

*Extraordinary*



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# A BILL

## FOR

AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE NIGERIA ARABIC LANGUAGE VILLAGE, AS AN INTER-UNIVERSITY CENTRE FOR ARABIC STUDIES AND FOR OTHER RELATED MATTERS

*Sponsored by Senator Kashim Shettima*

[ ] Commencement

ENACTED by National Assembly of the Federal Republic of Nigeria

### 1 PART I - ESTABLISHMENT OF THE NIGERIA ARABIC

#### 2 LANGUAGE VILLAGE

3 **1.-(1)** There is hereby established a Language Centre to be known  
4 as the Nigeria Arabic Language Village (in this Act referred to as "the Arabic  
5 Village").

Establishment  
of the Nigerian  
Arabic Village

6 (2) The Arabic Village shall be a body corporate with perpetual  
7 succession and a common seal and may sue and be sued in its corporate  
8 name.

9 **2.** The objects of the Arabic Village shall be to:

Objectives of  
the Arabic Village

10 (a) to promote the study and use of the Arabic language in Nigeria;

11 (b) explore all relevant and available avenues, potentials and  
12 Resources to make the Arabic Village:

13 (i) an active teaching and learning Centre for the study of Arabic;

14 (ii) a resource Centre for specialized professional services to the  
15 public and private sectors of the Nigerian economy;

16 (iii) a Nigerian Inter-University Centre for Arabic studies.

17 **3.** There is hereby established for the Arabic Village a governing  
18 body, which shall be known as the Council of the Nigeria Arabic Language  
19 Village (in this Act referred to as "the Council"), which shall consist of-

Establishment  
and composition  
of the Governing  
Council

20 (a) a Chairman;

1 (b) one person to represent each of the following institutions in  
2 rotation, for one term of two years at a time:

3 (i) the Universities;

4 (ii) the Colleges of Education;

5 (c) one person to represent the University Arabic Teachers'  
6 Association of Nigeria;

7 (d) one person to represent the Inter Colleges of Education Arabic  
8 Teachers' Association;

9 (e) four persons with relevant knowledge and experience in Language  
10 studies selected on individual merit, to represent public interest;

11 (f) a representative of the Federal Ministry of Education;

12 (g) a representative of the National Universities Commission;

13 (h) the Executive Director of the Arabic Village;

14 (i) the Deputy Executive Director of the Arabic Village;

15 (j) the Registrar of the Arabic Village shall serve as Secretary to the  
16 Council;

17 (k) one representative of the Arabic Village Congregation for one  
18 term of two years at a time;

19 (l) one representative of the Arabic Village Academic Board for one  
20 term of two years at a time.

21 (2) The Chairman and members of the Council, other than ex-officio  
22 shall be appointed by the President on the recommendation of the Minister.

23 (3) The President, on the recommendation of the Minister, shall  
24 appoint a person to act in place of the Chairman during a long absence or  
25 temporary incapacity by illness of the Chairman and that person while so  
26 acting may exercise the functions of the Chairman.

27 (4) Subject to subsection (2) of this section if any other member is  
28 incapacitated by illness or long absence in the performance of his official  
29 duties, a temporary member may be appointed, in the same manner and in  
30 accordance with the same procedure under which the incapacitated member

1 was appointed, and while the appointment subsists, he may exercise all the  
2 functions of the member under this Act.

3 (5) The supplementary provisions set out in the schedule to this Act  
4 shall have effect with respect to the proceedings of the Council and other  
5 matters contained therein.

6 4.-(1) The Chairman shall hold office for a period of 4 years only. Tenure of Office  
of members of  
the Council  
7 (2) A member of the Council, other than ex-officio, shall hold  
8 office for four years only.

9 (3) A member of the Council shall not appoint another person to  
10 represent him at a meeting.

11 5. The Chairman and other external members shall be paid Remuneration  
of a members of  
the Council  
12 allowances in accordance with such rate as may be approved by the Federal  
13 Government in line with extant rules.

14 6.-(1) If it appears to the Council that the Chairman or any member Removal from  
office of the  
members of the  
Council  
15 other than internal members should be removed from office on grounds of  
16 misconduct or inability to perform the functions of his office, the Council  
17 shall make a recommendation to the President through the Minister.

18 (2) If the President, after making such inquiries, as he considers  
19 necessary, approves the recommendation, the Minister shall, in writing,  
20 declare the office of the Chairman or of such a member vacant.

21 (3) Notwithstanding the provision of subsection (1) of this section,  
22 the President, may remove a member of the Council if he is satisfied that it is  
23 in the public interest to do so.

#### 24 PART II - POWERS AND FUNCTIONS OF THE ARABIC VILLAGE

25 7. The functions of the Arabic Village shall be to: Functions of the  
Arabic Village

26 (a) encourage the learning of the Arabic Language in an  
27 environment that will prepare the students in the Arabic Village to:

28 (i) speak Arabic fluently;

29 (ii) acquire proficiency in Arabic;

30 (iii) acquire competence in the writing of the Arabic language;

- 1 (iv) translate to and from the Arabic Language with reference to  
2 English and Nigeria languages; and
- 3 (v) interpret simultaneously to and from Arabic language with  
4 reference to English and Nigerian languages.
- 5 (b) hold out to all persons without distinction of race, creed, sex, age  
6 or political conviction the opportunity of acquiring proficiency in the use of  
7 Arabic language;
- 8 (c) provide courses of instructions and other facilities for the pursuit  
9 of learning Arabic language;
- 10 (d) develop appropriate curricular to suit the needs of the various  
11 users of the Arabic Village;
- 12 (e) award Testimonials, Certificates, and Diplomas to persons who  
13 complete the courses of study undertaken in the Village;
- 14 (f) provide an environment, having all the socio-cultural, physical  
15 and psychological facilities that will facilitate the learning of Arabic  
16 Language;
- 17 (g) to promote sub-regional integration through linguistic and  
18 cultural exchange with neighboring Francophone countries;
- 19 (h) operate with the multi-dimensional and Omni-directional strategy  
20 of language acquisition for the benefit of:
- 21 (i) University undergraduates, for their statutory Arabic language  
22 immersion program;
- 23 (ii) students of Colleges of Education, for their compulsory Arabic  
24 language acculturation program;
- 25 (iii) secondary school teachers and students;
- 26 (iv) primary school teachers and pupils; and
- 27 (v) Government and non - Governmental personnel.
- 28 (i) serve as a Centre of Excellence for the teaching and learning of  
29 Arabic;
- 30 (j) encourage research into problems of learning and teaching of

1 Arabic as a foreign language in Nigeria;  
2 (k) encourage the development and publication of materials,  
3 including books, journals and teaching aids for proficiency programmes and  
4 for primary, secondary and tertiary institutions;

5 (l) compile, assemble and publish the results of researches in  
6 Arabic studies in Nigeria and popularize those findings where their general  
7 recognition, in the opinion of the Arabic Village, is of importance to Nigeria  
8 and to Arabic studies in Nigeria; and

9 (m) in affiliation with any recognized University in Nigeria award  
10 Degree to person who complete the courses of study undertaken in the  
11 Village;

12 (n) carry out other activities as are necessary or expedient for the  
13 performance of its functions under this Act.

14 **8.** Subject to the provisions of this Act, the Council shall:

Functions of the  
Council

15 (a) be charged with the general control and superintendence of the  
16 policies, finances and property of the Arabic Village;

17 (b) ensure that the Arabic Village is staffed by persons with high  
18 communicative competence in Arabic;

19 (c) ensure that proper accounts of the Arabic Village are kept and  
20 that those accounts are audited annually as specified in this Act;

21 (d) organize and control the course of study at the Arabic Village  
22 and the examinations held in conjunction with those courses;

23 (e) organize and control the halls of residence and other facilities  
24 provided by the Arabic Village; and

25 (f) perform such other duties as the President, may, from time to  
26 time, assign to it.

27 **9.** Subject to the approval of the Council, the Arabic Village shall  
28 have power to-

Power of the  
Arabic Village

29 (a) establish such Academic Departments and other Departments

1 and units within the Village as may, from time to time, be necessary or  
2 desirable;

3 (b) recruit and engage competent and qualified teaching and non-  
4 teaching staff needed for the smooth running of the Arabic Village at all times  
5 in-line with extant government regulations and the Village conditions of  
6 service;

7 (c) institute and grant professorships, readerships and other posts and  
8 offices and to make appointments thereto;

9 (d) institute and award fellowships, scholarships, bursaries, medals,  
10 prizes and other titles, distinctions, awards and other forms of recognitions;

11 (e) provide for the residence, discipline and welfare of members of  
12 staff and students of the Arabic Village;

13 (f) hold examinations and award diplomas, certificates and other  
14 distinctions to persons who have pursued courses of study approved by the  
15 Arabic Village and have satisfied such other requirements as the Village may  
16 lay down;

17 (g) in affiliation with any recognized University in Nigeria award  
18 degrees to persons who have pursued courses of study approved by the Arabic  
19 Village and have satisfied such other requirements as the Village may lay  
20 down;

21 (h) grant fellowships or titles to deserving individuals;

22 (i) demand and receive from any student or any other person attending  
23 the Arabic Village for the purpose of instruction such fees as the Village may,  
24 from time to time determine;

25 (j) acquire, hold, grant, charge or otherwise deal with or dispose of  
26 moveable and immovable property wherever situated;

27 (k) accept gifts, legacies and donations, but without obligation to  
28 accept them for a particular purpose unless it approves the terms and conditions  
29 attached thereto;

30 (l) enter into contracts, establish trusts, act as trustee solely or jointly

- 1 with any other person(s) and employ and act through agents;
- 2 (m) erect, provide, equip and maintain libraries, laboratories,
- 3 lecture halls, halls of residence, refectories, sports ground, playing fields
- 4 and other building or things necessary or suitable or convenient for the
- 5 objectives of the Arabic Village;
- 6 (n) hold public lectures and undertake publishing and bookselling;
- 7 (o) subject to the provisions of this Act:
- 8 (i) Invest any money accruing to the Arabic Village by way of
- 9 endowment, whether for general or special purposes, and such other money
- 10 as may not be immediately required for current expenditure, in investments
- 11 or securities or in the purchase or improvement of land, with power from
- 12 time to time to vary any such investments; and
- 13 (ii) deposit any money, for the time being un-invested, with a bank
- 14 approved by the Federal Government, in deposit or current account;
- 15 (p) make gifts for any charitable purposes;
- 16 (q) do anything which is authorized or required by this Act or any
- 17 other law to do; and
- 18 (r) to do all such acts or things, whether or not incidental to the
- 19 foregoing powers as may advance the objects of the Village.
- 20 **10.** Subject to the provisions of this Act, the Council shall:
- 21 (a) exercise on behalf of the Arabic Village, the powers conferred
- 22 on it under this Act; and
- 23 (b) do such other things as are necessary for the successful
- 24 performance of its functions and those of the Arabic Village.
- 25 **11.** The President may give to the Village or to the Council
- 26 directives of a general nature or relating generally to matters of policy with
- 27 regards to the performance of the Village or the Council of its functions
- 28 under this Act and it shall be the duty of the Village or the Council to comply
- 29 with these directives.

