

# A BILL

## FOR

AN ACT TO REGULATE THE ACQUISITION, DISSEMINATION, PUBLICATION AND DISTRIBUTION OF GEOSPATIAL INFORMATION OF NIGERIA WHICH IS LIKELY TO AFFECT THE SECURITY, SOVEREIGNTY AND INTEGRITY OF NIGERIA AND FOR MATTERS CONNECTED THEREWITH

*Sponsored by Senator Stella Oduah*

[ ] Commencement

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

1 CHAPTER I - PRELIMINARY

2 1.-(1) This Bill may be cited as the Geospatial Information Short Title  
3 Regulation Bill, 2016.

4 (2) It shall extend to the whole of Nigeria and it applies also to:

5 (a) citizens of Nigeria outside Nigeria;

6 (b) persons in the service of the Government, wherever they may  
7 be; and

8 (c) persons on ships and aircrafts, registered in Nigeria, wherever  
9 they may be.

10 (3) Every person shall be liable to punishment under this Act for  
11 every act or omission contrary to the provisions thereof, of which he is held  
12 guilty in Nigeria.

13 (4) Any person, who commits an offence beyond Nigeria, which is  
14 punishable under this Act, shall be dealt with according to the provisions of  
15 this Act in the same manner as if such act had been committed in Nigeria.

16 (5) It shall come into force on such date as the Federal Government  
17 may, by notification, appoint and different dates may be appointed for  
18 different provisions of this Act and any reference in any such provision to  
19 the commencement of this Act shall be construed as a reference to the

## Definitions

1 commencement of that provision.

2 2.-(1) In this Act unless the context otherwise requires:

3 (a) "Apex Committee" means a Committee constituted by the Federal  
4 Government under sub-section (1) of section 7;

5 (b) "Appellate Authority" means an Authority constituted by the  
6 Federal Government under sub-section (1) of section 23;

7 (c) "Enforcement Authority" means an Authority constituted by the  
8 Federal Government under sub-section (1) of section 17;

9 (d) "Geospatial Information" means geospatial imagery or data  
10 acquired through space or aerial platforms such as satellite, aircrafts, airships,  
11 balloons, unmanned aerial vehicles including value addition; or graphical or  
12 digital data depicting natural or man-made physical features, phenomenon or  
13 boundaries of the earth or any information related thereto including surveys,  
14 charts, maps, terrestrial photos referenced to a co-ordinate system and having  
15 attributes;

16 (e) "Guidelines" means the guidelines framed under this Act and the  
17 rules or regulations

18 thereunder for licensing of geospatial information of Nigeria;

19 (f) "Licence" means a licence granted to a person under the provisions  
20 of this Act;

21 (g) "Licensee" means a person who obtains a licence under the  
22 provisions of this Act;

23 (h) "National Policies" means the prevailing policies of the  
24 Government such as Remote Sensing Data policy, Map Policy and such other

25 policies related to the objective of this

26 Act;

27 (i) "Person" includes:

28 (i) an individual,

29 (ii) a company,

30 (iii) a firm,

1 (iv) a trust,

2 (v) an association of persons or a body of individuals, whether  
3 incorporated or not,

4 (vi) every artificial juridical person, not falling within any of the  
5 preceding sub-clauses, and

6 (vii) any agency, office or branch owned or controlled by any of the  
7 above persons mentioned in the preceding sub-clauses.

8 (j) "Prescribed" means prescribed under the rules or regulations  
9 framed under this Act;

10 (k) "Rules" means the rules framed under this Act;

11 (l) "Regulations" means the regulations framed under this Act and  
12 the rules thereunder;

13 (m) "Security Vetting of Geospatial Information" means a process  
14 followed by the Vetting Authority, which inter-alia includes:

15 (i) conducting sensitivity checks with respect to the technical &  
16 information contents and the target area in consonance with the provisions  
17 of the prevailing National Policies; and

18 (ii) screening of the credentials of the end-users and end-use  
19 applications, with the sole objective of protecting national security,  
20 sovereignty, safety and Integrity.

