



THE SENATE

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

**THE NIGERIA STEEL UNIVERSITY, AJAOKUTA BILL,
2021**

(SB. 393)

A BILL

FOR

AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE NIGERIA STEEL UNIVERSITY,
AJAOUKUTA, KOGI STATE AND OTHER MATTERS CONNECTED THEREWITH

FIRST READING

WEDNESDAY, 11TH MARCH, 2020

SECOND READING

THURSDAY, 03RD DECEMBER, 2020

THIRD READING AND PASSAGE

WEDNESDAY, 5TH MAY, 2021

THE NIGERIA STEEL UNIVERSITY, AJAOKUTA BILL, 2021



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A BILL
FOR
AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE NIGERIA STEEL UNIVERSITY, AJAOKUTA, KOGI STATE
AND OTHER MATTERS CONNECTED THEREWITH

{ } Commencement

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

PART I- CONSTITUTION AND FUNCTIONS OF THE UNIVERSITY AND ITS CONSTITUENT BODIES, ETC.

1. [1] There is hereby established the Nigeria Steel University, Ajaokuta [hereafter in this Bill referred to as "the University"]. Incorporation of the Nigeria Steel University, Ajaokuta, Kogi State
 - 1 [a] The University may sue and be sued in its corporate name.

2. The objects of the University shall be to— Objects of the University
 - [a] encourage the advancement of learning and to hold out to all persons without distinction of race, creed, sex or political conviction the opportunity of acquiring a higher and liberal education;
 - [b] provide courses of instruction and other facilities for the pursuit of learning in all its branches and to make those facilities available on proper terms to such persons as are equipped to benefit from them;
 - [c] encourage and promote scholarship and conduct research in all fields of learning with emphasis on Steel, metallurgy and technology;
 - [d] relate its activities to the social, cultural and economic needs of the people of Nigeria; and
 - [e] Undertake any other activities appropriate for a university of the highest standard.

3. [1] The University shall consist of— Constitution and principal officers of the University.
 - [a] a Chancellor;
 - [b] a Pro-Chancellor and a Council;
 - [c] a Vice-Chancellor and a Senate;
 - [d] a body to be called Congregation;
 - [e] a body to be called Convocation;
 - [f] the campuses and colleges of the University;
 - [g] the faculties, schools, institutes and other teaching and research units of the University;
 - [h] the persons holding the offices constituted by the First Schedule to this Bill other than those mentioned in paragraphs [a] to [c] of this subsection;
 - [i] all graduates and undergraduates; and

[j] all other persons who are members of the University in accordance with provisions made by statute in that behalf.

[2] The First Schedule to this Bill shall have effect with respect to the principal officers of the University therein mentioned.

[3] Provision shall be made by Statute with respect to the constitution of the following bodies, namely the Council, the Senate, Congregation and Convocation.

4. [1] For the carrying out its objects as specified in clause 1 of this Bill the University shall have power—

Powers of the University and their exercise.

[a] to establish such campuses, colleges, faculties, institutes, schools, extra-mural departments and other teaching and research units within the University as may from time to time seem necessary or desirable subject to the approval of the National Universities Commission;

[b] to institute professorships, readerships, lectureships and other posts and offices and to make appointments thereto;

[c] to institute and award fellowships, scholarships, exhibitions, bursaries, medals, prizes and other titles, distinctions, awards and forms of assistance;

[d] to provide for the discipline and welfare of members of the University;

[e] to hold examinations and grant degrees, postgraduate diplomas, certificates and other distinctions to persons who have pursued a course of study approved by the University and have satisfied such other requirements as the University may lay down;

[f] to grant honorary degrees, fellowships or academic titles;

[g] to demand and receive from any student or any other person attending the University for the purpose of instruction such fees as the University may from time to time determine, subject to the overall directives of the Minister;

[h] subject to clause 19 of this Bill, to acquire, hold, grant, charge or otherwise deal with or dispose off movable and immovable property wherever situate;

[i] to accept gifts, legacies and donations, but without obligation to accept the same for a particular purpose unless it approves the terms and conditions attaching thereto;

[j] to enter into contracts, establish trusts, act as trustee, solely or jointly with any other person, and employ and act through agents;

[k] to erect, provide, equip and maintain libraries, laboratories, lecture halls, halls of residence, refectories, sports grounds, playing fields and other buildings or things necessary for any of the objects of the University;

[l] to hold public lectures and undertake printing, publishing and bookselling;

[m] subject to any limitations or conditions imposed by statute, to invest any moneys appertaining

to the University by way of endowment, whether for general or special purposes, and such other moneys as may not be immediately required for current expenditure, in any investments or securities or in the purchase or improvement of land, with power from time to time to vary any such investments, and to deposit any moneys for the time being uninvested with any bank on deposit or current account;

[n] to borrow, whether on interest or not and if need be upon the security of any or all of the property movable or immovable of the University, such moneys as the Council may from time to time in its discretion find it necessary or expedient to borrow or to guarantee any loan, advances or credit facilities;

[o] to make gifts for any charitable purpose;

[p] to arrange for the general welfare of children of members of staff;

[q] to do anything which it is authorised or required by this Bill or by statute to do; and

[r] to do all such acts or things, whether or not incidental to the foregoing powers, as may advance the objects of the University.

[2] Subject to the provisions of this Bill and of the statutes and without prejudice to clause 7 [2] of this Bill, the powers conferred on the University by sub clause [1] of this clause shall be exercisable on behalf of the University by the Council or by the Senate or in any other manner which may be authorised by statute.

[3] The power of the University to establish further campuses and colleges within the University shall be exercisable by statute and not otherwise.

5. [1] The chancellor shall, in relation to the University, take precedence before all other members of the University, and when he is present shall preside at all meetings of convocation held for conferring degrees and postgraduate diplomas.

Functions of the Chancellor and Pro-Chancellor.