Power of the  
Council

Power of the  
President to give  
directives



	1	PART III - STAFF OF THE ARABIC VILLAGE
Appointment of Principal Officers of the Arabic Village	2	<b>12.</b> -(1) The principal officers of the Arabic Village shall consist of:
	3	(a) the Executive Director of the Arabic Village;
	4	(b) the Deputy Executive Director;
	5	(c) the Registrar;
	6	(d) the Bursar;
	7	(e) the Librarian;
	8	(2) The Principal officers, other than the Executive Director, shall:
	9	(a) be appointed by the Council; and
	10	(b) subject to section 11 of this Act, hold office for such period and on
	11	such terms, and emoluments of their offices as may be specified in their letters
	12	of appointment.
Appointment of the Executive Director of the Arabic Village	13	<b>13.</b> -(1) The President shall, on the recommendation of the Minister,
	14	appoint an Executive Director who shall be the Chief Executive and Chief
	15	Academic Officer of the Arabic Village.
	16	(2) The Executive Director shall be a Ph.D. degree holder in Arabic
	17	Language from a recognized University as well as having been a full Professor
	18	of Arabic in a recognized University for at least eight (8) years.
	19	(3) The Executive Director shall:
	20	(a) hold office for one term of five years only and no more; and
	21	(b) be paid such emoluments as may be specified in his letter of
	22	appointment.
Appointment of a Deputy Executive Director of the Arabic Village	23	<b>14.</b> -(1) There shall be a Deputy Executive Director of the Arabic
	24	Village who shall assist the Executive Director in his duties and act in the place
	25	of the Executive Director when the office of the Executive Director is vacant or
	26	the Executive Director is for any reason absent or otherwise unable to perform
	27	his functions as Executive Director.
	28	(2) The Deputy Executive Director shall:
	29	(a) be appointed by the Council on the recommendation of the
	30	Executive Director;

1 (b) hold office for a period of two years beginning with the date of  
2 his appointment, and on such terms as to the emolument of his office and  
3 otherwise as may be specified in his instrument of appointment; and may

4 (c) be eligible for re-appointment for a further term of two years  
5 only.

6 (3) A Deputy Executive Director appointed pursuant to subsection  
7 (2) of this section shall be a Ph.D degree holder in relevant area of Arabic  
8 Language from a recognized University and must have spent a minimum of  
9 (8) eight years as senior lecturer.

10 (4) A person who had held office as Deputy Executive Director for  
11 a continuous period of four years or longer, or so would have held office but  
12 for his resignation, shall not be eligible for appointment as Deputy  
13 Executive Director during the two years immediately following the end of  
14 that period.

15 **15.-(1)** There shall be a Registrar, who shall be the Chief  
16 Administrative Officer of the Arabic Village and shall be responsible to the  
17 Executive Director for the day-to-day administrative work of the Arabic  
18 Village except as regards financial matters for which the Bursar is  
19 responsible in accordance with the terms specified below.

Registrar of the  
Arabic Village

20 (2) The Registrar shall be the Secretary to the Council.

21 (3) The Registrar shall be a graduate of Arabic.

22 (4) The Registrar shall hold the office for a term of five years  
23 beginning from the effective date of his Appointment and on such terms and  
24 condition as may be specified in his letter of appointment.

25 Notwithstanding, the Council may upon satisfactory performance, extend  
26 the tenure for a further period of one year only and thereafter the Registrar  
27 shall relinquish his post and be assigned to other duties in the Village.

28 **16.-(1)** The Bursar shall be the Chief Financial Officer of the  
29 Arabic Village and shall be responsible to the Executive Director for the

Bursar of the  
Arabic Village

	1	day-to-day administrative control of the financial affairs of the Arabic Village.
	2	(2) The Bursar must possess a good honour degree in Accounting,
	3	Finance or Economics from a recognized institution of higher learning.
	4	(3) The Bursar shall hold office for a term of five years beginning
	5	from the effective date of his appointment and on such terms and condition as
	6	may be specified in his letter of appointment. Notwithstanding the Council
	7	may upon satisfactory performance, extend the tenure for a further period of
	8	one year only and thereafter the Bursar shall relinquish his post and be assigned
	9	to other duties in the Village.
Librarian of the Arabic Village	10	<b>17.-(1)</b> The Arabic Village Librarian shall be responsible to the
	11	Executive Director for the administration of the Arabic Village Library and the
	12	co-ordination of the Library services of the Arabic Village.
	13	(2) The Librarian of the Arabic Village shall be very proficient in
	14	Arabic language with not less than ten years working experience (and shall be a
	15	Ph.D. degree holder in Library science).
	16	(3) The Librarian shall hold the office for a term of five years
	17	beginning from the effective date of his appointment and on such terms and
	18	condition as may be specified in his letter of appointment. Notwithstanding the
	19	Council may upon satisfactory performance, extend the tenure for a period of
	20	one year only and thereafter the Librarian shall relinquish his post and be
	21	assigned to other duties in the Village.
Scope of responsibility	22	<b>18.</b> A question arising as to the scope of the responsibilities of the
	23	principal officers shall be determined by the Council.
Appointment of other employees	24	<b>19.</b> The Council may appoint such other persons as employees of the
	25	Arabic Village, as the Council may determine, to assist the Executive Director
	26	in the discharge of his functions.
Condition of service	27	<b>20.</b> The Arabic Village shall operate under the ambit of the National
	28	Universities Commission and the salary structures and conditions of service of
	29	the employees of the Arabic Village shall be similar to those obtainable in the
	30	Universities.

- 1                   **21.** If it appears to the Council that the Executive Director should  
2                   be removed from office, the Council shall make a recommendation to the  
3                   Minister and if the Minister, after making such inquiries as may be  
4                   considered necessary, approves the recommendation, the Minister may,  
5                   with the written approval of the President, declare the office of the Executive  
6                   Director vacant.
- 7                   **22.**-(1) If it appears to the Council that there are reasons for  
8                   believing that a person employed as a senior staff, other than the Executive  
9                   Director, should be removed from office on grounds of misconduct or  
10                  inability to perform the functions of his office, the Council, through its  
11                  appropriate committee shall:
- 12                  (a) give notice of those reasons to the person concerned;
- 13                  (b) afford him an opportunity of making representations on the  
14                  matter to the Council in person;
- 15                  (c) if the person concerned or any three members of the Council so  
16                  request, within the period of one month beginning with the date of the  
17                  notice, make arrangements:
- 18                  (i) for the Appointment and Promotion Committee of the  
19                  Council or an ad hoc committee of Council to investigate the matter and to  
20                  report on it to the Council; and
- 21                  (ii) for the person in question to be afforded an opportunity of  
22                  appearing before and being heard by the investigating committee on the  
23                  matter.
- 24                  (2) If the Council, after considering the report of the investigating  
25                  Committee is satisfied that the person in question should be removed as  
26                  aforesaid, the Council may remove the person concerned by an instrument  
27                  in writing signed by the Chairman of the Council in the case of a Principal  
28                  Officer, or the Registrar in case of other members of staff.
- 29                  (3) The Executive Director may in a case of misconduct by a  
30                  member of the staff other than principal officers which in the opinion of the

Removal from  
office of the  
Executive Director

Removal and  
discipline of  
Senior Staff

1 Executive Director is prejudicial to the interest of the Arabic Village, interdict  
2 or suspend that member, and interdiction or suspension shall forthwith be  
3 reported to the Council for ratification.

4 (4) For good cause, an employee may be interdicted or suspended  
5 from office or his appointment may be terminated by the Council and for the  
6 purpose of this subsection 'good cause' means:

7 (a) physical or mental incapacity which the Council, after obtaining  
8 medical advice, considers to be such as render the person concerned unfit for  
9 the discharge of the functions of his office;

10 (b) conduct of a scandalous or other disgraceful nature which the  
11 Council considers to be such as render the person concerned unfit to continue  
12 to hold his office; or

13 (c) conduct which the Council considers to be such as to constitute  
14 failure or inability of the person concerned to discharge the functions of his  
15 office or to comply with the terms and conditions of his service.

16 (5) A person suspended pursuant to subsection (3) and or (4) of this  
17 section shall not be entitled to any salary or emolument while the person  
18 interdicted shall only be entitled to half of his/her salary and the Council shall  
19 before the expiration of a period of three months after the date of interdiction or  
20 suspension consider the case against that person and come to decision as to:

21 (a) whether to continue that person's interdiction or suspension and if  
22 so, on what terms;

23 (b) whether to re-instate that person to his office if exculpated in  
24 which case the Council shall restore his full emoluments to him with effect  
25 from the date of the interdiction;

26 (c) whether to terminate that person's appointment, in which case the  
27 person shall not be entitled to the proportion of his emolument withheld during  
28 the period of the interdiction;

29 (d) whether to take such lesser disciplinary action against that  
30 person(including the restoration of the proportion of his emoluments that

1 might have been withheld) as Council may determine.

2 (6) In any case where the Council, pursuant to this section, decides  
3 to continue person's suspension or decides to take further disciplinary action  
4 against that person, the Council shall, before the expiration of the period of  
5 three months from that decision, come to a final determination in respect of  
6 the case concerning the person as to whether to dismiss, terminate, retire or  
7 downgrade the officer concerned.

8 (7) It shall be the duty of the person who signed the instrument of  
9 removal by virtue of subsection (2) of this section to serve or cause it to be  
10 served on the person concerned, a copy of the instrument.

11 (8) Nothing in this section shall prevent the Council from making  
12 such regulation for the discipline of other categories of employees and  
13 workers of that Arabic Village as it may think fit.

14 **23.**-(1) If a junior staff is accused of misconduct or inefficiency, the  
15 Executive Director may suspend him for not more than 14 days and  
16 forthwith shall refer the matter to the Junior Staff Disciplinary Committee:

Discipline of  
Junior Staff

17 (a) to consider the case; and

18 (b) to make recommendations as to the appropriate action to be  
19 taken by the Executive Director.

20 (2) In all cases under this section, the junior member of staff shall  
21 be informed in writing of the charges against him and be given reasonable  
22 opportunity to defend himself.

23 (3) the Executive Director may, after considering the  
24 recommendation made pursuant to subsection (1) (b) of this section,  
25 dismiss, terminate, retire or downgrade the junior officer concerned.

26 (4) A person aggrieved by the decision of the Executive Director  
27 under subsection (3) of this section may within a period of 21 days from the  
28 date of the receipt of the letter communicating the decision to him, address a  
29 petition to the Council to reconsider his case. The Council's decision therein  
30 shall be final.

