

A BILL

FOR

An Act to REPEAL THE NATIONAL LOTTERY ACT NO. 7 OF 2005 AND THE NATIONAL LOTTERY (AMENDMENT) ACT NO. 6 OF 2017, AND TO ENACT THE CENTRAL GAMING BILL TO REGULATE THE OPERATION AND BUSINESS OF ALL FORMS OF ONLINE AND REMOTE GAMING ACROSS THE GEOGRAPHICAL BOUNDARIES OF THE FEDERATING UNITS AND BEYOND THE BORDERS OF NIGERIA, PROVIDE FOR THE CONDUCT OF GAMING IN THE FEDERAL CAPITAL TERRITORY, AND ENHANCE REVENUE GENERATION FOR THE FEDERATION AND FOR RELATED MATTERS

Sponsored by Hon. Benjamin Okezie Kalu

Co-Sponsors:

Hon. Akin Alabi	Hon. Uchenna H. Okonkwo
Hon. Joshua Gana	Hon. Tolani Shagaya
Hon. Ahmed Satomi	Hon. Amobi Ogah

[] Commencement

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

1 PART I - ESTABLISHMENT OF THE CENTRAL GAMING COMMISSION

2 AND ITS GOVERNING BOARD, ETC.

3 1.-(1) There is established a body to be known as the Central Establishment
4 Gaming Commission (in this Bill referred to as "the Commission"). of the Central
Gaming Commission

5 (2) The Commission-

6 (a) shall be a body corporate with perpetual succession and a
7 common seal;

8 (b) may sue or be sued in its corporate name; and

9 (c) may acquire, hold or dispose of any property, movable or
10 immovable for the purpose of carrying out any of its functions under this

11 Bill.

Establishment and Membership of the Governing Board	1	2.- (1) There is established for the Commission, a governing Board (in
	2	this Bill referred to as "the Board").
	3	(2) The Board shall consist of-
	4	(a) a part-time Chairman;
	5	(b) a representative each of the-
	6	(i) Federal Ministry of Justice,
	7	(ii) Federal Ministry of Finance,
	8	(iii) Federal Ministry supervising the Commission,
	9	(iv) Nigeria Data Protection Commission (NDPC),
	10	(v) Office of the National Security Adviser (ONSA),
	11	(vi) National Financial Intelligence Unit (NFIU); and
	12	(vii) seven other members, one per geo-political zone and the Federal
	13	Capital Territory, Abuja, who shall be persons of integrity possessing cognate
	14	experience in relevant fields and versed in regulatory issues and at least two of
	15	them shall possess relevant industry knowledge and experience in gaming; and
	16	(c) Director-General of the Commission.
	17	(3) The Chairman and members of the Board under paragraph (b)(ix)
Firs Schedule	18	shall-
	19	(a) be appointed by the President; and
	20	(b) serve on part-time basis.
Tenure of Office	21	(4) The supplementary provisions set out in the first schedule to this
	22	Bill, shall have effect with respect to the proceedings of the Board and related
	23	matters.
	24	3. The Chairman and other members of the Board, other than ex-
	25	officio members, shall each hold office-
	26	(a) for a term of 4 years in the first instance and may be re-appointed
	27	for a further term of 4 years and no more; and
	28	(b) on such terms and conditions as may be specified in their letters of
	29	appointment.

- 1 4.-(1) Notwithstanding the provisions of Clause 3 of this Bill, a Cessation of
2 member of the Board shall cease to hold office as a member if the member- Membership
- 3 (a) resigns by a written notice under his hand, addressed to the
4 President;
- 5 (b) becomes of unsound mind;
- 6 (c) becomes bankrupt or makes a compromise with his creditors;
- 7 (d) is convicted of a felony or of any offence involving dishonesty
8 or corruption; or
- 9 (e) becomes incapable of carrying on the functions of the office
10 either arising from an infirmity of mind or body.
- 11 (2) A member of the Board shall cease to hold office where the
12 President is satisfied that it is not in the interest of the Commission or in the
13 interest of the public for the person to continue in office and the President
14 removes the person from office.
- 15 (3) Where a vacancy occurs in the membership of the Board, it
16 shall be filled by the appointment of a successor to hold office for the
17 remainder of the term of office of the predecessor, provided that the
18 successor shall represent the same interest as the predecessor.
- 19 5. The Chairman and members of the Board shall be paid such Emoluments, etc.
20 emoluments, allowances and benefits as the President may, from time to of members
- 21 time, direct in line with the recommendation of Revenue Mobilization,
22 Allocation and Fiscal Commission.
- 23 6.-(1) The Board shall have powers to- Powers of the
24 (a) provide the general policy guidelines relating to the functions Board
- 25 of the Commission;
- 26 (b) superintend the implementation of the policies of the
27 Commission;
- 28 (c) determine the terms and conditions of service of the employees
29 of the Commission;

1 (d) establish departments, divisions and units as may be required; and
2 (e) do such other things as are necessary to ensure the efficient
3 performance of the functions of the Commission under this Bill.

4 (2) The Board shall fix remuneration for the staff of the Commission
5 having regards to the recommendation of the National Salaries and Wages
6 Commission and in fixing the remuneration, due regards shall be given to the
7 following principles-

8 (a) the need to attract and retain quality and high caliber manpower;
9 (b) specialized nature of work to be performed by the Commission;
10 (c) the need to ensure financial self-sufficiency for the Commission;
11 and
12 (d) the salaries paid, to individuals with equivalent responsibilities,
13 expertise and skills.

14 (3) The Board may do such other things as are necessary to ensure the
15 efficient performance of the functions of the Commission under this Bill.

16 PART II - FUNCTIONS AND POWERS OF THE COMMISSION

Functions and
powers of the
Commission

17 7.-(1) The Commission shall-

18 (a) regulate and administer the operation and business of both online
19 and remote gaming in Nigeria;

20 (b) set standards, guidelines, policies and rules for the operation of
21 online and remote gaming in Nigeria;

22 (c) collect and administer the revenue accruable from online and
23 remote gaming operations in Nigeria

24 (d) promote transparency, propriety and integrity in the operation of
25 online and remote gaming in Nigeria;

26 (e) ensure the protection of the interests of players, stakeholders and
27 the public in online and remote gaming in Nigeria;

28 (f) standardize the provision and use of online and remote gaming
29 equipment in Nigeria;

30 (g) in collaboration with relevant government agencies, licence,

- 1 register and certify all online and remote gaming, technology vendors,
2 suppliers or service providers doing business in Nigeria;
- 3 (h) carry out periodic assessment of the operation of online and
4 remote gaming in Nigeria and submit a report to the Governing Board;
- 5 (i) issue licence and permit to qualified operators to carry out the
6 business of online and remote gaming in Nigeria;
- 7 (j) ensure that licencees and permit holders meet their obligations
8 as specified under this Bill or regulations as may be determined from time to
9 time by the Commission;
- 10 (k) examine and resolve complaints and disputes arising from the
11 operation of online and remote gaming, using appropriate dispute resolution
12 mechanisms;
- 13 (l) develop performance standards and indices relating to the
14 quality of online and remote gaming in Nigeria having regard to global best
15 practices;
- 16 (m) collaborate and liaise with relevant law enforcement agencies
17 to undertake measures that would prevent the abuse of online and remote
18 gaming in Nigeria;
- 19 (n) seek and pursue maximization of returns for good causes and
20 ensure licencees and permit holders remit timely, accurate and complete
21 proceeds to the Commission under this Bill;
- 22 (o) fix charges and collect fees, levies or penalties as may be
23 necessary in the performance of its functions;
- 24 (p) enter, inspect, seize and impose administrative or civil
25 sanctions or penalties on erring licencees and permit holders under this Bill;
- 26 (q) take measures to prevent illegal online gaming within the
27 Nigerian online space;
- 28 (r) fund good causes projects approved by the President of the
29 Federal Republic of Nigeria; and
- 30 (s) do such other things which in its opinion are necessary to ensure

1 the efficient performance of the functions of the Commission under this Bill.

