

# A BILL

## FOR

AN ACT TO REPEAL THE VETERINARY SURGEONS ACT, CAP. 464, LAWS OF THE FEDERATION OF NIGERIA 2004 AND ENACT THE VETERINARY SURGEONS BILL; AND FOR RELATED MATTERS

*Sponsored by Hon. Munir Babba Dan Agundi*

[ ] Commencement

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

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### PART 1 - VETERINARY COUNCIL OF NIGERIA

1.-(1) For the purpose of this Bill there shall continue to be a Council called the Veterinary Council of Nigeria (hereafter in this Act referred to as "the Council") which shall be a body corporate with perpetual succession and a common seal and may sue or be sued in its corporate name.

Establishment and Functions of the Council

(2) The Council shall have power to:

(a) determining the standards of knowledge and skills to be attained by persons seeking to be registered under this Bill as Veterinary surgeons and as Veterinary para-professionals and of raising those standards from time to time as circumstances may permit;

(b) securing in accordance with the provisions of this Bill the establishment and maintenance of Registers of persons registered under this Bill and the publication from time to time of lists of those persons;

(c) registering and regulating Veterinary Practice and Veterinary Practising Premises;

(d) preparing and reviewing from time to time, the codes of conduct and professional ethics which the Council considers desirable for the practice of the profession in Nigeria;

(e) making regulations for the operation of a clinical laboratory practice in the field of pathology which includes histopathology, forensic

- 1 pathology, necropsy, and cytology;
- 2 (e) establishing, operating and supervising the Postgraduate College
- 3 of Veterinary Surgeons Nigeria (hereafter in this Act referred to as "the
- 4 College") for specialist training;
- 5 (f) registration and setting of standards of practice for Veterinary
- 6 surgeons and Veterinary para-professionals and formulating policies on
- 7 veterinary education at the professional and every other levels in Nigeria;
- 8 (h) performing the other functions conferred on the Council by this Act.

Membership  
of the Council

9 2.-(1) Subject to the provisions of this Act, the Council shall consist of

10 the following members, that is to say:

11 (a) a President and Vice-President both of whom shall be elected by

12 members of the Council from among their number;

13 (b) The Executive Director of the National Veterinary Research

14 Institute who shall be a registered Veterinary surgeon;

15 (c) the Director of the Federal Department of Veterinary Services and

16 the Chief Veterinary Officer of Nigeria, who shall be a registered Veterinary

17 surgeon;

18 (d) the Provost or Dean of each College or Faculty of Veterinary

19 Medicine in Nigeria approved by the Council, who shall be a registered

20 Veterinary surgeon;

21 (e) the Director of Veterinary Services or the Chief Veterinary Officer

22 of each State and the equivalent officer in the Federal Capital Territory who

23 shall be registered veterinary surgeons;

24 (f) the Provost or Head of the Postgraduate College of Veterinary

25 Surgeons Nigeria;

26 (g) eleven registered persons (hereafter in this Act referred to as

27 "elected members of the Council"), eight of who shall be elected by registered

28 Veterinary surgeons from among their number and three of who shall be elected

29 by registered Veterinary para-professional from among their number in the

30 manner prescribed in the First Schedule to this Bill; and

1 (h) the National President of the Nigerian Veterinary Medical Association.

2 (2) The Second Schedule to this Bill shall have effect with respect  
3 to the tenure of office and procedure of the Council and other matters therein  
4 mentioned

5 3.-(1) The Council shall maintain a fund from which shall be  
6 defrayed all expenditure incurred by the Council.

Financial  
provisions

7 (2) There shall be paid and credited to the fund:

8 (a) such sums as may be provided by the Federal Government for  
9 the purpose of this Bill by way of grants or budget appropriation; and

10 (b) such other funds or moneys as may from time to time accrue to  
11 the Council from contributions by registered Veterinary surgeons and  
12 Veterinary para-professionals, registration fees, donations, lease and sale of  
13 properties and from any other sources.

14 (3) The Council shall keep proper accounts in respect of each  
15 financial year, and proper records in relation to those accounts and when  
16 certified by the Council shall be audited within 6 months after the end of the  
17 financial year to which the accounts relate by auditors appointed by the  
18 Council from the list and in accordance with the guidelines supplied by the  
19 Auditor-General of the Federation.

20 4.-(1) The Minister may give to the Council directions of a general  
21 character or relating generally to particular matters (but not to an individual  
22 person or case) with regard to the exercise by the Council of functions, and it  
23 shall be the duty of the Council to comply with the direction.

Control of  
Council by  
Minister

24 (2) Before giving a direction under the foregoing subsection the  
25 Minister shall serve a copy of the proposed direction on the Council and  
26 shall afford the Council an opportunity of making representations to him  
27 with respect to the direction; and after considering any representations made  
28 to him in pursuance of this subsection, the Minister may give the direction  
29 either without modification or with such modifications as appear to him to  
30 be appropriate having regard to the representations.

1 (3) The Council shall have powers:

2 (a) to acquire and own movable and immovable assets and to utilize,  
3 maintain or otherwise dispose of them as Council may determine; and

4 (b) to establish and maintain zonal and states offices to enhance its  
5 activities in accordance with this Bill.

6 (4) The President, Vice-President, Registrar or any other officer of the  
7 Council shall not have power to sell, lease, transfer or otherwise dispose of any  
8 movable or immovable asset of the Council unless such disposal has been  
9 approved by Council.

10 (5) The President, Vice-President, Registrar or any other officer of the  
11 Council shall not have power to suspend, dissolve, or anyway tamper with the  
12 status of Council unless such suspension, dissolution, and tampering has been  
13 approved by Council.

14 (6) Where for any reason, the status of Council is affected in any way,  
15 the President and the ex-officio members shall continue to carry out the  
16 activities of Council.

17 (7) The President shall reconvene the meeting of the Council at the  
18 earliest opportunity.

19 PART II - THE REGISTRAR

Appointment of  
Registrar and  
Maintenance of  
a Register

20 5.-(1) It shall be the duty of the Council to appoint a fit and proper  
21 registered Veterinary surgeon with a specialist qualification to be the Registrar  
22 and the Chief Administrative Officer of the Council for a term of four years and  
23 he may be re-appointed for a second and final term of four years.

24 (2) The Council shall appoint such other person as the Council may  
25 from time to time think necessary, the remuneration, tenure of office and  
26 conditions of service of the Registrar and other officers or servants appointed  
27 under this subsection shall be determined by the Council.

28 (3) Anything required by this Bill to be done by or to the Registrar  
29 may be done to any Deputy Registrar or any Assistant Registrar appointed by  
30 the Council.

1           (2) The registrar shall prepare and maintain, in accordance with the  
2 rules made by the Council under this section, a Register of the names,  
3 addresses and approved qualifications, and of such other particulars as may  
4 be specified of all persons who are entitled under the provisions of this Bill  
5 to be registered therein.

6           (3) Subject to the following provisions of this section, the Council  
7 shall make rules with respect to the form and keeping of the registers and the  
8 making of entries therein, and in particular:

9           (a) regulating the making of applications for registration and  
10 providing for the evidence to be produced in support of applications;

11           (b) providing for the notification to the Registrar, by the person to  
12 whom any registered particulars relate, of any change in those particulars;

13           (c) authorising a registered person to have any qualification which  
14 is either an approved qualification or an accepted qualification for the  
15 purposes of section 8 of this Bill, registered in relation to his name in  
16 addition to or, as he may elect, in substitution for any other qualifications so  
17 registered;

18           (d) specifying the fees to be paid to the Council in respect of the  
19 entry of names in the Register and authorising the Registrar to refuse to enter  
20 a name, in the register until any fees specified for the entry has been paid;

21           (e) prescribing the fees to be charged in respect of the retention in  
22 the Register of the name of a person in any year subsequent to the year in  
23 which he was first registered;

24           (f) prescribing the fees to be charged in respect of the registration  
25 of additional qualifications, registration and renewal of Veterinary  
26 Practising Premises and any other fees to be paid; and

27           (g) specifying anything failing to be specified under the foregoing  
28 provisions of this section of this Bill.

29           (6) Separate registers shall be maintained for Veterinary surgeons  
30 and Veterinary para-professionals respectively, with the register of

Correction of  
Register and  
Removal of  
certain Names  
from the Register

- 1 Veterinary para-professionals categorized according to their specialization.
- 2 6.-(1) The Registrar shall:
- 3 (a) correct, in accordance with the Council's directions, any entry in
- 4 the Register which the Council directs him to correct as being in the Council's
- 5 opinion an entry which was incorrectly made;
- 6 (b) make from time to time any necessary alterations in the registered
- 7 particulars of registered persons;
- 8 (c) delete from the Register the name of every deceased person.
- 9 (2) The Registrar may remove the name of a registered person from
- 10 the register if:
- 11 (a) he has ceased to practice the profession, provided that this is done
- 12 at his request or with his consent;
- 13 (b) he fails to pay his annual practicing fees;
- 14 (c) he fails to attend a peer approved professional Continuing
- 15 Education programme initiated or approved by the Council as regularly as
- 16 Council may determine from time to time; or
- 17 (d) he commits any act of misconduct and consequently contravenes
- 18 any of the provisions of the codes of conduct and professional ethics issued by
- 19 the Council in pursuance of Section 1 (2)(d) of this Act or refuses to carry out or
- 20 disobeys Council instruction or take any steps which undermine the status of
- 21 Council or brings Council to disrepute in anyway.
- 22 (3) Foundation fellows of the college and registered persons that are
- 23 70 years old and above and who have being in good standing with Council are
- 24 exempted from payments of annual practicing fees and shall continue to enjoy
- 25 all the benefits of a registered person.
- 26 (4) If the Registrar:
- 27 (a) publishes the name in a national daily or sends by post or
- 28 electronically to any registered person a registered letter addressed to him at his
- 29 address on the register enquiring whether the registered particulars relating to
- 30 him are correct or whether he has ceased to practice and receives no reply to the

1 letter within the period of six months from the date of publishing of the name  
2 or sending of the letter; and

3 (b) upon the expiration of that period publishes in like manner the  
4 name of the person in a second similar publication or sends in like manner to  
5 the person in question a second similar letter and receives no response to that  
6 publication or letter within three months from the date of publishing or of  
7 sending it, the Registrar may remove the name and the other particulars  
8 relating to the person in question from the Register.

9 (5) Where a person's name has been removed from the Register  
10 under subsection (2) or (4) of this section, the Council may, on the  
11 application of that person, direct the Registrar to restore the name or other  
12 particulars removed there from unless the original entry of his name or other  
13 particulars was incorrectly or fraudulently made or if the removal of his  
14 name was a disciplinary action.

15 7.-(1) It shall be the duty of the Registrar:

16 (a) to cause the Registers of Veterinary surgeons, of Veterinary  
17 para-professionals and registered Veterinary practicing premises to be  
18 printed, published and put on sale to members of the public not later than two  
19 years from the beginning of the year in which this subsection comes into  
20 force;

21 (b) in each year after that in which a Register is first published  
22 under paragraph (a) of this section, to cause to be printed, published and put  
23 on sale as aforesaid either a corrected edition of the Register or a list of  
24 alterations made to the Register since it was last printed; and

25 (c) to cause a print of each edition of the Register and of each list of  
26 corrections to be deposited at the principal office of the Council.

27 (2) The Council shall cause the Registers to be printed and  
28 published in the Federal Gazette as often as it thinks fit.

29 (3) A document purporting to be a print of an edition of a Register  
30 published under this section by authority of the Registrar in the current year,

Publication of  
Register and  
list of corrections

1 or documents purporting to be prints of an edition of a Register so published in  
2 a previous year and of a list of corrections to that edition so published in the  
3 current year, or any publication of the Register made in the Federal Gazette in  
4 the current year shall (without prejudice to any other mode of proof) be  
5 admissible in any proceedings as evidence that any person specified in the  
6 documents, or the documents read together or, as the case may be, in that  
7 Federal Gazette, as being registered as Veterinary surgeon or Veterinary para-  
8 professional is so registered, and that any person not so specified is not  
9 registered.

10 PART III - QUALIFICATION FOR REGISTRATION, ETC

Registration of  
Veterinary surgeons  
and Veterinary  
para-professionals

11 8.-(1) Subject to sections 5(4) and 5(6) of this Bill, a person shall be  
12 entitled to be registered as a Veterinary surgeon or as a Veterinary para-  
13 professional if:

14 (a) he has attended a course of training approved by the Council under  
15 section 9 of this Bill;

16 (b) the course was conducted at an institution approved by the  
17 Council or partly at one such institution and partly at another or others; and

18 (2)(d) if the Council so requires, that he has had sufficient externship and  
19 internship and other relevant practical experience as may be prescribed by  
20 Council from time to time;

21 (c) he holds a qualification approved by the Council;

22 (d) he has applied for registration with the Council within 12 months  
23 from the date of his graduation from an approved institution.