	1	PART IV - ACADEMIC BOARD OF THE ARABIC VILLAGE
Establishment of the Academic Board of the Arabic Village	2	<b>24.</b> -(1) There is hereby established for the Arabic Village an
	3	Academic Board which shall consist of:
	4	(a) the Executive Director as Chairman;
	5	(b) the Deputy Executive Director;
	6	(c) the Registrar shall be the Secretary to the Academic Board.
	7	(d) all Deans;
	8	(e) all Heads of Departments;
	9	(f) heads of Academic Units;
	10	(g) Professors;
	11	(h) the Librarian;
	12	(i) 2 members of Congregation;
	13	(j) the Head of the Academic Affairs Unit.
	14	(2) The Executive Director shall preside over the meeting of the
	15	Academic Board and in his absence the Deputy Executive Director shall
Functions of the Academic Board	16	preside but in the absence of both, the members present at the meeting shall
	17	select one of them to preside at the meeting.
	18	(3) The Academic Board shall meet at least once in a semester.
	19	(4) Subject to subsection (2) and (3) of this section, the Academic
	20	Board shall regulate its own procedure.
	21	<b>25.</b> -(1) The Academic Board shall:
	22	(a) Subject to subsection (2) of this section, formulate, regulate and
	23	continuously evaluate the academic programmes of the Arabic Village;
	24	(b) perform such other functions as are traditional to such bodies, as
	25	the Council may, from time to time, assign to it.
	26	(2) The Academic Board shall ensure that, where the Arabic Village
	27	wishes to provide programmes aimed at specific categories of students from
	28	certain institutions, the particulars of those programmes are first sent:
	29	(a) in the case of undergraduate programmes, to the National
	30	Universities Commission;

1 (b) in case of National certificate of Education programmes, to the  
2 National Commission for Colleges of Education;

3 (c) in the case of professional programmes, to the relevant  
4 professional bodies;

5 (d) in the case of any other programmes, to the recognized body  
6 responsible for supervising the institution, for information and input and  
7 output.

#### 8 PART V - COMMITTEES OF THE COUNCIL

9 **26.** The Council shall establish the following committees:

10 (a) Finance and General Purpose Committee;

11 (b) Appointments and Promotion Committee;

12 © Tenders Committee.

Establishment  
of the Finance,  
General Purpose  
and Tenders  
Committee and  
Appointment and  
Promotion  
Committee

13 **27.**-(1) The Finance and General Purpose Committee shall consist  
14 of:

Composition and  
functions of the  
Finance and  
General Purposes  
Committee

15 (a) the Chairman of the Council as Chairman;

16 (b) the Executive Director;

17 (c) the Deputy Executive Director;

18 (d) FME representative;

19 (e) two external members of the Council to be selected by the  
20 Council;

21 (f) one member of Arabic Village Academic Board (VAB)  
22 representing the Board in Council;

23 (g) the Bursar;

24 (h) the Registrar as Secretary.

25 (2) The Finance and General Purposes Committee shall subject to  
26 the direction of the Council:

27 (a) exercise control over the property and expenditure of the Arabic  
28 Village;

29 (b) be responsible for elaborating the general plans of the Arabic  
30 Village and coordinating the work of such other Committees of the Council



Composition  
and function of  
the Appointment  
and Promotion  
Committee

- 1 as the Council may direct;
- 2 (c) perform such other functions of the Council as the Council may,  
3 from time to time, delegate to it.
- 4 (3) The Finance and General Purposes Committee shall meet as and  
5 when necessary for the performance of its functions under this Act.
- 6 (4) The Finance and General Purposes Committee shall regulate its  
7 own procedure.
- 8 **28.**-(1) The Appointment and Promotions Committee shall consist of-
- 9 (a) the Executive Director of the Arabic Village as Chairman;  
10 (b) the Deputy Executive Director;  
11 (c) the Registrar who shall also serve as Secretary;  
12 (d) two (2) external members of Council to be selected by the  
13 Council;  
14 (e) One (1) Representative of the Federal Ministry of Education  
15 (FME);  
16 (f) Dean of Studies;  
17 (g) the Bursar;  
18 (h) the Librarian;  
19 (i) the Director of Works;  
20 (j) and Heads of the Department concerned.
- 21 (2) Subject to such policies as may be laid down, from time to time, by  
22 the Council, the Appointments and Promotions Committee shall:
- 23 (a) co-ordinate and regulate the appointment and promotion of  
24 members of staff of the Arabic Village;  
25 (b) Consider applications for special training and sabbatical leaves,  
26 leave of absence and for fellowships;  
27 (c) perform such other functions ancillary to those in paragraphs (a)  
28 and (d) of this subsection as the Council may, from time to time, assign to it.
- 29 (3) The Appointments and Promotions Committee shall meet as and  
30 when necessary for the performance of its functions under this Act and shall

1 regulate its own procedure.

2                   **29.** The Tenders Board and Procurement Planning Committee  
3 (PPe) shall be constituted as provided for in Appropriate Acts, Regulation  
4 and Rules.

Tenders Board  
and Procurement  
Planning Committee

5                   **30.**-(1) The Council may, subject to its standing orders, appoint  
6 such other standing and ad-hoc committees as the Council may think fit to  
7 consider and report on any matter with which the Arabic Village is  
8 concerned.

Appointment of  
other Committees

9                   (2) Subject to the provisions of subsection (1) of this section, a  
10 committee, appointed shall be presided over by a member of the Council,  
11 and shall consist of such number of persons, not necessarily members of the  
12 Council, as the Council may determine.

#### 13                   PART VI - CONGREGATION

14                   **31.**-(1) Congregation shall consist of:

Congregation

15                   (a) the Executive Director of the Arabic Village as the Chairman;  
16                   (b) the Deputy Executive Director;  
17                   (c) the Registrar who shall be the secretary;  
18                   (d) the Bursar;  
19                   (e) the Librarian;  
20                   (f) members of the Academic Board; and  
21                   (g) every member of the administrative staff who holds a bachelor  
22 degree of any University recognized for the purpose of this Act not being  
23 honorary degree.

24                   (2) The Executive Director shall be the chairman at all meetings of  
25 Congregation when he is present and in his absence the Deputy Executive  
26 Director and in the absence of both officers, such other member of  
27 Congregation present at the meeting as Congregation may appoint for that  
28 meeting, shall be the chairman at the meeting,

29                   (3) The quorum of the Congregation shall be one-third (or the  
30 whole number nearest to one-third) of the total number of members of the

1 Congregation whichever less.

2 (4) Subject to the foregoing provisions of this Act, Congregation may  
3 regulate its own procedure.

4 (5) Congregation shall be entitled to express by resolution or  
5 otherwise its opinion on all matters affecting the interest and welfare of the  
6 Arabic Village and shall have such other functions in addition to the function of  
7 electing a member of the Council.

8 PART VII - FINANCIAL PROVISIONS

Fund of the  
Arabic Village

9 **32.**-(1) The Arabic Village shall establish and maintain a fund from  
10 which shall be defrayed all expenditure incurred by the Arabic Village.

11 (2) There shall be paid and credited to the fund established pursuant to  
12 subsection (1) of this section:

13 (a) such moneys as may, from time to time, be lent or granted to the  
14 Arabic Village by the Government of the Federation or of a State or any of their  
15 agencies;

16 (b) all moneys raised for the purposes of the Arabic Village by way of  
17 gift, grant in- aid, testamentary disposition or otherwise;

18 (c) all subscriptions or fees and charges for services rendered by the  
19 Arabic Village;

20 (d) all interest received in respect of moneys invested by the Arabic  
21 Village; and

22 (e) all other assets, from time to time, accruing to the Arabic Village.

23 (3) The fund shall be managed in accordance with guidelines given by  
24 the Minister through the National Universities Commission, and without  
25 prejudice to the generality of the power to give guidelines under this  
26 subsection, the guidelines shall in particular contain provisions specifying the  
27 manner in which the assets of the Arabic Village are to be held, and regulating  
28 the making of payments into and out of the fund.

Expenditure of  
the Arabic Village

29 **33.**-(1) With Council approval and mindful of the Executive  
30 Director's approval limits, the Arabic Village may from time to time, apply the

1 funds at its disposal:

2 (a) to the cost of the administration of the Arabic Village and of any  
3 research institute under the Arabic Village's administration;

4 (b) for reimbursing a member of any Committee set up by the  
5 Arabic Village for expenses expressly authorized by the Arabic Village;

6 (c) to the provision of scholarship and other awards for the training  
7 of staff of the Arabic Village;

8 (d) to the payment of salaries, fees, or other remuneration,  
9 allowances, pensions and gratuities or superannuation payable to the  
10 employees of the Arabic Village (including the Executive Director);

11 (e) for the maintenance of any property vested in the Arabic  
12 Village; and

13 (f) in connection with all or any of the functions of the Arabic  
14 Village under this Act or any other enactment.

15 (2) Except as provided for in subsection (1) of this section, no other  
16 remuneration shall be paid to any member of any Committee appointed by  
17 the Arabic Village pursuant to this Act.

18 **34.**-(1) The Council shall cause to be prepared, not later than 30"  
19 September in each Year, an estimate of the expenditure and income of the  
20 Arabic Village during the next succeeding year and when prepared, shall be  
21 submitted to the Minister.

Annual estimates,  
account and audit

22 (2) The Council shall cause to be kept, proper accounts of the  
23 Arabic Village in respect of each year and proper records in relation thereto  
24 and shall cause its accounts to be audited not less than six months after the  
25 end of each year.

26 (3) The Council shall appoint auditors from the list and in  
27 accordance with the guidelines supplied by the Auditor-General of the  
28 Federation.

29 (4) The Council shall, not later than 31<sup>st</sup> July in each year, submit  
30 to the Minister a report, in such form as the President, may, from time to

1 time, direct, on the activities of the Arabic Village during the preceding year  
2 and shall include in the report the audited accounts of the Arabic Village.

3 PART VIII - LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

Limitation of  
suit against the  
Arabic Village

4 **35.**-(1) Subject to the provisions of this Act, the provisions of the  
5 Public Officers Protection Act shall apply in relation to any suit instituted  
6 against an officer or employee of the Arabic Village.

7 (2) Notwithstanding anything contained in any other enactment, no  
8 suit against a member of the Councilor the Registrar or any other officer or  
9 employee of the Arabic Village done in pursuance or execution of this Act or  
10 any enactment or law, or of any public duty authority in respect of any other  
11 enactment or law, duty or authority, shall lie or be instituted in any court unless  
12 it is commenced:

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

15 (b) in the case of continuation of damage or injury, within six months  
16 next after ceasing thereof.

Pre-Action Notice

17 **36.**-(1) No suit shall be commenced against a member of the  
18 Councilor the Registrar or any other officer or employee of the Arabic Village  
19 before the expiration of a period of one month after written notice of the  
20 intention to commence the suit shall have been served on the Arabic Village by  
21 the intending plaintiff or his agent.

