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REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURAL COLLEGES AND INSTITUTIONS ON A BILL FOR AN ACT TO ESTABLISH FEDERAL COLLEGE OF FISHERIES AND APICULTURE, UBA, ASKIRA LGA, BORNO STATE AND FOR RELATED MATTERS (HB.1798)

PROVISION OF THE PRINCIPAL ACT	PROVISIONS OF THE BILL	COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS
Long title. An Act to Amend the Agricultural Research Council of Nigeria Act, Cap. A. 12 Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to reconstitute the Membership of the Board, make Provisions for Effective Operations of the Council and for Related Matters.	Long title. A Bill for an Act to Establish Federal College of Fisheries and Apiculture, Uba, Askira LGA, Borno State and for Related Matters	A Bill for an Act to Amend the Agricultural Research Council of Nigeria Act, Cap. A. 12 Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 (as amended) to Establish Federal College of Fisheries and Apiculture Uba, Askira LGA, Borno State and for Related Matters
	ENACTED by the National Assembly of the Federal Republic of Nigeria	
	Establishment of Federal College of Fisheries and Apiculture **1.**-(1) There is established the Federal College of Fisheries and Apiculture (herein after referred to as "the college"). (2) The College shall be a body corporate with perpetual succession and common seal and shall have the power to acquire and dispose of interest in movable and immovable property. (3) The College may sue and be sued in its corporate name.	**1. Amendment of the Agriculture Research Council of Nigeria Act, 2024 (as amended)** The Agricultural Research Council of Nigeria Act, 2024 (as amended) (herein after referred to as "the Principal Act") is amended as set out in this Bill.
THIRD SCHEDULE ***(Section 17)***	**Governing Council of the College** **2.**-(1) There is established for the college a	**2. Amendment of the Third Schedule** The Third Schedule to Principal Act is

FEDERAL COLLEGES OF AGRICULTURE **S/No. Name of College** **1.** Federal College of Agriculture, Akure, Ondo State. **2.** Federal College of Agriculture, Ibadan, Oyo State. **3.** Federal College of Agriculture, Ishiagu, Ebonyi State. **4.** Federal College of Animal Health and Production Technology, Ibadan, Oyo State. **5.** Federal College of Animal Health and Production Technology, Vom, Plateau State. **6.** Federal College of Freshwaters Fisheries Technology, New Bussa, Niger State. **7.** Federal College of Freshwaters Fisheries Technology, New Baga, Borno State. **8.** Federal College of Fisheries and Marine Technology, Lagos, Lagos State. **9.** Federal College of Veterinary and Medical Laboratory Technology, Vom, Plateau State. **10.** Federal College of Agricultural Produce Technology, Kano, Kano State. **11.** Federal College of Horticulture, Dadin Kowa, Gombe State. **12.** Federal Co-operative College, Ibadan. **13.** Federal Co-operative College, Kaduna **14.** Federal Co-operative College, Oji River. **15.** Federal College of Land Resources Technology, Owerri. **16.** Federal College of Land Resources Technology,	governing council (in the Bill referred to as "the Council"). (2) The Council shall have the responsibility to consider and approve: (a) the Programme of studies to be undertaken in the college; (b) the annual estimates of the college; and (c) the investment plan of the college. (3) The Provision of the Schedule to this Bill shall have effect with respect to the proceeding of the council.	Amended by introducing a new paragraph 17: (17)" ***Federal College of Fisheries and Apiculture*** " ***Uba, Askira LGA, Borno State.***

Kuru-Jos.		
	Membership of the Council in the College **3.**-(1) The council of the college shall consist of: (a) a chairman and other members to be appointed by the President; (b) a representative of the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources; (c) a representative of the University of which the College is affiliated to for the purpose of moderation; (d) two representatives of the academic board of the College; and (e) the Provost of the College.	**3. Short title** This Bill may be cited as the Agriculture Research Council of Nigeria Act (Amendment) Bill, ***2026.***
	Tenure of Members of the Council **4.**-(1) A member of the council (other than the ex-official members) shall hold office for a term of four years and subject to the provision of sub-section (2) of this section shall be eligible for re-appointment for a further period of four years and also move. (2) The office of a member appointed under section 3 of this Bill shall become vacant if: (a) the member resigns in office by notice of writing under his hand addressed to the Minister; or (b) the Minister is satisfied that it is not in the interest of the college for the person appointed to continue in office and notifies the member in writing to that effect.	**EXPLANATORY NOTE** This Bill seeks to amend the Agriculture Research Council of Nigeria, Act, 2021 to establish Federal College of Fisheries and Apiculture to offer full-time courses leading to the awards of National Diplomas, Higher National Diplomas etc.
	Functions of the College **5.** The functions of the college shall be: (a) to provide full-time courses in teaching	***Deleted***