24 (2) Subject as aforesaid, a person shall be entitled to be registered as a  
25 Veterinary surgeon or as a Veterinary para-professional if he satisfies the  
26 Council:

27 (a) that he is of good character;

28 (b) that he holds a qualification granted outside Nigeria and for the  
29 time being accepted by the Council for the purposes of this subsection;

30 (c) that he is by law entitled to practice (for all purposes) as a



1 Veterinary surgeon or as a Veterinary para-professional in the country in  
2 which the qualification was granted; and

3 (d) if he has had sufficient externship and internship and other  
4 relevant practical experience as may be prescribed by Council from time to  
5 time.

6 (3) The Council shall from time to time publish in the Federal  
7 Gazette particulars of the qualifications for the time being accepted as  
8 aforesaid.

9 (4) Where any application for registration is received by the  
10 Council from any person who is not entitled to registration under subsection  
11 (1) or (2) above, the Council may refer the application to the Board of  
12 Examiners for investigation under section 11 of this Bill.

13 (5) A person who refuses or fails to register with the Council within  
14 12 months as provided in sub-section (1) of this section shall not be  
15 qualified/or registration by the Council unless he has been examined again  
16 as provided under section 11 of this Bill.

17 (6) No person shall in any manner whatsoever practice as a  
18 Veterinary surgeon or as a Veterinary para-professional unless he is  
19 registered or deemed to be registered under this Bill to practice, and any  
20 person who practices in breach of this provision commits an offence.

21 (7) A person to be registered by the Council, under this Bill shall  
22 swear or affirm to the Veterinary Surgeon's Oath or the Veterinary para-  
23 professional's Oath as the case may be.

24 (8) The Veterinary Surgeon's Oath and the Veterinary para-  
25 professional's Oath are as prescribed in the Third Schedule to this Bill,  
26 which may be amended by Council from time to time.

27 (9) In line with the provisions of the treaty of Economic  
28 Community of West African States which specify the removal, between  
29 Member States, of obstacles to free movement of persons, goods, service  
30 and capital, persons with Veterinary medicine and Veterinary para-

Delete

Approval of courses, qualifications and institutions and recognition of postgraduate degrees and postgraduate diplomas

1 professional qualifications from institutions located in countries constituting  
2 the community and has been registered by the Veterinary Council or Veterinary  
3 Statutory Body of such country, may be exempted from sitting for qualifying  
4 examinations before registration as provided for in section 10 of this Bill.

5 9.-(1) Subject to subsection (2) of this section, the Council may  
6 approve for the purposes of section 8 of this Bill:

7 (a) any course of training which is intended for persons who are  
8 seeking to, become, or are already, Veterinary surgeons and which the Council  
9 considers is designed to confer on persons completing it sufficient knowledge  
10 and skill for efficient practice of veterinary medicine or as a Veterinary para-  
11 professional;

12 (b) any institution which the Council considers is properly organised  
13 and equipped for conducting the whole or any part of course of training  
14 approved by the Council under this section;

15 (c) any qualification which, as a result of an examination taken in  
16 conjunction with a course of training approved by the Council under this  
17 section, is granted to candidates reaching a standard at the examination  
18 indicating, in the opinion of the Council, that they have sufficient knowledge  
19 and skill for efficient practice of veterinary medicine or as a Veterinary para-  
20 professional as the case may be.

21 (2) The Council shall not, in pursuance of registration of a Veterinary  
22 surgeon approve a qualification granted by an institution in Nigeria unless the  
23 qualification bears one of the following designations, that is to say:

24 (a) bachelor of veterinary medicine;

25 (b) bachelor of veterinary medicine and surgery;

26 (c) bachelor of veterinary science;

27 (d) master of veterinary science;

28 (e) doctor of veterinary medicine; or

29 (f) any other qualification which Council considers to be equivalent to  
30 any of the qualifications above.

1                   (3) The Council shall not approve a qualification granted by an  
2 institution in Nigeria for the registration of any Veterinary para-  
3 professional, unless the qualification bears one of the following  
4 designations, that is to say:

- 5                   (a) bachelor of animal health technology;  
6                   (b) bachelor of veterinary nursing;  
7                   (c) bachelor of veterinary radiography;  
8                   (d) ordinary or higher national diploma in veterinary nursing;  
9                   (e) ordinary or higher national diploma in veterinary radiography;  
10                  (f) ordinary or higher national diploma in animal health  
11 technology;  
12                  (g) ordinary or higher national diploma in veterinary laboratory  
13 technology;  
14                  (h) ordinary or higher national diploma in leather technology; or  
15                  (i) any other qualification which Council considers to be  
16 equivalent or acceptable to any of the above qualifications.

17                  (3) The Council may, if it thinks fit, withdraw any approval given  
18 under this section in respect of any course, qualification or institution; but  
19 before withdrawing such an approval the Council shall:

- 20                  (a) give notice that it proposes to do so to each person in Nigeria  
21 appearing to the Council to be a person by whom the course is conducted or  
22 the qualification is granted or the institution is controlled, as the case may  
23 be; and  
24                  (b) afford each such person an opportunity of making to the  
25 Council representation with regard to the proposal; and  
26                  (c) take into consideration any representations made as respects the  
27 proposal in pursuance of the last foregoing paragraph.

28                  (4) As respects any period during which the approval of the  
29 Council under this section for a course, qualification or institution is  
30 withdrawn, the course, qualification or institution shall not be treated as

1 approved under this section; but the withdrawal of such an approval shall not  
2 prejudice the registration or eligibility for registration of any person who by  
3 virtue of the approval was registered or eligible for registration immediately  
4 before the approval was withdrawn.

5 (5) The giving or withdrawal of an approval under this section shall  
6 have effect from such date, either before or after the execution of the  
7 instrument signifying the giving or withdrawal of the approval, as the Council  
8 may specify in that instrument; and the Council shall:

9 (a) as soon as may be published a copy of every such instrument in the  
10 Federal Gazette; and

11 (b) not later than seven days before its publication as aforesaid, send a  
12 copy of the instrument to the Minister.

13 (7) The Dean of each Faculty or College of Veterinary of Veterinary  
14 Medicine, and Heads of Department and tertiary institutions in the federation  
15 at which there is held a course of training intended for persons who are seeking  
16 to become Veterinary surgeons or Veterinary para-professionals, shall furnish  
17 to the Registrar, not later than thirty-first day of March in every year, a list of the  
18 names, and of such other particulars as the Council may by order specify, of all  
19 persons who attended any such course at the institution in question at any time  
20 during the preceding year.

21 (8) The Council shall for the purposes of specialist professional  
22 designation recognize:

23 (a) fellowship diplomas of the College or Fellowship diploma of  
24 similar institutions recognized by the Council; or

25 (b) academic post-graduate qualifications awarded by recognized  
26 universities in relevant areas.

27 (9) A registered Veterinary surgeons may be appointed as a  
28 Consultant to the hospital if he has relevant clinical and other relevant  
29 experience for not less than 8 years and possessed the Fellowship diploma of  
30 the College or Fellowship diploma of similar institutions recognized by the

1 Council in a relevant clinical area.

2 (10) Council shall have power to determine and review from time  
3 to time the requisite qualifications and experience for the professional and  
4 Consultant grade as it deems fit.

5 10.-(1) It shall be the duty of the Council to keep itself informed of:

6 (a) the instruction given at any approved institution to persons  
7 attending approved course of training; and

8 (b) the examinations as a result of which approved qualifications  
9 are granted, and for the purpose of performing that duty, the Council may  
10 appoint either from among its own members or otherwise persons to visit  
11 approved institutions or to attend such examinations.

12 (2) It shall be the duty of a visitor appointed under this section to  
13 report to the Council on:

14 (a) the courses of study, staffing, accommodation and equipment  
15 available for trainings in veterinary medicine or Veterinary para-  
16 professional training as the case may be and the other arrangements and  
17 facilities for such training in any institution visited by him;

18 (b) the sufficiency of the instruction given to the persons attending  
19 approved courses at institutions visited by him;

20 (c) the standard of the examinations attended by him; and

21 (d) any other matter relating to the institution or examinations on  
22 which the Council may, either generally or in a particular case, request him  
23 to report, but no visitor shall interfere with the giving of any instruction or  
24 the holding of any examination.

25 (3) On receiving a report made in pursuance of this section, the  
26 Council shall as soon as may be possible send a copy of the report to the  
27 person appearing to the Council to be in charge of the institution or  
28 responsible for the examinations to which the report relates requesting that  
29 person to make observations on the report to the Council within such period  
30 as may be specified in the requests, not being less than one month beginning

Supervision of  
instruction and  
examination  
leading to approved  
qualifications

1 with the date of the request.

Power of Board  
of examiners  
to investigate  
certain application  
etc.

2 11.-(1) There shall continue to be established a Board of Examiners  
3 which shall consist of two or more registered Veterinary surgeons appointed by  
4 the Council.

5 (2) The persons who immediately before the appointed day were  
6 members of the Board of Examiners shall on that date be deemed to constitute  
7 its membership until new appointments are made in pursuance of subsection  
8 (1) of this section.

9 (3) The Board of Examiners shall investigate any application referred  
10 to it by the Council under section 8(4) of this Bill and shall:

11 (a) where it is satisfied that the qualifications of the applicant afford  
12 sufficient assurance of his suitability for registration, recommend him to the  
13 Council for registration; or

14 (b) where it considers that further assurance is required as to the  
15 suitability of the applicant, examine the applicant in any manner it deems  
16 appropriate and thereafter make such recommendation to the Council as the  
17 Board of Examiners deems fit.

18 (4) Where any recommendation for registration of an applicant is  
19 made to the Council pursuant to subsection (3) of this section, the Council may,  
20 if it thinks fit, authorise and require the Registrar to insert the name of such  
21 applicant in the Register, on payment to the Council by the applicant of such  
22 fees as may be prescribed.

23 PART IV- PROFESSIONAL DISCIPLINE

Establishment  
of Veterinary  
Council  
Investigation  
Panel and the  
Veterinary Council  
Disciplinary  
Tribunal

24 12.-(1) There shall be the Veterinary Council Investigation Panel  
25 (hereafter in this Bill referred to as "the Panel") and the Veterinary Council  
26 Disciplinary Tribunal (hereafter in this Bill referred to as "the Tribunal").

27 (2) The Panel shall be charged with the duty of:

28 (a) conducting a preliminary investigation into any case where it is  
29 alleged that a registered person has misbehaved in his capacity as a Veterinary  
30 surgeon or as a Veterinary para-professional or should for any other reason be

1 the subject of proceedings before the tribunal; and

2 (b) deciding whether the case should be referred to the Tribunal or  
3 not.

4 (3) The Fourth Schedule to this Bill shall have effect with respect to  
5 the membership of the Panel and procedure of its operation.

6 (4) Subject to the provisions of paragraph 1 of the Fifth Schedule to  
7 this Act, the Tribunal shall consist of the President of the Council and four  
8 other members appointed by the Council of whom at least two shall be  
9 elected members of the Council;

10 Provided that at least one elected Veterinary para-professional  
11 shall be a member of the Tribunal to consider a case involving a Veterinary  
12 para-professional.

13 (5) The Tribunal shall be charged with the duty of considering and  
14 determining any case referred to it by the Panel and any other case of which  
15 the Tribunal has cognisance under the following provisions of this Bill.

16 (6) The Fifth Schedule to this Act shall have effect with respect to  
17 the Procedure of the Tribunal.

18 13.-(1) Where:

19 (a) a registered person is judged by the Tribunal to be guilty of  
20 infamous conduct in any professional respect;

21 (b) a registered person is convicted by any court in Nigeria or  
22 elsewhere having power to award imprisonment, of an offence (whether or  
23 not an offence punishable, with imprisonment) which in the opinion of the  
24 tribunal is incompatible with the status of a Veterinary surgeon or of a  
25 Veterinary para-professional; or

26 (c) the Tribunal is satisfied that the name of any person has been  
27 fraudulently registered, the tribunal, may, if it thinks fit, give a direction  
28 reprimanding or suspending that person, or ordering the Registrar to strike  
29 his name off the Register.

30 (2) Any registered person whose case is before the Tribunal shall

Penalties for  
unprofessional  
conduct etc.

1 not be eligible to attend any meeting of Council if he is a member of Council,  
2 render any service to the Council or the College or serve in any committee or  
3 organ of Council or of the Nigerian Veterinary Medical Association or any  
4 other Veterinary para-professional association by whatever name called until  
5 his case is disposed of by the disciplinary tribunal.

6 (3) The Tribunal may, if it thinks fit, defer or further defer its decision  
7 as to the giving of a direction under the foregoing subsection until a subsequent  
8 meeting of the disciplinary tribunal; but:

9 (a) no decision shall be deferred under this subsection for periods  
10 exceeding two years in the aggregate; and

11 (b) no person shall be a member of the Tribunal for the purposes of  
12 reaching a decision which has been deferred or further deferred unless he was  
13 present as a member of the disciplinary tribunal when the decision was  
14 deferred.

15 (4) For the purposes of this section a person shall not be treated as  
16 convicted as mentioned in paragraph (b) of that subsection unless the  
17 conviction stands at a time when no appeal or further appeal is pending or may  
18 (without extension of time) be brought in connection with the conviction.

