



THE SENATE

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

NIGERIA FRENCH LANGUAGE VILLAGE BILL, 2021

A BILL

FOR

AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE NIGERIAN FRENCH LANGUAGE VILLAGE AS AN INTER-UNIVERSITY CENTRE FOR FRENCH STUDIES AND FOR OTHER MATTERS CONNECTED THEREWITH, 2021, [SB. 483]

FIRST READING

TUESDAY, 21st JULY, 2020

SECOND READING

TUESDAY, 8th DEC. 2020

THIRD READING AND PASSAGE

TUESDAY, 6th JULY, 2021



NIGERIAN FRENCH LANGUAGE VILLAGE BILL, 2021

Arrangement of Clauses

Clauses

1. Establishment of the French Village
 2. Objects of the French Village.
 3. Constitution and Principal Officers of the French Village
 4. Powers of the French Village, and their exercise
 5. Composition of the Council
 6. Functions of the Council and its Finance and General Purposes Committee
 7. Functions of the Academic Board
 8. Functions of the Director-General
 9. Transfer of property, functions
 10. General Funds of the Village
 11. Powers of French Village to make statutes
 12. Mode of exercising power to make statutes
 13. Proof of statutes
 14. Power of Visitor to decide meaning of statute
 15. The Visitor
 16. Power of Visitor to Decide Meaning of Statutes
 17. Removal of certain members of Council
 18. Removal of academic and administrative officers and staff
 19. Removal of examiners
 20. Discipline of students
 21. Exclusion of discrimination on account of race, religion, etc
 22. Compulsory acquisition of land
 23. Restriction on disposals of land by French Village
 24. Quorum and procedure of bodies established by this Bill
 25. Appointment of committees, etc
 26. Transfer of Land to the Village
 27. Retiring age of academic and administrative staff of the French Village
 28. Special provisions relating to pension of professors
 29. Transitional and savings Provisions
 30. Miscellaneous administrative provision
 31. Interpretation
 29. Short Title
- SCHEDULE

A
BILL FOR

AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE NIGERIAN FRENCH LANGUAGE VILLAGE AS
AN INTER-UNIVERSITY CENTRE FOR FRENCH STUDIES AND FOR OTHER MATTERS CONNECTED
THEREWITH, 2021, [SB. 483]

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

Commencement.

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PART I FRENCH VILLAGE AND ITS CONSTITUENT BODIES, ETC.

CONSTITUTION AND FUNCTIONS OF THE

Establishment of the
French Village

1] There is hereby established a body to be known as the Nigeria French Language Village as an Inter-University Centre for French Studies, Badagry, in this Bill referred to as "The French Village".

The Village shall:

Objects of the French
Village.

[a] encourage the learning of the French Language in an environment that will prepare the students in the French Village to-

[i] speak French fluently;

[ii] acquire proficiency in French;

[iii] acquire competence in the writing of the French Language;

[iv] translate to and from the French Language with reference to the English languages; and

[v] interpret simultaneously and consequently to and from French language with reference to the English and Nigerian languages.

[b] hold out to all persons without distinction to race, creed, sex or political conviction the opportunity of acquiring proficiency in the use of French Language.

[c] provide courses of instructions and other facilities for the pursuit of learning French Language:

[d] develop appropriate curricular to suit the needs of learners of French in Nigeria;

[e] work closely with the French Embassy in matters relating to the French studies in Nigeria;

[f] award Testimonials, Certificates, Diplomas, Post graduate Diplomas, and Post Graduate Degrees to persons who complete the courses of study undertaken in the Village;

[g] provide an environment, having all the socio-cultural, physical and psychological facilities, that will facilitate the learning of French language, through a coordinated stimulated process that allows the learner to achieve the linguistic and cultural immersion that is indispensable for communicative competence in French.;

[h] operate with the multi-dimensional and Omni-directional strategy of language acquisition for the benefit of -

[i] French Language undergraduates from Nigerian Universities, for their statutory French Language Immersion Programme;

[i] students of Colleges of Education, for their compulsory Summer French Language Immersion Programme;

[ii] secondary school teachers and students, primary school teachers and pupils; and

[iii] Government and non-Governmental personnel;

[j] serve as a centre for the exchange of information of French studies and of sourcing researches in the area of French studies;

[k] encourage research into problems of learning and teaching of French as a foreign language in Nigeria, with a view to carrying out research into those problems and finding solutions to them;

[l] encourage the development and publication of materials, including books, journals and teaching aids for proficiency programmes and for secondary and tertiary institutions;

[m] compile, assemble and publish the results of researches in French studies in Nigeria and popularize those findings where their general recognition, in the opinion of the Village, is of importance to Nigeria and to French studies in Nigeria; and

[n] carry out other activities as are necessary or expedient for the performance of its functions under this Bill.

[o] to undertake any other activities, appropriate for a French Village of the highest standard.

3. [1] The French Village shall consist of –

Constitution and
Principal Officers of the
French Village

[a] a Council;

[b] a Director-General and an Academic Board;

[c] a body to be called Congregation;

[d] a body to be called Convocation;

[e] the faculties, departments, institutes and other teaching units of the French Village;

[f] 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;

[g] all students and

[h] all other persons who are members of the French Village in accordance with provision made by statute in that behalf.

