

NATIONAL LIBRARY (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2017

ARRANGEMENT OF CLAUSES

*Clause:*

1. Amendment of the National Library Act Cap N56 Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004
2. Amendment of Section 2 of the Principal Act
3. Amendment of Section 3 of the Principal Act
4. Amendment of Section 4 of the Principal Act
5. Amendment of Section 13 of the Principal Act
6. Citation



# A BILL

FOR

AN ACT TO AMEND NATIONAL LIBRARY ACT, CAP. N56 LAWS OF THE FEDERATION OF NIGERIA, 2004 AND FOR OTHER MATTERS CONNECTED THEREIN

*Sponsored by Hon. Johnson Egwakhide Oghuma*

[ ] Commencement

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

1           1. The National Library Act Cap N56 Laws of the Federation of  
2 Nigeria, 2004 (in this Bill referred to as "the Principal Act") is amended as  
3 set out in this Bill.

Amendment of  
Cap. N56

4           2. Section 2 of the Principal Act is amended:

5           (1) In section (1) by inserting the words "National Library" before  
6 the word "Board" in line 1;

Amendment of  
Section 2

7           (2) In subsection (2) by substituting the subsection with the  
8 following new subsection-

9           (a) To act as a national depository institution for books and other  
10 research materials in Nigeria;

11           (b) To act as the focal institution and advisory body to individual,  
12 corporate and Government institution on Library and information matters;

13           (c) To acquire, process, organize, disseminate as well as provide  
14 links to information resource to Nigerians and non-Nigerians alike, for their  
15 educational pursuit and for informed decision making;

16           (d) To assemble and maintain a collection of all books, periodicals,  
17 newspapers, maps, gazettes, Acts, Laws, Bye Laws, all subsidiary  
18 legislations, notices, orders and other government publications which are  
19 published in Nigeria;

20           (e) to assemble and maintain a collection of all musical recordings

- 1 and films produced in Nigeria;
- 2 (f) to establish and maintain the National Library and information
- 3 Service Center in each of state of the federation;
- 4 (g) to develop networks and linkages with other libraries in Nigeria
- 5 and anywhere in the world;
- 6 (h) to prepare catalogues, indexes, and similar research aids;
- 7 (i) to make the facilities of the National Library and information
- 8 service center available to members of the public and others on proper terms,
- 9 which may include provisions for: (i) registration of persons admitted to use
- 10 the library facilities;
- 11 (ii) the imposition of fees for service rendered to the public; and
- 12 (iii) safe guarding the property of the Board.
- 13 (i) to provide consultancy services to individuals, communities,
- 14 corporate bodies, agencies and other government bodies wishing to
- 15 establish libraries;
- 16 (j) to develop the national bibliography of Nigeria and national
- 17 bibliography center or elsewhere;
- 18 (k) to prescribe the rules and procedure for granting applications
- 19 for International Standard Book Number (ISBN)/International Standard
- 20 Serial Number (ISSN)/National Bibliography Number
- 21 NBN(NBN)/Cataloging in Publication (CIP), etc;
- 22 (l) to engage in research on any subject of national interest and
- 23 publish its findings for public use;
- 24 (m) To provide and encourage staff to undertake capacity buildings
- 25 and skill acquisition programmes to enhance their skills in the performance
- 26 of their duties to the Board;
- 27 (n) To engage in readership campaign with a view to encouraging
- 28 readership culture and awareness among Nigerians;
- 29 (o) To provide leadership initiative in the area of resource sharing
- 30 and library cooperation;

1 (p) To audit the source of unrecorded information such as  
2 indigenous knowledge which are required for continued research into  
3 national origin of Nigeria history and culture;

4 (q) To develop information and communication technology (ICT)  
5 facilities to ensure that the services of the National Library and Information  
6 Service Center are offered in real term, more widely and more efficiently;

7 (r) To develop a Virtual Library for Nigeria; and

8 (s) To provide in accordance with this Act such services as in the  
9 opinion of the Board are usually provided by national libraries all over the  
10 world.

11 3. Section 3 of the Principal Act is amended by substituting the  
12 existing Section 3, with the following new section 3:

Amendment of  
Section 3

13 “(1) There shall be a National Librarian who, subject to the  
14 subsection (2), shall be appointed by the Minister and shall be a person  
15 appearing to the Minister to have shown exceptional capacity in the  
16 organization and administration of a library service comparable to those  
17 envisaged by this Act.

18 (2) The National Librarian shall hold office for a term of four years  
19 in the first instance and may be reappointed for a further term of four years  
20 and no more.

21 (3) Subject to the Board's financial, operational and administrative  
22 policy programmes, the National Librarian shall have the general function  
23 of organizing and managing the National Library and the services provided  
24 in pursuance of this Act, and, in particular, the function of directing the  
25 activities of the offices and servants of the Board and managing the Board's  
26 finances.

27 (4) Subject to subsection (3) The National Librarian shall be free  
28 to manage the National Library as he deems fit in accordance with this Act,  
29 and the Board shall not interfere with the manner in which he deploys the  
30 material and human resources of the National Library in order to obtain

- 1 results in accordance to this Act.”
- Amendment of Section 4 : 2 4. Section 4 of the Principal Act is amended by deleting the existing  
3 one and substituting it with the following new Section 4:  
4 “(1) Every author and publisher of a published work in Nigeria shall  
5 within one month after publication, deposit with the National Library three  
6 copies of the book for permanent preservation and public use.  
7 (2) Where the publication is by or on behalf of any department of  
8 government of the federation, State or Local Government Council, it shall be  
9 the duty of the official in charge of the department to deliver twenty-five copies  
10 of the publication to the National Librarian for permanent preservation and  
11 public use.  
12 (3) Where either the author or publisher fails to comply with the  
13 provisions of subsection (1) of this Section, the person in default shall be guilty  
14 of an offence and on conviction shall be liable to a fine not exceeding N50,000  
15 only or such fines as may be prescribed by the Board from time to time.  
16 Governor of a State (or any person acting on its or his behalf), a public officer  
17 acting in his capacity as such and any person distributing in Nigeria a book  
18 published elsewhere.”
- Amendment of the Third Schedule 19 5. Section 13 of the Principal Act is amended in paragraph  
20 substituting the "Education" for the word "Information" in the interpretation of  
21 "Minister".
- Citation 22 6. This Bill may be cited as the National Library (Amendment) Bill.  
23 2017.

## EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

This Bill seeks to amend the National Library Act Cap N56 of the Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004, to among other things provide for the strengthening of the National Library Board of Nigeria and providing adequate sanctions to deal with authors and publishers who default in complying with the deposit of publications and properly designate the nomenclature of the Director of the National Library as the National Librarian.