

## FEDERAL EYE CENTRE IRUEKPEN EKPOMA (ESTABLISHMENT) BILL, 2021

## ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

## Section:

*Establishment of Federal Eye Centre Iruiekpen*

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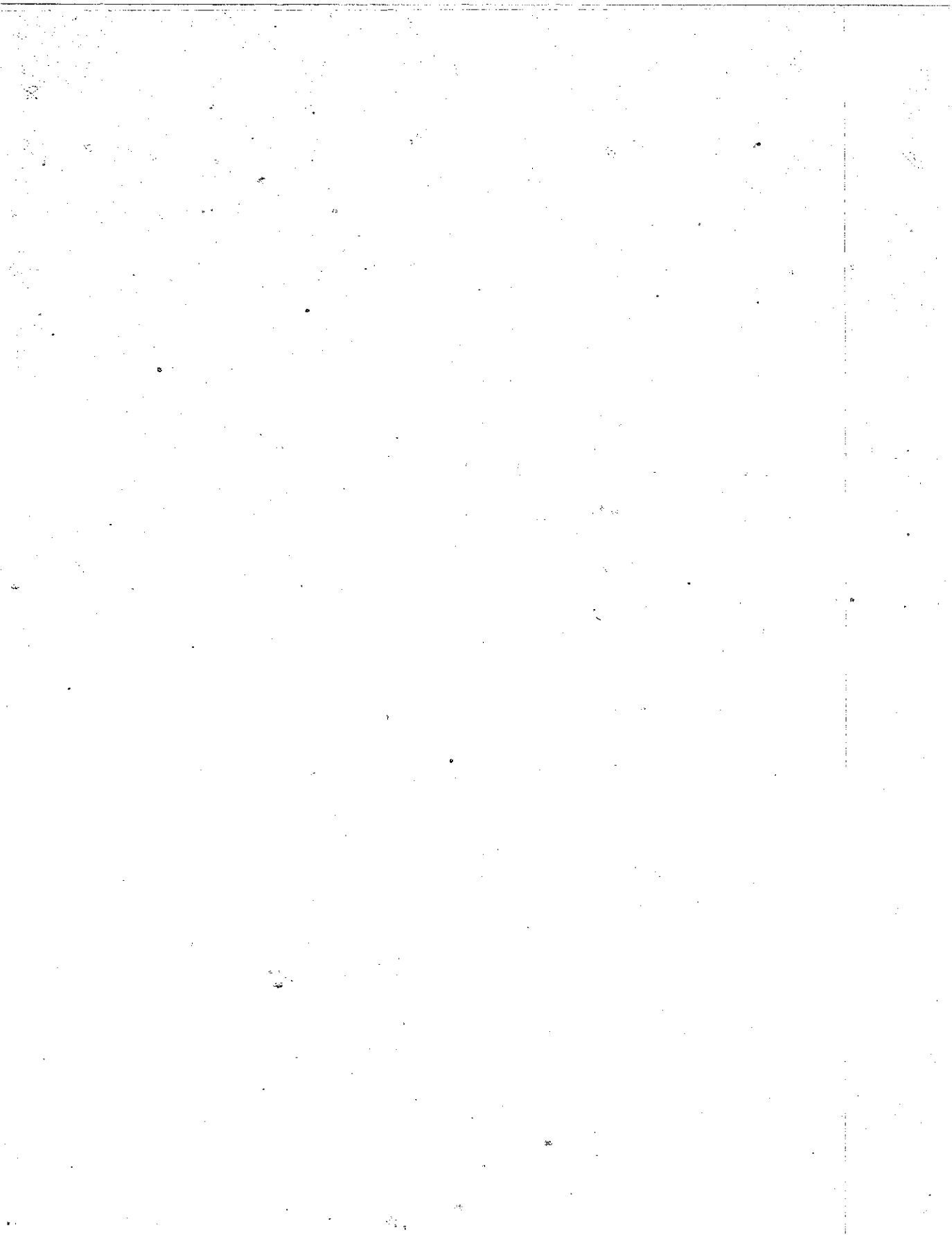
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# A BILL

## FOR

AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE FEDERAL EYE CENTRE AT IRUEKPEN FOR THE PREVENTION AND CURE OF EYE DEFECTS AND DISEASES AND TO ESTABLISH A BOARD TO GOVERN THE CENTRE AND AN ACADEMIC COMMITTEE, TO TAKE CHARGE OF THE CENTRE'S ACADEMIC AFFAIRS AND FOR RELATED MATTERS

*Sponsored by Hon. Joe Edionwele*

[ ] Commencement

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

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*Establishment, etc. of the Federal Eye Centre Iruokpen*

1.-(1) There is hereby established at Iruokpen, a center by the name of the Federal Eye Centre (in this Bill referred to as "the Centre"), which shall be a body corporate with perpetual succession and a common seal.