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

[3] Subject to section 5 of this Bill, provision shall be made by statute with respect to the

constitution of the following bodies, namely, the Council, the Academic Board, Congregation and Convocation.

4. For carrying out its objects as specified in section 1 of this Bill, the French Village shall have power –

Powers of the French Village, and their exercise

[a] To establish such faculties, departments, institutes, schools, extra-mural departments and other teaching units within the French Village as may be approved by the National Universities Commission;

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

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

[d] To provide for the residence, discipline and welfare of members of the French Village;

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

[f] To demand and receive from any student or any other person attending the French Village for the purpose of instruction, such fees as the French Village may from time to time determine;

[g] Subject to section 20 of this Bill, to acquire, hold, grant, charge or otherwise deal with or dispose of movable and immovable property wherever situate;

[h] 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;

[i] to enter into contract, establish trusts, Bill as trustee, solely or jointly with any other person, and employ and Bill through agents;

[j] to erect, provide, equip and maintain libraries, laboratories, lecture halls, halls of residence, refectories, sports grounds, playing fields and other buildings or things [whether in Nigeria or elsewhere] necessary or suitable or convenient for any of the objects of the French Village;

[k] to hold public lectures and to undertake publishing and bookselling;

[l] subject to any limitations or conditions imposed by statute, to invest any moneys appertaining to the French Village 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 un-invested with any bank on deposit or current account.

[m] to borrow, whether at interest or not and if need be upon the security of any or all of the property, movable or immovable, of the French Village, such moneys as the Council may from time to time in its discretion find it necessary or expedient to borrow;

[n] to make gifts for any charitable purpose;

[o] to do anything which it is authorized or required by this Bill or by statute to do;

[p] to do all such Bills or things, whether or not incidental to the foregoing powers, as may advance the objects of the French Village.

[2] Subject to the provisions of this Bill and of the statutes, and without prejudice to section 8[2] of this Bill, the powers conferred on the French Village by subsection [1] of this section shall be exercisable on behalf of the French Village by the Council or by the Academic Board or in any other manner which may be authorized by statute.

[3] The power of the French Village to establish further departments within the French Village shall be exercisable by statute as may be approved by the National Universities Commission.

5. The Council of the French Village shall consist of-

Composition of the Council

[a] one representative of Federal Ministry of Education;

[b] one person to represent the National Universities Commission;

[c] one person to represent the National Commission for Colleges of Education;

[d] four persons representing a variety of interest appointed by the President;

[e] the Director-General of the Village;

[f] the Deputy Director-General of the Village;

[g] one representative of the French Village Congregation for one term of two years at a time;

[h] one representative of the Academic Board for one term of two years at a time.

6. [1] Subject to the provisions of this Bill relating to the Visitor, the Council shall be the governing body of the French Village and shall be charged with the general control and superintendence of the policy, finances and property of the French Village, 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 French Village, 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 French Village are kept and that the accounts of the French village are audited annually by auditors appointed by the Council from the list and in accordance with guidelines supplied by the Auditor-General for the Federation; and that an annual report is published by the French Village together with certified copies of the said accounts as audited.

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

[6] Rules made under subsection [5] of this section by the Finance and General Purposes Committee shall not come into force unless approved by the Council; and in so far as 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 travelling 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] Any three members of the Council may by notice in writing signed by them require the Director-General to convene a special meeting of the Council.

7.

[1] Subject to section 6 of this Bill and subsections [3] and [4] of this section, and to the provisions of this Bill relating to the Visitor, it shall be the general function of the Academic Board to organize and control the teaching of the French Village and the admission and discipline of students, and to promote research at the French Village.

Functions of the
Academic Board

[2] Without prejudice to the generality of subsection [1] of this section and subject as therein mentioned, it shall in particular be the function of the Academic Board to make provision for-

[a] the establishment, organization and control of faculties, schools, institutes, and other teaching units of the French Village subject to the approval of the National Universities Commission;

[b] the organization and control of courses of study at the French Village and of the examinations held in conjunction with those courses, including the appointment of examiner, both internal and external and the allocation of responsibility for different branches of learning;

[c] the award of postgraduate 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 selection of persons for admission as students of the French Village;

[f] the establishment, organization and control of halls of residence and similar institutions at the French Village;

[g] the supervision of the welfare of students at the French Village and the regulations of the conduct.

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

[i] determining what descriptions of dress shall be academic dress for the purposes of the French Village, and regulating the use of academic dress.

[3] The Academic Board shall not establish any new faculty, school, institute or other teaching units of the French Village or any hall of residence or similar institution at the French Village without the approval of the Council.

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

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

[6] Subject to a right of appeal to the Council from a decision of the Academic Board under this subsection, and to the Director-General from a decision of the Council on such an appeal, the Academic Board may deprive any person of any degree, diploma or other award of the French Village which has been conferred upon him if after the due enquiry he is shown to have been guilty of dishonourable or scandalous conduct in obtaining that award.

