

A BILL

FOR

AN ACT TO ESTABLISH NIGERIA FRENCH LANGUAGE VILLAGE, BADAGRY AND OTHER RELATED MATTERS

Sponsored by Senator Gbenga Ashafa

[] Commencement

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

1 PART I - ESTABLISHMENT OF THE NIGERIA FRENCH LANGUAGE VILLAGE

2 1.-(1) There is established a village to be known as the Nigeria French Language Village (in this Act referred to as "the Village").

Establishment of the Nigeria French Language Village

4 (2) The Village shall be a body corporate with perpetual succession and a common seal and may sue or be sued in its corporate name.

6 2. The objectives of the Village shall be to promote the study and use of the French Language in Nigeria by exploring all relevant and available avenue, potentials and resources to make the Village-

Objectives of the Village t

- 9 (a) an active teaching and learning Centre for the study of French;
- 10 (b) a resource Centre for specialized professional services to the public and private sectors of the Nigeria economy; and
- 11 (c) a Nigerian inter-University Centre for French Studies.

13 3.-(1) There is established for the Village a governing body which shall be known as the Council of the Nigeria French Language Village (in this Act referred to as the "the Council").

Establishment and Composition of the Governing Council

- 16 (2) The Council shall consist of-
- 17 (a) a Chairman;
- 18 (b) one person each to represent each of the following institutions in rotation, for one term at a time-
- 20 (i) the Federal Universities,
- 21 (ii) the State Universities, and

- 1 (iii) the Colleges of Education;
- 2 (c) one person to represent the Nigerian Association of French
3 Teachers;
- 4 (d) two persons with relevant knowledge and experience selected on
5 individual merit to represent public interest;
- 6 (e) the Director-General of the Village;
- 7 (f) the Deputy Director-General of the Village; and
- 8 (g) the Registrar of the Village who shall act as Secretary to the
9 Council.

10 (3) The Chairman and members of the council, other than ex-officio
11 shall be appointed by the President on the recommendation of the Minister.

12 (4) The President, during a long absence or temporary incapacity by
13 illness of the Chairman, may appoint a person to act in the place of the
14 Chairman and that person while so acting may exercise the functions of the
15 Chairman.

16 (5) If any other member is incapacitated by illness or long absence
17 from performing his official duties, a temporary member may be appointed, in
18 the same manner and in accordance with the same procedure under which the
19 incapacitated member was appointed, and while the appointment subsists, he
20 may exercise all the functions of a member.

21 (6) The supplementary provisions set out in the schedule to this Act
22 shall have effect with respect to the proceedings of the Council and other
23 matters contained therein.

Tenure of office

24 4.-(1) The Chairman shall hold office for a period of 4 years and may
25 be eligible for re-appointment by the President for one further term of four
26 years.

27 (2) A member of the Council, other than ex-officio, shall hold office
28 for 4 years, and may be re-appointed for one further term of 4 years and no
29 more.

30 (3) A member of the Council shall not appoint another person to

1 represent him at a meeting.

2 5.-(1) The Chairman shall be paid such emolument as may be
3 specified in his letter of appointment.

Remuneration
of Members

4 (2) The allowances payable to members shall be in accordance
5 with such rates as may be approved by the Government, from time to time.

6 6.-(1) If it appears to the Council that the Chairman or any other
7 member other than ex-officio should be removed from office on grounds of
8 misconduct or inability to perform the functions of his office, the Council
9 shall make a recommendation to the President through the Minister.

Removal from
Office

10 (2) If the President after making such inquiries as he considers
11 necessary, approves the recommendation, the Minister shall, in writing,
12 declare the Office of the Chairman or of such a member vacant.

13 (3) Notwithstanding subsection (1) of this section, the President,
14 may remove a member if he is satisfied that it is in the public interest to do so.

15 PART II - FUNCTIONS AND POWERS

16 7. The Village shall-

Functions of the
Village

17 (a) encourage the learning of the French Language in an
18 environment that will prepare the students in the Village to-

19 (i) Speak French fluently;

20 (ii) acquire proficiency in French;

21 (iii) acquire competence in the writing of the Arabic Language;

22 (iv) translate to and from the French Language with reference to
23 the English languages; and

24 (v) interpret simultaneously and consequently to and from French
25 language with reference to the English and Nigerian languages.