Establishment of the Federal Eye Centre, Iruokpen

(2) The Centre shall be a hospital, specialising in ophthalmology, with facilities for the training of ophthalmic personnel at all levels.

2.-(1) The functions of the Centre shall be to provide as part of the hospital and specialist services, services in connection with the diagnosis and treatment of diseases or defects of the eye, supply of optical appliances and other supplementary ophthalmic services.

Functions of the Centre

(2) The Centre shall have power:

(a) to provide diagnostic, curative, promotive and rehabilitative ophthalmic services;

(b) to provide ambulatory and domiciliary ophthalmic treatment, employing the services of ophthalmologists and other medical practitioners;

(c) to provide facilities for the clinical training of ophthalmologists;

(d) to provide facilities for the training of ophthalmic and

1 dispensing opticians, ophthalmic nurses, orthoptists and ophthalmic  
2 technicians;

3 (e) to create facilities for research into all aspects of ophthalmology,  
4 that is to say, visual, clinical and experimental;

5 (f) to develop new diagnostic and therapeutic ophthalmic instruments  
6 and appliances better suited to the practice of ophthalmology in Nigeria.

7 (3) For the purposes of the discharge of its functions under the  
8 foregoing provisions of this section, the Centre may:

9 (a) arrange periodic conferences, seminars, study groups and like  
10 activities in ophthalmology;

11 (b) advise the Government of the Federation or of a State on all  
12 matters relating to defects and diseases of the eye and the prevention of  
13 blindness;

14 (c) offer such assistance to ophthalmic hospitals or units in various  
15 parts of the Federation, as the Board may deem necessary;

16 (d) do anything in connection with or incidental to the functions  
17 conferred on it by this Bill.

Constituent parts  
of the Centre

18 3. The Centre shall be constituted as follows, that is to say:

19 (a) a management board;

20 (b) an education committee;

21 (c) the clinical and other departments of the Centre;

22 (d) all members of the administrative, clinical and technical staff; and

23 (e) all students of the Centre.

The Management  
Board

24 4.-(1) There is hereby established for the Centre, a board to be known  
25 as the Federal Eye Centre Management Board (in this Bill referred to as "the  
26 Board"), which shall have general responsibility for the government of the  
27 Centre and shall consist of:

28 (a) the Chairman;

29 (b) the Director;

30 (c) four persons, broadly representative of the whole Federation and

1 representing a variety of interest, who shall be appointed by the President;

2 (d) two persons appointed by the consultant staff of the hospital  
3 from among their number;

4 (e) the Permanent Secretary, Federal Ministry of Health, or his  
5 representative;

6 (f) the Permanent Secretary, Federal Ministry of Education, or his  
7 representative.

8 (2) The Chairman and other members who are not ex officio shall  
9 be appointed by the President, on the recommendation of the Minister.

10 (3) The Chairman shall be a person of proven integrity, coupled  
11 with experience and outstanding ability in administration and professional  
12 or technical education.

13 (4) The members specified in paragraphs (b),(d), (e) and (f) of  
14 subsection (1) of this section, are hereafter referred to as "ex-officio  
15 members".

16 (5) The supplementary provisions in the Schedule to this Act, shall  
17 have effect with respect to the constitution and proceedings of the Board and  
18 the education committee and the other matters therein mentioned.

19 5.-(1) The Chairman and any other member of the Board (not being  
20 an ex-officio member), shall hold office for a period of three years and shall  
21 be eligible for re-appointment for a further period of three years:

Tenure of office  
of the Chairman  
and members of  
the Board

22 Provided that members of the Board appointed under paragraph (d)  
23 of section 4 (1) of this Bill, shall hold office for two years and shall not be  
24 eligible for re-appointment.

