.

(3) Subsections (1) and (2) shall not apply where the payment, transfer, delivery, or facilitation—

- (a) This section does not apply where the act was compelled by imminent threat of death or serious harm.
- (b) forms part of a security, rescue, intelligence, or strategic operation approved by the President upon the recommendation of the Nigeria Sanctions Committee; and
- (c) is undertaken in coordination with the National Counter-Terrorism Centre or any other designated federal security agency.

(4) A public official who contravenes this section—

- (a) commits an offence and is liable on conviction to imprisonment for a term not more than 20 years; and
- (b) shall be removed from office or impeached in accordance with the procedures prescribed under Section 188 of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, prosecuted, and disqualified from holding any public office for a period of 10 years from the date of conviction;

(5) Any other person who contravenes this section commits an offence and is liable on conviction to imprisonment for a term of not less than 10 years and not more than 15 years.

(6) For the purposes of this section— “ransom” includes any money, asset, property, vehicle, goods, services, favour, or other consideration demanded or accepted for the release, safety, or

non-harm of any person; “ransom-financing” means providing, collecting, managing, transferring, moving, or facilitating funds or assets for purposes connected with ransom payment.

7. The Principal Act is amended by inserting immediately after section 32 a new section “32A” as follows—

“**32A.** — (1) A person who, by any act or omission, directly or indirectly interferes with, obstructs, influences, delays, frustrates, or attempts to frustrate any counter-terrorism operation, investigation, arrest, detention, prosecution, intelligence activity, or judicial process relating to terrorism or banditry commits an offence.

(2) Without prejudice to subsection (1), a person commits an offence under this section if the person—

- (a) intimidates, threatens, coerces, misleads, induces, or exerts undue influence on any security officer, law enforcement agent, intelligence officer, or judicial officer for the purpose of securing the release, concealment, protection, non-arrest, or favourable treatment of any suspected or convicted terrorist or bandit;
- (b) offers, gives, solicits, receives, or agrees to receive any gratification, gift, vehicle, money, property, employment, promise, reward, or other benefit to influence any counter-terrorism or banditry-related action or decision;
- (c) wilfully hinders, prevents, or obstructs any authorised officer from carrying out a lawful counter-terrorism operation;
- (d) knowingly shelters, hides, protects, transports, or provides safe passage, material, logistical support, accommodation, or information to any terrorist, bandit, or proscribed organisation;
- (e) uses, abuses, or threatens to use any office, position, authority, or influence to interfere with, delay, compromise, or frustrate any counter-terrorism procedure, process, or outcome;
- (f) suppresses, alters, delays, or conceals any investigation, intelligence report, security alert, or prosecution relating to terrorism or banditry; or

**Insertion of section
32A: Interference
with Counter-
Terrorism
Operations,
Inducement of
Security Officials,
Abuse of Office,
and Protection of
Terrorists or
Bandits.**

- (g) engages in any act which, by its nature, undermines Nigeria's sovereignty, territorial integrity, internal security, or counter-terrorism framework.
- (3) A public officer who contravenes this section—
- (a) commits an offence and is liable on conviction to imprisonment for a term of not less than 20 years;
 - (b) shall be removed from office upon conviction or be impeached in accordance with the procedures prescribed under Section 188 of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, prosecuted;
 - (c) shall be disqualified from holding any public office, traditional leadership position, or recognised authority for a period of 10 years from the date of conviction; and
 - (d) where applicable, shall be liable to deposition, withdrawal of recognition, disciplinary removal, or any other sanction prescribed by law.
- (4) Any other person who contravenes this section commits an offence and is liable on conviction to imprisonment for a term of not less than 10 years and not more than 15 years.
- (5) A person who attempts, conspires, aids, abets, counsels, procures, or facilitates the commission of any act prohibited under this section commits an offence and is liable on conviction to the same penalty as for the principal offence.
- (6) In this section—
- (a) “gratification” includes money, gifts, vehicles, land, property, favours, employment, promises, offices, or any other benefit;
 - (b) “public officer” includes any elected, appointed, employed, recognised, traditional, community, or religious authority, or any person exercising official, public, or governmental power or influence;
 - (c) “counter-terrorism operation” includes any lawful arrest, search, interception, surveillance, intelligence activity, investigation, detention, prosecution, or judicial process undertaken by a relevant agency; and
 - (d) “benefit” includes protection, information, release, safe passage, concealment, immunity, or any act that improves the operational capacity of a terrorist, bandit, or proscribed organisation.

8. Section 48 of the Principal Act is amended by inserting immediately after subsection (1) a new subsection “(1A)” as follows—

“(1A) A person or entity shall not be the subject of an application for proscription under subsection (1) unless—

- (a) the Attorney-General of the Federation has served the person or entity with a written notice of the proposed proscription and the grounds for it;
- (b) the person or entity has been afforded an opportunity to respond, appear or make representations to the Attorney-General or relevant security agencies, in accordance with fair hearing principles, and has failed, refused or neglected to do so within the period specified in the notice; or
- (c) there exists credible evidence, and judicial confirmation or conviction by a court of competent jurisdiction for an offence relating to terrorism, terrorism financing or support for terrorism under this Act or any other applicable law, establishing that the person or entity is engaged in any of the acts specified in subsection (1).”

**Amendment of
Section 48:
Insertion of
subsection 48(1A)
on Due Process
Before
Proscription.**

9. Subsection 48(3) of the Principal Act is amended by substituting for the existing section, a new section as follows—

“**48(3)** Without prejudice to the provisions of section 57 of this Act, the Attorney-General may, on the approval of the President, apply to the Court for the revocation of the Proscription Order, except where the proscription was effected on the basis of subsection 48(1A)(b) or 48(1A)(c).”

**Substitution of
subsection 48(3)
with a new
subsection**

10. The Principal Act is amended by inserting immediately after section 48 a new section “48A” as follows—

“(1) The National Counter-Terrorism Centre shall establish, maintain, and operate a National Public Register of Convicted Terrorism Supporters and Enablers, which shall contain the names and particulars of persons who—

- (a) have been convicted of any offence under this Act;
- (b) have been designated by the Nigeria Sanctions Committee, or proscribed pursuant to an application by the Attorney-General and with the approval of the President, as supporters, financiers, collaborators, or enablers of terrorist or bandit groups;
- (c) have been found, after investigation and in accordance with due process, to have engaged in acts constituting unauthorised negotiation, ransom-financing, interference, or abuse of office under sections 12A, 21A, or 32A.

**National Public
Register of
Convicted
Terrorism
Supporters and
Enablers**

- (2) The Public Register shall contain—
- (a) the full name and identifying particulars of the person;
 - (b) the nature of the offence or designation;
 - (c) the date of conviction, designation, or determination;
 - (d) the category of involvement, whether supporter, financier, negotiator, enabler, or collaborator;
 - (e) any sanctions, penalties, or restrictions imposed; and
 - (f) any other information the Centre may consider relevant.
- (3) The Centre shall publish, in such manner as may be approved by the National Security Adviser—
- (a) periodic public reports containing the names of persons entered in the Register;
 - (b) an online portal or other mechanism through which the public may access updated information, subject to national security guidelines.
- (4) A person shall not be entered into the Register under subsection (1)(b) unless—
- (a) the Centre has served the person with a written notice of the proposed designation;
 - (b) the person has been afforded an opportunity to respond or appear before the Centre, in accordance with fair hearing principles and procedures established by the Centre, and has failed, refused or neglected to do so; or
 - (c) the person has been convicted by a court of competent jurisdiction of any offence relating to terrorism, terrorism financing, or support for terrorism under this Act or any other applicable law.
- (5) Any unauthorised removal, alteration, concealment, destruction, manipulation, or interference with the Register constitutes an offence punishable by imprisonment for a term of not less than 20 years.
- (6) For the purposes of this section—
- “Supporter or Enabler” includes a person who finances, assists, shelters, enables, negotiates with, facilitates, or otherwise acts in a manner that materially supports terrorism or banditry;
- “Register” means the National Register established under this section;
- “Centre” means the National Counter-Terrorism Centre.

11. Citation

This Bill may be cited as the Terrorism (Prevention and Prohibition) (Amendment) Bill, 2025.