8. [1] The Director-General shall, in relation to the French Village, take precedence before all other members of the French Village, subject to section 6 of this Bill, and when he is present shall preside at all meetings of Congregation held for conferring degrees and at all meetings of Convocation;

Functions of the
Director-General

[2] Subject to sections 6 and 7 of this Bill and the provisions of this Bill relating to the Visitor, the Director-General shall to the exclusion of any other person or authority have the general function, in addition to any other functions conferred on him by this Bill or otherwise, of directing the activities of the French Village, and shall be the Chief Executive and Academic Officer of the French Village and ex-officio Chairman of the Academic Board

PART II TRANSFER OF PROPERTY

9. [1] upon the entry into force of this Bill, all property held immediately before that day by or on behalf of the provisional Council shall, by virtue of this subsection and without further assurance, vest in the French Village and be held by it for the purposes of the French Village; and

Transfer of property,
functions, etc

[2] The provisions of the Third schedule to this Bill shall have effect with respect to, and to matters arising from, the transfer of property by this section and with respect to the other matters

- mentioned in that schedule.
10. [1] There shall be a general source for funding the Nigerian French Language Village, Badagry, which shall consist of the following: General Funds of the Village
- [a] Annual budgetary allocation by the Federal Government through; Appropriation by the National Assembly
 - [b] grants-in-aid;
 - [c] fees;
 - [d] income derived from Investments;
 - [e] gifts, legacies, endowments and donations not accepted for a particular purpose;
 - [f] income derived from the exercise of any functions conferred or imposed on the Village by this Bill;
 - [g] any other amounts, charges or dues recoverable by the Village;
 - [i] revenue, from time to time, accruing to the Village by way of subvention;
 - [j] interests on investments;
 - [k] donations and legacies accruing to the Village from any source for the general or special purposes of the Village; and
 - [l] Regular TETFund interventions;
- [2] The general fund shall be applied for the purposes of the Village.

PART III
STATUTES OF THE FRENCH VILLAGE

Powers of French Village
to make statutes

11. [1] Subject to this Bill, the French Village may make statutes for any of the following purposes, that is to say-
- [a] making provision with respect to the composition and constitution of any authority of the French Village;
 - [b] specifying and regulating the powers and duties of any authority of the French Village, and regulating any other matter connected with the French Village or any of its authorities;
 - [c] regulating the admission of students and their discipline and welfare;

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

[e] making provision for any other matter for which provision by statute is authorized or required by this Bill;

[2] Subject to section 26 [6] of this Bill, the Interpretation Bill shall apply in relation to any statute made under this section as it applies to a subsidiary instrument within the meaning of section 25 [1] of that Bill.

[3] The Statute contained in the Third Schedule to this Bill shall come into force on the appointed day and shall be deemed to have been made under this section.

[4] The power to make statute conferred by this section 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 Fourth Schedule to this Bill or any subsequent statute

12.

[1] The power of the French Village to make statutes shall be exercised in accordance with the provisions of this section and not otherwise.

Mode of exercising
power to make statutes

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

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

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

[3] A proposed statute which provides for the establishment of a new department or for the amendment or revocation of any statute whereby a department is established may originate only in the Academic Board, and must be approved as required by subsection [2] of this section by the Academic Board before being so approved by the Council.

[4] Subject to subsection [3] of this section, a proposed statute may originate either in the Academic Board or in the Council, and may be approved as required by subsection [2] of this section by either one of those bodies before the other.

[5] A statute which-

[a] makes provision for or alters the composition or constitution of the Council, the Academic Board or any other authority of the French Village shall not come into effect without the prior approval of the Visitor; or

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

[6] For the purposes of section 3 [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 Academic Board or on the date on which it is duly approved by the Academic Board after having been duly approved by the Council as the case may be, or, in the case of a statute falling within

subsection [5] of this section, on the date on which it is approved by the Council.

3. 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 Director-General, the Deputy Director-General or the Registrar, to the effect that the copy is a true copy of a statute of the French Village.

Proof of statutes

4. [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 think fit.

Power of Visitor to decide meaning of statute

[2] The decision of the visitor on any matter referred to him under this section shall be binding upon the authorities, staff and students of the French Village, and where any question as to the meaning of any provision of a statute has been decided by the visitor under this section, no question as to the meaning of that provision shall be entertained by any court of law in Nigeria: provided that nothing in this subsection 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 1999.

[3] Subsections [1] and [2] of this section 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 subsection [1] of this section and accordingly the references in subsection [2] of this section 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 and academic or a non-academic matter.

PART IV SUPERVISION AND DISCIPLINE

The Visitor

15. [1] The President shall be the Visitor of the French Village

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

[3] It shall be the duty of the bodies and persons comprised in the French Village

[a] to make available to the visitor, and to any other persons conducting a visitation in pursuance of this section, such facilities and assistance as he or they 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 consequences of a visitation

16. [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/her under this clause shall be binding upon the authorities, staff and students of the Village, 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.

17. [1] If it appears to the Council that a member of the Council [Other than an ex-officio member] should be removed from office on the grounds of misconduct or of inability to perform the function of his office, the Council shall make a recommendation to that effect through the Minister to the Visitor, and if the Visitor, after making such enquiries [if any] as he/she considers appropriate, approves the recommendation, he/she may, by an instrument in writing signed by him/her, remove the person in question from office.