25 (2) A member of the Board, other than an ex-officio member, shall  
26 be paid out of monies at the disposal of the Board such remuneration and  
27 allowances in accordance with scales approved from time to time by the  
28 President.

29 (3) In the event of the death or incapacity of the Chairman of the  
30 Board, or if for any reason other than effluxion of time, the office of the

1 Chairman is vacant, the President shall, on the recommendation of the  
2 Minister, appoint another person as chairman for the residue of the term of the  
3 Chairman of the Board.

4 (4) The office of a member of the Board shall become vacant if:

5 (a) he previously resigns his office by notice in writing given to the  
6 Minister;

7 (b) the period of his appointment has expired; or

8 (c) there is passed by the Board, a resolution declaring:

9 (i) that he has become unfit for membership of the Board, by reason of  
10 the fact that he has become incapable by reason of mental or bodily infirmity of  
11 discharging his duties; or

12 (ii) that he has been absent from three consecutive meetings of the  
13 Board without leave of the Board; or

14 (iii) he has been convicted of an offence which involves moral  
15 turpitude.

16 (5) Soon after the office of a member becomes vacant, the authority  
17 by which he was appointed shall appoint another person in his place in  
18 accordance with the provisions of this Bill.

19 (6) Any member of the Board other than an ex-officio member may,  
20 by notice to the Board, resign his appointment.

General duty  
of the Board

21 6.-(1) The Board shall be the governing body of the Centre and shall  
22 be charged with the general control and superintendence of the policy, finances  
23 and property of the Centre, including its public relations.

24 (2) Without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing, it shall be the  
25 duty of the Board:

26 (a) to construct, equip, maintain and operate the hospital, which is to  
27 provide comprehensive services, teaching and clinical research in  
28 ophthalmology;

29 (b) to construct, equip, maintain and operate such training schools and  
30 similar institutions as the Board considers necessary, for providing the Centre

1 at all times 'with adequate and sufficiently qualified staff, including  
2 ophthalmologists, ophthalmic technicians, nurses and members of other  
3 allied professions and calling, relevant to the practice of ophthalmology;

4 (c) to construct, equip, maintain and operate such clinics, units,  
5 out-patient departments, laboratories, research or experimental stations and  
6 other like institutions, as the Board may consider necessary for the efficient  
7 functioning of the Centre.

8 (3) The duty of running the Centre imposed by the foregoing  
9 subsection shall include, without prejudice to the extent of that duty apart  
10 from this subsection, the duty of providing proper courses of instruction for  
11 students; but the Board shall not have power to award degrees, so however  
12 that the Board shall not be prevented from arranging for students to attend  
13 courses at or take higher qualifications awarded by other institutions not  
14 controlled by the Board.

15 (4) The Board shall ensure that the standards of treatment and care  
16 for patients provided at all establishments controlled by the Board and the  
17 standards of training at those establishments, do not fall below those usually  
18 provided by similar establishments of internationally high repute.

19 (5) Subject to this Bill, the Board shall have power to do anything,  
20 which in its opinion, is calculated to facilitate the carrying out of its  
21 functions under this Bill.

22 7. The Board shall be responsible for laying down general policies  
23 and guidelines relating to the management of the affairs of the Centre,  
24 including the management of the hospital and the provision of facilities  
25 relating to the training of all categories of ophthalmic personnel and it shall  
26 be the duty of the Director to execute such policies and to keep within such  
27 guidelines.

Powers of the  
Board in relation  
to management,  
etc., of the Centre  
Staff

28 *Staff*

29 8.-(1) Subject to the provisions of this section, the Director shall be  
30 appointed or removed from his office by the President.

The Director

1 (2) The Director shall hold office for four years in the first instance  
2 and shall be eligible for reappointment for terms not exceeding three years, on  
3 each occasion.

4 (3) Subject to this section, the Director shall hold office on such terms  
5 as to emoluments and otherwise as may be specified in his letter of  
6 appointment.

7 (4) The Director shall, in relation to the Board, take precedence before  
8 all other members of the Centre, except the Chairman of the Board and any  
9 person for the time being acting as Chairman of the Board.

10 (5) Subject to this section, the Director shall be the chief executive  
11 officer of the Centre and in addition to any other function conferred on him by  
12 this Bill, have the general function of directing the day-to-day activities of the  
13 Centre.