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

This Bill seeks to amend the Terrorism (Prevention and Prohibition) Act, 2022 to criminalise unauthorised negotiation, engagement or communication with terrorist and bandit groups; to prohibit ransom payments except where expressly authorised; to strengthen federal oversight; to penalise interference and abuse of office; to establish a National Register of Terrorism Supporters and Enablers; and for related matters.

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**SOUTH
EAST**

A BILL
FOR
AN ACT TO AMEND THE RELEVANT PROVISIONS OF THE TRADEMARK ACT CAP T13
LAWS OF THE FEDERATION OF NIGERIA 2004 TO INCLUDE CERTIFICATE OF
REGISTRATION WITH CORPORATE AFFAIRS COMMISSION AS A KEY REQUIREMENT
OF TRADEMARK REGISTRATION AND TO HAVE A UNIFORM RECORD WITH
CORPORATE AFFAIRS COMMISSION AND FOR OTHER RELATED MATTERS

Sponsors

Hon Nsude Chioma Esther
Hon. Uchenna Frank Imo
Hon. Great Ezeanya

Hon. Benjamin Emeka Orogwu
Hon. Ruth Chisom Onyeugo

{ } Commencement

BE IT ENACTED by the Model Legislative Assembly as follows:

1. The Trademark Act Cap T13, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 (hereby referred to as the “Principal Act”) is amended as set out in this bill **Amendment of Cap T13, LFN, 2004**
2. “There shall continue to be kept a register of trade marks in which shall be entered all registered trade marks, the names and addresses of their proprietors, the dates on which applications were filed, notifications of assignments and transmissions, particulars of all registered users, and such other matters relating to registered trade marks as may be prescribed. **Amendment of Section 2(1)**

Provided that where the proprietor is a body corporate, the Registrar may require the submission of evidence of incorporation issued by the Corporate Affairs Commission.”
3. “No application for the registration of a trade mark in respect of any goods shall be refused, nor shall permission for such registration be withheld, on the ground only that it appears that the applicant does not use or propose to use the trade mark. **Introducing a Proviso after Section 35(1)**

Provided that, before registering any trade mark, the Registrar shall conduct a search with the Corporate Affairs Commission to ascertain that the proposed mark does not conflict with any existing corporate or business name rights registered with the Commission.”

The Registrar may, on the application of any person aggrieved or on his own initiative, correct any error in the name, address or description of the registered proprietor of a trade mark, or any other entry relating to a registered trade mark, and may make any consequential amendment as he thinks fit.

Provided that before making any correction or amendment which may affect proprietary interests, the Registrar ***shall conduct a search with the***

Corporate Affairs Commission to ascertain that such correction does not conflict with any existing corporate or business name rights registered with the Commission.”

4. The Registrar may, on request made in the prescribed manner by a registered user of a trade mark, correct any error, or enter any change, in the name or address of the registered user.
Provided that such correction is not contravening the existing right of any body corporate or Registered business or incorporated Trustee.

**Introducing a Proviso
after Section 40(2)**

5. The Registrar ***shall conduct a search with Corporate Affairs Commission to avoid duplicity and*** may cause an application under this section to be advertised in the Journal in any case where it appears to him that it is expedient so to do, and where he does so, if within the prescribed time from the date of the advertisement any person gives notice to the Registrar in the prescribed manner of opposition to the application, the Registrar shall, after hearing the parties if so required decide the matter

**Amendment of Section
41(2)**

Explanatory Memorandum

This Bill seeks to alter the provisions of the Trademark Act Cap T13 Laws of the Federation of Nigeria 2004 to have a uniform record with Corporate Affairs Commission.

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**SOUTH
SOUTH**

A BILL
FOR
AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE NATIONAL SOCIAL SAFETY-NET COORDINATING
AGENCY (NASSCA); TO PROVIDE FOR ITS FUNCTIONS, POWERS,
GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE, FUNDING, PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION
MANDATE, DATA MANAGEMENT RESPONSIBILITIES, AND FOR RELATED
MATTERS.

Sponsored by: Queeneette Anthony-Oni, Alice Ini Eneyo, Jerry Kanyinebi, Blessing Ekwere, Precious Obamogie Agharese, Oruwori Ayebakuro, Samuel Ntibi.

ENACTED by the Model Legislative Assembly of the Policy and Legal Advocacy Centre

PART I – PRELIMINARY

1. Short Title and Commencement

(1) This Act may be cited as the **National Social Safety-Net Coordinating Agency (Establishment) Act, 2025**.

(2) This Act shall come into force on the date of assent by the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

2. Establishment of the National Social Safety-Net Coordinating Agency

(1) There is established an agency to be known as the **National Social Safety-Net Coordinating Agency (NASSCA)** (in this Act referred to as “the Agency”).

(2) The Agency shall be a body corporate with perpetual succession and a common seal and may sue and be sued in its corporate name.

(3) The Agency shall be under the supervision and policy direction of the Federal Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Poverty Reduction (in this Act referred to as “the Ministry”).

3. Objectives of the Agency

The objectives of the Agency shall be to:

- (a). Coordinate, harmonize, and standardize all social safety-net programmes in Nigeria.
- (b). Develop, maintain, and update the National Social Register (NSR) and the Unified Registry of Beneficiaries (URB).
- (c). Provide a robust, verifiable national platform for targeting, delivering, monitoring, and evaluating safety-net interventions.
- (d). Strengthen transparency, accountability, and the integrity of social protection systems in the Federation.
- (e). Promote effective inter-governmental and multi-stakeholder collaboration on poverty alleviation.
- (f). Give effect to the provisions of section 16(2)(d) of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria 1999 (as amended), with respect to the obligation of the State to provide suitable and adequate social welfare services

PART II – FUNCTIONS AND POWERS

4. Functions of the Agency

The Agency shall perform the following functions:

- (a). Formulate and issue national standards, guidelines, and operational manuals for all social safety-net programmes.
- (b). Coordinate the State Operations Coordinating Units (SOCUs) and. set National standards for implementation to which states may align for access to Federal funding
- (c). Maintain a central, secure database of poor and vulnerable households and ensure its periodic update and verification.
- (d). Provide technical and capacity-building support to Ministries, Departments, and Agencies (MDAs), States, and Local Governments on safety-net implementation and delivery.
- (e.) Establish and manage a national, accessible grievance redress and beneficiary feedback mechanism.
- (f.) Monitor and evaluate the performance of federal and state social safety-net programmes.
- (g). Facilitate linkages between the NSR/URB and all social intervention programmes including cash transfers, livelihood support, and shock-responsive systems.
- (h). Conduct research, data analytics, and impact assessments on poverty trends and social

protection needs.

(i). Promote data protection, transparency, and accountability in the management of all social registers.

5. Powers of the Agency

The Agency shall have the power to:

- (a). Collect, store, analyze, process, and share social protection data subject to consent, data minimization and lawful purpose requirements
- (b). Access programme and beneficiary records from MDAs and partners implementing safety-net interventions.
- (c). Issue directives to SOCUs and relevant implementing partners to enforce compliance with national safety-net standards.
- (d). Enter into partnerships with development partners, private sector institutions, civil society organizations, and research bodies.
- (e). Establish and operate zonal or regional liaison offices as may be necessary.
- (f). Do such other things which are necessary or expedient for the performance of its functions under this Act.

PART III – DATA MANAGEMENT & REGISTERS

6. National Social Register (NSR) and Unified Beneficiary Registry (URB)

(1) There is established a national database to be known as the National Social Register (NSR), which shall serve as the primary unified repository of information on poor and vulnerable households nationwide.

(2) There is established a Unified Beneficiary Registry (URB) to serve as a central database of beneficiaries receiving support across all social protection programmes.

(3) The NSR and URB shall be maintained, updated, verified, and secured by the Agency, and the URB shall interface with the National Identity Management Commission (NIMC), the Nigeria Inter Bank Settlement System (NIBSS), and other approved identity systems Management bodies

(4) The NSR shall be used by all MDAs, development partners, and State governments for the purpose of targeting, monitoring, and evaluating social assistance and poverty-targeted programmes.

7. Access, Protection, and Reporting Obligations

(1) Access to the NSR and URB shall be granted only to authorized institutions for legitimate programme use, and any such agency shall sign a Data Access Agreement under terms determined by the Agency.