[2] The Pro-Chancellor shall, in relation to the University, take precedence before all other members of the University except the Chancellor and except the Vice-Chancellor when acting as chairman of congregation or convocation the Pro-Chancellor shall, when he is present, be the chairman at all meetings of the Council.

6. [1] Subject to the provisions of this Bill relating to the visitor, the Council shall be the governing body of the University and shall be charged with the general control and superintendence of the policy, finances and property of the university, including its public relations.

Functions of the Council and its finance and general purposes committee.

[2] There shall be a committee of the Council, to be known as the Finance and General Purposes Committee, which shall, subject to the directions of the Council, exercise control over the property and expenditure of the University and perform such other functions of the Council as the Council may from time to time delegate to it.

[3] Provision shall be made by statute with respect to the constitution of the finance and general purposes committee.

[4] The Council shall ensure that proper accounts of the University are kept and that the accounts

of the University are audited annually by auditors appointed by the Council from the list and in accordance with guidelines supplied by the Auditor-General of the Federation; and that an annual report is published by the University together with certified copies of the said accounts as audited.

[5] Subject to this Bill the statutes, the Council and the Finance and General Purposes Committee may each make rules for the purpose of exercising any of their respective functions or of regulating their own procedure.

[6] Rules made under sub clause [5] of this clause by the Finance and General Purposes Committee shall not come into force unless approved by the Council; and in so far and to the extent that any rules so made by that committee conflict with any directions given by the Council [whether before or after the coming into force of the rules in question], the directions of the Council shall prevail.

[7] There shall be paid to the members of the Council, of the Finance and General Purposes Committee and of any other committee set up by the Council respectively allowances in respect of traveling and other reasonable expenses, at such rates as may from time to time be fixed by the Council.

[8] The Council shall meet as and when necessary for the performance of its functions under this Bill, and shall meet at least three times in every year.

[9] If requested in writing by any five members of the Council, the chairman shall within twenty-eight days after the receipt of such request call a meeting of the Council; and the request shall specify the business to be considered at the meeting and no business not so specified shall be transacted at that meeting.

7. [1] Subject to clause 5 of this Bill and subclasses [3] and [4] of this clause, and to the provisions of this Bill relating to the visitor, it shall be the general function of the Senate to organise and control the teaching of the University, the admission [where no other enactment provides to the contrary] of students and the discipline of students and to promote research at the University.

Functions of the Senate.

[2] Without prejudice to the generality of sub clause [1] of this clause and subject as there mentioned, it shall in particular be the function of the Senate to make provision for—

[a] the establishment, organisation and control of campuses, colleges, faculties, departments, schools, institutes and other teaching and research units of the University, and the allocation of responsibility for different branches of learning;

[b] the organisation and control of courses of study at the University and the examinations held in conjunction with those courses, including the appointment of examiners, both internal and external;

[c] the award of degrees, and such other qualifications as may be prescribed, in connection with examinations held as aforesaid;

[d] the making of recommendations to the Council with respect to the award to any person of an honorary fellowship or honorary degree or the title of professor emeritus;

[e] the establishment, organisation and control of halls or residence and similar institutions at the University;

[f] the supervision of the welfare of students at the University and the regulations of their conduct;

[g] the granting of fellowships, scholarships, prizes and similar awards in so far as the awards are within the control of the University; and

[h] Determining what descriptions of dress shall be academic dress for the purposes of the University, and regulating the use of academic dress.

[3] The Senate shall not establish any new campus, college, faculty, department, school, institute or other teaching and research units of the University, or any hall of residence or similar institution at the University, without the approval of the Council.

[4] Subject to this Bill and the statutes, the Senate may make regulations for the purpose of exercising any function conferred on it either by the foregoing provisions of this clause or otherwise or for the purpose of making provision for any matter for which provision by regulation is authorised or required by this Bill or by statute.

[5] Regulations shall provide that at least one of the persons appointed as the examiners at each final or professional examination held in conjunction with any course of study at the University is not a teacher at the University but is a teacher of the branch of learning to which the course relates at some other university of high repute.

[6] Subject to a right of appeal to the Council from a decision of the Senate under this sub clause, the Senate may deprive any person of any degree, postgraduate diploma, or other award of the University which has been conferred upon him if after due enquiry he is shown to have been guilty of dishonourable or scandalous conduct in gaining admission into the University or obtaining that award.

8. [1] There shall be a general fund of the University which shall consist of the following:

General Fund of the University

[a] Grants-in-aid;

[b] Fees;

[c] Income derived from investments;

[d] Gifts, legacies, endowments and donations not accepted for a particular purpose;

[e] Income derived from the exercise of any functions conferred or imposed on the University by this Bill;

[f] Any other amounts, charges or dues recoverable by the university;

[g] Revenue, from time to time, accruing to the University by way of subvention;

[h] Interest on Investments; and

[i] Donations and legacies accruing to the University from any source for the general or special purposes of the University; and

[2] The general fund shall be applied for the purpose of the University.

9. [1] The Vice-Chancellor shall, in relation to the University, take precedence before all other members of the University except the chancellor and, subject to clause 4 of this Bill, except the Pro-Chancellor and any other person for the time being acting as chairman of the Council.

Functions of the Vice-Chancellor.

[2] Subject to clauses 5, 6 and 13 of this Bill, the Vice-Chancellor shall have the general function, in addition to any other functions conferred on him by this Bill or otherwise, of directing the activities

of the University, and shall to the exclusion of any other person or authority be the Chief Executive and Academic Officer of the University and ex-officio chairman of the Senate.

PART II—

STATUTES OF THE UNIVERSITY

10. [1] Subject to this Bill, the University may make statutes for any of the following purposes, that is to say—

Power of University to Make Statutes

[a] making provision with respect to the composition and constitution of any authority of the University;

[b] specifying and regulating the powers and duties of any authority of the University, and regulating any other matter connected with the University or any of its authorities;

[c] regulating the admission of students where it is done by the University, and their discipline and welfare;

[d] determining whether any particular matter is to be treated as an academic or non-academic matter for the purposes of this Bill and of any statute, regulation or other instrument made there under; or

[e] Making provision for any other matter for which provision by statute is authorised or required by this Bill.