Appointment,  
etc., of other staff

14 9.-(1) The senior members of the clinical, administrative and  
15 technical staff of the Centre shall be appointed by the Board on the  
16 recommendation of a committee, to be known as the Appointments and  
17 Promotions Committee, set up under the provisions of paragraph 4 (3) of the  
18 Schedule to this Bill.

19 [Schedule.]

20 (2) The Board shall from among the officers appointed pursuant to  
21 subsection (1) of this section select, on the recommendation of the Director, a  
22 person to act both as the secretary to the Board and to the education committee.

23 (3) The power to appoint all other categories of staff to hold or act in  
24 offices in the Centre (including power to make appointments on promotion and  
25 transfer and to confirm, dismiss or exercise other disciplinary control over  
26 persons holding or acting in such offices), shall be exercised by the Director  
27 acting on the recommendation of the Junior Staff Appointments and  
28 Promotions Committee, constituted under paragraph 4 (4) of the Schedule to  
29 this Bill.



1                    10. The education committee shall consist of:

Composition of  
the education  
committee

2                    (a) the Director, who shall be the chairman;

3                    (b) the heads of the departments of the Centre, responsible for  
4 training; and

5                    (c) the persons for the time being holding such offices in the  
6 Centre, as the Director may specify.

7                    11. The education committee shall have responsibility for the  
8 running of the academic affairs of the Centre including-

Functions of the  
education committee

9                    (a) the organisation and control of courses of study at the Centre  
10 and of the examinations held in connection with those courses;

11                    (b) determining the requisite qualifications for admission into any  
12 of the courses offered by the Centre;

13                    (c) determining the duration of the training period; and

14                    (d) effecting the affiliation of the Centre with universities and  
15 institutions, for the award of degrees, diplomas or fellowship to students, on  
16 the successful completion of the relevant courses.

17                    12. Where a candidate offers himself for admission as a  
18 postgraduate medical student under this Bill, he shall satisfy the Board that  
19 he is a registered medical practitioner or that he is on the temporary or  
20 provisional register of medical practitioners of the Nigeria Medical Council.

Candidacy for  
admission

21                    13. The Minister may give to the Board directions of a general  
22 character or relating generally to particular matters (but not to any individual  
23 person or case), with regard to the exercise by the Board of its functions  
24 under this Bill, and it shall be the duty of the Board to comply with the  
25 directions, but no direction shall be given which is inconsistent with the  
26 duties of the Board under this Act.

Power of the  
Minister to give  
directions

27                    *Finance and discipline*

28                    14.-(1) The Board shall establish a fund into which it shall pay:

Financial  
provisions

29                    (a) such sums as may be provided, from time to time, by the  
30 Government of the Federation or of a State for the Centre; and

1 (b) all sums accruing to the Centre by way of fees, gifts, testamentary  
2 disposition, contributions from philanthropic persons or organisations or  
3 otherwise howsoever.

4 (2) Except with the approval of the Minister, the Centre shall not have  
5 power to borrow money.\*

6 (3) The Board shall prepare and submit to the Minister, not later than  
7 31 December in each financial year, an estimate of the income and expenditure  
8 of the Centre during the next succeeding financial year.

9 (4) The Centre shall keep proper accounts in respect of each financial  
10 year and proper records in relation to those accounts and shall cause its  
11 accounts to be audited as soon as may be, after the end of the financial year to  
12 which the accounts relate by a firm of auditors appointed, as respects that year,  
13 by the Board from the list and in accordance with the guidelines supplied by the  
14 Auditor-General of the Federation.

Fees for services

15 15. The Board may, with the approval of the Minister, prescribe the  
16 scale of fees chargeable for hospital services provided by the Centre.

Power to accept  
gifts

17 16.-(1) The Centre may accept gifts of land, money or other property  
18 upon such terms and conditions, if any, as may be specified by the person or  
19 organisation making the gift.

20 (2) The Board shall not accept any gift if the conditions attached by  
21 the person making the gift are inconsistent with the functions of the Board  
22 under this Act.