2 (2) The Commission shall regulate online and remote gaming across
3 the geographical boundaries of the federating units and beyond the borders of
4 Nigeria, and gaming in the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja,.

5 PART III - APPOINTMENT OF DIRECTOR-GENERAL AND OTHER STAFF
6 OF THE COMMISSION

Appointment
of Director-
General of the
Commission, etc.

7 **8.**-(1) There shall be for the Commission, a Director General who
8 shall be-

9 (a) appointed by the President subject to confirmation by the Senate;

10 (b) the Chief Executive and accounting Officer of the Commission;

11 and

12 (c) responsible for the execution of the policy of the Commission.

13 (2) The Director General shall hold a minimum of first degree in any
14 professional field, with cognate experience in the industry.

15 (3) The Director-General shall hold office-

16 (a) for a term of 4 years in the first instance and may be re-appointed
17 for a further term of 4 years and no more; and

18 (b) hold office on such terms and conditions as may be specified in his
19 letter of appointment.

20 (4) Notwithstanding the provision of sub clause (3) of this clause, the
21 Director-General may-

22 (a) resign the appointment by a written notice under his hand
23 addressed to the President; or

24 (b) be removed by the President for his inability to discharge the
25 functions of the office (whether arising from infirmity of mind or body or any
26 other cause) or for misconduct.

Secretary of the
Board

27 **9.** There shall be for the Board, a Secretary who shall be-

28 (a) appointed by the Board on the recommendation of the Director-
29 General;

30 (b) a legal practitioner of at least ten years; and

1	(c) the head legal services of the Commission.	
2	10. The Commission may, subject to the approval of the Board,	Other Staff of the Commission
3	appoint other staff as may be necessary for the running of the Commission.	
4	11. Service in the Commission shall be subject to the provisions of	Pension and other retirement benefits
5	the Pension Reform Act.	No. 64, 2014
6	12. The appointment, promotion, welfare and discipline of staff	Conditions of Service
7	shall be in accordance with the provisions of the Commission's conditions of	
8	service.	
9	PART IV - FINANCIAL PROVISIONS	
10	13. The Commission shall establish and maintain a fund (in this	Fund of the Commission
11	Bill referred to as 'the Fund') to which shall be paid and credited by-	
12	(a) a take-off grant or any grants from the Federal Government;	
13	(b) annual subventions and budgetary allocations from the Federal	
14	Government;	
15	(c) all online, remote and Federal Capital Territory Abuja	
16	generated gaming remittances paid to the Commission;	
17	(d) gifts, loans, grants-in-aid from national, bilateral and	
18	multilateral organizations, agencies and bodies;	
19	(e) charges, fees, and other internally generated revenues by the	
20	commission; and	
21	(f) all other sums accruing to the Commission from time to time.	
22	14.-(1) The Commission may apply the fund-	Expenditure of the Commission
23	(a) to the cost of administration of the Commission;	
24	(b) to the payment of the emoluments, allowances and benefits to	
25	the Staff and members of the Board;	
26	(c) for the development and maintenance of the property of the	
27	Commission;	
28	(d) for the payment of all procurements of goods and services for	
29	the Commission;	
30	(e) to fund good causes projects approved by the President of the	

	1	Federal Republic of Nigeria, which shall include but not limited to projects for
	2	the advancement, upliftment and promotion of sports development, education,
	3	health, social services, public welfare, poverty alleviation, and natural
	4	disasters management in Nigeria; and
	5	(f) for any expenditure in connection with all or any of its functions
	6	under this Bill.
Sharing formula between the Commission and State regulators	7	15. All revenues including proceeds from the National Games,
	8	collected by the Commission shall be distributed on a quarterly basis among
	9	state regulators and the Federal Capital Territory, based on gaming transactions
	10	attributable to each state, provided that a percentage of the gross receipts as
	11	approved by the governing board from time to time, shall be set aside and
	12	retained by the Commission to fund its operations under this Act.
Application of the funds shared with state regulators	13	16. States shall prioritize the application of their respective shares of
	14	online gaming revenue to projects for the promotion of sports development,
	15	education, health, social services, public welfare, poverty alleviation, and
	16	natural disasters management.
Annual estimates and accounts	17	17. The Commission shall-
	18	(a) not later than 30th September in each year, submit to the President
	19	an estimate of its expenditure and income for the next succeeding year; and
	20	(b) keep proper accounts in respect of each year and proper records in
	21	relation to those accounts.
Annual Report	22	18. The Commission shall prepare and submit, to the President not
	23	later than 31 March in each year, a report in such form as the President may
	24	direct on the activities of the Commission during the immediate preceding
	25	year.
Power to accept gift	26	19.-(1) The Commission may accept gifts of land, money or other
	27	property on such terms and conditions, if any, as may be specified by the person
	28	or organization making the gift.
	29	(2) The Commission shall not accept any gift if the conditions
	30	attached by the person or organization making the gift are inconsistent with the

1 functions of the Commission under this Bill.

2 **20.** The Commission may, borrow money by way of loan or Power to borrow
3 overdraft from any source such sums as it may require for the performance money
4 of its functions.

5 PART V - OPERATION OF ONLINE AND REMOTE GAMING IN NIGERIA

6 AND GRANT OF LICENCES AND PERMIT

7 **21.** A person or body corporate shall not engage in the business of Operation of the
8 any form of online gaming that cuts across states or by whatever name business of online
9 called, in Nigeria, unless authorized to do so under a licence, permit or gaming
10 exemption granted by the Commission and in compliance with the
11 provisions of this Bill.

12 **22.**-(1) A person or body corporate being in Nigeria or other Operation of
13 jurisdictions shall not- Remote gaming

14 (a) offer, take, accept, sell, conduct, promote, advertise, or
15 encourage remote gaming from within Nigeria unless authorized by the
16 Commission;

17 (b) permit any remote gaming technology or software under the
18 person's control to be used for the purposes of a remote gaming activity at a
19 distance through a communication device contemplated in this clause;

20 (c) provide services, process or receive payments from remote
21 gaming activity in Nigeria without a valid licence issued under this Bill; and

22 (d) enter into a transaction with a remote gaming operator who is
23 not licenced in accordance with this Bill.

24 (2) The Commission may prescribe regulations guidelines and
25 policies for the conduct, operation, management and control of remote
26 online gaming activities across States and international boundaries in
27 Nigeria.