[2] Subject to clause 22 [6] of this Bill, the Interpretation Act shall apply in relation to any statute made under this clause as it applies to a subsidiary instrument within the meaning of clause 27 [1] of that Bill.

[3] The Statute contained in the SECOND SCHEDULE to this Bill shall be deemed to have come into force on the commencement of this Bill and shall be deemed to have been made under this clause.

[4] The power to make statutes conferred by this clause shall not be prejudiced or limited in any way by reason of the inclusion or omission of any matter in or from the Statute contained in the SECOND SCHEDULE to this Bill or any subsequent statute.

11. [1] The power of the University to make statutes shall be exercised in accordance with the provisions of this clause and not otherwise.

Mode of Exercising Power to Make Statutes. Cap. 192.

[2] A proposed statute shall not become law unless it has been approved—

[a] at a meeting of the Senate, by the votes of not less than two-thirds of the members present and voting; and

[b] provides for the establishment of a new campus or college or for the amendment or revocation of any statute whereby a campus or college is established, shall not come into operation unless it has been approved by the President

[5] For the purposes of clause 2 [2] of the Interpretation Act, a statute shall be treated as being made on the date on which it is duly approved by the Council after having been duly approved by the Senate, or on the date on which it is duly approved by the Senate after having been duly approved by the Council, as the case may be or, in the case of a statute falling within sub clause [4]

of this clause, on the date on which it is approved by the President.

12. [1] All property held by or on behalf of the Provisional Council shall, by virtue of this sub clause and without further assurance, vest in the University and be held by it for the purpose of the University. Transfer of property to the University
[2] The provisions of the Second Schedule to this Bill shall have effect with respect to the transfer of property by this clause and to matters arising there from and with respect to other matters mentioned in that Schedule.

13. A statute may be proved in any court by the production of a copy thereof bearing or having affixed to it a certificate purporting to be signed by the Vice-Chancellor or the registrar to the effect that the copy is a true copy of a statute of the University. Proof of statutes.

14. [1] In the event of any doubt or dispute arising at any time as to the meaning of any provision of a statute, the matter may be referred to the visitor, who shall take such advice and make such decision thereon as he shall deem fit. Power of Visitor to decide meaning of statutes.
[2] The decision of the visitor on any matter referred to him under this clause shall be binding upon the authorities, staff and students of the University, and where any question as to the meaning of any provision of a statute has been decided by the visitor under this clause, no question as to the meaning of that provision shall be entertained by any court of law in Nigeria:

Provided that nothing in this sub clause shall affect any power of a court of competent jurisdiction to determine whether any provision of a statute is wholly or partly void as being ultra vires or as being inconsistent with the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

[3] The foregoing provisions of this clause shall apply in relation to any doubt or dispute as to whether any matter is for the purposes of this Bill an academic or a non-academic matter as they apply in relation to any such doubt or dispute as is mentioned in sub clause [1] of this clause; and accordingly the references in sub clause [2] of this clause to any question as to the meaning of any provision of a statute shall include references to any question as to whether any matter is for the said purposes an academic or a non-academic matter.

PART III —
SUPERVISION AND DISCIPLINE

15. [1] The President shall be the visitor of the University. The Visitor.

[2] The Visitor shall as often as the circumstances may require, not being less than once every five years, conduct a visitation of the University or direct that such a visitation be conducted by such persons as the visitor may deem fit in respect of any of the affairs of the University.

[3] It shall be the duty of the bodies and persons comprising the University—

[a] to make available to the visitor, and to any other persons conducting a visitation in pursuance of this clause, such facilities and assistance as he or they may reasonably require for the purposes of a visitation; and

[b] to give effect to any instructions consistent with the provisions of this Bill which may be given by the visitor in consequence of a visitation.

16. [1] If it appears to the Council that a member of the Council [other than the Pro-Chancellor, or the Removal of certain

Vice-Chancellor] should be removed from office on the ground of misconduct or inability to perform the functions of his office or employment, the Council shall make a recommendation to that effect through the Minister to the President and if the President, after making such enquiries [if any] as may be considered appropriate, approves the recommendation, may direct the removal of the person in question from office.

members of Council.

[2] it shall be the duty of the Minister to use his best endeavours to cause a copy of the instrument embodying a direction under sub clause [1] of this clause to be served as soon as reasonably practicable on the person to whom it relates.

17. [1] If it appears to the Council that there are reasons for believing that any person employed as a member of the academic or administrative or professional staff of the University other than the Vice-Chancellor, should be removed from his office or employment on the ground of misconduct or of inability to perform the functions of his office or employment the Council shall—

Removal of and discipline of academic, administrative and professional staff.

[a] give notice of those reasons to the person in question;

[b] afford him an opportunity of making representations in person on the matter to the Council; and

[c] if he or any three members of the Council so request within the period of one month beginning with the date of the notice, make arrangements—

[i] for a joint committee of the Council and the Senate to investigate the matter and to report on it to the Council, or

[ii] for the person in question to be afforded an opportunity of appearing before and being heard by the investigating committee with respect to the matter, and if the Council, after considering the report of the investigating committee, is satisfied that the person in question should be removed as aforesaid, the Council may so remove him by an instrument in writing signed on the directions of the Council.

[2] The Vice-Chancellor may, in a case of misconduct by a member of the staff which in the opinion of the Vice-Chancellor is prejudicial to the interests of the University, suspend such member and any such suspension shall forthwith be reported to the Council.

