

UNIVERSITY VETERINARY TEACHING HOSPITALS AND VETERINARY
SPECIALIST HOSPITAL (CONSTITUTION OF BOARDS, ETC) ACT, 2016

ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

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Schedule 1 - List of Veterinary Teaching Hospitals

A BILL

FOR

AN ACT TO ESTABLISHING UNIVERSITIES VETERINARY TEACHING HOSPITALS AND VETERINARY SPECIALIST HOSPITAL (CONSTITUTION OF BOARDS, ETC), 2016

Sponsored by Hon. Mohammed Tahir Monguno

[] Commencement

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

1 1.-(1) As from the commencement of this Act, the Board of
2 Management of the Veterinary Teaching Hospitals and the Veterinary
3 Specialist Hospital, Abuja (hereafter in this Act referred to as the "Board")
4 controlled by the Government of the Federation and specified in the
5 Schedule to this Act shall be constituted for each Hospital and have the
6 functions and powers set out in the following provisions of this Act.

Application of
this Act

7 (2) The Minister may, from time to time, by order published in the
8 Gazette:

9 (a) increase, vary or delete the Hospitals specified in the Schedule
10 to this Act;

11 (b) apply the provisions of this Act to other Veterinary Teaching
12 Hospitals and Veterinary Specialist Hospitals that may be established or
13 come under the control of the Federal Government.

14 2.-(1) The Board of each hospital shall consist of a Chairman who
15 shall be appointed by the President on the recommendation of the Minister
16 and the following other members (where applicable), that is to say:

Composition of
each Board

17 (a) the Vice-Chancellor of the associate University or his
18 representative;

19 (b) the Director of the hospital;

20 (c) the Dean or Provost of the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine or

1 College of Veterinary Medicine of the associate University or the Provost of
2 College of Veterinary Surgeons Nigeria in the case of specialist hospital by
3 whatever other name called;

4 (d) one representative of the Minister;

5 (e) the President of the Veterinary Council of Nigeria;

6 (f) the Director of the Federal Department in charge of veterinary
7 services;

8 (g) the Director of Veterinary Services of the host state;

9 (h) one elected representative of the Senate of the associate
10 University;

11 (i) two elected members of the Committee of Consultants of the
12 hospital;

13 (j) the Chairman, Nigerian Veterinary Medical Association of the host
14 State; and

15 (k) one representative of the Livestock industry to be appointed by the
16 Minister from the geo-political zone where the hospital is located:

17 (1) the Administrative officer of the hospital shall be Secretary to the
18 Board.

19 (2) If the Chairman is absent from any meeting of the Board, the
20 members present shall appoint one of their members to preside at that
21 particular meeting.

Appointment of
Chairman of the
Board

22 3. The Chairman of the Board shall be a person with proven integrity
23 coupled with experience and outstanding ability and experience in the
24 administration of veterinary practice and education.

Tenure of office
of members

25 4.-(1) The Chairman and any member of the Board other than a
26 statutory member shall:

27 (a) hold office for only one term of five years on such terms and
28 conditions as may be specified in his letter of appointment;

29 (b) be paid out of money at the disposal of the Board such
30 remuneration and allowances in accordance with scales approved in that behalf

1 by the Federal Government for similar posts and responsibilities.

2 (2) The office of a member of the Board shall become vacant if:

3 (a) he resigns his office by notice in writing addressed to the
4 Chairman;

5 (b) the period of his appointment has expired; or

6 (c) there is passed by the Board a resolution declaring:

7 (i) that he has become incapable of discharging his duties by reason
8 of mental or bodily infirmity;

9 (ii) that he has become unfit for membership of the Board by reason
10 of the fact that he has an interest in a contract entered into by the Board and
11 has not disclosed that fact;

12 (iii) that he has been absent from three consecutive meetings of the
13 Board without leave of the Board; or

14 (iv) that he has been convicted of an offence which involves moral
15 turpitude;

16 (3) Soon after the office of a member of the Board has become
17 vacant, the authority by which he was appointed or elected shall appoint or
18 elect another person in his place in accordance with the provisions of this
19 Act.

20 5.-(1) There shall be for each hospital, a Director:

21 (a) He shall possess the following qualifications:

22 (i) be a registered veterinary surgeon and in good standing with the
23 Council;

24 (ii) hold the Fellowship of the College of Veterinary Surgeons
25 Nigeria or Fellowship of other similar institutions recognised as equivalent
26 by the Council in a clinical subject; and

27 (iii) must be a Professor and a Consultant to the hospital.