Discipline of  
students

23 17.-(1) Subject to the provisions of this section, where it appears to the  
24 Director that any student of the Centre has been guilty of misconduct, the  
25 Director may, without prejudice to any other disciplinary powers conferred on  
26 him by regulations, direct:

27 (a) that, the student shall not, during such period as may be specified  
28 in the direction, participate in such activities of the Centre or make use of such  
29 facilities of the Centre as may be so specified; or

30 (b) that the activities of the student shall, during such period as may be

1 specified in the direction, be restricted in such manner as may be so  
2 specified; or

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

5 (d) that the student be expelled from the Centre.

6 (2) Where a direction is given under subsection (1) (c) or (d) of this  
7 section in respect of any student, the student may, within the prescribed  
8 period and in the prescribed manner, appeal from the direction to the Board;  
9 and where such an appeal is brought, the Board shall, after causing inquiry to  
10 be made in the matter as the Board considers appropriate, either confirm or  
11 set aside the direction or modify it in such manner as the Board thinks fit.

12 (3) The fact that an appeal from a direction is brought in pursuance  
13 of the last foregoing subsection, shall not affect the operation of the direction  
14 while the appeal is pending.

15 (4) The Director may delegate his powers under this section to a  
16 disciplinary committee consisting of such members of the Centre as he may  
17 nominate.

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

21 (6) It is hereby declared that a direction under subsection (1) (a) of  
22 this section may be combined with a direction under subsection (1) (b) of  
23 this section.

24 (7) Nothing in this section shall affect the provisions of any  
25 enactment relating to the discipline of medical practitioners, pharmacists,  
26 nurses or members of any other profession or calling.

27 18.-(1) If it appears to the Board that there are reasons for believing  
28 that any person employed as a member of the clinical, administrative or  
29 technical staff of the Centre, other than the Director, should be removed  
30 from his office or employment, the Board shall require the Director to:

Removal and  
discipline of clinical,  
administrative and  
technical staff

- 1 (a) give notice of those reasons to the person in question;
- 2 (b) afford him an opportunity of making representations in person on  
3 the matter to the Board; and
- 4 (c) if the person in question so requests within the period of one month  
5 beginning with the date of the notice, make arrangements:
- 6 (i) for a committee to investigate the matter and to report on it to the  
7 Board; and
- 8 (ii) for the person in question to be afforded an opportunity of  
9 appearing before and being heard by the investigating committee with respect  
10 to the matter, and if the Board, after considering the report of the investigating  
11 committee, is satisfied that the person in question should be removed as  
12 aforesaid, the Board may so remove him by a letter signed on the direction of  
13 the Board.
- 14 (2) The Director may, in a case of misconduct by a member of staff,  
15 which in the opinion of the Director is prejudicial to the interest of the Centre,  
16 suspend any such member and any such suspension shall forthwith be reported  
17 to the Board.
- 18 (3) For good cause, any member of the staff may be suspended from  
19 his duties or his appointment may be terminated by the Board; and for the  
20 purposes of this section, "good cause" means:
- 21 (a) a conviction for any offence which the Board considers to be such  
22 as to render the person concerned unfit for the discharge of the functions of his  
23 office; or
- 24 (b) any physical or mental incapacity which the Board, after obtaining  
25 medical advice, considers to be such as to render the person concerned unfit to  
26 continue to hold his office; or
- 27 (c) conduct of a scandalous or other disgraceful nature which the  
28 Board considers to be such as to render the person concerned unfit to continue  
29 to hold his office; or
- 30 (d) conduct which the Board considers to be such as to constitute

1 failure or inability of the person concerned to discharge the functions of his  
2 office or to comply with the terms and conditions of his service.

3 (4) Any person suspended shall, subject to subsections (2) and (3)  
4 of this section, be on half pay and the Board shall before the expiration of a  
5 period of three months after the date of such suspension, consider the case  
6 against that person and come to a decision as to:

7 (a) whether to continue such person's suspension and if so, on what  
8 terms (including the proportion of his emoluments to be paid to him);

9 (b) whether to reinstate such person, in which case the Board shall  
10 restore his full emoluments to him with effect from the date of suspension;

11 (c) whether to terminate the appointment of the person concerned,  
12 in which case such person will not be entitled to the proportion of his  
13 emoluments withheld during the period of suspension; or

14 (d) whether to take such lesser disciplinary action against such  
15 person (including the restoration of his emoluments that might have been  
16 withheld), as the Board may determine, and in any case where the Board,  
17 pursuant to this section, decides to continue a person's suspension or decides  
18 to take further disciplinary action against a person, the Board shall, before  
19 the expiration of a period of three months from such decision, come to a final  
20 determination in respect of the case concerning any such person.

