

# A BILL

## FOR

AN TO PROVIDE MEASURES AIMED AT CREATING AND PROMOTING  
COORDINATION IN YOUTH DEVELOPMENT AND FOR THAT PURPOSE  
ESTABLISH THE NATIONAL YOUTH DEVELOPMENT AGENCY AND TO  
PROVIDE FOR MATTERS CONNECTED THEREWITH

*Sponsored by Senator T. Y. Kaura*

[ ] Commencement

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

- 1           **1. In this Act, unless the context otherwise indicates:** Interpretation
- 2           "Agency" means the National Youth Development Agency established by
- 3           section 2;
- 4           "Board" means the Board of the Agency referred to in section 8;
- 5           "National Youth Development Policy" means the National Youth
- 6           Development Policy of Nigeria referred to in section 3 (a);
- 7           "Financial year" means the period from 1 April in any year to 31 March in
- 8           the next year;
- 9           "Members" means members of the Board appointed in terms of section 9;
- 10          "Prescribed" means prescribed by regulation in terms of section 19;
- 11          "Regulation" means any regulation made in terms of section 19;
- 12          "This Act" includes any regulation promulgated in terms of this Act;
- 13          "Youth" means persons between the ages of 14 and 35.
- 14          **2.-(1) There is hereby establish an Agency to be known as the** Establishment of
- 15          National Youth Development Agency (in this Act referred to as the Agency) Agency
- 16          **(2) The Fund shall be a body corporate with perpetual succession**
- 17          **and a common seal;**
- 18          **(3) May sue and be sued in its corporate name;**

Objects of  
Agency

1 (4) May hold and dispose of property whether movable or  
2 immovable.

3 3.-(1) The objects of the Agency are to:

4 (a) develop the National Youth Development Policy and Strategy for  
5 Nigeria;

6 (b) develop guidelines for the implementation of an national youth  
7 development policy and make recommendations to the President;

8 (c) initiate, design, co-ordinate, evaluate and monitor all programmes  
9 aimed at integrating the youth into the economy and society in general;

10 (d) guide efforts and facilitate economic participation and  
11 empowerment, and achievement of education and training;

12 (e) partner and assist organs of state, the private sector and non-  
13 governmental organisations and community based organisations on initiatives  
14 directed at attainment of employment and skills development;

15 (f) initiate programmes directed at poverty alleviation, urban and  
16 rural development and the combating of crime, substance abuse and social  
17 decay amongst youth;

18 (g) establish annual national priority programmes in respect of youth  
19 development;

20 (h) promote a uniform approach by all organs of state, the private  
21 sector and non-governmental organisations, to matters relating to or involving  
22 youth development; and

23 (i) endeavour to promote the interest generally of the youth,  
24 particularly young people with disabilities.

25 (2) Nothing contained in this Act precludes the Agency from directly  
26 implementing any programme or intervention aimed at advancing its objects in  
27 terms of this Act.

Principles of  
youth development

28 4. Youth development interventions and programmes must be guided  
29 by the following principles:

30 (a) recognition of the manner in which youth has been affected by the

1 imbalances of the past and the need to redress these imbalances through  
2 more equitable policies, programmes and the allocation of resources;

3 (b) promotion of equal opportunity and equal treatment of youth  
4 and the promotion of a gender-inclusive approach to the development of  
5 youth, where the social influences of gender, disability, the impact of sexism  
6 and the particular circumstances of young women are recognised;

7 (c) creation of an environment which supports the continued  
8 development and learning of youth;

9 (d) promotion of youth's participation in:

10 (i) democratic processes;

11 (ii) community and civic decision-making; and

12 (iii) development at all levels.

13 (e) recognition of youth development as an important mandate;

14 (f) responsiveness to the needs, aspirations and challenges of youth

15 In a realistic and participatory manner;

16 (g) recognition of the importance of cultural and spiritual diversity  
17 as a basis for youth development;

18 (h) promotion of the value of sustainability in order to ensure that  
19 the needs of youth are met without compromising the ability of future  
20 generations to meet their own needs;

21 (i) recognition in youth development initiatives of the peculiar  
22 needs of rural youth; and

23 (j) transparency, accountability and accessibility.