26 (b) hold out to all persons without distinction to race, creed, sex or
27 political conviction the opportunity of acquiring proficiency in the use of
28 French Language;

29 (c) provide courses of instructions and other facilities for the
30 pursuit of learning French Language;

- 1 (d) develop appropriate curricular to suit the needs of the various
2 users of the Village;
- 3 (e) award Testimonials, Certificates, Diplomas and Degrees to
4 persons who complete the courses of study undertaken in the Village.
- 5 (f) provide an environment, having all the socio-cultural, physical and
6 psychological facilities, that will facilitate the learning of French language,
7 through a coordinated stimulated process that allows the learner to achieve the
8 linguistic and cultural immersion that is indispensable for communicative
9 competence in French;
- 10 (g) operate with the multi-dimensional and omni-directional strategy
11 of language acquisition for the benefit of-
- 12 (i) University undergraduates, for their statutory French
13 Language Immersion Programme;
- 14 (ii) students of Colleges of Education, for their compulsory Summer
15 French Language Immersion Programme;
- 16 (iii) secondary school teachers and students; and
- 17 (iv) Government and non-Governmental personnel;
- 18 (h) serve as a centre for the exchange of information of French studies
19 and of sourcing researches in the area of French studies;
- 20 (i) encourage research into problems of learning and teaching of
21 French as a foreign language in Nigeria, with a view to carrying out research
22 into those problems and finding solutions to them;
- 23 (j) encourage the development and publication of materials, including
24 books, journals and teaching aids for proficiency programmes and for
25 secondary and tertiary institutions;
- 26 (k) compile, assemble and publish the results of researches in French
27 studies in Nigeria and popularize those findings where their general
28 recognition, in the opinion of the Village, is of importance to Nigeria and to
29 French studies in Nigeria; and
- 30 (l) carry out other activities as are necessary or expedient for the

1 performance of its functions under this Act.

2 **8. The council shall-**

Functions of the
Council

3 (a) subject to the provisions of this Act, be charged with the general
4 control and superintendence of the policies, finances and property of the
5 village;

6 (b) ensure that the Village is staffed by persons with high
7 communicative competence in French;

8 (c) ensure that proper accounts of the Village are kept and that
9 those accounts are audited annually as specified in this Act;

10 (d) organize and control the course of study at the Village and the
11 examinations held in conjunction with those courses;

12 (e) organize and control the halls of residence and the other
13 facilities provided by the Village; and

14 (f) perform such other duties as the President, may, from time to
15 time, assign to it.

16 **9. The village shall have power to-**

Powers of the
Village

17 (a) establish such units within the Village as may, from time to
18 time, be necessary or desirable;

19 (b) institute and grand professorships, readerships, lectureship and
20 other posts and offices and to make appointment thereto;

21 (c) institute and award fellowships, scholarships, bursaries,
22 medals, prizes and other titles distinctions, award and other forms of
23 assistance;

24 (d) provide for the residence, disciple and welfare of members of
25 staff of the Village;

26 (e) hold examinations and grant diplomas, certificates and other
27 distinctions to persons who have pursued course of study approved by the
28 Village and have satisfied such other requirements as the Village lay down;

29 (f) grant fellowships or titles to deserving individuals;

30 (g) demand and receive from any student or any other person

- 1 attending the Village for the purpose of instruction such fees as the Village may,
2 from time to time, determine;
- 3 (h) acquire, hold, grant, charge or otherwise dealt with or dispose of
4 moveable and immovable property wherever situate;
- 5 (i) accept gifts, legacies and donations, but without obligation to
6 accept them for a particular purpose unless it approves the terms and conditions
7 attaching thereto;
- 8 (j) enter into contracts, establish trusts, act as trustee solely or jointly
9 with any other persons, and employ and act through agents;
- 10 (k) erect, provide, equip and maintain libraries, laboratories, lecture
11 halls, halls of residence, refectories, sports ground, playing fields and other
12 building or things necessary or suitable or convenient for the objectives of the
13 Village;
- 14 (l) hold public lectures and to undertake publishing and book selling;
- 15 (m) subject to the provisions of this Act-
- 16 (i) invest any money accruing to the Village by way of endowment,
17 whether for general or special purposes, and such other money may not be
18 immediately required for current expenditure, in investments or securities or in
19 the purchase or improvement of land, with power from time to time to vary any
20 such investments; and
- 21 (ii) deposit any money, for the time being uninvested, with a bank
22 approved by the Federal Government, on deposit or current account.
- 23 (n) to make gifts for any charitable purposes;
- 24 (o) to do anything which it is authorized or required by this Act or any
25 other law to do; and
- 26 (p) to do all such acts or things, whether or not incidental to the
27 foregoing powers as may advance the objects of the Village.
- 28 **10.** The President, may give to the Village or to the Council directives
29 of a general nature or relating generally to matters of policy with regard to the
30 performance by the Village or the Council of its functions under this Act and it

1 shall be the duty of the Village or the Council to comply with these
2 directives.

