

# A BILL

## FOR

AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF NATIONAL BOARD FOR ARABIC AND ISLAMIC STUDIES, TO HAVE RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE CONDUCT AND REGULATIONS OF EXAMINATIONS AND ITS DUE ADMINISTRATION AND FOR RELATED MATTERS, 2024

*Sponsored by Hon. Adewunmi Oriyomi Onanuga*

[ ] Commencement

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

1 PART I - ESTABLISHMENT, FUNCTIONS AND OBJECTIVES OF NATIONAL  
2 BOARD FOR ARABIC AND ISLAMIC STUDIES

3 1.(1a) There is established a body to be known as the National Establishment  
4 Board for Arabic and Islamic Studies (in this bill referred to as "the Board")  
5 and shall be a corporate body with perpetual succession with common seal  
6 and may be sued and be sued in its corporate name;

7 (b) The Headquarter of the National Board for Arabic and Islamic  
8 Studies shall be located in Kaduna, Kaduna State and shall have offices in all  
9 states of the federation; and

10 (c) without prejudice to the generality of the provision relating to  
11 the general duties of the Board set out in the Bill, the objectives of the Board  
12 shall be to train, educate, conduct and examination for the students of Arabic  
13 and Islamic studies and to oversee the affairs of Arabic and Islamic studies in  
14 the country in order to foster national development.

15 2.-(1) There is hereby established for the Board a Governing Board Establishment  
16 which shall be appointed by the President and Commander in Chief of the and Membership  
17 Arm Forces, Federal Republic of Nigeria on the recommendation of the of Governing  
18 Honourable Minister of Education. Board

19 (2) That the Governing Board shall consist of:

- 1 (a) a Chairman;
- 2 (b) a Registrar;
- 3 (c) a representative of the Executive Secretary, Nigerian Educational
- 4 Research and Development Council (NERDC);
- 5 (d) a representative of the Executive Secretary, Universal Basic
- 6 Education Commission (UBEC);
- 7 (e) a representative of the Executive Secretary, Joint Admissions and
- 8 Matriculation Board (JAMB);
- 9 (f) One representative from the Federal Ministry of Education (FME);
- 10 (g) Director Institute of Education ABU Zaria;
- 11 (h) Representative of Jama'atul NasarallIslam;
- 12 (i) Three persons to represent Nigerian Universities one of which
- 13 must be a special education specialist;
- 14 (j) Two selected Professors of Arabic or Islamic Studies to represent
- 15 National Association of Teacher of Arabic and Islamic Studies, one each from
- 16 the north and south respectively.
- 17 (k) A representative of National Parents Teachers Association;
- 18 (l) A representative of Nigeria Labour Congress;
- 19 (m) The Board may co-opt one or more members as the case may be.;
- 20 (n) Director of administration NBAIS serves as secretary
- 21 (3) The provisions of the schedule to this Act shall have effect with
- 22 respect to the proceedings of the Board and other matters mentioned there in.

Appointment  
of Governing  
Board and Tenure  
of office

- 23 3. (a) The chairman of the Governing Board shall be a scholar of
- 24 Arabic and/or Islamic Studies;
- 25 (b) The Chairman and other members of the Governing Board shall
- 26 hold office for a period of three years on such terms and conditions as may be
- 27 specified in their letters of appointment, and/or may be re appointed for one
- 28 further period of two years and no more.

Removal from  
Office

- 29 4. (a) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 3 of this Act, a
- 30 member of the Board may at any time be removed from office by the president

1 on the recommendation of the Minister of Education for his inability to  
2 discharge the functions of his office (whether arising from infirmity of mind  
3 or body or any other causes or for misconduct);.

4 (b) A member of the Board may resign his appointment by a notice  
5 in writing under his hand, addressed to the Minister of Education and that  
6 member shall, on the date of receipt of the notice by the Minister of  
7 Education cease to be a member of the Board.

8 5. A member of the Board shall be paid such emoluments, Emoluments  
9 allowances and benefits as the Minister of Education with the approval of  
10 the President may from time to time approve.

11 6.-(1) A member of the Board who is directly or indirectly Disclosure of  
12 interested in any matter being deliberated on by the Board or is interested in Interest  
13 any matter proposed to be considered or contract proposed to be made by the  
14 Board shall as soon as possible after the relevant facts have come to his  
15 knowledge, disclose the nature of his interest at a meeting of the Board.

16 (2) A disclosure under subsection (1) of this section shall be  
17 recorded in the minutes of meetings of the Board and the member concerned  
18 shall:

19 (a) Not, after the disclosure, take part in any deliberation or  
20 decision of the council and

21 (b) Be excluded for the purpose of constituting a quorum of any  
22 meeting of the Board for any deliberation or decisions, with regard to the  
23 subject matter in respect of which his interest is so disclosed.

