

# A BILL

## FOR

AN ACT TO REPEAL THE NIGERIA FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION ACT, CAP. N110, LFN, 2004 AND ENACT THE NIGERIA FOOTBALL FEDERATION AND FOR OTHER MATTERS CONNECTED THEREWITH

*Sponsored by Senator Obinna Ogba*

[ ] Commencement

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

1 PART I - ESTABLISHMENT OF THE NIGERIA FOOTBALL FEDERATION AND  
2 ITS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, ETC.

3 1.—(1) There is hereby established a body to be known as the  
4 Nigeria Football Federation (in this Act referred to as "the Federation").

Establishment of  
the Nigeria  
Football Federation

5 (2) The Federation—

6 (a) shall be a body corporate with perpetual succession and a  
7 common seal;

8 (b) may sue and be sued in its corporate name on matters that are  
9 not related to the application of the laws of the game of football.

10 2. The aims and objectives of the Federation shall be to—

Aims and  
objectives of the  
Federation

11 (a) organize the management of football in all its ramifications in  
12 Nigeria;

13 (b) encourage the development and promotion of the National  
14 teams and all forms of football in accordance with the statutes and laws of  
15 the Federation of sport of football, and of any other international football  
16 body to which the Federation is affiliated;

17 (c) encourage the affiliation of Nigerian football clubs with the  
18 Federation and recognized international football bodies to improve the  
19 standard or the performance of Nigerians in world football;

Functions of the  
President

- 1                   6.—(1) The President shall be responsible for—  
2                   (a) the implementation of the decisions passed by the Congress and  
3                   the Executive Committee through the secretariat;  
4                   (b) the regular and effective function of the secretariat to allow it to  
5                   achieve its objectives;  
6                   (c) the smooth relations between the Federation and Federation of  
7                   International Football Association, Confederation of African Football, West  
8                   African Football Union, members, political bodies and international  
9                   organisations; and  
10                  (d) presiding over the Congress, the Executive Committee meetings  
11                  and those Committees in which he has been appointed Chairman.

Tenure of office  
of the Executive  
Committee

- 12                  7. Subject to the provision of this section, a member of the Executive  
13                  Committee shall hold office—  
14                  (a) for a period of four years in the first instance and shall be eligible  
15                  for another term of four years and no more;  
16                  (b) where he represents a zone, until another election in his zone or he  
17                  is recalled by his zone.

Cessation of  
membership

- 18                  8. Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 7 of this Act, a member  
19                  of the Executive Committee, including the President and the Vice-President,  
20                  shall cease to hold office as a member of the Executive Committee if—  
21                  (a) he is removed from office by the Congress by adopting the  
22                  methods set out in any bye-laws which it may adopt pursuant to this Act, on the  
23                  ground of ill health, misconduct or if it is in the interest of the Federation or of  
24                  the public that the member or the President should be removed from office;  
25                  (b) in writing under his hand resign his appointment by  
26                  communicating notice of his intention to the Executive Committee through the  
27                  body which he represents and on receipt and approval of the notice by the  
28                  Executive Committee, the resignation shall be deemed to have taken effect and  
29                  the body shall then elect another representative to complete the tenure of the  
30                  resigning member on the Executive Committee; and

1 (c) as provided in Section 3 (2) of this Act, he withdraws his  
 2 representation the Executive Committee at any time by giving notice of his  
 3 intention to do so to the Executive Committee and on receipt of the notice by  
 4 the Executive Committee the withdrawal shall be deemed to have taken  
 5 effect, and the body may then elect another representative who—

6 (i) shall complete the tenure of the withdrawn member, and

7 (ii) may thereafter be eligible for election.

8 PART II - ESTABLISHMENT AND COMPOSITION OF THE NIGERIA

9 FOOTBALL FEDERATION CONGRESS

10 **9.—(1)** There is hereby established for the Federation, a body to be  
 11 known as the Nigeria Football Federation Congress (in this Act referred to as  
 12 "the Congress").