21 (2) Any reference in this Act to any enactment or any provision  
22 thereof shall, in relation to an area in which such enactment or such  
23 provision is not in force, be construed as a reference to the corresponding  
24 law or the relevant provision of the corresponding law, if any, in force in that  
25 area.

26 CHAPTER II - REGULATION OF GEOSPATIAL INFORMATION OF NIGERIA

27 3.-(1) Save as otherwise provided in this Act, rules or regulations  
28 made thereunder, or with the general or special permission of the State  
29 Security Services, no person shall acquire geospatial imagery or data  
30 including value addition of any part of Nigeria either through any space or

1 aerial platforms such as satellite, aircrafts, airships, balloons, unmanned aerial  
2 vehicles or terrestrial vehicles, or any other means whatsoever.

3 (2) Every person who has already acquired any geospatial imagery or  
4 data of any part of Nigeria either through space or aerial platforms such as  
5 satellite, aircrafts, airships, balloons, unmanned aerial vehicles or terrestrial  
6 vehicles or any other manner including value addition prior to coming of this  
7 Act into effect, shall within one year from the commencement of this Act, make  
8 an application along with requisite fees to the State Security Services for  
9 retaining such geospatial information and grant of licence thereof.

10 (3) The State Security Services shall, within three months from the  
11 date of receipt of an application made under sub-section (2), either grant a  
12 licence with such conditions as may be specified thereon or reject the  
13 application as the case may be after examining the application in terms of the  
14 guidelines:

15 Provided that no application shall be rejected under this section unless the  
16 applicant has been given a reasonable opportunity of presenting his case.

17 (4) No person shall continue possession of geospatial information of  
18 Nigeria, after rejection of the application by the State Security Services under  
19 sub-section (3) above or after dismissal of appeal, if any, by the Appellate  
20 Authority or the High Court or the Supreme Court, as the case may be,  
21 whichever is later.

Dissemination,  
Publication or  
Distribution of  
the Geospatial  
Information of  
Nigeria

22 4. Save as otherwise provided in this Act, rules or regulations made  
23 thereunder, and with the general or special permission of the State Security  
24 Services, no person shall disseminate or allow visualization of any geospatial  
25 information of Nigeria either through internet platforms or online services, or  
26 publish or distribute any geospatial information of Nigeria in any electronic or  
27 physical form.

Use of Geospatial  
Information of  
Nigeria outside  
Nigeria

28 5. Save as otherwise provided in any international convention, treaty  
29 or agreement of which Nigeria is signatory or as provided in this Act, rules or  
30 regulations made thereunder, or with the general or special permission of the

1 State Security Services, no person shall, in any manner, make use of,  
2 disseminate, publish or distribute any geospatial information of Nigeria,  
3 outside Nigeria, without prior permission from the State Security Services.

4 6. No person shall depict, disseminate, publish or distribute any  
5 wrong or false topographic information of Nigeria including international  
6 boundaries through internet platforms or online services or in any electronic  
7 or physical form.

Wrong depiction  
of map of Nigeria  
etc.

8 CHAPTER III - APEX COMMITTEE

9 7.-(1) The Federal Government shall, by notification in Official  
10 Gazette, constitute an Apex Committee under the Ministry of Interior to  
11 oversee and administer the implementation of this Act in accordance with  
12 the prevailing National Policies.

Apex Committee

13 (2) The Apex Committee shall do all such acts and deeds that may  
14 be necessary or otherwise desirable to achieve the objectives of the Act,  
15 including the following functions:

16 (a) To oversee and administer the implementation of this Act in  
17 accordance with the prevailing National Policies;

18 (b) To make Regulations for implementation, surveillance and  
19 monitoring and enforcement of the provisions of this Act and Rules framed  
20 thereunder, as required from time to time;

21 (c) To prescribe such fees, levies or charges and guidelines for  
22 licensing of geospatial information of Nigeria.

