

**NIGERIA CENTRE FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION
(ESTABLISHMENT) ACT (AMENDMENT) BILL 2022**

ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

1. Amendment of Act No. 18, 2018
2. Amendment of Section 1
3. Amendment of Section 3
4. Substitution of Section 10
5. Insertion of section 15A
6. Amendment of Part VI
7. Insertion of section 22A
8. Insertion of section 25A
9. Amendment of Section 27
10. Citation

A BILL

For

An Act to amend the Nigeria Centre for Disease Control and Prevention (Establishment) Act, 2018 to strengthen Nigeria Centre for Disease Control and Prevention on public health surveillance and emergency preparedness; and for related matters.

[] **Commencement**

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

1. Amendment of Act No. 18, 2018

The Nigeria Centre for Disease Control and Prevention (Establishment) Act, 2018 (in this Act referred to as the “Principal Act”) is amended as set out in this Act.

2. Amendment of Section 1

Section 1 of the Principal Act is amended by inserting, after paragraph (g), new paragraph (h)

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“(h) coordinate the National One Health and multisectoral approach and activities in collaboration with other relevant federal ministries, departments and agencies.”

3. Amendment of Section 3

Section 3(1) of the Principal Act is amended by:

(a) substitute for paragraph (f) two new paragraphs (f) and (g) –

“(f) develop and coordinate the implementation of an effective risk communication and community engagement strategy for proper sensitisation and mobilisation of the public and vulnerable populations towards health;

- (g) develop and lead the implementation of a national infection prevention and control programme with the goal of preventing and mitigating healthcare associated infections and antimicrobial resistance;”
- (b) inserting new paragraphs (h) and (i) before the existing paragraph (g) –
 - “(h) develop standard infection prevention and control protocols and guidelines, and build the capacity of healthcare workers and health facilities on the prevention and control of healthcare associated infections;
 - (i) coordinate antimicrobial resistance prevention and control programmes in Nigeria;”
- (c) renumbering the existing paragraphs (g)-(t) as subsections (j)-(w) accordingly.

4. Substitution of Section 10

Substitute for subsection (2) of Section 10 of the Principal Act a new subsection (2) –

- “(2) The operational structure of the Centre shall comprise—
 - (a) office of the Director-General;
 - (b) nine Departments headed by Directors—
 - (i) Health Emergencies Preparedness and Response
 - (ii) Surveillance and Epidemiology
 - (iii) Prevention Programmes and Knowledge Management
 - (iv) Public Health Laboratory Services
 - (v) Administration and Human Resources
 - (vi) Finance and Accounts
 - (vii) Special Duties and Partnerships
 - (viii) Health Promotion and Communication
 - (ix) Logistics, Health Product and Waste Management; and
 - (c) such other departments as may be required for the proper performance of the functions of the Centre.”

5. Insertion of section 15A

Insert, after section 15 of the Principal Act, a new section 15A of the Principal Act –

“15A. Funding of Routine Public Health Security Activities

- (1) There is hereby established a “Emergency Preparedness Fund” which shall ensure the advancement and strengthen of routine public health security activities for epidemic and emergency preparedness and response.
- (2) Money from the Fund shall be used to finance the following activities:
 - (a) training of personnel in emergency preparedness and response;
 - (b) training of surveillance officers and health officials on disease surveillance, prevention and control activities;
 - (c) emergency preparedness activities;
 - (d) epidemic response activities;
 - (e) the provision of essential commodities, national emergency stockpile, personal protective equipment, and other preventive public health measures;
 - (f) the mitigation of, response to, and recovery from public health emergencies;
 - (g) provision and maintenance of adequate telecommunication technology and infrastructure to enable timely communication;
 - (h) coordination and integration of surveillance and response activities across all the sectors in the country;
 - (i) deployment of experts and appropriate rapid response teams to the affected area to investigate and respond;
 - (j) acquisition of equipment for testing in the national laboratory and other designated laboratories across the country;
 - (k) development of the national’s public health emergency preparedness and response plans;

- (l) strengthening of healthcare facilities and institutions across the country to adequately detect and respond to public health events; and
- (m) other activities targeted at preventing the spread of infectious diseases into or within Nigeria.”

6. Amendment of Part VI

Part VI of the Principal Act is amended by substituting for the words, “NATIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL AND ITS FUNCTIONS”, the words, “SPECIAL NATIONAL HEALTH COMMITTEES AND THEIR FUNCTIONS”

7. Insertion of section 22A

Insert, after section 22 of the Principal Act, a new section 22A of the Principal Act –

“22A. National Public Health Emergency Operation Centre

- (1) There is hereby established the National Public Health Emergency Operations Centre and shall be led by the National Manager.
- (2) The National Public Health Emergency Operations Centre shall be domiciled in the Centre
- (3) The National Public Health Emergency Operations Centre shall be operational at all times.
- (4) The National Public Health Emergency Operations Centre shall –
 - (a) retain a permanent core staff at all times; and
 - (b) maintain a roster of multidisciplinary and multi-sectoral experts who are available and able to be mobilised when the National Public Health Emergency Operations Centre is activated to respond to a public health event or public health emergency.”

8. Insertion of section 25A

Insert, after section 25 of the Principal Act, a new section 25A of the Principal Act –

“25. Regulations during Public Health Events and Emergency

The Centre may make regulations for the investigation and response to public health events or public health emergencies on issues including but not limited to –

- (a) active case investigation and contact tracing measures;
- (b) vaccination against infectious diseases;
- (c) public health measures to isolate and address the sources of epidemics; or
- (d) biosafety and biosecurity.”

9. Amendment of Section 27

Section 27 of the Principal Act is amended by inserting, in alphabetical order, the following new definitions –

““contact tracing” includes the practice of identifying, notifying, and monitoring individuals who may have had close contact with a person having or suspected of having an infectious disease as a means of controlling the spread of infection;

“health measures” means all procedures used to prevent the spread of disease or contamination, including quarantining potential or suspected cases or individuals, isolating and treating cases, destroying infected property, immediately disposing of bodies, or contact tracing, but excluding law enforcement or security measures;”

10. Short Title

This Bill may be cited as the Nigeria Centre for Disease Control and Prevention (Establishment) Act (Amendment) Bill, 2022.

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

This Bill seeks to amend the Nigeria Centre for Disease Control and Prevention (Establishment) Act to strengthen Nigeria Centre for Disease Control and Prevention on public health surveillance and emergency preparedness; and for related matters.