19 (5) When the Tribunal gives a direction under subsection (1) of this  
20 section, the Tribunal shall cause notice of the direction to be served on the  
21 person to whom it relates.

22 (6) The person to whom such a direction relates may, at any time  
23 within twenty-eight days from the date of service on him of the notice of the  
24 direction, appeal against the direction to the Federal High Court; and the  
25 Tribunal may appear as respondent to the appeal and, for the purpose of  
26 enabling directions to be given as to the costs of the appeal and of proceedings  
27 before the Tribunal, shall be deemed to be a party thereto whether or not it  
28 appears on the hearing of the appeal.

29 (7) A direction of the Tribunal under subsection (1) of this section  
30 shall take effect:



1 (a) where no appeal under this section is brought against the  
2 direction within the time limited for the appeal, on the expiration of that  
3 time;

4 (b) where such an appeal is brought and is withdrawn or struck out  
5 for want of prosecution, on the withdrawal or striking out of the appeal;

6 (c) where such an appeal is brought and is not withdrawn or struck  
7 out as aforesaid, if and when the appeal is dismissed; and shall not take effect  
8 except in accordance with the foregoing provisions of this subsection.

9 *Retain as (8)*

10 14.-(1) The Council shall have power to register all categories of  
11 Veterinary Practising Premises in Nigeria (hereafter in this Bill referred to as  
12 "the Premises").

Regulation of  
Veterinary  
Practising Premises

13 (2) The procedures for registration and control of the Premises are  
14 in the manner prescribed in the Sixth Schedule to this Bill and the Guidelines  
15 for registration of Veterinary Practising Premises, published by the Council  
16 from time to time.

17 (3) All Veterinary or animal hospital, veterinary or animal clinic,  
18 veterinary pharmacy, ambulatory services or House call and veterinary  
19 diagnostic centre shall be headed by a registered Veterinary Surgeon.

20 (4) Only registered premises shall display the veterinary emblem.

21 (5) The Council may close any of the Premises for reasons of non-  
22 registration or non-compliance with any of the Regulations contained in  
23 Sixth Schedule to this Bill.

24 (6) Any person who keeps any animal or animals:

25 (a) shall maintain the animal under his control and confinement at  
26 all times and prevent the animal from straying and damaging other people's  
27 properties or crop or farm land; and

28 (b) shall not carry out or facilitate in any way or allow his premises  
29 to be used for any act of cruelty to the animals, including baiting animals to  
30 fight, starving of animal, over-crowding animals, overloading of animal,

1 over driving of animal, or operating on an animal without anaesthesia;

2 (c) carry out drug or vaccine trials or conduct out any experiments on  
3 or using animals without veterinary supervision.

4 (7) Any person who keeps a wild animal as a companion animal or for  
5 games or for circus performance, or for ornamental purposes or for any other  
6 purpose, shall:

7 (a) register such a wild animal with the Director of Veterinary  
8 Services of the State;

9 (b) provide suitable accommodation, feeding and care for the wild  
10 animal to the satisfaction of a veterinary officer;

11 (c) obtain appropriate vaccination, routine examination and treatment  
12 of diseases for such a wild animal from a registered Veterinary Surgeon and  
13 obtain appropriate veterinary certificate; and

14 (d) shall restrain and control such wild animal at all times, so as to  
15 prevent the wild animal from causing injury to any person or to other animal or  
16 animals and from constituting a nuisance to any person or the public.

17 (8) The Council, in the performance of its functions under this Act is  
18 entitled to the assistance of the Nigerian Police Force, the Nigerian Security  
19 and Civil Defence Corps and other para-military agencies.

20 (9)(a) Any person who is in violation of any provision of this section  
21 or who operates a premises contrary to the manner prescribed in the Sixth  
22 Schedule to this Bill, shall be guilty of an offence and liable on conviction to a  
23 fine of not less than One hundred thousand naira or to imprisonment for a term  
24 not exceeding 6 months or to both fine and imprisonment;

25 (b) When the offence is committed by a body corporate, the body  
26 corporate shall be liable on conviction to a fine of not less than Five hundred  
27 thousand naira.

28 (10) Where any person is guilty of:

29 (a) displaying the veterinary emblem illegally or displaying fake  
30 emblem, the Veterinary Inspector shall confiscate the emblem;

1 (b) violating the provisions relating to the keeping of any animal or  
2 wild animal, the Veterinary Officer may confiscate the animal or wild  
3 animal.

4 15.-(1) There is hereby established the Postgraduate College of  
5 Veterinary Surgeons Nigeria (hereafter in this Act referred to as "the  
6 College") of the Council.

Establishment of  
the Postgraduate  
College of  
Veterinary Surgeons  
Nigeria

7 (2) The College shall have power to organize specialist and clinical  
8 training for the award of Fellowship diploma and any other certificates that  
9 may be approved by the Council.

10 (3) The College shall organize trainings in various specialties as  
11 may be approved by the Council from time to time.

12 (4) The Seventh Schedule to this Bill shall have effect with respect  
13 to the procedures for the operations of the College.

14 PART V - MISCELLANEOUS AND GENERAL

15 16.-(1) If any person who is not a registered Veterinary surgeon:

Offences

16 (a) practices or holds himself out to practice as a Veterinary  
17 surgeon;

18 (b) takes or uses the title of Veterinary surgeon, or

19 (c) without reasonable excuse takes or uses any name, title,  
20 addition or description implying that he is authorised by law to practice as a  
21 Veterinary surgeon, he shall be guilty of an offence.

22 (2) If any person, for the purpose of procuring the registration of  
23 any name, qualification, or Premises or for any other matter under this Bill:

24 (a) makes a statement which he believes to be false in a material  
25 particular; or

26 (b) recklessly makes a statement which is false in a material  
27 particular, he shall be guilty of an offence.

28 (3) If any person who is not a registered Veterinary para-  
29 professional practices, holds himself out to practice as a Veterinary para-  
30 professional or makes a statement which is believed to be false in material

1 particular he shall be guilty of an offence.

2 (4) If the Registrar or any other person employed by the Council  
3 makes any falsification in any matter relating to the Register or commits any  
4 act of misconduct his case shall be referred to the Staff Disciplinary Committee  
5 and dealt with in accordance with the procedure in the Eighth Schedule to this  
6 Bill.

7 (5) Except as otherwise provided in this Act, any person who is guilty  
8 of an offence, non-compliance or contravention of any section of this Act or of  
9 the regulations, shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to  
10 a fine of not less than five hundred thousand naira or to imprisonment for a term  
11 not exceeding two years, or to both fine and imprisonment.

12 (6) A person who is guilty of an offence under this section shall be  
13 liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding Two Hundred thousand naira or to  
14 imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years, or to both.

15 (7) Where an offence under this Act which has been committed by a  
16 body corporate is proved to have been committed with the consent or  
17 connivance of, or to be attributable to any action or neglect on the part of any  
18 Head, Dean, Director, Manager, Secretary or other similar officer of the body  
19 corporate, or any person purporting to act in any such capacity, he, as well as  
20 the body corporate shall be deemed to be guilty of that offence punishable by a  
21 fine of not less than one million Naira for the corporate body and five hundred  
22 thousand Naira for each of the categories of officers of the corporate body  
23 stated in this sub-section.

24 17:-(1) Where any office in the public service of the Federation or of a  
25 State or a local government therein or in the Armed Forces or in the Nigeria  
26 Police Force or any other security services or any educational institution or in  
27 the private sector requires a veterinary qualification, a person shall not be  
28 appointed to that office, or hold or remain in that office unless he is a registered  
29 Veterinary surgeon.

30 (2) Where any office in the public service of the Federation or of a

1 State therein, or in the Armed Forces or in the Nigeria Police Force of the  
2 Federation or in any educational institution or in the private sector, requires  
3 a Veterinary para-professional qualification, a person shall not be appointed  
4 to that office, or hold or remain in that office unless he is a registered by  
5 Council as a Veterinary para-professional.

6 (3) A registered Veterinary surgeon shall be entitled to practice as  
7 Veterinary surgeon throughout the Federation.

8 (4) A registered Veterinary para-professional shall be entitled to  
9 practice as a Veterinary para-professional throughout the Federation.

10 (5) Where any veterinary document or veterinary certificate is  
11 required by any law for the time being in force in the Federation, to be issued  
12 or signed after this subsection comes into force, it shall be invalid unless it is  
13 issued or signed by a Veterinary surgeon registered under this Bill.

14 (6) Without prejudice to the rule of law whereby a contract may be  
15 void if it is inconsistent with the provisions of an enactment, no person other  
16 than a registered Veterinary surgeon shall be entitled to bring any  
17 proceedings in any court of law for the purpose of recovering any fee or  
18 other consideration whatsoever payable in respect of services rendered or  
19 facilities or things supplied by him when purporting to act as a Veterinary  
20 surgeon.

21 (7) Any approval, consent, direction, notice, observation, report,  
22 representation or request authorised or required to be given or made by or  
23 under this Act shall be in writing and may, without prejudice to any other  
24 method of service but subject to the provisions of to this Act, be served by  
25 post.

26 (8) Subject to the provisions of Section 174 of the Constitution of  
27 the Federal Republic of Nigeria 1999 (which relates to the power of the  
28 Attorney-General of the Federation to institute, continue or discontinue  
29 criminal proceedings against any person in a court of Law), the Council  
30 may, with the consent of the Attorney-General of the Federation, conduct

1 criminal proceedings in respect of offences under this Act or Regulations made  
2 under this Act.

Regulations,  
Rules and Orders

3 **18.-(1)** Any power to make regulations, rules or orders conferred on  
4 the Minister or Council by this Bill shall include power:

5 (i) to make provision for such incidental and supplementary matters  
6 as the authority making the instrument considers expedient for the purposes of  
7 the instrument; and

8 (ii) to make different provision for different circumstances.

9 (2) The Minister shall have powers to make or to amend Regulations  
10 on functions of the Council as contained in section 1 (2) and on any other matter  
11 or function of the Council contained in this Bill.

12 (3) The Minister shall submit a copy of all Regulations or amendment  
13 to a Regulation to the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria and the  
14 Regulations or amendment to a Regulation shall not come into force until  
15 approved by the said President.

16 (4) It shall be responsibility of the Council to issue standards, policies  
17 and guidelines on the operations of the College, animal research issues, the use  
18 of animal restrain facilities, distribution, sale and usage of veterinary drugs,  
19 biologics, vaccines and designing animal environments and, zoological  
20 gardens, fish ponds for the purposes of disease prevention and control.

21 (5) Nothing in this Act shall be construed as indicating a contrary  
22 intention for the purposes of section 12(1) of the Interpretation Act (which  
23 contains additional provisions with respect to powers to make subordinate  
24 legislation).

Transitional  
Provisions and  
Repeals

25 **19.-(1)** The Veterinary Surgeons Act CAP V3 Laws of Federation of  
26 Nigeria, 2004 and Veterinary Surgeons (Amendment) Bill, 2017 are hereby  
27 repealed.

28 (2) Notwithstanding subsection 1 of this section:

29 (a) any register kept in pursuance of the repealed enactment shall be  
30 deemed to be part of the registers to be kept in pursuance of this Bill;

1 (b) any Regulation made by the Minister under the repealed Act  
2 shall remain valid and shall be deemed to have been made under relevant  
3 sections of this Bill.

4 (3)(a) Any person whose name was immediately before the coming  
5 into force of this Bill included in the register maintained under the repealed  
6 enactment shall, without further application or payment of any other fee, be  
7 deemed to be registered under the appropriate provision of this Bill;

8 (b) Any person whose name was not immediately before the  
9 coming into force of this Bill included in the register maintained under the  
10 repealed enactment, by reason of having been erased or removed in  
11 consequence of inquiry into his conduct held under section 14 of that Act  
12 shall be deemed to have had his name removed from the Register maintained  
13 under this Bill;

14 (4) Any institution approved by Council to grant qualification to  
15 persons who have completed a course of study in veterinary medicine  
16 conducted at an institution recognized by the repealed Act, the institution,  
17 course and qualification shall be deemed to be approved under section 8 of  
18 this Bill.

19 (5) The persons who were elected to serve as elected members of  
20 the Council before the activities of Council were interrupted in 2015, shall  
21 continue to serve as elected members of the Council under this Bill and shall  
22 complete their tenure of five years as provided for in section 2(1) of this Bill.

23 (6) Where any offence, being an offence for continuance of which a  
24 penalty was provided, has been committed under the repealed enactment,  
25 proceedings may be taken under this Bill in respect of the continuance of the  
26 offence after the commencement of this Act, in the same manner as if the  
27 offence had been committed under the corresponding provisions of this Bill;

28 (7) Any document referring to a provision of the repealed  
29 enactment shall be construed as a reference to the corresponding provision  
30 of this Bill, and

1 (8) Any document referring to a provision of the repealed Act shall be  
2 construed as a reference to the corresponding provision of this Bill.