23 (3) The Apex Committee may, by general or special order in  
24 writing, delegate to any constituent member of the Apex Committee or any  
25 other subordinate committee or officer subject to such conditions, as may be  
26 specified in the order, such of its powers and functions under this Act as it  
27 may deem necessary, except the power to make regulations.

28 (4) In the discharge of its functions, the Apex Committee shall be  
29 guided by such directions in matters of policy involving national security as  
30 well as public interest as the Federal Government may give to it in writing.

## 1 CHAPTER IV - LICENSING AND SECURITY VETTING

State Security  
Services

2 8.-(1) The Federal Government shall, by notification in the Official  
3 Gazette, constitute a State Security Services to carryout security vetting of the  
4 Geospatial Information of Nigeria in a time bound manner and as per the  
5 regulations framed by the Apex Committee.

6 (2)The State Security Services shall consist of an officer of the rank of  
7 Joint Secretary to the Government of Nigeria or above as Chairman and two  
8 members, one, a technical expert and the other, a national security expert.

9 (3) The State Security Services may, by general or special order in  
10 writing, delegate to any constituent member of the State Security Services or  
11 any other subordinate committee or officer subject to such conditions, as may  
12 be specified in the order, such of its powers and functions under this Act as it  
13 may deem necessary, except the power to determine whether a licence under  
14 the provisions of this Act, is to be granted or not.

15 (4) In the discharge of its functions, the State Security Services shall  
16 be guided by such directions in matters of policy involving national security as  
17 well as public interest as the Federal Government or the Apex Committee may  
18 give to it in writing.

Licence of acquire,  
disseminate,  
publish or  
distribute any  
Geospatial  
Information of  
Nigeria

19 9.-(1) Any person who wants to acquire, disseminate, publish or  
20 distribute any geospatial information of Nigeria, may make an application  
21 along with requisite fees to the State Security Services for security vetting of  
22 such geospatial information and licence thereof to acquire, disseminate,  
23 publish or distribute such Geospatial Information in any electronic or physical  
24 form.

25 (2) The State Security Services, on receipt of an application made  
26 under subsection (1) above and after examining the application in terms of the  
27 guidelines, shall either grant the licence or reject the application as the case  
28 may be:

29 Provided that no application shall be rejected under this section unless the  
30 applicant has been given a reasonable opportunity of presenting his case.

1 (3) A licence granted under sub-section (2) shall be subject to such  
2 terms and conditions as may be specified in the licence.

3 10.-(1) In case a licensee fails to comply with the terms and  
4 conditions subject to which the licence was granted or contravenes any  
5 provisions of this Act, rule, regulation or guidelines or order made  
6 thereunder, the Enforcement Authority may, after making such inquiry as  
7 may be thought fit, revoke the licence granted to such licensee:

Suspension or  
revocation of  
licence

8 Provided that no licence shall be revoked unless the licensee has been given  
9 a reasonable opportunity of showing cause against the proposed revocation.

10 (2) The Enforcement Authority, having reasonable cause to believe  
11 that there are grounds for revoking a licence under sub-section (1), may by  
12 order suspend such licence, pending the completion of any inquiry ordered  
13 by him:

14 Provided that no licence shall be suspended for a period exceeding ten days  
15 unless the licensee has been given a reasonable opportunity of showing  
16 cause against the proposed suspension.

17 11.-(1) Licensee shall be supplied with the security vetted  
18 Geospatial Information, by the State Security Services, within a period  
19 mutually agreed upon, based on the quantum and nature of the subject  
20 matter to be vetted, on best effort basis.

Obligations of  
Licensee

21 (2) Licensee shall not acquire, publish, disseminate or distribute  
22 any geospatial information of Nigeria through any media or by any means,  
23 unless such geospatial information are security-vetted by the State Security  
24 Services.

25 (3) Licensee shall display the insignia of the clearance of the  
26 Security Vetting Authority on the security-vetted geospatial information by  
27 appropriate means such as water-marking or licence as relevant, while  
28 disseminating or distributing of such geospatial information.