28 (3) Any person who contravenes the provision of this clause is
29 liable, in the case of-

30 (a) an individual, to a penalty of not less than 5 million naira; and

	1	(b) a body corporate, to a penalty of not less than 20 million Naira and
	2	in addition, each director or principal officer shall be liable to a penalty of not
	3	less than 5 million Naira.
	4	(4) No person shall take or accept bets by websites operated outside
	5	Nigeria or place bets on sites based outside Nigeria, including websites of
	6	Nigerian companies, without a licence or permit from the Commission
	7	irrespective of any gaming licence which may have been obtained by the
	8	operator from a foreign jurisdiction.
Penalty for operation of online and remote gaming without licence	9	23. -(1) Any person or body corporate who engages in online or
	10	remote gaming without a valid licence or permit issued by the Commission,
	11	commits an offence and shall be liable to a penalty as imposed by the
	12	provisions of this Bill.
Application for Licence for online fixed odd, sport betting etc.	13	24. A body corporate may submit an application for licence to the
	14	Commission in the prescribed form for a licence for the operation of the
	15	following online gaming businesses-
	16	(a) online pari mutuel;
	17	(b) online fixed odds (lotto);
	18	(c) online sports betting;
	19	(d) online casino games; and
	20	(e) any other online game.
	21	(2) Upon approval of application under subclause (1), the person or
	22	body corporate shall make payment of such fees as prescribed.
Application for permit for online promotional lotteries	23	25. -(1) A body corporate may submit an application for a permit to the
	24	Commission in the prescribed form and pay the prescribed fees to the
	25	Commission for-
	26	(a) online consumer sales promotion;
	27	(b) online interactive games;
	28	(c) online scratch card games;
	29	(d) online mobile value-added service games; and

1 (e) any other online promotional lottery as the Commission may
2 determine.

3 (2) Such permit shall be for short duration, periodic or seasonal life
4 span of not more than one year.

5 **26.**-(1) All online and remote gaming activities conducted
6 pursuant to a licence or permit granted under this Bill shall be conducted
7 through the Commission's central monitoring platform or such other
8 monitoring systems, which shall be capable of tracking real-time and online,
9 all bets, sales, draws, remittances, and prize redemptions.

Establishment
of online and
remote gaming
central monitoring
system

10 (2) A licensee or permit holder shall, at its own expense, connect to
11 the central monitoring system.

12 **27.**-(1) In the interest of national security and in order to protect the
13 integrity of the Nigerian cyberspace from illegal activities including but not
14 limited to; money laundering and terrorism financing, the Commission shall
15 in collaboration with the Office of the National Security Adviser (ONSA)
16 deploy the National Gaming Computer Emergency Response Team (NG-
17 CERT) Platform.

Establishment
of the national
gaming computer
emergency response
team platform

18 (2) All online gaming and remote gaming operators must be
19 registered on the CERT platform and a certificate which shall be renewable
20 annually will be issued to all registered operators.

21 (3) The National Gaming CERT certification shall be renewed with
22 an annual subscription fee as may be determined by the Commission.

23 **28.**-(1) The Commission shall in granting a licence or permit,
24 ensure that an applicant is a body corporate and-

Conditions for
grant of licence
or permit

25 (a) each member of its board of directors has the capacity to
26 manage the business or any part of the business of online gaming;

27 (b) is capable of mobilizing sufficient financial resources to ensure
28 financial viability of the business of operating an online gaming;

29 (c) has made an undertaking to conduct the business of online
30 gaming with all integrity and transparency; in line with prescribed terms and

1 conditions of licence or permit and in accordance with the provisions of this
2 Bill;

3 (d) has paid the requisite fees as may be prescribed by the
4 Commission;

5 (e) has not-

6 (i) been adjudged as insolvent, or bankrupt, or

7 (ii) made an arrangement or compromise with its creditors; and

8 (f) any other condition prescribed by the Commission.

9 (2) An application for a licence or permit shall be accompanied by
10 such fees as the Commission may prescribe.

11 (3) The Commission may grant a licence or permit under this Bill, if it
12 is satisfied, from all the evidence and documentation supplied, that the
13 applicant is qualified to operate an online gaming business.

14 (4) Any licence or permit granted under subclause (1) shall be subject
15 to such terms and conditions as the Commission may determine, and without
16 prejudice to the generality of the foregoing, such conditions shall include the-

17 (a) percentage of proceeds payable to the Commission under this Bill,
18 and the frequency of such payments in respect of all online games operated
19 pursuant to the licence or permit; and

20 (b) modalities for the distribution of the proceeds of all online gaming
21 transactions as may be conducted through an on-line, real-time independent
22 central monitoring system.

23 (5) If any change occurs in the information provided in the application
24 for a licence or permit by a body corporate (including any documents lodged
25 with the application) before the application is granted or refused, the applicant
26 shall forthwith submit to the Commission written particulars of the change.

Duration of
licence or permit

27 **29.**-(1) A licence granted under this Bill shall be valid, for online-

28 (a) sport betting, five years;

29 (b) core gaming (parimutuel and fixed odds), ten years; and

30 (c) casino games, ten years.

1 (2) A permit granted under this Bill shall be valid for one year.

2 (3) The Commission may, before the expiration of the licence,
3 extend the term of the licence for the same duration as provided in sub clause
4 (1).

5 (4) The Commission may from time to time determine the duration
6 for any other category of online and remote games that may arise.

7 **30.-(1)** A licence or permit granted under this Bill may be revoked
8 or suspended by the Commission, if- Suspension or
revocation of
licence or permit

9 (a) there has been a contravention or a breach of any of the
10 conditions of grant of the licence or permit, or failure to remit proceeds due
11 to the Commission under the provisions of this Bill; or

12 (b) the licensee or permit holder-

13 (i) is no longer capable of carrying on the business of online
14 gaming, whether arising from insolvency, liquidation or any other reason,

15 (ii) has failed to take adequate steps to prevent the commission of
16 fraud by its employees, after having been alerted or becoming aware of the
17 conditions conducive to the commission of fraud, or to instances of fraud or
18 dishonesty,

19 (iii) or any of its employees unlawfully prevents the Commission
20 or any authorized person from carrying out their duties under this Bill,

21 (iv) fails to prevent or abate the violation of the provisions of this
22 Bill or the conditions of grant of the licence or permit; or

23 (v) or any of its employees, repeatedly and knowingly sells tickets
24 or awards or pays prizes to any person contrary to the provisions of this Bill.

25 (2) The Commission shall, if satisfied that there exists any ground
26 for revocation as specified in subclause (1)-

27 (a) notify the licensee or permit-holder in writing of the existence
28 of such grounds; and

29 (b) request the licensee or permit holder to furnish reasons, within
30 fourteen days of service of such notice, at the registered address of the

	1	licencee or permit-holder, as to why the licence should not be revoked.
	2	(3) The Commission may-
	3	(a) if satisfied with any reason furnished by the licensee or permit
	4	holder pursuant to subclause (2), allow the licence or permit to continue; or
	5	(b) if not satisfied with the reasons furnished by the licensee or permit
	6	holder, revoke the licence or permit as it deems fit.
	7	(4) Any licence or permit revoked under sub clause (1) shall not affect
	8	the obligations of the licensee or permit holder that arose before the revocation.
Powers to amend and vary a licence or permit	9	31. In the performance of its functions in relation to the renewal of a
	10	licence or permit under this Bill, the Commission shall have powers to-
	11	(a) vary or amend in writing a condition attached to a licence or
	12	permit; and
	13	(b) inspect a licensee or permit holder's books of account and other
	14	records to determine whether a licensee or permit-holder is complying with its
	15	obligations.
Certain restriction on online gaming licence or permit	16	32.-(1) A person, holding a political office or in the public service of
	17	the Federation shall not have any financial interest in an online gaming
	18	licencee, permit holder, licence or permit, or any other type of gaming within
	19	the FCT as may be determined by the Commission.
	20	(2) An online gaming licence is transferable subject to prior
	21	authorization and proper due diligence on the prospective recipient of the
	22	licence and related terms and conditions as may be prescribed by the
	23	Commission.
Appointment of agents or operators to manage online gaming, etc.	24	33. A licensee or permit holder shall, with the approval of the
	25	Commission, appoint, contract or otherwise engage any person or body
	26	corporate as an operator or agent to manage, promote, conduct or operate, on
	27	behalf of the licensee or permit holder, all or any of the online gaming to which
	28	the licence or permit relates.