24 5.-(1) The Agency must, in order to achieve its objects:

25 (a) establish competencies and capabilities in its operations

26 including the following functional areas:

27 (i) National Youth Service and Social Cohesion;

28 (ii) Economic Participation;

29 (iii) Policy, Research and Development;

30 (iv) Governance, Training and Development;

Functions of  
Agency

- 1 (v) Youth Advisory and Information Services; and  
2 (vi) National Youth Fund.
- 3 (b) establish offices of the Agency at States and local levels and  
4 appoint the necessary personnel to those offices.
- 5 (2) The Agency may, in order to achieve its objects:
- 6 (a) carry out or cause to be carried out any investigation that it deems  
7 necessary;
- 8 (b) consider such recommendations, suggestions and requests  
9 concerning youth affairs as it may receive from any source; or
- 10 (c) conduct or cause to be conducted such research as it may deem  
11 necessary.
- 12 (3) The Agency must, for purposes of subsection (3) and within its  
13 available resources, amongst others:
- 14 (a) provide career guidance services;
- 15 (b) provide access to information regarding products and services of  
16 the National Youth Fund;
- 17 (c) create and administer databases of employment opportunities;
- 18 (d) provide financial assistance to youths to enable them to further  
19 their careers;
- 20 (e) provide financial assistance to small, micro and medium  
21 enterprises, and cooperatives owned by youth;
- 22 (f) provide monitoring services aimed at empowering youths in the  
23 economy;
- 24 (g) provide bridging programmes for youths to facilitate the transition  
25 from school or training to the work environment;
- 26 (h) provide training regarding the concepts and principles of  
27 entrepreneurship and business to youths;
- 28 (i) provide training relating to the personal development of youths;
- 29 (j) provide training and guidance relating to the establishing and  
30 managing of businesses for youths;

1 (k) provide training for unemployed youths to enhance their life  
2 and professional skills which would enable them to be integrated into the  
3 economy;

4 (l) provide opportunities for training, that will promote service to  
5 communities and the nation at large; and

6 (m) provide such other services as may be necessary to achieve the  
7 aim contemplated in subsection (3).

8 6.-(1) The Agency must, every three (3) years, submit to the  
9 President a report on the status of youth.

Reporting by  
Agency

10 (2) The Agency must annually submit to the President a report on:

11 (i) the progress on the implementation of this Act;

12 (ii) the financial status of the Agency; and

13 (iii) any other matter relating to youth development.

14 (3) The President must table reports referred to in subsection (1) to  
15 the National Assembly within a reasonable time.

16 7.-(1) Federal and state departments must:

17 (a) take national priorities in respect of youth development into  
18 account in planning their activities; and

19 (b) submit, in the prescribed manner, annual reports to the Agency  
20 regarding their implementation of youth development priorities.

Role of Federal  
and State Bodies.  
Companies and  
Civil Society  
Organisation in  
Youth  
Development

21 (2) The Agency must publish a report after it has been tabled in the  
22 National Assembly.

23 (3) The Agency must lobby companies and close corporations  
24 which employ more than twenty (20) employees, and civil society  
25 organisations to implement youth development priorities established by it.

26 8.-(1) There is hereby established for the management of the affairs  
27 of the Agency, a governing Board (in this Act referred to as "the Board ")  
28 which shall, subject to this Act, have general control of the Agency.

Control and  
management of  
the Agency

29 (2) The Board shall consist of:

30 (a) chairman;

- 1 (b) 6 other members representing the six geopolitical zones; and
- 2 (c) One representative each of the following Federal Ministries and
- 3 bodies (not below the rank of a director) that is:
- 4 (i) Youths development
- 5 (ii) Finance;
- 6 (iii) education;
- 7 (iv) employment, labour and productivity;
- 8 (v) health;
- 9 (vi) National Youth Service Corps;
- 10 (vii) Organised Private Sector;
- 11 (viii) Civil Society Organisation.
- 12 (d) the Executive Director of the Agency.
- 13 (3) The Chairman and other members of the Board shall:
- 14 (a) be appointed by the President subject to the confirmation of the
- 15 Senate;
- 16 (b) be persons with proven integrity.
- 17 (4) The supplementary provisions contained in the Schedule to this
- 18 Act shall have effect with respect to the proceedings of the Board and other
- 19 matters mentioned therein.
- Tenure of office 20 9.-( 1) The members of the Board appointed under section 2 (2) (a)
- 21 and (b) of this Act shall hold office for a period of 4 years in the first instance
- 22 and may be eligible for re appointment for a further period of 4 years and no
- 23 more.
- 24 (2) The members of the Board shall be paid such remuneration and
- 25 allowances as the Revenue Mobilization Allocation and Fiscal Commission
- 26 may, from time to time, determine.
- 27 (3) A member of the Board other than an ex officio member may
- 28 resign his appointment by a notice in writing under his hand, addressed to the
- 29 Minister and which resignation shall take effect only upon acknowledgment by
- 30 the Minister.