3 (9) As from the commencement of this Bill, the President without  
4 reference to any person or authority, shall convene a regular meeting of the  
5 Council.

6 (10) All assets, funds, resources and other movable or immovable  
7 assets or properties which immediately before the commencement of this Bill  
8 were vested in the Council established in the repealed enactment shall by virtue  
9 of this Bill and without any further assurances vested in the Council.

10 (11) As from the commencement of this Bill:

11 (a) the rights, interests, obligations and liabilities of the Council  
12 referred to in subsection 10 of this section existing immediately before the  
13 commencement of this Bill under any contract or instrument or at law or in  
14 equity are hereby assigned to and vested in the Council without further  
15 assurance; and

16 (b) any such contract or instrument shall be of the same force and  
17 effect against or in favour of the Council and shall be enforceable as fully and  
18 effectively as if instead of the Council mentioned in the repealed enactment,  
19 the Council has been named therein or had been a party thereto.

20 (12) Any proceedings or cause of action pending or existing  
21 immediately before the commencement of this Bill by or against the Council  
22 mentioned in the repealed enactment in respect of any right, interest, obligation  
23 or liabilities of the Council aforesaid may be continued or, as the case may be,  
24 commenced and any determination of a court of law, tribunal or other authority  
25 or person may be enforced by or against the Council to the same extent that any  
26 such proceeding, cause of action or determination could have been continued,  
27 commenced or enforced by or against the body aforesaid as if this Bill had not  
28 been made.

Interpretation

29 20.-(1) In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires, the  
30 following expressions have the meanings hereby assigned to them.



1       respectively, that is to say:

2       "abattoir" means premises where animals are slaughtered and where ante-  
3       mortem and post-mortem inspection are carried out by the Veterinary  
4       surgeons to detect and prevent transmission of diseases to man;

5       "animal" means horse, mule, donkey, camel, cattle, buffalo, sheep, goat,  
6       swine, dog, cat, laboratory animals, rabbit, lion, non-human primates,  
7       tortoise, snakes, crocodiles, and poultry including domestic fowl, turkey,  
8       duck, goose, pigeon, guinea fowl, ostrich, bees, aquatic animals which shall  
9       include fish, molluscs and crustaceans and any other domestic or wild  
10      animal species;

11      "approved" means for the time being approved under section 9 of this Act;

12      "approved qualification" means a qualification which is approved under  
13      section 9 of this Act;

14      "Board of Examiners" means the Board of examination established under  
15      section 12 of this Bill;

16      "the College" means the Postgraduate College of Veterinary Surgeons  
17      established under this Bill

18      "the Council" means the Veterinary Council of Nigeria established under  
19      this Bill; and vested with the authority to set standards and authorize tasks  
20      for each category of animal health workers (Veterinary surgeons and  
21      Veterinary para-professionals) depending on qualifications, training and  
22      needs.

23      "the Director" has the meaning assigned thereto by section 2(1)(c) and (e) of  
24      this Bill;

25      "Economic Community of West African States" include, Benin, Burkina  
26      Faso, Cape Verde, Cote D'ivoire, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea Bissau,  
27      Liberia, Mali, Niger, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Togo and any other countries  
28      that may be admitted into the Community from time to time has the assigned  
29      thereto by section 2(1)(c) meaning;

30      "Elected member of the Council" has the meaning assigned thereto by

- 1 section 2(1)(g) of this Bill;
- 2 "Externship" means a field practice programme in a veterinary hospital or  
3 clinic, livestock farms, zoological garden, fish ponds, diagnostic laboratory,  
4 abattoir and veterinary control posts;
- 5 "Ex-officio member" means a member of the Council by virtue of holding an  
6 office in the public service;
- 7 "the Federal Gazette" means an official periodic publication of the Federal  
8 government of Nigeria authorized to publish legal and public notices;
- 9 "Foundation fellows" includes registered Veterinary surgeons that were  
10 awarded Fellowship at the inception of the College's academic programme in  
11 1998;
- 12 "investigation panel" has the meaning assigned thereto by section 13 of this  
13 Bill;
- 14 "Internship" means a qualified veterinary surgeon who works in an approved  
15 hospital or veterinary practicing premises in order to gain work experience or  
16 satisfy requirements for full registration;
- 17 "the Minister" means the Minister of the Government of the Federation  
18 responsible for matters relating to animal health and production;
- 19 "the Panel" has the meaning assigned thereto by section 13 of this Bill;
- 20 "prescribed" means prescribed by regulations;
- 21 "President" "the President of the Council elected in pursuance of section 2(1)(a)  
22 of this Bill;
- 23 "Register" means a register maintained under this Act, and "registered" shall be  
24 construed accordingly;
- 25 "the Registrar" means the registrar appointed in pursuance of section 5 of this  
26 Act;"
- 27 "regulations" means Regulations made by the Minister;
- 28 "State" means any of the states listed in the Constitution of the Federal  
29 Republic of Nigeria, 1999 or any other such state created in accordance with  
30 the constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria;

1 "the Disciplinary Tribunal" has the meaning assigned thereto by section 13  
2 of this Bill;

3 "Veterinary" means animal;

4 "Veterinary drugs" means any substance of plant, animal or mineral origin  
5 or any organic or inorganic preparations or admixture thereof, applied or  
6 administered to any animal specie for the diagnosis, treatment, mitigation or  
7 prevention of any disease, disorder, abnormal physical state or the  
8 symptoms thereof in animals; and restoring, correcting or modifying  
9 organic functions in animals; and for disinfection or the control of vermin,  
10 insects or pests;

11 "veterinary drug formulary" means a compendium of drugs, vaccine and  
12 biologics that are approved to be prescribed in the national animal health  
13 care system, published by the Council and included recommended doses,  
14 the side-effects, contra-indications and withdrawal periods of such drugs,  
15 vitamins, vaccines and biologics;

16 "veterinary emblem" means the symbol indicating a registered veterinary  
17 practicing premises issued by the Council;

18 "Veterinary para-professional" means a person who is authorized by the  
19 Council to carry out certain diagnostic and clinical tasks on animals  
20 depending on qualification and delegated under the supervision and  
21 responsibility of a Veterinary surgeon; and these shall include Veterinary  
22 nurses, superintendents, technologists, Veterinary radiographers and  
23 Veterinary pharmacists;

24 "veterinary practicing premises" means any premises established either  
25 partly or wholly for the purposes of providing veterinary services under this  
26 Act, or for dispensing any medicines or drugs, or other substances for the  
27 care and treatment of such animals or livestock and shall include premises  
28 used as House call, Veterinary clinic, Veterinary hospital, Veterinary  
29 pharmacy and Abattoirs;

30 "Veterinary surgeon" means a person trained and certified with a degree in

1 Veterinary Medicine registrable by the Council in accordance with this Bill;  
2 "veterinary surgery" means the art and science of veterinary surgery and  
3 medicine and, without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing shall be  
4 taken to include:  
5 (i) the diagnosis of diseases in, and injuries to, animals including tests  
6 performed on animals for diagnostic purposes;  
7 (ii) the giving of advice based upon such diagnosis;  
8 (iii) the medical or surgical treatment of animals;  
9 (iv) the performance of surgical operations on animals;  
10 (v) ante-mortem and post-mortem inspection of animal slaughter for  
11 food for man and animals; and  
12 (vi) handling, uses and sale of veterinary drugs, medicaments,  
13 vaccines, biologics, and veterinary medical devices;  
14 "wild animals" include monkeys, chimpanzee, gorilla other non-human  
15 primates, elephant, antelope, hyena, tiger, lion, leopard, monkeys and  
16 tortoises, turtles, terrapin, snakes, crocodiles, cane rat, civet cat, parrot, owl,  
17 peacock, peahen, pigeon, and any other aquatic or terrestrial wild animals.

Citation

18 21. This Bill may be cited as the Veterinary Surgeons Act (Repeal and  
19 Re-Enactment) Bill, 2019.

## 1 SCHEDULES

2 *Notification of vacancy*

3 1. Subject to the provisions of Section 2(1) g of this Bill, whenever  
4 a vacancy occurs among the elected members of the Council and that  
5 vacancy is required under this Bill to be filled by a fresh election, the  
6 Registrar shall:

7 (a) inform all registered persons then in Nigeria of the vacancy;

8 (b) invite nominations to fill the vacancy; and

9 (c) require that such nominations shall be received by him on or  
10 before a date fixed by the President.

11 *Signing of nominations*

12 2. No person other than a registered:

13 (a) Veterinary surgeon shall propose or second a nomination of a  
14 registered Veterinary surgeon; and

15 (b) Veterinary para-professional shall propose or second a  
16 nomination of a registered Veterinary para-professional.

17 *Election of persons nominated*

18 3. If, by midnight on the date fixed for the receipt of nominations,  
19 the number of nominations received does not exceed the  
20 number of vacancies to be filled, the persons nominated shall be deemed  
21 elected.

22 *Voting papers*

23 4. If the number of nominations received exceeds the number of  
24 vacancies the Registrar shall:

25 (a) issue to each registered Veterinary surgeon and each registered  
26 Veterinary para-professional a voting paper on which shall be recorded the  
27 number of vacancies to be filled and the names of the persons nominated to  
28 fill them; and

29 (b) require that such voting paper be returned to him on or before a  
30 date fixed by the President.

1 *Methods of voting*

2 5. Each registered Veterinary surgeon shall:

3 (a) record his vote by drawing a line through the name or names of the  
4 person or persons for whom he does not wish to vote but so that the number of  
5 names not so deleted shall not exceed the number of vacancies; and

6 (b) sign the voting paper, and return it to the Registrar by means  
7 provided for in the election rules.

8 *Counting of votes*

9 6.-(1) The Registrar shall appoint two persons to be approved by the  
10 Council (hereinafter called Scrutineers), not being registered Veterinary  
11 surgeons or registered Veterinary para-professionals to count the voting papers  
12 received by the Registrar.

13 (2) On the day following the closing date fixed for the receipt of  
14 voting papers, the scrutineers shall proceed to open the envelopes and to count  
15 the votes at the office of the Registrar.

16 (3) The candidate receiving the highest number of votes shall be  
17 deemed elected. If there are two vacancies to be filled, the candidate receiving  
18 the next highest number of votes shall be deemed to be elected

19 (4) The Scrutineers shall then report the result of the ballot to the  
20 Registrar.

21 (5) The Scrutineers shall reject any voting paper which has not been  
22 completed in accordance with these rules.

23 *Safe custody of voting papers*

24 7. All voting papers, whether valid or rejected, shall be retained in  
25 safe custody by the Scrutineers until the Council directs their destruction.

26 *Announcement of results*

27 8.-(1) On completion of the election, the Registrar shall inform the  
28 successful candidates of their election in a letter sent by post and through  
29 electronic means.

30 (2) The results of the election may also be published in the Federal

1 Gazette and in popular National Newspapers, after 14 days that the results  
2 have been announced to the successful candidates

3 *Power to order fresh election*

4 9.-(1) Any person nominated as a candidate for election who is  
5 dissatisfied with the conduct of an election may lodge a complaint in writing  
6 with the Registrar within 14 days of the announcement of the result of the  
7 election.

8 (2) The Council shall inquire into such complaint and may, in its  
9 discretion, annul the election and order a further election to be held  
10 forthwith.

11 *Citation*

12 10. These rules may be cited as the Veterinary Council (Elections)  
13 Rules, 2019.

14 SECOND SCHEDULE

15 *[Section 2(2)]*

16 SUPPLEMENTARY PROVISIONS RELATING TO THE COUNCIL

17 *Eligibility and tenure of office of a member of Council*

18 1.-(1) Subject to the provision of Section 2 (1) of the Principal Act,  
19 a person shall not be a member of the Council unless he is registered with the  
20 Council.

21 (2) Subject to the provisions of this Schedule, the term of office of  
22 an elected member of Council elected in pursuance to Section 2(1)(g) of the  
23 Principal Act, shall be five years and the day on which a member of the  
24 Council ordinarily retires shall be the day immediately before the regular  
25 general meeting of the Council.

26 (3) The President and Vice-President of the Council shall each hold  
27 offices for a term of three years and be eligible for one more term of two  
28 years, so however that a person who ceases to be a member of the Council  
29 shall cease to be a President or Vice-President.

30 2. An elected member of the Council may at any time by notice in

1 writing addressed to the Registrar, resign his office as a member.

2 3. An elected member of the Council shall cease to hold office if he  
3 ceases to be a registered person.

4 4. If any University or institution ceases to be an approved institution  
5 for the purposes of this Act, any member representing that University or  
6 institution on the Council shall there upon cease to hold office.

7 *Elections, Appointments and Casual Vacancies*

8 5. Elections or appointments to fill any vacancy occurring under  
9 paragraph 1 of this Schedule shall be held or made before the regular general  
10 meeting of the Council at which the vacancy occurs.