- 1 **34.**-(1) There is established an online game or series of online National online
2 games known as National online games operated by a body corporate game/National
3 appointed by the Commission. online patronage
4 (2) The National online game draws shall be conducted by the body reward program
5 corporate appointed under sub-clause (1) of this clause, in conjunction with
6 an integrity committee with a view to providing nationally recognized and
7 accepted online games.
8 (3) The integrity committee as provided for in sub-clause (2) of this
9 clause shall be comprised of representatives from:
10 (a) Federal Ministry of Justice;
11 (b) The Commission; and
12 (c) A renowned auditing firm appointed by the Commission
13 (4) All the online games operators licenced under this Bill are
14 allowed to resell, offer and accept stakes national online games as agents.
15 (5) All online gaming operators reselling the National Online
16 Games are entitled to a percentage of the proceeds as agreed by all parties
17 involved in the resale of tickets of the National Online Games.
18 (6) The online gaming operators shall remit the balance of the
19 proceeds to the corporate body appointed under sub-clause (1) of this clause.
20 (7) There shall be a National Online Patronage Reward Program
21 designed for national wealth redistribution and economic growth which
22 shall conduct weekly online gaming draws.
23 **35.**-(1) A holder of a pari mutuel online gaming license shall Application of
24 establish an operational fund to be known as the "pari mutuel online gaming proceeds of online
25 prize fund" into which shall be paid a minimum return as may be gaming
26 determined by the Commission, and as stipulated in the Operational Terms
27 and Conditions executed between the operator and the Commission.
28 (2) The prize fund established under subclause (1) shall be applied
29 exclusively for the payment of prizes in respect of such online gaming from
30 which the proceeds were realised.

1 (3) A licensee shall pay to the Commission a percentage of gross
2 proceeds as may be determined by the Commission.

3 (4) A holder of a fixed odds online gaming license shall establish an
4 operational fund to be known as the fixed odds online gaming prize fund into
5 which shall be paid a minimum return as may be determined by the
6 Commission, and as stipulated in the Operational Terms and Conditions
7 executed between the operator and the Commission.

8 (5) The prize fund established under subclause (4) shall be applied
9 exclusively for the payment of prizes in respect of such online gaming from
10 which the proceeds were realised.

11 (6) A licensee shall pay to the Commission a percentage of gross
12 proceeds as may be determined by the Commission.

13 (7) A holder of online sports betting license shall establish an
14 operational fund to be known as the "online sports betting prize fund" into
15 which shall be paid a minimum as may be determined by the Commission, and
16 as stipulated in the Operational Terms and Conditions executed between the
17 operator and the Commission.

18 (8) The prize fund established under subclause (7) shall be applied
19 exclusively for the payment of prizes in respect of such online sports betting
20 from which the proceeds were realised.

21 (9) A licensee shall pay to the Commission a percentage of gross
22 proceeds as may be determined by the Commission.

23 (10) A holder of an online casino gaming license shall establish an
24 operational fund to be known as the "online casino gaming prize fund" into
25 which shall be paid a minimum return as may be determined by the
26 Commission, and as stipulated in the Operational Terms and Conditions
27 executed between the operator and the Commission.

28 (11) The prize fund established under subclause (10) shall be applied
29 exclusively for the payment of prizes in respect of such online casino gaming
30 from which the proceeds were realised.

1 (12) A licensee shall pay to the Commission a percentage of gross
2 proceeds as may be determined by the Commission

3 36.-(1) A permit holder shall, in respect of online consumer
4 promotions, establish and maintain an operational fund to be known as the
5 "prize pool" into which shall be kept or listed all prizes, whether cash, goods
6 or equipment, which shall be applied exclusively for the payment of
7 winnings, and distribution prizes in respect of such promotions for which
8 the permit is granted by the Commission.

Establishment
of prize pool and
application

9 (2) The prize pool established by a permit holder pursuant to
10 subclause (1) shall be applied exclusively for the payment of winnings and
11 distribution of prizes in respect of the particular online promotions to which
12 they relate.

13 (3) Permit holders for other gaming categories shall pay to the
14 Commission a percentage of gross gaming revenue as may be prescribed by
15 the Commission.

16 37.-(1) A licensee or permit holder shall submit to the
17 Commission, at such time and in such manner as the Commission may
18 prescribe financial statements, returns and other records relating to the
19 online gaming or gaming transactions operated pursuant to the licence or
20 permit.

Financial statements
and records of
licence or permit
holder

21 (2) A licensee or permit holder of online gaming shall keep proper
22 accounts and records of the transactions and affairs of the licensee or permit-
23 holder sufficient to explain the financial operations and position of the
24 licensee or permit-holder relating to online gaming activity.

25 (3) A licensee or permit holder may apply to the Commission, for
26 an extension of time within which to submit the financial statements or
27 returns specified in subclause (1), no extension of time shall exceed three
28 months.

29 (4) The Commission may give notice to any person or body
30 corporate, including a financial institution, used by a licensee or including a

	1	person engaged in banking business in Nigeria, requiring such person to
	2	provide within a stipulated time, the information specified in the notice.
Submission of annual report by licence or permit holder	3	38. -(1) A licensee or permit holder shall prepare and submit to the
	4	Commission not later than 30th June in each year a report in such form as the
	5	Commission may direct on the online gaming activity of the licensee or permit
	6	holder during the immediately preceding year.
	7	(2) A licensee or permit holder shall attach to the annual report a copy
	8	of the financial statement of online gaming activity for the year submitted
	9	pursuant to this Bill and the audited accounts of the licensee or permit holder
	10	for that year.
Appointment of external auditor	11	39. The Commission shall in appropriate cases appoint an external
	12	auditor for purposes of forensic auditing the financial statements of a licensee
	13	or permit holder relating to online gaming activity.
Penalty for failure to submit financial statements and reports, etc.	14	40. A licensee or permit holder who fails to comply with the
	15	provisions of clause 35 of this Bill within the prescribed time, commits an
	16	offence and is liable to administrative penalty of not less than ₦2 million naira.
Powers of the external auditor	17	41. An external auditor appointed to audit the accounts of a licensee
	18	or permit holder pursuant to clause 36 of this Bill may-
	19	(a) access at all times the books and electronic records of the licensee
	20	or permit holder in respect of any online gaming; and
	21	(b) require from an employee, subsidiary or contractor of the licensee
	22	or permit holder any information, assistance or explanation necessary for the
	23	discharge of the duties of the auditor in relation to the audit.
Sale of online tickets	24	42. A ticket of any online game under this Bill shall be sold on behalf
	25	of a licensee or permit holder through personal application, postage or
	26	electronic transmission-
	27	(a) at the offices of the licensee or permit holder within the FCT;
	28	(b) by sales agents appointed or contracted by the licensee or permit
	29	holder;
	30	(c) through appropriate online applications authorized by the licensee

1 or permit holder; and

2 (d) by such other means or places as may be authorized or
3 designated by the licensee or permit holder from time to time.

