

A BILL

FOR

AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE SOUTH EAST INSTITUTE FOR VOCATIONAL AND ENTREPRENEURIAL STUDIES UMUOBUN, IMO STATE, TO HARNESS THE INNOVATIVE TALENTS, ENTREPRENEURSHIP SPIRIT, DEVELOP THE VOCATIONAL SKILLS RELEVANT TO BUSINESS CREATION AND TECHNOLOGICAL PROBLEM-SOLVING, PREVALENT IN THE SOUTH EAST REGION OF NIGERIA, IN OTHER TO REDUCE INSECURITY BY CREATING JOBS, AND EQUIPPING CITIZENS WITH MODERN TECHNICAL ABILITIES THROUGH THE INSTITUTE BY FOCUSING ON INNOVATION, RESEARCH, INVENTION AND PRACTICAL TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND FOR RELATED MATTERS

Sponsored by Hon. Ikeogwuonu Ugochinyere

[] Commencement

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

1 PART I - ESTABLISHMENT OF SOUTH EAST INSTITUTE FOR VOCATIONAL
2 AND ENTREPRENEURIAL STUDIES UMUOBUN IN IDEATO, NORTH/SOUTH
3 CONSTITUENCY, IMO STATE

4 1.-(1) The South East Institute for Vocational and Entrepreneurial
5 Studies Umuobun, Imo state is hereby established (in this Bill referred to as
6 "the Institute").

Establishment
of the South East
Institute for
Vocational and
Entrepreneurship
Studies Umuobun.
Imo State

7 (2) The Institute shall be a body corporate with perpetual
8 succession and a common seal and may sue or be sued in its corporate name,
9 and shall have power to acquire and dispose of interest in movable and
10 immovable properties.

11 (3) The Institute shall be supervised by the Federal Ministry of
12 Education through the National Commission for Colleges of Education
13 (NCCE) who shall be responsible for approving and regulating all academic

1 programs run in the Institute, to ensure quality compliance and provide funds
2 for academic and research programs, infrastructures and remunerations of
3 employees.

4 (4) The objects of the Institute shall be-

5 (a) to encourage the advancement of learning and to hold out to all
6 persons without distinction of race, creed, sex, or political conviction;

7 (b) to develop and offer academic and professional programmes
8 leading to the award of certificates, post-graduate research, diploma and higher
9 diplomas with emphasis on vocational experience and entrepreneurship;

10 (c) to act as agents and catalysts for effective educational system,
11 through vocational training, research and innovation;

12 (d) to collaborate with other national and international institutions
13 involved in training, research vocational and entrepreneurial skills
14 development with a view to promoting entrepreneurship, innovation,
15 vocational and technical skills;

16 (e) to provide and promote sound Educational training as a foundation
17 for the development of Nigeria, taking into account indigenous culture and the
18 need to enhance national unity;

19 (f) to provide students with operational competence for teaching in
20 pre- tertiary institutions, basic, senior secondary schools and non-formal
21 Education institutions across the nation;

22 (g) to undertake any other activities that is appropriate for a Institute
23 of vocational and entrepreneurship of the highest standard.

Establishment
and Composition
of the Governing
Council of the
Institute

24 2.-(1) There shall be established a Governing Council for the Institute
25 (in this Bill referred to as "the Council") which shall be a body corporate with
26 perpetual succession and a common seal and may sue and be sued in its
27 corporate name.

28 (2) The Council shall consist of a Chairman and the following other
29 members:

30 (a) The Rector of the Institute;

1 (b) A representative of the Academic Board of the Institute elected
2 by the Board;

3 (d) A representative of the University to which the Institute is
4 affiliated;

5 (e) A representative of a Federal Ministry of Youths and Sports;

6 (f) A representative of the community where the Institute is
7 situated;

8 (g) A representative of the Federal Ministry of Science and
9 Technology;

10 (h) A representative of the Federal Ministry of Industry;

11 (i) A representative of the State Ministry of Industry;

12 (j) five (5) other persons, at least one of whom must be a woman to
13 be selected each on personal merit based on contributions to
14 entrepreneurship;

15 (k) The Registrar (non-member) shall be Secretary to the
16 Governing Council.