[3] For good cause, any member of staff may be suspended from his duties or his appointment may be terminated by Council; and for the purposes of this subsection "good cause" means—

[a] conviction for any offence which the Council considers to be such as to render the person concerned unfit for the discharge of the functions of his office; or

[b] any physical or mental incapacity which the Council, after obtaining medical advice, considers to be such as to render the person concerned unfit to continue to hold his office; or

[c] conduct of a scandalous or other disgraceful nature which the Council considers to be such as to render the person concerned unfit to continue to hold his office; or

[d] Conduct which the Council considers to be such as to constitute failure or inability of the person concerned to discharge the functions of his office or to comply with the terms and conditions of his service.

[4] Any person suspended pursuant to subs close [2] or [3] of this close shall be on half pay and the Council shall before the expiration of a period of three months after the date of such suspension consider the case against that person and come to a decision as to—

[a] whether to continue such person's suspension and if so on what terms [including the proportion of his emoluments to be paid to him];

[b] whether to reinstate such person in which case the Council shall restore his full emoluments to him with effect from the date of suspension;

[c] whether to terminate the appointment of the person concerned, in which case such a person shall not be entitled 'to the proportion of his emoluments withheld during the period of suspension; or

[d] whether to take such lesser disciplinary action against such person [including the restoration of such proportion of his emoluments that might have been withheld] as the Council may determine; and in any case where the Council, pursuant to this close, decides to continue a person's suspension or decides to take further disciplinary action against a person, the Council shall before the expiration of a period of three months from such decision come to a final determination in respect of the case concerning any such person.

[5] It shall be the duty of the person by whom an instrument of removal is signed pursuant to sub close [1] above to use his best endeavours to cause a copy of the instrument to be served as soon as reasonably practicable on the person to whom it relates.

[6] Nothing in the foregoing provisions of this close shall prevent the Council from making regulations for the discipline of other categories of staff and workers of the University as may be prescribed.

18. [1] If on the recommendation of the Senate, it appears to the Vice-Chancellor that a person appointed as an examiner for any examination of the University ought to be removed from his office or appointment, then except in such cases as may be prescribed, he may, after affording the examiner an opportunity of making representation in person on the matter to the Vice-Chancellor, remove the examiner from the appointment by an instrument in writing signed by the Vice-Chancellor and, subject to the provisions of regulations made in pursuance of close 6 [5] of this bill the Vice-Chancellor may, on the recommendation of the Senate, appoint an appropriate person as examiner in the place of the examiner removed in pursuance of this sub clause.

Removal of examiners.

[2] It shall be the duty of the Vice-Chancellor, on signing an instrument of removal in pursuance of this clause, to use his best endeavours to cause a copy of the instrument to be served as soon as reasonably practicable on the person to whom it relates.

19. [1] Subject to the provisions of this clause, where it appears to the Vice-Chancellor that any student of the University has been guilty of misconduct, the Vice-Chancellor may, without prejudice to any other disciplinary powers conferred on him by statute or regulations, direct—
[a] that the student shall not, during such period as may be specified in the direction, participate in such activities of the University, or make use of such facilities of the University, as may be so specified; or

Discipline of students

[b] that the activities of the student shall, during such period as may be specified in the direction, be restricted in such manner as may be so specified; or

[c] that the student be rusticated for such period as may be specified in the direction; or

[d] that the student be, expelled from the University.

[2] Where a direction is given under subsection [1] [c] or [d] of this clause in respect of any student, the student may, within the prescribed period and in the prescribed manner, appeal from the direction to the Council; and where such an appeal is brought, the Council shall, after causing such inquiry to be made in the matter as the Council considers just, either confirm or set aside the direction or modify it in such manner as the Council thinks fit.

[3] The fact that an appeal from a direction is brought in pursuance of the last foregoing clause shall not affect the operation of the direction while the appeal is pending.

[4] The Vice-Chancellor may delegate his powers under this clause to a disciplinary board consisting of such members of the University as he may nominate.

[5] Nothing in this clause shall be construed as preventing the restriction or termination of a student's activities at the University otherwise than on the ground of misconduct.

[6] It is hereby declared that a direction under sub clause [1] [a] of this clause may be combined with a direction under sub clause 1 [b] of this clause.

PART IV —
MISCELLANEOUS AND GENERAL

20. No person shall be required to satisfy requirements as to any of the following matters, that is to say, race [including ethnic grouping], sex, place of birth or of family, origin, or religious or political persuasion, as a condition of becoming or continuing to be a student at the University, the holder of any degree of the University or of any appointment or employment at the University, or a member of anybody established by virtue of this Bill and no person shall be subjected to any disadvantage or accorded any advantage in relation to the University, by reference to any of those matters:

Exclusion of
Discrimination on
Account of Race,
Religion, Etc

Provided that nothing in this clause shall be construed as preventing the University from imposing any disability or restriction on any of the aforementioned persons where such person willfully refuses or fails on grounds of religious belief to undertake any duty generally and uniformly imposed on all such persons or any group of them which duty, having regard to its nature and the special circumstances pertaining thereto, is in the opinion of the University reasonably justifiable in the national interest.

21. Without prejudice to the provisions of the Land Use Act, the University shall not dispose of or charge any land or an interest in any land [including any land transferred to the University by this Bill except with the prior written consent, either general or special, of the Minister:

Restriction on
disposal of land by
University. Cap. 202.

Provided that such consent shall not be required in the case of any lease or tenancy at a rack-rent for a term not exceeding twenty-one years or lease or tenancy to a member of the University for residential purposes.