(2) The Agency shall ensure strict compliance with the Nigeria Data Protection Act (NDPA) and ensure all data collected under this Act is used solely for social protection purposes.

(3) Every Federal MDA implementing social protection programmes shall disclose to the Agency its programme details and submit beneficiary lists for verification against the NSR and URB.

PART IV – GOVERNANCE AND STRUCTURE

8. The National Social Safety-Net Steering Committee

(1) There is established a **Steering Committee** which shall provide strategic oversight to the Agency.

(2) The Committee shall consist of:

- a. The Minister of Humanitarian Affairs and Poverty Reduction – Chairperson
- b. The Minister of Finance and the Coordinating Minister of the Economy – Co-Chairperson
- c. The Director-General of NASSCA – Secretary
- d. Representatives (not below directorate level) of the following agencies:
 - i. Federal Ministry of Finance
 - ii. Federal Ministry of Budget and Economic Planning
 - iii. Central Bank of Nigeria
 - iv. National Bureau of Statistics
- e. One representative of the Nigerian Governors' Forum.
- f. Two representatives of development partners (non-voting members).

9. Functions of the Committee

The functions of the Steering Committee shall be to:

- a. Provide the strategic policy direction for national safety-net operations.
- b. Approve annual work plans and budgets of the Agency.
- c. Ensure effective Federal–State coordination and collaboration.

d. Oversee and ensure compliance with national safety-net standards and policies.

10. Quorum and Meetings of the Committee

a. The quorum for any meeting of the Steering Committee shall be one-third of members, including the chair or co-chair.

b. The Steering Committee shall meet at least once every quarter.

c. The Chairperson may summon an extraordinary meeting at any time where urgent matters of national importance arise.

11. Tenure of Membership

a. Members appointed by virtue of their office shall serve for as long as they hold that office.

b. Representatives of the Nigerian Governors' Forum and development partners shall serve a renewable two-year term, subject to satisfactory performance and continued relevance.

12. Cessation of Membership

a. A member may be removed from the Steering Committee by the appointing authority on the following grounds:

i. Misconduct or abuse of office;

ii. Conflict of interest that undermines the integrity of the Committee's decisions;

iii. Any act deemed to bring the Committee or the Agency into disrepute.

b. The Committee shall notify the appointing authority where grounds for removal have been established.

13. Decisions of the Committee

(a). Decisions of the Steering Committee shall be made by simple majority of members present and voting.

(b.) In the event of a tie, the Chairperson (or Co-Chairperson, where presiding) shall have a casting vote.

(c). All decisions of the Committee shall be properly minuted and communicated to the Agency for implementation.

14. Director-General: Appointment, Tenure and Removal

(1) There shall be a Director-General (DG) of the Agency, who shall be appointed by the President on the recommendation of the Minister of Humanitarian Affairs and Poverty Reduction, subject to the confirmation of the Senate

(2) The DG shall hold office for a term of five (5) years, renewable once, subject to satisfactory performance.

(3) The DG may be removed for inability to discharge functions, misconduct, or breach of financial regulations, upon recommendation of the Minister and approval of the President.

15. Functions of the Director-General

The Director-General shall:

- (a). Be the Chief Executive and Accounting Officer of the Agency.
- (b). Provide leadership and overall management of NASSCA.
- (c). Implement the policies and decisions of the Steering Committee.
- (d). Manage and supervise the day-to-day activities of the Agency.
- (e). Prepare annual budgets, strategic plans, and operational reports.
- (f). Submit annual reports and accounts to the Minister.

16. Departments of the Agency

The Agency shall be organized into the following principal departments, and any other department approved by the Minister:

- (a). National Social Register & Beneficiary Management
- (b). Monitoring, Evaluation & Learning
- (c). Data Systems & ICT Infrastructure
- (d). Standards, Guidelines & State Coordination
- (e). Finance & Administration
- (f). Planning, Research & Strategy
- (g). Grievance Redress & Beneficiary Communications
- (h). Legal Department

17. State Operations Coordinating Units (SOCUs)

(1) A State of the Federation or the Federal Capital Territory shall, as a condition for accessing any federal social safety-net funding or participating in national social safety-net programmes under this Act, designate or establish a State Operations Coordinating Unit within the Ministry of the State responsible for social protection or poverty alleviation

(2) The SOCUs shall:

- a. Be responsible for community-based targeting and household data collection within the State.
- b. Manage the State Social Register (SSR) and implement grievance redress mechanisms at the state level.
- c. Forward updated data to the Agency for integration into the NSR.

(3) The Agency shall set the operational standards for SOCUs and supervise their compliance.

PART V – FINANCE AND AUDIT

18. Funding of the Agency

The funds of the Agency shall consist of:

- (a). Annual budgetary allocations appropriated by the National Assembly
- (b). Grants, donations, or contributions from development partners, provided they are not inconsistent with national laws or policy.
- (c). Fees for specialized data services rendered, where applicable and approved by the Minister.
- (d). Income generated from research, publications, and data services.

19. Annual Reports and Audit

(1) The Agency shall maintain proper accounts and records of its operations, which shall be kept in a form consistent with standard accounting practices.

(2) The accounts of the Agency shall be audited annually by the Auditor-General for the Federation or an external auditor approved by him.

(3) The Agency shall submit to the Minister an Annual Report, including the audited accounts, not later than 31 March of every year.

(4) The Annual Report shall include programmes coordinated, performance and impact assessments, and financial statements, which the Minister shall table before the Federal Executive

Council and the National Assembly.

PART VI – ENFORCEMENT AND OFFENCES

20. Offences Relating to Data Fraud and Misuse

(1) Any person who knowingly commits an offence by falsifying, manipulating, or misrepresenting data intended for the NSR or URB is liable on conviction to:

- a. A fine not exceeding ₦5,000,000; or
- b. Imprisonment for a term not exceeding 2 years; or both
- C. where the offender is a corporate body, the fine shall not be less than ₦50,000,000.

(2) Any official who misuses beneficiary data for political, commercial, or unauthorized purposes commits an offence and is liable to disciplinary action and prosecution under relevant laws.

21. Tampering with Digital Systems

(1) Any person who tampers with, hacks into, or interferes with the Agency's digital systems, databases, or platforms commits an offence.

(2) Such a person shall be liable upon conviction to imprisonment for not less than three (3) years or a fine of not less than ₦5,000,000 or both.

22. Power to Investigate and Impose Sanctions

(1) The Agency shall have power to investigate complaints of data fraud, register manipulation, implementation breaches, or misuse of programme funds.

(2) Where an institution or officer violates this Act or regulations issued under it, the Agency may recommend administrative sanctions including:

- (a) suspension of access rights;
- (b) withdrawal of programme approval;
- (c) referral to law enforcement;
- (d) issuance of compliance orders.

PART VII – MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

23. Public Awareness and Communication

(1) The Agency shall develop communication strategies to create public awareness on social safety-net interventions.

(2) The Agency shall ensure that programme guidelines, eligibility criteria, payment schedules, and exit rules are publicly accessible in English and major Nigerian languages where necessary.

24. Power to Make Regulations

The Minister may, upon confirmation by the Steering Committee, make regulations for the effective implementation of this Act, including regulations relating to:

- (a). Data protection and access protocols.
- (b). Grievance redress procedures and timelines.
- (c). Standards for the periodic update and verification of the social registers.
- (d). Monitoring and evaluation frameworks.

PART VIII – TRANSITIONAL AND SAVINGS PROVISIONS

25. Transfer of Assets and Liabilities

(1) All assets, funds, resources, rights, interests, and liabilities of the previously existing National Social Safety Nets Programmes or Project Implementation Units (PIUs), on the commencement of this Act, vest in the Agency.

(2) All movable and immovable property used by such units shall be transferred to the Agency.

26. Transition of Staff

(1) All officers serving in existing Social Safety-Net PIUs shall be transferred to the Agency subject to Federal Civil Service Rules, verification of qualifications and competence, adherence to NASSCA's staffing standards.

27. Existing Registers and Data Systems

(1) All existing data including the National Social Register, Rapid Response Register, State Social Registers, and any other welfare-related database shall, at the commencement of this Act, be deemed to form part of the NSR established under this Act.