3 **11.** Subject to the provisions of this Act, the Minister may give to
4 the Council such directives of a general nature with regard to the exercise by
5 the Council of its functions under this Act and it shall be the duty of the
6 Council to comply with such directives.

Power of the
Minister to give

7 PART III - STAFF OF THE VILLAGE

8 **12.**-(1) The Village shall have the following officers-

Appointment of
Principal Officers

9 (a) the Director-General of the Village;

10 (b) the Deputy Director-General of the Village;

11 (c) the Registrar of the Village;

12 (d) the Bursar of the Village;

13 (e) the Village Librarian;

14 (f) the Co-ordinator of Municipal Services; and

15 (g) such other officers as the Council may from time to time,
16 designate.

17 (2) The principal officers, other than the Director-General, shall-

18 (a) be appointed by the Council; and

19 (b) subject to section 14 of this Act, hold office for such period and
20 on such terms, as to emoluments of their offices and otherwise as may be
21 specified in their letter of appointment.

22 **13.**-(1) The President shall, on the recommendation of the
23 Minister, appoint a Director-General who shall be the Chief Executive
24 Officer and Chief Academic Officer of the Village.

Appointment of
the Director

25 (2) The Director-General shall-

26 (a) hold office for a term of five years and may be eligible for
27 reappointment for a further term of four years only Deputy Director-General
28 of the Village; and

29 (b) be paid such emoluments as may be specified in his letter of
30 appointment.

Deputy Director-
General

1 14.-(1) There shall be a Deputy Director-General of the Village who
2 shall assist the Director-General in his duties and act in the place of the
3 Director-General when the office of Director-General is vacant or the Director-
4 General is for any reason absent or otherwise unable to perform his functions as
5 Director-General.

6 (2) The Deputy Director-General-

7 (a) shall be appointed by the Council on the recommendation of the
8 Director-General;

9 (b) shall hold office for a period of two years beginning with the date
10 of his appointment, and on such terms as to the emolument of his office and
11 otherwise as may be specified in his instrument of appointment; and

12 (c) may be eligible for re-appointment for a further term of two years
13 only.

14 (3) A person who had held office as Deputy Director-General for a
15 continuous period of four years or longer, or would so have held office but for
16 his resignation, shall not be eligible for appointment as Deputy Director-
17 General during the two years immediately following the end of that period.

Registrar

18 15.-(1) There shall be a Registrar who shall be the Chief
19 Administrative Officer of the Village and shall be responsible to the Director-
20 General for the day-to-day administrative work of the Village except as regard
21 matters for which the bursar is responsible in accordance with the terms
22 specified below.

23 (2) The Registrar shall be the Secretary to the Council.

The Bursar

24 16. The Bursar shall be the Chief Financial Officer of the Village and
25 shall be responsible to the Director-General for the day-to-day administration
26 and control of the financial affairs of the Village.

The Village
Librarian

27 17. The Village Librarian shall be responsible to the Director-General
28 for the administration of the Village Library and the co-ordination of the
29 Library services of the Village.

