

A BILL

FOR

AN ACT TO REGULATE THE ACQUISITION, DISSEMINATION, PUBLICATION AND DISTRIBUTION OF GEOSPATIAL INFORMATION OF NIGERIA WHICH IS LIKELY TO AFFECT THE SECURITY, SOVEREIGNTY AND INTEGRITY OF NIGERIA AND FOR MATTERS CONNECTED THEREWITH, 2019

Sponsored by Sen. Shettima, Kashim

Co-Sponsors:

Sen. Ndume, Mohammed Ali	Sen. Isah, Jibrin
Sen. Dahiru, Aishatu Ahmed	Sen. Umar, Sadiq Suleiman
Sen. Sekibo, George Thompson	Sen. Abdullahi, Aliyu Sabi
Sen. Mustapha, Olalekan Ramoni	Sen. Moro, Patrick Abba
Sen. Amosun, Ibikunle Oyelaja	Sen. Gaidam, Ibrahim Alhaji
Sen. Tinubu, Oluremi Shade	Sen. Apiafi, Betty Jocelyn
Sen. Adetunmbi, Olubunmi Ayodeji	Sen. Shekarau, Ibrahim
Sen. Adeyeye, Clement Adedayo	Sen. Gaya, Kabiru Ibrahim
Sen. Goje, Mohammed Danjuma	Sen. La'ah, Danjuma Tella
Sen. Suswam, Gabriel Torwua	Sen. Kyari, Abubakar Shaib

[] Commencement

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

- 1 1.-(1) This Bill may be Cited as the Geospatial Information Short title
- 2 Regulation Bill, 2019.
- 3 (2) It shall extend to the whole of Nigeria and it applies also to-
- 4 (a) citizens of Nigeria outside Nigeria;
- 5 (b) persons in the service of the Government, wherever they may
- 6 be; and
- 7 (c) persons on ships and aircrafts, registered in Nigeria, wherever
- 8 they may be.

1 (3) Every person shall be liable to punishment under this Act for every
2 act or omission contrary to the provisions thereof, of which he is held guilty in
3 Nigeria.

4 (4) Any person, who commits an offence beyond Nigeria, which is
5 punishable under this Act, shall be dealt with according to the provisions of this
6 Act in the same manner as if such act had been committed in Nigeria.

7 (5) It shall come into force on such date as the Federal Government
8 may, by notification, appoint and different dates may be appointed for different
9 provisions of this Act and any reference in any such provision to the
10 commencement of this Act shall be construed as a reference to the
11 commencement of that provision.

Definitions

12 2.-(1) In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires-

13 (a) "Apex Committee" means a Committee constituted by the Federal
14 Government under sub-section (1) of section 7;

15 (b) "Appellate Authority" means an Authority constituted by the
16 Federal Government under sub-section (1) of section 23;

17 (d) "Enforcement Authority" means an Authority constituted by the
18 Federal Government under sub-section (1) of section 17;

19 (e) "Geospatial Information" means geospatial imagery or data
20 acquired through space or aerial platforms such as satellite, aircrafts, airships,
21 balloons, unmanned aerial vehicles including value addition; or graphical or
22 digital data depicting natural or man-made physical features, phenomenon or
23 boundaries of the earth or any information related thereto including surveys,
24 charts, maps, terrestrial photos referenced to a co-ordinate system and having
25 attributes;

26 (f) "Guidelines" means the guidelines framed under this Act and the
27 rules or regulations thereunder for licensing of geospatial information of
28 Nigeria;

29 (g) "Licence" means a licence granted to a person under the
30 provisions of this Act;

1 (h) "Licensee" means a person who obtains a licence under the
2 provisions of this Act;

3 (i) "National Policies" means the prevailing policies of the
4 Government such as Remote Sensing Data policy, Map Policy and such
5 other policies related to the objective of this Act;

6 (j) "Person" includes-

7 (i) an individual,

8 (ii) a company,

9 (iii) a firm,

10 (iv) a trust,

11 (v) an association of persons or a body of individuals, whether
12 incorporated or not,

13 (vi) every artificial juridical person, not falling within any of the
14 preceding sub-clauses, and

15 (vii) any agency, office or branch owned or controlled by any of
16 the above persons mentioned in the preceding sub-clauses;

17 (k) "Prescribed" means prescribed under the rules or regulations
18 framed under this Act;

19 (l) "Rules" means the rules framed under this Act;

20 (m) "Regulations" means the regulations framed under this Act and
21 the rules thereunder;