(2) The Agency shall harmonize and validate such registers within twelve (12) months.

28. Savings Provision

(1) All acts, decisions, or administrative actions taken by units involved in social safety-net coordination prior to the commencement of this Act shall remain valid, provided they are not inconsistent with the provisions of this Act.

29. Repeal and Citation

(1) Any prior administrative circulars, agreements, or policy documents establishing the administrative structure of NASSCO are hereby superseded by this Act.

(2) This Act may be cited as The National Social Safety-Net Coordinating Agency (Establishment) Act, 2025.

30. Interpretation

In this Act—

"Ministry" means the Federal Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Poverty Reduction

"NASSCO" means the National Social Safety-Net Coordinating Agency.

"NSR" means the National Social Register.

"URB" means the Unified Registry of Beneficiaries.

"SOCU" means the State Operations Coordinating Unit.

"PIUs means Programme Implementation Units

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

The Bill seeks to establish the National Social Safety Nets Coordination Agency (NASSCA) as a permanent government agency responsible for coordinating and supervising all social safety net programmes in Nigeria. It aims to institutionalize The National Social Safety-Net Coordinating Office (NASSCO) and transition it from its current status as a donor-funded project whose operations would cease once donor funding ends into a full statutory government agency with continuity, stability, and perpetuity. The Bill provides legal backing for the National Social Register (NSR) and Rapid Response Register (RRR), ensuring they remain the authoritative databases for identifying poor and vulnerable households.

The background of the entire image is a blue topographic map with white contour lines. The lines are irregular and wavy, creating a textured effect. In the center, there is a white rectangular box with a thin white border. Inside this box, the words "SOUTH" and "WEST" are written in a bold, white, sans-serif font, stacked vertically.

**SOUTH
WEST**

A BILL
FOR
AN ACT TO MANDATE THE TEACHING AND INCORPORATION OF THE
NIGERIAN SIGN LANGUAGE AND BRAILLE SYSTEM INTO THE
CURRICULUM OF ALL SECONDARY AND TERTIARY EDUCATIONAL
INSTITUTIONS IN NIGERIA; AND FOR RELATED MATTERS

Sponsored by: Hon. James Oladiran, Hon. Khadijah Ajede, Hon. Esther Essien, Hon. Omolade Ademiluyi, Hon. Praise-God Awoyemi, Hon. Kayode Ibimilua, Hon. Faith Ajiboye

ENACTED by the Model Legislative Assembly of the Policy and Legal Advocacy Centre

1. Commencement

This Act shall come into force on the date it is signed into law by the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

2. Objectives of the Bill

The objectives of this Act are to:

- a) promote inclusive education in Nigeria;
- b) ensure the compulsory teaching and learning of Nigerian Sign Language (NSL) and the Braille system;
- c) equip learners with necessary communication skills to interact with persons with hearing or visual impairments;
- d) eliminate communication barriers in educational institutions;
- e) ensure compliance by relevant regulatory bodies and institutions; and
- f) promote compliance with Nigeria's obligations under the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD)

3. Scope and Application

- a) This Act applies to all:
 - i) public and private secondary schools;

- ii) public and private tertiary institutions, including universities, polytechnics, colleges of education, monotechnics, and specialized institutions.
- b) This Act binds all federal educational authorities.
- c) States may adopt and domesticate this Act for implementation in State institutions.

4. Mandate to Educational Institutions

- a) All secondary and tertiary institutions in Nigeria **shall incorporate Nigerian Sign Language and the Braille system into their curriculum** as compulsory General Studies (GST) courses in tertiary institutions, and as compulsory communication components in secondary institutions.
- b) Each institution shall:
 - i) provide training for staff involved in teaching Sign Language and Braille;
 - ii) establish or strengthen Special Education Units to support implementation;
 - iii) ensure availability of teaching materials, technological aids, and accessible learning resources.

5. Responsibilities of Key Authorities

(a) Federal Ministry of Education

- i) Develop national guidelines for curriculum integration.
- ii) Provide grants and financial support to institutions for implementation.
- iii) Conduct public awareness and sensitization programmes.
- iv) The Minister may amend the list of assistive technologies set out in the schedule to this Act.

(b) National Universities Commission (NUC)

- i) Ensure compliance in universities during accreditation visits.
- ii) Approve course structures, staffing requirements, and learning outcomes relating to NSL and Braille.

(c) National Board for Technical Education (NBTE)

- i) Ensure full incorporation of Sign Language and Braille training in polytechnics and monotechnics.
- ii) Review accreditation standards to include inclusive education provisions.

(d) National Commission for Colleges of Education (NCCE)

- i) Integrate NSL and Braille into teacher-training curricula.
- ii) Ensure Colleges of Education produce qualified instructors for secondary and tertiary levels.

(e) Universal Basic Education Commission (UBEC)

Responsible for early-stage sensitization and inclusion at the upper basic level (Junior Secondary School), where applicable.

(f) Teaching Service Commissions & Special Education Departments

- i) Recruit qualified Sign Language and Braille instructors.
- ii) Organize continuous professional development.

(g) Nigerian Educational Research and Development Council (NERDC)

- i) The NERDC, in consultation with the National Commission for Persons with Disabilities (NCPWD), shall revise the national curriculum to include: Nigerian Sign Language; Braille literacy; and Assistive technologies for inclusive communication.
- ii) The NERDC shall develop standardized textbooks, teaching guides, multimedia content, and learning tools to aid the implementation of the revised national curriculum

(h) The National Commission for Persons with Disabilities

The National Commission for Persons with Disabilities shall validate and approve trainer certification standards and special education qualifications for institutions and teachers.

(i) Teacher Qualification and Training

- i) Institutions shall employ individuals with: recognized certification in Sign Language interpretation or instruction; recognized certification in Braille instruction; special education qualifications.

- ii) NCCE shall review teacher-training courses to include compulsory inclusive communication modules.
- iii) Annual capacity-building workshops shall be conducted nationwide.

6. Funding and Resource Allocation

- a) The Federal Government shall allocate funds through:
 - i) Federal Ministry of Education;
 - ii) Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFund);
 - iii) UBEC Intervention Funds (where applicable)
- b) Funds shall be used for:
 - i) training and recruitment of teachers;
 - ii) teaching materials and assistive devices;
 - iii) infrastructure upgrades;
 - iv) research and innovation in inclusive communication technologies.

7. Implementation Timeline

- a) Within twelve (12) months of the commencement of this Act, the Nigerian Educational Research and Development Council (NERDC) shall complete the review and revision of the national curriculum to incorporate Nigerian Sign Language and the Braille system in accordance with this Act.
- b) Within eighteen (18) months of the commencement of this Act, all secondary and tertiary institutions to which this Act applies shall commence phased implementation of the revised curriculum and related programmes.
- c) Within twenty-four (24) months of the commencement of this Act, every institution shall demonstrate full operational readiness for the implementation of this Act, including –
 - (i) the employment or designation of teachers trained in Nigerian Sign Language and Braille instruction;
 - (ii) the procurement and deployment of relevant teaching and learning materials, including assistive devices and technologies;
 - (iii) the establishment and functioning of Special Education Units or inclusive communication support structures; and
 - (iv) compliance with all requirements, guidelines, and standards issued pursuant to this Act.

8. Monitoring, Accreditation, and Enforcement

- a) The Federal Ministry of Education shall coordinate monitoring nationwide.
- b) NUC, NBTE, and NCCE shall include compliance with this Act as a mandatory requirement for institutional accreditation.
- c) Any institution that fails to comply shall:
 - i) receive a warning and a six-month compliance notice;
 - ii) face penalties if non-compliance persists, and such penalties shall be exercised in accordance with existing accreditation regulations.