Removal of certain members of Council

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

18. [1] if it appears to the Council that there are reasons for believing that the Deputy Director-General[s], the Deans, the Heads of Department, or any other person employed as a member of the academic or administrative staff of the French Village should be removed from his office or employment on the grounds of misconduct or of inability to perform the functions of his/her office or employment, the Council shall-

Removal of academic and administrative officers and staff

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

[b] make arrangements:

[i] for a joint committee of the Council and the Academic Board to investigate the matter, where it relates to the Deputy Director-General, the Registrar, the Deans, the Heads of Department, and to report on it to the Council; or

[ii] for a committee of the Academic Board to investigate the matter, where it relates to any other member of the Staff of the French Village, and to report on it to the Academic Board and to the Council; and

[c] make arrangements for the person in question or his/her representative to be afforded an opportunity of appearing before and being heard by the investigative 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/her by an instrument in writing signed on the directions of the Council.

[2] It shall be the duty of the person by whom an instrument of removal is signed in pursuance of subsection [1] of this section to use his/her best endeavours to cause a copy of the instrument to be served as soon as reasonably practicable on the person to whom it relates.

[3] If it appears-

[a] in the case of the Director-General, to the Council;

[b] in the case of the Deputy Director-General, the Dean and Heads of Departments or any other person employed as mentioned in subsection [1] of this section, to the Director-General, that the person in question should be removed from his/her office or employment on either of the grounds mentioned in the said subsection [1], the Council or, as the case may be, the Director-General, may by a notice signed on the directions of the Council or by the Director-General, prohibit him from exercising the functions of his/her office or employment with a view to his/her removal; and on exercising his/her powers under this subsection the Director-General shall forthwith refer the case to the Council and Council shall give such directions in the matter as it thinks proper.

[4] Nothing in subsection [3] of this section shall be construed as affecting a person's entitlement to the emoluments of his/her office or employment during the period of any prohibition imposed in pursuance of that subsection

[5] Nothing in the foregoing provisions of this section shall apply to employments of such descriptions as may be designated for the purposes of this subsection by statute or by regulations.

9. [1] if it appears to the Director-General that a person appointed as an examiner for any examination of the French Village ought to be removed from his office or appointment, then, except in such cases as may be prescribed, he/she may, after affording to the examiner an opportunity of making representations in person on the matter to the Director-General, remove the examiner from the appointment by an instrument in writing signed by the Director-General, and subject to the provisions of regulations made in pursuance of section 7[5] of this Bill, the Director-General may appoint an appropriate person as examiner in the place of the examiner removed in pursuance of this subsection. Removal of examiners

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

10. [1] Subjects to the provisions of this section, where it appears to the Director-General that any students of the French Village have been guilty of misconduct, the Director-General may, without prejudice to any other disciplinary powers conferred on him/her by statute or regulations direct- Discipline of students

[a] that the student shall not, during such period as may be specified in the direction, participate in such activities of the French Village, or make use of such facilities of the French Village, as may be so specified; or

[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 the period as may be specified in the direction; or

[d] that the student be expelled from the French Village

[2] Where a direction is given under subsection [1] [c] or [d] of this section in respect of any student, the student may, within the prescribed period and in the prescribed manner, appeal from the direction of 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 subsection, shall not affect the operation of the direction while the appeal is pending

[4] The Director-General may delegate his powers under this section to a disciplinary board consisting of such members of the French Village as he may nominate

[5] The Director-General may empower the master of a hall or residence to inflict punishment [short or rustication or expulsion] for breach of the hall rules.

[6] Nothing in this section shall be construed as preventing the restriction or termination of a student's activities at the French Village otherwise than on the grounds of misconduct

[7]it is hereby declared that a direction under subsection [1] [a] of this section may be combined with a direction under subsection [1] [b] of this section

PART V
MISCELLANEOUS AND GENERAL

1. [1] 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 French Village, the holder of any degree of the French Village or of any appointment or employment at the French Village, 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 French Village, by reference to any of those matters;

Exclusion of discrimination on account of race, religion, etc

[2] Provided that nothing in this section shall be construed as preventing the French Village 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 French Village reasonably justifiable in the national interest.

22. For the purpose of the Land Use Bill [which provided for the compulsory acquisition of land for public purposes] the purposes of the French Village shall be public purposes of the Federation; and where an estate or interest in land is acquired by the President in pursuance of this section, the President may, by a certificate under hand and seal of the Registrar of Deeds, transfer it to the French Village.

Compulsory acquisition of land

23. The French Village shall not dispose of or charge any land or an interest in any land [including any land transferred to the French Village by this Bill] except with the prior written consent, either general or special, of the President; 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 25 years or any lease or tenancy to a member of the French Village for residential purposes

Restriction on disposals of land by French Village

24. Except as may be otherwise provided by statute or by regulations, the quorum and procedure of anybody or persons established by this Bill shall be such as may be determined by that body.

Quorum and procedure of bodies established by this Bill

25. [1] Anybody of persons established by this 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 section 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 section shall be construed as-
[a] enabling statutes to be made otherwise than in accordance with section 11 of this Bill; or
[b] enabling the Academic Board to empower any other body to make regulations or to award degrees or other qualifications.

[5] The Director-General shall be member 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 Director-General shall be a member of every committee of which the members are wholly or partly appointed by the Academic Board.