4 **43.**-(1) The following payment instruments and channels shall be Permissible and
non-permissible
payment instruments
5 deemed permissible for transactions within the Nigerian gaming industry;
6 bank transfers, cheques, cash payments, card payments, mobile money
7 wallets, online banking transfers or any other payment
8 instruments/channels as may be periodically approved/prescribed by the
9 Commission.

10 (2) The following payment instruments and channels shall be
11 deemed non-permissible for transactions within the gaming industry;
12 cryptocurrency, gift vouchers, gift cards, and any other payment instruments
13 that the Commission may determine.

14 (3) The Commission reserves the right to determine per time the
15 payment channels or currencies that may be utilized in the gaming industry.

16 **44.** It is prohibited for any person or body corporate to Online technical
suppliers and
vendors
17 manufacture, provide, install, test, maintain, repair, deploy, supply, operate,
18 distribute, broadcast or provide technical services, equipment, software and
19 content locally or from a foreign jurisdiction for the purpose of conducting
20 online and remote gaming in any part of Nigeria without certification or
21 licence from the Commission.

22 (2) A body corporate desiring to operate online and remote gaming
23 in Nigeria shall ensure that the technology to be utilised is certified and
24 approved by the Commission and complies with the Commission's
25 regulations for deploying such online gaming or online gaming equipment.

26 **45.**-(1) No person shall obtain or attempt to obtain any direct or Prohibition of
syndication in
commercial online
gaming
27 indirect financial gain by forming, conducting or assisting in forming or
28 conducting a syndicate for the purpose of online ticket or electronic entry.

29 (2) A person shall not promote-

30 (a) the formation of any syndicate for the purchase of a online

- 1 ticket or electronic entry;
- 2 (b) any form of syndicate for the purchase of any online ticket or
- 3 making any electronic entry; or
- 4 (c) any scheme capable of assisting any other person to form any
- 5 syndicate for the purposes of purchasing online ticket or making electronic
- 6 entry.
- 7 (3) A person who contravenes the provisions of subclauses (1) and (2)
- 8 commits an offence and is liable on conviction-
- 9 (a) in the case of an individual, to a fine of not less than 2 million naira
- 10 or imprisonment for a term of not less than 2 years or both; and
- 11 (b) in the case of a body corporate, to a fine of not less than 20 million
- 12 Naira and in addition, each director or principal officer shall be liable to a fine
- 13 of not less than 2 million Naira or imprisonment for a minimum term of 2 years
- 14 or both.
- 15 **46.**-(1) Operators of online and remote gaming must utilise
- 16 information technology system that promotes responsible gaming by
- 17 providing tools that allow players to set spending limit, self-exclude and access
- 18 information on responsible gaming practices.
- 19 (2) Online and remote gaming operators, through the use of know-
- 20 your-customer (KYC) processes, customer due diligence, age verification
- 21 software and other technologies, must ensure that minors under the age of 18
- 22 years are not permitted to access any gaming platform or initiate any gaming
- 23 activity.
- 24 **47.**-(1) Subject to this Bill and any other condition in the licence or
- 25 permit, the licensee or permit holder shall ensure payment to all prize winners.
- 26 (2) A licensee or permit holder shall declare all unclaimed prizes with
- 27 details of the name, address and any other information of the prize winner to the
- 28 Commission on a monthly basis.
- 29 (3) Upon the expiration of a period of not less than 60 days following
- 30 the conclusion of any online gaming activity, the licensee or permit holder shall

Player protection
and responsible
gaming

Unclaimed
prizes

1 pay the value of any unclaimed prizes to the Commission.

2 **48.**-(1) The Commission with the approval of the President, may Power to enter
3 enter into an agreement with the Government of any country or any agreements
4 international regulatory entity with respect to-

5 (a) the operation of a licence or permit granted under this Bill in
6 that country;

7 (b) the payment of all or part of the contribution to the Commission
8 in connection with proceeds from online gaming derived from or in that
9 country which shall be paid to the Commission, provided the Commission
10 shall not grant any exemption where no reciprocal exemption is granted; and

11 (c) any contract, agreement or arrangement entered into by the
12 licensee or permit holder with any person or body corporate in another
13 country to promote and conduct lotteries in that country.

14 (2) The Commission may enter into agreement with states
15 regulatory entities in Nigeria.

16 (3) Any agreement entered into pursuant to this clause may be
17 varied or rescinded by the parties thereto on such terms and conditions as
18 may be agreed between them.

19 **PART VI - OFFENCES AND PENALTIES**

20 **49.**-(1) A person who-

21 (a) forges or alters any online and/or remote gaming ticket or Offences and
22 causes any online or remote gaming ticket to be forged or altered; Penalties

23 (b) knowingly disposes of or attempts to sell or dispose of any
24 forged or stolen online or remote gaming ticket;

25 (c) alters any number or figure or falsifies or otherwise disfigures
26 any online or remote gaming ticket with the intent to defraud;

27 (d) with the intent to defraud, takes or converts to his own use or to
28 the use of any other person, any proceeds from online or remote gaming
29 operated by the licensee or permit holder;

30 (e) knowingly sells to any person under the age of eighteen years

1 any online or remote gaming ticket in any online and/or remote gaming
2 operations operated by a licensee or permit holder, fraudulently or unlawfully
3 holds himself out as an agent of the licensee or permit holder;

4 (f) as an incentive or inducement to enter into a contract, or as a
5 condition or consequence of entering into a contract, gives a guarantee or
6 promise to a person to the effect that the person will win a prize or share a prize
7 in an online or remote gaming scheme;

8 (g) conducts or promotes a scheme under which a guarantee or
9 promise is given to a person participating in the scheme to the effect that the
10 person will win a prize or share out a prize in online or remote gaming;

11 (h) conducts online or remote gaming either through personal
12 application or by any other means without a valid licence or permit granted
13 under this Bill; or

14 (i) fraudulently manipulates a draw with intent to interfere with the
15 outcome of an online or remote game or draw, commits an offence and is liable
16 on conviction to a fine of 5million Naira or imprisonment for a term of 3 years
17 or both.

18 (2) Where an offence under subclause (1) is committed by a body
19 corporate-

20 (a) the body corporate shall on conviction be liable to a fine of not less
21 than N20,000,000 and forfeiture of any property, article, equipment used or
22 capable of being used for the purpose of illegal online gaming activity; and

23 (b) each director, and every principal officer of the body corporate
24 shall be liable on conviction to a fine of not less than N5,000,000 or
25 imprisonment for a term of 3 years or both.

26 (3) A person who-

27 (a) prevents or obstructs an officer of the Commission or any
28 authorised person from the performance of his duties; or

29 (b) contravenes any provisions of this Bill where no specific penalty
30 is provided, commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine of

1 N500,000.00 or not more than 1 year imprisonment or both.

2 (4) Where an offence under subclause (3) is committed by a body
3 corporate, the body corporate shall on conviction be liable to a fine of not
4 less than N 5,000,000.00 and each director and every principal officer of the
5 body corporate shall be liable on conviction to a fine of N500,000.00 or
6 imprisonment for a term of 1 year or both.

7 (5) Save as provided under this Bill and notwithstanding the
8 provision of any other enactment to the contrary, the operation of any online
9 or remote gaming on a national basis or on inter-state basis is prohibited
10 except with the approval of the Commission.