17 3.-(1) The Minister of Science and Technology or Trade and Visitation
18 Industry shall be the Visitor to the Institute

19 (2) The Visitor shall not less than once in every five (5) years
20 conduct a visitation to the Institute by appointing a Visitation Panel.

21 (3) The Visitation Panel shall consist of not less than five (5)
22 experts with relevant experience in areas provided for in clause 6 (1) (a) of
23 this Bill to:

24 (a) evaluate academic and administrative performance of the
25 Institute; and

26 (b) for such other purpose as the Visitor may deem fit.

27 4.-(1) The Chairman and other members of the Governing Council Tenure of Office
28 shall hold office for a period of three (3) years from the date of appointment of Council Members
29 and may be eligible for re-appointment for a further term of three (3) years
30 and no more thereafter.

1 (2) Where a vacancy exists due to resignation, death, or removal of a
2 member, a successor representing the same interest group shall be appointed to
3 hold office for the remaining tenure of his predecessor, and the successor shall
4 represent the same interest as his predecessor.

5 (3) Every member shall be paid appropriate stipends during his tenure
6 in office in accordance with rates specified from time to time by the National
7 Council of Ministers.

8 (4) A member of Council may resign his appointment by a notice in
9 writing addressed to the Minister of Education.

10 PART II - FUNCTIONS AND POWERS

Functions of
the Institute

11 5.-(1) The functions of the Institute shall be:

12 (a) To provide Full-time and Part-time courses in vocational
13 Entrepreneurial, Innovation and Development Studies and issue Certificates in
14 specialized programmes;

15 (b) To provide facilities and encourage research in all its area of focus
16 to aid the development of Nigeria in the areas of Entrepreneurship, etc;

17 (c) To organize conferences, seminars and study groups relevant to
18 the fields of learning specified in sub section (1) (a) in this section;

19 (d) To perform such other functions which in the opinion of the
20 Institute, may serve to promote its objectives;

21 (e) To provide a well-developed and articulated vocational and
22 entrepreneurial research programme through consistent research,
23 development and constant contact with renowned institutions and appropriate
24 industries;

25 (f) To provide appropriate training and vocational dexterity for a self-
26 reliant and focused Nigerian student;

27 (g) To perform such other functions as in the opinion of the Council,
28 may serve to promote the objectives of the Institute; and

29 (h) To carry out other activities as are necessary and expedient for the
30 full discharge of any of its functions pursuant to this Bill.

- 1 **6.-(1)** Subject to the provisions of this Bill, the Council: Functions of the
Governing Council
of the Institute
- 2 (a) Shall be responsible for the general management of the affairs
- 3 of the Institute and in particular, the control of the property and finances of
- 4 the Institute;
- 5 (b) Shall have power to do anything which in its opinion is
- 6 calculated to facilitate the carrying out of activities of the Institute and
- 7 promote its best interest;
- 8 (c) Shall set up committees for the purpose of working on specific
- 9 matters and making recommendations to relevant bodies for necessary
- 10 action;
- 11 (d) Shall provide pieces of advice as may be necessary, for the
- 12 interest of the Institute on any matter referred to it;
- 13 (e) May enter into such contracts as may be necessary or expedient
- 14 for carrying into effect the provisions of this Bill;
- 15 (f) Shall perform such other functions as in the opinion of the
- 16 Council may serve to promote the objectives of the Institute.
- 17 (2) The Minister may give to the Institute directives of a general
- 18 character or relating generally to matters of policy with regard to the
- 19 exercise by the Institute of its functions under this Bill and it shall be the duty
- 20 of the Institute to comply with such directives.
- 21 **7.** The Institute shall have power to: Powers of the
Institute
- 22 (a) Award certificates for courses provided by it under clause 4 (1)
- 23 (a) of this Bill;
- 24 (b) Enter into such contracts as may be necessary or expedient for
- 25 carrying into effect the provisions of this Bill;
- 26 (c) Acquire, hold, lease, sell, mortgage or otherwise alienate or
- 27 dispose of any property, movable, or immovable;
- 28 (d) Invest its funds in such manner and to such extent as it may
- 29 deem necessary or expedient;
- 30 (e) Establish and maintain a library, comprising such books,

1 journals, records, reports and other publications and information systems as
2 may be required for the discharge of the functions conferred on the Institute by
3 this Bill;

4 (f) Accept gifts of land, money or other property upon such terms and
5 conditions, if any, as may be specified by the person or organization making the
6 gift; provided that the Institute shall not accept any gift if the terms and
7 conditions attached thereto are inconsistent with its functions under this Bill.

