

A BILL

FOR

AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE NIGERIAN PEACE CORPS TO DEVELOP, EMPOWER AND PROVIDE GAINFUL EMPLOYMENT FOR THE YOUTH, FACILITATE PEACE, VOLUNTEERISM, COMMUNITY SERVICES, NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH, NATION-BUILDING; AND FOR RELATED MATTERS

Sponsored by Senator Ali Ndume

[] Commencement

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

1 PART I - ESTABLISHMENT, OBJECTIVES AND FUNCTIONS OF THE
2 NIGERIAN PEACE CORPS

3 1.-(1) There is established the Nigerian Peace Corps (in this Act
4 referred to as “the Peace Corps”) and:

Establishment ,
Functions and
Objectives of the
Nigerian Peace
Corps

5 (a) shall be a corporate body with perpetual succession and a
6 common seal; and

7 (b) may sue and be sued in its corporate name.

8 (2) The Headquarters of the Nigerian Peace Corps shall be located
9 in the Federal Capital Territory (FCT), and the Peace Corps shall have
10 offices in all the States, Local Government Areas and educational
11 institutions.

12 (3) Without prejudice to the generality of the provisions relating to
13 the general duties of the Peace Corps set out in this Act, the objectives of the
14 Peace Corps shall be to:

15 (a) train, educate and re-orientate the youth of this nation, on:

16 (i) their future leadership roles in the society,

17 (ii) the art of nation-building,

18 (iii) the need to become good citizens of the country with due

Functions of
the Peace Corps

1 respect for constituted authorities, and
2 (iv) democratic norms and the rule of law; and
3 (b) re-direct the productive energies of the youth towards the socio-
4 economic and political advancement of the nation.

5 2.-(1) The core mandate of the Peace Corps is to Develop; Empower
6 and provide Gainful Employment for the Youths; to facilitate Peace;
7 Volunteerism, Community Services; Neighbourhood Watch and Nation-
8 building.

9 (2) The functions of the Peace Corps shall include to:

10 (a) enlist, mobilise, train and orientate the youths in order to develop
11 them as supporting agents of social order by providing a second line of public
12 safety;

13 (b) serve as a think tank and engage in educating residents of every
14 community on security and safety measures peculiar to their neighbourhood;

15 (c) uphold a bottom-up surveillance through monitoring, observation,
16 evaluate and to detect, collate and analyse intelligence data on matters that may
17 likely cause breach of peace and security within the neighbourhood and
18 transmit same to the appropriate Security Agency for pre-emptive
19 measures/actions;

20 (d) engage in Peace Advocacy, Mediation and Conflict Resolution in
21 order to advance the course of Peace-building, Reconciliation and Conflict
22 Transformation in all communities in Nigeria;

23 (e) secure Educational Institutions from intruders and to combat all
24 forms of social decadence/vices, including cultism and examination
25 malpractices with a view to creating peaceful and conducive atmosphere for
26 learning;

27 (f) serve as a Reservoir and Spring-board of man-power for
28 volunteerism and involvement in Social and Community Services such as
29 Crowd Control, Tour Guard/Guide, Emergency Relief Services, Rehabilitation
30 of Internally Displaced Persons, Voters' Registration, Election Duties, Census,

1 Immunization, Sanitation and First Aid;
 2 (g) set up a Centre saddled with the responsibility of training and
 3 building the capacity of the youths in the areas of Critical Thinking,
 4 Creativity, Innovation, Entrepreneurial and Skill Acquisition and;
 5 (h) carry out other functions as may be prescribed by an Act of the
 6 National Assembly or any Bye-law

7 PART II - GOVERNING BOARD, COMPOSITION AND POWERS

8 **3.** There is established for the management of the Peace Corps a
 9 Governing Board (in this Act referred to as "the Board").