16. [1] For the purpose of the Land Use Act [which provides for the compulsory acquisition of land for public purposes] any purpose of the Village shall be the same as that of the Federation. Transfer of Land to the Village

[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 Village.

17. [1] Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the Pensions Act, the compulsory retiring age of academic and administrative staff of a French Village shall be 65 years except an academic staff on the professorial cadre who shall retire at 70 years. Retiring age of academic and administrative staff of the French Village

[2] A law or rule requiring a person to retire from the public service after serving for 35 years shall not apply to any academic or administrative staff of the French Village.

18. A person who retires as a professor having served Special provisions relating to pension of professors
[a] a minimum period of 20 years as a professor in the French Village or continuously in the service of a University in Nigeria up to the retiring age; and
[b] who during the period of service was absent from the French Village only on approved national or French Village assignments, shall be entitled to pension at a rate equivalent to his/her last annual salary and such allowances, as the Council may, from time to time, determine as qualifying for pension and gratuity, in addition to any other retirement benefits to which he may be entitled.

19. [1] On the commencement of this Bill, any person employed by or serving in French Language Village shall be deemed to have been employed or serving in the Village established under this Bill. Transitional and savings Provisions

[2] All Assets or liabilities belonging to French Language Village shall be deemed to belong to the Village established under this Bill.

10. [1] The seal of the French Village shall be such as may be determined by the Council and approved by the Director-General; and the affixing of the seals shall be authenticated, in the case of the seal of the French Village, by any member of the Council and by the Director-General, Registrar or any other person authorised by statute.

[2] Any document purporting to be a document executed under the seal of the French Village as aforesaid shall be received in evidence and shall, unless the contrary is proved, be deemed to be so executed.

[3] Any Bill 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 French Village by any person generally or specially authorised to do so by the Council.

[4] The validity of any proceedings of anybody 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 Third Schedule to this Bill] 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 French Village by virtue of sections 10 of this Bill or the Second Schedule to this Bill or of any transfer of property from the French Village to a third party.

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

31. [1] In this Bill, unless the context otherwise requires, the following expressions have the meanings hereby assigned to them respectively, that is to say

Interpretation

“Appointed Day” means the day on which this Bill comes into force

“Council” means the Council established by this Bill for the French Village;

“Minister” means the person charged with the responsibility of higher education

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

“Notice” means notice in writing;

“Officer” does not include the Visitor;

“Prescribed” means prescribed by regulations;

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

“Property” includes rights, liabilities and obligations;

“Provisional Council” means the provisional council established under this Bill;

“Regulations” means regulations made by the Academic Board;

“Academic Board” means the Academic Board established by this Bill for the French Village;

“Statute” means a statute made by the French Village under section 11 of this Bill in accordance with the provisions of section 12 of this Bill, and

“The Statutes” means all such statutes as are in force from time to time;

“Student” means both undergraduate and post graduate and any person of such description as may be prescribed for the purposes of this definition;

“Teacher” means a person holding a full time appointment as a member of the teaching or research staff of the French Village;

“French Village” means the Nigeria French Language Village as incorporated and reconstituted by this Bill.

[3] 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 thinks fit, forward therewith its own comments thereon.

32. This Bill may be cited as the Nigeria French Language Village Bill, 2021

Short title

FIRST SCHEDULE

PRINCIPAL OFFICERS

L. The Director-General

1] There shall be a Director-General of a French Village [in this Bill referred to as “The Director-General”] who shall be appointed by the Governing Council in accordance with the provisions of this section.

2] Where a vacancy occurs in the post of the Director-General, the Council shall;

[a] Advertise the vacancy in a reputable journal or a widely read newspaper in Nigeria, specifying –

[i] The qualities of the persons who may apply for the post, and

[ii] The terms and conditions of service applicable to the post, and thereafter draw up a short list of suitable candidates for the post for consideration;

[b] Constitute a Search Team consisting of -

[i] A member of the Council, who is not a member of the Academic Board, as chairman;

ii] Two members of the Academic Board who are not members of the Council, one of whom shall be a professor;

iii] Two members of Congregation who are not members of the Council, one of whom shall be a professor, to identify and nominate for consideration, suitable persons who are not likely to apply for the post on their own volition because they feel that it is not proper to do so.

3] A joint Council and Academic Board Selection Board consisting of -

a] Two members of the Council, not being members of the Academic Board;

b] Two members of the Academic Board who are professors, but who were not members of the Search Team, shall consider the candidates and persons on the short list drawn up under subsection [2] of this section through an examination of their curriculum vitae and interaction with them, and recommend to the Council suitable candidates for further consideration.

4] The Council shall select and appoint as the Director-General one candidate from among the three candidates recommended to it under subsection [3] of this section and thereafter inform the Visitor,

5] The Director-General shall hold office for a single term of five years only on such terms and conditions as may be specified in his/her letter of appointment.

6] For the avoidance of doubt, the provisions of subsection [6] of this section shall only be applicable to those appointed to the office of Director-General after the commencement of this Bill;

7] The Director-General may be removed from office by the Governing Council on grounds of gross misconduct or inability to discharge the functions of his/her office as a result of infirmity of the body or mind, at the initiative of the Council, Academic Board or the Congregation after due process.

