

A BILL

FOR

AN ACT TO ESTABLISH AIR POWER CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE TO SERVE AS A COORDINATING CENTRE FOR INSTITUTE OF AIR POWER STUDIES, AIR FORCE WAR COLLEGE, AIR WARFARE AND DOCTRINE CENTRE, AIR GROUND INTEGRATION SCHOOL AND NIGERIAN AIR FORCE MUSEUM AND HALL OF FAME AND FOR RELATED MATTERS

Sponsored by Hon. Alhassan Kabiru Usman Rurum

[] Commencement

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

1 PART 1: ESTABLISHMENT OF AIR POWER CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE

2 1.-(1) There is established the Air Power Centre of Excellence ("in Establishment
3 this Bill referred to as "the Centre"). of Air Power
Centre

4 (2) The Centre:

5 (i) Shall be a body corporate with perpetual succession and a
6 common seal;

7 (ii) May sue and be sued in its corporate name

8 (3) The Headquarters of the Centre shall be situated in Abuja.

9 2. The Objectives of the Centre shall be to: Objectives of
the Centre

10 (a) Coordinate all research and training institutions on air power;

11 (b) Coordinate the activities of the Institute of Air Power Studies,
12 Air Force War College, Air Warfare Centre, Air Warfare and Doctrine
13 Centre as well as the NAF Museum and Hall of Fame;

14 (c) Conduct training and research on air power at the strategic,
15 operational and tactical levels;

16 (d) Expand the knowledge and application of air power in the
17 Nigerian Air Force through further learning, research and developmental
18 efforts by providing conducive atmosphere and infrastructure that will

1 enhance air power in Nigeria;

2 (e) Strengthen the capacity- of the Nigerian Air Force to monitor and
3 analyze the dynamics of global politics and security with a view to preparing
4 the Service for future warfare;

5 (f) Enhance the status of Nigerian Air Force as an international
6 organization and facilitate the Service's strategic communications and
7 partnerships around the globe;

8 (g) Attract international researchers and stakeholders in air power
9 across the globe.

Power of the
Centre

10 **3.** For carrying out of its objectives as specified in section 2 (a) to (g)
11 of this Act, the Centre shall have power to-

12 (a) Establish such campuses, schools, extra-mural departments and
13 other teaching and research units within and outside the Centre as may, from
14 time to time, be deemed necessary or desirable;

15 (b) Institute and award fellowships, scholarships, exhibitions,
16 bursaries, medals, prizes and other titles, distinctions, awards and other forms
17 of assistance;

18 (c) Provide for the discipline and welfare of members of the Centre;

19 (d) Hold examinations and grant degrees, certificates of education
20 and other distinctions to persons who have pursued a course of study approved
21 by the Centre and have satisfied such other requirements as the Centre may lay
22 down from time to time;

23 (e) Demand and receive from any participant or any other person
24 attending the College for the purpose of instruction such fees as the Centre
25 may, from time to time, determine subject to the overall directives of the
26 College Governing Council;

27 (f) Acquire, hold, grant, charge or otherwise deal with or dispose of
28 movable and immovable property wherever situate;

29 (g) Accept gifts, legacies and donations, but without obligation to
30 accept the same for a particular purpose unless its Governing Council approves

- 1 the terms and conditions attaching thereto;
- 2 (h) Enter into contracts, establish trusts, act as trustee, solely or
3 jointly with any other person, and employ and act through agents as may be
4 approved by the Governing Council;
- 5 (i) Erect, provide, equip and maintain libraries, lecture halls, halls
6 of residence, refectories, sports grounds, playing fields and other buildings
7 or things necessary or suitable or convenient for any of the objectives of the
8 Centre;
- 9 (j) Hold public lectures and undertake printing, publishing and
10 book-selling;
- 11 (k) Subject to any limitations on conditions imposed by statute, to
12 invest any money appertaining to the Centre by way of endowment, not
13 being immediately required for current expenditure, in any investments or
14 securities or the purchase or improvement of land, with power from time to
15 time to vary any such investments and to deposit any money for the time
16 being not invested with any bank on profitable deposit or current account;
- 17 (l) Borrow, whether on interest or not if need be upon the security
18 of any or all of the properties, movable or immovable, of the Centre, such
19 monies as the Governing Council may, from time to time, in its discretion
20 find necessary or expedient to borrow or to guarantee any loan, advances or
21 credit facilities;
- 22 (m) Make gifts for any charitable purpose;
- 23 (n) Arrange for the general welfare of children of members of staff;
- 24 (o) Do anything which it is authorised or required by this Act or by
25 statute to do and
- 26 (p) Do all such acts or things, whether or not incidental to the
27 foregoing powers, as may advance the objects of the Centre.
- 28 (2) The powers conferred on the Centre by subsection (1) of this
29 section shall be exercisable on behalf of the Centre by the Council or in any
30 other manner, which may be authorised by statute.