Governing Board
of the Peace Corps

10 **4.** The Board shall consist of:

Composition of
the Board

11 (a) a Chairman to be appointed by the President;
 12 (b) a nominee each appointed by the President from the six (6)
 13 Geo-Political Zones of the Country;

14 (c) a representatives of the Ministry charged with the responsibility
 15 for matters relating to Youth Development;

16 (d) the National Commandant, who shall serve as the Secretary;
 17 and

18 (e) other members appointed by the President from the following
 19 Ministries or Bodies-

- 20 (i) Ministry of Youth Development,
- 21 (ii) Ministry of Interior,
- 22 (iii) Ministry of Justice;
- 23 (iv) Ministry of Finance,
- 24 (v) Ministry of Finance;
- 25 (vi) Institute for Peace and Conflict Resolution;
- 26 (vii) National Orientation Agency,

27 **5.-(1)** The Chairman shall be a person who has cognate experience
 28 and proven capacity to discharge his responsibilities to facilitate the
 29 accomplishment of the objectives of the Peace Corps.

Qualifications
of the Chairman
and other members
of the Peace Corps

30 (2) The members referred to in section 4 of this Act shall:

	1	(a) not be below the rank of Director or its equivalent in the Force; and
	2	(b) be persons who have cognate experience and proven capacity to
	3	discharge their duties.
Appointment of the Chairman and Members of the Board	4	6. -(1) The President shall appoint the Chairman and Members of the
	5	Board on the recommendation of the Minister.
	6	(2) Without prejudice to the provisions of this Act, the Minister shall
	7	perform the functions of the Board where the Board has:
	8	(a) not been constituted; and
	9	(b) been dissolved.
Schedule	10	(3) The provisions of the Schedule to this Act shall have effect with
	11	respect to the proceedings of the Board and other matters contained in the
	12	Schedule.
Tenure of office	13	7. The Chairman and other members of the Board, other than ex-
	14	officio members:
	15	(a) shall hold office for a term of 4 years on such terms and conditions
	16	as may be specified in their letters of appointments; and
	17	(b) may be re-appointed for another term of 4 years and no more.
Removal from office	18	8. -(1) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 7 of this Act, a
	19	member may at any time be removed from office by the President if he:
	20	(a) is unable to discharge the functions of his office whether arising
	21	from infirmity of the body or mind;
	22	(b) is convicted by a court of law of a felony, fraud or any serious act
	23	of misconduct; and
	24	(c) without permission of the Board, is absent for more than 3
	25	consecutive meetings of the Board or without such permission is absent from
	26	the country for a period exceeding 1 year.
	27	(2) The Chairman or a member may resign by a notice addressed
	28	through the Secretary to the Government of the Federation to the President and
	29	such notice of resignation becomes effective from the date of acceptance of the
	30	resignation by the President.

1 **9.** A member shall be paid such allowances as may be determined Allowances
2 by the National Salaries, Income and Wages Commission.

3 **10.** The Board shall be responsible for: Powers of the
4 (a) providing the general policies and guidelines relating to major Board

5 expansion programmes of the Peace Corps;

6 (b) the supervision of management and general administration of
7 the Peace Corps;

8 (c) recruiting regular members of the Peace Corps;

9 (d) organising basic development and refresher courses for
10 members of the Peace Corps;

11 (e) fixing, with the approval of the Minister, the terms and
12 conditions of service of members and employees of the Peace Corps,
13 including their remuneration; and

14 (f) doing such other things, which, in the opinion of the Board, are
15 necessary to ensure the efficient performance of the functions of the Peace
16 Corps.

17 PART III - STAFF AND MEMBERSHIP OF THE PEACE CORPS

18 **11.**-(1) There shall be for the Peace Corps a National Commandant National
19 who shall be appointed by the President and Commander-in-Chief on the Commandant
20 recommendation of the Minister- of the Peace Corps

21 (a) Notwithstanding any provision in this Act, the position of the
22 National Commandant shall be appointed from among the very Senior
23 Officers cadre of the Peace Corp; and

24 (b) The appointee must have occupied an office in Peace Corps not
25 below the position of Assistant National Commandant and would have
26 served in the Peace Corps meritoriously for not less than Ten (10) years.

27 (2) The National Commandant shall hold office:

28 (a) in the first instance for a term of 5 years and may be eligible for
29 reappointment for another term of 5 years and no more; and

1 (b) on such terms and conditions as may be specified in his letter of
2 appointment.

3 (3) The National Commandant shall be the Chief Executive and
4 Accounting Officer of the Peace Corps.

5 (4) The National Commandant shall, in the performance of his
6 functions, be directly responsible to the President but shall regularly consult
7 with the Minister and the Board.