1	218. The Co-ordinator of Municipal Services shall supervise and	
2	monitor the municipal requirements and problems of the village.	Co-ordinator of Municipal Services
3	219. A question arising as to the scope of the responsibilities of the	
4	principal officers, shall be determined by the Director-General.	Scope of responsibilities
5	220.-(1) The Council may appoint such other persons as employees	
6	of the Village, as the Council may determine, to assist the Director-General	Appointment of other employees
7	in the discharge of his functions.	
8	(2) The remuneration and tenure of office of employees of the	
9	Village other than the Director-General shall be determined by the Council	
10	and in consonance with what obtains in similar institutions in Nigeria.	
11	221. The Village shall operate under the ambit of the National	
12	Universities Commission and the salary structures and conditions of service	Conditions Service
13	of the employees of the Village shall be similar to those obtainable in the	
14	University.	
15	<i>Discipline.</i>	
16	222. If it appears to the Council that the Director-General should be	
17	removed from office, the Council shall make a recommendation to the	Removal from office of the Director-General
18	Minister and if the Minister, after making such inquiries as be consider	
19	necessary, approves the recommendation, the Minister may, with the written	
20	approval of the President in writing declare the office of the Director-	
21	General vacant.	
22	223.-(1) If it appears to the Council that there are reasons for	
23	believing that a person employed as a senior staff, other than the Director-	Removal and discipline of senior staff
24	General, should be removed from office on grounds of misconduct or	
25	inability to perform the functions of his office, the Council, through it's	
26	appropriate committee shall-	
27	(a) give notice of those reasons to the person concerned;	
28	(b) afford him an opportunity of making representations on the	
29	matter to the Council in person;	
30	(c) if the person concerned or any three members of the Council so	

1 request, within the period of one month beginning with the date of the notice,
2 make arrangements-

3 (i) for the Appointments and Promotion Committee of the Council or
4 an ad-hoc Committee of Council, to investigate the matter and to report on it to
5 the Council; and

6 (ii) for the person in question to be afforded an opportunity of
7 appearing before and being heard by the investigating committee on the matter.

8 (2) If the Council, after considering the report of the Investigating
9 Committee is satisfied that the person in question should be removed as
10 aforesaid, the Council may remove the person concerned by an instrument in
11 writing signed by the Chairman of the Council.

12 (3) The Director-General may, in a case of conduct by a member of the
13 staff which in the opinion of the Director-General is prejudicial to the interest
14 of the Village, suspend that member, and suspension shall forthwith be
15 reported to the Council for ratification.

16 (4) For good cause, an employee may be suspended from office or his
17 appointment may be terminated by the Council and for the purpose of this
18 subsection "good cause" means-

19 (a) physical or mental incapacity which the Council, after obtaining
20 medical advice, considers to be such as render the person concerned unfit for
21 the discharge of the functions of his office;

22 (b) conduct of a scandalous or other disgraceful nature which the
23 Council considers to be such as to render the person concerned unfit to continue
24 to hold his office; or

25 (c) conduct which the Council considers to be such as to constitute
26 failure or inability of the person concerned to discharge the functions of his
27 office or to comply with the terms and conditions of his service.

28 (5) A person suspended pursuant to subsection(3) and or (4) of this
29 section shall be placed on half pay and the Council shall before the expiration
30 of a period of three months after the date of suspension consider the case

1 against that person and come to decision as to-

2 (a) whether to continue that person's suspension and if so on what
3 terms (including the proportion of his emoluments to be paid to him);

4 (b) whether to re-instate that a person to his office, in which case
5 the Council shall restore his full emoluments to him with effect from the date
6 of the suspension;

7 (c) whether to terminate that person's appointment, in which case
8 the person shall not be entitled to the proportion of his emolument withheld
9 during the period of the suspension; and

10 (d) whether to take such lesser disciplinary action against that
11 person (including the restoration of the proportion of his emoluments that
12 might have been withheld) as the Council may, determine.

13 (6) In any case where the Council, pursuant to this section, decides
14 to continue a person's suspension or decides to take further disciplinary
15 action against a person, the Council shall, before the expiration of a period of
16 three months from that decision, come to a final determination in respect of
17 the case concerning person.

18 (7) It shall be the duty of the person who signed the instrument of
19 removal by virtue of subsection (2) of this section to serve or cause it to be
20 served on the person concerned, a copy of the instrument.

21 (8) Nothing in this section shall prevent the Council from making
22 such regulation for the discipline of other categories of employees and
23 workers of the Village as it may think fit.

24 **24.-(1)** If a junior staff is accused of misconduct or inefficiency, the
25 Director-General may suspend him for not more than three months and
26 forthwith shall refer the matter to the Junior Staff Disciplinary Committee-

Discipline of
junior staff

27 (a) to consider the case; and

28 (b) to make recommendations as to the appropriate action to be
29 taken by the Director-General.

30 (2) In all case under this section, the junior member of staff shall be

1 informed in writing of the charges against him and be given reasonable
2 opportunity to defend himself.

3 (3) The Director-General may, after considering the recommendation
4 made pursuant to subsection (1) (b) of this section, dismiss, terminate, retire or
5 downgrade the junior officer concerned.