11 (6) Pursuant to the provisions of sub-clause (5), a person shall not
12 establish or conduct online gaming at national level or on interstate basis or
13 employ the use of a national platform to-

14 (a) conduct online gaming, either through personal application or
15 any electronic transmission;

16 (b) print online ticket in online gaming;

17 (c) sell, buy or offer for sale or give or accept a ticket in online
18 gaming;

19 (d) publish or exhibit in a newspaper or broadcast, telecast or on a
20 notice by electronic means or otherwise any information relating to online
21 gaming;

22 (e) sell or dispose of any property of any kind or allot any prize of
23 money by means of a game of chance or a game of mixed chance and skill; or

24 (f) keep a house or place for the purpose of conducting online
25 gaming, whether the house or place is used for any other purpose,
26 except with the approval of the Commission.

27 (7) A person who contravenes any of the provisions of sub-clause
28 (6), commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine of N5 million or
29 imprisonment for a term of 3 years or both.

1 (8) Where an offence under subclause (6) is committed by a body
2 corporate-

3 (a) the body corporate shall on conviction be liable to a fine of not less
4 than N20,000,000 and forfeiture of any property, article, equipment used or
5 capable of being used for the purpose of illegal online gaming activity; and

6 (b) each director, and every principal officer of the body corporate
7 shall be liable on conviction to a fine of not less than N5,000,000 or
8 imprisonment for a term of 3 years or both.

Power to enter,
inspect, seize,
seal and detain, etc.

9 **50.** An officer of the Commission with identification may at any
10 reasonable time-

11 (a) enter if need be by force, any premises in which the officer
12 reasonably believes that illegal online gaming operation is being carried out or
13 about to be carried out;

14 (b) examine any article or equipment within the premises which
15 appears to be an article or equipment to which this Bill or regulation applies, or
16 anything in the premises used or capable of being used for purposes of online
17 gaming activity;

18 (c) seize and detain, for such a time as may be necessary, any article or
19 equipment within the premises which appears to be an article or equipment to
20 which the Bill or regulation applies or anything in the premises used or capable
21 of being used for purposes of online gaming activity;

22 (d) seal up any premises in which the officer reasonably believes that
23 illegal online gaming operation is being carried out or about to be carried out;

24 (e) in collaboration with law enforcement agencies, arrest, detain and
25 prosecute any person found within the premises; or

26 (f) require the owner or any person in charge of the premises and
27 every person found in the premises to provide all necessary information or
28 reasonable assistance to the officer.

Jurisdiction to
prosecute offences
in this Bill

29 **51.-(1)** The Commission may prosecute any offence under this Bill or
30 any other related enactment in any court of competent jurisdiction.

1 (2) The Commission, or through any of its officers shall be given
2 access (regulator's privilege) to an operator's platform, where it is necessary
3 for the performance of the Commission's regulatory function.

4 (3) The Commission, in collaboration with other relevant
5 government agencies saddled with the requisite functions, may block or
6 render inoperable, the online or remote gaming platforms and or websites of
7 illegal gaming operators or any operator who contravenes any provision of
8 this Bill.

9 PART VII - GAMING IN THE FEDERAL CAPITAL TERRITORY

10 **52.**-(1) The Central Gaming Commission is hereby empowered to
11 regulate, supervise, and control all gaming activities, including but not
12 limited to online gaming, sports betting, casino operations, lotteries, and any
13 other form of gaming, within the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja.

Powers of the
Commission to
regulate gaming
activities in the
Federal Capital
Territory

14 (2) The Commission shall have the authority to issue licenses,
15 impose penalties, and enforce regulations governing the operation and
16 conduct of gaming activities in the Federal Capital Territory, ensuring
17 compliance with national standards, and shall have the power to revoke or
18 suspend any license for non-compliance with the provisions of this Bill.

19 (3) The Commission shall establish guidelines for the registration,
20 operation, and monitoring of gaming establishments within the Federal
21 Capital Territory, including the conduct of gaming businesses through
22 digital and physical platforms.

23 **53.**-(1) Gaming in the Federal Capital Territory shall be operated
24 and overseen by a distinct department within the Commission which shall
25 be headed by a director.

Establishment
of the Federal
Capital Territory
gaming department

26 (2) The director shall-

27 (a) be appointed by the Minister of the Federal Capital Territory.

28 (b) hold a minimum of a first degree in any professional field, with
29 cognate and proven experience in the industry.

Appointment of
the Director of
the Federal Capital
Territory gaming
department

30 (c) hold office for a term of 4 years in the first instance and may be

	1	re-appointed for a further term of 4 years and no more; and
	2	(d) hold office on such terms and conditions as may be specified in his
	3	letter of appointment.
	4	(3) Notwithstanding the provision of sub clause (2) of this clause, the
	5	Director may-
	6	(a) resign the appointment by a written notice under his hand
	7	addressed to the Minister of the Federal Capital Territory; or
	8	(b) be removed by the Minister of the Federal Capital Territory for his
	9	inability to discharge the functions of the office (whether arising from infirmity
	10	of mind or body or any other cause) or for misconduct.
Enforcement and compliance of gaming	11	54.-(1) The Central Gaming Commission, or any authorised officer
	12	acting on its behalf, shall have the power to inspect, monitor, and regulate all
	13	gaming activities within the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja, to ensure that
	14	such activities are conducted in accordance with the provisions of this Bill and
	15	any other relevant legislation.
Regulations in the Federal Capital Territory	16	(2) The Commission may, by regulations, prescribe conditions for the
	17	conduct of gaming activities within the Federal Capital Territory, including
	18	requirements for gaming establishments, responsible gambling measures,
	19	consumer protection, and the prevention of illegal gaming operations.
	20	(3) The Commission may enter any premises where gaming activities
	21	are conducted in the Federal Capital Territory to investigate, audit, and assess
	22	compliance with this Bill and may take appropriate enforcement actions,
	23	including fines, penalties, or the suspension of operations, where necessary.
	24	(4) Funds realized from gaming activities in the Federal Capital
	25	Territory, in addition to any other expenditure, shall be applied to the provision
	26	of good causes projects in the Federal Capital Territory, which may include
	27	projects to support education, health, social sciences, public welfare, poverty
	28	alleviation and natural disasters management.
Limitation of suits against the Commission, etc.	29	PART VIII - MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS
	30	55.-(1) Subject to the provisions of this Bill, the provisions of the

1 Public Officers Protection Act shall apply in relation to any suit instituted
2 against any member, officer or employee of the Commission.

3 (2) Notwithstanding anything contained in any other law, no suit
4 against the Commission, a member of the Board of the Commission, the
5 Director-General of the Commission, the Secretary of the Board of the
6 Commission or any other officer or employee of the Commission for any act
7 done in pursuance or execution of this Bill or any other law, or of any public
8 duty or authority or in respect of any alleged neglect or default in the
9 execution of this Bill or any other law, duty or authority, shall lie or be
10 instituted in any court unless it is commenced-

11 (a) within three months after the act, neglect or default complained
12 of; or

13 (b) in the case of a continuation of damage or injury, within six
14 months after the ceasing thereof.

15 (3) A suit shall not be commenced against the Commission, a
16 member of the Board of the Commission, the Director-General of the
17 Commission, the Secretary of the Board of the Commission or any other
18 officer or employee of the Commission before the expiration of one month
19 after written notice of the intention to commence the suit shall have been
20 served on the Commission by the intending plaintiff or their agent.

21 (4) The notice referred to in sub-clause (3) shall state the-

22 (a) cause of action;

23 (b) particulars of the claim;

24 (c) name and place of abode of the intending plaintiff; and

25 (d) relief which he claims.