8 (5) The National Commandant shall be responsible for the execution
9 of the policies of the Peace Corps and its day-to-day administration.

10 (6) Subject to the provisions of this Act, the National Commandant
11 shall hold office on such terms and emolument as may be specified in his letter
12 of appointment, and as may be approved by the President.

Deputy National
Commandants,
National Corps
Secretary, Assistant
National
Commandants
and other
employees of
the Peace Corps

13 **12.**-(1) The National Commandant shall recommend for appointment
14 by the Board such number of Deputy National Commandants, National Corps
15 Secretary, Assistant National Commandants, Commandants and such officers
16 from Level 8 and above as it may deem necessary for the purposes of the
17 effective administration of the Peace Corps.

18 (2) The terms and conditions of service (including remuneration,
19 allowances, benefits and pensions) of regular members and employees of the
20 Peace Corps shall be determined by the Board using the same criteria as may be
21 applied to other similar Agencies with the approval of the Minister.

22 (3) The Volunteers of the Peace Corps shall, for any period they are on
23 duty for the Peace Corps, be paid such allowances and other benefits as may be
24 approved by the National Commandant in consultation with the Minister.

25 (4) The National Commandant, after due consultation with the
26 Minister, shall appoint for the Peace Corps such number of officers, other ranks
27 and employees below Level 8 as it may deem necessary for the purposes of
28 effective administration of the Peace Corps.

Membership
of the Peace
Corps

29 **13.**-(1) The Personnel of the Peace Corps shall consist of:

30 (a) regular members and volunteers; and

1 (b) officers and other ranks.

2 (2) Members of the Peace Corps shall be Nigerians within the age
3 of 18-35 years at the time of enlistment.

4 (3) Regular members and other staff shall be recruited by the Board
5 periodically to meet the personnel requirements of the Peace Corps, while
6 the recruitment of the volunteers shall be handled by the National
7 Commandant as the need arises.

8 **14.**-(1) The service in the Peace Corps shall be approved service for
9 the purposes of the Pension Reform Act and, regular members and
10 employees of the Peace Corps are entitled to pensions, gratuities and other
11 retirement benefits as prescribed under the Pension Reform Act.

Pensions
Act No. 4, 2014

12 (2) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (1) of this
13 section, nothing in this Act prevents the appointment of a person to any
14 office on such terms which preclude the grant of pension, gratuity or other
15 retirement benefits in respect of that office.

16 (3) For the purposes of the application of the provisions of the
17 Pension Reform Act, any power exercisable by the Minister or other
18 authority of the Federal Government, other than the power to make
19 regulations under section 40 of the Act is vested in, and shall be exercisable
20 by, the Peace Corps and not by any other person or authority.

21 (4) For the purpose of the application of the provisions of the
22 Pension Reform Act any power exercisable by the Secretary to the
23 Government of the Federation or other authority of the Government of the
24 Federation, other than the power to make regulations under section 40 of this
25 Act is vested in, and shall be exercisable by the Peace Corps and not by any
26 other persons or authority.

27 PART IV - APPOINTMENT, PROMOTION, OFFENCES AND

28 DISCIPLINE OF STAFF

29 **15.**-(1) The Senior Staff of the rank of Commandant and above
30 shall be appointed by the President upon nomination by the National

Appointment of
staff of the Peace
Corps

1 Commandant and on the recommendation of the Board.

2 (2) The appointment of State Commandants shall be by the Board on
3 the recommendation of the National Commandant.

4 (3) The post of the Deputy National Commandant shall be a terminal
5 post on which the holder shall retire from Peace Corps as may be determined by
6 the President.

7 (4) The National Commandant shall, in consultation with the Board,
8 establish such number of offices or units in the Headquarters and recruit
9 officers to discharge responsibilities.

10 (5) If for any reason, the National Commandant is unable to perform
11 his functions and there exists a vacancy in the office of the National
12 Commandant, the officer who is next in rank to the National Commandant is to
13 act for the period of his inability or vacancy, until a National Commandant is
14 appointed in accordance with the provisions of this Act, and the officer shall,
15 while so acting, have all the powers to perform the functions of the National
16 Commandant.