#### 24 PART II - FUNCTIONS AND POWERS

25 7. Notwithstanding the provisions of any other law the board shall Powers of the  
26 have the responsibility to: Board

27 (a) Conduct examinations leading to the awards of:

28 (i) Basic Arabic and Islamic Secondary Schools Certificates  
29 (BAISSCE);

1 (ii) Senior Arabic and Islamic Secondary Schools Certificate  
2 (SAISSCE).

3 (b) Issue results and certificates and make awards in examinations  
4 conducted by the Board;

5 (c) Develop, Regulate and administer selection examinations into  
6 Arabic and Islamic schools;

7 (d) Monitor, collect and keep records of continuous assessments of  
8 Arabic and Islamic Schools and allied Institutions towards the award of  
9 certificate from the Board;

10 (e) Conduct research; publish statistics and other information in order  
11 to develop appropriate examination tests and syllabi for Arabic and Islamic  
12 Schools;

13 (f) Prepare and submit to the Minister an annual report on standard of  
14 examinations and other related matters; and

15 (g) Make such gifts and donations as the Governing Board may  
16 decide;

17 (h) Regulate and certificates Islamiyyah and Quranic Schools;

18 (i) Advise Federal and States Ministries of Education and  
19 Government Approved Arabic and Islamic Schools, Colleges and Centers in  
20 Nigeria;

21 (k) Collaboration with higher Institutions on Standard and quality  
22 assurance;

23 (i) Carry out such other activities as are expedient for the discharge of  
24 all or any of the, functions conferred on the Board under this Act.

Powers of the  
Board

25 **8.** The Board shall have power to carry out all the functions assigned  
26 to it under section 7 of this Act.

#### 27 PART III - REGISTRAR AND OTHER STAFF

Appointment  
of the Registrar

28 **9.-(1)** The Registrar of the board shall be appointed by the president  
29 on recommendation of the minister of education.

30 (2) The Registrar shall:

- 1 (a) be a person of unquestionable character and integrity, and  
2 (b) have a qualification and experience as are appropriate for a  
3 person required to perform the functions of that office under this Bills; and  
4 (3) The registrar shall hold;  
5 (a) For a term of four years in the first instance and may be eligible  
6 for re-appointment for another four years and no more;  
7 (b) on such other terms and conditions as may be specific in his  
8 letter of appointment;  
9 (4) (a) be the chief Executive and Accounting Officer of the board  
10 (b) be responsible for the day to day administration of the Board;  
11 (c) be responsible for the execution of the policy of the board  
12 subject to the general direct control of governing Board;  
13 (d) be in charge of the general direction and control of all other  
14 employee of the board; and  
15 (e) carry out such duties as may be required of hem by the  
16 governing Board.
- 17 **10.** (a) the governing Board may appoint such other persons to be  
18 officers and employees of the Board as the Governing Board may determine  
19 to assist the Registrar in the exercise of his functions under this Act;  
20 (b) the remuneration and condition of service of the other staff of  
21 the Board shall be determined by the Governing Board
- 22 **11.**-(1) notwithstanding the provision under the clause of this Bill,  
23 the Registrar may be removed from office by the president where any  
24 circumstances arise which in the opinion of the president makes the registrar  
25 no longer capable of carrying out duties and responsibilities of the office.
- 26 (2) A person appointed as the Registrar upon the removal of the  
27 registrar under sub-clause (1) of this clause shall serve the unexpired period  
28 of the form of his predecessor in office or the remainder of the term of the  
29 Board, which whichever is shorter.

