



- 1           2. The Commission shall consist of the following members, that is-
- 2           (a) A Chairman who shall be appointed by the President on
- 3 Recommendation of the Minister, being a person who by reason of his ability
- 4 and experience or specialized knowledge on land and agricultural matters and
- 5 whose professional attainment is in the opinion of the President is capable of
- 6 making outstanding contribution to the Commission;
- 7           (b) One Representative each from all the thirty six (36) States of the
- 8 Federation and one (1) from the Federal Capital Territory;
- 9           (c) Each of the Representatives referred to in (b) above shall be-
- 10           (i) Legal Practitioners;
- 11           (ii) Land surveyors; or
- 12           (iii) Other persons knowledgeable in land matters.
- 13           (d) One Representative from the National Boundaries Commission;
- 14 (e) One representative from the Border Committee Development Agency;
- 15           (f) The Chairman of the Commission referred to in (a) above, shall be
- 16 appointed from one of the representatives from each State as stated in (b)
- 17 above.
- 18           3.-(1) Subject to the provisions of subsection 2 of this Section, a
- 19 person appointed as a member of this Commission shall hold office for four (4)
- 20 years and shall be eligible for re-appointment for a further term of four (4)
- 21 years.
- 22           (2) The Minister may, with the Approval of the President, at any time
- 23 remove any member of the Commission from the office, if the Minister is of the
- 24 opinion that it is not in the interest of the Commission for the member to
- 25 continue in office and shall notify the member of the Commission in writing to
- 26 that effect.
- 27           (3) Members of the Commission except for the Director-General shall
- 28 be part-time members.
- 29           4.-(1) there shall be appointed by the Commission, a Director General
- 30 who shall be a qualified Legal practitioner of at least ten (10) years post

1 qualification experience or a Land Surveyor who has been licensed to  
2 practice as a land surveyor for at least ten (10) years or a other persons who  
3 by their qualification and experience are experienced in land and  
4 agricultural matters.

5 (2) the Director General shall be the Chief Executive of the  
6 Commission and shall hold office on such terms and conditions as may be  
7 specified in his term of appointment and on such other terms and conditions  
8 that may be determined, from time to time, by the Commission with the  
9 approval of the Federal Executive Council.

10 (3) the Director General shall be the accounting officer for the  
11 purpose of controlling and disbursing the funds of the Commission.

12 5. Service in the Commission shall be approved service for the  
13 purpose of the Pensions Act and accordingly, officers and other persons  
14 employed in the Commission shall in respect of their service in the  
15 commission be entitled to pensions, gratuities and other retirement benefits  
16 enjoyed by persons holding equivalent grades in the public service of the  
17 Federation, note however that nothing in this Act shall prevent the  
18 appointment of a persons to any office or terms which preclude the grant of a  
19 pension and gratuity in respect of that office.

20 6. The Commission shall establish a fund which shall consist of  
21 such sum as may be allocated to it by the Federal Government of Nigeria and  
22 such other funds as may accrue to it in the discharge of his functions.

23 7. The Commission may, from time to time, apply the proceeds of  
24 the fund established in pursuance of section 12 of this Act

25 (a) to the cost of administration of the Commission;  
26 (b) for re-imbursing members of the Commission or any  
27 Committee set up by the Commission for such expenses as may be  
28 authorized or approved by the Commission, in accordance with the rate  
29 approved in that behalf by the President.

30 (c) to the payment of salaries, fees or other remuneration or

1 allowances, pensions and gratuities payable to the employees of the  
2 Commissions;

3 (d) for the maintenance of property acquired or vested in the  
4 Commission; and

5 (e) for, and in connection with, all or any of the functions of the  
6 Commission under the Act.

7 8.-(1) The Commission shall keep accounts and proper records in  
8 relation thereto and shall prepare in respect of each year a Statement of Account  
9 in such form as the Federal Executive Council may direct.

10 (2) the accounts of the Commission shall be audited not later than six  
11 (6) months after the end of the year by auditors appointed by the Commission  
12 from the list and in accordance with the guidelines submitted by the Auditor-  
13 General of the Federation; and the fees of the Auditors and the expenses of the  
14 audit generally shall be paid from the funds of the Commission.