Condition of
service of other
staff of the Peace
Corps

17 **16.**-(1) The appointment of other staff of the Peace Corps shall be
18 governed by the general terms and conditions of service as the Board may, after
19 consultation with the Federal Civil Service Commission or related
20 organisations, determine.

21 (2) The Board may, subject to the provisions of this Act, make staff
22 regulations relating generally to the conditions of service of the staff of the
23 Peace Corps, and the regulations may provide for:

24 (a) the appointment, promotion, termination, dismissal and
25 disciplinary control of the staff of the Peace Corps; and

26 (b) appeal by such staff against wrongful dismissal or other
27 disciplinary measures, and until such regulations are made, any instrument
28 relating to the conditions of service of officers in the civil service of the
29 Federation or related organisations shall be applicable, with such
30 modifications as may be necessary to the staff of the Peace Corps.

1 (3) The staff of Peace Corps shall be Public Officers as defined in
2 the Constitution of the Federal Republic of the Nigeria.

3 (4) Staff regulations made under subsection (2) of this section shall
4 not have effect until they have been approved by the Board and, when so
5 approved, the Board shall cause them to be brought to the notice of all
6 affected persons.

7 **17.**-(1) The power of appointment, promotion and discipline of the
8 junior staff of the Peace Corps is vested in the National Commandant.

Discipline of
staff of the Peace
Corps

9 (2) The National Commandant may delegate his powers in respect
10 of discipline of junior staff to Deputy or Assistant National Commandant in
11 the Headquarters and State Command who shall discipline such staff in their
12 Departments and Commands respectively in accordance with existing
13 Peace Corps regulations.

14 (3) Appeal against all decisions concerning the discipline of such
15 staff shall be to the Senior Staff Disciplinary Committee.

16 (4) There is established the Senior Staff Disciplinary Committee
17 vested with the power to discipline the senior staff of the Peace Corps.

18 (5) The Senior Staff Disciplinary Committee shall consist of:

19 (a) a Deputy National Commandant and Assistant National
20 Commandant with the Deputy National Commandant serving as Chairman,
21 while in the absence of a Deputy National Commandant, the most Senior
22 Assistant National Commandant shall serve as Chairman;

23 (b) the Provost Marshal;

24 (c) the Head of Legal Matters; and

25 (d) National Corps Secretary.

26 (6) There is established the Junior Staff Disciplinary Committee
27 vested with the power to discipline the junior staff of the Peace Corps.

28 (7) In addition to functions specified in subsection (3) of this
29 section, the Senior Staff Disciplinary Committee shall consider and
30 determine appeals emanating from decisions of the Junior Staff Disciplinary

1 Committee of the Peace Corps and decisions on such appeals shall be final.

2 (8) Appeal against the decisions of the Senior Staff Disciplinary
3 Committee shall lie with the Board.

4 (9) The National Commandant shall, in relation to the staff of the
5 Peace Corps, ensure:

6 (a) probity and accountability;

7 (b) maintenance of a system of screening and vetting at the
8 recruitment stages which shall be a continuous exercise throughout the career
9 of personnel in the Peace Corps; and

10 (c) maintenance of a policy of continuous staff assessment.

11 (10) The National Commandant shall promulgate and distribute a
12 code of conduct to staff of the Peace Corps the breach of which shall attract the
13 appropriate penalty stipulated in the code.

14 (11) For the purpose of proper legal guidance and accountability, the
15 heads of the legal and audit unit shall report directly to the National
16 Commandant.

17 PART V - ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURES AND ZONAL COMMANDS

18 OF THE PEACE CORPS

Administrative
structures of the
Peace Corps

19 **18.**-(1) The Peace Corps Headquarters shall be in the Federal Capital
20 Territory, Abuja and headed by the National Commandant.

21 (2) There shall be established in the National Headquarters of the
22 Peace Corps the Departments of:

23 (a) Administration;

24 (b) Finance and Accounts;

25 (c) Peace Building and Conflict Resolution;

26 (d) Intelligence and General Duties;

27 (e) Training and Operations;

28 (f) Planning Research and Statistics; and

29 (g) Logistics and Supply.

30 (3) The Department shall be headed by an officer not below the rank

1 of a Deputy National Commandant.