22. Except as may be otherwise provided by statute or by regulations, the quorum and procedure of any body of persons established by this Bill shall be such as may be determined by that body. Quorum and procedure of bodies established by this Act.
23. [1] For the purpose of the Land Use Act [which provides for the compulsory acquisition of land for public purposes] any purpose of the University shall be the same as that of the Federation. Transfer of Land to the University
 [2] Where an estate or interest in land is acquired by the Government pursuant to this clause, the Government may, by a certificate under the hand and seal of the person so authorized or any other person authorized in that behalf transfer it to the University.
24. [1] Anybody of persons established by the Bill shall, without prejudice to the generality of the powers of that body, have power to appoint committees, which need not consist exclusively of members of that body, and to authorize a committee established by it— Appointment of committees, etc.
- [a] to exercise, on its behalf, such of its functions as it may determine; and
- [b] to co-opt members, and may direct whether or not co-opted members [if any] shall be entitled to vote in that committee.
- [2] Any two or more such bodies may arrange for the holding of joint meetings of those bodies, or for the appointment of committees consisting of members of those bodies, for the purpose of considering any matter within the competence of those bodies or any of them, and either of dealing with it or of reporting on it to those bodies or any of them.
- [3] Except as may be otherwise provided by statute or by regulations, the quorum and procedure of a committee established or meeting held in pursuance of this clause shall be such as may be determined by the body or bodies which have decided to establish the committee or hold the meeting.
- [4] Nothing in the foregoing provisions of this clause shall be construed as—
- [a] enabling statutes to be made otherwise than in accordance with clause 10 of this Bill; or
- [b] enabling the Senate to empower any other body to make regulations or to award degrees or other qualifications.
- [5] The Pro-Chancellor and the Vice-Chancellor shall be members of every committee of which the members are wholly or partly appointed by the Council [other than a committee appointed to inquire into the conduct of the officer in question]; and the Vice-Chancellor shall be a member of every committee of which the members are wholly or partly appointed by the Senate.
25. [1] The seal of the University shall be such as may be determined by the Council and approved by the chancellor; and the affixing of the seal shall be authenticated by any member of the Council and by the vice- chancellor, registrar or any other person authorized by statute. Miscellaneous administrative provisions. Cap. 192
- [2] Any document purporting to be a document executed under the seal of the University shall be received in evidence and shall, unless the contrary is proved, be deemed to be so executed.
- [3] Any contract or instrument which, if made or executed by a person not being a body corporate, would not be required to be under seal may be made or executed on behalf of the University by any person generally or specially authorized to do so by the Council.

[4] The validity of any proceedings of established in pursuance of this Bill shall not be affected by any vacancy in the membership of the body, or by any defect in the appointment of a member of the body or by reason that any person not entitled to do so took part in the proceedings.

[5] Any member of any such body who has a personal interest in any matter proposed to be considered by that body shall forthwith disclose his interest to the body and shall not vote on any question relating to that matter.

[6] Nothing in section 12 of the Interpretation Act [which provides for the application, in relation to subordinate legislation, of certain incidental provisions] shall apply to statutes or regulations made in pursuance of this Bill; but the power conferred by this Bill to make statutes or regulations shall include power to revoke or vary any statute [including the Statute contained in the SECOND SCHEDULE of this Act] or any regulation by a subsequent statute or, as the case may be, by a subsequent regulation, and statutes and regulations may make different provision in relation to different circumstances.

[7] No stamp or other duty shall be payable in respect of any transfer of property to the University by virtue of clause 8 and 19 of this Bill or the Second Schedule to this Bill.

[8] Any notice or other instrument authorized to be served by virtue of this Act may, without prejudice to any other mode of service, be served by post Bill.

26. [1] On the commencement of this Bill, any person employed by or serving in, Steel University, Ajaokuta, shall be deemed to have been employed or serving in the University established under this Bill. Transitional and Savings Provision

[2] All Assets or liabilities belonging to Steel University Ajaokuta shall be deemed to belong to the University established under this Bill.

27. An academic Staff of the University shall be entitled to pension at a rate equivalent to his annual salary provided that the professor has served continuously in the University up to the retirement age. Special Provisions Relating to Pension of Professors

28. [1] In this Bill, unless the context otherwise requires — Interpretation

“campuses” means any campus which may be established by the University;

“college” means any college which may be established by the University;

“Council” means the Council established by this Bill for the University;

“graduate” means a person on whom a degree [other than an honorary degree] has been conferred by the University;

“Minister” means the Minister charged with responsibility for education;

“notice” means notice in writing;

“officer” does not include the visitor;

“prescribed” means prescribed by statute or regulations;

“professor” means a person designated as a professor of the University in accordance with provision made in that behalf by statute or by regulations;

“property” includes rights, liabilities and obligations;

“regulations” means regulations made by the Senate or Council;

“statute” means the statute of the University under clause 9 of this Bill and in accordance with the provisions of clause 10 of this Bill, and “the statute” means all such statutes as are in force from time to time;

“teacher” means a person holding a full time appointment as a member of the teaching or research staff of the University;

“undergraduate” means a person in statutupiiari at the University, other than—

[a] a graduate; and

[b] a person of such description as may be prescribed for the purposes of this definition;

“University” means the Steel University, Ajaokuta as incorporated and constituted by this Bill.

[2] It is hereby declared that where in any provision of this Bill it is laid down that proposals are to be submitted or a recommendation is to be made by one authority to another through one or more intermediate authorities, it shall be the duty of every such intermediate authority to forward any proposals or recommendations received by it in pursuance of that provision to the appropriate authority; but any such intermediate authority may, if it deems fit, forward therewith its own comments thereon.

29. This Bill may be cited as the Nigeria Steel University, Ajaokuta Bill, 2021.

Short Title.

SCHEDULES
FIRST SCHEDULE

Clause 3 [2]

PRINCIPAL OFFICERS OF THE UNIVERSITY

The Chancellor

1. The Chancellor shall be appointed by the President.

[1] The Chancellor shall hold office for a period of five years.

[2] It if appears to the visitor, that the chancellor should be removed from his office on the ground of misconduct or of inability to perform the functions of his office, the visitor may by notice in the Federal Gazette remove the chancellor from office.

The Pro Chancellor

[1] The Pro-Chancellor shall be appointed or removed by the President on the recommendation of the Minister.

[2] Subject to the provisions of this Bill, the Pro-Chancellor shall hold office a period of four years beginning with the date of

his appointment.