Other Staff of  
the Board

Removal of  
Registrar from  
Office

Appointments of other Staff	1	<b>12.</b> -(1) The governing Board may appoint such other members of the
	2	staff in opinion of the Board to be staff of Board necessary to assist the Board in
	3	carrying out its functions under this Bill.
	4	(2) The terms and conditions of the service (including terms and
	5	condition as to the remuneration, payment of allowances and other benefits) of
	6	persons employed by the governing Board for the National Board for Arabic
	7	and Islamic Studies shall in line with the general condition of service as
	8	obtainable in the Public Service of the Federation.
	9	(3) the Board shall have power to appoint, either on transfer or second
	10	went from any public service of the federation, such number of employee
	11	required for the effective discharge of the duties and functions of the Board
	12	under this Bill.
Financial benefits of the Governing Board	13	<b>13.</b> Service in the Board shall be for the duration of the and Board
	14	accordingly, employees of the board in respect of their service as shall be
	15	entitled to other benefits and severance allowances shall be approved by the
	16	governing Board.
Pension Act	17	<b>14.</b> -(a) it is hereby declared that service in the Board shall be
	18	approved for the purpose of the pensions Act and accordingly, officers and
	19	employees of the Board shall be entitled to pensions and gratuities and other
	20	retirement benefit in respect of that office;
	21	(b) Notwithstanding the pensions of subsection (1) of this section,
	22	nothing in this Act shall preclude the appointment of a person to any office on
	23	terms which preclude the grant of a pension or gratuity or other retirement
	24	benefit in respect of that office.
	25	(c) For the purpose of the application of the pension Act, any power
	26	exercisable there under by Minister or Authority of the Federal Government
	27	(not being the power to make regulations under section 26 thereon is hereby
	28	vested in and shall be exercisable by the Governing Board and not by any other
	29	authority.

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PART IV - FINANCIAL PROVISION

**15.** There is established under this Bill a general fund for the day to day Administration of the Board comprising of-

Financial  
Provision

(a) Annual budgeting allocation appropriated by National Assembly for the management of the Board;

(b) take off grants such as other moves as may from time to time making available to the Board to meet the cost of Administration;

(c) all other monies which may from time to time to be made available for the running of the Board.

**16.** (i) there should be maintained for the Board on account into which shall be paid all monies accruing to the Board in line with the provision of clause 14 of this Bill;

Fund of the  
Board

(ii) the Board shall also open and maintain an account into which shall be paid monies for the management of the board virtue of the provision of the clause 18 of this Bill;

(iii) the accounts referred to in sub-clause (1) and (2) of this clause shall be managed in accordance with the extent financial regulations;

(iv) the Board shall from time to time-

((a) Apply the proceeds of the Board established under clause 2 of this Bill;

(b) Apply the proceeds of the monies referred to in sub-clause (2) of this clause to meet the cost of administration, including payment of salaries, fees and other remunerations and allowances payable to members governing Board and employees of the Board, and payment of experts, researchers, professionals and consultants engage by the governing Board for the Board.

**17.** The Board shall cause to be kept the board proper accounts and records and when certified by the Board, these account shall be audited by auditors appointed from the list and in accordance with the guidelines supplied by the Auditor-General of the Federation.

Annual Estimate  
Account and Audit



1 (3) No suit shall be commenced against a Member of the Board or  
 2 the Registrar or any other officer or employee of the Board before the  
 3 expiration of a period of one month after written notice of intention to  
 4 commence the suit shall have been served on the Board by the intending  
 5 plaintiff or his agent.

6 (4) The notice referred to in subsection (3) of this section shall  
 7 clearly and explicitly state the cause of action, the particulars of the claim,  
 8 the name and place of abode of the intending plaintiff and the relief which he  
 9 claims.

10 **22.** A notice, summons or other document required or authorized  
 11 to be served on the Board under the provisions of this Act or any other  
 12 enactment or Law may be served by delivering it to the Registrar or by,  
 13 sending it by registered post addressed to the Registrar at the principal office  
 14 of the Board.

Service of  
Documents

15 **23.** In any action or suits against the Board, no execution or  
 16 attachment or process in the nature thereof shall be issued against the Board  
 17 unless not less than three months' notice of the intention to execute or attach  
 18 has been given to the Board.

Restriction on  
execution against  
property of the  
Board

19 **24.** A Member of the Board or the Registrar or any officer or  
 20 employee of the Board shall be indemnified out of the assets of the Board  
 21 against any liability incurred by him in defending any proceeding, whether  
 22 Civil or Criminal, if the proceeding is brought against him in his capacity as  
 23 a Member, Registrar or other employees of the Board.

Indemnity of  
Members,  
Registrar, Officers,  
etc.

24 PART VI - MISCELLANEOUS

25 **25.-(1)** For the purpose of providing offices and premises  
 26 necessary for the performance of its functions under this act, the Board may:

Offices and  
Premises

27 (a) subject to the provisions of the land use Act, purchase, take on  
 28 lease, or otherwise acquire any land, and/or developed property;

29 (b) build equip and maintain offices and premises.