6 (4) A person aggrieved by the decision of the Director-General under
7 subsection (3) of this section may within a period of 21 days from the date of
8 the receipt of the letter communicating the decision to him, address a petition to
9 the Council to reconsider his case and the Council's decision therein shall be
10 final.

Discipline of
Students

11 25.-(1) Subject to the provisions of this section, where it appears to
12 the Director-General that any student of the Village has been guilty of
13 misconduct, the Director-General may without prejudice to any other
14 disciplinary powers conferred on him by regulations or by law, direct-

15 (a) that the student shall not, during such period as may be specified in
16 the direction, participate in such activities of the Village, or make use of such
17 facilities of the Village, as may be so specified;

18 (b) that the activities of the student shall, during such period as may be
19 specified;

20 (c) that the student be rusticated for such period as may be specified in
21 the direction; or

22 (d) that the student be expelled from the Village.

23 (2) Where a direction is given under subsection (1) (c) or (d) of this
24 section in respect of any student, the student may, within the prescribed period
25 and in the prescribed manner, appeal from the direction to the council and
26 where such an appeal is brought, the Council shall, after causing such inquiry to
27 be made in the matter as the council considers just, either confirm or set aside
28 the direction or modify it in such manner as the Council thinks fit.

29 (3) The fact that an appeal from a direction is brought in pursuance of
30 the last foregoing subsection shall not affect the question of the direction while

1 the appeal is pending.

2 (4) The Director-General may delegate his powers under this
3 section to a disciplinary board consisting of such members of the Village
4 otherwise than on ground of misconduct.

5 (5) Nothing in this section shall be construed as preventing the
6 restriction or termination of a student's activities at the Village otherwise
7 than on ground of misconduct.

8 (6) It is declared that a direction under subsection (1) (a) of this
9 section may be combined with a direction under subsection (1) (b) of this
10 section.

11 PART IV - ACADEMIC BOARD OF THE VILLAGE

12 26.-(1) There is established for the Village an Academic Board
13 which shall consist of-

Establishment of
the Academic
Board

- 14 (a) the Director-General as Chairman;
15 (b) the Deputy Director-General;
16 (c) the Registrar;
17 (d) members of the teaching staff;
18 (e) graduate members of staff of the Library;
19 (f) graduate members of staff of the Audio-Visual Unit; and
20 (g) the Academic Secretary who shall be the Secretary to the
21 Academic Board.

22 (2) The Director-General shall preside over the meeting of the
23 Academic Board and in his absence the Deputy Director-General shall
24 preside but in the absence of both, the members present at the meeting shall
25 select one of them to preside at the meeting.

26 (3) The Academic Board shall meet at least once in a semester.

27 (4) Subject to subsection (2) and (3) of this section, the Academic
28 Board shall regulate its own procedure.

29 27.-(1) The Academic Board shall-

- 30 (a) Subject to subsection (2) of this section, formulate, regulate and

Function of the
Academic Board

- 1 continuously evaluate the academic programmes of the Village;
- 2 (b) perform such other functions as are traditional to such bodies, as
- 3 the Council may, from time to time, assign to it.
- 4 (2) The Academic Board shall ensure that, where the Village wishes to
- 5 provide programmes aimed at specific categories of students from certain
- 6 institutions, the particulars of those programmes are first sent-
- 7 (a) in the case of undergraduate programmes, to the National
- 8 Universities Commission;
- 9 (b) in the case of the National Certificate of Education programmes,
- 10 to the National Commission for Colleges of Education;
- 11 (c) in the case of professional programme, to the relevant professional
- 12 body;
- 13 (d) in the case of any other programme, to the recognized body
- 14 responsible for supervising the institution, for information and in-put.

15 PART V - COMMITTEES OF THE COUNCIL

16 Establishment
of the Finance,
General Purpose,
Tenders and the
Appointment and
Promotion
Committees

- 16 28. The Council shall establish the following Committees-
- 17 (a) Finance and General Purposes Committee;
- 18 (b) Appointments and Promotion Committee; and
- 19 (c) Tenders Committee

20 Composition and
functions of the
Finance and
General Purpose
Committee

- 20 29.-(1) The Finance and General Purpose Committee shall consist of-
- 21 (a) the Chairman of the Council as Chairman;
- 22 (b) the Director-General of the Village;
- 23 (c) four members of the Council to be selected by the Council;
- 24 (d) the Registrar as Secretary.
- 25 (2) The Finance and General Purpose Committee shall subject to the
- 26 direction of the Council-
- 27 (a) exercise control over the property and expenditure of the Village;
- 28 (b) be responsible for elaborating the general plans of the Village and
- 29 co-ordinating the work of such other Committee of the Council as the Council
- 30 may direct;

1 (c) perform such other functions of the Council as the Council may,
2 from time to time, delegate, to it.