26 **56.** A notice, summons or other document required or authorised
27 to be served on the Commission under the provisions of this Bill or any other
28 law may be served by delivering it to the Director-General of the
29 Commission.

Service of
documents

Restriction on execution against property of the Commission	1	57.-(1) In any action or suit against the Commission, no execution or
	2	process of attachment in the nature thereof shall be issued against the
	3	Commission unless not less than three months' notice of the intention to
	4	execute or attach has been given to the Commission.
	5	(2) Any sum of money which by the judgment of any court has been
	6	awarded against the Commission shall, subject to any direction given by the
	7	court, where no notice of appeal against the judgment has been given, be paid
	8	from the fund of the Commission.
Indemnity of officers	9	58. A member of the Board of the Commission, the Director-General,
	10	the Secretary of the Board of the Commission, or any officer or employee of the
	11	Commission shall be indemnified out of the assets of the Commission against
	12	any liability incurred by the person in defending any proceeding, whether civil
	13	or criminal.
Directives by the President, etc.	14	59. The President may give to the Commission, the Director-General
	15	of the Commission or the Secretary of the Board of the Commission such
	16	directives of a general nature or relating generally to matters of policy with
	17	regard to the exercise of its functions under this Bill as he may consider
	18	necessary and the Commission shall comply with the directives or cause them
	19	to be complied with.
Powers to make regulations and guidelines	20	60. The Commission may with the approval of the Board, make such
	21	regulations as in its opinion are necessary or expedient for giving full effect to
	22	the provisions of this Bill and for the due administration of its provisions
	23	relating to the Commission.
Secrecy	24	61.-(1) A member of the Board of the Commission, the Director-
	25	General or the Secretary of the Board of the Commission or any other officer or
	26	employee of the Commission shall-
	27	(a) not for personal gain, make use of any information which came to
	28	their knowledge in the exercise of their powers or were obtained by them in the
	29	ordinary course of their duty as a member of the Board of the Commission, as
	30	the Director-General, Secretary of the Board of the Commission, officer or

1 employee of the Commission;

2 (b) treat as confidential any information which come to his
3 knowledge in the exercise of his powers or were obtained by him in the
4 performance of his duties under this Bill;

5 (c) not disclose any information referred to under paragraph (b) of
6 this sub-clause, except where required to do so by a court or in such other
7 circumstances as may be prescribed by the Commission.

8 (2) A person who contravenes the provisions of subclause (1),
9 commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine of not less than
10 N250,000 or imprisonment for a term not exceeding 1 year or both.

11 **62.**-(1) The National Lottery Act No. 7 of 2005 and the National
12 Lottery (Amendment) Act No. 6 of 2017 are repealed.

Repeal and savings
provisions

13 (2) Without prejudice to the provisions of Section 6 of the
14 Interpretation Act, the repeal of the enactment specified in sub-clause (1)
15 shall not affect anything done or any action taken under or pursuant to the
16 repealed enactment except that such thing done or action taken shall be
17 construed in accordance with the provisions of this Bill.

18 (3) Every regulation, order, requirement, licence, permit, notice,
19 direction, decision, authorisation, consent, application, request or thing
20 made, issued, given or done under the repealed Act shall, at the
21 commencement of this Bill, continue to be in force and have effect as if
22 made, issued, given or done under this Bill.

23 (4) All assets, funds, resources and other moveable and
24 immoveable property which, immediately before the commencement of this
25 Bill, vested in the Commission and Trust Fund established under the
26 repealed Act shall without further assurance be vested in the Commission.

27 (5) Any reference to the Commission or Trust Fund, Board or
28 Board of Trustees, Chairman, Director General, Secretary or any person
29 under their control or a document issued in the name of the Commission or
30 Trust Fund established under the repealed Act shall be read, as a reference to

Transitional
Provisions

1 the Commission established under this Bill.

2 **63.**-(1) A property held immediately before the commencement of
3 this Bill on behalf of the Commission established under the repealed Act by any
4 person shall be vested in the Commission.

5 (2) The Commission shall be subject to all the obligations and
6 liabilities to which the Commission established under the repealed Act was
7 subject to immediately before the commencement of this Bill .

8 (3) All other persons shall have the same right, powers and remedies
9 against the Commission as they had against the Commission established under
10 the repealed Act.

11 (4) Any proceeding or cause of action pending or existing
12 immediately before the commencement of this Bill by or against the
13 Commission or Trust Fund established under the repealed Act in respect of any
14 right, interest, obligation or liability of the Commission or Trust Fund
15 established under the repealed Act, shall be discontinued, and any
16 determination of a court of law, tribunal or other commission or person shall
17 not be enforced by or against the Commission.

18 (5) As from the commencement of this Bill, any disciplinary
19 proceeding pending or existing against any employee of the Commission or
20 Trust Fund established under the repealed Act may be continued or completed
21 by the Commission.

Interpretation

22 **64.** In this Bill-

23 "Board" means the Governing Board of the Commission established under
24 clause 2 of this Bill;

25 "central monitoring system" means any system put in place by the Commission
26 for the purpose of assessing and monitoring all online gaming activities in
27 Nigeria, remote gaming and other gaming in the Federal Capital Territory, and
28 is capable of tracking and generating reports on sales, bets, winnings, payout,
29 draws and remittances;

30 "Chairman" means the Chairman of the Governing Board of the Commission;

- 1 "Commission" means the Central Gaming Commission established under
2 clause 1 of this Bill;
- 3 "Director-General" means the Director-General of the Commission
4 appointed under clause 8 of this Bill;
- 5 "fixed odds" means a type of game within the definition of online gaming
6 where odds for the winning bet is determined at the time the bet is placed;
- 7 "gaming" means all forms of online gaming in Nigeria and other forms of
8 gaming in the Federal Capital Territory Abuja within the objectives of this
9 Bill;
- 10 "gross gaming revenue" means total revenue;
- 11 "good causes" means the projects executed by the Commission toward
12 promoting public good and social inclusion;
- 13 "licence" means a document authorising a licensee to operate online gaming
14 in Nigeria and other forms of gaming in the Federal Capital Territory Abuja,
15 granted under this Bill;
- 16 "licensee" means the holder of a licence issued to carry on the business of
17 online or other forms of gaming pursuant to this Bill;
- 18 "online gaming" includes any game, scheme, arrangement, system, plan,
19 promotional competition, raffle draw, or device for the distribution of prizes
20 by lot or chance, or as a result of the exercise of skill and chance or based on
21 the outcome of sporting events, or any other game, scheme, arrangement,
22 system, plan, competition or device, which the Commission may declare to
23 be online gaming in a prescribed form and which shall be operated
24 according to a licence;
- 25 "online gaming technology" means-
- 26 (a) online ticket;
- 27 (b) terminal for selling or validating online ticket;
- 28 (c) online ticket checker;
- 29 (d) block chain;
- 30 (e) any computer equipment or software or hardware used by the

1 online gaming operator, online gaming equipment supplier or an agent in
2 operating online gaming scheme in Nigeria;

3 (f) an operator's central online management system;

4 (g) any other soft or hardware or future technological innovation that
5 could influence the outcome of the online gaming scheme to be used; or

6 (h) any equipment that could influence the outcome of online gaming
7 scheme or, in the opinion of the Commission, is integral to conducting,
8 managing or operating online gaming scheme in Nigeria;

9 "online gaming technology supplier and vendor" means any person or body
10 corporate other than the Commission and online gaming licensee or permit
11 holder, who-