11 6.-(1) Where a casual vacancy occurs among the elected members of  
12 the Council, the vacancy shall be filled:

13 (a) by the unsuccessful candidate at the previous ordinary election of  
14 such members who at that election received the greatest number of votes and  
15 has not since become a member;

16 (b) if two or more such candidates received an equal number of votes,  
17 by the candidate who has been registered longest on the Register or, if two or  
18 more such candidates have been registered longer than any other but for the  
19 same period as each other, by one of them with the lowest Veterinary Council  
20 number; or

21 (c) if there were no unsuccessful candidates at that election by a  
22 person elected from among themselves by registered persons at a special  
23 election: provided that no such election need be held if an ordinary election of  
24 elected member will take place within twelve months after the casual vacancy  
25 occurred.

26 (2) Where a casual vacancy occurs among members of the Council  
27 appointed by the Minister the vacancy shall be filled by the Minister.

28 (3) A person filling a casual vacancy among the elected members of  
29 the Council shall hold office until the date on which the person whose vacancy  
30 he fills would have regularly retired.







1 number of persons determined by the Council, and not more than one-third  
2 of those persons may be persons who are not members of the Council; and a  
3 person other than a member of the Council shall hold office on the  
4 Committee in accordance with the terms of the instrument by which he is  
5 appointed.

6 (3) A decision of a Committee of the Council shall be of no effect  
7 until it is confirmed by the Council.

8 *Supplementary*

9 13.-(1) The fixing of the seal of the Council shall be authenticated  
10 by the signature of the President or Registrar or of some other member  
11 authorized generally or specially by the Council to act for that purpose.

12 *Retain as (2)*

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

16 14. The powers of the Council and of any of its Committees may  
17 be exercised notwithstanding any vacancy, and no proceedings of the  
18 Council or any of its Committees shall be invalidated by any defect in the  
19 election or appointment of a member or by reason that a person not entitled  
20 to do so took part in the proceedings.

21 15. A person shall not, by reason only of his membership of the  
22 Council, be treated as holding an office of emolument under the Federal  
23 Government or the government of a State.

24 16. A person shall not, by reason only of his membership of the  
25 Council, be treated as holding an office of emolument under the Federal  
26 Government or the government of a State.

27 *Interpretation*

28 17. In these Regulations, unless the context otherwise requires, the  
29 following expressions have the meanings hereby assigned to them  
30 respectively, that is to say:

1 "elected member" means a person elected into Council by virtue of election  
 2 conducted in accordance with Section 2(1)(g) of the Principal Act;  
 3 "ex-officio member" means a person who is a member of Council by virtue of  
 4 holding an office in the Public service;  
 5 "Public service" means government institutions and agencies providing public  
 6 duties such as education, health care, security and municipal services to the  
 7 people.

*Citation*

9 18. These Regulations may be cited as the Supplementary Provisions  
 10 Relating to Council, 2019.

SCHEDULE 3

[Section 8(7)]

THE OATH OF THE VETERINARY PROFESSION

14 1. The Veterinary Oath

15 "Being admitted to the profession of Veterinary Medicine, I.....  
 16 solemnly declare and pledge to use my scientific knowledge and professional  
 17 skills for the benefit of the society, through the protection of animal health,  
 18 promotion of animal welfare, the prevention and relief of animal suffering, the  
 19 conservation of animal resources, the promotion of animal production and  
 20 public health and the advancement of veterinary medical knowledge.

21 I will practice my profession conscientiously with dignity, respect for my  
 22 teachers and senior professional colleagues and in keeping with the principles  
 23 of veterinary ethics. I accept as a life-long obligation the continual  
 24 improvement of my professional knowledge and competence", so help me

25 God.....

26 Signature of Declarant.....

27 Signature of Registrar.....

28 Signature of Dean

29 Faculty/College of Veterinary Medicine.....

30 Date.....



1 (3) Any three members of the Panel, of whom one shall be an elected  
2 member of the Council shall constitute the quorum.

3 (4) If no quorum is formed an hour after the time appointed for the  
4 meeting, the meeting, if an ordinary meeting, shall be adjourned by the  
5 members present to a later date or sine die, and if an emergency meeting, shall  
6 stand adjourned to a later date.

7 *Officers*

8 2.-(a) The Council shall appoint one of the members of the Panel as  
9 the Chairman;

10 (b) There shall be a Secretary who shall be the Registrar of the  
11 Council or his representative;

12 (c) The Chairman may hold office for a term of three years and may be  
13 re-appointed for another term of two years.

14 3.-(1) The Chairman shall preside at every meeting of the  
15 investigating panel.

16 (2) In the absence of the Chairman, the members present shall have  
17 the power to appoint from amongst themselves, a Chairman for the meeting.

18 *Duties of the Investigation Panel*

19 4.-(1) The Panel shall be charged with the duty of:

20 (a) conducting a preliminary investigation into any case where it is  
21 alleged that a registered person has misbehaved in his capacity as a Veterinary  
22 surgeon or as a Veterinary para-professional and has consequently violated any  
23 of the provisions of the codes of conduct and professional ethics issued by the  
24 Council in pursuance to Section 1 (2)(d) of this Act, or should for any other  
25 reason be the subject of proceedings before the Tribunal: and

26 (b) deciding whether the case should be referred to the Tribunal.

27 5.-(1) The Panel may sit in two or more divisions.

28 (2) The Secretary to the Panel shall keep an attendance register which  
29 every member attending the meeting of the Panel shall sign.

1

*Voting*

2

6.-(1) The Panel shall decide issues by voting where necessary.

3

(2) Voting shall be by show of hands.

4

(3) In the event of a tie in the number of votes cast, the Chairman shall have a casting vote.

5

6

(4) No person other than members of the Panel, the Council's staff assigned on duty to the Panel meeting shall be present at any meeting of the Panel except on the invitation of the Chairman.

7

8

9

*Order of Business*

10

7. Unless the meeting otherwise resolves, the order of business at an ordinary meeting shall be as follows:

11

12

(i) Call to order;

13

(ii) Minutes of the last meeting;

14

(iii) Matters arising from the last meeting; and

15

(iv) Cases to be investigated.

16

*Investigation of cases procedure*

17

8.-(1) On receipt of any allegation of professional misconduct against any registered Veterinary surgeon or a registered Veterinary para-professional, the panel shall direct the Registrar to send to the registered person complained about a written statement of the facts of the allegation.

18

19

20

21

(2) The Veterinary surgeon or Veterinary para-professional shall reply by a sworn affidavit to the allegation.

22

23

(3) The Registrar shall cause copies of the statement of the allegation and the affidavit in reply and any other documents related there-to to be sent with notice of meeting to the members of the Panel.

24

25

26

(4) The Registrar shall summon the Veterinary surgeon or the Veterinary para-professional against whom allegation is made to appear before the Panel meeting specifying time and place and inform the Veterinary surgeon or Veterinary para-professional to come with a legal practitioner if he so desires.

27

28

29

30

1 (5) Where the Veterinary surgeon or the Veterinary para-professional  
2 appears before the Panel the Chairman shall ask him if he (the Veterinary  
3 surgeon or the Veterinary para-professional) objects to the presence of any  
4 member, and the reason for the objection.

5 (6) The other members of the Panel shall, if they consider the grounds  
6 of objection reasonable and justifiable, decide that the member shall not take  
7 part in the investigating proceeding of the case, and shall leave the Panel.

8 (7) If the other members of the Panel consider the grounds of the  
9 objection not tenable the objection shall be over-ruled.

10 (8) The Panel's decision shall be final.

11 9.-(1) The Chairman shall briefly inform the Veterinary surgeon or the  
12 Veterinary para-professional the reason for the investigation, and if the  
13 Veterinary surgeon or the Veterinary para-professional has replied by affidavit  
14 as provided in Paragraph 8(2) above, the Chairman shall ask the Veterinary  
15 surgeon or the Veterinary para-professional or his legal practitioner, as the case  
16 may be, whether he wishes to add to the facts deposed to in the affidavit.

17 (2) All witnesses testifying before the Panel shall do so on Oath.

18 (3) The Oath may be administered by the Registrar or any member of  
19 the Panel nominated by the Chairman.

20 10. The Panel may ask the Veterinary surgeon or the Veterinary para-  
21 professional questions on the facts deposed to in the affidavit and any  
22 additional facts that the Veterinary surgeon or the Veterinary para-professional  
23 may have made available to the Panel.

24 11. The Panel shall retire to consider the evidence before it on any  
25 case after hearing the Veterinary surgeon or the Veterinary para-professional as  
26 stipulated in Paragraph 10 above, and shall decide whether there is a prima  
27 facie case against the Veterinary surgeon or the Veterinary para-professional,  
28 as the case may be.

29 12. The Panel, in any case where in pursuance of Section 12(2) of the  
30 Veterinary Surgeons Act is of the opinion that a prima facie case is made



1 against a Veterinary surgeon or a Veterinary para-professional, shall prepare  
2 a report of the case and any appropriate charge or charges and forward them  
3 to the Registrar together with all the documents considered by the Panel.

4 13. If the Panel decides that a prima facie case has been made, and  
5 not withstanding that the Veterinary surgeon or the Veterinary para-  
6 professional complained about neglects or fails to appear before the Panel  
7 for viva voce evidence after the Panel had duly invited him to attend the  
8 meeting of the Panel for that purpose, in so far that the Panel is satisfied from  
9 the deposition of the Veterinary surgeon or the Veterinary para-professional  
10 complained about, the Panel shall prepare a report of the case and formulate  
11 any appropriate charge or charges and forward them to the Registrar of the  
12 Council together with all the documents considered by the Panel, for onward  
13 transmission to the Tribunal.

14 *Amendment*

15 14. Where there is need for amendment to the standing Order and  
16 Rules of the Council's investigation panel, the Panel shall refer the matter to  
17 the Council.

18 *Miscellaneous*

19 15.-(1) A person ceasing to be a member of the Panel or the  
20 Tribunal shall be eligible for re-appointment as a member of that body.

21 (2) A person may, if otherwise eligible, be a member of both the  
22 Panel and the Tribunal: but no person who acted as a member of the Panel  
23 with respect to any case shall act as a member of the Tribunal with respect to  
24 that case.

25 (3) Any document authorized or required by virtue of this Act to be  
26 served on the Panel or the Tribunal shall be served on the Registrar.

27 (4) The Panel or the Tribunal may act notwithstanding any vacancy  
28 in its membership; and the proceedings of either body shall not be  
29 invalidated by any irregularity in the appointment of a member of that body,  
30 or by reason of the fact that any person who was not entitled to do so took

1 part in the proceedings of that body.

2 (5) Any expenses of the Panel or the Tribunal shall be defrayed by the  
3 Council.

4 (6) A person shall not by reason only of his appointment as a member  
5 of the Panel or as a legal assessor to the Tribunal be treated as holding an office  
6 or emolument in the Public service of the Federation.

7 *Interpretation*

8 15. In this Bill:

9 "Chairman" means the Chairman of the investigation Panel;

10 "the Council staff" includes any officer of the Veterinary Council of Nigeria;

11 "the panel" means the Veterinary Council Investigation Panel of the Veterinary  
12 Council of Nigeria;

13 "Meeting" includes the regular meeting of the panel or any emergency meeting  
14 duly convened by the Chairman;

15 "Members" means members of the Panel;

16 "Member who has interest" includes a member who is complainant, or witness,  
17 a relation of the complainant;

18 "Prima facie case" means a case in which there is some evidence of the  
19 allegation and which stand unless it is disproved;

20 "Secretary" means the Secretary of the Panel;

21 "Sine die" means without any time fixed;

22 "the Tribunal" means the Veterinary Council Disciplinary Tribunal;

23 *Citation*

24 16. These rules may be cited as the Veterinary Council Investigating  
25 Panel Rules and Standing Orders, 2019.

## FIFTH SCHEDULE

[Section 12(6)]

## VETERINARY COUNCIL (DISCIPLINARY TRIBUNAL (AND ASSESSORS)

## RULES, 2019

*Composition of Tribunal*

1.-(1) There shall be five members of the Tribunal of whom at least two shall be elected member.

(2) Where the person to appear before the Tribunal is a Veterinary para-professional, an elected Veterinary para-professional is to serve as a member of the Tribunal.

(3) For the purpose of advising the Tribunal on questions of law arising in proceedings before it, there shall in all such proceedings be an assessor to the Tribunal who shall be a legal practitioner of not less than ten years of practicing experience.

(4) The quorum of the Tribunal shall be three of whom at least one shall be an elected member of the Council.

(5) The President of the Council, or in his absence anyone appointed in that behalf, shall be the chairman of the Tribunal.

*Composition of Tribunal*

2. Whenever any case of professional misconduct against any registered person is referred to the Tribunal by the Panel, such a case shall be heard by a division of not less than three members of whom at least one shall be an elected member.

*Parties and appearances*

3.-(1) Parties to proceedings before the Tribunal shall be:

(a) the complainant;

(b) the respondent;

(c) any other person required by the Tribunal to be joined or joined by leave of the Tribunal.

(2) Any party to the proceedings may appear in person or be

1 represented by a legal practitioner, so however that the Tribunal may order a  
2 party to the proceedings to appear in person if it is of the opinion that it is  
3 necessary in the interest of justice but without prejudice to his right to counsel.