3 (3) The Finance and General Purpose Committee shall meet as and
4 when necessary for the performance of this functions under this Decree and
5 shall regulate is own procedure.

6 (4) The Finance and General purpose Committee shall regulate its
7 procedure.

8 30.-(1) The Appointment and Promotions Committee shall consist
9 of-

Composition and
functions of the
Appointment and
Promotion
Committee

10 (a) the Director-General of the Village as Chairman;

11 (b) three members of the Council to be selected by the Council;

12 (c) the Head of the Department concerned;

13 (d) the Bursar; and

14 (f) the Registrar as Secretary.

15 (2) Subject to such policies as may be laid down, from time to time,
16 by the Council, the Appointment and Promotions Committee shall-

17 (a) co-ordinate and regulate the appointment and promotion of
18 members of staff of the Village;

19 (b) Consider applications for special training and sabbatical
20 leaves, leave of absence and for fellowships;

21 (c) perform such other functions ancillary to those in paragraphs
22 (a) and (b) of this subsection as the Council may, from time to time, assign to
23 it.

24 (4) The Appointment and Promotion Committee shall meet as and
25 when necessary for the performance of its functions under this Act and shall
26 regulate its own procedure.

27 31.-(1) The Tenders Committee shall consist of-

Composition and
functions of the
Tenders Committee

28 (a) the Chairman of the Council as chairman;

29 (b) the Director-General of the Village;

30 (c) two members of the Council to be selected by the Council;

- 1 (d) the Bursar of the Village;
- 2 (e) the Co-ordinator of Municipal Services; and
- 3 (f) the Registrar of the Village, who shall act as Secretary to the
- 4 (2) The Tenders Committee shall be governed by the extant law and
- 5 shall-
- 6 (a) invite and conduct opening of tenders for capital projects to be
- 7 executed for the Village;
- 8 (b) award contracts in consonance with extant rules from the
- 9 Government;
- 10 (c) co-ordinate the supervision of capital projects in the Village;
- 11 (d) perform such other functions as may be specified by the extant
- 12 procurement law.

Appointment of
other Committees

- 13 32.-(1) The Council may, subject to its standing orders, appoint such
- 14 other standing and ad-hoc committees as the Council may think fit to consider
- 15 and report on any matter with which the Village is concerned.
- 16 (2) Subject to the provisions of subsection (1) of this section, a
- 17 committee appointed shall be presided over by a member of the Council, and
- 18 shall consist of such number of persons, not necessarily members of the
- 19 Council, as the Council may determine.

20 PART VII - FINANCIAL PROVISIONS

Fund of the
Village

- 21 33.-(1) The Village shall establish and maintain a fund from which
- 22 shall be defrayed all expenditure incurred by the Village.
- 23 (2) There shall be paid and credited to the fund established pursuant to
- 24 subsection (1) of this section-
- 25 (a) such moneys as may, from time to time, be lent or granted to the
- 26 Village by the Government of the Federation or of a State or any of their
- 27 agencies;
- 28 (b) all moneys raised for the purposes of the Village by way of gift,
- 29 grant in-aid, testamentary disposition or otherwise;

1 (c) all subscription or less and charges for services rendered by the
2 Village;

3 (d) all interest received in respect of moneys invested by the
4 Village; and

5 (e) all other assets, from time to time, accruing to the Village.

6 (3) The fund shall be managed in accordance with guidelines given
7 by the Minister through the National Universities Commission, and without
8 prejudice to the generality of the power to give guidelines under this
9 subsection, the guidelines shall in particular contain provisions specifying
10 the manner in which the assets of the fund are to be held, and regulating the
11 making of payments into and out of the fund.