1           **10.-(1) A member of the Board shall cease to hold office if:**

Cessation of  
membership

2           **(a) he becomes of unsound mind;**

3           **(b) he becomes bankrupt or makes a compromise with his**  
4           **creditors;**

5           **(c) he is convicted of a felony or of any offence involving**  
6           **dishonesty; or**

7           **(d) he is guilty of serious misconduct in relation to his duties.**

8           **(2) A member of the Board may be removed from office by the**  
9           **President, if, he is satisfied that it is not in the interest of the Fund or the**  
10           **interest of the public that the member should continue in office.**

11           **(3) Where a vacancy occurs in the membership of the Board, it**  
12           **shall be filled by the appointment of a successor to hold office for the**  
13           **remainder of the term of office of his predecessor, so however that the**  
14           **successor shall represent the same interest and shall be appointed by the**  
15           **President.**

16           **11.-(1) The Board may establish Committees, including the:**

Committees of  
Board

17           **(a) Executive Management Committee;**

18           **(b) Credit Risk Committee;**

19           **(c) Human Resource and Remuneration Committee;**

20           **(d) Audit Committee; and**

21           **(e) Development Committee to assist in the performance of its**  
22           **functions.**

23           **(2) The Board must determine the composition, rules and**  
24           **procedures of committees established in terms of this section.**

25           **(3) The Board may invite persons who are not members of the**  
26           **Board to serve on any of its committees, but such persons may not be**  
27           **appointed as chairpersons of such committees.**

28           **(4) The Board may dissolve or reconstitute a committee as is**  
29           **necessary.**

30           **(5) Any decision taken by a committee established under this**

1 section must be ratified by the Board.

2 PART III - STAFF OF THE AGENCY

Appointment of  
Executive  
Director, etc.

3 12.-(1) There shall be appointed for the Fund an Executive Director  
4 who shall be appointed by the President on the recommendation of the  
5 Minister.

6 (2) The Executive Director shall subject to the general control of the  
7 Board:

8 (a) be responsible for the implementation of the decisions of the  
9 Board and the day to day administration of the affairs of the Fund;

10 (b) be responsible for keeping proper records of the proceedings of  
11 the Board; and

12 (c) be the head of the Board's secretariat and be responsible for the  
13 administration thereof and the direction and control of all other employees of  
14 the Agency with the approval of the Board.

15 (3) The Executive Director shall hold office for such period of time as  
16 may be determined by his or her letter of appointment.

Other Staff of  
the Agency

17 13.-(1) The Board shall have power to appoint either on transfer or on  
18 secondment from any public service in the Federation, such number of  
19 employees as may, in the opinion of the Board, be required to assist the Fund in  
20 the discharge of any of its functions under this Act; and shall have power to pay  
21 to persons so employed such remuneration (including allowances) as the Board  
22 may, from time to time, determine.

23 (2) The terms and conditions of service (including terms and  
24 conditions as to remuneration, allowance, pensions, gratuities and other  
25 benefits) of the person employed by the Agency shall be as determined by the  
26 Board from time to time.

Staff regulations

27 14.-(1) The Board may, subject to the provisions of this Act, make  
28 staff regulations relating generally to the conditions of service of the  
29 employees of the Agency and without prejudice to the generality of the  
30 foregoing, such regulations may provide for:



1 (a) the appointment, promotion and disciplinary control (including  
2 dismissal) of employees of the Fund; and

3 (b) appeals by such employees against dismissal or other  
4 disciplinary measures and until such regulations are made, any instrument  
5 relating to the conditions of service of officers in the Civil Service of the  
6 Federation shall be applicable, with such modifications as may be  
7 necessary, to the employees of the Fund.

8 (2) Staff regulations made under subsection (1) of this section shall  
9 not have effect until approved by, the President.

10 15. It is hereby declared that service in the Agency shall be public Pensions  
11 service for the purposes of the Pensions Reform Act 2004 and, accordingly,  
12 officers and other persons employed in the Fund shall, in respect of their  
13 service in the Fund, be entitled to pension, gratuities and other retirement  
14 benefits as are prescribed there under, so however that nothing in this Act  
15 shall prevent the appointment of a person to any office on terms which  
16 preclude the grant of a pension or gratuity in respect of that office.

17 16.-(1) The funds of the Agency consist of: Funding and  
investments

18 (a) money appropriated by the National Assembly;

19 (b) interest on investments of the Agency;

20 (c) money lawfully received from any other source; and

21 (d) donations and contributions lawfully received by the Agency  
22 from any other source.