22 (n) "Security Vetting of Geospatial Information" means a process
23 followed by the Vetting Authority, which inter-alia includes:

24 (I) conducting sensitivity checks with respect to the technical & information
25 contents and the target area in consonance with the provisions of the
26 prevailing National Policies; and

27 (ii) screening of the credentials of the end-users and end-use applications,
28 with the sole objective of protecting national security, sovereignty, safety
29 and integrity;

30 (2) Any reference in this Act to any enactment or any provision

Acquisition of
Geospatial
Information of
Nigeria

1 thereof shall, in relation to an area in which such enactment or such provision is
2 not in force, be construed as a reference to the corresponding law or the
3 relevant provision of the corresponding law, if any, in force in that area.

4 REGULATION OF GEOSPATIAL INFORMATION OF NIGERIA

5 3.-(1) Save as otherwise provided in this Act, rules or regulations
6 made thereunder, or with the general or special permission of the State Security
7 Services, no person shall acquire geospatial imagery or data including value
8 addition of any part of Nigeria either through any space or aerial platforms such
9 as satellite, aircrafts, airships, balloons, unmanned aerial vehicles or terrestrial
10 vehicles, or any other means whatsoever.

11 (2) Every person who has already acquired any geospatial imagery or
12 data of any part of Nigeria either through space or aerial platforms such as
13 satellite, aircrafts, airships, balloons, unmanned aerial vehicles or terrestrial
14 vehicles or any other manner including value addition prior to coming of this
15 Act into effect, shall within one year from the commencement of this Act, make
16 an application along with requisite fees to the State Security Services for
17 retaining such geospatial information and grant of licence thereof.

18 (3) The State Security Services shall, within three months from the
19 date of receipt of an application made under sub-section (2), either grant a
20 licence with such conditions as may be specified thereon or reject the
21 application as the case may be after examining the application in terms of the
22 guidelines:

23 Provided that no application shall be rejected under this section unless
24 the applicant has been given a reasonable opportunity of presenting his case.

25 (4) No person shall continue possession of geospatial information of
26 Nigeria, after rejection of the application by the State Security Services under
27 sub-section (3) above or after dismissal of appeal, if any, by the Appellate
28 Authority or the High Court or the Supreme Court, as the case may be,
29 whichever is later.

1 4. Save as otherwise provided in this Act, rules or regulations
2 made thereunder, and with the general or special permission of the State
3 Security Services, no person shall disseminate or allow visualization of any
4 geospatial information of Nigeria either through internet platforms or online
5 services, or publish or distribute any geospatial information of Nigeria in
6 any electronic or physical form.

Dissemination,
Publication or
Distribution of
the Geospatial
Information of
Nigeria

7 5. Save as otherwise provided in any international convention,
8 treaty or agreement of which Nigeria is signatory or as provided in this Act,
9 rules or regulations made thereunder, or with the general or special
10 permission of the State Security Services, no person shall, in any manner,
11 make use of, disseminate, publish or distribute any geospatial information
12 of Nigeria, outside Nigeria, without prior permission from the State Security
13 Services.

Use of Geospatial
Information of
Nigeria outside
Nigeria

14 6. No person shall depict, disseminate, publish or distribute any
15 wrong or false topographic information of Nigeria including international
16 boundaries through internet platforms or online services or in any electronic
17 or physical form.

Wrong depiction
of map of Nigeria
etc.

18 CHAPTER III - APEX COMMITTEE

19 7.-(1) The Federal Government shall, by notification in Official
20 Gazette, constitute an Apex Committee under the Ministry of Interior to
21 oversee and administer the implementation of this Act in accordance with
22 the prevailing National Policies.

Apex Committee

23 (2) The Apex Committee shall do all such acts and deeds that may
24 be necessary or otherwise desirable to achieve the objectives of the Act,
25 including the following functions:

26 (a) To oversee and administer the implementation of this Act in
27 accordance with the prevailing National Policies.

28 (b) To make Regulations for implementation, surveillance and
29 monitoring and enforcement of the provisions of this Act and Rules framed
30 thereunder, as required from time to time.

1 (c) To prescribe such fees, levies or charges and guidelines for
2 licensing of geospatial information of Nigeria.

3 (3) The Apex Committee may, by general or special order in writing,
4 delegate to any constituent member of the Apex Committee or any other
5 subordinate committee or officer subject to such conditions, as may be
6 specified in the order, such of its powers and functions under this Act as it may
7 deem necessary, except the power to make regulations.