12 34.-(1) The Village may, from time to time, apply the funds at its
13 disposal-

Expenditure of
the Village

14 (a) to the cost of the administration of the Village and of any
15 research institute under the village's administration;

16 (b) for reimbursing a member of any Committee set up by the
17 Village for expenses expressly authorized by the Village;

18 (c) to the provision of scholarship and other awards for the training
19 of staff of the Village;

20 (d) to the payment of salaries, fees or other remuneration,
21 allowances, pensions and gratuities or superannuation payable to the
22 employees of the Village (including the Director-General);

23 (e) for the maintenance of any property vested in the Village; and

24 (f) for in connection with all or any of the functions of the Village
25 under this Act or any other enactment.

26 (2) Except as provided for in subsection(1) of this section, no other
27 remuneration shall be paid to any member of any Committee appointed by
28 the Village pursuant to this Act.

29 35.-(1) The Council shall cause to be prepared, not latter than 30th
30 September in each year, an estimate of the expenditure and income of the

Annual estimate,
accounts and audit

1 Village during the next succeeding year and when prepared, shall be submitted
2 to the Minister.

3 (2) The Council shall cause to be kept proper accounts of the Village
4 in respect of each year and proper records in relation thereto and shall cause its
5 accounts to be audited not less than six months after the end of each year.

6 (3) The Council shall appoint auditors from the list and in accordance
7 with the guidelines supplied by the Auditor-General of the Federation.

8 36. The Council shall, not later than 31st July in each year, submit to
9 the Minister a report, in such form as the President may, from time to time,
10 direct, on the activities of the Village during the preceding year and shall
11 include in the report the audited accounts of the Village.

12 PART VIII - MISCELLANEOUS AND GENERAL

Exclusion of
discrimination
on account of
race, religion, etc.

13 37.-(1) No person shall be required to satisfy requirements as to any of
14 the following matter that is to say, race (including ethnic grouping), sex, place
15 of birth or of family origin, or religious or political persuasion, as a condition of
16 becoming or continuing to be a student at the Village, the holder of any
17 certificate or degree of the Village or of any appointment or employment at the
18 Village and no person shall be subject to any disadvantage or accorded any
19 advantage in relation to the Village by reference to any of those matters-

20 PROVIDED that nothing in this section shall be construed as
21 preventing the Village from imposing any disability or restriction on any of the
22 aforementioned persons. Where such person willfully refuses or fails on
23 grounds of religious belief to undertake any duty generally and uniformly
24 imposed on all such persons or any group of them which duty having regard to
25 its nature and the special circumstances pertaining thereto, is in the opinion of
26 the Village reasonably justified in the national interest.

Compulsory
acquisition of
land

27 38. For the purposes of the land use Act (which provided for the
28 compulsory acquisition of land for public purposes) the purposes of the Village
29 shall be public purposes of the federation and where an estate or interest in any
30 land is acquired by the Government in pursuance to this section, the

1 Government may by a certificate under hand and seal of the registrar of
2 Deeds, transfer it to the Village.

3 39.-(1) For the purpose of providing offices and premises
4 necessary for the performance of its functions, the Village may subject to the
5 Lands Use Act-

Offices and
premises

6 (a) purchase or take on lease any interest in land, building or
7 property;

8 (b) build, equip and maintain offices and premises.

9 (2) The Village may, subject to the Land Use Act, sell or lease out
10 any land, office or premises held by it, which is no longer required for the
11 performance of its functions under this Act.

12 40.-(1) The Village may, with the approval of the Minister from
13 time to time, borrow by overdraft or otherwise such sums as may require for
14 the performance of its functions under this Act.

Power to borrow

15 (2) The Village shall not, without the approval of the Minister
16 borrow money which exceeds, at any time, the limit set by the Minister.

17 (3) Notwithstanding subsection (1) of this section, where the sum
18 to be borrowed is in foreign currency, the Village shall not borrow the sum
19 without the prior approval of the Minister.

20 41.-(1) The Village may accept gift of land, money or other
21 property, upon such terms and conditions, if any, as may be specified by the
22 person or organization making the gift, provided that such gift is not
23 inconsistent with the objectives and functions of the Village.

Power to accept
Gifts

24 42.-(1) No suit shall be commenced against the Village unless a
25 month notice is served on the Village before the expiration of a period of one
26 month after written notice of intention to commence the suit shall have been
27 served on the Village by the intending plaintiff or his agent and the notice
28 shall clearly and explicitly state-

Legal proceedings

29 (a) the cause of action;

30 (b) the particulars of the claim;

1 (c) the name and place of abode of the intending plaintiff; and

2 (d) the relief which it claims.