21 (5) It shall be the duty of the person by whom a letter of removal is  
22 signed in pursuance of subsection (1) of this section, to use his best  
23 endeavours to cause a copy of the letter to be served as soon as reasonably  
24 practicable on the person to whom it relates.

25 (6) Nothing in the foregoing provisions of this section shall prevent  
26 the Board from making regulations for the discipline of students and all  
27 other categories of employees of the Centre, as the Board may prescribe.

28 (7) Regulations made under subsection (6) of this section, need not  
29 be published in the Federal Gazette, but the Board shall bring them to the

1 notice<sup>a</sup> of all affected persons in such manner as it may, from time to time,  
2 determine.

Discipline of  
junior staff

3 19.-(1) If any junior staff is accused of misconduct or inefficiency, the  
4 Director may suspend him for not more than three months and forthwith shall  
5 direct the Junior Staff Appointments and Promotion Committee appointed  
6 under the provisions of paragraph 3 (b) of the Schedule to this Bill:

7 *[Schedule.]*

8 (a) to consider the case; and

9 (b) to make recommendations as to the appropriate action to be taken  
10 by the Director.

11 (2) In all cases under this section the officer shall be informed of the  
12 charge against him and shall be given reasonable opportunity to defend  
13 himself.

14 (3) The Director may, after considering the recommendation made  
15 pursuant to subsection (1) (b) of this section, dismiss, terminate, retire or down-  
16 grade the officer concerned.

17 (4) Any person aggrieved by the Director's decision under subsection  
18 (3) of this section may, within a period of 21 days from the date of the letter  
19 communicating the decision to him, address a petition to the Board to  
20 reconsider his case, and the Board's decision thereon shall be final.

21 *Miscellaneous and supplementary*

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

22 20. No person shall be required to satisfy requirements as to any of  
23 the following matters, that is to say, race (including ethnic grouping), sex, place  
24 of birth or of family origin, or religious or political persuasion, as a condition to  
25 becoming or continuing to be a student at the Centre, the holder of any  
26 appointment or employment at the Centre or a member of anybody established  
27 by virtue of this Act; and no person shall be subjected to any disadvantage or  
28 accorded any advantage in relation to the Centre, by reference to any of those  
29 matters:

30 Provided that nothing in this section shall be construed as preventing

1 the Centre from imposing any disability or restriction on any of the  
2 aforementioned persons, where such person wilfully refuses or fails, on  
3 grounds of religious belief to undertake any duty generally and uniformly  
4 imposed on all such persons or any group of them which duty, having regard  
5 to its nature and the special circumstances pertaining thereto, is in the  
6 opinion of the Centre reasonably justifiable in the national interest.

7 21. The Board shall prepare and submit to the President, through  
8 the Minister, not later than 30 June in each year, a report in such form as the  
9 Minister may direct on the activities of the Board during the immediately  
10 preceding year and shall include in such report a copy of the audited  
11 accounts of the Centre for that year and of the auditors' report thereon.

Annual reports

12 22. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires:  
13 "the Board" means the governing Board for the Centre, appointed under  
14 section 4 (1) of this Act;  
15 "the Centre" means the Federal Eye Centre, Iruokpen established under  
16 section 1 of this Act; "functions" includes powers and duties;  
17 "the Minister" means the Minister charged with responsibility for health;  
18 "student" means a person enrolled at an institution controlled by the Board,  
19 for the purpose of pursuing a course of instruction at the institution.

Interpretation

20 23. This Bill may be cited as the Federal Eye Centre Iruokpen Bill,  
21 2021.

Citation

#### EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

This Bill seeks to provide for Federal Eye Centre responsible for eye  
treatment management and other academic pursuit in eye management

## 1 SCHEDULE

2 SUPPLEMENTARY PROVISIONS RELATING TO THE BOARD, THE EDUCATION  
3 COMMITTEE. ETC.4 *Proceedings of the Board*

5 1. Subject to the provisions of this Bill and section 27 of the  
6 Interpretation Bill (which provides for the decisions of a statutory body to be  
7 taken by a majority of the members of the body and for the person presiding to  
8 have a second or casting vote), the Board may make standing orders regulating  
9 the proceedings of the Board or any committee thereof.