The Vice-Chancellor

[1] Subject to the provisions of this paragraph, the Vice-Chancellor shall be appointed or removed from his office by the Governing Council; this is in line with the provisions of Section 3[1] of the Universities [Miscellaneous Provision] Act 1993 [As amended]

[2] The Vice-Chancellor shall hold office for a single term of Five years; this is in line with the provisions of 3[7] of the Universities [Miscellaneous Provision] Act 1993 [As amended]

[3] Subject to this paragraph, the Vice-Chancellor shall hold office on such terms as to emoluments and otherwise as may be specified in his instrument of appointment.

Deputy Vice-Chancellor

There shall be for the University, two Deputy Vice-Chancellors or such number of Deputy Vice Chancellors as the Council may, from time to time, deem necessary for the proper administration of the University.

[2] The procedure for the appointment and removal of the Deputy Vice Chancellor shall be in accordance with the provisions of the Universities [Miscellaneous Provisions] Act, 1993 [as amended].

[3] A Deputy Vice-Chancellor shall —

[a] Assist the Vice-Chancellor in the performance of his functions;

[b] Act in place of the Vice-Chancellor when the post of the Vice-Chancellor is vacant or if the Vice-Chancellor is, for any reason, absent or unable to perform his functions as Vice-Chancellor; and

[c] Perform such other functions as the Vic Chancellor or the Council may, from time to time, assign to him.

Other Principal Officers of the University

[1] There shall be a Registrar, who shall be the Chief Administrative Officer of the University and shall be responsible to the Vice-Chancellor for the day-to-day administrative work of the University except as regards matters for which the Bursar is responsible in accordance with subparagraph [3] of this Schedule.

[2] The person holding the office of Registrar shall by virtue of that office be secretary to the Council, the Senate, congregation and convocation.

[3] There shall be a Bursar, who shall be the Chief Financial Officer of the University and shall be responsible to the Vice-Chancellor for the day-to-day administration and control of the financial affairs of the University.

[4] There shall be a Librarian who shall be responsible to the Vice-Chancellor for the administration of the University library and the co-ordination of all library services in the University and its campuses, colleges, faculties, schools, departments and institutes and other teaching or research units.

[5] The officers aforesaid shall be appointed by' the Governing Council for a tenure for a single term of Five years and Council may upon satisfactory performance , extend the tenure of the Registrar , Bursar or Librarian for a further period of one year and thereafter such Registrar, Bursar or Librarian shall relinquish his post and be assigned to other duties in the University' this is in line with the provisions of the section 5 of the Universities [Miscellaneous Provision] Act 1993 [As amended].

[6] Any question as to the scope of the responsibilities of the aforesaid officers shall be determined by the Vice-Chancellor.

Director of Works

There shall be for the University, a Director of Works, who shall be responsible to the Vice Chancellor for the administration of

the Works Department. He shall be responsible for all works, services and maintenance of University facilities

Director of Health Service

There shall be for the University, a Director of Health Services, who shall be responsible to the Vice Chancellor for the administration of the Health Centre. He shall be the Chief Medical Officer of the University and shall co-ordinate all matters relating to the health of all staff and students.

Resignation and Re-appointment

[1] Any officer mentioned in the foregoing provisions of this schedule may resign his office in -

[a] the case of the Chancellor or Pro-Chancellor, by notice to the Visitor;

[b] the case of the Vice-Chancellor by notice to the Council which shall immediately notify the Minister; and

[2] A person who has ceased to hold an office so mentioned otherwise than by removal for misconduct shall be eligible for re-appointment to that office.

SECOND SCHEDULE

THE NIGERIA STEEL UNIVERSITY, AJAOKUTA, No. 1

The Council

[1] The Council shall consist of—

[a] the Pro-Chancellor;

[b] the Vice-Chancellor and the deputy Vice-Chancellor;

[c] Four persons representing a variety of interests and broadly representative of the whole Federation appointed by the National Council of Ministers; by virtue of section 2

[d] of the Universities [Miscellaneous Provisions] Act 1993 [As amended].

[e] Two person appointed by congregation from amongst the members of that body; section 2 [g] of the Universities [Miscellaneous Provisions] Act 1993 [As amended].

[f] one person appointed by convocation from among the members of that body;

[g] The Permanent Secretary, Federal Ministry of Education or, in his absence, one Person from the Federal Minstry responsible for Education to represent him.

[2] Any member of the Council holding office otherwise than in pursuance of paragraph [1] [a], [b], [g] or [h] of this article may, by notices to the Council, resign his office.

[3] A member of the Council holding office otherwise than in pursuance of paragraph [1] [a], [b], [g] or [h] of this article shall, unless he previously vacates it, vacate that office on the expiration of the period of four years beginning with effect from the 1st of August in the year in which he was appointed.

[4] Where a member of the Council holding office otherwise than in pursuance of paragraph [1] [a], [b], [g] or [h] of this article vacates office before the expiration of the period aforesaid, the body or person by whom he was appointed may appoint a successor to hold office for the residue of the term of his predecessor.

[5] A person ceasing to hold office as a member of the Council otherwise than by the removal for misconduct shall be eligible for re-appointment for only one further period of four years.

[6] The quorum of the Council shall be five at least one of whom shall be a member appointed pursuant to paragraph [1] [c], [f], [g] and [h] of this article.

[7] If the Pro-Chancellor is not present at a meeting of the Council such other member of the Council present at the meeting as the Council may appoint as respects that meeting shall be the chairman at that meeting, and subject to clause 4 of the Bill and the foregoing provisions of this paragraph, the Council may regulate its own procedure.

[8] Where the Council desires to obtain advice with respect to any particular matter, it may co-opt not more than two persons for that purpose; and the persons co-opted may take part in the deliberations of the Council at any meeting but shall not be entitled to vote.