15 (3) the Commission shall caused to be prepared, not later than 30th  
16 September in each year, an estimate of its expenditure and income during the  
17 next succeeding year and when prepared shall be submitted through the  
18 Minister for approval by the Federal Executive Council.

19 9. The Commission shall, not later than 30th June in each year,  
20 submit to the Federal Executive Council, a report on the activities of the  
21 Commission during the year immediately preceding, and shall include in such  
22 report, the audited accounts of the Commission.

23 10. The Commission may make regulations for the purpose of  
24 carrying out its functions as stated under this Act.

25 FUNCTIONS OF THE COMMISSION

26 11. The Commission shall make Regulations for all or any of the  
27 following matters in respect of the Government Grazing Routes and Reserves-

28 (a) establish Cattle Route, Farm Camp and Grazing Reserves in  
29 different parts of the Country and ~~incorporate~~ with this Act;

30 (b) manage, control and maintain the Cattle Routes and Grazing

1 Reserves and Farm Camps in consonance with this Act;

2 (c) prescribe the persons who may use the Grazing Reserve and the  
3 number and type of stocks that may be permitted therein;

4 (d) prescribe the parts of the Grazing Reserve and Route which  
5 may be used and the times when they may be used;

6 (e) Providing for the issue of grazing permits to persons using the  
7 Grazing Routes and Reserves and prescribe the fees payable for usage of  
8 such Grazing Routes and Reserves.;

9 (f) Regulating the right generally of the Grazing Reserve and  
10 prescribing the activities which may be carried therein;

11 (g) regulating the conditions of entry into the grazing routes and  
12 reserves;

13 (h) Imposing penalties for breach of any of its regulations under  
14 this section:

15 (i) prosecute anybody or group of persons that breaches any  
16 provision of this Act or any of its regulations made in pursuance of this  
17 Section;

18 (j) demarcate or make known in any manner it think best, the  
19 boundaries of the Grazing Route and Reserve;

20 (k) fostering peace in the Grazing Routes and Reserves;

21 (l) improving land use and land management.

22 (2) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection(1) of this  
23 Section, the Commission's central objective is to encourage Ranching as an  
24 alternative to Grazing Livestock as such the Grazing Areas shall crystallize  
25 or may be used as ranches as the Nigeria develops.

26 PART III - THE GRAZING ROUTES AND RESERVES

27 12. No person, other than a Government Officer on duty shall  
28 enter any Grazing Route or Reserve unless he is authorised to do so by this  
29 Law or regulations hereunder.

30 13. No person shall alienate any right affecting land included in

1 the Government Grazing Route and Reserve, which has been established in  
2 accordance with this Act, by Sale, Transfer, Mortgage without the consent of  
3 the Commission first had and obtained.

4 14. if any right within a government grazing route or reserve is not  
5 exercised for a period of ten (10) years, it shall be deemed to have been  
6 extinguished.

7 15. where a land has been marked a Government Grazing Route or  
8 Reserve, the Commission may subject to the consent of the Minister, close any  
9 right of way or watercourse where he is of the opinion that there already exists  
10 an equally convenient right of way or watercourse.

11 PART IV - PROCEDURE FOR ACQUIRING THE GRAZING ROUTES  
12 AND RESERVES

13 16. The Commission shall approach the Governors of all the thirty  
14 (36) six States and the Minister of the FCT, and express its desire to establish a  
15 Grazing Route and Reserve in accordance with this Act.

16 17. The Commission shall undertake a physical/geographical  
17 analysis of the land use in each of the States in order to ascertain the best and  
18 most appropriate place to locate the Federal Government Reserve and Route  
19 within the said State.

20 18. The Commission shall after having undertaken the analysis of the  
21 Grazing Reserves and Routes, approach each State Governor, with the co-  
22 operation of the member of the Commission from that State to negotiate with  
23 the Governor to transfer the land to the Commission for the purpose of Grazing  
24 Routes and Reserve.