8 PART III - STAFF OF THE INSTITUTE

Appointment
of Principal
Officers

9 **8.-(1) Appointment of the Rector**

10 (a) The President shall appoint for the Institute a Rector who shall be
11 the chief academic and administrative officer of the Institute;

12 (b) Where a vacancy occurs in the position of Rector, the Council
13 shall advertise and follow such procedure as provided in section 8 (2) (3) (4)
14 and (5) of the Federal Polytechnics Act;

15 (c) The Rector shall be responsible for-

16 (i) The day-to-day administration of the Institute;

17 (ii) The exercise of general authority over the employees of the
18 Institute;

19 (iii) The discipline of students in the Institute.

20 (d) The Rector shall hold office for a period of four (4) years from the
21 effective date of his appointment and on such terms and conditions as may be
22 determined by the Minister as set out in his letter of appointment;

23 (e) The Rector may be re-appointed for a further period of four (4)
24 years and no more.

25 (2) Appointment of the Deputy Rector:

26 (a) The Deputy Rector shall be appointed by the Council as specified
27 in section 9 of the Federal Polytechnics Act;

28 (b) The Deputy Rector shall assist the Rector in the performance of
29 his functions and shall act in the place of the Rector when the Rector is absent
30 or unable to perform his functions or when the position of Rector is vacant;

1 (c) The Deputy Rector shall perform such other functions as the
2 Rector may from time to time assign;

3 (d) The Deputy Rector shall hold office for the period of two (2)
4 years from the effective date of his appointment and on such terms and
5 conditions as may be specified in the letter of appointment. He may be re-
6 appointed for a further period of two (2) years and no more.

7 (3) Appointment of the Registrar:

8 (a) The Council shall appoint a Registrar who shall be the secretary
9 to the Council and attend all the meetings of the Council;

10 (b) The Registrar shall be answerable to the Rector for the day-to-
11 day administration of the polytechnic and shall perform such other duties as
12 the Council or Rector may direct;

13 (c) The Registrar shall be Secretary to the Council, Academic
14 Board and any other committees of the Council and shall attend all meetings
15 of these committees unless excused for good reasons by the Chairman of the
16 Council;

17 (d) If the Registrar is for any reason unable to attend a meeting of
18 the Council, the Chairman of the Council may, after consultation with the
19 Rector, appoint a suitable person to act as secretary for the particular
20 meeting;

21 (e) The Secretary to Council or a person appointed to act under sub
22 clause (d) of this clause, shall not vote on any question before the Council or
23 count towards a quorum, unless he is so entitled as a member of the Council;

24 (f) The Registrar shall hold office for a period of five (5) years
25 beginning from the date of his appointment and on such terms and
26 conditions as may be specified in the letter of his appointment. He may be re-
27 appointed for a further period of five (5) years and no more.

28 (4) Appointment of the Bursar:

29 (a) The Bursar shall be appointed by the Council on
30 recommendation of the selection board constituted under section 9 (3) of the

1 Federal Polytechnics Act;

2 (b) The Bursar shall be the Chief Financial Officer of the Institute and
3 shall be responsible to the Rector for the day-to-day administration and control
4 of the financial affairs of the polytechnic;

5 (c) The Bursar shall hold office for a period of five (5) years and may
6 be re-appointed for a further period of five (5) years and no more;

7 (5) Appointment of the Librarian:

8 (a) The Librarian shall be appointed by the Council on
9 recommendation of the selection board constituted under section 9 (3) of the
10 Federal Polytechnics Act;

11 (b) The Librarian shall be responsible to the Rector for the
12 administration of the polytechnic library and the coordination of library
13 services in the academic unit of the polytechnic;

14 (c) The Librarian shall hold office for a period of five (5) years in the
15 first instance, and may be re-appointed for a further period of five (5) years and
16 no more.