4 *Notice of hearing and service*

5 4.-(1) On the direction of the chairman, the Secretary shall fix a day  
6 for the hearing of the case and forth with thereafter shall, in the form in the  
7 Appendix to these Rules, serve notice thereof on each party to the proceedings.

8 (2) The Secretary shall serve on each party, other than the  
9 complainant, copies of the report and all the charges prepared by the Panel and  
10 all documents considered by the Panel.

11 (3) It shall be sufficient compliance with this rule; if, any process  
12 required to be served is handed to the party concerned or effected personally or  
13 is sent by registered post to the last known place of residence or abode of the  
14 party, or electronically or by publication in a popular Newspaper.

15 *Hearing in absence of parties*

16 5.-(1) Subject to the next succeeding paragraph, the Tribunal may  
17 hear and determine a case in the absence of any party

18 (2) Any party to the proceedings before a Tribunal who fails to appear  
19 or be represented may apply, within thirty days after the date when the  
20 pronouncement of the findings and directions of the Tribunal were given, for a  
21 re-hearing on the ground of want of notice or other good and sufficient reason:  
22 and the Tribunal may, in appropriate cases, grant the application upon such  
23 terms as to costs or otherwise as it thinks fit.

24 *Witness and evidence*

25 6. The Tribunal may in the course of its proceedings hear such  
26 witnesses and receive such documentary evidence as in its opinion may assist  
27 in arriving at a conclusion as to the truth or otherwise of the charges referred to  
28 it by the Panel; and in the application of this rule, the provisions of the Evidence  
29 Act or Law in force in the State where the Tribunal holds its sitting shall apply  
30 to any such proceedings.

*Amendment of charges*

1  
2 7.-(1) Any party to the proceedings may appear in person or be  
3 represented by a legal practitioner, so however that the Tribunal may order a  
4 party to the proceedings to appear in person if it is of the opinion that it is  
5 necessary in the interest of justice but without prejudice to his right to  
6 counsel.

*Proceedings to be in public*

7  
8 8. The proceedings of the Tribunal shall be held, and its findings  
9 and directions shall be pronounced, in public.

*Adjournment of hearing*

10  
11 9. The disciplinary tribunal may, of its own motion, or upon  
12 application of any party, adjourn the hearing on such terms as to costs or  
13 otherwise as the disciplinary tribunal may think fit.

*Witness and evidence*

14  
15 10. If any person willfully gives false evidence on oath before the  
16 Tribunal during the course of any proceedings, or willfully makes a false  
17 statement in any affidavit sworn for the purpose of any such proceedings, the  
18 disciplinary tribunal may refer the matter to the Attorney-General of the  
19 Federation for any action he may deem fit.

*Findings and costs*

20  
21 11. If after the hearing, the disciplinary tribunal adjudges that the  
22 charge of professional misconduct has not been proved, the disciplinary  
23 tribunal:

24 (a) Shall record a finding that the respondent is not guilty of such  
25 conduct in respect of the matters to which the charge relates;

26 (b) May, without any misconduct proved against the respondent,  
27 nevertheless order any party (except the complainant) to pay the costs of the  
28 proceedings if, having regard to his conduct and to all the circumstances of  
29 the case, the disciplinary tribunal thinks fit so to order.

1 *Publication of disciplinary tribunal's findings*

2 12. Subject to section 13 (7) of the Act (which relates to appeals), any  
3 direction given by the Tribunal shall be published in the Federal Gazette as  
4 soon as may be after the direction takes effect.

5 *Records of proceedings*

6 13.-(1) Shorthand notes, electronic records and transcripts of  
7 proceedings may be taken by a person appointed by the Tribunal and any party  
8 who appeared at the proceedings shall be entitled to inspect the records thereof

9 (2) The Secretary shall supply to any person entitled to be heard upon  
10 an appeal against the direction of the Tribunal, and the Council, but to no other  
11 person, a copy of the records of such records of proceedings on the payment of  
12 such charges as may be determined by the Registrar.

13 (3) If no shorthand notes are taken, the chairman shall take a note of  
14 the proceedings and, accordingly, the provisions of these Rules as to inspection  
15 and taking of copies shall apply to such notes.

16 *Dispensing with certain provisions*

17 14. The Tribunal may dispense with any requirement of these Rules  
18 respecting notices, affidavits, documents, service or time in any case where it  
19 appears to the Tribunal to be just to do so; and the Tribunal may in any  
20 appropriate case extend the time to do anything under these Rules.

21 *Power to retain exhibits pending appeal*

22 15. The Tribunal may order that any documents or other exhibits  
23 produced or used at the hearing shall be retained by the Secretary until the time  
24 within which an appeal may be entered has expired, and if notice of appeal is  
25 given, until the appeal is heard or otherwise disposed of Appointment and  
26 duties of assessors.

27 16.-(1) An assessor, when nominated in accordance with paragraph 1  
28 (3) of this Schedule to the Act, shall be appointed by the Council by instrument,  
29 and the assessor shall hold and vacate office as provided in the instrument; and  
30 where the appointment is not a general one, it shall have effect only in respect

1 of a particular meeting of the Tribunal.

2 (2) Subject to the terms of his appointment, an assessor shall attend  
3 any meeting of the Tribunal as and when requested to do so by notice in  
4 writing given to him by the Secretary not later than three clear days before  
5 the date appointed for the meeting; and he shall there advise the Tribunal on  
6 questions of law arising in proceedings before it.

7 (3) Except where the Tribunal is deliberating in private, the advice  
8 of the assessor on questions of law as to evidence, procedure and as to  
9 compliance with the Act shall be tendered in the presence of every party or of  
10 his counsel.

11 (4) If the advice by the assessor to the Tribunal is given otherwise  
12 than in the presence of all parties, or as the case may be of their counsel, the  
13 assessor shall, as soon as may be thereafter.

14 (5) Fees to be paid to the assessor shall be such as may be  
15 determined by the Council from time to time with the consent of the  
16 assessor.

#### 17 *Interpretation*

18 17. In these Rules unless the context otherwise requires:

19 "chairman" means the chairman of the Veterinary Council Disciplinary  
20 Tribunal;

21 "complainant" means the Veterinary Council Investigating Panel or any  
22 member thereof;

23 "respondent" means the person required to answer any charge of  
24 professional misconduct;

25 "Secretary" means a person appointed to act as the Registrar under section 1  
26 (5) of the Act.

27 "Secretary" means a person appointed to act as the Registrar under section 5  
28 (1) of the Act.

1 *Citation*

2 18. These Rules may be cited as the Veterinary Council (Disciplinary  
3 Tribunal and Assessors) Rules, 2019.

4 *Appendix*

5 *Notice of hearing by the Veterinary Council Disciplinary Tribunal*

6 in the matter of the Veterinary Surgeons Act; and

7 In the matter of A.B. a Veterinary Surgeons or a Veterinary para-professional

8 TAKE NOTICE that the report and charges prepared by the Veterinary Council

9 Investigating Panel in the above matter are fixed for hearing by the Veterinary

10 Council Disciplinary Tribunal at .....on the day of.....20.....

11 COPIES of:

12 (a) the report;

13 (b) the charges; and

14 (c)..... are annexed hereto.

15 DATED at.....this..... day of.....20.....

16 .....

17 Secretary of the Tribunal

18 SIXTH SCHEDULE

19 *[Section 14(2)]*

20 VETERINARY PRACTISING PREMISES REGISTRATION AND CONTROL

21 REGULATIONS, 2019

22 *Special Powers of Council on Veterinary Practising Premises*

23 1. Council shall have power to:

24 (1) approve the application for veterinary practice and practicing  
25 premises of all categories;

26 (2) appoint Veterinary inspectors for the purpose of enforcing the  
27 provisions of these Regulations;

28 (3) cause investigations to be conducted to ascertain persons involved  
29 in offences under these Regulations;

30 (4) determine whether any person has committed an offence under



1 these Regulations; and

2 (5) close any practicing premises for breaching any of the  
3 following conditions:

4 (i) change of ownership without approval of Council,

5 (ii) non-compliance with prescribed standard of practice,  
6 including breach of professional ethics, non-engagement of adequate and  
7 qualified veterinary personnel;

8 (iii) in appropriate location or unsanitary conditions of the  
9 premises;

10 (iii) unsanitary conditions of premises;

11 (iv) on the request of the owner of the premises;

12 (v) operating without a license.

13 (vi) operating without registration or possession of a valid annual  
14 licence.

15 *Establishment of Veterinary Practicing Premises Regulation Committee*

16 2.-(1) There is hereby established a Veterinary Practicing  
17 Regulation Committee for each State and the Federal Capital Territory  
18 (hereafter in these Regulations referred to as "the Committee").

19 (2) The Committee shall consist of:

20 (a) the Director of Veterinary Services of the State or Head of  
21 Animal Health Section of Federal Capital Territory (as the case may be) as  
22 the Chairman;

23 (b) Zonal or State Officer of the Council;

24 (c) Chairman of the Nigerian Veterinary Medical Association of  
25 the State or of the Federal Capital Territory;

26 (d) Chairman, Association of Private Veterinary Practitioners of  
27 the State or Federal Capital Territory;

28 (e) representative of the Federal Department of Veterinary  
29 Services;

30 (f) the Coordinator of Veterinary Inspectors (to be appointed by the

1 Committee); and

2 (g) any other person that may be co-opted by the Committee on the  
3 approval of the Council.

4 *Categories and Location of Veterinary Practising Premises*

5 3.-(1) There shall be the following types of Veterinary Practising  
6 Premises, namely:

7 (i) Veterinary or animal hospital;

8 (ii) Veterinary or animal clinic;

9 (iii) ambulatory services, or house call, (iv) veterinary pharmacy;

10 (v) veterinary diagnostic centre;

11 (vi) animal hotel or animal boarding for veterinary care;

12 (v) animal security outfit;

13 (vi) veterinary day shop;

14 (vii) abattoirs (including slaughter house and slaughter slabs);

15 (2) Except veterinary pharmacy, no premises shall be located in  
16 market places, motor parks or an environment where commercial activities are  
17 conducted.

18 (3) No premises shall be located in an unhygienic environment or any  
19 area subject to flooding.

20 (4) Any premises located in any such places as stated in sub-  
21 regulation (2) and (3) of this regulation shall relocate to a suitable place not  
22 later than 90 days after formal notification to that effect by the Veterinary  
23 Inspector.

24 *Powers of Veterinary Inspector*

25 4.-(1) The Veterinary inspector shall have power to:

26 (a) enter into any premises in which he reasonably believes that an  
27 article to which these regulations apply is manufactured, prepared, stored,  
28 preserved, packaged, dispensed, or marketed therein;

29 (b) examine any article in the premises to which these Regulations  
30 apply which he reasonably believes is used or its capable of being used for the

1 manufacture, preparation, preservation, packaging, storage or sale of any  
2 such article;

3 (c) take sample or specimen of any article to which these  
4 Regulations apply, open and examine while in the premises and in the  
5 presence of the owner or his representative any container or package which  
6 he reasonably believes may have any article to which these Regulations  
7 apply;

8 (d) examine any books, documents or other records found in the  
9 premises which he reasonably believes may contain information relevant to  
10 the enforcement of these Regulations and to make copies of the same;

11 (e) seize and detain for such time as may be necessary any article  
12 by means of which he reasonably believes any provision of these  
13 Regulations has been contravened.

14 (f) seize and detain for such time as may be necessary any article  
15 kept, displayed, sold or dispensed in any unauthorized premises or place;

16 (g) seize and detain for such time as may be necessary any article  
17 he may reasonable grounds to suspect that such items are or likely to be  
18 unwholesome, impure, fake, expired, adulterated or banned;

19 (h) inspect premises proposed for registration as veterinary  
20 practicing premises and make appropriate recommendations to the  
21 Committee; and

22 (i) conduct periodic inspection on all categories of the premises  
23 with or without prior notice.

24 *Seizure of articles*

25 5.-(1) Any article seized under these Regulations shall be kept or  
26 stored in such place as the Veterinary inspectors may direct.

27 (2) Any such article seized under these Regulations may be  
28 submitted to an analyst for examination for the purpose of determining its  
29 chemical properties and content.

30 (3) The analyst making such examination shall issue a report

1 setting out the result of his findings on the article;

2 (4) The Veterinary inspector shall on demand deliver a copy of the  
3 analyst's report to the owner of the article if it is a subject of proceedings under  
4 these Regulations;

5 (5) If upon examination the article is found to conform with the  
6 requirements of these Regulations, the Veterinary inspector shall return it to the  
7 owner or the person from whom it was seized without paying any  
8 compensation.

9 *Duty of owner of veterinary Practicing Premises*

10 6.-(1) The owner or person in charge of any premises where  
11 veterinary articles are kept, displayed, sold or dispensed (whether authorized  
12 or not), and every person found therein shall co-operate with and give all  
13 necessary assistance to Veterinary inspectors, including making available to  
14 such inspectors such information as may be required for the purpose  
15 of giving effect to these Regulations.