Establishment of the Governing Council	1	4. -(1) There is established for the Centre a Governing Council
	2	(hereinafter referred to as the Council).
	3	(2) The Council Shall consist of:
	4	(a) A Chairman, who shall be the chief of the Air staff;
	5	(b) The Chief of Policy and Plans, Headquarters, Nigerian Air force;
	6	(c) The Chief of Logistics, Headquarters, Nigerian Air Force;
	7	(d) The Chief of Accounts and Budget, Headquarters, Nigerian Air
	8	Force;
	9	(e) Air Officer Commanding Air Training Command;
	10	(f) Director of Training, Headquarters, Nigerian Air Force.;
	11	(g) Director of Education, Headquarters, Nigerian Air Force;
	12	(h) Director Nigerian Air Force (NAF) Museum and Hall of Fame;
	13	Headquarters, Nigerian Air Force;
	14	(i) Director of Legal Services, Headquarters, Nigerian Air Force;
	15	(j) Director of Air Force Affairs, Ministry of Defence;
	16	(k) Representative of National Universities Commission;
	17	(l) Director General of Air Power Centre of Excellence; and
	18	(m) Director of Co-ordination, Air Power Centre of Excellence, who
	19	shall be the Secretary of the Council.
	20	(3) The supplementary provision set out in the schedule to this Bill
	21	shall have effect with respect to the proceedings of the Council and other
	22	matters contained therein.
Power and functions of the Governing Council	23	5. -(1) The Governance of the Centre and the direction of its affairs
	24	shall be vested in the Governing Council of the Centre.
	25	(2) Without prejudice to the generality of sub-section (1) of this
	26	section and subject to this Act, the Council shall have the power to consider and
	27	approve:
	28	(a) The strategic plan of activities of the Centre;
	29	(b) The academic programmes, courses and researches to be
	30	undertaken in the Centre;

- 1 (c) The annual budget of the Centre; and
2 (d) Curricular as well as programmes to be taught in the Centre.
- 3 (3) The Council may, subject to the provisions of the Act, employ
4 such number and category of officers and other employees as may be
5 expedient for the proper running of the Centre.
- 6 (4) The Council may make staff regulations relating to the terms
7 and conditions of service of the Centre's civilian employees and without
8 prejudice to the generality of the foregoing such regulations may provide
9 for-
- 10 (a) The appointment, remuneration, promotion, tenure and
11 discipline of civilian employees of the College;
- 12 (b) Until such regulations are made any instrument relating to the
13 condition of service of officers in the civil service of the federation or those
14 in the Nigerian Colleges of Education structure shall be applicable with such
15 modifications as may be necessary to the civilian employees;
- 16 (c) The Council shall have power to create any office or
17 department, necessary for the efficient running of the College.
- 18 (5) The decision of the Council on all matters pertaining to training,
19 assessment, certification, award of fellowship and withdrawal of
20 participants shall be final.
- 21 (6) The Council shall meet as at and when necessary for the
22 performance of its functions under this Act, and shall meet at least twice a
23 year in accordance with the provisions of this Act.

24 *Financial Provisions*

- 25 **6.**-(1) There shall be established for the Centre a Fund which shall
26 be managed and constituted by the Council (hereinafter referred to as "the
27 Fund").
- 28 (2) There shall be paid to the fund-
- 29 (a) all moneys received from the Federal Government as
30 allocation;

Funding of the
Centre

1 (b) grant-in-aid;
2 (c) fees;
3 (d) gifts, legacies, endowment and donations not accepted for a
4 particular purpose;
5 (e) interests and investments;
6 (f) donations and legacies accruing to the general or special purpose
7 of the centre.