8 (4) In the discharge of its functions, the Apex Committee shall be
9 guided by such directions in matters of policy involving national security as
10 well as public interest as the Federal Government may give to it in writing.

11 CHAPTER IV - LICENSING AND SECURITY VETTING

State Security
Services

12 8.-(1) The State Security Services shall carryout a security vetting of
13 the Geospatial Information of Nigeria in a time bound manner and as per the
14 regulations framed by the Apex Committee.

15 (2) In the discharge of its functions, the State Security Services shall
16 be guided by such directions in matters of policy involving national security as
17 well as public interest as the Federal Government or the Apex Committee may
18 give to it in writing.

Licence to acquire,
disseminate,
publish or
distribute any
Geospatial
Information of
Nigeria

19 9.-(1) Any person who wants to acquire, disseminate, publish or
20 distribute any geospatial information of Nigeria, may make an application
21 along with requisite fees to the State Security Services for security vetting of
22 such geospatial information and licence thereof to acquire, disseminate,
23 publish or distribute such Geospatial Information in any electronic or physical
24 form.

25 (2) The State Security Services, on receipt of an application made
26 under subsection (1) above and after examining the application in terms of the
27 guidelines, shall either grant the licence or reject the application as the case
28 may be:

29 Provided that no application shall be rejected under this section unless
30 the applicant has been given a reasonable opportunity of presenting his case.

(3) A licence granted under sub-section (2) shall be subject to such terms and conditions as may be specified in the licence.

10.-(1) In case a licensee fails to comply with the terms and conditions subject to which the licence was granted or contravenes any provisions of this Act, rule, regulation or guidelines or order made thereunder, the Enforcement Authority may, after making such inquiry as may be thought fit, revoke the licence granted to such licensee:

Suspension or
revocation of
licence

Provided that no licence shall be revoked unless the licensee has been given a reasonable opportunity of showing cause against the proposed revocation.

(2) The Enforcement Authority, having reasonable cause to believe that there are grounds for revoking a licence under sub-section (1), may by order suspend such licence, pending the completion of any inquiry ordered by him:

Provided that no licence shall be suspended for a period exceeding ten days unless the licensee has been given a reasonable opportunity of showing cause against the proposed suspension.

11.-(1) Licensee shall be supplied with the security vetted Geospatial Information, by the State Security Services, within a period mutually agreed upon, based on the quantum and nature of the subject matter to be vetted, on best effort basis.

Obligation of
Licensee

(2) Licensee shall not acquire, publish, disseminate or distribute any geospatial information of Nigeria through any media or by any means, unless such geospatial information are security-vetted by the State Security Services.

(3) Licensee shall display the insignia of the clearance of the Security Vetting Authority on the security-vetted geospatial information by appropriate means such as water-marking or licence as relevant, while disseminating or distributing of such geospatial information.

(4) Licensee shall indemnify the State Security Services for any

1 consequential loss or damages whatsoever that might be caused to any person
2 or agency in Nigeria or abroad, due to the use or supply of security vetted
3 geospatial information.

4 CHAPTER V - OFFENCES AND PENALTIES

Penalty for
illegal acquisition
of geospatial
information of
Nigeria

5 12. Whoever acquires any geospatial information of Nigeria in
6 contravention of section 3 shall be punished with a fine ranging from one
7 hundred and Fifty Thousand Naira and/or imprisonment for a period up to
8 seven years.

Penalty for
illegal
dissemination,
publications or
distribution of
geospatial
information of
Nigeria

9 13. Whoever disseminates, publishes or distributes any geospatial
10 information of Nigeria in contravention of section 4, shall be punished with a
11 fine ranging from one hundred and Fifty Thousand Naira and/or imprisonment
12 for a period up to seven years.

Penalty for use
of geospatial
information of
Nigeria outside
Nigeria

13 14. Whoever uses any geospatial information of Nigeria in
14 contravention of section 5, shall be punished with a fine ranging from One
15 Hundred and Fifty thousand Naira and/or imprisonment for a period up to
16 seven years.

Penalty for
wrong depiction
of map of
Nigeria etc.

17 15. Whoever depicts, disseminates, publishes or distributes any
18 wrong or false topographic information of Nigeria including international
19 boundaries in contravention of section 6, shall be punished with a fine ranging
20 from one hundred and fifty thousand naira and/or imprisonment for a period up
21 to seven years.