16 (2) Any person who conducts business in any premises which, in the  
17 opinion of a Veterinary inspector, amounts to selling or dealing in veterinary  
18 drugs, wares, vaccines, agro-chemicals or veterinary devices (whether  
19 wholesale or retail) shall, on being required by the Inspector, state the name and  
20 other particulars of the owner of the business and produce all books, documents  
21 and other information as may be necessary for the purpose of verifying the  
22 nature and status of such business by the Inspector.

23 *Requirement for Registration of Veterinary Practicing Premises*

24 7.-(1) (a) Personnel- All Veterinary or animal hospital, veterinary or  
25 animal clinic, veterinary pharmacy, ambulatory services or House call shall  
26 have a registered Veterinary Surgeon as the head of the medical team.

27 (b) A veterinary or animal hospital shall have the following facilities:

28 (i) reception room,

29 (ii) examination rooms or facilities for small and large animals,

30 (iii) functional laboratory,

- 1 (iv) sterilization room and facility,
- 2 (v) small and large animal surgical theatre,
- 3 (vi) avian clinic,
- 4 (vii) hospitalization facility for all animal species,
- 5 (viii) post mortem room,
- 6 (ix) incineration or carcass disposal facility,
- 7 (x) consulting rooms,
- 8 (xi) facilities for aquatic practice (where applicable),
- 9 (xii) hospital pharmacy,
- 10 (xiii) store,
- 11 (xiv) radiography,
- 12 (xv) electro-cardiography, and
- 13 (xvi) ultrasound
- 14 (c) Conditions:
  - 15 (i) a Veterinary Surgeon shall be available 24 hours on service to
  - 16 attend to in-patients and out-patients, and such other staff as animal health
  - 17 technologists, laboratory attendants, cleaners, etc must be present round the
  - 18 clock to ensure continual veterinary care for patients;
  - 19 (ii) clinical standards must be maintained and improved by
  - 20 monitoring performance and outcome of treatment;
  - 21 (iii) quality range of facilities and equipment must be available at
  - 22 all times;
  - 23 (iv) the standard of the premises and facilities must be examined
  - 24 periodically to ensure cleanliness and sterility; and
  - 25 (v) a hospital shall satisfy the Council that it has met the diagnostic
  - 26 and hospitalization requirements specific to its type of practice as the type of
  - 27 care and facilities suitable to meet the needs of animals vary.
- 28 (2) To register a veterinary or animal clinic, the proprietor shall:
  - 29 (a) a complement of staff headed by a Veterinary surgeon;
  - 30 (b) provide 24 hour emergency services to patients either by the

- 1 clinic itself or by an emergency house call provider affiliated to the clinic;
- 2 (c) have arrangement for taking care of patients kept overnight;
- 3 (d) have a system for monitoring the outcome of treatment;
- 4 (e) show on-going commitment to educating and training feedback;
- 5 (f) keep the premises clean and well maintained;
- 6 (g) have a policy for communicating with clients and obtaining
- 7 feedback;
- 8 (h) ensure that clients are given estimates of the costs of treatments
- 9 and that their consent is obtained before procedures are undertaken;
- 10 (i) have access to laboratory facility for diagnosis;
- 11 (j) meet legal and health safety requirements covering its premises,
- 12 equipment, clients and employees;
- 13 (k) must establish a good referral system;
- 14 (l) must establish a good referral system; and
- 15 (m) a good record system.
- 16 (3) For the purpose of registration, the proprietor of an ambulatory
- 17 services or house call shall have:
- 18 (a) a permanent communication base;
- 19 (b) a specific non-mobile area set aside for the storage of drugs and
- 20 equipment, sterilization facility and other facilities for minor surgery.
- 21 (c) a record of Veterinary examination with procedures and
- 22 confidentiality strictly maintained; and
- 23 (d) animal restraining equipment for the type of practice; and
- 24 (4) To register a veterinary pharmacy, the applicant shall meet the
- 25 following requirements:
- 26 (a) a well-ventilated, air-conditioned room for display of drugs;
- 27 (b) availability of compartmentalized drug shelves;
- 28 (c) veterinary drugs, veterinary vaccines and biologics which require
- 29 cold storage must be put in drug freezers and refrigerators;
- 30 (d) a sworn and signed statement averring that only drugs, biologics

1 and equipment for veterinary use will be kept and dispensed;

2 (d) sanitary control shall be ensured at all time;

3 (f) drugs on shelves shall have adequate labels and literature to  
4 guide users;

5 (g) manufacture and expiry dates must be visible on the containers;

6 (h) a special room or a drug box or cupboard for controlled  
7 veterinary drugs; and

8 (i) a special room shall be provided for animal feeds.

9 *Application and approval procedures*

10 8.-(1) An applicant requesting for registration of a premises shall  
11 obtain the Veterinary Practicing Premises Application Form from any office  
12 of the Council or office of the Director of Veterinary Services of each State  
13 or Head of Animal Health section of the Federal Capital Territory.

14 (2) The duly completed application form shall be submitted to the  
15 Council through the Committee accompanied by:

16 (a) an application fee of N5,000.00 (five thousand Naira);

17 (b) list of facilities and equipment of the proposed practice;

18 (c) a copy of the certificate of registration of the Veterinary  
19 Surgeon(s) in charge and his/their current practicing licence or certificates  
20 of any person in charge (for premises that does not need the presence of a  
21 veterinary surgeon); and

22 (d) photocopy of the registration certificate of the company or  
23 business entity with the Corporate Affairs Commission or any other  
24 registration document acceptable to Council.

25 (3) A report of the inspection conducted to the proposed premises  
26 by the States Veterinary Practicing Premises Regulation Committee shall  
27 accompany the documents submitted by the applicant to the Council.

28 (4) The approval given by the Council shall relate to, and be used,  
29 only for the premises indicated on the application form, subject to review  
30 from time to time.

1 *Fees*

2 9.-(1) The annual registration fees shall be as follows.

3 Veterinary animal hospital - N20,000.00;

4 Veterinary or animal clinic - N15,000.00;

5 Ambulatory services or House Call - N10,000.00;

6 Veterinary pharmacy - N20,000

7 Animal hotel and Animal security outfit-N10,000

8 Abattoir (including slaughter house or slab- N20,000.00;

9 (2) The Council shall have power to review all fees stated in these  
10 Regulations from time to time.

11 *Interpretation*

12 10. In these Regulations, unless the context otherwise appears:

13 "Ambulatory services or house call" means a veterinary practice that offers  
14 health care services to animals and its environment in places where animals are  
15 kept and managed including a private home, a livestock farm, a poultry, a  
16 zoological garden and fish pond;

17 "Animal hotel or animal boarding" means premises used for accommodation  
18 and feeding of animals on behalf of the owner for a fee;

19 "Article" includes any veterinary drug, veterinary device, medicated feed,  
20 agro-chemicals or anything used in the manufacture, preparation, preservation,  
21 packaging and storing of any veterinary drug, agro -chemicals or veterinary  
22 device and any labeling or advertising of material relating to or for use in with  
23 any veterinary drug or veterinary device, agro-chemical;

24 "Prescribed officer" means a person duly authorized by the Council to perform  
25 a duty or exercise a power in relation to which the expression is used;

26 "Veterinary or animal clinic" means a veterinary practicing premises for  
27 rendering primary veterinary services for small animals, farm animals, equines  
28 or emergency veterinary services for sick animals but may not include  
29 hospitalization for animals undergoing treatment;

30 "Veterinary or animal hospital" means veterinary practicing premises which



1 provides secondary or tertiary animal health services and which includes  
2 hospitalization for animals undergoing treatment;

3 "Veterinary day shop" means a premises where animal accessories such as  
4 collars, animal models, horse shoes, animal grooming and restraining  
5 equipment are sold;

6 "Veterinary Inspector" means a registered Veterinary Surgeon duly  
7 appointed by the Council as such under these Regulations;

8 "Veterinary pharmacy" means a building or premises designated for sale,  
9 procurement and dispensing veterinary drugs, veterinary vaccines,  
10 biologics, pet food agro-chemicals and veterinary medical equipment.

11 *Citation*

12 11. These Regulations may be cited as the Veterinary Practicing  
13 Premises Registration and Control Regulations, 2019.

14 SEVENTH SCHEDULE

15 *[Section 15(4)]*

16 POSTGRADUATE COLLEGE OF VETERINARY SURGEONS NIGERIA

17 REGULATIONS, 2019

18 *Administrative organs of the College*

19 1.-(1) The administrative and academic organs of the College shall  
20 consist of the Congregation, the Academic Board (therein after referred to as  
21 "the Board") and the Heads of Specialties or Faculties;

22 (2) Provost and Deputy-Provost, who shall be elected at the first  
23 meeting of the Board after the election of the Board by the Congregation.

24 (3) There shall be a College Secretary who shall be a fellow of the  
25 College and shall serve as the administrative officer of the College.

26 (4) The tenure of the College Secretary shall be determined by the  
27 Council.

28 (5) The Provost shall be responsible to the Council.

1 *The Congregation*

2 2.-(1) The Congregation shall consist of all the Fellows of the  
3 College.

4 (2) The Congregation shall meet every three years, provided that the  
5 Provost may with the approval of the President of Council, call an emergency  
6 meeting of the Congregation.

7 (3) The Provost shall be the Chairman of the Congregation when he is  
8 present, and in his absence, the Deputy Provost shall be the Chairman of the  
9 meeting.

10 (4) The quorum at a regular meeting of the Congregation shall be  
11 twenty, provided that at least three members from each specialty are present.

12 *Power of the Congregation*

13 3. The Congregation shall have power to:

14 (a) elect members of the Board;

15 (b) consider issues concerning the academic programme of the  
16 College or issues of importance to the Veterinary profession, livestock  
17 production and zoonoses control in Nigeria and make appropriate  
18 recommendations to the Board and the Council; and

19 (c) consider any other issue or item referred to the Congregation by  
20 the Board and the Council.)

21 *Membership of the Board*

22 4.-(1) The Board shall consists of:

23 (a) four members of each Specialty elected among their members at  
24 Congregation;

25 (b) the Provost and the Deputy provost who shall be elected by the  
26 members of the Board from among their members and who shall be of different  
27 Specialties/Faculties;

28 (c) A representative of each study centre;

29 (d) the Registrar of the Council.

30 (2) Where a vacancy occurs among the representatives of the

1 specialty as a result of the election of the Provost and Deputy Provost,  
2 resignation, expulsion of a member due to act of misconduct or death or  
3 incapacity of a member, the vacancy shall be filled:

4 (a) by the unsuccessful candidate at the previous specialty election  
5 of such representative who at the election received the higher number of  
6 votes and has not since become a representative of the specialty in the  
7 Board;

8 (b) If two or more such candidates receive an equal number of  
9 votes, by the candidate, who first obtained the Fellowship Diploma  
10 qualification and if two or more obtained the qualification on the same date,  
11 by the candidate who has been registered longest on the register of Council  
12 and if two or more such candidates have been registered on the same date, by  
13 the candidate with the lowest (oldest) Veterinary Council of Nigeria number  
14 (VCN Number); or

15 (c) If there were no unsuccessful candidates at that election, by a  
16 person elected from among members of the specialty at a special election  
17 congress organized by the Provost, provided that no such election need be  
18 held if an election of representatives of the specialty will take place within  
19 12 months after the vacancy occurred.

20 (3) A person may be co-opted to provide information or make a  
21 special contribution to the meeting of the Board, but his presence shall not  
22 count towards satisfying the requirements of a quorum and he shall not have  
23 a voting right.

24 *Tenure of Office of the Academic Board and Officers of the College*

25 5.-(1) The tenure of office of an elected member of the Board shall  
26 be three years and may be re-appointed for a final term of three years.

27 (2) An elected member of the Board may resign his membership of  
28 the Board, by way of notice in writing to the Provost.

29 (3) No person can serve as Provost, Deputy-Provost and Head of  
30 Specialty for more than two terms.

1 (4) Where a member of the Academic Board conducts himself in an  
2 unruly manner, the Provost shall have the power to suspend him from not more  
3 two sittings of the Board, provided that he may be restored after showing  
4 remorse otherwise his case shall be referred to the Veterinary Council  
5 Investigating Panel.

6 (5) The Board shall remove a member if such a member is found  
7 guilty of an act of misconduct by the Veterinary Council's Disciplinary  
8 Tribunal.

9 *Meetings of the Board*

10 6.-(1) The President of Council shall inaugurate the first meeting of  
11 the Board after the election of members at Congregation and supervise the  
12 election of the Provost and Deputy Provost, and Heads of Specialties.

13 (2) The Board shall meet two times a year, provided the Provost may  
14 with the approval of the President of Council call emergency meeting of the  
15 Board.

16 (3) The quorum at a regular meeting of the Board shall be eight  
17 members, provided there is at least one member from each specialty.

18 (4) The Provost shall be the chairman at all meetings of the Academic  
19 Board and in his absence, the Deputy Provost shall chair the meeting.

20 (5) In the absence of the Provost and the Deputy-Provost, the Board  
21 shall appoint a Fellow to act until a new Provost is appointed.