22 (2) The notice referred to in subsection (1) of this section shall clearly  
23 and explicitly state the cause of action, the particulars of the claim, the name  
24 and place of abode of the intending plaintiff and the relief which he claims.

Service of  
documents

25 **37.** A notice, summons or other document required or authorized to  
26 be served on the Arabic Village under the provisions of the Act or any other  
27 enactment or law may be served by delivering it to the Registrar or by sending it  
28 by registered post addressed to the Registrar at the principal office of the Arabic  
29 Village.

1                   **38.** In any action or suit against the Arabic Village, no execution or                   Restriction on  
2                   attachment of process in the nature therefore shall be issued against the                   execution against  
3                   Arabic Village unless not less than three months' notice of the intention to                   property of the  
4                   execute or attach has been given to the Arabic Village.                   Arabic Village

5                   **39.** A member of the Council or the Registrar or any officer or  
6                   employee of the Arabic Village shall be indemnified out of the assets of the  
7                   Arabic Village against any liability incurred by him in defending any  
8                   proceeding, whether civil or criminal, if the proceeding is brought against  
9                   him in his capacity as a member of Council, Registrar or other officer or  
10                  employees of the Arabic Village.

Indemnity of  
Members, Registrar,  
Officers, etc.

11                   **40.** In action or suit against the Arabic Village, no execution or                   Payment of  
12 attachment or process in the nature thereof shall be issued against the Arabic                   judgment debt  
13 Village, but any sums of money which may, by the judgment of the court, be  
14 awarded against the Arabic Village shall, subject to any directives given by  
15 the Arabic Village, be paid from the general reserve of the Arabic Village.

## 16 PART IX - MISCELLANEOUS

41. No person shall be required to satisfy requirements as to any of the following matter 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 Arabic Village, the holder of any certificate or degree of the Arabic Village or of any appointment or employment at the Arabic Village and no person shall be subject to any disadvantage or accorded any advantage in relation to the Arabic Village by reference to any of those matters:

Exclusion of discrimination on account of race, religion, etc.

25                PROVIDED that nothing in this section shall be construed as  
26        preventing the Arabic Village from imposing any disability or restriction on  
27        any of the aforementioned persons, where such persons willfully refuse or  
28        fails on ground of religious belief to undertake any duty generally and  
29        uniformly imposed on all such persons or any group of them which duty  
30        having regard to its nature and the special circumstances pertaining thereto,

	1	is in the opinion of the Arabic Village reasonably justified in the national
	2	interest.
Compulsory acquisition of land	3	<b>42.</b> For the purposes of the Land Use Act (which provided for the
	4	compulsory acquisition of land for public purposes) the purposes of the Arabic
	5	Village shall be public purposes of the federation and where an estate or
	6	interest in any land is acquired by the Government in pursuance to this section,
	7	the Government may by a certificate under hand and seal of the Registrar of
	8	Deeds, transfer it to the Arabic Village.
Offices and premises	9	<b>43.</b> -(1) For the purpose of providing offices and premises necessary
	10	for the performance of its functions, the Arabic Village may subject to the Land
	11	use Act:
	12	(a) purchase or take on lease any interest in land, building or property;
	13	(b) build, equip and maintain offices and premises.
	14	(2) The Arabic Village may, subject to the land Use Act, sell or lease
	15	out any Land, office or premises held by it, which is no longer required for the
	16	performance of its functions under this Act.
Power to borrow	17	<b>44.</b> -(1) The Arabic Village may, from time to time, borrow by
	18	overdraft or otherwise such sums as may be required for the performance of its
	19	functions under this Act.
	20	(2) The Arabic Village shall not, without approval of the Minister
	21	borrow money which exceeds, at any time, the limit set by the Minister.
Power to accept gifts	22	<b>45.</b> The Arabic Village may accept gift of land, money or other
	23	property, upon such terms and conditions, if any, as may be specified by the
	24	person or organization making the gift, provided that such gift is not
	25	inconsistent with the objectives and functions of the Arabic Village.
Power to make bye-law	26	<b>46.</b> -(1) The Council may, make regulations relating to internal
	27	domestic power to make matters placed by this Act under its control and
	28	superintendence other than bye-law matters for which provision is to be made
	29	by standing orders under paragraph 10 of the schedule to this Act.
	30	(2) Nothing in subsection (1) of this section shall make it obligatory

1 for the Council to publish regulation in the Gazette.

2 (3) The Council may, with the approval of the Minister make  
3 regulations for giving effect to the provisions of this Act and without  
4 prejudice to the foregoing, regulation shall provide for:

5 (a) the entry into and the type of courses and programmes approved  
6 for the Arabic Village;

7 (b) the duration of the courses and programmes; and

8 (c) the certificates, if any, to be awarded by the Arabic Village.

9 **47.**-(1) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the Pensions Retiring age of  
10 Reform Act, the compulsory retirement age of a staff of the Arabic Village Arabic Village  
11 shall be 65 years; and

12 (2) For academics on Professorial cadre the retirement age shall be  
13 70.

14 (3) A law or rule requiring a person to retire from the public service  
15 after serving for thirty five ears shall not a I to an academic staff of the Arabic  
16 Village.

17 **48.** In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires: Interpretation

18 'Chairman' means the Chairman of Council of the Arabic Village;

19 'Council' means the Governing Council of the Arabic Village;

20 'Fund' means the fund of the Arabic Village established under section 32 of  
21 this Act;

22 'Government' means Federal Government of Nigeria;

23 'Member' means a member of the Council and includes the Chairman;

24 'Principal officers' means the principal officers of the Arabic Village  
25 appointed under Part III of this Act;

26 'Arabic Village' means the Nigeria Arabic language Village established by  
27 section I of this Act;

28 'Minister' means the Minister charged with the responsibility for Education.

29 **49.** This Bill may be cited as the Nigeria Arabic Language Village Citation  
30 Bill, 2020.



## 1 SCHEDULE

## 2 SUPPLEMENTARY PROVISIONS RELATING TO THE COUNCIL, ETC.

3 *Proceedings of the Council*

4 1.-(1) Subject to the provisions of the Act and section 27 of the  
5 Interpretation Act, the Council shall have power to regulate its proceedings and  
6 may make standing orders with respect to the holding of its meetings and those  
7 of its committees, the notice to be given of the proceedings thereat, the keeping  
8 of minutes of those proceedings and the custody and production for inspection  
9 of the minutes.

10 (2) The quorum of the Council shall be seven and the quorum of a  
11 committee of the Council shall be determined by the Council.

12 (3) At a meeting of the Council, the Chairman or person appointed by  
13 the Council to act in that behalf shall preside but if neither of them is present the  
14 members present, at the meeting shall elect one of their number to preside at the  
15 meeting.

16 (4) The Permanent Secretary of the Federal Ministry of Education and  
17 the Executive Secretary of the National Universities Commission may attend a  
18 meeting of the Council and may take part in the deliberations of the Council but  
19 shall not be entitled to vote and shall not count towards a quorum.

20 (5) The Council shall meet at least once in a quarter and in line with  
21 extant rule, the council shall meet for a minimum of 4 times and maximum of 8  
22 times in a year for the performance of its functions under this Act.

23 (6) Any five members of the Council which must include three  
24 external members may by notice in writing signed by them request the  
25 Chairman to convene a special meeting of the Council. The request shall  
26 specify the business to be considered at the meeting and matters not so  
27 specified shall not be considered at the meeting

28 (7) Any question put before the Council at a meeting shall be decided  
29 by consensus; and where this is not possible, by a majority of the votes of  
30 members present and voting.

1 (8) The Chairman shall in the case of an equality of votes have a  
2 casting vote in addition to this deliberative vote.

3 (9) Where the Council desires to seek the advice of any person on a  
4 particular matter, the Council may co-opt the person as a member of the  
5 Council for such period as it thinks fit; but a person who is a member by  
6 virtue of this paragraph shall not be entitled to vote at any meeting of the  
7 Council and shall not count towards the quorum.

8 *Committees*

9 (10) Ex-officio members of committees;

10 By ex-officio members mean:

11 (a) The Bursar;

12 (b) The Librarian;

13 (c) The Director of Works;

14 (d) The Dean of Studies.

15 (11) The Council may appoint one or more committees to carry out  
16 on behalf of the Council such of its functions as the Council may determine.

17 (12) A Committee of the Council shall consist of such number of  
18 persons (not necessarily all members of the Council) as may be determined  
19 by the Council; and a person other than a member of the Council shall hold  
20 office on the Committee in accordance with the terms of his appointment.

21 (13) A decision of a Committee of the Council shall be of no effect  
22 unless it is confirmed by the Council.

23 *Miscellaneous*

24 (14) The fixing of the seal of the Arabic Village shall be  
25 authenticated by the signature of the Executive Director or of some other  
26 persons authorized generally to act for that purpose.

27 (15) Any document purporting to be a document executed under  
28 the seal of the Arabic Village shall be received in evidence and shall, unless  
29 the contrary is proved be deemed executed.

30 (16) A contract or an instrument which, if made or executed by a

1 person not being a body corporate, would not be required to be under seal, may  
2 be made or executed on behalf of the Arabic Village by the Executive Director  
3 and a person generally or specifically authorized to act for that purpose by the  
4 Council.

5 (17) The validity of a proceeding of the Council or its committee shall  
6 not be affected by:

7 (a) a vacancy in the membership of the Council or of the committee;

8 (b) reason that a person not entitled to do so took part in the  
9 proceedings; or

10 (c) a defect in the appointment of a member.

11 (18) A member of the Council and a person holding office on a  
12 Committee of the Council, who has a personal interest in any contract or  
13 arrangement entered into proposed to be considered by the Council or a  
14 Committee shall:

15 (a) forthwith disclose his interest to the Council or Committee, as the  
16 case may be; and

17 (b) not vote on any question relating to the contract or arrangement.

18 (19) The Certificate issued by the Arabic Village to a 300 level  
19 University undergraduate or College of Education student shall be evidence of  
20 satisfactory completion of the requisite mandatory language immersion  
21 programme.

22 (20) Such certificate or its equivalent from other centres endorsed by  
23 the Arabic Village shall, in addition to other statutory requirements, be required  
24 for further studies in Arabic in a Nigerian institution of higher education or for  
25 employment of a graduate of Arabic in the Nigerian Public service.

## EXPLANATORY NOTE

*(This note does not form part of the above Act but is intended to  
explain its purpose)*

This Bill seeks to establish the Nigeria Arabic Language Village in order to promote the study and use of the Arabic Language in Nigeria by exploring all relevant and available avenues, potentials and resources.