12 (a) manufactures, provides, installs, tests, maintains or repairs online
13 gaming equipment;

14 (b) provides online gaming services that could influence the outcome
15 of the scheme or, in the opinion of the Commission, are integral to conducting,
16 managing or operating online gaming scheme in Nigeria;

17 "member" means a member of the Governing Board of the Commission and
18 includes the Chairman of the Board;

19 "national online gaming means any online gaming developed and conducted at
20 national level, or employing the use of a national platform or interstate basis to
21 conduct online gaming either through personal application or any electronic
22 transmission;

23 "operator" means a licensee or permit holder engaged in the operation of online
24 gaming in Nigeria or other games in the Federal Capital Territory Abuja;

25 "permit" means a permit to operate online gaming of short term duration,
26 periodic life span or seasonal existence;

27 "permit-holder" means a person to whom a permit to operate online gaming has
28 been issued pursuant to this Bill;

29 "proceeds" means the total transaction made by the participants on the
30 purchase of online tickets in respect of each online gaming conducted under a

- 1 licence or permit;
- 2 "President" means the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria;
- 3 "prize" means a prize due to a participant who holds a winning ticket in
- 4 online gaming or promotional online gaming conducted by the licensee or
- 5 permit holder;
- 6 "prize fund" means that depository established by a licensee pursuant to this
- 7 Bill;
- 8 "prize pool" means the fund established by a permit holder for payment of
- 9 prizes in a promotional online gaming;
- 10 "promotional online gaming" includes lotteries in the Federal Capital
- 11 Territory Abuja conducted by manufacturers, distributors, retailers and
- 12 promoters of goods and services for the distribution of prizes by chance or
- 13 lot;
- 14 "promoter", includes but not limited to, manufacturers of goods, service
- 15 providers, telecom operators, construction companies, banks and any other
- 16 person offering goods or services by public advertisement, the gross return
- 17 on which is likely to exceed the sum of N1,000,000.00;
- 18 "remote gaming" refers to gaming activities conducted through platforms
- 19 where operators and players are geographically separated, with the operator
- 20 located outside the jurisdiction of the regulatory authority;
- 21 "remote gaming operator" means a permit holder, bookmaker or gaming
- 22 platform operator who is based outside the physical jurisdiction of the
- 23 regulating authority but seeks to offer gaming services to players within that
- 24 jurisdiction;
- 25 "remote gaming permit" means a permit granted for operating remote
- 26 gaming;
- 27 "relevant period" means the financial year of the licensee as required and
- 28 governed by the Companies and Allied Matters Act;
- 29 "Secretary" means the Secretary of the Board of the Commission;
- 30 "ticket" means any receipt, symbol, sign, token, warrant, card, printed paper,

1 document or any other means or device including an electronic record, which
2 entitles a participant to take part in online gaming;
3 "Commission" means the Central Gaming Commission established under this
4 Bill;
5 "unclaimed prizes" means prizes payable in respect of winning tickets in online
6 gaming which have not been claimed by the ticket owner within the claim
7 period specified in this Bill.

Citation 8 **65.** This Bill may be cited as the Central Gaming Bill, 2025.

9 FIRST SCHEDULE

10 *Clause 3(4)*

11 SUPPLEMENTARY PROVISIONS RELATING TO THE COMMISSION

12 *Proceedings of the Board*

13 1. Subject to this Bill and section 27 of the Interpretation Act, the
14 Board shall have power to regulate its proceedings and may make standing
15 orders with respect to the holding of its meetings, and those of its committees,
16 notices to be given, the keeping of minutes of its proceedings, the custody and
17 production for inspection of such minutes and such other matters as the
18 Commission may determine.

19 *Meetings of the Board*

20 1. There shall be at least four ordinary meetings of the Board in every
21 calendar year and subject thereto, the Board shall meet whenever it is convened
22 by the Chairman, and if the Chairman is requested to do so by notice given by
23 not less than 3 other members, he shall convene a meeting of the Board to be
24 held within 14 days from the date the notice was given.

25 2. Every meeting of the Board shall be presided over by the Chairman
26 and if the Chairman is unable to attend a particular meeting, the members
27 present at the meeting shall elect one of their members to preside at the
28 meeting.

29 *Quorum*

30 3. The quorum of any meeting of the Board shall consist of the

1 Chairman (or in an appropriate case, the person presiding at the meeting
2 pursuant to paragraph 2 of this Schedule) and four other members.

3 *Venue of Board Meetings*

4 4. The Board shall meet for the conduct of its business at such
5 places and on such days as the Chairman may appoint.

6 *Determination of Issues before the Board*

7 5. A question put before the Board at a meeting shall be decided by
8 consensus and where this is not possible, by a majority of the votes of the
9 members present and voting.

10 *Chairman's Casting Vote*

11 6. The Chairman shall, in the case of an equality of votes, have a
12 casting vote in addition to their deliberative vote.

13 *Non-Members of the Board*

14 7. Where the Board seeks the advice of any person on a particular
15 matter, the Board may invite that person to attend its meeting for such period
16 as it deems fit, but a person who is invited by virtue of this paragraph shall
17 not be entitled to vote at any meeting of the Board and shall not count
18 towards the quorum.

19 *Committees*

20 8.-(1) The Board may appoint one or more committees to carry out
21 on behalf of the Board such of its functions as may be determined and report
22 on any matter with which the Board is concerned.

23 (2) A committee appointed under this paragraph shall be presided
24 over by a member of the Board and consist of such number of persons (not
25 necessarily all members of the Board) as may be determined by the Board
26 and a person other than a member of the Board shall hold office on the
27 committee in accordance with the terms of its appointment.

28 (3) A decision of a committee of the Board shall be of no effect until
29 it is confirmed by the Board.

1 *Miscellaneous*

2 9. The fixing of the seal of the Commission shall be authenticated by
3 the signature of the the Director General, and the Secretary of the Board of the
4 Commission and such other person authorised by the Board to act for that
5 purpose.

6 *Execution of Documents*

7 10.-(1)A contract or an instrument which, if made or executed by any
8 person not being a body corporate, would not be required to be under seal, may
9 be made or executed on behalf of the Commission by the Director General, and
10 the Secretary of the Board of the Commission or by any person generally or
11 specifically authorised to act for that purpose by the Board.

12 (2) A document purporting to be a contract, an instrument or other
13 document signed or sealed on behalf of the Commission shall be received in
14 evidence and unless the contrary is proved, be presumed without further proof,
15 to have been properly signed or sealed.

16 *Validity of Proceedings*

17 11. The validity of any proceedings of the Board or its committees
18 shall not be affected by-

- 19 (a) any vacancy in the membership of the Board or its committees;
20 (b) reason that a person not entitled to do so took part in the
21 proceedings; or
22 (c) any defect in the appointment of a member.

23 *Conflict of Interest*

24 12. A member of the Board or committee who has a personal interest
25 in any contract or arrangement entered into or proposed to be considered by the
26 Board or any committee shall-

- 27 (a) forthwith disclose his or her interest to the Board or committee;
28 and
29 (b) not vote on any question relating to the contract or arrangement.

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

This Bill seeks to repeal the National Lottery Act No. 7 of 2005 and the National Lottery (Amendment) Act No. 6 of 2017, and to enact the Central Gaming Bill to regulate the operation and business of all forms of online and remote gaming across the geographical boundaries of the federating units and beyond the international boundaries of Nigeria, provide for the conduct of gaming in the Federal Capital Territory, and enhance revenue generation for the Federation.