22 *Powers of the Board*

23 7.-(1) The Board shall have power to:

- 24 (a) accredit institutions as study centres for College training;
- 25 (b) conduct all the academic activities including de-centralized  
26 examinations in study centres and centralized examinations of the College;
- 27 (c) appoint invigilators for each decentralized examination from a  
28 different study centre;
- 29 (d) appoint external examiners for Fellowship final examinations;
- 30 (e) set rules and conditions for each examination of the college;

1 (f) assign distinct colour codes to each academic Specialty or  
2 Faculty;

3 (g) discipline erring students or residents and further refer the case  
4 to Veterinary Council Investigation Panel;

5 (h) recommend erring resource persons to the Veterinary Council  
6 Investigating Panel and erring staff of the College to Staff Disciplinary  
7 Committee of the Council;

8 (i) organize annual convocation of the College in consultation with  
9 the Council;

10 (j) consider the award of Honorary Fellowship (Honoury causa) to  
11 deserving members of the public subject to a prior approval by Council; and

12 (k) carry out any activity referred to the Board and the Council or  
13 any other activities for the progress of the College with the approval of  
14 Council.

15 (2) The Board may set up Committees on finance, residents or  
16 student discipline and any other Committee as the Board may consider  
17 necessary;

18 (3) The Board shall be responsible to the Council.

19 *Specialties of the College*

20 8.-(1) There shall be the following specialties that is to say:

21 (a) medicine;

22 (b) surgery;

23 (c) theriogenology;

24 (d) pathology; and

25 (e) public health and preventive medicine;

26 (e) pathology; and

27 (f) Any other specialty as may be approved by Council on the  
28 recommendation of the Board from time to time.

29 (2) Each specialty shall be headed by a Head who shall be elected  
30 by members belonging to that specialty.

1 (3) The Head of Specialty shall coordinate all the academic activities  
2 of the Specialty and report to the Board.

3 (4) There shall be an academic supervisor for each specialty in each  
4 study centre, who shall coordinate the activities at each study centre and report  
5 to the Head of Specialty.

6 *Convocation*

7 9.-(1) The Convocation of the College shall be held every year.

8 (2) The Convocation shall;

9 (a) award Fellowship Diplomas to deserving residents;

10 (b) award prizes and recognition of Distinctions for deserving  
11 residents;

12 (c) award Honorary Fellowship to deserving individuals;

13 (d) award any other certificates of the College to deserving  
14 individuals;

15 (e) carry out the investiture of the Grand Patrons and Patrons of the  
16 College; and

17 (f) carry out any other activities as may be approved by the Council  
18 from time to time.

19 *Interpretation*

20 10. In these regulations, unless otherwise requires, the following  
21 expressions have the meaning hereby assigned to them respectively, that is to  
22 say-

23 "Academic Board" means the Board of the Postgraduate College of Veterinary  
24 Surgeons Nigeria;

25 "College" means the Postgraduate College of Veterinary Surgeons Nigeria  
26 established by the Veterinary Surgeons Act;

27 "Provost" means Provost of the Postgraduate College of Veterinary Surgeons  
28 Nigeria elected by the Board of the College;

29 "Resident" means student of the College;

30 "Specialty" means a specialized training field recognized for the award of

1 fellowship or other types of certificate by the College; and  
2 "Study Centre" means a University or Institution which has been accredited  
3 by the College to conduct academic activities of the College in one or more  
4 Specialties.

5 *Citation*

6 11. These regulation may be cited as the Postgraduate College of  
7 Veterinary Surgeons Nigeria Regulations, 2019.

8 EIGHTH SCHEDULE

9 *[Section 16(4)]*

10 VETERINARY COUNCIL STAFF AND STUDENTS

11 DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES

12 *Members of the Staff Disciplinary Committee*

13 1.-(1) There shall be established the Staff Disciplinary Committee  
14 of Council (hereafter in this Schedule referred to as "the Committee").

15 (2) There shall be five members of the Committee of whom at least  
16 two shall be elected members of the Council

17 (3) The Council shall appoint one of the members as the Chairman.

18 (4) The Registrar or his representative shall be the Secretary.

19 (5) No staff having a case or an allegation before the Committee  
20 shall serve in the Committee, except as a witness.

21 *Powers of the Staff disciplinary committee*

22 2.-(1) The Committee shall have power to:

23 (a) set or amend its regulations for its operations, but such  
24 regulations shall not be applied until they are approved by the Council;

25 (b) co-opt any person to assist the Committee in its investigation;

26 (c) invite any staff or other persons that may provide useful  
27 information on any matter, to witness before the Committee; and

28 (d) set up a panel consisting of three persons including at least two  
29 of its members to carry out specific investigation on any matter before it, but  
30 shall not include the head of department or unit of the staff on trial or the

1 complainant in each case.)

2 (2) Regulations made in section 1 (a) of this Schedule, need not be  
3 published in the Federal Gazette but the Registrar shall bring them to the notice  
4 of all staff in such manner as he may from time to time determine.

5 *Meetings of disciplinary committees*

6 3.-(1) The Committee shall meet at least once in a year and as  
7 regularly as may be necessary to prevent delays of cases.

8 (2) The quorum of the Committee shall be three, of whom at least one  
9 shall be elected member of Council, provided that the presence of any co-opted  
10 person or anyone attending the meeting in attendance shall not count towards  
11 the constitution of a quorum.

12 *Disciplinary procedures*

13 4.-(1) The Committee on receiving a report in accordance with  
14 Section 15(4) of the Principal Act shall:

15 (a) give notice of those allegations in writing to the person; and

16 (b) afford him reasonable opportunity to defend himself including an  
17 opportunity to make representations in writing and in person on the matter to  
18 the Committee.

19 (2) Any person on trial or appearing as a witness before the  
20 Committee shall testify on oath, to be administered by the Secretary.

21 (3) In a situation that a case against a person under suspension is not  
22 concluded within three months, the Committee may extend his suspension for  
23 a specified period.

24 (4) The decisions of the Committee shall be arrived at by consensus or  
25 through a positive vote by a simple majority of members present with the  
26 Chairman having a deciding vote in case of a tie.

27 (5) Each case before the Committee shall be considered on its own  
28 merit.

29 (6) The decision of the Committee shall not be faulted by reason of  
30 any vacancy in the membership of the committee.



*Disciplinary penalties*

1  
2 5.-(1) The Committee shall submit its report to Council which shall  
3 include observations on whether the person is guilty of the allegation against  
4 him or not and a clear determination of the appropriate punishment for the  
5 staff if he is confirmed to be guilty.

6 (2) The Committee upon concluding investigation and trial, may  
7 recommend to Council that the staff or student be acquitted if the allegations  
8 against him cannot be established

9 (3) In case the person is confirmed to be guilty, the Committee may  
10 recommend that the staff be subjected to one or more of these sanctions:

11 (a) reprimanded in writing,

12 (b) loss of annual increment or delay in promotion for a specified  
13 period,

14 (c) interdicted,

15 (d) surcharged,

16 (e) loss of headship or other administrative position or  
17 responsibility,

18 (f) deferment of confirmation of appointment,

19 (g) Disciplinary probation for a specified period, (h) demotion,

20 (h) forced resignation (non-compliance leads to termination of  
21 appointment),

22 (i) termination of appointment, or

23 (j) dismissal.

24 (4) In all cases, disciplinary sanctions shall depend on the level of  
25 involvement, the gravity of the offence and the person's previous  
26 disciplinary records.

*Handling of special cases*

27  
28 6.-(1) For a good cause, any member of staff may be suspended  
29 from his duties for a specified period or his appointment may be terminated  
30 or he may be reprimanded or warned by the Registrar based on the

1 recommendations of the Committee, and for the purposes of this section, "good  
2 cause" means:

3 (a) a conviction for a criminal offence by a court of law which the  
4 Committee considers to be such as to render the person concerned unfit for the  
5 discharge of the functions of his office; and

6 (b) any physical or mental incapacity which the Committee, after  
7 obtaining medical advice, considers to be such as to render the person  
8 concerned unfit to continue to hold office or take part in the activities of the  
9 Council.

10 (2) Where a staff is found guilty of embezzling funds belonging to the  
11 Council, a client or a union or an association recognized by the Council, the  
12 Registrar shall take steps to recover the amount from the salary or other  
13 emoluments of the staff in addition to other sanctions that the Committee may  
14 impose on him.

15 *Handling cases of criminal offence*

16 7.-(1) Where a staff is suspected to have committed such criminal  
17 offence as rape, cultism, murder, vandalism, armed robbery, possession of fire  
18 arms, possession, use of or trafficking in hard drugs, arson, advanced fee fraud,  
19 the Registrar shall report the case to the Police for investigation and possible  
20 prosecution in a Court of competent jurisdiction and inform the Council and  
21 the Committee.

22 (2) If he is convicted, the Council may terminate his appointment on  
23 the recommendation of the Committee.

24 *Implication of suspension of a staff*

25 8.-(1) Any staff placed on suspension, interdiction or disciplinary  
26 probation by the Registrar or on the recommendation of the Committee shall be  
27 paid half of his monthly emolument during the period of his suspension,  
28 interdiction or disciplinary probation.

29 (2) Where a staff under trial is acquitted of the allegations against him  
30 or he is to be warned or reprimanded, his emoluments that was withheld during

1 the period of his suspension shall be paid to him, but if he is retired from  
2 service or his appointment is terminated, he shall not be entitled to the  
3 proportion of his emoluments that was withheld.

4 (3) Any staff facing the disciplinary procedure cannot be  
5 considered for promotion to the next grade until the case against him is  
6 disposed of by the Committee.

7 (4) In case of professional misconduct involving a staff who is a  
8 Veterinary surgeon or a Veterinary para-professional staff and where the  
9 veterinary ethics or ethics of any other professional body is suspected to be  
10 violated by the action or inaction of the staff, the Registrar shall hereafter  
11 forward the report to the Veterinary Council Investigating Panel for further  
12 sanctions.

#### 13 *Appeal*

14 9.-(1) The Registrar shall ensure that the letter(s) containing the  
15 decisions of the Committee are promptly communicated to the staff  
16 concerned as soon as reasonably practicable.

17 (2) In case a person is dissatisfied with the decisions of the  
18 Committee against him, he shall within a period of 21 days from the date of  
19 the letter communicating the decision, address a petition to the Council to  
20 reconsider his case.

21 (3) The decision of the Council on the matter shall be final.

#### 22 *Interpretation*

23 10. In these Regulations, unless the context otherwise requires, the  
24 following expressions have the meanings hereby assigned to them  
25 respectively, that is to say:

26 "Examination misconduct" shall include any acts or inaction of any staff or  
27 student especially in around the examination hall or carried out in any other  
28 place which is considered to be inimical to the integrity of the examination  
29 process;

30 "indecent behavior" shall include sexual gestures, drunkenness, indecent

1 dressing, crossing the lawn, violation of environmental rules of the Council,  
2 and any other behaviour that the Committee may regard as indecent behavior;  
3 "misconduct" means a specific act of wrong doing or an improper behaviour  
4 which is inimical to the image of the service such as habitual lateness to work,  
5 delays in treating official records, failure to keep records, unauthorised  
6 removal of public records, dishonesty, negligence, insubordination, refusal to  
7 carry out assignment, disregard for the dress code of the Council, malingering  
8 and any action or inaction which the Committee may regard as a misconduct;  
9 "scandalous conduct" means immoral behaviour, unruly behaviour, use of foul  
10 language, assault, battery, improper dressing, sleeping on duty, discourteous  
11 behaviour of the public, sexual harassment, hawking merchandise within  
12 Council's premises, and any action or inaction which the Committee may  
13 regard as a scandalous conduct;  
14 "serious misconduct" shall include a specific act of very serious wrongdoing  
15 such as absenteeism, general inefficiency, falsification or suppression or  
16 damage to records, absence from duty without leave, cultism, false claim  
17 against government official, engaging in partisan political activities,  
18 bankruptcy and serious financial embarrassment, unauthorised disclosure of  
19 official information, bribery, corruption, embezzlement, misappropriation,  
20 advanced fee fraud and holding more than one full paid jobs, nepotism, divided  
21 loyalty, sabotage, cybercrime, willful damage to public property and any  
22 action or inaction which the Committee may regard as a serious misconduct;  
23 "unruly behavior "means disorderly behaviour indicating lack of self-restraint  
24 especially on the premises of the Council;  
25 Such acts may include reckless driving, disturbance of peace, damage to  
26 Councilor other persons' property, defacing public building or facilities,  
27 throwing missiles, fighting, pilfering, and other action or inaction which the  
28 Committee may regard as unruly behavior.

1

*Citation*

2

11. These Regulations may be cited as the Veterinary Council Staff

3

Disciplinary Procedures, 2019.

## EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

This Bill seeks to repeal the Veterinary Surgeons Act, Cap. 464 Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 and enact the Veterinary Surgeons Bill. and registering and regulating Veterinary Practice and Veterinary Practicing Premises.