[1] The finance and general purposes committee of the Council shall consist of—

[a] the Pro-Chancellor, who shall be the chairman of the committee at any meeting at which he is present;

[b] the Vice-Chancellor and the deputy Vice-Chancellor;

[c] six other members of the Council appointed by the Council, two of whom shall be selected from among the four members of the Council appointed by the Senate and one member appointed to Council by the congregation;

[d] the Permanent Secretary, Federal Ministry of Education or, in his absence, one person from the Federal Ministry responsible for Education.

[2] The quorum of the committee shall be five.

[3] Subject to any directions given by the Council, the committee may regulate its own procedure.

The Senate

[1] The Senate shall consist of—

[a] the Vice-Chancellor and the deputy Vice-Chancellor;

[b] the deans of the several faculties;

[c] the directors of the several institutes;

[d] the professors;

[e] the librarian;

[f] the persons for the time being holding such appointments on the staff of the University as may be specified by the Vice-Chancellor; and

[g] such teachers [of senior's lecturer rank and above and not being more than two in respect of each faculty] as may be elected from among the members of each faculty, the total number thereto to be determined from time to time by the Senate; and

[h] such persons, not exceeding two in number, whether or not members of the University, as may be appointed by the Senate to be members of the Senate.

[2] The Vice-Chancellor shall be the chairman at all meetings of the Senate when he is present; and in his absence such other member of the Senate present at the meeting as the Senate may appoint for that meeting, shall be the chairman at the meeting.

[3] The quorum of the Senate shall be one-quarter [or the nearest whole number less than one-quarter]; and subject to paragraph [2] of this article, the Senate may regulate its own procedure.

[4] An elected member may, by notice to the Senate, resign his office.

[5] Subject to paragraph [7] of this article, there shall be elections for the selection of elected members which shall be held in the prescribed manner on such day in the month of May or June in each year as the Vice-Chancellor may from time to time determine.

[6] An elected member shall hold office for the period of two years beginning with 1st August in the year of his election, and may be a candidate at any election held in pursuance of paragraph [5] above in the year in which his period of office expires, so however that no person shall be such a candidate if at the end of his current period of office he would have held office as an elected member for a continuous period of six years or would have so held office if he had not resigned it.

[7] No election shall be held in pursuance of this article in any year if the number specified in the certificate given in pursuance of paragraph [9] of this article does not exceed by more than one the figure which is thrice the number of those elected members holding office on the date of the certificate who do not vacate office during that year in pursuance of paragraph [6] of this article; but for the avoidance of doubt it is hereby declared that no person shall be precluded from continuing in or taking office as an elected member by reason only of a reduction in the total of non-elected members occurring on or after 30th April in any year in which he is to continue in or take office as an elected member.

[8] If so requested in writing by any ten members of the Senate, the vice- chancellor, or in his absence a person duly appointed by him, shall convene a meeting of the Senate to be held not later than the tenth day following that on which the request was received.

[9] In this article, "total of non-elected members" means, as respects any year, such number as may be certified by the Vice-Chancellor on the 30 April of that year to be the number of persons holding office as members of the Senate on that day otherwise than as elected members.

Congregation

[1] Congregation shall consist of—

[a] the Vice-Chancellor;

[b] the full time members of the academic staff;

[c] the Registrar;

[d] the Bursar; and

[e] every member of the administrative staff who holds a degree of any university recognised for the purposes of this statute by the Vice-Chancellor, not being an honorary degree.

[2] Subject to clause 4 of the Bill, the Vice-Chancellor shall be the chairman at all meetings of congregation when he is present; and in his absence such other member of congregation present at the meeting as congregation may appoint for that meeting, shall be the chairman at the meeting.

[3] The quorum of the congregation shall be one-third [or the whole number nearest to one-third] of the total number of members of members of the congregation or fifty, whichever is less.

[4] A certificate signed by the Vice-Chancellor specifying—

[a] the total number of members of congregation for the purposes of any particular meeting or meetings of congregation; or

[b] the names of the persons who are members of congregation during a particular period;

shall be conclusive evidence of that number or, as the case may be, of the names of those persons.

[5] Subject to the foregoing provisions of this article, congregation may regulate its own procedure.

[6] Congregation shall be entitled to express by resolution or otherwise its opinion on all matters affecting the interest and welfare of the University and shall have such other functions in addition to the function of electing a member of the Council, as may be provided by statute or regulations.

Convocation

[1] Convocation shall consist of—

[a] the officers of the University mentioned in the First Schedule to the Bill

[b] all teachers within the meaning of the Bill; and

[c] all other persons whose names are registered in accordance with paragraph [2] of this article.

[2] A person shall be entitled to have his name registered as a member of convocation if—

[a] he is either a graduate of the University or a person satisfying such requirements as may be prescribed for the purposes of this paragraph; and

[b] he applies for the registration of his name in the prescribed manner and pays the prescribed fees;

and regulations shall provide for the establishment and maintenance of a register for the purposes of this paragraph and, subject to paragraph [3] below, may provide for the payment from time to time of further fees by persons whose names are on the register and for the removal from the register of the name of any person who fails to pay those fees.

[3] The person responsible for maintaining the register shall, without the payment of any fees, ensure that the names of all persons who are for the time being members of convocation by virtue of paragraph [1] [a] or [b] of this article are entered and retained on the register.

[4] A person who reasonably claims that he is entitled to have his name on the register shall be entitled on demand to inspect the register, or a copy of the register at the principal offices of the University at all reasonable times.

[5] The register shall, unless the contrary is proved, be sufficient evidence that any person named therein is, and that any person not named therein is not, a member of convocation; but for the purpose of ascertaining whether a particular person was such a member on a particular date, any entries in and deletions from the register made on or after that shall be disregarded.

[6] The quorum of convocation shall be fifty or one-third [or the whole number nearest to one-third] of the total number of members of convocation, whichever is less.

[7] Subject to clause 4 of the Bill, the Vice-Chancellor shall be chairman at all meetings of convocation when he is present, and in his absence the Dept vice-chancellors he shall be the chairman at the meeting.

