

A BILL

FOR

ACT TO ESTABLISH A FEDERAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP CENTERS AT THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA LEVEL OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA AND FOR RELATED

Sponsored by Hon. Usman Zannah

[] Commencement

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

1 1.-(1) There shall be established Entrepreneurship to be known as
 2 the Federal Entrepreneurship Centres (in this Bill referred to as "the
 3 Entrepreneurship") which shall be a body corporate with perpetual
 4 succession.

Establishment of a Federal Entrepreneurship Centers

5 (2) The Centres shall have power to sue and be sued in its own
 6 name and may for the purposes of its functions acquire, hold or dispose of
 7 property (whether movable or immovable) and shall have a common seal.

8 (3) The Centres shall established in all the 744 Local Government
 9 Area of the Nigeria Federation, all with uniform and specific
 10 standardization in resources training equipment and for producing read
 11 made entrepreneur in different fields relevant to the host L.G.A.

12 2.-(a) It shall be the intent purpose and objective of this Act to focus
 13 on the education/training of young unemployed Nigerians in self method,
 14 self-employment and job creation for other and self while avoiding the
 15 problems of industrial training-oriented curricula;

Objectives of the Entrepreneurship Centers

16 (b) Develop as catalysts and models for other entrepreneurship
 17 centers within the state and the Nation by focusing on sharpening the
 18 creativity and innovativeness of youth trainees and challenge their energies
 19 towards self-employment.

Federal
Entrepreneurship
Centre
beneficiaries

1 3. There shall be beneficiaries of the Federal Entrepreneurship Centre
2 in the local government Areas which shall:

3 (a) Consist of youth with a minimum education of WASC, but can
4 include university and other tertiary institution degree/diploma holders who
5 are desirous to develop their entrepreneurship skill for self-employment;

6 (b) Other youths, and medium businesses especially in growth areas
7 that can exploit local resources, including solid minerals and leading to cottage
8 industries and small factories;

9 (c) It shall be mandatory that trainees of the center shall not seek or be
10 offered local state and Federal Government employment with their diplomas
11 but can develop their own business and be assisted for easy access to funding or
12 grants from government to facilitate their self-employment.

Establishment
of the Board and
its functions

13 4. There shall be a Board of the Federal Entrepreneurship centre
14 established under the Ministry of Education, with its members appointed by
15 the president of the Federal Republic of Nigeria with the following functions:

16 (a) Ensuring effective supervisory control and the minimum skill of
17 instructors, equipment to being stalled and other components required by each
18 centre including the unique curricula that serves the need for the centre;

19 (b) Ensuring the consistent support of the Federal Government and
20 other donor agencies to the Centre;

21 (c) Ensuring the maintenance of a robust entrepreneurship education
22 and training at the centre so that it captures not less than 90 percent of the
23 available youth unemployment in the Centre catchment area;

24 (d) Ensuring that a system of measuring the success and tracking the
25 progress of trained youth entrepreneurs is established in each LGA.

Appointment
of Director of
training

26 5.-(1) There shall be appointment of a Director of training and
27 programme who runs the affairs of the centre in each local government who
28 shall be a graduate of a technical or management institution with not less than
29 10 years experience in entrepreneurship training and management.

1 (2) The Director shall:

2 (a) Be responsible for the instructions in applying the unique and
3 other kits developed by the Board for the training of entrepreneurs;

4 (b) Be responsible for the discipline of staff and trainees in the
5 centre;

6 (c) Be responsible for rendering periodic financial accounts, and
7 other periodic or annual reports on activities of the centre, including
8 assessment and tracking of the success of trainees of the centre.

9 6. The funding of the Entrepreneurship center shall be through:

10 (a) Primary support of federal Government grants;

11 (b) State and local government areas yearly financial
12 contributions;

13 (c) Support from high net-worth individual and business
14 organization operating in the host area of centers;

15 (d) Non-governmental organization, local and international.

16 7.-(1) The Centres may with the approval of the Federal
17 Government borrow by way of loan any sources any moneys required by the
18 Entrepreneurship for meeting its obligations and discharging the functions
19 of the Centres under this Act.

20 (2) The Entrepreneurship shall also have power to secure the
21 repayment of any money borrowed by the Centres in such manner as the
22 Centres shall think fit, and in particular, by the issue of debentures charged
23 upon all or any of the Entrepreneurship properties; and shall also have
24 powers to purchase, redeem and pay up any such securities.

25 (3) The Entrepreneurship shall have power to receive grants, loans
26 and advances and other moneys on deposits or otherwise from the
27 Government, the Central Bank and any other commercial bank within the
28 meaning of the Centres and other Financial Institutions Act, and also the
29 public in general under such conditions as may be approved by the Federal
30 Government.

Functions of
Director of training

Funds of the
Entrepreneurship

Borrowing power

1 (4) The Government may guarantee in such manner and upon such
2 terms and conditions as it may think fit the redemption and the repayment of
3 any interest on any debenture stocks issued by the Centres on temporary loans
4 raised by the Centres.