Penalty for
violation of terms
and conditions
of a licence

22 16. If a licensee violates the terms and conditions mentioned thereof,
23 he shall be punished with a fine ranging from one hundred and fifty thousand
24 naira and/or suspension or revocation of the licence and imprisonment for a
25 period up to seven years.

26 CHAPTER VI - ENFORCEMENT MECHANISM

Enforcement
Authority

27 17.-(1) The Federal Government shall, by notification in Official
28 Gazette, constitute an Enforcement Authority for enforcement of the
29 provisions of this Act.

30 (2) The Enforcement Authority shall consist of an officer of the rank

1 of a Permanent Secretary to the Government of Nigeria or above as
2 Chairman and two members, one as technical expert and other as national
3 security expert.

4 (3) The Enforcement Authority shall do surveillance and
5 monitoring, as may be required to enforce the provisions of this Act and the
6 rules and regulations framed thereunder.

7 (4) The Enforcement Authority shall monitor compliance of the
8 terms and conditions of the licences granted under this Act.

9 (5) The Enforcement Authority may, by general or special order in
10 writing, delegate to any constituent member of the Enforcement Authority
11 or any other subordinate Committee or officer subject to such conditions, as
12 may be specified in the order, such of its powers and functions under this Act
13 as it may deem necessary, except the power to determine whether a case is to
14 be tried before a Court of Sessions or to determine the amount of financial
15 penalty to be imposed by it on the violators of the provisions of this Act.

16 (6) In the discharge of its functions, the Enforcement Authority
17 shall be guided by such directions in matters of policy involving national
18 security as well as public interest as the Federal Government or the Apex
19 Committee may give to it in writing.

20 18.-(1) The Enforcement Authority shall make inquiry about any
21 contravention of the provisions of this Act, rules or regulations made
22 thereunder or terms and conditions of a licence granted under this Act.

Power to inquire
contraventions

23 (2) The Enforcement Authority shall, if he has reasonable cause to
24 suspect that any contravention of the provisions of this Act, rules or
25 regulations made thereunder has been committed, shall have access to any
26 computer resource, any apparatus, data or any other material connected with
27 such system, for the purpose of searching or causing a search to be made for
28 obtaining any information or data contained in or available to such computer
29 system.

30 (3) For the purposes of sub-section (2), the Enforcement Authority,

1 by order, direct any person in charge of, or otherwise concerned with the
2 operation of, the computer system, data apparatus or material, to provide him
3 with such reasonable technical and other assistance as he may consider
4 necessary.

Power to
adjudicate

5 19.-(1) The Enforcement Authority shall prima-facie assess the
6 information gathered during surveillance and monitoring by it or received as a
7 complaint from anyone and determine whether, having regard to the gravity of
8 the offence and other relevant factors, it is a fit case which may attract the
9 imposition of penalty of imprisonment also as prescribed in the Act or rules or
10 regulations made thereunder. If so, the Enforcement Authority shall make a
11 complaint to Police to investigate and prosecute the person before a Court of
12 Sessions. If not, the Enforcement Authority shall adjudicate the case itself.

13 (2) In respect of cases to be adjudicated by the Enforcement
14 Authority, the Enforcement Authority after giving the defaulter a reasonable
15 opportunity for making representation in the matter and if, on such inquiry, is
16 satisfied that the person has committed the contravention, it may:

17 (a) confiscate all the computers resources and publications used for
18 violation of the provisions of this Act;

19 (b) impose such financial penalty as it thinks fit in accordance with
20 the provisions of this Act and rules and regulations framed thereunder; and

21 (c) suspend or revoke licence as the case may be.

22 (3) The Enforcement Authority shall have the powers of a civil court
23 for the purposes the Administration of Criminal Justice Act, 2015 and all
24 proceedings before it shall be deemed to be judicial proceedings within the
25 meaning of the Penal Code Act.

Power of
enforcement
authority to
give directions

26 20.-(1) The Enforcement Authority may, by order, direct a person to
27 take such measures or cease carrying on such activities as specified in the order
28 if those are necessary to ensure compliance with the provisions of this Act,
29 rules or any regulations made thereunder.

30 (2) Any person who fails to comply with any order under sub-section

1 (1) shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to
2 imprisonment for a term not exceeding three years or to a fine not exceeding
3 rupees one crore or to both.

4 21.-(1) Any contravention under this Act may, either before or after
5 the institution of Inquiry proceedings, be compounded by the Enforcement
6 Authority subject to such conditions as the Enforcement Authority may
7 specify: Provided that such sum shall not, in any case, exceed the maximum
8 amount of the penalty which may be imposed under this Act for the
9 contravention so compounded. Compounding
of contraventions

10 (2) Nothing in sub-section (1) shall apply to a person who commits
11 the same or similar contravention within a period of one year from the date
12 on which the first contravention, committed by him, was compounded.