9. Offences and Penalties

Penalties may consist of any, a combination of, or all of the following:

- a) An institution that willfully refuses to implement or comply with any provision of this Act commits an offence and is liable, on the recommendation of the Federal Ministry of Education and upon conviction, to –
 - (i) an administrative fine of not less than ₦500,000 and not more than ₦5,000,000, depending on the nature and extent of non-compliance;
 - (ii) withholding or suspension of access to Federal Government grants, intervention funds, or other financial support ordinarily available to educational institutions under existing law;
 - (iii) suspension of accreditation for the affected programme(s), until full compliance is achieved; or
 - (iv) any other sanction prescribed under regulations made pursuant to this Act.
- b) An officer or official of an institution who deliberately obstructs, frustrates, or otherwise interferes with the implementation of this Act commits misconduct and shall be subject to disciplinary proceedings in accordance with applicable civil service rules and institutional regulations.

10. Collaboration with Organizations and Stakeholders

- a) The Ministry of Education and regulatory bodies shall collaborate with:
 - i. Associations of the Deaf;
 - ii. Associations for the Blind;
 - iii. National Commission for Persons with Disabilities (NCPWD);
 - iv. NGOs and development partners in inclusive education.
- b) These bodies may assist with training, curriculum content, assessment, and resource development.

11. Regulations

The Minister of Education may make regulations, guidelines, or directives necessary for the effective implementation of this Act.

12. Repeal and Savings

Any regulation inconsistent with this Act is hereby repealed to the extent of its inconsistency.

13. Interpretation

In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires:

“Nigerian Sign Language (NSL)” means the recognized sign communication system used in Nigeria.

“Braille system” means the tactile writing and reading system used by persons with visual impairment.

“Institution” includes all secondary and tertiary educational institutions.

“Minister” means the Minister of Education

“Assistive technologies” means devices, equipment, software, tools or systems designed to support persons with hearing or visual impairments in accessing education, and includes the items set out in the schedule to this Act

14. Short Title

This Act may be cited as the **Nigerian Sign Language and Braille Education Bill, 2025**.

SCHEDULE

Examples of Assistive Technologies

- i. Sign language learning apps
- ii. AI-powered sign language recognition systems
- iii. Video-based sign language dictionaries
- iv. Captioning and subtitling software
- v. Visual alert devices (e.g., flashing light alarms)
- vi. Braille embossers
- vii. Refreshable braille displays
- viii. Braille notetakers
- ix. Screen readers
- x. Braille translation software
- xi. Tactile graphics production tools
- xii. Audio learning devices (talking calculators, audiobooks)

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

This Bill seeks to promote inclusive education and equal communication opportunities for persons with hearing and visual impairments by mandating the incorporation of Nigerian Sign Language and the Braille system into the curriculum of all secondary and tertiary educational institutions in Nigeria. The Bill aims to ensure the elimination of communication barriers affecting hearing and visually-impaired persons, universal Sign Language and Braille literacy for learners, and strong regulatory enforcement for inclusive education across Nigeria. This is in line with Section 17(3)(f) of the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (as amended) and the Discrimination Against Persons with Disabilities (Prohibition) Act, 2018.

LIST OF MOTIONS PRODUCED FOR THE 2025 MODEL LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

North Central

Motion On The Urgent Need To Curb The Rising Wave Of Drug Abuse And Narcotic Substance Use Among Nigerian Youths

North East

Motion On The Urgent Need For A Comprehensive Government Framework On IDP Reintegration, Security Assessment And Housing Solutions In Northern Nigeria

North West

Motion On The Urgent Need For Federal And State Governments To Establish Institutionalised Leadership And Public Service Mentorship Programmes For Nigeria's Next Generation Of Public Sector Leaders

South East

Urgent Need For The Ban Of Firecrackers (A.K.A Knockouts) In The Yuletide Amid Heightened Security Concerns In Nigeria

South South

Motion On The Need To Provide Perimeter Security, CCTV Surveillance, And Rapid Response Systems For Federal Unity Schools Across Nigeria

South West

Urgent Need To Regulate Rising Rates Of Rental And Agency Fees In The Federal Capital Territory, Abuja

MOTIONS DRAFTED BY INTERNS

**NORTH
CENTRAL**

MOTION ON THE URGENT NEED TO CURB THE RISING WAVE OF DRUG ABUSE AND NARCOTIC SUBSTANCE USE AMONG NIGERIAN YOUTHS

Sponsored by: Hon. Paul Dimlong, Hon. Bridget Abiem, Hon. Iman Yerima Abubakar, Hon. Maryam Muhammad Dankogi, Hon. Sokoato Joshua Egbeja, Hon. Lililian Ari, Hon. Shehu Hauwa Ayinke

The House:

Notes the rising incidence of hard drugs and narcotic substance abuse among young people in Nigeria, including codeine, tramadol, rohypnol, illicit opioids, cannabis, and crystal methamphetamine popularly known as mkpurumiri.

Further notes that recent reports from the National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA) indicate widespread distribution and consumption of these substances in both urban and rural areas, with associated impacts on public health, safety, and social stability.

Aware that the increasing prevalence of drug use has escalated incidents of insecurity, heightened cases of gender-based violence, contributed to school dropouts, and intensified social unrest and public health pressures, posing a serious threat to national productivity and long-term stability.

Also aware that Nigeria currently has one of the highest drug-use prevalence rates in West Africa, with millions of young people at risk due to easy access, peer pressure, unemployment, and lack of community awareness.

Concerned that if urgent steps are not taken, the country may experience an uncontrollable surge in addiction-related deaths, violent behaviour, and long-term socio-economic consequences.

Resolves to:

- i. **Urge** the NDLEA to intensify enforcement operations targeted at dismantling distribution networks and prosecuting offenders in accordance with the NDLEA Act.
- ii. **Call** on the Federal Ministries of Health, Education, and Youth Development to strengthen early intervention, rehabilitation, and school-based sensitization programmes and ensure these programmes address the relationship between substance abuse and gender-based violence.

- iii. **Urge** the Federal Ministry of Information and National Orientation, through the National Orientation Agency (NOA) to intensify nationwide awareness campaigns targeting schools, marketplaces, motor parks, worship centres, and online platforms.
- iv. **Encourage** State Governments, through the National Economic Council, to establish Community Anti-Drug Abuse Watch Groups in partnership with traditional rulers, religious institutions, civil society, and youth organisations.
- v. **Mandate** the Committees on Health, Youth Development and Narcotics/Drug Abuse to jointly review existing drug-control interventions, identify gaps in prevention and rehabilitation systems, and recommend legislative measures within six (6) weeks.

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**NORTH
EAST**

MOTION ON THE URGENT NEED FOR A COMPREHENSIVE GOVERNMENT FRAMEWORK ON IDP REINTEGRATION, SECURITY ASSESSMENT AND HOUSING SOLUTIONS IN NORTHERN NIGERIA

Sponsor: *Hon. Adela Yongo (Dems/Numan/Lamurde, Adamawa State), Hon. Hadiza Adamu Fika (Fika/Fune, Yobe State), Hon. Fatima Bukar Lamisula (Gubio/Magumeri/Kaga Federal Constituency, Borno State), Hon. Muhammad Mukhtar Umar (Katagum, Bauchi State), Hon. Buba Lawiza Isa (Kaltungo, Gombe State) and Hon. Bako Tokpobeya Miracle (Takuma/Donga/Ussa, Taraba State)*

The House:

Notes that between 2008 and 2024, statistics indicate that 15.1 million people have been internally displaced across Nigeria due to conflict, violence and natural disasters, and that majority of these internally displaced persons (IDPs) are Northerners, with the highest demographic originating from North-Eastern Nigeria;

Further notes that recent insecurity incidents since August have triggered new waves of displacement, adding thousands more to an already overstretched humanitarian situation; Concerned that despite these new and ongoing displacements, many of the older IDPs remain in designated camps and refuges, having neither been properly reintegrated into their home communities nor resettled elsewhere;

Aware that IDP camps and refuges are inherently temporary structures, intended only as short-term emergency relief, and lack the stability and community fabric needed for displaced persons to rebuild their lives;

Concerned that prolonged displacement and unstable living conditions within camps have contributed to heightened unemployment and idleness, which, in turn, have been linked to an increase in crime and protection risks, including sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV), petty theft, and vulnerability to recruitment by criminal or terrorist groups;

Urges immediate and coordinated government action to address these risks in order to prevent the recruitment of IDPs into criminal gangs, bandit networks or terrorist organisations, and to protect the safety, dignity and integrity of displaced populations;

Aware of the National Policy on Internally Displaced Persons (2012, revised 2021), and concerned that implementation across states remains inconsistent, poorly coordinated, or in some cases entirely absent, despite the immediate need for reintegration and resettlement planning;

Accordingly, the House resolves to:

- i. **Urge** the Federal Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Poverty Alleviation, in collaboration with security agencies, to conduct a comprehensive Security and Viability Assessment (SVA) of IDP origin communities to determine areas safe for return, suitable for phased return, or requiring relocation;
- ii. **Further urge** the Federal Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Poverty Alleviation to develop a legally backed IDP Reintegration, Housing and Community Stabilisation Framework to guide sustainable reintegration and ensure that no IDP camp is closed without a secure, dignified and sustainable alternative for its resident;
- iii. **Call on** the National Commission for Refugees, Migrants and Internally Displaced Persons (NCFRMI) to commence reintegration processes in communities assessed as safe and to develop a clear, time-bound roadmap outlining federal, state and local government roles in return, relocation and resettlement activities;
- iv. **Mandate** the Committees on Humanitarian Affairs, Disaster Management, Security and Social Development to assess the current status of IDP camps and reintegration efforts nationwide and report back to the House within one (1) month.