8] When the proposal for the removal of the Director-General is made, the Council shall constitute a joint committee of Council and Academic Board consisting of -

[i] Three members of the Council one of whom shall be the Chairman of the committee,

[ii] Two members of the Academic Board, provided that where the ground for removal is infirmity of the body or mind, the Council shall seek appropriate medical opinion.

9] The Committee shall conduct investigation into the allegations made against the Director-General and shall report its findings to the Council.

10] The Council may, where the allegations are proved, remove the Director-General or apply any other disciplinary action it may deem fit and notify the Visitor accordingly, provided that a Director-General who is removed shall have right of appeal to the Visitor.

11] There shall be no sole administration in the Nigeria French Language Village.

12] In any case of a vacancy in the office of the Director-General, the Council shall appoint an acting Director-General on recommendation of the Academic Board.

13] An acting Director-General in all circumstances shall not be in office for more than 6 months.

2. Deputy Director-General

1] There shall be for the French Village a Deputy Director-General as the Council may, from time to time, deem necessary for the proper administration of the Village.

2] Where a vacancy occurs in the post of the Deputy Director-General, the Director-General shall forward to the Council his/her name for confirmation.

4] Deputy Director-General shall -

[a] Assist the Director-General in the performance of his/her functions;

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

[c] Perform such other functions as the Director-General or the Council may, from time to time, assign to him/her.

[5] Deputy Director-General -

[a] shall hold office for a period of two years beginning from the effective date of his/her appointment and on such terms and conditions as may be specified in his/her letter of appointment; and

[b] May be re-appointed for one further period of two years and no more.

[6] A Deputy Director-General may be removed from office for good cause by the Council acting on the recommendations of the Director-General;

[7] "Good cause" for the purpose of this section means gross misconduct or inability to discharge the functions of his/her office arising from infirmity of body or mind

3. Office of the Registrar

[1] There shall be a Registrar, who shall be the chief administrative officer of the French Village and shall be responsible to the Director-General for the day-to-day administrative work of the French Village except as regards matters for which the Bursar is responsible in accordance with section 6[2] of this Bill.

[2] The person holding the office of the Registrar shall, by virtue of that office be, secretary to the Council, the Academic Board, Congregation and Convocation.

[3] The Registrar shall hold office for a single term of five [5] years only, beginning from the effective day of his/her appointment and on such terms and conditions as may be specified in his/her letter of appointment.

[4] Notwithstanding sub-section [3] of this section, the Council may, upon satisfactory performance extend the tenure of the Registrar for a further period of one [1] year only and thereafter, such Registrar shall relinquish his/her post and be assigned to other duties in the Village.

[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/her post and be assigned to other duties in the Village. This is in line with the provisions 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 Director General

4. Selection Board for other principal officers

[1] There shall be, for the French Village, a Selection Board for the appointment of principal officers, other than the Director-General or Deputy Director-General, which shall consist of -

[a] The Director-General, as chairman;

[b] Four members of the Council not being members of the Academic Board; and

[c] Two members of the Academic Board

[2] The functions, procedure and other matters relating to the Selection Board constituted under subsection [10] of this section shall be as the Council may, from time to time, determine.

5. Resignation and re-appointment

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

[a] the case of the Director General or Deputy Director General, by notice to the Visitor;

[b] the case of the Director General 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.

6. Director Of Works

There shall be for the Village, a Director of Works, who shall be responsible to the Director General for the administration of the Works Department. He/she shall be responsible for all works, services and maintenance of Village facilities.

7. Director of Health Services

There shall be for the Village, a Director of Health Services who shall be responsible to the Director General for the administration of the Health Centre and he shall be the Chief Medical Officer of the Village and shall coordinate all matters relating to the health of all staff and students.

[1] Any officer mentioned in this Schedule may resign his office in: -

[a] The case of the Director General, by notice to the Visitor;

[b] in the case of the Director General, by notice to the Council which shall immediately notify the Minister.

[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

TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS AS TO PROPERTY, FUNCTIONS, ETC

1. Transfer of property to French Village

[1] Without prejudice to the generality of paragraph [a] of section 9[1] of this Bill –

[a] the reference in that paragraph to property held by the provisional council shall include a reference to the right to receive and give a good discharge for any grants or contributions which may have been voted or promised to the provisional council;

[b] all debts liabilities of the provisional council outstanding immediately before the appointed day shall on that day become debts or liabilities of the French Village.

2. Transfer of Documents

[1] All agreements, contracts, deeds and other instruments to which the provisional council was a party immediately before the appointed day shall, so far as possible and subject to any necessary modifications, have effect from the appointed day, as respects anything failing to be done on or after that day, as if the French Village had been a party thereto in place of the provisional council.

[2] Documents not falling within sub-paragraph [1] of this paragraph, including enactments, which refer, whether specially or generally to the provisional council, shall be construed in accordance with that sub-paragraph so far as applicable.

[3] any legal proceedings or application to any authority pending immediately before the appointed day by or against the provisional council may be continued on or after that day by or against the French Village.

3. Registration of transfers

If the law in force at the place where any property transferred by this Bill is situated provides for the registration of transfers of property of the kind in question [whether by reference to an instrument of transfer or otherwise], the law shall, so far as it provides for alterations of a register [but not for avoidance of transfers, the payment of fees or any other matter] apply with the necessary modifications to the transfer of the property aforesaid; and it shall be the duty of the body to which any property is transferred by this Bill to furnish the necessary particulars of the transfer to the proper officer of the registration authority, and of that officer to register the transfer accordingly.