2 (4) Each of these Departments shall be established at the various
3 Command structures of the Peace Corps as provided in subsection (2) and
4 shall be headed by an officer not below the rank of Assistant Commandant.

5 **19.**-(1) The Board shall:

6 (a) create such number of Zones as it deems fit for the effective
7 operations of the Peace Corps; and

Zones and Zonal
Commands of
the Peace Corps

8 (b) establish, in each zone, a Zonal Command, which shall be
9 headed by an officer not below the rank of Assistant National Commandant.

10 (2) The Zonal Command shall, subject to the direction and overall
11 command of the Peace Corps, be responsible for coordinating the activities
12 of the Peace Corps in the zone.

13 **20.**-(1) The Peace Corps shall have a State Command in each State
14 of the Federation and the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja.

State Command

15 (2) The State Command shall, subject to the directive and overall
16 command of the Peace Corps Headquarters and Zonal Command, be
17 responsible for carrying out the functions of the Peace Corps in the State and
18 the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja.

19 **21.**-(1) The Peace Corps shall have a Command in each Local
20 Government Area of the Federation and Area Council of the Federal Capital
21 Territory, Abuja.

Local Government
Command

22 (2) The Local Government and Area Council Commands shall,
23 subject to the directive and overall command of the Peace Corps and State
24 Command, be responsible for carrying out the functions of the Peace Corps
25 in each of the Local Government Areas or Area Councils of the Federal
26 Capital Territory, Abuja.

27 **22.**-(1) The Peace Corps shall establish a Squadron Command in
28 each educational institution in the Federation, which shall be headed by a
29 Squadron Commander.

Squadron
Command

30 (2) The Squadron Command shall, subject to the direction and

1 overall Command of the Peace Corps, State Command, be responsible for
2 carrying out the functions of the Peace Corps in the educational institutions.

3 PART VI - FINANCIAL PROVISIONS

Funds of the
Peace Corps

4 **23.** The Peace Corps shall establish and maintain a fund into which
5 shall be paid:

6 (a) all subventions and budgetary allocations from the Federal
7 Government;

8 (b) all sums accruing to the Peace Corps from donations made by
9 local or international donor agencies;

10 (c) statutory allocations from the Federal Government;

11 (d) gifts from the three tiers of government, ministries or agencies and
12 private corporations;

13 (e) loans, grants and aid; and

14 (f) bequests.

Expenditure
of the Peace
Corps

15 **24.** The Peace Corps may apply the proceeds of the Fund established
16 under section 23 of this Act:

17 (a) to the cost of administration of the Peace Corps; and

18 (b) to the payment of salaries, fees or other remuneration or
19 allowances, gratuities payable to the officers and other employees of the Peace
20 Corps, and no payment of any kind under this paragraph (except such as may be
21 expressly authorised), shall be made to any person who is in receipt of
22 emoluments from the Government;

23 (c) for the maintenance of any property vested in the Peace Corps; and

24 (d) for and in connection with all or any of its functions under this Act.

Annual estimates,
accounts and
audit

25 **25.**-(1) The Peace Corps shall, not later than 30th September in each
26 year, submit to the Minister an estimate of its expenditure and income
27 (including payments to the Peace Corps Fund) during the next succeeding year,
28 after approval by the Board.

29 (2) The Peace Corps shall keep proper records in relation to those
30 accounts and shall cause its accounts to be audited within six months after the

1 end of each year by auditors appointed from the list, and in accordance with
2 the guidelines, supplied by the Auditor-General for the Federation.

3 **26.** The Peace Corps shall prepare and submit to the Federal Annual report
4 Executive Council, through the Minister after approval by the Governing
5 Board, not later than six months after the end of each year, a report in such
6 form as the Minister may direct on the activities of the Peace Corps during
7 the immediate preceding year, and shall include in such report a copy of the
8 audited accounts of the Peace Corps for that year and the auditor's report on
9 the accounts.

10 **27.**-(1) The Peace Corps may accept gifts of land, money or other Powers to accept
11 property on such terms and conditions, if any, as may be specified by the donations
12 person or organisation making the donations.

13 (2) The Peace Corps shall not accept any gift if the conditions
14 attached by the person or organisation offering the gift are inconsistent with
15 the functions or objectives of the Peace Corps.