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**NORTH
WEST**

MOTION ON THE URGENT NEED FOR FEDERAL AND STATE GOVERNMENTS TO ESTABLISH INSTITUTIONALISED LEADERSHIP AND PUBLIC SERVICE MENTORSHIP PROGRAMMES FOR NIGERIA'S NEXT GENERATION OF PUBLIC SECTOR LEADERS

Sponsored by: *(Hon. Surajo Abubakar Ibrahim, Hon. Ismail Abdulkadir, Hon. Hannatu Haruna Usara, Hon. Philemon Ajeye, Hon. Usman Haruna Abubakar, and Hon. Abubakar Sadiq Shehu).*

The House:

Notes that Nigeria's long-term governance capacity depends on deliberate, sustained investment in leadership development and public-service mentorship programmes that equip young Nigerians for effective participation in national and subnational governance;

Further notes that Nigeria currently lacks a legally established leadership pipeline at federal or state level, resulting in fragmented, inconsistent mentorship initiatives that rely heavily on political will, donor funding or shifting administrative priorities;

Aware that programmes such as the Legislative Mentorship Initiative (LMI), the Nigeria Governors' Forum Internship, the PLAC Legislative Internship, and state-based initiatives like the Kashim Ibrahim Fellowship (KIF) have demonstrated value but remain largely non-institutionalised, with some discontinued due to leadership transitions, funding gaps, or absence of statutory backing;

Concerned that the absence of predictable, legally anchored mentorship pathways undermines Nigeria's ability to cultivate a competent, ethical and values-driven next generation of public leaders equipped in policy analysis, governance systems, service delivery, and administrative leadership;

Worried that federal and state institutions face widening human-capital gaps, accelerated retirement of senior bureaucrats, and inadequate inflow of trained young professionals—threatening institutional memory, policy continuity, innovation capacity and long-term national development;

Recognizes that advanced democracies sustain public-sector excellence through institutionalised leadership pipelines such as the U.S. Presidential Management Fellowship, the U.K. Civil Service Fast Stream, and South Africa's Public Service Graduate Programme;

Worried that without urgent legislative attention, Nigeria risks perpetuating a pattern of uncoordinated recruitment, weak succession planning, limited institutional innovation, and continued absence of a strategic leadership pipeline for public service;

Resolves to:

- i. **Urge** the Federal Government, through the Office of the Head of the Civil Service of the Federation and relevant Ministries, to develop and launch a National Leadership and Public Service Mentorship Framework establishing a structured, merit-based annual fellowship for young Nigerians across governance and public administration sectors.
- ii. **Urge** State Governments to develop and institutionalise corresponding State Leadership and Public Service Fellowship Programmes to strengthen their public-sector talent pipelines and provide structured training and mentorship opportunities for young professionals.
- iii. **Mandate** the relevant House Committees to engage federal and state executives, MDAs, leadership institutes, and development partners to review existing models and propose an oversight and sustainability framework, and report back to the House within six (6) weeks

The background of the entire image is a blue topographic map with white contour lines. The lines are irregular and wavy, creating a textured effect. In the center, there is a white rectangular box with a thin white border. Inside this box, the words "SOUTH" and "EAST" are written in a bold, white, sans-serif font, stacked vertically.

**SOUTH
EAST**

URGENT NEED FOR THE BAN OF FIRECRACKERS (A.K.A KNOCKOUTS) IN THE YULETIDE AMID HEIGHTENED SECURITY CONCERNS IN NIGERIA

Sponsor: *Hon. Uchenna Frank Imo (Abia State), Hon. Great Ezeanya (Anambra State), Hon. Ruth Chisom Onyeugo (Imo State), Hon. Chioma Esther Nsude (Enugu State), Hon. Benjamin Emeka Orogwu (Ebonyi State):*

The House:

Notes that the yuletide season, covering Christmas, New Year celebrations and associated festivities, is traditionally characterised by large gatherings, public celebrations and increased movement of people across the country;

Also notes that the use of firecrackers (popularly known as knockouts) has become a widespread cultural practice during this period, with adults and children commonly detonating them in neighbourhoods, markets, worship centres, and other public spaces;

Aware that the recurrent detonation of firecrackers has already commenced in anticipation of the yuletide season, and that many of these devices produce sounds similar to gunshots and improvised explosive devices, especially in urban and semi-urban communities;

Worried that, in the context of Nigeria's current security challenges—marked by incidents of banditry, kidnapping, armed attacks, and bomb explosions—the indistinguishable sounds of firecrackers may cause panic, obstruct early detection of real threats, and create opportunities for criminals to disguise attacks under the cover of such detonations;

Concerned that this situation could heighten public anxiety, strain community vigilance systems, and further complicate the ability of security agencies to respond swiftly and accurately to genuine distress signals during a period already marked by increased mobility and mass gatherings;

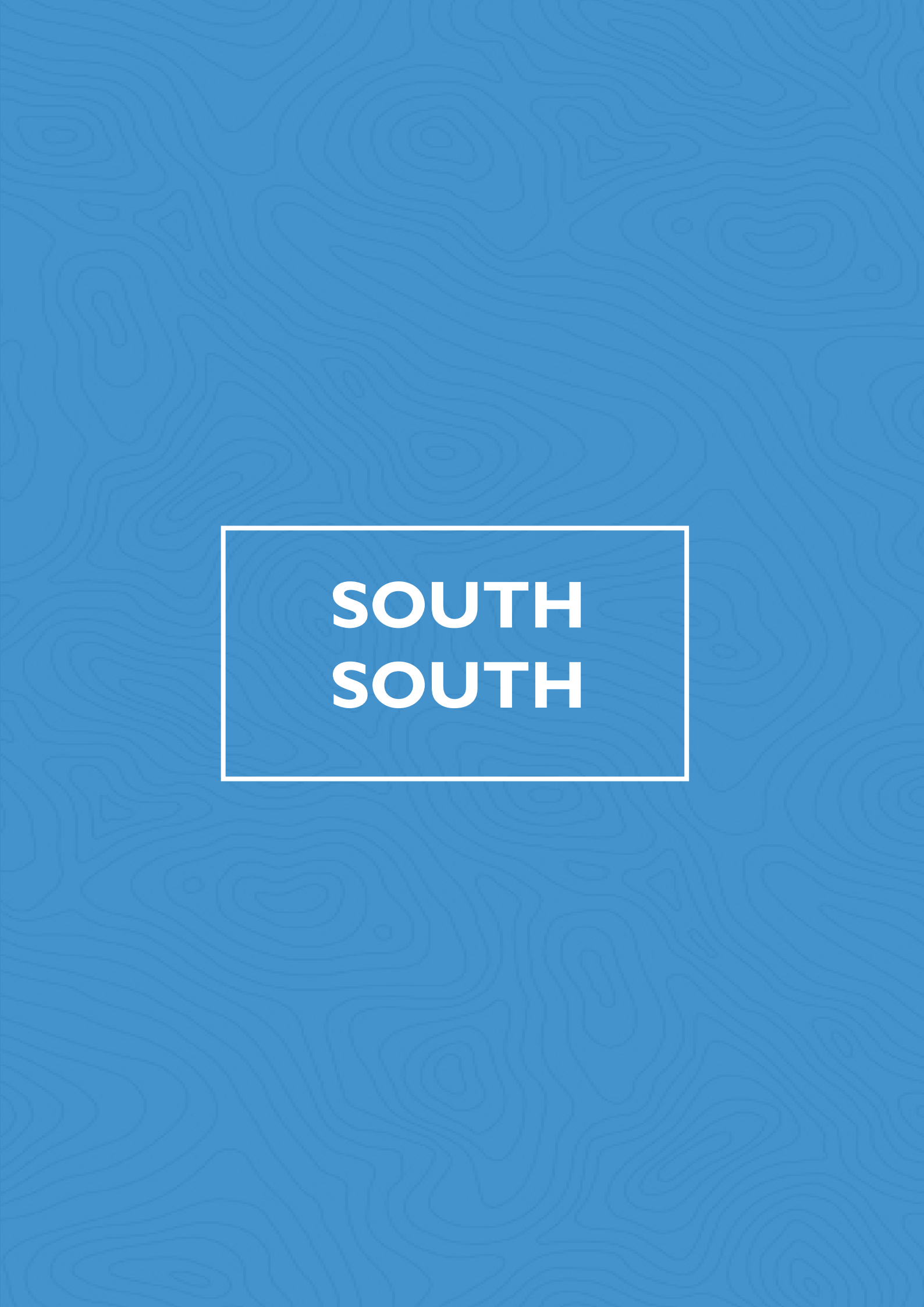
Cognizant that Section 14(2)(b) of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended) affirms that the security and welfare of the people shall be the primary purpose of government;