30 (2) The Board may subject to the provisions of the Land Use Act,

	1	sell or lease any land, offices or premises held by it and no longer required for
	2	the performance of its functions under the Act.
Acquisition of Land	3	<b>26.</b> -(1) Whenever there is any hindrance to the acquisition by the
	4	Board of any land required for any purpose of the Board under this Act, the
	5	Minister may, on the application of the Board declare that the land is required
	6	for the service of the Board.
	7	(2) Where a declaration is made under subsection (1) of this section,
	8	the land to which the declaration relates shall be deemed to be land required for
	9	public purpose of the Federation and accordingly, shall be acquired under the
	10	land use Act.
	11	(3) The compensation and other incidental expenses if any, payable
	12	for the "acquisition of any land under this section or payable under the land use
	13	Act for the revocation of any right relating to the land, as the case may be, shall
	14	be paid by the Board.
Authorisation	15	<b>27.</b> -(1) For the purpose of carrying out the functions conferred on the
	16	Board under this Act, the Registrar or any other officer or employee of the
	17	Board, authorised on the Board behalf:
	18	(a) shall have a right of access to all relevant records of any institution
	19	to which this Act applies; and.
	20	(b) may by notice in writing served on any person in charge of any
	21	such institution require that person to furnish or cause to be furnished
	22	information on such matters as may be specified in the notice.
	23	(2) It shall be the duty of any person required to furnish information
	24	pursuant to subsection (1) of this section to comply with the notice within a
	25	reasonable period of time.
Power of Minister to give directives	26	<b>28.</b> The Minister may give to the Governing Council directives of a
	27	general nature with respect to any of the functions of the Board to comply with
	28	such directives or cause them to be complied with.
Regulations	29	<b>29.</b> -(1) The Board may, with the approval of the Minister, make
	30	regulations generally for the carrying into effect the provisions of this' Act and

1 without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing, the regulations may  
2 provide for:

3 (a) the person or categories of persons who may enter for  
4 examination(s), conducted by the Board;

5 (b) the conduct of candidates during such examinations;

6 (c) the obligations of educational institutions involved in  
7 presenting candidates for the examinations conducted by the Board.

8 (2) Where regulations are made pursuant to subsection (1) of this  
9 section, it shall not be necessary, for their validity to have them published in  
10 a gazette, but the Board shall bring them to the notice of such interested  
11 persons (including the officers and employees of the Board) in such manner  
12 as the Board may, from time to time determine.

13 **30.** All procurements. of goods and services by the Board shall be  
14 strictly in accordance with provision of the Public Procurement Act 2007 as  
15 amended.

Procurements  
of Goods and  
Services

16 **31.** In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires:

Interpretation

17 "Board" means National Board for Arabic and Islamic Studies (NBAIS);

18 "Chairman" means the Chairman of the Governing Board;

19 "Member" means any Member of the Governing Board I which includes the  
20 Chairman;

21 "Minister" means the Minister charged with responsibility for matters  
22 relating to Education;

23 "President" means the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria;

24 "Registrar" means the Registrar of the Board appointed pursuant to section 9  
25 of this Act;

26 "Gift or Donation" anything given free of charge.

27 **32.** This Bill may be cited as the National Board for Arabic and  
28 Islamic Studies (NBAIS) (Establishment) Bill, 2024.

Citation

## 1 SCHEDULE

## 2 SUPPLEMENTARY PROVISIONS RELATING TO THE BOARD

3 *Proceedings of the Board*

4 1.-(1) Subject to this Act and section 31 of the interpretation the  
5 Governing Board may make standing orders regulating its proceedings or  
6 those of its committees.

7 (2) The quorum of the Governing Board shall be the Chairman and  
8 five other Members and the quorum of any committee of the Board shall be  
9 determined by the Board.

10 2.-(1) The Governing Board shall meet not less than two times in each  
11 year and subject there to, the Governing Board shall meet whenever it is  
12 summoned by the Chairman, and if the Chairman is required to do so by notice  
13 given to him by not less than seven other Members of the Governing Board I  
14 shall summon a meeting of the Governing Board to be held within fourteen  
15 days from the date on which the notice is given.

16 (2) At any meeting of the Governing Board the Chairman shall  
17 preside, but if he is absent the Members present at the meeting shall, appoint  
18 one of their number to preside at the meeting.

19 (3) Where the Governing Board desires to obtain the advice of any  
20 person on a particular matter the Board may co-opt him as a Member for such  
21 period as it thinks fit, but a person who is a Member by virtue of this  
22 subparagraph shall not be entitled to vote at any meeting of the Governing  
23 Board and shall not count towards a quorum.

24 *Committees*

25 3.-(1) The Governing Board may appoint one or more Committees to  
26 carry out, on behalf of the Board such of its functions as the Board may  
27 determine.

28 (2) A Committee appointed under this paragraph shall consist of such  
29 number of persons (not necessarily all Members of the Board) as may be  
30 determined by the Governing Board I and a person other than a Member of the