10 2. The quorum of the Board shall be five, which shall include the  
11 Chairman and at least one other member, who is not an ex-officio member; and  
12 the quorum of any committee of the Board shall be determined by the Board.

13 3.-(1) Subject to the provisions of any standing orders of the Board,  
14 the Board shall meet whenever it is summoned by the Chairman; and if the  
15 Chairman is required so to do by notice given to him by not less than five other  
16 members, he shall summon a meeting of the Board to be held within fourteen  
17 days of the date of the receipt by him of the notice.

18 (2) At any meeting of the Board, the Chairman of the Board shall  
19 preside and if the Chairman is absent, the members present shall elect one of  
20 their number to preside at the meeting.

21 (3) Where the Board desires to obtain the advice of any person on any  
22 particular matter, the Board may co-opt him as a member for such period as it  
23 thinks fit; but a person who is a member by virtue of this sub-paragraph, shall  
24 not be entitled to vote and shall not count towards a quorum.

25 (4) Notwithstanding anything in the foregoing provisions of this  
26 paragraph, the first meeting of the Board shall be summoned by the Minister,  
27 who may give such directions as he thinks fit as to the procedure which shall be  
28 followed at that meeting.

29 *Committees of the Board and Education Committee*

30 4.-(1) The Board may appoint one or more committees to carry out on



1       behalf of the Board such of its functions as the Board may determine, but a  
2       decision of a committee shall be of no effect until it is confirmed by the  
3       Board.

4               (2) The education committee may appoint one or more committees  
5       to carry out on behalf of the education committee such of its functions as the  
6       education committee may determine, but a decision of a committee shall be  
7       of no effect until it is confirmed by the education committee.

8               (3) Without prejudice to the generality of sub-paragraphs (1) and  
9       (2) of this Schedule, the Board shall appoint the following committees, that  
10      is:

11              (a) the Appointments and Promotions Committee, which shall:

12              (i) consist of not less than five members, including the Director,  
13      who shall be the chairman of the Committee;

14              (ii) be charged with the responsibility for making  
15      recommendations to the Board on the appointment and promotion of the  
16      clinical, administrative and technical staff of the Centre and have a quorum of  
17      three members;

18              (b) the Junior Staff Appointments and Promotions Committee,  
19      which shall have the powers set out in section 19 of this Bill.

20                                      *Employees of the Centre*

21              5. Subject to this Act, the Board shall have power:

22              (a) to pay the employees of the Centre such remuneration and  
23      allowances as the Board may with the approval of the Minister determine;

24              (b) to pay any person appointed to a committee of the Board such  
25      remuneration (whether by way of fees or otherwise), in respect of the  
26      performance of his functions under this Bill and such travelling and  
27      subsistence allowances while on the business of the Board, as the Board may  
28      determine;

29              (c) to establish for the employees of the Centre such

1 superannuation scheme (whether contributory or not), as the Board may  
2 determine; and

3 (d) to give loans to its employees for purposes approved by the Board.

4 *Miscellaneous*

5 6.-(1) The fixing of the seal of the Board shall be authenticated by the  
6 signature of the Chairman or of some other member, authorised generally or  
7 specially by the Board for that purpose.

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

12 (3) Any document purporting to be a document duly executed under  
13 the seal of the Centre shall be received in evidence and shall, unless the  
14 contrary is proved, be presumed to be so executed.

15 7. The validity of any proceedings of the Board or a committee  
16 thereof, shall not be affected by any vacancy in the membership of the Board or  
17 committee, or by any defect in the appointment of a member of the Board or of  
18 any other person on the committee.

19 8. Any member, and any person holding office on a committee of the  
20 Board, who has a personal interest in any contract or arrangement entered into  
21 or proposed to be considered by the Board, shall forthwith disclose his interest  
22 to the Board and shall not vote on any question relating to the contract or  
23 arrangement.

24 *Education Committee*

25 9. The provisions of this Schedule shall apply mutatis mutandis to the  
26 education committee; so however that in relation to the quorum thereof, it shall  
27 be as may be determined by the education committee.