29 (4) Licensee shall indemnify the State Security Services for any  
30 consequential loss or damages whatsoever that might be caused to any

1 person or agency in Nigeria or abroad, due to the use or supply of security  
2 vetted geospatial information.

3 CHAPTER V - OFFENCES AND PENALTIES

Penalty for illegal  
acquisition of  
geospatial  
information of  
Nigeria

4 12. Whoever acquires any geospatial information of Nigeria in  
5 contravention of section 3 shall be punished with a fine ranging from one  
6 hundred and Fifty Thousand Naira and/or imprisonment for a period up to  
7 seven years

Penalty for illegal  
dissemination,  
publication or  
distribution of  
geospatial  
information of  
Nigeria

8 13. Whoever disseminates, publishes or distributes any geospatial  
9 information of Nigeria in contravention of section 4, shall be punished with a  
10 fine ranging from one hundred and  
11 Fifty Thousand Naira and/or imprisonment for a period up to seven years

Penalty for use  
of geospatial  
information of  
Nigeria outside  
Nigeria

12 14. Whoever uses any geospatial information of Nigeria in  
13 contravention of section 5, shall be punished with a fine ranging from One  
14 Hundred and Fifty thousand Naira and/or imprisonment for a period up to  
15 seven years

Penalty for  
wrong depiction  
of map of Nigeria  
etc.

16 15. Whoever depicts, disseminates, publishes or distributes any  
17 wrong or false topographic information of Nigeria including international  
18 boundaries in contravention of section 6, shall be punished with a fine ranging  
19 from one hundred and fifty thousand naira and/or imprisonment for a period up  
20 to seven years.

Penalty for  
violation of terms  
and conditions  
of a licence

21 16. If a licensee violates the terms and conditions mentioned thereof,  
22 he shall be punished with a fine ranging from one hundred and fifty thousand  
23 naira and/or suspension or revocation of the licence and imprisonment for a  
24 period up to seven years.

25 CHAPTER VI - ENFORCEMENT MECHANISM

Enforcement  
Authority

26 17.-(1) The Federal Government shall, by notification in Official  
27 Gazette, constitute an Enforcement Authority for enforcement of the  
28 provisions of this Act.

29 (2)The Enforcement Authority shall consist of an officer of the rank  
30 of Joint Secretary to the Government of Nigeria or above as Chairman and two



1 members, one as technical expert and other as national security expert.

2 (3) The Enforcement Authority shall do surveillance and  
3 monitoring, as may be required to enforce the provisions of this Act and the  
4 rules and regulations framed thereunder.

5 (4) The Enforcement Authority shall monitor compliance of the  
6 terms and conditions of the licences granted under this Act.

7 (5) The Enforcement Authority may, by general or special order in  
8 writing, delegate to any constituent member of the Enforcement Authority  
9 or any other subordinate Committee or officer subject to such conditions, as  
10 may be specified in the order, such of its powers and functions under this Act  
11 as it may deem necessary, except the power to determine whether a case is to  
12 be tried before a Court of Sessions or to determine the amount of financial  
13 penalty to be imposed by it on the violators of the provisions of this Act.

14 (6) In the discharge of its functions, the Enforcement Authority  
15 shall be guided by such directions in matters of policy involving national  
16 security as well as public interest as the Federal Government or the Apex  
17 Committee may give to it in writing.

18 18.-(1) The Enforcement Authority shall make inquiry about any  
19 contravention of the provisions of this Act, rules or regulations made  
20 thereunder or terms and conditions of a licence granted under this Act.

Power to inquire  
contraventions

21 (2) The Enforcement Authority shall, if he has reasonable cause to  
22 suspect that any contravention of the provisions of this Act, rules or  
23 regulations made thereunder has been committed, shall have access to any  
24 computer resource, any apparatus, data or any other material connected with  
25 such system, for the purpose of searching or causing a search to be made for  
26 obtaining any information or data contained in or available to such computer  
27 system.