16 **28.**-(1) The Peace Corps may borrow, by overdraft or otherwise, Power to borrow
17 such sums as it may require for the performance of its functions under this
18 Act.

19 (2) The Peace Corps shall not, without the approval of the Board,
20 borrow money which exceeds, at any time, the amount set by the Board.

21 **29.** The Peace Corps may, subject to the provisions of this Act and Investment
22 the conditions of any trust created in respect of any property, invest all or any Cap. T22 LFN,
23 of its funds in any security prescribed by the Trustee Investments Act, in 2004
24 such other securities as may be approved by the Minister.

25 **30.** The Board shall provide and maintain a library at the Provision of
26 Headquarters and State Commands of the Peace Corps comprising such library facilities
27 books and publications as may be provided for the advancement of the
28 knowledge and skills of members of the Peace Corps, for research purposes,
29 and for other purposes connected with the objects and functions of the Peace
30 Corps.

Exemption
from tax

1 **31.**-(1) The Peace Corps is exempted from payment of any income tax
2 on any income accruing from investments made by the Board for the Peace
3 Corps.

4 (2) The provisions of any enactment relating to the taxation of
5 company or trust funds does not apply to the Peace Corps or the Board.

6 PART VII - LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

Limitation of
suits against
the Peace Corps

7 **32.**-(1) Subject to the provisions of this Act, the provisions of the
8 Public Officers Protection Act shall apply in relation to any suit instituted
9 against any officer or employee of the Peace Corps

Cap, P41 LFN,
2004

10 (2) Notwithstanding anything contained in any other enactment, no
11 suit against any member of the Board or the National Commandant or any other
12 officer or employee of the Peace Corps, for any act done in pursuance or
13 execution or in respect of any alleged enactment or law, or of any public duty or
14 authority or in respect of any alleged neglect or default in the execution of this
15 Act or any other enactment or law, duty or authority, shall lie or be instituted in
16 any court unless it is commenced:

17 (a) within three months after the act, neglect or default complained of;

18 (b) in the case of a continuation of damage or injury, within six
19 months after the ceasing of the damage or injury.

20 (3) No suit shall be commenced against a member of the Board or the
21 National Commandant or any other officer or employee of the Peace Corps
22 before the expiration of one month after a written notice of intention to
23 commence the suit shall have been served on Peace Corps by the intending
24 plaintiff or his agent.

25 (4) The notice referred to in subsection (3) shall clearly state:

26 (a) the cause of action;

27 (b) the particulars of claim;

28 (c) the name and place of abode of the intending plaintiff; and

29 (d) the relief, which the plaintiff claims.

Service of
documents

30 **33.** A notice, summons or other document required or authorised to

1 be served on the Peace Corps under the provisions of this Act or any other
2 enactment or law may be served by delivering it to the National
3 Commandant or by sending it by registered post and addressed to the
4 National Commandant at the Headquarters of the Peace Corps

5 **34.**-(1) In any action or suit against the Peace Corps, no execution
6 or attachment of process in that nature shall be issued against the Peace
7 Corps unless a notice of at least three months, of the intention to execute or
8 attach has been given to the Peace Corps.

Restriction on
execution against
property of the
Peace Corps

9 (2) Any sum of money, which may, by the judgment of any court,
10 be awarded against the Peace Corps shall, subject to any direction given by
11 the court where the notice of, appeal against the judgment has been given, be
12 paid from the Fund of the Peace Corps.

13 **35.** A member of the Board or the National Commandant or any
14 officer or employee of the Peace Corps shall be indemnified out of the assets
15 of the Peace Corps against any liability incurred by him in defending any
16 proceeding, whether civil or criminal, if the proceeding is brought against
17 him in his capacity as a member, National Commandant, officer or other
18 employee of the Peace Corps.

Indemnity of
officers

19 **36.**-(1) A member of the Board, the National Commandant or any
20 other officer or the employee of the Peace Corps shall:

Secrecy

21 (a) not, for his personal gain, make use of any information, which
22 has come to his knowledge in the exercise of his powers or is obtained by
23 him in the ordinary course of his duty as a member of the Board, the National
24 Commandant or officer or employee of the Peace Corps;

25 (b) treat as confidential any information which has come to his
26 knowledge in the exercise of his powers or is obtained by him in the
27 discharge of his duties under this Act; and

28 (c) not disclose any information referred to under paragraph (b) of
29 this subsection except when required to do so by any court or in such other
30 circumstances as may be prescribed by the Board.