[8] Convocation shall have such functions, in addition to the function of appointing a member of the Council, as may be provided by statute.

Organisation of faculties and branches thereof

6. Each faculty shall be divided into such number of branches as may be prescribed.

[1] There shall be established in respect of each faculty a faculty board, which, subject to the provisions of this Statute, and subject to the directions of the Vice-Chancellor, shall—

[a] regulate the teaching and study of, and the conduct of examinations connected with, the subjects assigned to the faculty;

[b] deal with any other matter assigned to it by the statute or by the Vice-Chancellor or by the Senate; and

[c] advise the Vice-Chancellor or the Senate on any matter referred to it by the Vice-Chancellor or the Senate.

[2] Each faculty board shall consist of—

[a] the Vice-Chancellor;

[b] the persons severally in charge of the branches of the faculty;

[c] such of the teachers assigned to the faculty and having the prescribed qualifications as the board may determine; and

[d] such persons whether or not members of the University as the board may determine with the general or special approval of the Senate.

[3] The quorum of the board shall be eight members or one-quarter [whichever is greater] of the members for the time being of the board; and subject to the provisions of this statute and to any provisions made by regulations in that behalf, the board may regulate its own procedure.

The Dean of the Faculty

[1] The dean of a faculty shall be a professor elected by the faculty board and each dean shall hold office for 2 years. He will be eligible for re-election for another term of two years after which he may not be elected again until two years have elapsed.

[2] If there is no professor in a faculty, the office of the dean of the faculty shall be held in rotation by members of the faculty holding the ranks of reader or senior lecturer on the basis of seniority as determined by the statute.

[3] The dean shall be the chairman at all meetings of the faculty board when he is present and he shall be a member of all committees and other boards appointed by the faculty.

[4] The dean of a faculty shall exercise general superintendence over the academic and administrative affairs of the faculty. It shall be the function of the dean to present to convocation for the conferment of degrees' persons who have qualified for the degrees of the University at examinations held in the branches of learning for which responsibility is allocated to that faculty.

[5] There shall be a committee to be known as the committee of deans consisting of all the deans of the several faculties and that committee shall advise the Vice-Chancellor on all academic matters and on particular matters referred to the University Council by Senate.

[6] The dean of a faculty may be removed from office for good cause by the faculty board after a vote would have been taken at a meeting of the board, and in the event of a vacancy occurring following the removal of a dean, an acting dean may be appointed by the Vice-Chancellor provided that at the next faculty board meeting an election shall hold for a new dean.

[7] In this article, "good cause" has the same meaning as in clause 15 [3] of the Bill.

Selection of certain principal officers

[1] When a vacancy occurs in the office of the Registrar, Bursar, Librarian, or Director of works, a selection board shall be constituted by the Council and shall consist of—

[a] the Pro-Chancellor;

[b] the Vice-Chancellor;

[c] two members appointed by the Council, not being members of the Senate; and

[d] two members appointed by the Senate.

[2] The selection board, after making such inquiries as it thinks fit, shall recommend a candidate to the Council for appointment to the vacant office; and after considering the recommendation of the board the Council may make an appointment to that office.

Creation of academic posts

Recommendations for the creation of posts other than those mentioned in article 9 of this Statute shall be made by the Senate to the Council through the Finance and General Purposes Committee.

Appointment of academic staff

Subject to the Bill and the statutes, the filling of vacancies in academic posts [including newly created ones] shall be as prescribed from time to time by statutes.

Appointment of administrative and technical staff

[1] The administrative and professional staff of the University other than those mentioned in article 9 of this Statute, shall be appointed by the Council or on its behalf by the Vice-Chancellor or the registrar in accordance with any delegation of powers made by the Council in that behalf.

[2] In the case of administrative or professional staffs that have close and important contacts with the academic staff, there shall be Senate participation in the process of selection.

Interpretation

In this Statute, the expression "the Bill" means the Nigeria Steel University, Ajaokuta Bill and any expression defined in the Bill has the same meaning in this Statute.

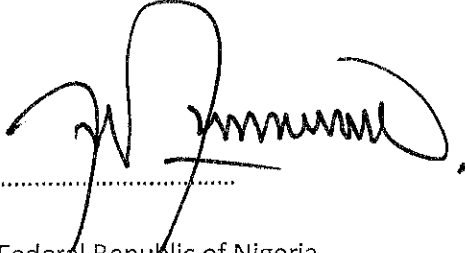
[1] The Finance and General Purpose Committee of the Council shall consist of:

- [a] the Pro-Chancellor, who shall be the Chairman of the committee at any meeting at which he is present;
 - [b] the Vice-Chancellor and a Deputy Vice-Chancellor;
 - [c] Six other members of the Council appointed by the Council two of whom shall be selected from among the four members of the Council appointed by the Senate and one of whom shall be selected from among members of the Council appointed by the congregation; and
 - [d] The Permanent Secretary, Federal Ministry of Education or, in his absence, one person from the Ministry responsible for Education to represent him.
- [2] The quorum of the Committee shall be six.
- [3] Subject to any directions given by the Council, the committee may regulate its own procedure.

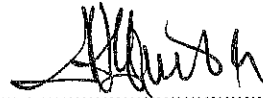
EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

This Bill seeks to establish the Nigeria Steel University, Ajaokuta as a centre for imparting knowledge; technological, engineering and research with emphasis on metallurgical; mechanical; electrical and civil engineering to prepare the young people for the challenges of industrialization with the aim of producing socially mature men and women with capacity and capability not only to understand, but to use and adapt existing technologies in metallurgical, engineering and production and also to improve on existing knowledge and develop new ones.

THIS BILL WAS PASSED BY THE SENATE ON WEDNESDAY, 5TH MAY, 2021



.....
President,
Senate of the Federal Republic of Nigeria



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Clerk,
Senate of the Federal Republic of Nigeria