

A BILL

FOR

AN ACT TO PROMOTE THE UTILIZATION OF CASHEW IN NIGERIA, TO ESTABLISH THE NIGERIAN CASHEW UTILIZATION BOARD, TO FACILITATE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF CASHEW PROCESSING FACILITIES, TO REGULATE QUALITY CONTROL AND STANDARDS, TO PROMOTE MARKET ACCESS AND EXPORT PROMOTION, TO SUPPORT RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES, AND FOR RELATED MATTERS, 2024

Sponsored by Hon. Kareem Tajudeen Abisodun

[] Commencement

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

1 PART 1 - ESTABLISHMENT OF THE NIGERIAN CASHEW

2 UTILIZATION BOARD

3 1.-(1) There is hereby established a body to be known as the Establishment
4 Nigerian Cashew Utilization Board hereinafter referred to as "the Board"). of the Board

5 (2) The Board shall be a body corporate with perpetual succession
6 and a common seal, capable of suing and being sued in its corporate name.

7 2. The functions of the Board shall include, but not be limited to: Functions of the
8 (a) Developing policies and strategies to enhance cashew Board

9 utilization in Nigeria;

10 (b) Monitoring and regulating cashew processing activities;

11 (c) Providing support and incentives to stakeholders in the cashew
12 value chain;

13 (d) Facilitating research and development initiatives to improve
14 cashew processing technologies.

15 PART 2 - PROMOTION OF CASHEW PROCESSING FACILITIES

16 3.-(1) The Federal Government shall provide grants, tax Incentive for
17 incentives, and low-interest loans to entrepreneurs and businesses investing facilities

1 in cashew processing infrastructure.

2 (2) The Board shall facilitate partnerships between government
3 agencies, financial institutions, and private sector stakeholders to support the
4 development of processing facilities.

5 PART 3 - QUALITY CONTROL AND STANDARDS

Quality Standards 6 4.-(1) The Board shall establish and enforce quality standards for
7 cashew products to enhance competitiveness in domestic and international
8 markets.

9 (2) Cashew processing facilities shall undergo regular inspection and
10 certification to ensure compliance with safety and quality regulations.

11 PART 4 - MARKET ACCESS AND EXPORT PROMOTION

Promotion of
Market Access
and Export 12 5.-(1) The Board shall facilitate market access for Nigerian cashew
13 products through trade agreements, promotional campaigns, and participation
14 in international trade fairs.

15 (2) The Board shall support branding and marketing initiatives to
16 promote Nigerian cashew products globally.

17 PART 5 - RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

Funding for
Research and
Development 18 6.-(1) The Federal Government shall allocate funds for research and
19 development programs aimed at enhancing cashew cultivation, processing,
20 and value addition.

21 (2) The Board shall promote collaboration between research
22 institutions, universities, and industry stakeholders to address challenges and
23 seize opportunities in the cashew sector.

24 PART 6 - MONITORING AND EVALUATION

Monitoring
and Evaluation 25 7. -(1) The Board shall establish mechanisms for monitoring and
26 evaluating the implementation of this Act, including the performance of
27 cashew processing facilities and market trends.

28 (2) The Board shall conduct periodic reviews and assessments to
29 identify areas for improvement and make necessary adjustments to policies
30 and programs.

1	PART 7 - PENALTIES AND ENFORCEMENT	
2	8. -(1) Any person who contravenes the provisions of this Bills	Penalties for Violations
3	commits an offense and shall be liable on conviction to a fine or	
4	imprisonment or both as prescribed under this Bill.	
5	(2) The Board and other relevant agencies shall enforce the	
6	provisions of this Act through inspections, fines, and other enforcement	
7	measures.	
8	PART 8 - MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS	
9	9. Existing cashew processing facilities shall have a transitional	Transitional Provisions
10	period to comply with the requirements of this Bill.	
11	10. The National Assembly may amend or repeal any provision of	Amendment and Repeal
12	this Bill as may be necessary.	
13	11. In this Bill, unless the context otherwise requires:	Interpretation
14	"Board" means the Nigerian Cashew Utilization Board established under	
15	Section 3;	
16	"Cashew" means the nut produced by the cashew tree (<i>Anacardium</i>	
17	<i>occidentale</i>);	
18	"Processing facility" means any premises, plant, or equipment used for the	
19	processing of cashew products;	
20	"Export" means the transportation of cashew products out of Nigeria for sale	
21	or distribution to other countries.	
22	12. This Bill may be cited as the Nigerian Cashew Utilization	Short title
23	(Establishment) Bill, 2024.	

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

This Bill seeks to promote the utilization of cashew in Nigeria by establishing the Nigerian Cashew Utilization Board, facilitating the establishment of cashew processing facilities, regulating quality control and standards, promoting market access and export, supporting research and development initiatives.