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L.N. 35 of 1968

LEGAL PRACTITIONERS ACT 1962 1962 No. 12

Legal Practitioners (Special Facilities to Practise in Nigeria) Regulations 1968

Commencement : 13th March 1968

In exercise of the powers conferred upon him by section 3 (3) of the Legal Practitioners Act 1962 and after consultation with the General Council of the Bar the Attorney-General of the Federation has made the following regulations :--

1.—(1) These regulations may be cited as the Legal Practitioners (Special Facilities to Practise in Nigeria) Regulations 1968 and shall apply throughout the Federation.

(2) These regulations shall have effect so however that nothing herein shall be construed to restrict or abridge the power of the Chief Justice of Nigeria to permit practice by otherwise disqualified persons in any designated proceedings.

2.—(1) Subject to the provisions of this regulation, the facilities for enrolment as a legal practitioner shall be available to any person, other than a Nigerian, who satisfies the Chief Justice of Nigeria that he is a person of good character, and produces to the court, evidence by certificate signed by the Attorney-General of the Federation setting out—

(a) that the country of which the applicant is a citizen or national as the case may be, is a member of the Organisation of African Unity and affords to Nigerians the equivalent right of enrolment and audience before its courts as a citizen of Nigeria has of enrolment and audience in Nigeria; and

(b) that the applicant is entitled to practise as a legal practitioner (by whatever name there known) in the country of which he is a citizen or national, and in addition—

(i) has passed in Nigeria an examination by the Council of Legal Education in general knowledge of Nigeria law, or

(ii) has satisfied the Attorney-General of the Federation as to the applicant's general knowledge of Nigerian law.

(2) The fee for the certificate shall be ten guineas payable to the Council of Legal Education and the receipt shall accompany, and be filed with, the certificate.

(3) The fee for enrolment pursuant to this regulation shall be twenty-five guineas payable to the Nigeria Bar Association before the filing of the application in the Supreme Court; and three quarters of the amount when received shall be retained by the Association and the remaining one quarter paid to the court aforesaid, and be so disbursed.

(4) Any certificate or receipt made or given under and for the purposes of this regulation shall be accepted by the court without proof of signature, unless the contrary appears.

Requirements for enrolment and cancellation of enrolment.

Citation etc. (5) Application by motion on notice may at any time be made on proper ground by the Attorney-General of the Federation for annulment of an enrolment under these regulations; and where the court hearing the application is satisfied that practising facilities for Nigerians have been withdrawn or so materially altered as to operate to the disadvantage of Nigerians in the country of which the legal practitioner enrolled under these regulations is a citizen or national, or that the legal practitioner otherwise is not fit person to continue to be enrolled, it may by order annul his enrolment as a legal practitioner in Nigeria, and the person affected shall be disbarred accordingly.

MADE at Lagos this 13th day of March 1968.

T. O. ELIAS, Attorney-General of the Federation