Establishment  
and composition  
of the Nigeria  
Football Federation  
Congress

13 (2) The Congress shall consist of—

14 (a) all the members of the Executive Committee under Section 3  
 15 (2) of this Act;

16 (b) the Chairman and Secretary of each State Football Association,  
 17 including the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja; and

18 (c) the accredited representatives of the Federation's subsidiary  
 19 bodies as determined by the Executive Committee and ratified by the  
 20 **Congress.**

21 **(3) The quorum for the Congress shall comprise of two-third**  
 22 **majority of members present who have voting rights.**

23 **10.—(1) The Congress-**

Meetings of the  
Congress

24 (a) may have an ordinary or extraordinary Congress;

25 (b) shall hold an Ordinary Congress at least once every year;

26 (c) shall convene an Extraordinary Congress at any time if  
 27 necessary; and

28 (d) the Secretary-General shall be responsible for recording and  
 29 keeping records of minutes of the Congress.

Notice of meeting  
and agenda of  
ordinary Congress

1                   **11.—**(1) Members of the Congress shall be notified one month before  
2 such ordinary Congress and due notice shall be given for the convening of an  
3 extra ordinary Congress.

4                   (2) The Secretary-General shall draw up the agenda based on  
5 proposal from the Executive Committee and the members and any proposal  
6 that a member wishes to submit to the Congress shall be sent to the general  
7 secretariat in writing with a brief explanation at least two months before the  
8 date of the Congress.

9                   (3) The Congress agenda shall include the following mandatory  
10 items-

11                   (a) a declaration that the Congress has been convened and composed  
12 in compliance with the Statutes;

13                   (b) approval of the agenda;

14                   (c) an address by the President;

15                   (d) appointment of five members to check the minutes;

16                   (e) appointment of scrutinisers;

17                   (f) suspension or expulsion of a member (if applicable);

18                   (g) approval of the minutes of the preceding Congress;

19                   (h) activity report (containing the activities since the last Congress);

20                   (i) presentation of the consolidated and revised Balance Sheet and the  
21 Profit and Loss Statement;

22                   (j) approval of the financial statements and the budget;

23                   (k) approval of the establishment of additional Departments and  
24 Divisions of the Federation;

25                   (l) ratification of new membership as approved by the Executive  
26 Committee;

27                   (m) votes on proposals for amendments to the Statutes, the  
28 Regulations, Bye Laws and Governing the Application of the Statutes and the  
29 Standing Orders of the Congress (if applicable);

30                   (n) discussion of proposals submitted by the members and the



1 Executive Committee within the period stipulated under Section 10 (2) (if  
2 applicable);

3 (o) appointment of auditors (if applicable);

4 (p) election of the President and installation of the Vice-President  
5 and members of the Executive Committee (if applicable);

6 (q) setting up of standing and ad hoc Committees as the Executive  
7 Committee may consider necessary to enable the Executive Committee  
8 perform its functions under this Act.

9 (4) The agenda of an Ordinary Congress may be altered, provided  
10 two-thirds of the members present at the Congress and eligible to vote agree  
11 to such a motion.

12 PART III - DEPARTMENTS AND DIVISIONS OF THE FEDERATION,  
13 TRANSFERS, ETC.

14 **12.—**(1) Subject to the provisions of this Act, the Federation shall  
15 be constituted into the following two Departments and Divisions, that is-

Departments and  
Divisions of the  
Federation

16 (2) (a) the Administration and Marketing Department which shall  
17 consist of-

18 (i) Finance and Administration Division, and

19 (ii) the Marketing Division;

20 (b) the Technical, Competitions and Youth Development  
21 Department which shall consist of-

22 (i) the Competitions Division (National and International),

23 (ii) the Technical Division,

24 (iii) the Youth Development Division; and

25 (c) any such other Departments and Divisions as may be  
26 determined from time to time by the Congress.

27 (3) The Federation shall be solely responsible for-

28 (a) approving the constitution and composition of the Departments  
29 and Divisions and where necessary establish new Departments and  
30 Divisions upon approval by the Congress;

1 (b) the general supervision of the Departments and Departments and  
2 Divisions; and

3 (c) ensuring absolute compliance by the Departments and Divisions  
4 and any other bodies involved in the sports of football with rules and  
5 regulations of the Federation of International Football Association, the  
6 Confederation of African Football and the West Africa Football Union.

7 (4) Subject to Subsection (2) of this section, each Department shall be  
8 managed by a Deputy Secretary General and each Division shall be managed  
9 by an Assistant Secretary General.

10 (5) Each Deputy Secretary-General shall be responsible to the  
11 Secretary-General for the activities of the Department under his care and shall  
12 perform such other duties which the Secretary-General may, from time to time,  
13 assign him.

