

NATIONAL PLANNING PROCESS BILL, 2015

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A BILL

FOR

AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR NATIONAL PLANNING PROCESS; AND FOR OTHER MATTERS CONNECTED THEREWITH

Sponsored by Senator

[] Commencement

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

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PART I - GENERAL PROVISIONS

1. The primary objective of this Act is to create a framework for the process of National Development Planning in Nigeria and all matters related thereto and without detracting from the generality of the foregoing, specifically to:

Objectives of this Act

(a) promote the process of national planning which will be all inclusive and democratic in nature and accommodating the views of all segment of the economy;

(b) promote a framework for the basis of legalizing a National Development Plan;

(c) ensure the periodic review and assessment of a National Development Plan; and

(d) ensure better parliamentary oversight of the National Development Planning and implementation process.

2. The provisions of this Act shall be implemented by the National Planning Commission established by the National Planning Commission Act, Chapter N66 Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004.

Implementation of this Act

3. The development priorities of the President are hereby recognized under this Act, provided that such development priorities shall not differ substantially from the National Development Plan to be prepared from time to time pursuant to this Act.

Presidential development priorities

1 PART II - PREPARATION OF NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Plan preparation
process

2 4. As from the commencement of this Act, the Commission shall
3 design and caused to be produced a national development plan preparation
4 process specifying clearly and assigning time lines to all stages in the process.

Collation of
inputs from the
general public

5 5. The Commission shall collate inputs of general and specific nature
6 from the general public in the process of preparing a national development
7 plan:
8 Provided that persons interested in making inputs shall comply with the
9 procedure and guideline as prescribed by the Commission.

Presidential
inputs

10 6. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 3 of this Act, the
11 President shall forward such inputs of general or specific as he considers
12 necessary to the Commission for purposes of inclusion in the National
13 Development Plan.

Collation of
inputs from
government
Institutions

14 7. The Commission shall collate inputs of general and specific nature
15 from government ministries, departments and agencies in the process of
16 preparing a national development plan:
17 Provided that such government ministry, department and agency making
18 inputs shall comply with such procedure and guideline as prescribed by the
19 Commission.

Public comment

20 8. In preparing the draft National Development Plan, the Commission
21 shall:
22 (a) hold at least two public hearings; and
23 (b) provide an opportunity for members of the public to testify and
24 submit written comments.

Public availability

25 9. The draft National Development Plan prepared pursuant to section
26 10 of this Act shall be made available to the public not later than 30 days after
27 the Commission completes that draft.

Preparation of
draft national
development plan

28 10. The Commission shall prepare a draft National Development Plan
29 with such:

1 (a) input collated from the general public pursuant to section 5 of
2 this Act;

3 (b) input collated from the President pursuant to section 6 of this
4 Act;

5 (c) input collated from government institutions pursuant to section
6 7 of this Act; and

7 (d) information which the Commission considers expedient in the
8 national interest.

9 11. Each National Development Plan shall be prepared for a period
10 of ten (10) years in perspective.

Duration of each
National
Development Plan

11 12. The procedure set out in section 10 of this Act shall apply
12 mutatis mutandis in respect of preparation of subsequent National
13 Development Plan.

Preparation of
subsequent
National
Development Plan

14 PART III - AUTHORIZATION OF NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN

15 13.-(1) The President shall cause to be laid before the each House
16 of the National Assembly the draft National Development Plan prepared
17 pursuant to this Act.

Authorization of
National
Development Plan

18 (2) The draft national development plan shall be included in a bill
19 to be known as a National Development Plan Bill, providing for long term
20 development targets, goals and objectives and as well the basis for each
21 years Appropriation Act.

22 14. If in the term of a subsisting National Development Plan it is
23 found that:

Amendment of
National
Development Plan

24 (a) resources are not sufficient to finance the implementation of the
25 National Development Plan; or

26 (b) a need has arisen for a specific developmental programme for
27 which no plan has been authorised by the Act, an amendment to the National
28 Development Plan shall be laid before each House of the National
29 Assembly.

Compliance with
the provisions of
a National
Development
Plan

1 **15.** As from the commencement of a National Development Plan Act,
2 the Commission shall from time to time advise the President on the projects
3 and programmes including specific targets, goals and objectives as well as the
4 assigned timelines and the President shall ensure substantial compliance
5 thereof.

Annual budget
estimates to
comply with the
provisions of a
National
Development
Plan

6 **16.** Prior to the presentation of the annual budget estimates to each
7 Houses of the National Assembly, the Commission shall advise the President
8 on the projects and programmes including specific targets, goals and
9 objectives as well as the assigned timelines on:

10 (a) what has been achieved so far;

11 (b) what is yet to be achieved;

12 (c) what needs to be achieved in that year;

13 under the National Development Plan in force, and the President shall ensure
14 that annual budget estimates to be submitted to each House of the National
15 Assembly shall be prepared in such a manner to achieve the specific targets,
16 goals and objective of the National Development Plan.

17 PART IV - ASSESSMENT OF NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Mid-term
assessment of
National
Development
Plan

18 **17.** The Commission shall conduct a mid-term assessment of a
19 subsisting National Development Plan with a view to verifying the extent to
20 which programmes and project including specific goals, targets and objectives
21 have been executed or met.

22 (2) The mid-term assessment specified under subsection (1) of this
23 section shall:

24 (a) verify the extent to which programmes and projects including
25 specific goals, targets and objects have not been executed or met as well as
26 reasons for such shortcomings; and

27 (b) include recommendation of necessary steps to be taken to achieve
28 the goals of the National Development Plan.

29 (3) The Commission shall prepare and submit to the President a report
30 pursuant to the provisions of this section and the President shall cause same to

1 be submitted to the National Assembly.

2 **18.-(1)** The Commission shall conduct a final assessment of a
3 subsisting National Development Plan one (1) year to the end of the term of
4 such National Development Plan with a view to verifying the extent to
5 which programmes and project including specific goals, targets and
6 objectives have been executed or met.

Final
Assessment of
national
Development Plan

7 (2) The final assessment specified under subsection (1) of this
8 section shall:

9 (a) verify the extent to which programmes and projects including
10 specific goals, targets and objects have not been executed or met as well as
11 reasons for such shortcomings; and

12 (b) include recommendation of necessary steps to be taken in the
13 preparation of the next succeeding National Development Plan.

14 (3) The Commission shall prepare and submit to the President a
15 report pursuant to the provisions of this section and the President shall cause
16 same to be submitted to the National Assembly.

17 **PART V - MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS**

18 **19.-(1)** The Commission may make and publish regulations for any
19 such matters necessary for giving full effect to the provisions of this Act.

Regulations

20 (2) Regulations made under this Act shall not come into effect
21 unless it is approved by a simple resolution of both Houses of the National
22 Assembly.

23 **20.** The Commission shall prepare and submit to the President
24 annual reports on the implementation and progress of each National
25 Development Plan and the President shall cause same to be submitted to the
26 National Assembly not later than 31st March of the next succeeding years.

Annual report
to the National
Assembly

27 **21.** In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires:

Interpretation

28 "Commission" means the National Planning Commission; and

29 "President" means the President and Commander-in-Chief of the Armed
30 Forces of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

C 1074

National Planning Process Bill, 2015

2015

Short Title

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22. This Bill may be cited as the National Planning Process Bill, 2015.

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

This Bill seeks to provide for a process of national planning and for the compliance with the provisions of a National Development Plan for the overall objective of achieving rapid national development.