Resignation of
Appointment by
Principal Officers

17 **9.-** (1) A principal officer may resign his appointment:

18 (a) In the case of the Rector, by notice to the Minister of Education;

19 (b) In any other case, by notice to the Council.

Other Staff of
the Institute

20 **10.-** (1) The Council may appoint such other persons to be employees
21 of the Institute to assist the Rector or other principal officer in performance of
22 their functions under the Federal Polytechnics Act.

23 (2) The Power to appoint senior employees shall be exercised by the
24 Council on the recommendation of the Appointments and Promotions
25 Committee (Senior), and in the case of junior employees, by the Council on the
26 recommendation of the Appointments and Promotions Committee (Junior),
27 under the power vested in the Council pursuant to paragraph 3 of the Schedule
28 of this Bill.

Staff Regulations

29 **11.-** (1) The Council may, subject to the provisions of this Bill, make
30 staff regulations relating generally to the conditions of service of the staff of the

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

3 (a) The appointment, promotion and discipline (including
4 dismissal) of employees of the Institute; and

5 (b) Appeals by such employees against dismissal or other
6 disciplinary measures, and until such regulations are made, any instrument
7 relating to the conditions of service of public officers in the polytechnic
8 system shall be applicable with such modifications as may be necessary to
9 employees of the Institute.

10 (2) Staff regulations made under sub clause (1) of this clause shall
11 not have effect until approved by the Minister and when so approved, they
12 need not to be published in the Gazette but the Council shall cause them to be
13 brought to the notice of all affected persons in such a manner as it may, from
14 time to time, determine.

15 **12.-(1)** Pension service in the Institute shall be approved service Pensions
16 for the purposes of the Pensions Act.

17 (2) Officers and other persons employed in the Institute shall be
18 entitled to pensions, gratuities and other retirement benefits as prescribed in
19 the Pensions Act, so nothing in this Bill shall prevent the appointment of a
20 person to any office on terms which preclude that grant of a pension, gratuity
21 or other retirement benefit in respect of that office.

22 (3) For the purpose of the application of the provisions of the
23 Pensions Act, any power exercisable thereunder by a Minister or other
24 Authority of the Government of the Federation, other than the power to
25 make regulations under clause 23 thereof, is vested in and shall be
26 exercisable by the Council and not by any other person or authority.

27 PART IV - DISCIPLINE

28 **13.-(1)** The President may, in writing, remove any member of the Removal of a
Members of
Council
29 Council from office if it is established that his contributions run counter to
30 the purpose, interest and objectives of the Institute.

1 (2) If it appears to the Council that a member of Council (other than an
2 ex-officio member) or the Rector should be removed from office on the ground
3 of misconduct or inability to perform the functions of his office, the Council
4 shall make a recommendation to the President, and if the President after
5 making such enquiries as he considers necessary, approves the
6 recommendation, the President shall, in writing declare the office of such
7 member vacant.

Removal from
Office of a Staff
of the Institute

8 **14.**-(1) If there are reasons for believing that any person employed as
9 a member of the academic, administrative or technical staff of the Institute,
10 other than the Rector, should be removed from office on the ground of
11 misconduct or inability to perform the functions of his office, the Council shall:

12 (a) Give notice to the person of the reasons in question;

13 (b) Afford him an opportunity to make representations in person on
14 the matter to the Council; and carry out such investigations and actions
15 pursuant to section 17 (1) (c) of the Federal Polytechnics Act.

16 (2) The Rector may, in a case of misconduct by a member of the staff
17 which in the opinion of the Rector is prejudicial to the interests of the Institute,
18 suspend such member and any such suspension shall forthwith be reported to
19 the Council.

20 (3) For good cause, any member of staff may be suspended from
21 office or his appointment may be terminated by the Council by virtue of its
22 power pursuant to section 17 (3) of the Federal Polytechnics Act.