28 (3) For the purposes of sub-section (2), the Enforcement Authority,  
29 by order, direct any person in charge of, or otherwise concerned with the  
30 operation of, the computer system, data apparatus or material, to provide

1 him with such reasonable technical and other assistance as he may consider  
2 necessary.

Power to  
adjudicate

3 19.-(1) The Enforcement Authority shall prima-facie assess the  
4 information gathered during surveillance and monitoring by it or received as a  
5 complaint from anyone and determine whether, having regard to the gravity of  
6 the offence and other relevant factors, it is a fit case which may attract the  
7 imposition of penalty of imprisonment also as prescribed in the Act or rules or  
8 regulations made thereunder. If so, the Enforcement Authority shall make a  
9 complaint to Police to investigate and prosecute the person before a Court of  
10 Sessions. If not, the Enforcement Authority shall adjudicate the case itself.

11 (2) In respect of cases to be adjudicated by the Enforcement  
12 Authority, the Enforcement Authority after giving the defaulter a reasonable  
13 opportunity for making representation in the matter and if, on such inquiry, is  
14 satisfied that the person has committed the contravention, it may:

15 (a) confiscate all the computers resources and publications used for  
16 violation of the provisions of this Act;

17 (b) impose such financial penalty as it thinks fit in accordance with  
18 the provisions of this Act and rules and regulations framed thereunder; and

19 (c) suspend or revoke licence as the case may be.

20 (3) The Enforcement Authority shall have the powers of a civil court  
21 for the purposes the Administration of Criminal Justice Act, 2015 and all  
22 proceedings before it shall be deemed to be judicial proceedings within the  
23 meaning of the Penal Code Act.

Power of  
enforcement  
Authority to  
give directions

24 20.-(1) The Enforcement Authority may, by order, direct a person to  
25 take such measures or cease carrying on such activities as specified in the order  
26 if those are necessary to ensure compliance with the provisions of this Act,  
27 rules or any regulations made thereunder.

28 (2) Any person who fails to comply with any order under sub-section  
29 (1) shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to  
30 imprisonment for a term not exceeding three years or to a fine not exceeding

1 rupees one crore or to both.

2 21.-(1) Any contravention under this Act may, either before or after  
3 the institution of Inquiry proceedings, be compounded by the Enforcement  
4 Authority subject to such conditions as the Enforcement Authority may  
5 specify: Provided that such sum shall not, in any case, exceed the maximum  
6 amount of the penalty which may be imposed under this Act for the  
7 contravention so compounded.

8 (2) Nothing in sub-section (1) shall apply to a person who commits  
9 the same or similar contravention within a period of one year from the date  
10 on which the first contravention, committed by him, was compounded

11 (3) Where any contravention has been compounded under sub-  
12 section (1), no proceeding or further proceeding, as the case may be, shall be  
13 taken against the person guilty of such contravention in respect of the  
14 contravention so compounded.

15 22. A penalty imposed under this Act, if fail in lieu of penalty, shall  
16 be recovered as an arrear of land revenue and the licence shall be suspended  
17 till the penalty is paid.

#### 18 CHAPTER VII - APPELLATE MECHANISM

19 23.-(1) The Federal Government shall, by notification in Official  
20 Gazette, constitute an Appellate Authority to adjusting the appeals against  
21 the decisions of the State Security Services or the Enforcement Authority.

22 (2) The authority shall consist of a retired Supreme Court/High  
23 Court Judge as Chairmen and two members, one as technical expert and  
24 other as national security expert. or nominate any existing judicial authority.

25 24.-(1) Save as provided in sub-section (2), any person aggrieved  
26 by an order made by the State Security Services or by the Enforcement  
27 Authority under this Act may prefer an appeal before the Appellate  
28 Authority.