Resolves to:

- i. **Urge** the Federal Government and relevant security agencies to regulate and restrict the use of firecrackers in high-risk security areas during the yuletide season, and to designate

controlled locations and approved time periods for their use, to prevent confusion during security response operations.

- ii. **Also urge** that any organised fireworks display or ceremonial use of firecrackers during the festive season shall require prior notification to, and clearance from, the relevant security agencies in the affected locality.
- iii. **Call on** the Inspector-General of Police to direct State Commissioners of Police to enforce compliance with these restrictions and to apprehend individuals or groups engaged in the sale or use of prohibited firecrackers in violation of established guidelines; and
- iv. **Mandate the** Committee on Interior and Committee on Police Affairs to monitor compliance with these directives, liaise with relevant security agencies and report back within two weeks.

The background of the entire image is a blue topographic map with white contour lines. The lines are irregular and wavy, creating a textured effect. In the center, there is a white rectangular box with a thin white border. Inside this box, the words "SOUTH" and "SOUTH" are written in a bold, white, sans-serif font, one above the other.

**SOUTH
SOUTH**

MOTION ON THE NEED TO PROVIDE PERIMETER SECURITY, CCTV SURVEILLANCE, AND RAPID RESPONSE SYSTEMS FOR FEDERAL UNITY SCHOOLS ACROSS NIGERIA

Sponsors: *Hon. Queenette Anthony-Oni, Hon. Alice Eneyo, Hon. Precious Obamogie Agharese, Hon. Ayebakuro Oruwori, Hon. Blessing Ekwere, Hon. Jerry Kanyinebi, Hon. Samuel Ntibi*

The House:

Notes the rising vulnerability of Federal Unity Schools to violent attacks, including the recent kidnapping of 25 schoolgirls from Government Girls Comprehensive Secondary School, Maga, Kebbi State on 17 November 2025, and recalls earlier incidents such as the Chibok abduction which underscore longstanding security gaps in these institutions;

Further notes that many Unity Schools lack basic protective infrastructure, such as perimeter fencing, CCTV surveillance, controlled access gates, adequate lighting, and functional monitoring systems, leaving them exposed to intrusion, kidnapping, and other criminal activity;

Aware that several Unity Schools are situated in remote or semi-rural areas with wide landmass, unfenced boundaries, bushy surroundings, and multiple informal access routes, making them highly susceptible to night-time infiltration and unmonitored movement of unknown individuals, thereby exposing students to preventable danger;

Concerned that the absence of modern security technology such as CCTV cameras, motion detectors, alarm systems, and digital monitoring hubs, makes it difficult for school authorities and security agencies to detect, record, or respond swiftly to threats, often leaving incidents unnoticed until they escalate;

Further concerned that many of these schools operate without a dedicated rapid response mechanism or structured emergency communication channel with nearby police formations, meaning that even when threats are identified, help is often delayed, increasing the risk of casualties or successful abductions;

Recognizes that safeguarding schools is a shared responsibility that requires coordination between the Federal Ministry of Education, Federal Ministry of Interior, Nigeria Police Force, Civil Defence Corps, and relevant State Governments where these schools are located;

Recalls that the Safe Schools Initiative, launched to strengthen protection for educational institutions, highlighted the urgent need for perimeter security, surveillance, emergency response plans, and community-based intelligence systems which remain only partially implemented in many Unity Schools;

Believes that providing comprehensive, technology-driven security systems, including perimeter fencing, CCTV monitoring, controlled access gates, floodlights, and a functional rapid response framework will significantly deter criminal attacks, strengthen early-warning capacity, and protect the lives and well-being of students and staff across the federation;

Resolves to:

- i. **Urge** the Federal Ministry of Education to conduct an immediate nationwide security audit of all Federal Unity Schools to identify gaps in perimeter protection, surveillance systems, access control, and emergency response capabilities.
- ii. **Urge** the Federal Ministry of Education and the Federal Ministry of Interior to prioritise the installation of perimeter fencing, CCTV systems, controlled access gates and other essential security infrastructure in high-risk Unity Schools.
- iii. **Call** on the Nigeria Police Force and the NSCDC to strengthen implementation of the Safe Schools Initiative and establish a coordinated rapid-response mechanism for Unity Schools.
- iv. **Urge** the Federal Ministry of Interior to work with school management and local communities to enhance early-warning and community-based intelligence systems around Unity Schools.
- v. **Mandate** the House Committees on Basic Education and National Security & Intelligence to ensure compliance and report back within six (6) weeks.

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**SOUTH
WEST**

URGENT NEED TO REGULATE RISING RATES OF RENTAL AND AGENCY FEES IN THE FEDERAL CAPITAL TERRITORY, ABUJA

Sponsored by: *Hon Khadijah Ajede, Hon. James Oladiran, Hon Esther Essien, Hon. Omolade Ademiluyi, Hon. Praise-God Awoyemi, Hon. Kayode Ibimilua, Hon Faith Ajiboye.*

The House:

Notes that the Federal Capital Territory (FCT), Abuja, as Nigeria's administrative centre, requires well-regulated, affordable, and accessible housing systems to support residents, public and civil servants, young professionals, and low-income individuals;

Aware that rental prices in the FCT have risen sharply in recent years, with reports from housing market observers and tenant associations indicating increases in some districts ranging from 50% to well over 100%, thereby intensifying financial hardship and deepening the housing crisis for residents;

Concerned that while professional practice standards generally place agency and legal fees at approximately 10% of annual rent, concerns have been raised that, in the FCT, some unregulated agents now charge between 20% and 30%. exploiting the absence of an enforceable regulatory structure through caution fees, service and maintenance charges;

Also concerned that these unchecked rent increases and multiple exploitative agency fees have led to forced evictions, overcrowding, homelessness, leading to heightened insecurity, and displacement of low and even middle-income households;

Further concerned that there is currently no operational rent regulation framework applicable to the FCT to protect tenants from arbitrary charges and exploitative real estate practices;

Convinced that a clear, enforceable rent and tenancy regulation mechanism is urgently required to safeguard residents, promote orderly urban development, and reduce housing vulnerability.