28 (b) He shall be appointed by the Board following due process
29 which shall include advertisement in at least three national dailies and an
30 interview;

Appointment of
Director and other
Principal Officers

1 (c) He shall be the Chairman of Statutory Committees of the hospital;

2 (d) He shall be charged with the responsibility for the execution of the
3 policies and matters affecting the day-to-day management of the affairs of the
4 hospital;

5 (e) He shall be responsible to the Board;

6 (f) He shall hold office for a single term of five years;

7 (g) He shall be paid such remuneration and allowances in accordance
8 with scales approved in that behalf by the Federal Government for similar posts
9 and responsibilities.

10 (2) There shall be for each Hospital an Administrative Officer who
11 shall:

12 (a) be appointed by the Board on the recommendation of the
13 Appointment and Promotions Committee of the hospital;

14 (b) be responsible to the Director for the effective functioning of all
15 the administrative divisions of the hospital;

16 (c) be the Secretary to the Board and Committees of the hospital;

17 (d) conduct the correspondence of the Board, keep the records of the
18 Hospital, and perform such other functions as the Board and the Director, may
19 assign to him from time to time;

20 (3) There shall be for each hospital, a Finance Officer who shall:

21 (a) be appointed by the Board on the recommendation of the
22 Appointment and Promotions Committee of the hospital;

23 (b) he shall be responsible to the Director for the day to day
24 administration of financial affairs of the hospital; and

25 (c) keep the records of all financial transactions by the hospital; and
26 perform such other functions as the Board or the Director, as the case may be
27 may from time to time assign to him.

28 (4) There shall be for each Hospital, a Coordinator of Veterinary
29 Services:

30 (a) He shall possess the following qualifications:

1 (i) be a registered veterinary surgeon and in good standing with the
2 Council;

3 (ii) hold the Fellowship of the College of Veterinary Surgeons
4 Nigeria or Fellowship of other similar institutions recognised as equivalent
5 by the Council;

6 (iii) must have risen to the grade of Senior Lecturer in the associate
7 University in the case of a Veterinary Teaching Hospital or equivalent grade
8 in the case of a Veterinary Specialist Hospital; and

9 (iv) must be a Consultant to the hospital.

10 (b) He shall be appointed by the Board based on the
11 recommendation of the Committee of Consultants;

12 (c) He shall be responsible to the Director for all the clinical,
13 diagnostic and training activities of the hospital;

14 (d) He shall perform such other functions as the Director may from
15 time to time assign to him;

16 (e) He shall have a tenure of 2 years renewable for a final term of 2
17 years.

18 6.-(1) Subject to the provisions of this Act, the Board shall have
19 power to appoint, confirm, promote, advance, discipline and terminate the
20 appointment of any employee, honorary consultants and other honorary
21 staff of the hospital.

Power of the Board
on appointment,
promotion,
discipline of staff

22 (2) All appointments, promotion, advancements, approval of study
23 leave, leave of absence and sabbatical leave, discipline and termination of
24 appointment of employees and of consultants shall be based on
25 recommendations of the Appointment and Promotions Committee of the
26 hospital.

27 (3) the Board shall pay appropriate clinical allowances to
28 appointed honorary consultants and such other honorary staff in
29 accordance with scales approved in that behalf by the Federal Government.

30 (4) the Board shall approve the establishment of new departments,

1 schools or units for the hospital.

Duties of the
Board

2 7.-(1) It shall be the duty of the Board:

3 (a) to manage, develop, equip, maintain and operate the hospital so as
4 to provide facilities for diagnosis, preventive, curative, public health and
5 ambulatory services of the hospital and the Veterinary Field Station and
6 ambulatory clinical services of the Faculty or College of Veterinary Medicine
7 of the associate University;

8 (b) to approve links with other hospitals and institutions within and
9 outside Nigeria;

10 (c) to approve the recommendations of the Finance Committee,
11 Tenders Board, Administrative and Clinical Services Committee, Committee
12 of Consultants, Appointment and Promotion Committee and Disciplinary
13 Committee and any other Committee the Board may set up to facilitate the
14 proper functioning of the hospital;

15 (d) to construct, equip, maintain and operate such clinics, out-patient
16 departments, laboratories, research and provide clinical and diagnostic
17 facilities and services at veterinary field stations and other similar institutions
18 as the Board considers necessary;

19 (2) Subject to this Act, the Board shall have power to do anything
20 which, in its opinion, is calculated to facilitate the carrying out of its functions
21 under this Act.

22 (3) The Board shall be responsible to the Minister.

