

- 1 (f) to establish and maintain the National Library and Information
2 Service Centre in each of the six geo-political zones of the federation;
- 3 (g) to develop networks and linkages with other libraries in Nigeria
4 and anywhere in the world;
- 5 (h) to prepare catalogues, indexes and similar research aids;
- 6 (i) to make the facilities of the National Library and Information
7 Service Center available to members of the public and others on proper terms,
8 which may includes provision for:
- 9 (i) registration of persons admitted to use the library facilities;
- 10 (ii) the imposition of fees for services rendered to the public; and
- 11 (iii) safe - guarding the property of the Board.
- 12 (j) to provide consultancy services to individuals, communities,
13 corporate bodies, agencies and other government bodies wishing to establish
14 libraries;
- 15 (k) to develop the national bibliography of Nigeria and national
16 bibliography centre or elsewhere;
- 17 (l) to prescribe the rules and procedure for granting applications for
18 ISBN/ISSN/NBN/CIP, etc;
- 19 (m) to engage in research on any subject of national interest and
20 publish its findings for public use;
- 21 (n) to provide and encourage staff to undertake capacity building and
22 skill acquisition programmes to enhance their skills in the performance of their
23 duties to the Board;
- 24 (o) to engage in readership campaign with a view to encouraging
25 readership culture and awareness among Nigerians;
- 26 (p) to provide leadership initiative in the area of resource sharing and
27 library cooperation;
- 28 (q) to audit the source of unrecorded information such as indigenous
29 knowledge which are required for continued research into national origin of
30 our history and culture;
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1 (r) to develop Information and Communications Technologies
2 (ICT) facilities to ensure that the services of the National Library and
3 information Service Centre are offered in real time, more widely and more
4 efficiently;

5 (s) to develop a Virtual Library for Nigeria; and

6 (t) to provide in accordance with this Act such services as in the
7 opinion on the Board are usually provided by national libraries all over the
8 world;

9 3. Section 3 of the principal act is amended by substituting for the
10 existing Section 3, the following new Section 3:

Amendment of
Section 3

11 (1) There shall be a National Librarian who, subject to subsection
12 (2), shall be appointed by the Minister and shall be a person appearing to the
13 Minister to have shown exceptional capacity in the organization and
14 administration of a library and services comparable to those envisaged by
15 this Act.

16 (2) The National Librarian shall hold office for a term of 4 years in
17 the first instance and may be reappointed for a further term of 4 years and no
18 more.

19 (3) Subject to the Board's financial, operational and administrative
20 policy programmes, the National Librarian shall have the general function
21 of organizing and managing the National Library and the services provided
22 in pursuance of this Act, and, in particular, the function of directing the
23 activities of the officers and servants of the Board and managing the Board's
24 financial affairs.

25 (4) Subject to subsection (3), the National Librarian shall be free to
26 manage the National Library as he thinks fit in accordance with this Act, and
27 the Board shall not interfere with the manner in which he deploys the
28 material and human resources of the Board in order to obtain results in
29 accordance with this Act.

Amendment of
Section 4

1 4. Section 4 of the principal act is amended by substituting for the
2 existing Section 4, the following new Section 4:

3 (1) Every author and publisher of a published work in Nigeria shall
4 within one month after the publication deposit with the National Librarian
5 three copies of the book for permanent preservation and public use.

6 (2) Where the publication is by or on behalf of any department of
7 government of the Federation, State or Local Council it shall be the duty of the
8 official in charge of the department to deliver twenty-five copies of the
9 publication to the National Librarian for permanent preservation and public
10 use.

11 (3) Where either the author or publisher fails to comply with the
12 provision of subsection (1) of this section, the person in default shall be guilty
13 of an offence and on conviction shall be liable to a fine not exceeding N100,000
14 or such fines as may be prescribed by the Board from time to time.

15 (4) If the defaulter is a corporate body, upon conviction, it shall be
16 liable to a fine not exceeding N1,000,000 only or such fines as may be
17 prescribed by the Board from time to time.

18 (5) Without prejudice to subsection (3), the court shall order the
19 person in default to deliver to the National Librarian the mandatory number of
20 copies of the publication.

21 (6) The President may by order in the Federal Gazette exclude any
22 publisher or book, or any class of publisher or book, from the operation of
23 subsections (1) and (2) of this section.

24 (7) The obligations imposed by this section are additional to any
25 similar obligations which may be imposed by any law or regulation in force in
26 Nigeria under this Act.

27 (8) In this Section:

28 "book" includes:

29 (a) all literary works such as books, pamphlets, sheets of music, maps,
30 electronic publications, charts, plans, tables and compilations;

1 (b) dramatic works;

2 (c) collective works such as encyclopedias, dictionaries, year
3 books or similar works, newspapers, magazines and similar periodicals;

4 (d) any work written in distinct parts by different authors or in
5 which a part or parts of work of different authors is or are incorporated, and
6 every part or division of such a work; and

7 (e) all forms in which documentary or oral records are published,
8 “publisher”, in relation to a book, means any person authorizing or causing
9 the book to be printed and distributed in Nigeria, excluding the Federal
10 Government and the Governor of a State (or any person acting on its or his
11 behalf), a public officer acting in his capacity as such and any person
12 distributing in Nigeria a book published elsewhere.

13 5. Section 13 of the principal act is amended in paragraph by Amendment of
14 substituting the word “Education” for the word “Information” in the Section 13
15 interpretation of “Minister”.

16 6. This bill may be cited as National Library Act (Amendment) Short Title
17 Bill, 2015.

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

The bill seeks to amend the National Library Act Cap N56 Laws of the Federation 2004 to among other things provide for:

Strengthening the National Library Board of Nigeria in the performance of its functions under its enabling Act, the provision of adequate sanctions to deal with authors and publishers who default in complying with the deposit of publications and to properly designate the nomenclature of the Director of the National Library as the National Librarian.