13 (3) Where any contravention has been compounded under sub-
14 section (1), no proceeding or further proceeding, as the case may be, shall be
15 taken against the person guilty of such contravention in respect of the
16 contravention so compounded.

17 22. A penalty imposed under this Act, if fail in lieu of penalty, shall
18 be recovered as an arrear of land revenue and the licence shall be suspended
19 till the penalty is paid. Recovery of
penalty

20 CHAPTER VII - APPELLATE MECHANISM

21 23.-(1) The Federal Government shall, by notification in Official
22 Gazette, constitute an Appellate Authority to adjudicating the appeals
23 against the decisions of the State Security Services or the Enforcement
24 Authority. Appellate
Authority

25 (2) The authority shall consist of a retired Supreme Court/High
26 Court Judge as Chairmen and two members, one as technical expert and
27 other as national security expert. Or nominate any existing judicial
28 authority.

29 24.-(1) Save as provided in sub-section (2), any person aggrieved
30 by an order made by the State Security Services or by the Enforcement Appeal to
Appellate
Authority

1 Authority under this Act may prefer an appeal before the Appellate Authority.

2 (2) Every appeal under sub-section (1) shall be filed within a period of
3 forty five days from the date on which a copy of the order made by the State
4 Security Services or by the Enforcement Authority is received by the aggrieved
5 person and it shall be in such form and be accompanied by such fee as may be
6 prescribed:

7 Provided that the Appellate Authority may entertain an appeal after
8 the expiry of the said period of forty-five days if it is satisfied that there was
9 sufficient cause for notifying it within that period.

10 (3) On receipt of an appeal under sub-section (1), the Appellate
11 Authority may, after giving the parties to the appeal, an opportunity of being
12 heard, pass such orders thereon as it thinks fit, confirming, modifying or setting
13 aside the order appealed against.

14 (4) The appeal filed before the Appellate Authority under sub-section
15 (1) shall be dealt with by it as expeditiously as possible and endeavour shall be
16 made by it to dispose of the appeal finally within six months from the date of
17 receipt of the appeal.

Procedure and
powers of the
Appellate
Authority

18 25.-(1) The Appellate Authority shall have the powers to regulate its
19 own procedure including the place at which it shall have its sittings.

20 (2) The Appellate Authority shall have, for the purposes of
21 discharging its functions under this Act, the same powers as are vested in a civil
22 court under the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908, while trying a suit, in respect of
23 the following matters, namely-

24 (a) Summoning and enforcing the attendance of any person and
25 examining him on oath;

26 (b) requiring the discovery and production of documents or other
27 electronic records;

28 (c) receiving evidence on affidavits;

29 (d) issuing commissions for the examination of witnesses or
30 documents;

1 (e) reviewing its decisions;

2 (f) dismissing an application for default or deciding it ex parte;

3 (g) any other matter which may be prescribed.

4 26. No court shall have jurisdiction to entertain any suit or
5 proceeding in respect of any matter which an Appellate Authority
6 constituted under this Act is empowered by or under this Act to determine
7 and no injunction shall be granted by any court or other authority in respect
8 of any action taken or to be taken in pursuance of any power conferred by or
9 under this Act.

Court not to have
jurisdiction

10 27. Any person aggrieved by any decision or order of the Appellate
11 Authority may file an appeal to the High Court within sixty days from the
12 date of communication of the decision or order of the Appellate Authority to
13 him on any question of fact or law arising out of such order:

Appeal to High
Court

14 Provided that the High Court may, if it is satisfied that the appellant
15 was prevented by sufficient cause from filing the appeal within the said
16 period, allow it to be filed within a further period not exceeding sixty days.

17 28. Appeal filed, if any, before any of the Appellate bodies namely
18 the Appellate Authority, the High Court or the Supreme Court shall be dealt
19 with as expeditiously as possible and the endeavour shall be to dispose of the
20 appeal within six months from the date of receipt of the appeal at each stage,
21 viewing the security concerns of Nigeria.

Prompt disposal
of Appeals

22 CHAPTER VIII - MISCELLANEOUS

23 29. No court shall take cognizance of an offence under this Act
24 unless upon a complaint made by the order of the Enforcement Authority as
25 defined in the clause (d) of sub-section (1) of section 2.