8 (3) There shall be paid out of the Fund-

9 (a) The remuneration and allowances of the Director General and
10 other Staff of the Centre;

11 (b) such reasonable travelling and subsistence allowance of Members
12 of the Council in respect of the time spent on the business of the Council as the
13 Council may determine;

14 (c) any other expenses incurred by the Council in the discharge of its
15 functions under this Bill.

Accounts and
Audit

16 7. The Centre shall keep proper Accounts of the Centre in respect to
17 each financial year and proper Financial Records in relation to those Accounts
18 to be audited by a firm of chartered Accounts and when audited, the Accounts
19 shall be submitted to members of the Council for approval.

Annual Report

20 8. The Council shall, on or before 31 December in each year, prepare
21 and submit to the Minister, a report of the activities during the preceding
22 financial year and shall include in the report the audited accounts of the
23 Centre in respect of that financial year and the Auditors committees on the
24 account.

Power to borrow

25 9. The Centre may, from time to time, with the approval of the Council
26 borrow such amounts as may be necessary to carry out its functions.

The Academic
Board

27 10.-(1) There shall be an Academic Board which shall have control of
28 the academic affairs of the Centre and, subject to the powers of the Governing
29 Council, the Academic Board shall have the following functions:

30 (a) Organize and control the research and /or teaching of courses and

- 1 the examinations thereto;
- 2 (b) determine the final results .of all courses in accordance with the
- 3 criteria for passing or failing of examinations as laid down in the academic
- 4 assessment policy;
- 5 (c) deal with matters relating to admission of nominated personnel
- 6 into the various training institutions;
- 7 (d) recommend to the Governing Council persons to be appointed
- 8 as instructors into the various training institutions;
- 9 (e) deal with matters relating to research projects;
- 10 (f) any other functions assigned or delegated to it, from time to
- 11 time, by the Governing Council.
- 12 (2) The Academic Board" shall consist of:
- 13 (a) The Deputy Director General, who shall be the Chairman;
- 14 (b) The Commandants/Director of the Training Institutions.
- 15 (c) The Heads of Academic Departments of the Training
- 16 Institutions;
- 17 (d) All officers of Air Rank of the Centre whether Heads of
- 18 Departments or not;
- 19 (e) Two Instructors each from the respective Training Institutions.
- 20 (f) The Senior Officer not below the rank of Group Captain from
- 21 Principal Staff Officer Coordination office, who shall be the Secretary.
- 22 **11.**-(1) There shall be appointed for the Centre, a Director General,
- 23 whose appointment and removal from office shall be in accordance with
- 24 military posting, and who shall be responsible to the Governing Council for:
- 25 (a) Giving to the Governing Council such information on the
- 26 activities of the Centre as the Chairman of the Board may require;
- 27 (b) Authorizing programmes and plans for giving effect to policy
- 28 approved by the Governing Council or to any direction of the Governing
- 29 Council, subject to all or any of the powers in this section as may be
- 30 delegated to him by the Governing Council.

Appointment of
the Director-
General

1 (2) Any power delegated to the Director General pursuant to sub-
2 section (1) of this section shall not preclude the Governing Council from
3 exercising them in any special case.

4 (3) The powers referred to in subsection (2) of this section shall
5 include-

6 (a) The executive control over the military and civilian staff of the
7 College;

8 (b) The supervision of accounts and records;

9 (c) The preparation for approval of programmes and plans necessary
10 to carry into effect approved policy or any directive of the Governing Council.

11 (d) The interpretation of such policy to other staff of the Centre;

12 (e) The making of any staff recommendations to the Governing
13 Council and

14 (f) The establishment of organizational structures, committees and
15 definitions of duties;

16 (4) Provided that nothing in this Act shall be deemed to detract from
17 the military powers of command of the Director General, which shall include
18 the powers to try service personnel in accordance with the Armed Forces Act,
19 Cap, A20, LFN, 2004.

20 (5) The Director General shall in the exercise of his disciplinary
21 powers have similar powers to that of an Air Officer Commanding or its
22 equivalent in the conduct of summary trials or convening a Court Martial under
23 the Armed Forces Act, Cap, A20, LFN, 2004.