Transfer of Nigeria  
players to foreign  
clubs

14 **13.** As from the commencement of this Act, no transfer of a Nigeria  
15 Amateur or professional football player to a club outside Nigeria shall be valid  
16 unless the transfer is under a written contract providing, amongst others for the  
17 release by that club of the Nigerian player if requested by the Federation, for  
18 the purpose of representing Nigeria in a football competition organized by-

19 (a) the Federation of International Football Association; or

20 (b) the Confederation of African Football; and in accordance with  
21 Federation of International Football Association statutes.

Endorsement of  
contracts between  
Nigeria players  
and foreign clubs,  
etc.

22 **14.** Copies of all contracts entered into between Nigerian players and  
23 Foreign Clubs shall be endorsed by the Secretary-General of the Federation  
24 and deposited with the Federation within 14 days of the signing of the contract  
25 by the player.

Standing Ad-hoc  
Committees

26 **15.—(1)** There shall be such number of Standing and Ad-hoc  
27 committees appointed by the Executive Committee as deemed necessary.

28 (2) The Standing and Ad-hoc Committees shall consists of such  
29 number of members as deemed necessary by the Executive Committee.

30 (3) There shall be a security committee in the Federation, in each State

1 of the Federation and the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja for the purpose of  
 2 ensuring effective security at all football matches played in any particular  
 3 State or the Federal Capital Territory for such period or occasions as may be  
 4 determined from time to time.

5 **PART IV - NIGERIA FOOTBALL LEAGUE**

6 **16. The Nigeria Football League shall be—**

7 (a) subordinate to the Federation;

8 (b) the only professional football body recognized by the Nigeria  
 9 Football Federation; and

10 (c) affiliated to the Nigeria Football Federation.

11 **17.-(1) The scope of authority, rights and duties of Nigeria Football**  
 12 **League shall be stated in details in the Nigeria Football League Regulations**  
 13 **2004 made pursuant to the Act.**

14 (2) The Nigeria Football League Regulations 2004 shall be  
 15 approved by the Congress of the Nigeria Football Federation.

16 (3) There shall be a Nigerian Football League Governing Board  
 17 which shall be responsible for the conduct of the League.

18 (4) The Nigerian Football League Governing Board shall consist  
 19 of the Chairman and Secretary and other members as may be stipulated in  
 20 the Regulation.

21 **PART VI - STAFF OF THE FEDERATION**

22 **18.—(1) The Secretary-General shall be appointed by the**  
 23 **Executive Committee subject to ratification by the Congress and discharge**  
 24 **his duties on the basis of a contract of employment and be paid a salary.**

25 (2) The Secretary-General shall be the Head of Administration and  
 26 Accounting Officer of the Federation and be responsible for the day-to-day  
 27 administration of his office and any other assignment that may be given to  
 28 him from time to time by the Congress, Executive Committee and the  
 29 President of the Federation.

30 (3) The Secretary-General shall be responsible for the

Nigeria Football  
League

Scope, rights of  
Nigeria Football  
League and the  
Board, etc.

Appointment of  
Secretary-General

1 implementation of all the functions of the general secretariat and be  
2 responsible to the Executive Committee for the employment of the staff who  
3 work within and see to the management of the Secretariat.

4 (4) The Federation may appoint such other persons to be employees  
5 of the Federation as the Federation may from time to time, determine to assist  
6 the Secretary-General in the exercise of his functions under this Act.

7 (5) The Secretary-General shall attend the Executive Committee,  
8 Congress and the other Committee meetings and may take part in the  
9 discussions but shall have no right to vote.

10 (6) The remuneration, tenure of office and conditions of service of the  
11 Secretary-General and other employees of the Federation shall be as  
12 determined by the Executive Committee and ratified by the Congress.

13 (7) The Secretary-General on the directives of the President shall call  
14 meetings of the Executive Committee, the Congress, the Standing Committees  
15 and Ad-hoc Committees of the Federation.

Removal of the  
Secretary-General

16 19.—(1) The Secretary-General may at any time be removed from  
17 office by the President of the Federation acting on an address supported by two-  
18 third majority of the Executive Committee praying that he be removed for his  
19 inability to discharge the function of the office (whether arising from infirmity  
20 of mind or body or any other cause or for misconduct).