4. Transfer of functions etc.

[1] The first meetings of the Council shall be convened by the Visitor for such dates [not being later than three months after the appointed day] and in such manner as he/she may determine.

[2] The persons who immediately before the appointed day were members of the Provisional Council shall respectively be deemed to constitute the Council until the respective dates determined in pursuance of the sub-paragraph [1] of the Paragraph.

[3] The first meeting of the Academic Board as reconstituted by this Bill shall be convened by the Visitor for such date [not being later than three months after the appointed day] and in such manner as he/she may determine.

[4] The persons who immediately before the appointed day were members of the Academic Board of the Nigeria French

Language Village shall be deemed to constitute the Academic Board of the French Village until the date determined in pursuance of sub-paragraph [3] of this paragraph.

[5] Persons who immediately before the appointed day were Deans, shall on and after that day continue to be Deans, or become members of the Academic Board.

THIRD SCHEDULE

1. The Council

[1] The composition of Council shall be as provided in section 5 of this Bill.

[2] Any member of the Council holding office otherwise than in pursuance of Section 5 [a], [b], [c] or [d] of this Bill may, by notice to the Council, resign his office.

[3] A member of the Council holding office otherwise than in pursuance of section 5 [a], [b], [c] or [d] of this Bill 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/she was appointed.

[4] Where a member of the Council holding office otherwise than in pursuance of section 4 [a], [b], [c] or [d] of this Bill vacates office before the expiration of the period aforesaid, the body or person by whom he/she was appointed may appoint a successor to hold office for the residue of the term of his/her 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 seven, at least one of whom shall be a member appointed pursuant to section 4 [d], [e] or [h] of this Bill.

[7] If the Director-General is not present at a meeting of the Council, such other members of the Council present at a meeting as the Council may appoint the chairman at the meeting, and subject to section 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.

2. The Finance and General Purposes Committee

[1] The Finance and General Purposes Committee of the Council shall consist of-

[a] the Director-General, who shall be the chairman of the Committee at any meeting at which he is present;

[b] the Deputy Director-General;

[c] six other members of the Council appointed by the Council, of whom two shall be selected from among the members of the Council appointed by the Academic Board and Congregation respectively;

[d] the Council member representing the Federal Ministry of Education.

[2] The quorum of the Committee shall be six.

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

3. The Academic Board

[1] There shall be an Academic Board for the French Village powers consisting of:

- [a] The Director-General;
- [b] The Deputy Director-General;
- [c] All professors of the French Village;
- [d] All deans of the French Village,
- [e] All heads of academic departments, units and research institutes of the French Village;
- [f] The French Village Librarian; and
- [g] Academic members of the Congregation who are not professors as specified in the Laws of the French Village.

[2] The Academic Board shall have powers in all academic matters including the organization and control of-

- [a] Teaching and research;
- [b] Admission of students;
- [c] Award of degrees including Honoris Causa, Certificates and Diplomas;
- [d] Promotion of research; and
- [e] The exercise of other functions in accordance with the Laws and Statutes of the French Village.

[3] The Director-General shall be the chairman at all meetings of the Academic Board when he/she is present; and when he is not present the Deputy Director-General, or in his/her absence such other member of the Academic Board present at the meeting as the Academic Board may appoint for that meeting, shall be the chairman at the meeting.

[4] The quorum of the Academic Board shall be one third of its total membership; and subject to paragraph [2] of this Article, the Academic Board may regulate its own procedure.

4. Congregation

[1] Congregation shall consist of-

- [a] the Director-General and the Deputy Director-General;
- [b] all graduate staff of the French Village within the meaning of the Bill; and

[2] subject to section 6 of the Bill, the Director-General shall be the Chairman at all meetings of Congregation when he is present; and when he is not present, the Deputy Director-General, or in his/her absence such other member of Congregation presents at the meeting as Congregation present at the meeting as Congregation may appoint for that meeting, shall be the chairman at the meeting.

[3] The quorum of Congregation shall be one third, of the whole number nearest to one third, of the total number of members of congregation.

[4] A certificate signed by the Director-General 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 have such functions, in addition to the function of appointing representative[s] to the Council, as may be provided by statute or regulations.

5. Convocation

[1] Convocation shall consist of-

[a] the officers of the French Village mentioned in the First Schedule to the Bill; and

[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/her name registered as a member of Convocation if-

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

[b] he/she applies for the registration of his/her 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] of this article, 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/she is entitled to have his/her 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 French Village 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 date shall be disregarded.

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

[7] Subject to section 5 of the Bill, the Director-General shall be chairman at all meetings of Convocation when he is present, and when he is not present the Deputy Director-General, or in his absence such other member of Convocation present at the meeting as Convocation may appoint for that meeting, shall be the chairman at the meeting.

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

6. Organization of academic work of the French Village

[1] Subject to the statutes, the academic work of the French Village shall be organized in such manner as may be prescribed by

the Academic Board.

[2] The academic work of the French Village shall be distributed, in such manner as may be prescribed, among the departments, schools, institutes or other teaching units as may be established by regulations.