FOR

*Sponsored by Senator Olamilekan Adeola Solomon*

[ ] Commencement

1 PART I - ESTABLISHMENT OF THE NIGERIA FRENCH

3	1.-(1) There is hereby established a Language Centre to be known	Establishment
4	as the Nigeria French Language Village (in this Act referred to as "the	of the Nigerian
5	French Village").	French Village

9	<b>2.</b> The objects of the French Village shall be to-	Objectives of the French Village
10	(a) promote the study and use of the French language in Nigeria;	
11	(b) explore all relevant and available avenues, potentials and	
12	Resources to make the French Village-	

(i) an active teaching and learning Centre for the study of French;

(ii) a resource Centre for specialized professional services to the public and private sectors of the Nigerian economy; and

(iii) a Nigerian Inter-University Centre for French studies.

17 18 19	<b>3.-(1)</b> There is established for the Village a governing body which shall be known as the Council of the Nigeria French Language Village (in this Act referred to as the "the Council").	Establishment and Composition of the Governing Council
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20           (2) The Council shall consist of-

- 1 (a) a Chairman;
- 2 (b) one representative of Federal Ministry of Education;
- 3 (c) one person to represent the National University Commission;
- 4 (d) one person to represent the National Commission for Colleges of
- 5 Education;
- 6 (e) two persons with relevant knowledge and experience selected on
- 7 individual merit to represent public interest;
- 8 (f) the Executive Director of the Village;
- 9 (g) the Deputy Executive Director of the Village;
- 10 (h) the Registrar of the Village who shall also serve as Secretary to the
- 11 Council;
- 12 (i) one representative of the French Village Congregation for one
- 13 term of two years at a time;
- 14 (j) one representative of the French Village Academic Board for one
- 15 term of two years at a time.
- 16 (3) The Chairman and members of the council, other than ex-officio
- 17 shall be appointed by the President on the recommendation of the Minister.
- 18 (4) The President, during a long absence or temporary incapacity by
- 19 illness of the Chairman, may appoint a person to act in the place of the
- 20 Chairman and that person while so acting may exercise the functions of the
- 21 Chairman.
- 22 (5) If any other member is incapacitated by illness or long absence
- 23 from performing his official duties, a temporary member may be appointed, in
- 24 the same manner and in accordance with the same procedure under which the
- 25 incapacitated member was appointed, and while the appointment subsists, he
- 26 may exercise all the functions of a member.
- 27 (6) The supplementary provisions set out in the schedule to this Act
- 28 shall have effect with respect to the proceedings of the Council and other
- 29 matters contained therein.

1	4.-(1) The Chairman shall hold office for a single term of 4 years	Tenure of office
2	only.	
3	(2) A member of the Council, other than ex-officio, shall hold	
4	office for 4 years only.	
5	(3) A member of the Council shall not appoint another person to	
6	represent him at a meeting.	
7	5.-(1) The Chairman shall be paid such emolument as may be	Remuneration
8	specified in his letter of appointment.	of Members
9	(2) The allowances payable to members shall be in accordance	
10	with such rates as may be approved by the Government, from time to time.	
11	6.-(1) If it appears to the Council that the Chairman or any other	Removal from
12	member other than ex-officio should be removed from office on grounds of	Office
13	misconduct or inability to perform the functions of his office, the Council	
14	shall make a recommendation to the President through the Minister.	
15	(2) If the President after making such inquiries as he considers	
16	necessary, approves the recommendation, the Minister shall, in writing,	
17	declare the Office of the Chairman or of such a member vacant.	
18	(3) Notwithstanding subsection (1) of this section, the President,	
19	may remove a member if he is satisfied that it is in the public interest to do so.	
20	PART II - FUNCTIONS AND POWERS	
21	7. The Village shall-	Functions of the
22	(a) encourage the learning of the French Language in an	Village
23	environment that will prepare the students in the Village to-	
24	(i) Speak French fluently;	
25	(ii) acquire proficiency in French;	
26	(iii) acquire competence in the writing of the French Language;	
27	(iv) translate to and from the French Language with reference to	
28	the English languages; and	
29	(v) interpret simultaneously and consequently to and from French	
30	language with reference to the English and Nigerian languages.	



- 1 (b) hold out to all persons without distinction to race, creed, sex or  
2 political conviction the opportunity of acquiring proficiency in the use of  
3 French Language;
- 4 (c) provide courses of instructions and other facilities for the pursuit  
5 of learning French Language;
- 6 (d) develop appropriate curricular to suit the needs of the various  
7 users of the Village;
- 8 (e) award Testimonials, Certificates, Diplomas and Degrees to  
9 persons who complete the courses of study undertaken in the Village;
- 10 (f) provide an environment, having all the socio-cultural, physical  
11 and psychological facilities, that will facilitate the learning of French  
12 language, through a coordinated stimulated process that allows the learner to  
13 achieve the linguistic and cultural immersion that is indispensable for  
14 communicative competence in French;
- 15 (g) operate with the multi-dimensional and omni-directional strategy  
16 of language acquisition for the benefit of-
- 17 (i) University undergraduates, for the their statutory French  
18 Language Immersion Programme;
- 19 (ii) students of Colleges of Education, for their compulsory Summer  
20 French Language Immersion Programme;
- 21 (iii) secondary school teachers and students, primary school teachers  
22 and pupils; and
- 23 (iv) Government and non-Governmental personnel;
- 24 (h) serve as a centre for the exchange of information of French studies  
25 and of sourcing researches in the area of French studies;
- 26 (i) encourage research into problems of learning and teaching of  
27 French as a foreign language in Nigeria, with a view to carrying out research  
28 into those problems and finding solutions to them;
- 29 (j) encourage the development and publication of materials,  
30 including books, journals and teaching aids for proficiency programmes and

1 for secondary and tertiary institutions;  
2 (k) compile, assemble and publish the results of researches in  
3 French studies in Nigeria and popularize those findings where their general  
4 recognition, in the opinion of the Village, is of importance to Nigeria and to  
5 French studies in Nigeria; and

6 (l) carry out other activities as are necessary or expedient for the  
7 performance of its functions under this Act.

8 **8. The Council shall-**

Functions of the  
Council

9 (a) subject to the provisions of this Act, be charged with the general  
10 control and superintendence of the policies, finances and property of the  
11 Village;

12 (b) ensure that the Village is staffed by persons with high  
13 communicative competence in French;

14 (c) ensure that proper accounts of the Village are kept and that  
15 those accounts are audited annually as specified in this Act;

16 (d) organize and control the course of study at the Village and the  
17 examinations held in conjunction with those courses;

18 (e) organize and control the halls of residence and the other  
19 facilities provided by the Village; and

20 (f) perform such other duties as the President, may, from time to  
21 time, assign to it.

22 **9. The Village shall have power to-**

Powers of the  
Village

23 (a) establish such units within the Village as may, from time to  
24 time, be necessary or desirable;

25 (b) recruit and engage competent and qualified teaching and non-  
26 teaching staff needed for the smooth running of the French Village at all  
27 times in line with extant government regulations and the Village conditions  
28 of service;

29 (c) institute and grant professorships, readerships, lectureship and  
30 other posts and offices and to make appointment thereto;

- 1 (d) institute and award fellowships, scholarships, bursaries, medals,  
2 prizes and other titles distinctions, award and other forms of assistance;
- 3 (e) provide for the residence, discipline and welfare of members of  
4 staff of the Village;
- 5 (f) hold examinations and grant diplomas, certificates and other  
6 distinctions to persons who have pursued course of study approved by the  
7 Village and have satisfied such other requirements as the Village lay down;
- 8 (g) grant fellowships or titles to deserving individuals;
- 9 (h) demand and receive from any student or any other person  
10 attending the Village for the purpose of instruction such fees as the Village may,  
11 from time to time, determine;
- 12 (i) acquire, hold, grant, charge or otherwise deal with or dispose of  
13 moveable and immovable property wherever situate;
- 14 (j) accept gifts, legacies and donations, but without obligation to  
15 accept them for a particular purpose unless it approves the terms and conditions  
16 attaching thereto;
- 17 (k) enter into contracts, establish trusts, act as trustee solely or jointly  
18 with any other persons, and employ and act through agents;
- 19 (l) erect, provide, equip and maintain libraries, laboratories, lecture  
20 halls, halls of residence, refectories, sports ground, playing fields and other  
21 building or things necessary or suitable or convenient for the objectives of the  
22 Village;
- 23 (m) hold public lectures and to undertake publishing and bookselling;
- 24 (n) subject to the provisions of this Act-
- 25 (i) invest any money accruing to the Village by way of endowment,  
26 whether for general or special purposes, and such other money may not be  
27 immediately required for current expenditure, in investments or securities or in  
28 the purchase or improvement of land, with power from time to time to vary any  
29 such investments, and
- 30 (ii) deposit any money, for the time being uninvested, with a bank

1 approved by the Federal Government, on deposit or current account;  
 2 (o) to make gifts for any charitable purposes;  
 3 (p) to do anything which it is authorized or required by this Act or  
 4 any other law to do; and  
 5 (q) to do all such acts or things, whether or not incidental to the  
 6 foregoing powers as may advance the objects of the Village.

7 **10.** The President, may give to the Village or to the Council  
 8 directives of a general nature or relating generally to matters of policy with  
 9 regard to the performance by the Village or the Council of its functions under  
 10 this Act and it shall be the duty of the Village or the Council to comply with  
 11 these directives.

Power of the  
President to  
give directives

12 **11.** Subject to the provisions of this Act, the Minister may give to  
 13 the Council such directives of a general nature with regard to the exercise by  
 14 the Council of its functions under this Act and it shall be the duty of the  
 15 Council to comply with such directives.

Power of the  
Minister to give  
directives

### 16 PART III - STAFF OF THE VILLAGE

17 **12.-(1)** The Village shall have the following officers-

Appointment of  
Principal Officers

18 (a) the Executive-Director of the Village;  
 19 (b) the Deputy Executive Director of the Village;  
 20 (c) the Registrar of the Village;  
 21 (d) the Bursar of the Village; and  
 22 (e) the Village Librarian;  
 23 (2) The principal officers, other than the Executive-Director, shall-  
 24 (a) be appointed by the Council; and  
 25 (b) subject to section 14 of this Act, hold office for such period and  
 26 on such terms, as to emoluments of their offices and otherwise as may be  
 27 specified in their letter of appointment.

28 **13.-(1)** The President shall, on the recommendation of the  
 29 Minister, appoint a Executive Director who shall be the Chief Executive  
 30 Officer and Chief Academic Officer of the Village.

Appointment  
of the Executive  
Director

- 1 (2) The Executive Director shall-
- 2 (a) a Ph.d Degree holder in French Language from a recognized
- 3 university as well as have been a full professor of French for at least 8 years;
- 4 (b) hold office for a term of five years only and no more; and
- 5 (c) be paid such emoluments as may be specified in his letter of
- 6 appointment.

Deputy Executive  
Director

7 **14.**-(1) There shall be a Deputy Executive Director of the Village who

8 shall assist the Executive Director in his duties and act in the place of the

9 Executive Director when the office of Executive Director is vacant or the

10 Executive Director is for any reason absent or otherwise unable to perform his

11 functions as Executive Director.