23 (2) The Agency may invest any of its funds not immediately  
24 required:

25 (a) subject to any investment policy

26 (b) in such manner as may be approved by the Minister of Finance

27 17. The Board shall not later than 31 st October submit to the Annual Estimate  
28 National Assembly an estimate of its expenditure and income during the  
29 next succeeding year

Power to accept gifts	1	<b>18.</b> -(1) The Board may accept gifts of land, money or other property
	2	upon such terms and conditions, if any, as may be specified by the person or
	3	organisation making the gift.
	4	(2) The Board shall not accept any gift if the condition attached by the
	5	person or organisation making the gift are inconsistent with the objectives of
	6	the Fund under this Act.
Exemption from Tax	7	<b>19.</b> The Board shall be exempted from the payment of income tax on
	8	any income accruing from investments made by the Board or otherwise
	9	howsoever.
Annual estimates account and audit	10	<b>20.</b> -(1) The Board shall cause to be prepared not later than 30
	11	September in each year an estimate of the expenditure and income of the Fund
	12	during the next succeeding year and when prepared, they shall be submitted to
	13	the Minister.
	14	(2) The Board shall cause to be kept proper accounts of the Fund and
	15	proper records in relation thereto and when certified by the Board, such
	16	accounts shall be audited by auditors appointed by the Board from the list and
	17	in accordance with the guidelines supplied by the Auditor General for the
	18	Federation
Annual report	19	<b>21.</b> The Board shall not later than three months before the end of each
	20	year submit to the National Assembly a report on the activities and the
	21	administration of the Board in relation to the Fund during the immediately
	22	preceding year and shall include in such reports the auditor's report thereon.
Regulations	23	<b>22.</b> The President may, after consultation with the Board, make
	24	regulations regarding:
	25	(a) any matter which in terms of this Act may or must be prescribed;
	26	(b) any action in order to promote compliance with this Act; and
	27	(c) any ancillary or incidental administrative or procedural matter that
	28	it is necessary to prescribe for the proper implementation or administration of
	29	this Act.

1 23. This Bill may be cited as the National Youth Development  
2 Agency Bill, 2015.

Citation

3 SCHEDULE

4 Section 2 (4)

5 SUPPLEMENTARY PROVISIONS RELATING TO THE BOARD

6 *Proceedings of the Board*

7 1.-( 1) Subject to this Act and Section 27 of the Interpretation Act,  
8 the Board may make standing orders regulating its proceedings or those of  
9 any of its committees.

10 *[Cap. 123.]*

11 (2) The quorum of the Board shall be the chairman and seven other  
12 members and the quorum of any committee shall be determined by the  
13 Board.

14 2.-( 1) The shall Board meet not less than two times In each year  
15 and subject thereto, the Board shall meet whenever it is summoned by the  
16 Chairman; and if the Chairman is required to do so by notice given to him by  
17 not less than four other members, he shall summon a meeting of the Board,  
18 to be held within fourteen days from the date on which the notice is given.

19 (2) At any meeting of the Board, the Chairman shall preside but if  
20 he is absent, the members present at the meeting shall appoint one of their  
21 numbers to preside at that meeting.

22 (3) Where the Board desires to obtain the advice of any person on a  
23 particular matter the Board may co opt him to the Board for such period as it  
24 thinks fit; but a person who is in attendance by virtue of this subparagraph  
25 shall not be entitled to vote at any meeting of the Board and shall not count  
26 towards a quorum.

27 *Committees*

28 3.-(1) The Board may appoint one or more committees to carry out,  
29 on behalf of the Board some of its functions as the Board may determine.

30 (2) A committee appointed under this paragraph shall consist of

1 such number of persons (not necessarily members of the Board) as may be  
2 determined by the Board; and a person other than a member of the Board shall  
3 hold office on the committee in accordance with the terms of his appointment.

4 (3) A decision of a committee of the Board shall be of no effect until it  
5 is confirmed by the Board.

6 *Miscellaneous*

7 4.-(1) The fixing of the seal of the Agency shall be authenticated by  
8 the signature of the chairman or of any other person authorized generally or  
9 specially to act for that purpose by the Board.

10 (2) Any contract or instrument which, if made or executed by a person  
11 not being a body corporate, would not be required to be under seal may be made  
12 or executed on behalf of the Agency by the chairman or any person generally or  
13 specially authorized to act for that purpose by the Board.

14 (3) Any document purporting to be a document duly executed under  
15 the seal of the Agency shall be received in evidence and shall; unless and until  
16 the contrary is proved, be presumed to be so executed.

17 5. The validity of any proceeding of the Board or of a Committee  
18 thereof shall not be adversely affected by any vacancy in the membership of the  
19 Board or Committee, or by any defect in the appointment of a member of the  
20 Board or of a Committee, or by reason that a person not entitled to do so took  
21 part in the proceedings of the Board or Committees.

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

The Bill seeks to provide measures aimed at creating and promoting coordination in Youths in Nigeria.