

# A BILL

## FOR

AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE NIGERIA IMMIGRATIONS BORDER PATROL AGENTS AS A SPECIALISED DIRECTORATE IN THE NIGERIAN IMMIGRATION SERVICE TO PATROL, MAINTAIN SURVEILLANCE, CONDUCT BORDERLINE WATCH AND PREVENT PERSONS FROM ENTERING OR LEAVING NIGERIA WITHOUT PERMISSION AND FOR RELATED MATTERS

*Sponsored by Hon. Saheed Akinade-Fijabi*

[ ] Commencement

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

1           1. There is established for the Nigeria Immigration Service, a  
2           specialized Directorate in the Service to be known as the Directorate of  
3           Nigeria Immigrations Border Patrol Agents (in this Bill referred to as "the  
4           Directorate") which shall be responsible for the coordination, operation,  
5           direction, posting and training of Immigration Officers deployed to the  
6           Directorate and designated as Border Patrol Agents. The Directorate shall  
7           be headed by a Deputy Comptroller General in the Service.

Establishment of  
the Directorate  
of Nigeria  
Immigrations  
Border Patrol  
Agents

8           2. The Directorate shall be responsible for:  
9           (1) deployment and designation of certain Immigration Officers as  
10          Border Patrol Agents in Divisions, Units and Stations to man the Nigeria  
11          Borderline.

General Duties  
of the  
Directorate

12          (2) ensuring the patrol, surveillance and watching of the borderline  
13          at all times.

14          (3) conduct specialized and tailored training programmes and  
15          courses for and posting of Border Patrol Agents.

16          (4) determine and create such divisions, units and stations of  
17          operations as the Directorate may deem fit.

18          (5) perform any other duties as may from time to time be assigned

Duties of the  
Border Patrol  
Agents

1 by the Comptroller General or the Minister.

2 **3. The Nigeria Immigrations Border Patrol Agents shall:**

3 (1) continuously patrol Nigeria land borders to prevent persons from  
4 entering or leaving Nigeria without government permission.

5 (2) detect and prevent the smuggling and unlawful entry of aliens into  
6 Nigeria.

7 (3) apprehend any person found to be in violation of immigration  
8 laws.

9 (4) check, reduce border crimes and improve the quality of life in  
10 border communities.

11 (5) conduct borderline watch by the detection, prevention and  
12 apprehension of terrorists, illegal aliens and smugglers of both aliens and  
13 contraband at or near the land border by maintaining surveillance from a covert  
14 position, responding to electronic sensor television systems, aircraft sightings,  
15 and interpreting and following tracks, marks and other physical evidence.

16 (6) conduct traffic check, traffic observation, city patrol,  
17 transportation check, forest, farm and ranch check, administrative intelligence  
18 and anti-smuggling activities.

19 (7) deter illegal entries through improved enforcement.

20 (8) detect, apprehend and deter smugglers of humans, drugs, and  
21 other contraband.

22 (9) use smart border technology to achieve smart border surveillance.

Training

23 **4. All Border Patrol Agents shall under take specialized training**  
24 **courses and programmes for a mandatory period of not less than six (6)**  
25 **months:**

26 (1) border Patrol Agent Trainees shall be instructed in courses or  
27 subjects including but not limited to:

28 (a) criminal law;

29 (b) nationality and citizenship provisions of the constitution;

30 (c) immigration service laws and administration;

- 1 (d) police sciences;  
2 (e) self-defense and arrest techniques;  
3 (f) firearms training with pistol, shotgun and rifle;  
4 (g) police vehicle driving;  
5 (h) anti-terrorists/bomb techniques;  
6 (i) other border patrol law enforcement subject.

7 (2) All Border Patrol Agents shall undergo field training  
8 programme, an on-the-job training for a minimum period of 12 weeks and a  
9 maximum period of 16 weeks, depending on the practical demands of the  
10 duty station or unit.

11 (3) All Border Patrol Agents shall periodically undergo additional  
12 classroom-based training at their duty stations.

13 (4) The Directorate shall organize or conduct foreign training  
14 courses and programmes for all Border Patrol Agents as deemed fit.

15 5. Notwithstanding the provisions of this Bill, Border Patrol  
16 Agents shall wear and be addressed in such uniforms, ranks and insignia as  
17 may be provided by the Comptroller General or the Minister.

Uniforms, Banks  
and Insignia

18 6. The Border Patrol Agents shall carry and use such firearms and  
19 in a manner as may be directed and approved by the Comptroller General or  
20 the Minister.

Use of Firearms

21 7. -(1) The Directorate shall have power to procure or purchase any  
22 facility, instrument, tool or gadget and Information Technology equipment  
23 needed for the effective operations of the Border Patrol Agents subject to the  
24 approval of the Comptroller General and in accordance with the provisions  
25 of the Public Procurement Act, 2007.

Power of  
procurement

26 8. -(1) In this Bill unless the context otherwise requires:  
27 "Border Patrol Agent" means any fit Immigration Officer deployed to the  
28 Directorate in accordance with Section 2 of this Bill;  
29 "Comptroller General" means the Comptroller General of the Nigeria  
30 Immigration Service;

Interpretation

- 1    **“Deputy Comptroller General” means a Deputy Comptroller General of the**  
2    **Nigeria Immigration Service heading the Directorate;**  
3    **“Directorate” means the Directorate of Border Patrol Agents established in**  
4    **accordance with Section 1 of the Bill;**  
5    **“Division” means an administrative unit under the Directorate;**  
6    **“Minister” means the minister charged with responsibility for immigrations;**  
7    **“Service” means the Nigeria Immigration Service established by the**  
8    **Immigration Service Act of 1963.**
- Short title    9            **9. This Bill may be cited as the Border Patrol Agents (Establishment)**  
10    **Bill, 2016.**

**EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM**

**This Bill seeks to create a specialized Directorate in the Nigeria Immigration Service for the purpose of deploying and training Immigration Officers designated as Border Patrol Agents to effectively man the Nigerian borderline at all times to prevent illegal immigrants, terrorists and other criminals from entering Nigeria.**