	instruction and training (i) in Fisheries, Apiculture and allied matters; and (ii) in such other fields of applied learning relevant to the needs of development of Nigeria: (b) to conduct courses in Fisheries and Apiculture for qualified teachers; (c) to arrange conferences, seminars and workshops relative to the functions of the college; (d) to offer to the general population particularly in the area Fisheries and Apiculture as a form of public service, the results of training and research and to foster the practical applications of these results; (e) to establish appropriate relationships with other national institutions involved in training, research and development of technologies in the Agriculture sector; (f) to identify the problems and needs of the Fisheries and Apiculture sector in Nigeria and to find solutions to them within the context of overall national development; (g) the improvement of the genetic resources of fishery and the ecosystem for economic development; (h) the improvement of Apiculture practices relating to new species of bees of economic importance; (i) the mechanization and improvement of the methods of cultivating, harvesting, processing, domestication and biotechnological mass production of fishes and bees' stocks of economic importance;	***Deleted***

	(j) studying the ecology of pests and diseases of fishes and their control; (k) Apiculture education and training; cooperative to facilitate entrepreneurial skills and capacity building for persons in beekeeping business and training; (l) Fishery and Apiculture extension and dissemination; (m) co-operating with relevant Nigerian and international universities, research institutes and other institutions in the mobilization of the country's research potential on Fishery and Apiculture for the task of national development and dissemination of research findings on the issues relating to Fishery and Apiculture for the use of policy makers at all levels; (n) providing training in the use of modern fishing craft, nets gear and other equipment intended for use in fishing; and (g) to perform such other functions as in the opinion of the council may serve to promote the objective of the college;	***Deleted***
	Power of the Council **6.** The council of the college shall have power to: (a) hold examinations and grant Diplomas, Professional Certificates and other distinctions to persons, who have pursued of study approved and accredited by the relevant regulatory body; (b) hold examinations in Fisheries and Apiculture for qualified teachers; (c) recruit staff and determine structure of such	***Deleted***

	staff; (d) demand and receive from any student or any other person attending the college for the purpose of study such fees as the council may with the prior approval of the Minister, from time to time determine; (e) hold public lectures and undertake printing, publishing and bookselling; (f) award fellowship, medals, prizes and other titles; (g) establish and maintain such schools and other teaching units with the college or extra moral departments as the councils may from time to time determine; (h) erect, provide, equip and maintain such educational recreational and residential facilities as the college may require; (i) create lectureships and other academic post and offices and to make appointment thereof; (j) receive and make gifts; (k) enter into such contracts as may be necessary or expedients for carrying into effects the objections of the college; (l) provide amenities for and make such other provision for the welfare of the staff and students of the college; (m) encourage and make provision for research in the college; (n) do such acts and things whether or not incidental to the foregoing power as may advance the objects of the college.	***Deleted***
	Visitation	

	7.-(1) The Minister responsible for Agriculture and Natural Resources shall be the visitor of the college. (2) The visitor shall, not less than once in every five year, conduct a visitation to the college or appoint a visitation panels consists of not less than five experts to conduct the visitation: (a) for the purpose of evaluating the academic and administrative performance of the college; or (b) for such other purpose as the visitor may deem fit.	***Deleted***
	The Academic Board and its functions **8.**-(1) There shall be established for the college a Board to be known as the Academic Board which shall consist of the following members; (a) the Provost of the college as the chairman; (b) all heads of departments; (c) the college bursar; (d) the college Librarian; and (e) not more than three members of the Academic staff other than the heads of departments to be appointed by the council. (2) The Academic Board shall be responsible for: (a) the direction and management of academic matters of the college including the regulation of admission of students, the award of certificates, scholarships, prizes and other academic distinction; (b) discharging any other functions which the council may from time to time delegate to it.	***Deleted***
	Power of Minister **9.** The Minister may give to the council directions of the general character or relating generally to	***Deleted***