- 12 (2) The Deputy Executive Director-
- 13 (a) appointed pursuant to sub-section 2 of this section shall be a Ph.d
- 14 Degree holder in relevant area French from recognized university and must
- 15 spent a minimum of 8 years as a senior lecturer;
- 16 (b) shall be appointed by the Council on the recommendation of the
- 17 Executive Director;
- 18 (c) shall hold office for a period of two years beginning with the date
- 19 of his appointment, and on such terms as to the emolument of his office and
- 20 otherwise as may be specified in his instrument of appointment; and
- 21 (d) may be eligible for re-appointment for a further term of two years
- 22 only.

23 (3) A person who had held office as Deputy Executive Director for a

24 continuous period of four years or longer, or would so have held office but for

25 his resignation, shall not be eligible for appointment as Deputy Executive

26 Director during the two years immediately following the end of that period.

Registrar

27 **15.**-(1) There shall be a Registrar who shall be the Chief

28 Administrative Officer of the Village and shall be responsible to the Director-

29 General for the day-to-day administrative work of the Village except as regard

1 matters for which the bursar is responsible in accordance with the terms  
2 specified below.

3 (2) The Registrar shall be the Secretary to the Council.

4 (3) The Registrar shall be a graduate of French.

5 (4) The Registrar shall hold office for a term of 5 years beginning  
6 from the effective date of his appointment and on such terms and conditions  
7 as may be specified in his letter of appointment. Notwithstanding the  
8 Council may on satisfactory performance extend the tenure for a further  
9 period of one year only and thereafter the Registrar shall relinquish his post  
10 and be assigned to other duties.

11 16.-(1) The Bursar shall be the Chief Financial Officer of the The Bursar  
12 Village and shall be responsible to the Executive Director for the-day-to-day  
13 administration and control of the financial affairs of the Village.

14 (2) The Bursar must possess a good honours degree in Accounting,  
15 Finance or Economics from a recognized institution of higher learning.

16 (3) The Bursar shall hold office for a term of 5 years beginning  
17 from the effective date of his appointment and on such terms and conditions  
18 as may be specified in his letter of appointment. Notwithstanding the  
19 Council may on satisfactory performance extend the tenure for a further  
20 period of one year only and thereafter the Bursar shall relinquish his post and  
21 be assigned to other duties.

22 17.-(1) The Village Librarian shall be responsible to the Executive The Village  
23 Director for the administration of the Village Library and the co-ordination Librarian  
24 of the Library services of the Village.

25 (2) The Librarian of the French Language shall be very proficient  
26 in French Language and shall be a Ph.d Degree holder in Library Science.

27 (3) The Librarian shall hold office for a term of 5 years beginning  
28 from the effective date of his appointment and on such terms and conditions  
29 as may be specified in his letter of appointment. Notwithstanding the  
30 Council may on satisfactory performance extend the tenure for a further

	1	period of one year only and thereafter the Librarian shall relinquish his post and
	2	be assigned to other duties.
Scope of responsibilities	3	<b>18.</b> A question arising as to the scope of the responsibilities of the
	4	principal officers, shall be determined by the Council.
Appointment of other employees	5	<b>19.-(1)</b> The Council may appoint such other persons as employees of
	6	the Village, as the Council may determine, to assist the Director-General in the
	7	discharge of his functions.
	8	(2) The remuneration and tenure of office of employees of the Village
	9	other than the Director-General shall be determined by the Council and in
	10	consonance with what obtains in similar institutions in Nigeria.
Conditions of Service	11	<b>20.</b> The Village shall operate under the ambit of the National
	12	Universities Commission and the salary structures and conditions of service of
	13	the employees of the Village shall be similar to those obtainable in the Federal
	14	University.
	15	PART IV - DISCIPLINE
Removal from office of the Executive Director	16	<b>21.</b> If it appears to the Council that the Executive Director should be
	17	removed from office, the Council shall make a recommendation to the Minister
	18	and if the Minister, after making such inquiries as considered necessary,
	19	approves the recommendation, the Minister may, with the written approval of
	20	the President in writing declare the office of the Executive Director vacant.
Removal and discipline of Senior Staff	21	<b>22.-(1)</b> If it appears to the Council that there are reasons for believing
	22	that a person employed as a senior staff, other than the Director-General,
	23	should be removed from office on grounds of misconduct or inability to
	24	perform the functions of his office, the Council, through its appropriate
	25	committee shall-
	26	(a) give notice of those reasons to the person concerned;
	27	(b) afford him an opportunity of making representations on the matter
	28	to the Council in person;
	29	(c) if the person concerned or any three members of the Council so
	30	request, within the period of one month beginning with the date of the notice,

1 make arrangements-

2 (i) for the Appointments and Promotion Committee of the Council  
3 or an ad-hoc Committee of Council, to investigate the matter and to report on  
4 it to the Council; and

5 (ii) for the person in question to be afforded an opportunity of  
6 appearing before and being heard by the investigating committee on the  
7 matter.

8 (2) If the Council, after considering the report of the Investigating  
9 Committee is satisfied that the person in question should be removed as  
10 aforesaid, the Council may remove the person concerned by an instrument  
11 in writing signed by the Chairman of the Council, in the case of a principal  
12 officer and the Registrar in the case of other staff.

13 (3) The Executive Director may, in a case of conduct by a member  
14 of the staff which in the opinion of the Executive Director is prejudicial to  
15 the interest of the Village, suspend that member, and suspension shall  
16 forthwith be reported to the Council for ratification.

17 (4) For good cause, an employee may be suspended from office or  
18 his appointment may be terminated by the Council and for the purpose of  
19 this subsection "good cause" means-

20 (a) physical or mental incapacity which the Council, after  
21 obtaining medical advice, considers to be such as render the person  
22 concerned unfit for the discharge of the functions of his office; or

23 (b) conduct of a scandalous or other disgraceful nature which the  
24 Council considers to be such as to render the person concerned unfit to  
25 continue to hold his office; or

26 (c) conduct which the Council considers to be such as to constitute  
27 failure or inability of the person concerned to discharge the functions of his  
28 office or to comply with the terms and conditions of his service.

29 (5) A person suspended pursuant to subsection(3) and or (4) of this  
30 section shall not be entitled to any salary or emolument, while the person



1 interdicted shall only be entitled to half of his/her salary and the Council shall  
2 before the expiration of a period of three months after the date of interdiction or  
3 suspension consider the case against that person and come to decision as to-

4 (a) whether to continue that person's interdiction or suspension and if  
5 so on what terms (including the proportion of his emoluments to be paid to  
6 him);

7 (b) whether to re-instate that a person to his office, in which case the  
8 Council shall restore his full emoluments to him with effect from the date of the  
9 interdiction;

10 (c) whether to terminate that person's appointment, in which case the  
11 person shall not be entitled to the proportion of his emolument withheld during  
12 the period of the interdiction; and

13 (d) whether to take such lesser disciplinary action against that person  
14 (including the restoration of the proportion of his emoluments that might have  
15 been withheld) as the Council may, determine.

16 (6) In any case where the Council, pursuant to this section, decides to  
17 continue a person's suspension or decides to take further disciplinary action  
18 against a person, the Council shall, before the expiration of a period of three  
19 months from that decision, come to a final determination in respect of the case  
20 concerning the person as to whether to dismiss, terminate, retire or downgrade  
21 the officer concerned.

22 (7) It shall be the duty of the person who signed the instrument of  
23 removal by virtue of subsection (2) of this section to serve or cause it to be  
24 served on the person concerned, a copy of the instrument.

25 (8) Nothing in this section shall prevent the Council from making  
26 such regulation for the discipline of other categories of employees and workers  
27 of the Village as it may think fit.

Discipline of  
Junior Staff

28 **23.-(1)** If a junior staff is accused of misconduct or inefficiency, the  
29 Executive Director may suspend him for not more than three months and  
30 forthwith shall refer the matter to the Junior Staff Disciplinary Committee-

1 (a) to consider the case; and

2 (b) to make recommendations as to the appropriate action to be  
3 taken by the Executive Director.

4 (2) In all case under this section, the junior member of staff shall be  
5 informed in writing of the charges against him and be given reasonable  
6 opportunity to defend himself.

7 (3) The Executive Director may, after considering the  
8 recommendation made pursuant to subsection (1) (b) of this section,  
9 dismiss, terminate, retire or downgrade the junior officer concerned.

10 (4) A person aggrieved by the decision of the Executive Director  
11 under subsection (3) of this section may within a period of 21 days from the  
12 date of the receipt of the letter communicating the decision to him, address a  
13 petition to the Council to reconsider his case and the Council's decision  
14 therein shall be final.

15 **24.-(1)** Subject to the provisions of this section, where it appears to  
16 the Executive Director that any student of the Village has been guilty of  
17 misconduct, the Executive Director may without prejudice to any other  
18 disciplinary powers conferred on him by regulations or by law, direct-

Discipline of  
Students

19 (a) that the student shall not, during such period as may be specified  
20 in the direction, participate in such activities of the Village, or make use of  
21 such facilities of the Village, as may be so specified; or

22 (b) that the activities of the student shall, during such period as may  
23 be specified; or

24 (c) that the student be rusticated for such period as may be specified  
25 in the direction; or

26 (d) that the student be expelled from the Village.

27 (2) Where a direction is given under subsection (1) (c) or (d) of this  
28 section in respect of any student, the student may, within the prescribed  
29 period and in the prescribed manner, appeal from the direction to the council  
30 and where such as appeal is brought, the Council shall, after causing such

1 inquiry to be made in the matter as the council considers just, either confirm or  
2 set aside the direction or modify it in such manner as the Council thinks fit.

3 (3) The fact that an appeal from a direction is brought in pursuance of  
4 the last foregoing subsection shall not affect the question of the direction while  
5 the appeal is pending.

6 (4) The Executive Director may delegate his powers under this  
7 section to a student disciplinary committee consisting of such members of the  
8 Village as may be appointed by the Executive Director.

9 (5) Nothing in this section shall be construed as preventing the  
10 restriction or termination of a student's activities at the Village otherwise than  
11 on ground of misconduct.

12 (6) It is declared that a direction under subsection (1) (a) of this  
13 section may be combined with a direction under subsection (1) (b) of this  
14 section.

15 PART V - ACADEMIC BOARD OF THE VILLAGE

Establishment  
of the Academic  
Board

16 25.-(1) There is established for the Village an Academic Board which  
17 shall consist of-

18 (a) the Executive Director as Chairman;

19 (b) the Deputy Executive Director;

20 (c) the Registrar;

21 (d) all deans;

22 (e) all heads of departments;

23 (f) heads of academic units;

24 (g) all professors;

25 (h) the Librarian;

26 (i) two members of the congregation;

27 (j) the head of academic affairs unit who shall be Secretary to the  
28 Board.