29 (2) Every appeal under sub-section (1) shall be filed within a period  
30 of forty five days from the date on which a copy of the order made by the

Compounding of  
contraventions

Recovery of  
penalty

Appellate  
Authority

Appeal to  
Appellate Authority

1 State Security Services or by the Enforcement Authority is received by the  
2 aggrieved person and it shall be in such form and be accompanied by such fee  
3 as may be prescribed:

4 Provided that the Appellate Authority may entertain an appeal after the expiry  
5 of the said period of forty-five days if it is satisfied that there was sufficient  
6 cause for notifying it within that period.

7 (3) On receipt of an appeal under sub-section (1), the Appellate  
8 Authority may, after giving the parties to the appeal, an opportunity of being  
9 heard, pass such orders thereon as it thinks fit, confirming, modifying or setting  
10 aside the order appealed against.

11 (4) The appeal filed before the Appellate Authority under sub-section  
12 (1) shall be dealt with by it as expeditiously as possible and endeavour shall be  
13 made by it to dispose of the appeal finally within six months from the date of  
14 receipt of the appeal.

Procedure and  
powers of the  
Appellate  
Authority

15 **25.-(1)** The Appellate Authority shall have the powers to regulate its  
16 own procedure including the place at which it shall have its sittings.

17 (2) The Appellate Authority shall have, for the purposes of  
18 discharging its functions under this Act, the same powers as are vested in a civil  
19 court under the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908, while trying a suit, in respect of  
20 the following matters, namely:

21 (a) Summoning and enforcing the attendance of any person and  
22 examining him on oath;

23 (b) requiring the discovery and production of documents or other  
24 electronic records;

25 (c) receiving evidence on affidavits;

26 (d) issuing commissions for the examination of witnesses or  
27 documents;

28 (e) reviewing its decisions;

29 (f) dismissing an application for default or deciding it ex parte;

30 (g) any other matter which may be prescribed.

1           26. No court shall have Jurisdiction to entertain any suit or     Court not to have  
2     proceeding in respect of any matter which an Appellate Authority     jurisdiction  
3     constituted under this Act is empowered by or under this Act to determine  
4     and no injunction shall be granted by any court or other authority in respect  
5     of any action taken or to be taken in pursuance of any power conferred by or  
6     under this Act.

7           27. Any person aggrieved by any decision or order of the     Appeal to High  
8     Appellate Authority may file an appeal to the High Court within sixty days     Court  
9     from the date of communication of the decision or order of the Appellate  
10    Authority to him on any question of fact or law arising out of such order:  
11    \* Provided that the High Court may, if it is satisfied that the appellant was  
12    prevented by sufficient cause from filing the appeal within the said period,  
13    allow it to be filed within a further period not exceeding sixty days.

14           28. Appeal filed, if any, before any of the Appellate bodies namely     Prompt disposal  
15    the Appellate Authority, the High Court or the Supreme Court shall be dealt     of Appeals  
16    with as expeditiously as possible and the endeavour shall be to dispose of the  
17    appeal within six months from the date of receipt of the appeal at each stage,  
18    viewing the security concerns of Nigeria

19   CHAPTER VIII - MISCELLANEOUS

20           29. No court shall take cognizance of an offence under this Act     Cognizance of  
21    unless upon a complaint made by the order of the Enforcement Authority as     offences by Court  
22    defined in the clause (d) of sub-section (1) of section 2.

23           30.-(1) Where a person committing a contravention of any of the     Offences by  
24    provisions of this Act or of any rule, direction or order made thereunder is a     companies  
25    company, every person who, at the time the contravention was committed,  
26    was in charge of, and was responsible to, the company for the conduct of  
27    business of the company as well as the company, shall be guilty of the  
28    contravention and shall be liable to be proceeded against and punished  
29    accordingly:

30    Provided that nothing contained in this sub-section shall render any such

1 person liable to punishment if he proves that the contravention took place  
2 without his knowledge or that he exercised all due diligence to prevent such  
3 contravention.