1 (2) A person who contravenes the provisions of section 36 (1) (a)
2 commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine of at least N100,000 or
3 imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years.

Power to obtain
information

4 **37.**-(1) For the purpose of performing the functions conferred on the
5 Peace Corps under this Act, the National Commandant or any other officer or
6 employee of the Peace Corps authorised in that behalf:

7 (a) shall have a right of access to all the records of any person or
8 authority affected by this Act for the specific purpose of discharging his duties
9 under this Act; and

10 (b) may, by notice in writing served on any person or premises require
11 that person or authority to furnish information on such matters as may be
12 specified by the notice.

13 (2) The person or authority served with the notice under section 33
14 shall furnish information as required under section 37 (1) (a) and comply with
15 the notice within a reasonable time.

16 **PART VIII - DISSOLUTION OF THE EXISTING PEACE CORPS OF**
17 **NIGERIA AND SAVINGS**

Dissolution of
the existing Peace
Corps of Nigeria

18 **38.**-(1) The Peace Corps of Nigeria (in this section referred to as the
19 "Peace Corps") existing before the commencement of this Act is dissolved.

20 (2) There shall be vested in the Peace Corps, immediately at the
21 commencement of this Act, all assets, funds, resources and other movable or
22 immovable property which immediately before the commencement of this Act,
23 were vested in the dissolved Peace Corps.

24 (3) As from the commencement of this Act:

25 (a) all rights, interest, obligations and liabilities of the dissolved Peace
26 Corps existing immediately before the commencement of this Act under any
27 contract or instrument, at law or in equity, shall by virtue of this Act, be
28 assigned to and vested in the Peace Corps;

29 (b) any contract or instrument as mentioned in paragraph (c) of this
30 subsection shall have the same force and effect against or in favour of the Peace

1 Corps and shall be enforceable as fully and effectively as if, the Peace Corps
2 had been a party to the contract; and

3 (c) the Peace Corps shall be subject to all obligations and liabilities
4 to which the dissolved Peace Corps was subject to immediately before the
5 commencement of this Act, and all other persons shall, as from the
6 commencement of this Act, have the same rights, powers and remedies
7 against the Peace Corps as they had against the dissolved Peace Corps
8 immediately before the commencement of this Act.

9 (4) Any action pending or existing immediately before the
10 commencement of this Act by or against the dissolved Peace Corps in
11 respect of any right, interest, obligation or liability of the dissolved Peace
12 Corps, an action may be commenced, continued or enforced by or against
13 the Peace Corps.

14 (5) Notwithstanding the provision of this Act, but subject to such
15 directions as may be issued by Peace Corps, a person who, immediately
16 before the commencement of this Act, was either regular member volunteer
17 or a volunteer of or held office in the dissolved Peace Corps shall be deemed
18 to have been transferred to the Peace Corps on such terms and conditions not
19 less favourable than those obtained immediately before commencement of
20 this Act.

21 (6) The service in the dissolved Peace Corps shall be deemed to be
22 service in the Peace Corps for purpose of pension.

23 (7) Notwithstanding the provision of this Act or any other existing
24 law in force, apart from all officers regular and volunteer members of the
25 dissolved Peace Corps, any individual, Group, Association or body that may
26 be absorbed as a member of the Peace Corps either by transfer, enlistment or
27 by whatsoever legal means shall not, as at the time of commencement of this
28 Act be less than 18 years of age and not above the age of 45 years.

29 (8) Individuals, Groups, Associations or bodies that have shown or
30 demonstrated interest to be absorbed as members of the Nigeria Peace Corps

1 shall be absorbed subject to the mandatory initial training four weeks and
2 orientation programme of the Peace Corps as prescribed from time to time
3 upon the commencement of this Act.

4 (9) Notwithstanding the provision of subsection (8) the Basic training
5 and orientation programme of the Peace Corps may be subject to periodic
6 review after the commencement of this Act as the Board may deem fit.