Discipline of
Students

23 **15.**-(1) Where it appears to the Rector that any student of the Institute
24 has been guilty of misconduct, the Rector may, without prejudice to any other
25 disciplinary powers conferred on him by this Bill or any regulations made
26 thereunder, direct that:

27 (a) the student shall not, during such periods as may be specified in the
28 direction, participate in such activities of the Institute or make use of such
29 facilities of the Institute, as he may specify;

30 (b) the activities of the student shall, during such period as may be

1 specified in the direction, be restricted in such manner as may be so
2 specified; (c) the student be suspended for such period as may be specified in
3 the direction; or

4 (d) the student be expelled from the Institute.

5 (2) Where there is temporarily no Rector or where the Rector
6 refuses to apply any disciplinary measures, the Council may, either directly
7 or through some other staff, apply such disciplinary actions as are specified
8 in sub clause (3) of this clause to any student of the Institute who is guilty of
9 misconduct.

10 (3) Where a direction is given under sub section (1) (c) or (d) of this
11 section in respect of any student, the student may within 21 days from the
12 date of the letter communicating the decision to him, appeal to the Council
13 and the Council shall, after causing such inquiry to be made in the matter as
14 the Council considers just, either confirm or set aside the direction or modify
15 it in such manner as the Council may deem fit.

16 (4) The fact that an appeal from a direction is brought in pursuance
17 of sub-clause (5) of this clause, shall affect the operation of the direction
18 while the appeal is pending.

19 (5) The Rector may delegate his powers under this clause to
20 disciplinary committee, consisting of such staff of the Institute as he may
21 nominate.

22 (6) Nothing in this clause shall be construed as preventing the
23 restriction or termination of a student's activities at the Institute otherwise
24 than on the ground of misconduct.

25 (7) It is declared that a direction under sub clause (1) (a) of this
26 clause may be combined with a direction under sub clause (1) (b) of this
27 clause.

28 PART V - ACADEMIC BOARD

29 **16.-(1)** There is established as an integral part of the Institute an
30 Academic Board which shall consist of:

Establishment
of Academic Board
of the Institute

- 1 (a) The Rector of the Institute;
- 2 (b) The Deputy Rector;
- 3 (c) The Registrar as secretary;
- 4 (d) The librarian;
- 5 (e) Deans / Directors of Schools;
- 6 (f) Heads of Academic Departments / Units;
- 7 (g) not more than two (2) members of the academic staff other than
- 8 Heads of Departments/Units, to be appointed by the Academic Board.
- 9 (2) The Academic Board shall:
- 10 (a) give the direction and management of academic matters of the
- 11 Institute including the regulation of admission of students, the award of
- 12 certificates and diplomas, scholarships, prizes and other academic distinctions;
- 13 (b) formulate and continuously evaluate the academic programme of
- 14 the Institute;
- 15 (c) make periodic reports to the Council on such academic matters as
- 16 the Board may deem fit or as the Council may from time to time direct; and
- 17 (d) the discharge of any other functions which the Council may
- 18 delegate to it.
- 19 (3) The Rector shall be the Chairman at the meeting of the Academic
- 20 Board and in his absence the Deputy Rector shall preside at such meeting, but
- 21 in the absence of both, the members present at the meeting shall appoint one of
- 22 their number to preside at the meeting.
- 23 (4) Subject to sub clause (3) of this clause, the Academic Board shall
- 24 have the power to regulate its own procedure.

25 PART VI - FINANCIAL PROVISIONS

Fund of the
Institute

- 26 **17.**-(1) The Institute shall establish and maintain a fund from which
- 27 shall be defrayed all expenditure incurred by the Institute in the performance of
- 28 its functions under this Bill. The Institute shall be self funded. However, the
- 29 Institute shall receive grant from the Federal Government for the first 10 years
- 30 of its establishment before becoming self funded.

- 1 (2) The fund of the Institute shall include:
- 2 (a) such sums as may, from time to time, be granted to the Institute
- 3 by the Federal Government;
- 4 (b) fees charged by and payable to the Institute in respect of
- 5 students;
- 6 (c) any other amount charged or dues recoverable by the Institute;
- 7 (d) revenue from time to time accruing to the Institute by way of
- 8 subvention, grants in-aid, endowment or otherwise;
- 9 (e) interest on investment; and
- 10 (f) donations and legacies accruing to the Institute from any source,
- 11 for the general or special purposes of the Institute.