4 (2) Notwithstanding anything contained in sub-section (1), where a  
5 contravention of any of the provisions of this Act or of any rule, direction or  
6 order made thereunder has been committed by a company and it is proved that  
7 the contravention has taken place with the consent or connivance of, or is  
8 attributable to any neglect on the part of, any director, manager, secretary or  
9 other officer of the company, such director, manager, secretary or other officer  
10 shall also be deemed to be guilty of the contravention and shall be liable to be  
11 proceeded against and punished accordingly.

Power to make  
rules

12 31.-(1) The Federal Government may, by notification, make rules to  
13 carry out the provisions of the Act.

14 (2) In particular, but without prejudice to the generality of the  
15 provision of subsection (1) above, such rules may provide for all or any of the  
16 following matters, namely:

17 (a) the criteria and procedure for constitution of the Apex Committee,  
18 State Security Services, Enforcement Authority and Appellate Authority;

19 (b) the manner and procedure in which the function is to be discharged  
20 by the members, officers and other employees of the Apex Committee, State  
21 Security Services, Enforcement Authority and Appellate Authority;

22 (c) the term of office, salary, allowances and other terms and  
23 conditions of service of the Chairman and the Members of the Appellate  
24 Authority.

Rules and  
regulations to  
be laid before  
Parliament

25 32.-(1) Every rule made by the Federal Government and every  
26 regulation made by the Apex Committee under this Act shall be laid, as soon as,  
27 may be after it is made, before each house of the National Assembly, while it is  
28 in session, for a total period of thirty days which may be comprised in one  
29 session or in two or more successive sessions, and if, before the expiry of the  
30 session immediately following the session or the successive sessions aforesaid,

1 both houses agree in making any modification in the rule or the regulation or  
2 both houses agree that the rule should not be made, the rule shall thereafter  
3 have effect only in such modified form or be of no effect, as the case may be;  
4 so however, that any such modification or annulment shall be without  
5 prejudice to the validity of anything previously done under that  
6 rule/regulation.

7 (2) Nothing in this Act shall affect the activities of the Federal  
8 Government in the discharge of its functions relating to the security or the  
9 defence of Nigeria.

10 (3) No suit, prosecution or other legal proceeding shall lie against  
11 the Federal Government or Apex Committee or State Security Services or  
12 Enforcement Authority, on whom powers have been conferred pursuant to  
13 this Act, for anything which is done or purported to be done in good faith in  
14 pursuance of this Act or for any rule or regulation made under this Act.

15 33. The provisions of this Act shall have effect notwithstanding  
16 anything inconsistent therewith contained in any other law for the time  
17 being in force

Act to have  
overriding effect

18 34. No suit, prosecution or other legal proceeding shall lie against  
19 the Federal Government, the Apex Committee, the State Security Services,  
20 the Enforcement Authority or the Appellate Authority or any person acting  
21 on behalf of them, for anything which is in good faith done or intended to be  
22 done in pursuance of this Act or any rule, regulation or order made  
23 thereunder.

Protection of  
action taken in  
good faith

24 35.-(1) If any difficulty arises in giving effect to the provisions of  
25 this Act, the Federal Government may, by order published in the Official  
26 Gazette, make such provisions not inconsistent with the provisions of this  
27 Act as appear to it to be necessary or expedient for removing the difficulty:  
28 Provided that no order shall be made under this section after the expiry of a  
29 period of two years from the commencement of this Act.

Removal of  
difficulties

30 (2) Every order made under this section shall be laid, as soon as

Act not to apply  
to Nigerian  
Government  
Bodies

- 1     may be after it is made, before each House of the National Assembly.
- 2             36. The Federal Government may, by notification in Official Gazette,
- 3     exempt the Ministries, Departments, Public Sector Enterprises or any other
- 4     attached or subordinate offices of the Federal Government or State
- 5     Governments from the provisions of this Act to the extent it deems fit.

#### EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

This Bill seeks to regulate the acquisition, dissemination, publication and distribution of geospatial information of Nigeria which is likely to affect the security, sovereignty and integrity of Nigeria.