Principal Staff
Officer
Coordination

24 **12.** There shall be appointed for the Centre a Principal Staff Officer
25 Coordination, whose appointment and removal from office shall be in
26 accordance with military posting, and who shall assist the Commandant in the
27 running of the Institute in accordance with the provisions of this Act.

Other Staff of
the Centre

28 **13.-(1)** The Nigerian Air Force shall post Officers and Airmen from
29 time to time to fill administrative, teaching and other military and academic
30 vacancies in the Centre.

1 (2) The Governing Council may appoint persons as civilian
2 members of the academic staff of the Centre for teaching, research,
3 academic and administration as it considers necessary and may approve
4 terms and conditions of service including provisions for the payment of
5 pensions where it deemed fit.

6 (3) Members of staff of the Centre shall, unless exempted by the
7 Chairman, take such oaths as to secrecy on assumption of duty and as may be
8 determine from time to time.

9 (4) No civilian personnel employed in any capacity, whether or not
10 a member of a trade union, shall engage or take part in any strike.

11 (5) Any civilian personnel who contravenes the provisions of
12 sub-section (4) of this section, is guilty of an offence and liable to dismissed.

13 **14.**-(1) Any officer referred to in the provisions of this Act may
14 resign his office:

Mode of
Registration

15 (a) In accordance with military tradition; or

16 (b) if civilian, by notice to the Governing Council, through the
17 Director General,

18 © the Director General in consultation with the head of the
19 respective Institution and the Centre's Legal Officer/Adviser shall ensure
20 that the resignation is in accordance with the extant laws.

21 (2) Subject to the provisions of this Bill, a person who has ceased to
22 hold office otherwise than by removal for misconduct, shall be eligible for
23 re-appointment.

24 **15.** The Council shall make regulations for the better carrying out
25 the functions of the Centre.

Power to make
Regulations

26 **16.** In this Bill:

Interpretation

27 "Air Power Centre of Excellence "Means the Centre established in section 1
28 of this Bill;

29 "Council" means the governing Council of the Centre established in section
30 4 of this Bill; and

Short title

1 "Minister" Means the Minister in Charge of the Ministry of Finance.

2 17. This Bill may be cited as the Air Power Centre of Excellence
3 (Establishment) Bill, 2025.

4 SCHEDULES

5 (1) Subject to this Act and to section 27 of the Interpretation Act
6 (which provides for the decisions of a statutory body to be taken by a majority
7 of the members of the body and for the persons presiding to have a second or
8 casting vote), the Council may make standing Orders regulating its
9 proceedings or of any committee thereof.

10 (2) The quorum of the Council shall be the Chairman and (Five) other
11 members, and the quorum of any Committee of the Council shall be
12 determined by the Council.

13 (3) The Council shall meet whenever it is summoned by the Chairman
14 and if the Chairman is required to do so by notice given to him by the Director
15 General of the Centre, he shall summon a meeting of the Council to be held
16 within seven days from the date on which the notice is given.

17 (4) The Chairman shall preside over the meeting of the Council, in the
18 event of his absence he shall delegate any member of the council to represent
19 him and carry out the responsibilities of the Chairman at that particular meeting
20 or meetings subject to the mandate given by the Chairman.

21 (5) Where the Council wishes to obtain the advice of any person on
22 any particular matter, the Council may co-opt him as a member for such period
23 as it thinks fit, but a person who is a member by virtue of this sub-section shall
24 not be entitled to vote at any meeting of the Council and not count towards a
25 quorum.

26 (6) The Council may appoint one or more Committees to carry out on
27 behalf of the Council, such of its functions as the Council may determine.

28 (7) A Committee appointed under sub-section (6) of this section shall
29 consist of such number of persons as may be determined by the Council and not
30 more than one third of those persons who are not members of the Council; a

1 person other than a member of the Council shall hold office on the
2 committee in accordance with the terms of the instrument of his
3 appointment.

4 (8) A decision of a Committee of the Council shall be of no effect
5 until it is ratified by the Council.

6 (9) The fixing of the seal of the Centre shall be authenticated by the
7 signature of the Chairman or some other members authorized generally or
8 specially by the Council.

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

(This does not form part of this Bill)

This Bill seeks to establish Air Power Centre of Excellence as the coordinating Centre for Institute of Air Power Studying, Air Force war College, Air Force and doctrine Centre, Air ground integration Schools and Nigerian Air Force Museum and Hall of fame.