7 (10) Notwithstanding any provision in this Act, an individual who has
8 served in any capacity in the public service at any level (Federal, State, Local
9 Government or Area Councils) and is entitled to gratuity and pension benefit is
10 not eligible for consideration as a staff of the Peace Corps.

11 PART IX - MISCELLANEOUS

Directives by
the Minister

12 **39.**-(1) The Minister may give to the Peace Corps, the Board or
13 National Commandant such directives:

14 (a) of a general nature or relating generally to matters of policy with
15 regards to the exercise of its functions; and

16 (b) with respect to the maintenance and securing of public safety and
17 order, as he may consider necessary and the Peace Corps, the Board or the
18 National Commandant shall comply with the directives or cause them to be
19 complied with.

20 (2) Subject to the provisions of subsection (1) of this section, a
21 Governor of a State may give to a State Commandant such directives with
22 respect to the maintenance and securing of public safety and order in the State
23 as he may consider necessary and the State Commandant shall comply with the
24 directives or cause them to be complied with.

Regulations

25 **40.** The Peace Corps or the Board may, with the approval of the
26 Minister, make such regulations as in its opinion are necessary or expedient for
27 giving full effects to the provisions of this Act and the regulations shall be laid
28 before the National Assembly and published in the Federal Government
29 Gazette.

1 **41. In this Act:** Interpretation
2 " Board" means the Governing Board of the Nigerian Peace Corps
3 established under section 3 of this Act;
4 "Minister" means the Minister charged with responsibility for matters
5 relating to Youth Development;
6 "Peace Corps" means the Nigerian Peace Corps established under section 1
7 of this Act;
8 "Peace Corps Volunteers" means accreted youth within the age range of 18-
9 29 years not on full remuneration but are on monthly stipend to be
10 determined by the Governing Board and are to serve as reservoirs for the
11 Corps and other security agencies;
12 "President" means the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria;
13 "regular staff officers" means main core staff of the Peace Corps on full
14 remuneration; and

15 42. This Bill may be cited as the Nigerian Peace Corps Citation
16 (Establishment) Bill, 2019.

SCHEDULE

Section 6 (3)

SUPPLEMENTARY PROVISIONS RELATING TO THE BOARD

Proceedings

21 1.-(1) The Board shall, for the purpose of this Act meet at least four
22 times in each year.

23 (2) The Board shall meet whenever it is summoned by the
24 Chairman, and if the Chairman is required to do so by a notice given to him
25 by at least five other members, he shall summon a meeting of the Board to be
26 held within 14 days from the date on which the notice is given.

27 (3) Where the Board desires to obtain the advice of any person on a
28 particular matter, the Board may co-opt the person to the Board for such
29 period as it deems fit but a person who is a member by virtue of this
30 subparagraph is not entitled to vote at any meeting of the Board and is not

1 counted towards a quorum.

2 *Committees*

3 2.-(1) The Board may set up one or more Committees to carry out, on
4 behalf of the Board, its functions under this Act as the Board may deem fit.

5 (2) A Committee set up under this paragraph shall consist of such
6 number of persons (not necessarily members of the Board as may be
7 determined by the Board) and a person other than a member of the Board shall
8 hold office in the Committee in accordance with the terms of his appointment.

9 (3) A decision of the Committee of the Board shall be of no effect until
10 it is confirmed by the Board.

11 *Seal*

12 3.-(1) The fixing of the Seal of the Peace Corps shall be authenticated
13 by the signature of the Chairman or any other person authorised generally or
14 specifically to act for that purpose by the Board and the National Commandant.

15 (2) Any contract or instrument, which if made or executed by a person
16 not being a body corporate, would not be required to be under seal, may be
17 made or executed on behalf of the Board by the National Commandant or any
18 person generally or specially authorised to act for that purpose by the Board.

19 (3) Any document purporting to be a document duly executed under
20 the seal of the Board shall be received in evidence and shall, unless the contrary
21 is proved, be presumed to be executed.

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

This Bill seeks to establish the Nigerian Peace Corps to develop empower and provide gainful employment for the youth, facilitate peace, volunteerism, community services, neighbourhood watch and nation-building.