3 (2) The notice to in subsection(1) of this section and any summons,
4 notice or other document required or authorized to be served upon the Village
5 under the provision of this Act or any other enactment or law, may be served by-

6 (a) delivering the same to the Director; or

7 (b) sending it by registered post addressed to the Director at the head
8 office of the Village.

9 (3) In an action or suit against the Village, no execution or attachment
10 or process in the nature thereof shall be issued against the Village, but any sums
11 of money which may, by the judgment of the court, be awarded against the
12 Village shall, subject to any directives given by the Village, be paid from the
13 general reserve of the Village.

Power to make
by-laws

14 43.-(1) The Council may, make regulations relating to internal
15 domestic matters placed by this Act under its control and superintendence other
16 than matters for which provision is to be made by standing orders under
17 paragraph I of the Schedule to this Act.

18 (2) Nothing in subsection (1) of this section shall make it obligatory
19 for the Council to publish regulation in the Gazette.

20 44.-(1) The Council may, with the approval of the Minister make
21 regulations for giving effect to the provisions of this Act and without prejudice
22 to the foregoing, regulation shall provide for-

23 (a) the entry into and the type of courses and programmes approved
24 for the Village;

25 (b) the duration of the courses and programmes; and

26 (c) the certificates, if any, to be awarded by the village.

Retiring age of
academic staff
of the Village

27 45.-(a) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the Pensions
28 Reform Act, the compulsory retiring age of an academic staff shall be 65 years;

29 and

30 (b) any law or rule requiring a person to retire from the public service

1 after serving for 35 years shall not apply to an academic staff of the Village.

2 46. In this Act-

Interpretation

3 "Chairman" means the Chairman of the Council of the Village;

4 "Council" means the Governing Council of the Village;

5 "Fund" means the fund of the Village established under section 32 of this
6 Act;

7 "Government" means Federal Government of Nigeria;

8 "Member" means a member of the Council and includes the Chairman;

9 "Principal officers" means the principal officers of the Village appointed
10 under Part III of this Act; and

11 "Village" means the Nigeria French Language Village established by
12 section 1 of this Act.

13 47. This Bill may be cited as the Nigeria French Language Village
14 Bill, 2016.

Citation

15 SCHEDULE

16 *Section 3 (6)*

17 SUPPLEMENTARY PROVISIONS RELATING TO THE COUNCIL, ETC.

18 *Proceedings of the Council*

19 1. Subject to the provision of the Act and section of 27 of the
20 Interpretation Act, the Council shall have power to regulate its proceedings
21 and may make standing Orders with respect to the holding of its meetings
22 and of those of its committee, the notice to be given the proceedings thereat,
23 the keeping of minutes of those proceedings and the custody and production
24 for inspection of the minutes.

25 2. The quorum of the Council shall be five and the quorum of a
26 Committee of the Council shall be determined by the Council.

27 3. At a meeting of the Council, the Chairman or person appointed
28 by the Council to act in that behalf shall preside but if neither of them is
29 present, the members present at the meeting shall elect one of their number
30 to preside at the meeting.

1 for that purpose.

2 14. Any document purporting to be a document executed under the
3 seal of the Village shall be received in evidence and shall, unless the contrary
4 is proved be deemed executed.

5 15. A contract or an instrument which, if under or executed by a
6 person not being a body corporate, would not be required to be under seal,
7 may be made or executed on behalf of the Village by the Director-General
8 and a person generally or specially authorized to act for that purpose by the
9 Council.

10 16. The validity of a proceeding of the Council or its Committee
11 shall not be affected by-

12 (a) a vacancy in the membership of the Council or of the
13 Committee;

14 (b) reason that the a person not entitled to do so took part in the
15 proceedings; or

16 (c) a defect in the appointment of a member.

17 17. A member of the Council and a person holding office on a
18 Committee of the Council, who has a personal interest in any contract or
19 arrangement entered into proposed to be considered by the Council or a
20 Committee shall-

21 (a) forthwith disclose his interest to the Council or committee, as
22 the case may be; and

23 (b) not vote on any question relating to the contract or arrangement.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

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

This Act seeks to establish the Nigeria French Language Village in order to promote the study and use of the French Language in Nigeria by exploring all relevant and available avenues, potentials and resources.



