

CONSTITUTION OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

(ALTERATION) BILL, 2016.

ARRANGEMENT OF CLAUSES

- 1. Alteration of Cap. C23 LFN 2004**
- 2. Alteration of Section 16**
- 3. Alteration of Section 33**
- 4. Citation**

A BILL

FOR

AN ACT TO ALTER THE CONSTITUTION OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA, 1999, CAP. C23 LAWS OF THE FEDERATION OF NIGERIA, 2004 TO MAKE PROVISIONS FOR RIGHT TO FOOD AND FOOD SECURITY IN NIGERIA; AND FOR RELATED MATTERS

Sponsored by Hon. Istifanus D. Gyang

[] Commencement

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

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(a)

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- The Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999,

Cap. C23 Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 (referred to as “the

Principal Act”) is altered as set out in this Bill.

Section 16 of the Principal Act is altered by deleting in

Sub-Section 2 (d) the words “suitable and adequate food” appearing in lines

1 – 2 thereof.

The Principal Act is altered by inserting a new Section 16 A.

“16 A (1) The State shall direct its policy towards ensuring that:

(a) the means of production, conservation and distribution of food

are upgraded and improved upon on a continuous basis;

(b) strategies that guarantee food security of the nation in terms of

availability, accessibility and affordability of food to the citizens are

initiated, undertaken and implemented; and

(c) adequate measures are provided to ensure that food security of

the nation is not compromised by any individual, group or institution, while

actions that enhance the sustainability of food security are promoted.

Section 33 of the Principal Act is altered by inserting

immediately after Section 33 (c), a new Section 33 A and its side note to read

“Right to Food”.
- Alteration of

Cap. C23 LFN,

2004

Alteration of

Section 16

Alteration of

Section 23

Right to Food	1	“33 A (1) Every person shall have a right to food, which shall be
	2	respected, protected and guaranteed by the State, and no one shall be deprived
	3	of food under any circumstances.
	4	(2) A person shall not be regarded as having been deprived of food in
	5	contravention of this Section if the person is:
	6	(a) physically fit or able to work or find food or not considered a
	7	disadvantaged person or belonging to the vulnerable groups in society;
	8	(b) not affected by natural disasters or any socio-economic
	9	emergencies affecting the person's livelihood in such a manner as to become
	10	the responsibility of government to respond quickly with appropriate
	11	measures; or
	12	(c) seeking remedies to situations other than food or means of
	13	acquiring food directly or otherwise”.
Citation	14	4. This Bill may be cited as the Constitution of the Federal Republic of
	15	Nigeria (Alteration) Bill, 2016.

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

This Bill seeks to alter the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended) to ensure that the State directs its policy towards food security, and making rights to food a guaranteed fundamental Human Right in the Constitution.