Cognizance of
offences by Court

26 30.-(1) Where a person committing a contravention of any of the
27 provisions of this Act or of any rule, direction or order made thereunder is a
28 company, every person who, at the time the contravention was committed,
29 was in charge of, and was responsible to, the company for the conduct of
30 business of the company as well as the company, shall be guilty of the

Offences by
companies

1 contravention and shall be liable to be proceeded against and punished
2 accordingly:

3 Provided that nothing contained in this sub-section shall render any
4 such person liable to punishment if he proves that the contravention took place
5 without his knowledge or that he exercised all due diligence to prevent such
6 contravention.

7 (2) Notwithstanding anything contained in sub-section (1), where a
8 contravention of any of the provisions of this Act or of any rule, direction or
9 order made thereunder has been committed by a company and it is proved that
10 the contravention has taken place with the consent or connivance of, or is
11 attributable to any neglect on the part of, any director, manager, secretary or
12 other officer of the company, such director, manager, secretary or other officer
13 shall also be deemed to be guilty of the contravention and shall be liable to be
14 proceeded against and punished accordingly.

Power to make
rules

15 31.-(1) The Federal Government may, by notification, make rules to
16 carry out the provisions of the Act.

17 (2) In particular, but without prejudice to the generality of the
18 provision of subsection (1) above, such rules may provide for all or any of the
19 following matters, namely-

20 (a) the criteria and procedure for constitution of the Apex Committee,
21 State Security Services, Enforcement Authority and Appellate Authority;

22 (b) the manner and procedure in which the function is to be discharged
23 by the members, officers and other employees of the Apex Committee, State
24 Security Services, Enforcement Authority and Appellate Authority;

25 (d) the term of office, salary, allowances and other terms and
26 conditions of service of the Chairman and the Members of the Appellate
27 Authority.

Rules and
regulations to
be laid before
Parliament

28 32.-(1) Every rule made by the Federal Government and every
29 regulation made by the Apex Committee under this Act shall be laid, as soon as,
30 may be after it is made, before each house of the National Assembly, while it is

1 in session, for a total period of thirty days which may be comprised in one
2 session or in two or more successive sessions, and if, before the expiry of the
3 session immediately following the session or the successive sessions
4 aforesaid, both houses agree in making any modification in the rule or the
5 regulation or both houses agree that the rule should not be made, the rule
6 shall thereafter have effect only in such modified form or be of no effect, as
7 the case may be; so however, that any such modification or annulment shall
8 be without prejudice to the validity of anything previously done under that
9 rule/regulation.

10 (2) Nothing in this Act shall affect the activities of the Federal
11 Government in the discharge of its functions relating to the security or the
12 defence of Nigeria.

13 (3) No suit, prosecution or other legal proceeding shall lie against
14 the Federal Government or Apex Committee or State Security Services or
15 Enforcement Authority, on whom powers have been conferred pursuant to
16 this Act, for anything which is done or purported to be done in good faith in
17 pursuance of this Act or for any rule or regulation made under this Act.

18 33. The provisions of this Act shall have effect notwithstanding
19 anything inconsistent therewith contained in any other law for the time
20 being in force.

Act to have
overriding effect

21 34. No suit, prosecution or other legal proceeding shall lie against
22 the Federal Government, the Apex Committee, the State Security Services,
23 the Enforcement Authority or the Appellate Authority or any person acting
24 on behalf of them, for anything which is in good faith done or intended to be
25 done in pursuance of this Act or any rule, regulation or order made
26 thereunder.

Protection of
action taken in
good faith

27 35.-(1) If any difficulty arises in giving effect to the provisions of
28 this Act, the Federal Government may, by order published in the Official
29 Gazette, make such provisions not inconsistent with the provisions of this
30 Act as appear to it to be necessary or expedient for removing the difficulty:

Removal of
difficulties

1 Provided that no order shall be made under this section after the expiry of a
2 period of two years from the commencement of this Act.

3 (2) Every order made under this section shall be laid, as soon as may
4 be after it is made, before each House of the National Assembly.

Act not to apply
to Nigerian
Governmental
Bodies

5 36. The Federal Government may, by notification in Official Gazette,
6 exempt the Ministries, Departments, Public Sector Enterprises or any other
7 attached or subordinate offices of the Federal Government or State
8 Governments from the provisions of this Act to the extent it deems fit.

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

This Bill seeks to regulate the acquisition, dissemination, publication and distribution of geospatial information of Nigeria which is likely to affect the security, sovereignty and integrity of Nigeria.