	matter with regard to the exercise by the council of it functions and it shall be the duty of the council to comply with such directions.	
	The Provost of the College **10.**-(1) There shall be a Provost for the college (herein after referred to as "the Provost") who shall be appointed by the president on the recommendation of the Minister. (2) Where a vacancy occurs in the post of the provost, the council shall: (a) advertise the vacancy in reputable widely read newspaper in Nigeria specifying: (i) the qualities of the person who may apply for the post: (ii) the terms and conditions of service applicable to the post and thereafter draw up a short list of suitable candidates for consideration of the Minister. (3) The President shall appoint as provost one of the candidates recommended by the Minister. (4) Subject to the general control of the council the provost shall be the chief executive of the college and shall be charged with general responsibility for matters relating to the day-to-day management and operations of the college. **Tenure of Office** (5) The Provost shall hold office for a period of five years only and on such terms and conditions as may be specified in his letter of appointment.	***Deleted***

	Deputy Provost **11.**-(1) There shall be for the college two deputy provosts namely: Deputy Provost (Academic) and the Deputy Provost (Administration). (2) The council shall appoint the deputy provosts from among the chief lecturers in the college in any of the following ways, that is: (a) from a list of five candidates in order of preference, submitted by the provost; (b) on the recommendation of a selection Board constituted for their purpose; or (c) on the nomination of the provost. (3) The selection Board referred to in subsection 2 (b) of this section shall: (a) consist of: (i) the Chairman of the council; (ii) the Provost of the college; (iii) two members of the Academic board; and (iv) two members of the council not being members of the Academic Board. (4) (a) The Deputy Provost (Academic) shall: (i) assist the provost in the performance of his function in Academic matters of the college; (ii) act as the provost when the post of the provost is vacant or if the provost is for any reason, absent or unable to perform his function. (b) The Deputy Provost (Administration) shall: (i) assist the provost in administrative matters of the college; and (ii) perform such other functions as the provost or	***Deleted***

	the council may from time to time assign to him. (5) Each of the deputy provosts shall hold office for a period of two years and no more.	
	The Registrar and other staff of the College **12.**-(1) There shall be a registrar for the college to be appointed by the council. (2) The registrar shall keep the records and conduct the correspondence of the council; (3) The registrar shall be the secretary to: (a) the Council; (b) the Academic Board; and (c) any Committee of the council. (4) The Registrar may perform any duty as may be assigned to him by the councilor and the Provost. (5) The Registrar shall hold office for a period of five years and no more.	***Deleted***
	Other principal officers of the College **13.**-(1) There shall be for the college in addition to the registrar: (a) the Bursar; and (b) the College Librarian who shall be appointed by the Council (2) The Bursar shall be the chief financial officer of the college and be responsible to the provost for the day -to- day administration and control of the	***Deleted***

	financial affairs of the college. (3) The college Librarian shall be responsible to the provost for the administration of the college library and the coordination of the library services in the teaching units of the college. (4) The Bursar and the college librarian shall each hold office for a period of five years and no more.	***Deleted***
	Resignation of appointment of principal officer **14.** A principal officer of the college may resign his appointment: (a) in case of the provost by notice to the visitor; and (b) in any other case by advise to the Council.	***Deleted***
	Other employees of the College **15.**-(1) The council may appoint other persons to be employees of the college as the council may deem to assist the Provost and the Principal Officers in the performance of their functions. (2) The remuneration, tenure of office and condition of service of the employee of the college shall be determined by the council- consultation with the Federal Civil Service Commission.	***Deleted***
	Pensions **16.** Service in the college shall be approved service for the purpose of the pension's reform and accordingly, officers and other persons employed in the college shall be entitled to pension's, gratitude and other retirement benefit as may be prescribed in their respective letters of appointment.	***Deleted***
	Selection board for other principal officers	