21 (2) Such removal shall be subject to the ratification of two-thirds of  
22 the members of the Congress.

Functions of the  
Secretariat

23 20. The functions of the Secretariat shall be to-

24 (a) organise matches for clubs affiliated to it;

25 (b) organise the participation of Nigerian clubs in international  
26 competitions subject to the prior approval of the Federal Ministry of Sports and  
27 Social Development;

28 (c) provide in cooperation with other bodies, adequate training for its  
29 employees and various personnel who may be involved in the administration  
30 and organization of matches and its activities, with a view to improving the



1 standard of football administration and officiating;"

2 (d) organise and regulate the activities of the Nigeria Football  
3 Referees Association and the Nigerian Football Coaches Association;

4 (e) grant annual licence to persons seeking to be members of the  
5 Nigeria Referees Association and the Nigeria Football Coaches  
6 Association;

7 (f) send for the approval of the Congress on the recommendation of  
8 Executive Committee, the international bodies to which the Federation may,  
9 from time to time, associate;

10 (g) carry out such other functions as the Federation may assign to it  
11 to facilitate the implementation of the provisions of this Act; and

12 (h) advise the Executive Committee on matters affecting the  
13 Federation.

14 21. Service in the Federation shall be in line with conditions of  
15 service as determined by the Executive Committee.

Conditions of  
Service

16 PART VI - FINANCIAL PROVISIONS

17 22.—(1) The Executive Committee shall establish and maintain a  
18 fund from which shall be defrayed, with the general or specific approval of  
19 the Congress, all expenditure incurred by the Executive Committee.

Fund of the  
Executive  
Committee

20 (2) There shall be paid and credited to the fund established under  
21 Subsection (1) of this section-

22 (a) all monies as may be granted to the Federation by the Federal  
23 Government;

24 (b) all monies realised for the general purposes of the Federation;

25 (c) all monies accruing to the Executive Committee on behalf of  
26 the Federation by any means, including grants-in-aid, endowments and  
27 donations;

28 (d) all charges, fees, dues or amounts recovered by the Executive  
29 Committee;

1 (e) all interests on money invested by the Executive Committee; and  
 2 (f) such other monies as may, from time to time, accrue to the  
 3 Federation.

Annual estimate 4 **23.** The Executive Committee shall cause to be prepared and  
 5 submitted to the Congress in each fiscal year an estimate of the expenditure  
 6 necessary to carry out the programmes approved by the Executive Committee  
 7 for the next fiscal year.

Annual report 8 **24.** The Executive Committee shall prepare and submit to the  
 9 Congress' every year a report in such form as the Congress may direct on the  
 10 activities of the Executive Committee during the immediately preceding year  
 11 and shall include in the report a copy of audited accounts of the Federation for  
 12 that year and of the auditors report thereon.

Accounts and records 13 **25.—(1)** The Executive Committee shall keep proper accounts in  
 14 respect of each year and proper records in relation to those accounts and shall  
 15 cause to be prepared in each year a statement showing the income and  
 16 expenditure of the Federation for the immediately preceding year.

17 (2) The Executive Committee shall cause every statement prepared  
 18 under Subsection (1) of this section to be audited within six months after the  
 19 end of the year to which the statement relates by Auditors appointed by the  
 20 Federation from the list and in accordance with the guidelines supplied by the  
 21 Auditor-General of the Federation.

22 **PART VII - MISCELLANEOUS**

Power of Federal Ministry of Sports and Social Development to give directives 23 **26.** Subject to the provisions of this Act, the Federal Ministry of  
 24 Sports and Youth Development may give the Federation directives of a general  
 25 or specific nature with regard to the exercise by the Executive Committee of its  
 26 functions, provided that such directives is not overbearing and does not  
 27 conflict with the rules and regulations of any International Federation to which  
 28 the Federation may be affiliated to from time to time.

Power to obtain information 29 **27.—(1)** For the purpose of carrying out the functions conferred on  
 30 the Executive Committee under this Act, the Secretary-General or such other

1 employee of the Federation authorized in that behalf-

2 (a) shall have a right of access at all relevant times to records of any  
3 body or club to which this Act applies; and

4 (b) may by notice in writing served on any person in charge of the  
5 body or club require that person to furnish or cause to be furnished  
6 information on such matters as may be specified in the notice.