Discipline of
Students

23 8.-(1) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in any
24 other enactment, where it appears to the board that any student of the hospital
25 has been guilty of misconduct, the Board may, without prejudice to any other
26 disciplinary powers conferred on it by regulations, direct:

27 (a) that the student shall not, during such period as may be specified in
28 the direction, participate in such activities of the Hospital, or make use of such
29 facilities of the hospital as may be so specified; and

30 (b) that the student be expelled from the hospital.

1 (2) The fact that an appeal from a direction is brought in pursuance
2 of the last foregoing sub-section shall not affect the operation of the
3 direction while the appeal is pending.

4 (3) The Board may delegate its power under this section to a
5 disciplinary committee consisting of such members of the hospital
6 otherwise than on the ground of misconduct.

7 (4) Nothing in this Act shall be construed as preventing the
8 restriction or termination of a student's activities at any hospital otherwise
9 than on the ground of misconduct.

10 (5) Nothing in this Act shall affect the provisions of any enactment
11 relating to the discipline of veterinary practitioners, veterinary pharmacists,
12 para-veterinary staff or members of any other profession or calling.

13 9.-(1) If it appears to the Board that there are reasons for believing
14 that any person employed as a member of the clinical, administrative or
15 technical staff of the hospital, other than the Director, should be removed
16 from his office or employment, the Board shall require the Secretary to:

Removal and
discipline of
clinical,
administrative
and technical staff

17 (a) give notice of those reasons to the person in question;

18 (b) afford him an opportunity of making representations in person
19 on the matter to the Board; and

20 (c) if the person in question so requests within a period of one
21 month beginning with the date of the notice, make arrangements:

22 (i) for a committee to investigate the matter and report to the Board;
23 and

24 (ii) for the person in question to be afforded an opportunity of
25 appearing before and being heard by the investigating committee with
26 respect to the matter; and if the Board, after considering the report of the
27 investigating committee is satisfied that the person in question should be
28 removed as aforesaid, the Board may so remove him by a letter signed on the
29 direction of the Board.

30 (2) The Director, may in a case of misconduct by a member of the

1 subsection (3) of this section may, within a period of 21 days from the date of
2 the letter communicating the decision to him, address a petition to the Board to
3 reconsider his case. The decision of the Board on the matter shall be final.

Bye-laws
regulating
behavior of the
public

4 **11.**-(1) The Board may, with the approval of the Minister, make bye-
5 laws:

6 (a) as to the access of members of the public either generally or of a
7 particular class, to premises under the control of the Board and as to the orderly
8 conduct of members of the public on those premises; and

9 (b) for safeguarding any property belongings to or controlled by the
10 Board from damage by members of the public;

11 (2) Bye-laws made under this section shall not come into force until
12 they are confirmed (with or without modification) by the Minister and
13 published in such manner as he may direct.

14 (3) Bye-laws made under this section provide that a breach of the bye-
15 laws or of a particular provisions of the bye-laws shall be punishable by a fine
16 not exceeding 200,000 Naira and or by imprisonment for such a term as may be
17 specified, not exceeding three months.

18 (4) Bye-laws made under this section shall not apply to any member
19 of the Board and shall not, in their application to a particular institution, apply
20 to an officer or servant of the Board employed in connection with the institution
21 or to a student at the institution.

Inspection of
institutions
controlled by the
Board

22 **12.**-(1) The Minister may send a visitation panel of three persons to
23 inspect the hospital and (on production if so required of his authority) any
24 person authorized in that behalf by any of the persons aforesaid may at any time
25 enter and inspect any hospital or unit of the hospital controlled by the board.

26 (2) The Director shall render to the Department in the ministry in-
27 charge of the affairs of the hospital at such times and in such forms as may be
28 specified, disease records, statistical and other epidemiological returns as he
29 may from time to time require.

1 **13.** Any directive, notice, report, representation or requested
2 authorized or required to be given or made under this Act shall be in writing
3 and may without prejudice to any other method of service, be served by post.

Mode of giving
directives, etc.t

4 **14.**-(1) The Board shall prepare and submit to the Minister not
5 latter than 30th day of June in each financial year or as may be specified, an
6 estimate of its income and expenditure during the next succeeding financial
7 year, and such estimates shall be submitted by the Minister for approval by
8 the Federal Executive Council.

Financial
provision

9 (2) The Board shall keep proper accounts in respect of each
10 financial year (and proper records in relation to those accounts) and shall
11 cause the accounts to be audited not later than six months after the end of the
12 financial year to which the accounts relates.

13 (3) The Board has power to approve fees charged for any services
14 and facilities provided by the hospital, including in particular the provision
15 of tuition, treatment, accommodation and for other services rendered by the
16 hospital.