	17.-(1) There shall be a selection Board for the college which shall consist of: (a) the Chairman of the council; (b) the Provost; (c) four members of the council not being members of the Academics Board; and (d) two members of the Academic Board. (2)The functions, procedure and other matters relating to the selection Board constituted under subsection (1) of this section shall be determined from time to time by the council.	***Deleted***
	Fund of the College **18.**-(1) The college shall establish and maintain a fund which shall be applied towards the promotion of the objection of this Bill. (2) There shall be paid and credited to the fund established under subsection (1) of this section: (a) such sums as may from time to time be granted by the Federal Government through the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources; (b) all monies raised by the council by way of gifts, grants III aid or test monetary disposition; and (c) all subscription fees and charges for services rendered by the council and all other sums that may accrue to the council from any source. (3) The council shall submit to the Minister not later than three months before the end of each financial year or at such other time as he may direct an estimate of its revenue and expenditure for the next succeeding financial year.	***Deleted***

	Power to accept gifts **19.**-(1) The College may accept gifts of loan, money or of other property upon such terms and conditions, if any as may be specified by the person making the gifts. (2) The College shall not accept any gift if the conditions attached to the gifts are inconsistent with the functions of the college.	***Deleted***
	Account and audit **20.** The college shall keep proper accounts of its receipt, payments, assets and liabilities and shall in respect of each year cease the account to be audited.	***Deleted***
	Annual reports **21.** The council shall as soon as may be after the expiration of each financial year, prepare and submit to the minister a report of its activities during the immediate proceeding financial year and shall include in the report a copy of the audited accounts of the college for that year and of the auditor's report of the accounts.	***Deleted***
	Interpretation **22.** In this Bill: "Chairman" means the chairman of the council; "College" means the Federal College of Fisheries and Apiculture established under section (l) of this Bill; "Council" means the Governing Council of the	***Deleted***

	college established under section 2 of this Bill; "Function" includes power and duties; "Minister" means the Minister charged with responsibility of Agriculture and Natural Resources; "Member" means a member of the council including the chairman; "Provost" means the provost of the college established under section 10 of this Bill.	
	Short title **23.** This Bill may be sited as the Federal College of Fisheries and Apiculture (Establishment) Bill, 2024.	***Deleted***
	SCHEDULE *[Section 2(3)]* SUPPLEMENTARY PROVISION RELATING TO THE COUNCIL, ETC. *Terms of service* 1. There may be paid to the members of the councilor any committee, other than ex- officio members, such remuneration and allowances as may from time to time be determined by the President. 2. Where a vacancy occurs in respect of the membership specified in section 3, it shall be filled by the appointment of a successor to hold office for the reminder of the term of office of his predecessor in office and such successor shall represent the same interest as his predecessor.	***Deleted***

	3. The council may act notwithstanding any vacancy in its membership or any defect in the appointment of a member or the absence of a member. *Proceedings* 4.-(1) The Council shall meet for the conduct of business at such times, places and on such days as the chairman may appoint but shall meet not less than once every four months. (2) The chairman may at any time and shall, at the request in writing of not less than six members, convene a meeting of the council. (3) Where the council desires to obtain the advice of any person on any particular matter, the council may co-opt persons who are not members of the council but persons co-opted shall not be entitled to vote at a meeting of the council. (4) The Quorum of the Council shall be one half of the total members of the Council, at least one of whom shall be a member appointed by the President. (6) Decisions of the Council shall be made on approval by a simple majority of members. *Miscellaneous* 5.-(1) The fixing of the seal of the college shall be authenticated by the signature of the chairman, Provost and of some other members of the Council authorized generally or specially by the Council to act for that purpose. (2) Any contract or instrument which, if made or	***Deleted***

	executed by a person other than a body corporate would not be required to be under seal may be made executed on behalf of the college by any person generally or specially authorized to act for that purpose by the council. (3) Any document purporting to be duly executed under the seal of the College shall be received in evidence and shall, unless the contrary is proved, be presumed to be so executed.	***Deleted***
	EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM This Bill seeks to establish the Federal College of Fisheries and Apiculture to offer full-time courses leading to the awards of National Diplomas, Higher National Diplomas etc.	***Deleted***