29 (2) The Executive Director shall preside over the meeting of the

1 Academic Board and in his absence the Deputy Executive Director shall  
2 preside.

3 (3) The Academic Board shall meet at least once in a semester.

4 (4) Subject to subsection (2) and (3) of this section, the Academic  
5 Board shall regulate its own procedure.

6 **26.** The French Village Academic Board-

Functions of the  
Academic Board

7 (1) Subject to section 7 of this Bill and subsections (2) of this  
8 section and the provisions of this Bill relating to the Function of the French  
9 Village, it shall be the general function of the French Village Academic  
10 Board to organize and control the teaching, the admission of student where  
11 no other enactment provides to the contrary and the discipline of students;  
12 and to promote research at the French Village.

13 (2) Without prejudice to the generality of subsection (9) of this  
14 section and subject as therein mentioned, it shall in particular be the function  
15 of the French Village Academic Board to make provision for:

16 (a) the establishment, organization and control of French Village  
17 and other teaching and research activities of the French Village and the  
18 allocation of responsibilities for different branches of learning;

19 (b) the organization and control of courses of study in the French  
20 Village and of the examinations held in conjunction with those courses,  
21 including the appointment of examiners, both internal and external;

22 (c) the award of Diploma and certificates, and such other  
23 qualifications as may be prescribed in connection with examinations held as  
24 aforesaid;

25 (d) the establishment, organization and control of halls of  
26 residence and similar hostels facilities of the French Village;

27 (e) the supervision of the welfare of students in the French Village  
28 and the regulation of their conduct;

29 (f) the granting of scholarships, prizes and similar awards in so far  
30 as the awards are within the control of the French Village; and

1 (g) determining what descriptions of dress shall be academic dress for  
2 the purposes of the French Village, and regulating the use of academic dress.

3 (3) Subject to this Bill and the statutes, the French Village Academic  
4 Board may make regulations for the purpose of exercising any function  
5 conferred on it either by the foregoing provisions of this section or otherwise or  
6 for the purpose of making provision for any matter for which provision by  
7 regulations is authorized or required by this Bill or by statute.

8 (4) Regulations shall provide that at least one of the persons appointed  
9 as the examiners at each final or professional examination held in conjunction  
10 with any course of study in the French Village is not a teacher in the French  
11 Village but is a teacher of the branch of learning to which the course relates at  
12 some other recognized institutions or a person engaged in practicing the  
13 profession in a reputable organization or institution.

14 (5) Subject to right of appeal to the Council from a decision of the  
15 French Village Academic Board under this sub-section, the French Village  
16 Academic Board may deprive any person of any diploma, certificate or other  
17 award of the French Village which has been conferred upon him if after due  
18 enquiry he is shown to have been guilty of dishonourable or scandalous  
19 conduct in gaining admission into the French Village or obtaining that  
20 award.

#### 21 PART VI - COMMITTEES OF THE COUNCIL

Establishment  
of the Finance,  
General Purpose,  
Tenders and the  
Appointment  
and Promotion  
Committee

22 **27.** The Council shall establish the following Committees-

- 23 (a) Finance and General Purposes Committee;
- 24 (b) Appointments and Promotion Committee; and
- 25 (c) Tenders Committee.

Composition  
and functions  
of the Finance  
and General  
Purpose Committee

26 **28.-(1)** The Finance and General Purpose Committee shall consist of-

- 27 (a) the Chairman of the Council as Chairman;
- 28 (b) the Executive Director of the Village;
- 29 (c) two members of the Council to be selected by the Council;
- 30 (d) the Registrar as Secretary;

1 (e) one member of the Village academic board to be elected by the

2 Board;

3 (f) the Bursar;

4 (g) one National Universities Commission representative; and

5 (h) one representative of Federal Ministry of Education

6 (2) The Finance and General Purpose Committee shall, subject to

7 the direction of the Council-

8 (a) exercise control over the property and expenditure of the

9 Village;

10 (b) be responsible for elaborating the general plans of the Village

11 and co-coordinating the work of such other Committee of the Council as the

12 Council may direct;

13 (c) perform such other functions of the Council as the Council may,

14 from time to time, delegate, to it.

15 (3) The Finance and General Purpose Committee shall meet as and

16 when necessary for the performance of this functions under this Act and

17 shall regulate its own procedure.

18 (4) The Finance and General purpose Committee shall regulate its

19 procedure.

20 **29.-(1)** The Appointment and Promotions Committee shall consist

21 of-

22 (a) the Executive Director of the Village as Chairman;

23 (b) the Deputy Executive Director;

24 (c) three members of the Council to be selected by the Council;

25 (d) the Head of the Department concerned;

26 (e) the Bursar; and

27 (f) the Registrar as Secretary.

28 (2) Subject to such policies as may be laid down, from time to time,

29 by the Council, the Appointment and Promotions Committee shall-

30 (a) co-ordinate and regulate the appointment and promotion of

Composition  
and functions of  
the Appointment  
and Promotion  
Committee

	1	members of staff of the Village;
	2	(b) Consider applications for special training and sabbatical leaves,
	3	leave of absence and for fellowships;
	4	(c) perform such other functions ancillary to those in paragraphs (a)
	5	and (b) of this subsection as the Council may, from time to time, assign to it.
	6	(4) The Appointment and Promotion Committee shall meet as and
	7	when necessary for the performance of its functions under this Act and shall
	8	regulate its own procedure.
Tenders Board and Procurement Planning Committee	9	<b>30.</b> -(1) The Tenders Board and Procurement Committee shall be
	10	constituted as provided for in the appropriate Act, regulations and rules.
Appointment of other Committees	11	<b>31.</b> -(1) The Council may, subject to its standing orders, appoint such
	12	other standing and ad-hoc committees as the Council may think fit to consider
	13	and report on any matter with which the Village is concerned.
	14	(2) Subject to the provisions of subsection (1) of this section, a
	15	committee appointed shall be presided over by a member of the Council, and
	16	shall consist of such number of persons, not necessarily members of the
	17	Council, as the Council may determine.
	18	PART VII - CONGREGATION
Congregation	19	<b>32.</b> -(1) Congregation shall consist of:
	20	(a) the Executive Director of the Village as the Chairman;
	21	(b) the Deputy Executive Director
	22	(c) the Registrar who shall be the Secretary
	23	(d) the Bursar;
	24	(e) the Librarian;
	25	(f) Members of the academic Board; and
	26	(g) every member of staff who holds a Bachelor degree of any
	27	university recognized for the purpose of this Act nor being a honorary degree
	28	(2) The Executive Director shall be the Chairman at all meetings of
	29	congregation when he is present and in his absence the Deputy Executive
	30	Director, and in the absence of both officers, such other member of the

1 congregation present at the meeting as congregation may appoint for that  
2 meeting, shall be the chairman at the meeting.

3 (3) The quorum of the congregation shall be one-third (or the  
4 whole number nearest to one-third) of the total number of members of the  
5 congregation whichever less.

6 (4) Subject to the foregoing provisions of this Act congregation  
7 may regulate its own procedure.

8 (5) Congregation shall be entitle to express by resolution or  
9 otherwise its opinions on all matters affecting the interest and welfare of the  
10 French Village and shall have such other functions in addition to the  
11 function of electing a member of the council.

12 PART VIII - FINANCIAL PROVISIONS

13 33.-(1) The Village shall establish and maintain a fund from which Fund of the  
14 shall be defrayed all expenditure incurred by the Village. Village

15 (2) There shall be paid and credited to the fund established  
16 pursuant to subsection (1) of this section-

17 (a) such moneys as may, from time to time, be lent or granted to the  
18 Village by the Government of the Federation or of a State or any of their  
19 agencies or foreign intervention;

20 (b) all moneys raised for the purposes of the Village by way of gift,  
21 grant in-aid, testamentary disposition or otherwise;

22 (c) all subscription or fees and charges for services rendered by the  
23 Village;

24 (d) all interest received in respect of moneys invested by the  
25 Village; and

26 (e) all other assets, from time to time, accruing to the Village.

27 (3) The fund shall be managed in accordance with guidelines given  
28 by the Minister through the National Universities Commission, and without  
29 prejudice to the generality of the power to give guidelines under this  
30 subsection, the guidelines shall in particular contain provisions specifying



	1	the manner in which the assets of the fund are to be held, and regulating the
	2	making of payments into and out of the fund.
Expenditure of the Village	3	<b>34.</b> -(1) The Village may, from time to time, apply the funds at its
	4	disposal-
	5	(a) to the cost of the administration of the Village and of any research
	6	institute under the village's administration;
	7	(b) for reimbursing a member of any Committee set up by the Village
	8	for expenses expressly authorized by the Village;
	9	(c) to the provision of scholarship and other awards for the training of
	10	staff of the Village;
	11	(d) to the payment of salaries, fees or other remuneration, allowances,
	12	pensions and gratuities or superannuation payable to the employees of the
	13	Village (including the Executive Director);
	14	(e) for the maintenance of any property vested in the Village; and
	15	(f) for in connection with all or any of the functions of the Village
	16	under this Act or any other enactment.
	17	(2) Except as provided for in subsection (1) of this section, no other
	18	remuneration shall be paid to any member of any Committee appointed by the
	19	Village pursuant to this Act.
Annual Estimates, Accounts and Audit	20	<b>35.</b> -(1) The Council shall cause to be prepared, not later than 30th
	21	September in each year, an estimate of the expenditure and income of the
	22	Village during the next succeeding year and when prepared, shall be submitted
	23	to the Minister.
	24	(2) The Council shall cause to be kept proper accounts of the Village
	25	in respect of each year and proper records in relation thereto and shall cause its
	26	accounts to be audited not less than six months after the end of each year.
	27	(3) The Council shall appoint auditors from the list and in accordance
	28	with the guidelines supplied by the Auditor-General of the Federation.
Audited Accounts	29	<b>36.</b> The Council shall, not later than 31st July in each year, submit to
	30	the Minister a report, in such form as the President may, from time to time,

1 direct, on the activities of the Village during the preceding year and shall  
2 include in the report the audited accounts of the Village.

3 PART IX- LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

4 37.-(1) Subject to the provisions of this Act, the provisions of the  
5 Public Officers Protection Act shall apply in relation to any suit instituted  
6 against an officer or employee of the French Village.

Limitation of  
suit against the  
French Village

7 (2) Notwithstanding anything contained in any other enactment,  
8 no suit against a member of the Council or the Registrar or any other officer  
9 or employee of the French Village done in pursuance or execution of this Act  
10 or any enactment or law, or of any public duty authority in respect of any  
11 other enactment or law, duty or authority, shall lie or be instituted in any  
12 court unless it is commenced-

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

15 (b) in the case of continuation of damage or injury, within six  
16 months next after ceasing thereof.