17 (4) The Board shall with the approval of the Minister have power to
18 borrow money from recognise financial institutions for exigencies.

19 **15.** The Board shall prepare and submit to the Federal Executive
20 Council, through the Minister, not later than 30th day of June in each year, a
21 report in such form as the Minister may direct on the activities of the Board
22 during the immediately preceding financial year and shall include in such a
23 report a copy of the audited accounts of the Board for that year.

Annual Report

24 **16.**-(1) The Board shall be responsible for laying down general
25 policies and guidelines relating to major expansion programmes of the
26 Hospital and the provisions of facilities for the training of the students of the
27 associate University, students of College of Veterinary Surgeons and other
28 students of the hospital it shall be the duty of the Board to execute such
29 policies and to keep within such guidelines.

Power of the Board
in relation to
expansion

30 (2) Subject to the following sub-paragraph and to any directions of

1 the Minister under this Act, the Hospital shall have power to do anything which
2 in its opinion is calculated to facilitate the carrying on of its activities.

Power of Minister
to give directives

3 **17.** The Minister may give to the Board directive of a general
4 character or relating generally to particular matters (but not to any individual
5 person or case) with regard to exercise by the Board of its functions under this
6 Act, and it shall be the duty of the Board to comply with the directions, but no
7 direction shall be given which is inconsistent with the duties of the Board under
8 this Act.

Interpretation

9 **18.** In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires:

10 "associate University" means the University from which the hospital derived
11 its name in the case of a Veterinary Teaching Hospital and whose students
12 receive aspects of their training from the hospital;

13 "Board" means the Veterinary Teaching Hospital Management Board or the
14 Veterinary Specialist Hospital Management Board;

15 "Committee of Consultants" means a body of duly appointed Consultants to
16 the Veterinary Teaching Hospital;

17 "Chairman" means the Chairman of the Board;

18 "Council" means the Veterinary Council of Nigeria;

19 "Department" shall include academic, clinical or service department of the
20 hospital;

21 "functions" includes powers and duties;

22 "Honourary Consultant" means an academic staff of the associate Faculty or
23 College of Veterinary Medicine and serving the veterinary teaching hospital as
24 a Consultant;

25 "Hospital" means the Veterinary Teaching Hospital and the Veterinary
26 Specialist Hospital, and includes all institutions however called of the hospital;

27 "Minister" means the Minister charged with responsibility for matters relating
28 to Animal health and production;

29 "President" means the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria;

30 "Student" means a person enrolled at an associate University for the purpose of

1 pursuing a course of study leading to the award of Doctor of Veterinary
2 Medicine Degree, any other undergraduate or Postgraduate degree and non-
3 degree programmes of the associate University and shall include persons
4 registered for the Fellowship or any other academic and clinical programme
5 of the College of Veterinary Surgeons Nigeria.

6 **19.** This Act may be cited as the University Veterinary Teaching Citation
7 Hospitals and Veterinary Specialist Hospital Abuja (Constitution of Boards,
8 etc) Bill, 2016.

9 SCHEDULE 1

10 *List of Veterinary Teaching Hospitals*

11 (a) the University of Ibadan, Veterinary Teaching Hospital, Ibadan;

12 (b) the Ahmadu Bello University, Veterinary Teaching Hospital,
13 Zaria;

14 (c) the University of Nigeria Veterinary Teaching Hospital,
15 Nsukka;

16 (d) the University of Maiduguri, Veterinary Teaching Hospital,
17 Maiduguri;

18 (e) the Usmanu Danfodiyo University, Veterinary Teaching
19 Hospital, Sokoto;

20 (f) the University of Agriculture, Veterinary Teaching Hospital,
21 Makurdi;

22 (g) the Federal University of Agriculture, Veterinary Teaching
23 Hospital, Abeokuta;

24 (h) the Michael Okpara University of Agriculture, Veterinary
25 Teaching Hospital, Umudike;

26 (i) the University of Abuja, Veterinary Teaching Hospital, Abuja;

27 (j) the University of Ilorin, Veterinary Teaching Hospital, Ilorin;

28 (k) the University of Jos, Veterinary Teaching Hospital, Jos;

29 (l) the University of Benin, Veterinary Teaching Hospital, Benin
30 City.

- 1 (m) the *Veterinary Specialist Hospital, Abuja*;
- 2 (n) any other Veterinary Teaching or Specialist Hospital that may be
- 3 established from time to time and added to the list by the Minister.

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

This Bill seeks to establish Universities Veterinary Teaching Hospitals and Veterinary Specialist Hospital.