7 (2) It shall be the duty of any person required to furnish information  
8 pursuant to Subsection (1) of this section to comply with the notice within a  
9 reasonable period of time.

10 **28.** The Federation may, in consultation with the Federal Ministry Regulations  
11 of Sports and Social Development, make regulations generally for giving  
12 full effect to the Provisions of this Act and, in particular, for-

13 (a) making every registered football club responsible, in friendly  
14 matches, for organising its matches with respect to publicity, security, sale of  
15 tickets and concessionary rights;

16 (b) requiring a referee officiating in a match under the auspices of  
17 the Federation to be registered with the Nigerian (Football) Referees  
18 Association and to hold a current licence from the Federation;

19 (c) regulating the activities of football in Nigeria.

20 **29.—(1)** The Nigerian Football Association Act, Cap. N110, LFN,  
21 2004 is hereby repealed.

Repeal and  
Savings Provisions.  
Cap. No. 110  
LFN 2004

22 (2) As from the commencement of this Act-

23 (a) all assets, funds resources and other movable and immovable  
24 property vested in the Association shall, by virtue of this Act and, without  
25 further assurance, be vested in the Federation established by this Act;

26 (b) the rights, interests, obligations and liabilities of the  
27 Association existing immediately before the commencement of this Act  
28 under any contract or instrument or at law or in equity except for the  
29 personnel shall, by virtue of this Act and with further assurance, be assigned  
30 to and vested in the Federation established by this Act;



1 (c) any contract or instrument as is mentioned in paragraph (b) of this  
2 subsection, shall be of the same force and effect against or in favour of the  
3 Federation and shall be enforceable as fully and effectively as if instead of the  
4 Association, the Federation established by this Act had been named therein or  
5 had been a party thereto.

6 (3) Any proceeding or cause of action pending or existing or which  
7 could have been taken by or against the Association, immediately before the  
8 commencement of this Act in respect, of any right, interest obligation or  
9 liability of the Association, may be continued, enforced or taken by or against  
10 the Federation established by this Act as if the Federation established by this  
11 Act and not the Association had been a party thereto.

Interpretation

12 **30.—(1)** In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires—  
13 "Amateur club" means any club licensed by the Competition Division of the  
14 Federation to participate in amateur football either in Nigeria or outside  
15 Nigeria;  
16 "Congress" means the Nigeria Football Federation Congress established by  
17 Section 9 of this Act;  
18 "Executive Committee" means the Nigeria Football Federation Governing  
19 Board established by Section 3 of this Act;  
20 "Federal Ministry of Sports and Youth Development" means the sole body  
21 charged with responsibility for sport;  
22 "Federation" means the Nigeria Football Federation established by Section 1  
23 of this Act;  
24 "Football League Board" means the Board of Directors of the Premiership and  
25 professional Football League that supervises, organizes, manages and controls  
26 professional Football in Nigeria;  
27 "Member of the Executive Committee or Congress" includes the President of  
28 the Executive Committee of Congress;  
29 "Misconduct" means misconduct as defined in the Public Service Rules.





- 1 consider and report on any matter with which the Executive Committee is
- 2 concerned.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

*(This note does not form part of the above Act but is intended to explain its purpose)*

The Act provides for the Establishment of the Nigeria Football Federation to encourage and improve the standard of football in Nigeria, and Executive Committee and a Congress and specifies the membership and functions of both the Executive Committee and the Congress.

NATIONAL SPORTS COMMISSION BILL, 2016

ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

*Section:*

1. Establishment of the National Sports Commission
2. Membership of the Commission
3. Functions of the Commission
4. Powers of the Commission to enter into contracts, to hold property and to invest
5. Power of the Commission to borrow
6. Director-General and Secretary to the Commission
7. Appointment of the Director-General and other staff
8. Application of Pensions Act
9. Removal from office of members of the Commission
10. Annual reports and estimates
11. Accounts and audit
12. Funds and resources of the Commission
13. Members not personally liable
14. Power to make standing orders
15. Power of President to give directives, etc.
16. Commission's relationship with national sports associations
17. Quorum and procedure of bodies established by this Act
18. Interpretation
19. Short title

SCHEDULE

SUPPLEMENTARY PROVISIONS RELATING TO THE COMMISSION,  
ETC.