12 **18.**-(1) Donations of money to be applied for any particular

13 purpose shall be placed to the credit of a special reserve account and may be

14 invested in such securities or other investments as may be approved by the

15 Minister, until such time as they may be expended in fulfilment of such

16 purpose; provided that the Institute shall not accept a donation from a

17 particular purpose, if the terms and conditions attached to such donation are

18 inconsistent with the functions of Institute under this Bill.

Donations for
particular purpose

19 (2) The interest derived from the investments referred to in sub

20 section (1) of this clause (unless the terms of the donations otherwise

21 require) shall be deemed to be revenue of the Institute.

22 **19.** Payment of all sums of money accruable to the Institute except

23 donations and gifts shall be made through the Federal Government

24 recognized Remita online platform.

Payment into
Bank

25 **20.**-(1) The Institute shall keep proper records and accounts and

26 shall cause to be prepared not later than 31 October in each financial year, an

27 estimate of its revenue and expenditure for the ensuing financial year and the

28 estimate shall be submitted to the Federal Ministry of Education for

29 approval.

Annual Estimate
Accounts and
Audit

30 (2) At the end of each financial year but not later than 30 June the

1 Institute shall cause to be prepared a statement of its income and expenditure
2 during the previous financial year.

3 (3) The statement of accounts referred to in subsection (2) of this
4 clause shall, when certified by the Rector, be audited by a firm of auditors
5 appointed from the list and in accordance with the guidelines supplied by the
6 Auditor-General of the Federation and shall be published in the annual report
7 of the Institute,

Annual Report

8 **21.** Each council shall cause to be prepared and presented to the
9 President through the Minister, a report of the activities during the-preceding
10 financial year, inclusive of the audited accounts of the Institute in respect of the
11 financial year and the auditors comment not later than 31 December in each
12 year.

13 PART VII - MISCELLANEOUS

Power to make
bye-laws

14 **22.**-(1) The Council may, within the scope of its authority under this
15 Bill, make bye-laws relating to any internal domestic matters placed -by this
16 Bill under its control and superintendence other than matters for which
17 provision is to be made by standing orders under paragraph 1 (1) of the
18 Schedule to this Bill or in pursuance of paragraph 2 (2) of the said Schedule.

19 (2) All such bye-laws shall be in writing and shall come into force
20 when sealed with the seal of the Institute, unless some other date for
21 commencement be therein prescribed.

22 (3) Nothing in sub clause (2) of this Bill shall make it obligatory for
23 the Council to publish any of the said bye-laws in the Gazette.

Regulations

24 **23.** The Council may, with approval of the Minister, make regulations
25 for giving effect to the provisions of this Bill and without prejudice to the
26 foregoing regulations shall provide:

27 (a) the entry into and the type of courses approved for the Institute;

28 (b) the duration of the courses and academic standards; and

29 (c) the certificates, diplomas or degrees which may be awarded by the
30 Institute.

1	24. In this Bill, unless the context otherwise requires:	Interpretation
2	"Bye-laws" means bye-laws made under clause 22 of this Bill;	
3	"Council" means governing body of the Institute established under clause 2	
4	of this Bill;	
5	"Minister" means Minister charged with responsibility for matters relating	
6	to education;	
7	"Visitor" means Minister of Science and Technology;	
8	"Property" includes rights, liabilities and obligations;	
9	"Registrar" means the Registrar of the Institute;	
10	"Institute" means National Institute for Vocational and Entrepreneurial	
11	studies under clause 1 of this Bill;	
12	"Staff" means all persons employed by the Council to serve at the Institute.	
13	25. This Bill may be cited as the South East Institute for Vocational	Short title
14	and Entrepreneurial Studies Umuobun, Imo State (Establishment) Bill,	
15	2025.	

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

This Bill seeks to establish the South East Institute for Vocational and Entrepreneurial studies Umuobun, Imo state, to harness the innovative talents, entrepreneurship spirit, develop the vocational skills relevant to business creation and technological problem solving, prevalent in the South East region of Nigeria, in other to reduce insecurity by creating jobs, and equipping citizens with modern technical abilities through the Institute by focusing on innovation, research, invention and practical technical education.