17 38.-(1) No suit shall be commenced against a member of the  
18 Council or the Registrar or any other officer or employee of the French  
19 Village before the expiration of a period of one month after written notice of  
20 the intention to commence the suit shall have been served on the French  
21 Village by the intending plaintiff or his agent.

Pre-Action  
Notice

22 (2) The notice referred to in subsection (1) of this section shall  
23 clearly and explicitly state the cause of action, the particulars of the claim,  
24 the name and place of abode of the intending plaintiff and the relief which he  
25 claims.

26 39. A notice, summons or other document required or authorized  
27 to be served on the French Village under the provisions of the Act or any  
28 other enactment or law may be served by delivering it to the Registrar or by  
29 sending it by registered post addressed to the Registrar at the principal office  
30 of the French Village.

Service of  
documents

Restriction on  
execution against  
property of the  
Village

1                   **40.** In any action or suit against the French Village, no execution or  
2 attachment of process in the nature therefore shall be issued against the French  
3 Village unless not less than three months' notice of the intention to execute or  
4 attach has been given to the French Village.

Indemnity of  
Members, Registrar,  
Officers, etc.

5                   **41.** A member of the Council or the Registrar or any officer or  
6 employee of the French Village shall be indemnified out of the assets of the  
7 French Village against any liability incurred by him in defending any  
8 proceeding, whether civil or criminal, if the proceeding is brought against him  
9 in his capacity as a member of Council, Registrar or other officer or employees  
10 of the French Village.

Payment of  
judgment debt

11                   **42.** In action or suit against the French Village, no execution or  
12 attachment or process in the nature thereof shall be issued against the French  
13 Village, but any sums of money which may, by the judgment of the court, be  
14 awarded against the French Village shall, subject to any directives given by the  
15 French Village, be paid from the general reserve of the French Village.

16                   PART X - MISCELLANEOUS AND GENERAL

Exclusion of  
discrimination on  
account of race,  
religion, etc.

17                   **43.** No person shall be required to satisfy requirements as to any of  
18 the following matter that is to say, race (including ethnic grouping), sex, place  
19 of birth or of family origin, or religious or political persuasion, as a condition of  
20 becoming or continuing to be a student at the Village, the holder of any  
21 certificate or degree of the Village or of any appointment or employment at the  
22 Village and no person shall be subject to any disadvantage or accorded any  
23 advantage in relation to the Village by reference to any of those matters-

24                   PROVIDED that nothing in this section shall be construed as  
25 preventing the Village from imposing any disability or restriction on any of the  
26 aforementioned persons. Where such person willfully refuses or fails on  
27 grounds of religious belief to undertake any duty generally and uniformly  
28 imposed on all such persons or any group of them which duty having regard to  
29 its nature and the special circumstances pertaining thereto, is in the opinion of  
30 the Village reasonably justified in the national interest.

1	<b>44.</b> For the purposes of the Land Use Act (which provided for the	Compulsory
2	compulsory acquisition of land for public purposes) the purposes of the	acquisition of
3	Village shall be public purposes of the federation and where an estate or	land
4	interest in any land is acquired by the Government in pursuance to this	
5	section, the Government may by a certificate under hand and seal of the	
6	registrar of Deeds, transfer it to the Village.	
7	<b>45.</b> -(1) For the purpose of providing offices and premises	Offices and
8	necessary for the performance of its functions, the Village may subject to the	premises
9	Land Use Act-	
10	(a) purchase or take on lease any interest in land, building or	
11	property;	
12	(b) build, equip and maintain offices and premises.	
13	(2) The Village may, subject to the Land Use Act, sell or lease out	
14	any land, office or premises held by it, which is no longer required for the	
15	performance of its functions under this Act.	
16	<b>46.</b> -(1) The Village may, with the approval of the Minister from	Power to borrow
17	time to time, borrow by overdraft or otherwise such sums as may require for	
18	the performance of its functions under this Act.	
19	(2) The Village shall not, without the approval of the Minister	
20	borrow money which exceeds, at any time, the limit set by the Minister.	
21	(3) Notwithstanding subsection (1) of this section, where the sum	
22	to be borrowed is in foreign currency, the Village shall not borrow the sum	
23	without the prior approval of the Minister.	
24	<b>47.</b> The Village may accept gift of land, money or other property,	Power to accept
25	upon such terms and conditions, if any, as may be specified by the person or	gifts
26	organization making the gift, provided that such gift is not inconsistent with	
27	the objectives and functions of the Village.	
28	<b>48.</b> -(1) The Council may, make regulations relating to internal	Power to make
29	domestic matters placed by this Act under its control and superintendence	bye-laws
30	other than matters for which provision is to be made by standing orders	

	1	under paragraph 1 of the Schedule to this Act.
	2	(2) Nothing in subsection (1) of this section shall make it obligatory
	3	for the Council to publish regulation in the Gazette.
	4	(3) The Council may, with the approval of the Minister make
	5	regulations for giving effect to the provisions of this Act and without prejudice
	6	to the foregoing, regulation shall provide for-
	7	(a) the entry into and the type of courses and programmes approved
	8	for the Village;
	9	(b) the duration of the courses and programmes; and
	10	(c) the certificates, if any, to be awarded by the Village.
Retirement age of French Village Staff	11	<b>49.</b> -(a) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the Pensions
	12	Reform Act, the compulsory retiring age of an academic staff shall be 65 years;
	13	and
	14	(b) any law or rule requiring a person to retire from the public service
	15	after serving for 35 years shall not apply to an academic staff of the Village.
	16	(2) For academics on Professorial cadre or its equivalent, the
	17	retirement age shall be 70.
Interpretation	18	<b>50.</b> In this Act-
	19	"Chairman" means the Chairman of the Council of the Village;
	20	"Council" means the Governing Council of the Village;
	21	"Fund" means the fund of the Village established under section 32 of this Act;
	22	"Government" means Federal Government of Nigeria;
	23	"Member" means a member of the Council and includes the Chairman;
	24	"Principal officers" means the principal officers of the Village appointed under
	25	Part III of this Act; and
	26	"Village" means the Nigeria French Language Village established by section 1
	27	of this Act.
Citation	28	<b>51.</b> This Bill may be cited as the Nigeria French Language Village
	29	Bill, 2020.

## 1 SCHEDULE

2 *Section 3 (6)*

## 3 SUPPLEMENTARY PROVISIONS RELATING TO THE COUNCIL, ETC.

4 *Proceedings of the Council*

5 1. Subject to the provision of the Act and section of 27 of the  
6 Interpretation Act, the Council shall have power to regulate its proceedings  
7 and may make standing Orders with respect to the holding of its meetings  
8 and of those of its committee, the notice to be given the proceedings thereat,  
9 the keeping of minutes of those proceedings and the custody and production  
10 for inspection of the minutes.

11 2. The quorum of the Council shall be five and the quorum of a  
12 Committee of the Council shall be determined by the Council.

13 3. At a meeting of the Council, the Chairman or person appointed  
14 by the Council to act in that behalf shall preside but if neither of them is  
15 present, the members present at the meeting shall elect one of their number  
16 to preside at the meeting.

17 4. The Permanent Secretary of the Federal Ministry of Education  
18 and the Executive Secretary of the National Universities Commission may  
19 attend a meeting of the Council and may take part in the deliberations of the  
20 Council but shall not be entitled to vote and shall not count towards a  
21 quorum.

22 5. The Council shall meet at least once in a quarter and as and  
23 when necessary for the performance of its functions under this Act.

24 6. Any three members of the Council which must include one  
25 external member may by notice in writing signed by them request the  
26 Chairman to convene a special meeting of the Council. The request shall  
27 specify the business to be considered at the meeting and matters not so  
28 specified shall not be considered at the meeting.

29 7. A question put before the Council at a meeting shall be decided  
30 by consensus; and where this is not possible, by a majority of the votes of

1 members present and voting.

2 8. The Chairman shall in the case of an equality of votes have a casting  
3 vote in addition to this deliberative vote.

4 9. Where the Council desires to seek the advice of any person on a  
5 particular matter, the Council may co-opt the person as a member of the  
6 Council for such period as it thinks fit; but a person who is a member by virtue  
7 of this paragraph shall not be entitled to vote at any meeting of the Council and  
8 shall not count towards the quorum.

9 *Committees*

10 10. Ex-officio members of committee

11 By ex-officio members is meant:

12 (a) The Bursar;

13 (b) The Librarian;

14 (c) The Director of Works;

15 (d) The Dean of Studies.

16 11. The Council may appoint one or more committees to carry out on  
17 behalf of the Council such of its functions as the Council may determine.

18 12. A Committee of the Council shall consist of such number of  
19 persons (not necessarily all members of the Council) as may be determined by  
20 the Council; and a person other than a member of the Council shall hold office  
21 on the committee accordance with the terms of his appointment.

22 13. A decision of a committee of the Council shall be of no effect  
23 unless it is confirmed by the Council.

24 *Miscellaneous*

25 14. The fixing of the seal of the Village shall be authenticated by the  
26 signature if the Chairman or of some other persons authorized generally to act  
27 for that purpose.

28 15. Any document purporting to be a document executed under the  
29 seal of the Village shall be received in evidence and shall, unless the contrary is  
30 proved be deemed executed.

1                   16. A contract or an instrument which, if under or executed by a  
2                   person not being a body corporate, would not be required to be under seal,  
3                   may be made or executed on behalf of the Village by the Director-General  
4                   and a person generally or specially authorized to act for that purpose by the  
5                   Council.

6                   17. The validity of a proceeding of the Council or its Committee  
7                   shall not be affected by-

8                   (a) a vacancy in the membership of the Council or of the  
9                   Committee; or

10                  (b) reason that the a person not entitled to do so took part in the  
11                  proceedings; or

12                  (c) a defect in the appointment of a member.

13                  18. A member of the Council and a person holding office on a  
14                  Committee of the Council, who has a personal interest in any contract or  
15                  arrangement entered into proposed to be considered by the Council or a  
16                  Committee shall-

17                  (a) forthwith disclose his interest to the Council or committee, as  
18                  the case may be; and

19                  (b) not vote on any question relating to the contract or arrangement.

20                  19. The certificate issued by the French Village to a 300 level  
21                  University undergraduate or College of Education student shall be evidence  
22                  of satisfactory completion of the requisite mandatory language immersion  
23                  programme.

24                  20. Any Language immersion programme certificate not issued by  
25                  Nigeria French Language Village must be validated by the Village. The  
26                  Nigeria Village Language Certificate or any other equivalent certificate  
27                  validated by the Village shall be required for further studies in French in  
28                  Nigeria Institutions of Higher education, for the National Youth Service  
29                  Scheme (NYSC) or for employment of a graduate of French in the Nigeria  
30                  Public Service.



## EXPLANATORY NOTE

*(This note does not form part of the above Act but is intended  
to explain its purpose)*

This Bill seeks to establish the Nigeria French Language Village in order to promote the study and use of the French Language in Nigeria by exploring all relevant and available avenues, potentials and resources.