[3] Regulations may provide for any school established in pursuance of paragraph [1] of this bill.

7. Board of Studies

[1] There shall be a board of studies established for the French Village.

[2] the board of studies shall consist of-

[a] the Director-General and the Deputy Director-General;

[b] the Academic Heads of Department;

[c] Professors on sabbatical leave in the French Village as may be approved by the Academic Board.

[3] The quorum of a board of studies shall be one third [or the whole number nearest to one third] of the total number of the members for the time being of the board, whichever is the greater, and subject to article 8[3] of this Statute and to any provision made by regulations in that behalf, the board may regulate its own procedure.

[4] Subject to the provisions of the Bill, it shall be the function of the board of studies-

[a] to advise and report to the Academic Board on all matters relating to the organisation of education, teaching and research including curricula and examinations;

[b] to consider the progress and conduct of students in that teaching unit and to report thereon;

[c] to recommend to the Academic Board persons for appointment as examiners; and

[d] to deal with any academic matters referred to it by the Academic Board.

8. Dean of Studies

[1] in the case of departments established by regulations, one of the professors assigned to that teaching unit shall be Dean of that teaching unit.

[2] The Dean of a teaching unit shall be appointed in such manner as may be prescribed and shall hold the office of Dean for such period and on such terms as may be prescribed.

[3] The Dean shall be chairman at all meetings of his/her board of studies when he/she is present; and when he/she is not present, such other member of the board present at the meeting as may be prescribed, or in that member's absence such other member of the board present at the meeting as the board may appoint for that meeting, shall be the chairman at the meeting.

[4] It shall be the function of the Dean of a teaching unit to present to Congregation for the conferment of degrees persons who have qualified for degrees of the French Village at examinations held in the branches of learning for which responsibility is allocated to the board of studies of that unit.

9. Creation of academic posts

Recommendations for the creation of academic posts other than principal officers shall be made by the Academic Board to the Council through the Finance and General Purposes Committee and the Appointment and Promotions Committee.

10. Appointment of academic staff

[1] Subject to the Bill and the statutes, the filling of vacancies in academic posts [including newly created ones] shall be the responsibility of the Academic Board.

[2] For the purpose of filling such vacancies, the Academic Board shall set up suitable selection board to select and make appointments on its behalf.

[3] For appointments to professorships, a board of selection [with power to appoint] shall consist of-

[a] the Director-General

[c] if the post is within a teaching unit, the Dean of that teaching unit;

[d] two members appointed by the Council;

[e] such other persons as the Academic Board may from time to time appoint.

[4] Subject to paragraph [5] of this Article, for appointments to associate professorships, readerships, senior lectureships and other academic posts, a selection board [with power to appoint] shall consist of-

[a] the Director-General;

[b] if the post is within a teaching unit of the French Village, the Dean of that teaching unit;

[c] two members of the Academic Board appointed by the Academic Board; and

[d] such other persons as the Academic Board may from time to time appoint.

[5] All appointments to senior library posts shall be made in the same way as equivalent appointments in the academic staff; and for all such posts, other than that of librarian, the librarian shall be a member of the selection board.

[6] Boards of selection may interview candidates directly or consider the reports of assessors or specialist interviewing panels.

11. Appointment of administrative and technical staff

[1] The administrative and technical staff of the French Village, other than Principal Officers, shall be appointed by the Council or on its behalf by the Director-General or the Registrar in accordance with any delegation of powers made by the Council in that behalf.

[2] In the case of administrative or technical staff who have close and important contracts with the academic staff, there shall be Academic Board participation in the process of selection.

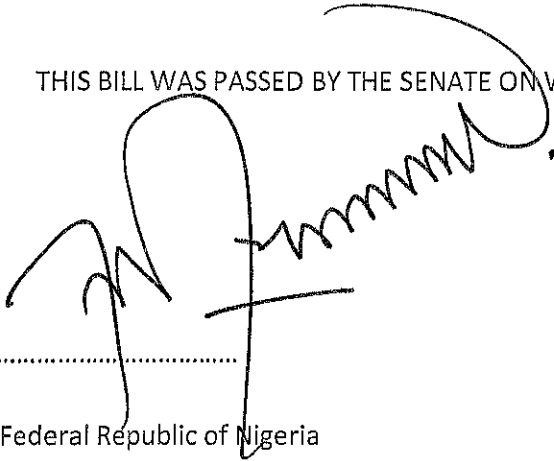
12. Interpretation

In this Statute, the expression "the Bill" means the Nigeria French Language Village Bill and any expression defined in the Bill has the same meaning in this Statute.

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

The core objective of the Bill seeks to provide legislative framework to support the establishment of the Nigerian French Language Village Badagry, Seme Axis in Lagos state to promote acquisition of French language at interpersonal level and as well global scale with a view to making French language skills accessible and to improve French language proficiency for corporate governance around the world while ensuring French language to serve as one of the means to facilitate and promote international trade among diverse and complex human grouping across Nigerian borders and to meet the learning needs of the perspective students of the host communities, neighbouring Francophone countries and the world over.

THIS BILL WAS PASSED BY THE SENATE ON WEDNESDAY, 6TH JULY, 2021



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



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