25 19. The Governors in each State shall co-operate with the  
26 Commission in the furtherance of its objectives under this Act.

27 20. Whenever land has been transferred by the Governor to the  
28 Commission for use as Grazing Routes and Reserve, the Governor in each  
29 State shall make an order that shall set forth-

30 (a) the limits of the land which constitute the Reserve;

1 (b) that the land has been transferred to the Commission for the  
2 purpose of Grazing Route and Reserves

3 (c) that all interest in the land constituted as Grazing Routes and  
4 Reserve is subject to the interest of the Commission for the purposes of  
5 Grazing Routes and Reserve.

6 21. Wherever any land has been transferred to the Commission by  
7 the Governor, the Commission shall pay the compensation necessary to the  
8 persons, communities whose interest in the land has been affected by such  
9 transfer.

10 22. Once the Governor of each of the State or any of the States  
11 agree to reserve or transfer any land to the Commission for the purpose of  
12 Grazing Routes or Reserves, a Notice shall be published in the Nigerian  
13 Official Gazette specifying as clearly as possible the situation and the  
14 limits of the land,

15 23. The Commission shall cause the particulars of the land  
16 reserved as Grazing Route and Reserve in each State to be made known in  
17 the Communities in which the Land is situated by causing a Notice thereof to  
18 be read and interpreted in the local vernacular language of the community  
19 and also cause a Notice in writing to the communities or persons residing or  
20 claiming interest on such lands.

21 24. The commission shall publish a Notice in the Nigerian official  
22 Gazette specifying the land which is been reserved, the privileges conceded  
23 in respect of such land and stating the special conditions intended to govern  
24 the reservation thereof.

25 25. The Commission shall make a comprehensive list and  
26 description of all lands that has been reserved as Federal Government  
27 Grazing Routes and Reserve in all the States of the Federation and the  
28 Federal Capital Territory.

29 26. The Commission shall from time to time, determine the

1 eligibility of persons who shall be allowed to enter the Grazing Routes and  
2 Reserves.

3 27. The Commission shall provide the necessary infrastructure for  
4 decent livelihood in the Grazing Routes and Reserves.

5 28. It shall be unlawful for any non-Nigerian to enter the Grazing  
6 Routes and Reserves unless expressly authorized by the Commission.

7 29. It shall be unlawful for any pastoralist to graze livestock outside  
8 the Routes and Reserves, except where expressly authorized by the  
9 Commission and such authorization shall be as a result of exceptional  
10 circumstances.

11 30. The Commission shall set forth expressly, the conditions for  
12 allowing foreigners/non-Nigerians access into the Grazing Routes and  
13 Reserves.

14 31. The Commission shall set forth the fees and permits payable for  
15 persons who shall be allowed in the Grazing Routes and Reserves.

16 32. The Commission shall do all that is incidental to the furtherance  
17 of its object as stated in this Act.

18 33. The Commission shall from time to time make regulations  
19 necessary for the furtherance of its duties under this Act.

Interpretation

20 34. In this Bill-

21 "Grazing Areas" includes areas which have been designated as Grazing Routes  
22 and Reserves for animals under this Act;

23 "Grazing Reserve" shall mean farm camps, grazing areas, farm settlement  
24 established by the Commission for the furtherance of the mandate of the  
25 Commission under this Act;

26 "exceptional circumstances" means cogent and exceptional circumstances  
27 which will warrant the Commission to allow Pastoralist to carry cattle outside  
28 the designated grazing routes and not for grazing purposes.;

Citation

29 35. This Act may be cited as the the National Grazing Routes and  
30 Reserve Bill, 2016.



## EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

The essence of this Bill is establish a National Grazing Routes and Reserve Bill which shall acquire lands in all the thirty-six (36) States of the Federation for the purpose of Grazing and Ranching. This is to curb incessant conflicts between nomadic Herdsmen and Livestock Farmers and Settlers in Nigeria. The central objective is to foster national cohesion and reduce/ eliminate intra-State conflicts.