Auditing of
accounts of the
Entrepreneurship

5 8.-(1) The Centres shall as soon as may be after the end of the financial
6 year to which the accounts relate cause its accounts to be audited by auditors
7 from the list of auditors and in accordance with guidelines supplied by the
8 Auditor-General for the Federation.

9 (2) The auditors shall on the completion of the audit of the accounts of
10 the Centres for the relevant financial year, prepare and submit to the Centres a
11 report setting out-

12 (a) general observations and recommendations of the auditors on all
13 aspects of the operations of the business of the Centres for that year;

14 (b) detailed observations and recommendations of the auditors on all
15 aspects of the operations of the business of the Centres for that year.

Records and
annual reports
of Centres

16 9.-(1) The Centres shall keep proper accounts and proper records of
17 accounts and shall prepare in respect of each financial year a statement of
18 account in such form as the Minister may direct, being such form which shall
19 conform to the best commercial standards.

20 (2) It shall be the duty of the Centre to prepare and submit to the
21 Minister, not later than three months after the end of each financial year; a
22 report which shall be in such form as the Minister may direct and shall relate to
23 the activities of the Centres during the immediately preceding financial year.

24 (3) The report shall include the report of the audited accounts of the
25 Centres for that year and a copy of the copy of the auditors' reports on the
26 accounts and shall be presented to the Federal Government so soon after the
27 receipt thereof as it may be convenient.

Bye-laws

28 10. Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions of this Act, the Board
29 may, with the approval of the Minister, make bye-laws for the good order and

1 management of the Centres and any such bye-law shall be authenticated by
2 the Centres's seal.

3 11. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires- Interpretation

4 "Entrepreneurship" means a Federal Entrepreneurship Centres established
5 under section 1 of this Act;

6 "Board" means the board of directors as constituted under section 3 of this
7 Act;

8 "Government" means the Government of the Federation;

9 Concept of Entrepreneurship" means a process of actions of an entrepreneur
10 who is a person always in search of something new and exploits such ideas
11 into gainful opportunities by accepting the risk and uncertainty with the
12 enterprise;

13 "Minister" means Minister of Finance;

14 "Centres" means Entrepreneurship Centres throughout the Federation..

15 12. This Bill may be cited as the Federal Entrepreneurship Centres (Establishment) Bill, 2020. Citation

16
17 SCHEDULE

18 [Section 4 (5)]

19 *Provisions relating to the Board*

20 1. Subject to section of this Bill (which provides for decisions of a
21 statutory body to be taken by a majority of its members and for the chairman
22 to have a second or casting vote), the Board may make standing orders
23 regulating the proceedings of the Board or any committee thereof, in
24 particular, as respects-

25 (a) the holding of meetings;

26 (b) notices to be given of such meetings and proceedings thereat;

27 (c) the keeping of minutes and the custody, production and
28 inspection of such minutes; and

29 (d) The opening, keeping, closing and auditing of accounts.

30 2. Every meeting of the Board shall be presided over by the

1 chairman or if the chairman is unable to attend any particular meeting, by
2 another member appointed by the members present at the meeting to act as
3 chairman for that particular meeting.

4 *Quorum*

5 3. The quorum of members at a meeting of the Board shall be the
6 chairman (or, in an appropriate case, the person appointed to act as chairman
7 under paragraph 2 of this schedule) and six other members.

8 4. Where standing orders made under paragraph 1 of this schedule
9 provide for the Board to co-opt persons who are not members of the Board,
10 such persons may advise the Board on any matter referred to them by the
11 Board, shall not be entitled to vote at a meeting of the Board.

12 5. The Centres shall have a common seal and the affixing of the seal
13 shall be authenticated by the signatures of the chairman or another member of
14 the Centres authorised, either generally or specially, by the Centres to act for
15 that purpose, and of the managing director or some other person authorised
16 either generally or specially by the Centre to act for that purpose.

17 6. Every document purporting to be an instrument issued by the
18 Centres and to be sealed with the seal of the Centres authenticated in the
19 manner provided by this paragraph, or to be signed by the managing director,
20 shall be received in evidence and be deemed to be such instrument without
21 further proof, unless the contrary is shown.

22 7. Any contract or instrument which, if made or executed by any
23 person not being a body corporate would not be required to be under seal, may
24 be made or executed on behalf of the Centres by any person generally or
25 specially authorised to act for that purpose by the Centres.

26 8. The validity of any proceedings of the Centres shall not be affected-

27 (a) by any vacancy in the membership of the Board; or

28 (b) by any defect in the appointment of a member of the Board; or

29 (c) by reason that a person not entitled to do so took part in the
30 proceedings of the Board.

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

This Bill seeks to provide for the establishment of Federal Entrepreneurship Centres at the all local government area levels of the federal republic of Nigeria. The bill also seek to address the problem of unemployment among the youths through the establishment of federal entrepreneurship centres which will add value to the lives of unemployed citizens and also reduce the number of unemployed youths in Nigeria.