Mindful of the provisions of the Federal Capital Territory Act and the Nigeria Urban and Regional Planning Act, which empower the Federal Government to prescribe planning standards, housing policies and regulatory guidelines applicable within the FCT;

Resolves to:

- i. **urge** the Federal Capital Territory Administration (FCTA) to adopt and enforce a Rent and Tenancy Regulation Framework for the FCT that includes: regulated limits on annual rent increases; transparent and legally capped agency/service fees; mandatory licensing of estate agents; strengthened tenant protections; and periodic review of housing supply and market conditions to ensure sustainability.
- ii. **also urge** the Federal Capital Territory Administration (FCTA) to enforce the accreditation and licensing of all estate agents and property managers operating in the FCT, and publish a publicly accessible registry of approved operators to curb fraudulent practices;
- iii. **further urge** the Federal Ministry of Housing and Urban Development to develop and expand affordable housing initiatives in the FCT, including exploring public–private partnerships and other financing mechanisms, subject to budgetary approval.
- iv. **mandate** the Committees on Housing and Habitat and FCT to convene a public investigative hearing involving relevant MDAs, FCTA, estate developers, tenants' associations and other relevant stakeholders on rent regulation mechanisms for the FCT.
- v. **mandate** the Committees to report back to the House within four (4) weeks for further legislative action.

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Paul Tufwim Dimlong
(Plateau)
Speaker



Queenette Anthony
Oni (Rivers)
Deputy Speaker



Alice Eneyo
(Akwa Ibom)
Majority Leader



Muhammad Mukhtar
Umar (Bauchi)
Deputy Majority Leader



Uchenna Frank Imo
(Abia)
Minority Leader



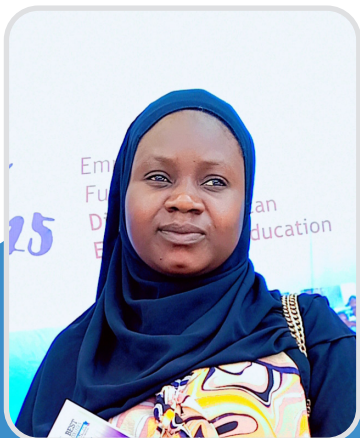
Esther Oluyemi Essien
(Osun)
Deputy Minority Leader

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PRINCIPAL OFFICERS



Ismail Abdulkadir
(Jigawa)
Chief Whip



Buba Isa Lawiza
(Gombe)
Deputy Chief Whip



Jerry Kanyinebi
(Delta)
Sergeant at Arms



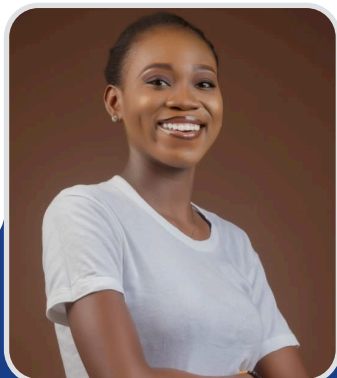
Sokoato Joshua Egbeja
(Kogi)
Clerk



James Oladiran
(Ondo)

Cohort Rep

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**Abiem Bridget
(Benue)**



**Abubakar Ibrahim
Surajo (Katsina)**



**Abubakar Sadiq
Dikko (Sokoto)**



**Adebanke Ajede
(Ogun)**



**Adela Yongo
(Adamawa)**



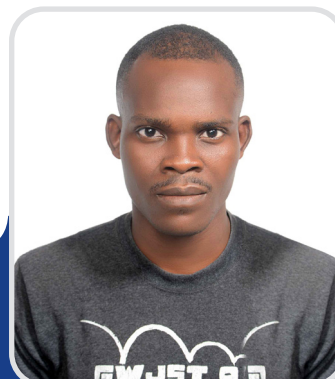
**Awoyemi Praise God
(Oyo)**



**Ayebakuro Oruori
(Bayelsa)**



**Ayodele Kayode
Ibimilua (Ekiti)**



**Benjamin Emeka
Orogwu (Ebonyi)**

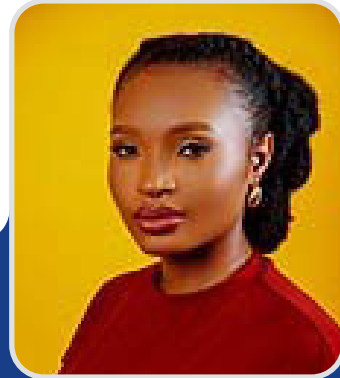
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Blessing Ekwere
(Akwa Ibom)



Chioma Esther Nsude
(Enugu)



Chisom Ruth Onyeugo
(Imo)



Faith Ajiboye
(Lagos)



Fatima Bukar Lamisula
(Borno)



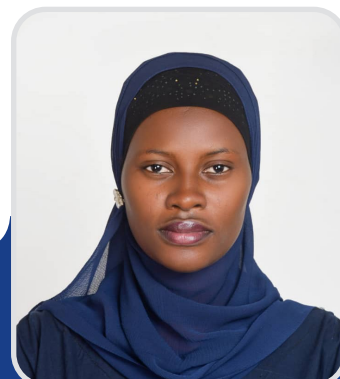
Great Chidi Ezeanya
(Anambra)



Hadiza Adamu Fika
(Yobe)



Hannatu Haruna Usara
(Kebbi)



Hauwa Ayinke Shehu
(Kwara)

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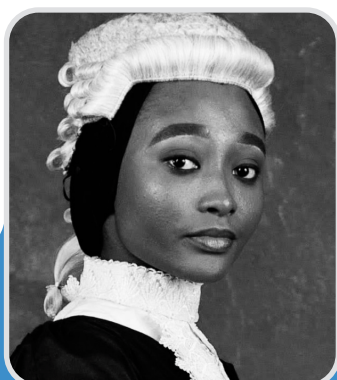
**Iman Abubakar
(FCT)**



**Usman Haruna
Abubakar (Kano)**



**Lilian Ari
(Nasarawa)**



**Maryam Muhammad
Dankogi (Niger)**



**Miracle Tokpobeya
Bako (Taraba)**



**Omolade Ademiluyi
(Osun)**



**Philemon Ajeye
(Kaduna)**



**Precious Agharese
(Edo)**



**Samuel Ntibi
(Cross Rivers)**

PLAC 2025 LEGISLATIVE INTERNS DEPLOYMENT LIST

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1	Adela Yongo	INEC/Electoral Matters
2	Great Ezeanya	Judiciary, Human Rights & Legal Matters
3	Blessing Ekwere	Environment
4	Ayebakuro Oruworì	Power
5	Bridget Abiem	Banking Finance and Other Financial Institutions
6	Fatima Bukar Lamisula	Ecology & Climate Change
7	Agharese Precious	Ethics, Privileges & Public Petitions
8	Ayodele Kayode Ibimilua	Rules & Business
9	Chioma Nsude	Constitution Review
10	Abdulkadir Ismail	ICT & Cybersecurity
11	Philemon Ajeye	Appropriations
12	Hannatu Haruna Usara	Foreign Affairs
13	Sokoato Joshua Egbeja	Finance
14	Faith A. Ajiboye	Local Content
15	Dimlong Paul Tufwim	Media & Public Affairs
16	Queenette Anthony Oni	National Security & Intelligence
17	Hadiza Adamu Fika	Health
18	Buba Lawiza Isa (PWD)	Establishment and Public Service Institutions
19	Esther Oluyemi Essien (PWD)	Tertiary Institutions & TETFUND

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S/N	NAME	COMMITTEE
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2	Alice Eneyo	Science & Technology
3	Muhammad Mukhtar Umar	Climate Change
4	Samuel Ntibi	Rules & Business
5	Jerry Kanyinebi	Foreign Affairs
6	Benjamin Orogwu	Solid Minerals Development
7	Ruth Chisom Onyeugo	Customs & Excise
8	Usman Haruna Abubakar	Federal Character
9	Abubakar Ibrahim Surajo	Finance
10	Shehu Hauwa Ayinke	Environment
11	Maryam Muhammad Dankogi	Electoral Matters
12	Khadijah Adebanye Ajede	Public Accounts
13	Omolade Ademiluyi	Labour, Employment & Productivity
14	Awoyemi Praise-God Adetunji	Agricultural Production and Services
15	James Olutimilehin Oladiran	Digital and Communication Technology (ICT)
16	Abubakar Shehu Dikko	Defence
17	Bako Miracle	Appropriations
18	Iman Abubakar	Women Affairs
19	Esther Oluyemi Essien (PWD)	Tertiary Institutions & TETFUND



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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 process.

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.



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