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A BILL

FOR

AN ACT TO AMEND THE NIGERIAN PILGRIMS BOARD ACT 1975

(Presented by Representative ALHAJI A. TUGGAR)

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Commence-
ment.

1 BE IT ENACTED by the National Assembly of the Federal
2 Republic of Nigeria and authority of same as follows:—

3 1. Section 1 of the Nigerian Pilgrims Board Act 1975 (hereinafter
4 referred to as the "Principal Act") is hereby amended as follows:—

Amendment
of section 1
of 1975,
No. 16.

5 (a) For subsection (1) there shall be substituted the following new
6 subsection:—

7 "1. —(1) There shall be established a board to be known as the
8 Nigerian Pilgrims Board (in this Act hereinafter referred to as "the
9 board") charged with responsibility for the general welfare of
10 Nigerians who undertake a pilgrimage and with duties incidental
11 thereto as imposed by this Act."

12 (b) For subsection (4) there shall be substituted the following new
13 subsection:—

14 (4) In the application of subsection (3) as far as is practicable
15 and to such end the board shall (subject to the enactments regulat-
16 ing civil Aviation) make arrangements suitable to the welfare of

1 the pilgrims with any airlines, including Nigeria Airways Limited,
 2 for the purpose of uplifting by air pilgrims for any particular pil-
 3 grimage.”

Amendment
 of section 2
 of 1975,
 No. 16.

4 2. Section 2 of the principal Act is hereby amended as follows :—

5 (a) For subsection (3) there shall be substituted the following new
 6 subsection :—

7 “(3) Subject to the prescribed rules, the board shall keep proper
 8 accounts and records in relation to its funds, in a form which
 9 conforms with accepted commercial standards, and shall cause its
 10 accounts to be audited as soon as may be after the end of the
 11 financial year to which the accounts relate by a qualified auditor
 12 approved annually in that behalf by the Minister of Finance.”

13 (b) In paragraph (a) of subsection (4) delete the words “in the first-
 14 instance” and the semicolon in the last line thereof.

15 (c) For subsection (5) there shall be substituted the following new
 16 subsection :—

17 “(5) The Board may with the prior approval of the Minister
 18 from time to time borrow moneys, so however that the amount at
 19 any one time owing by the board shall not exceed the sum of one
 20 million naira.”

Amendment
 of section 3
 of 1975,
 No. 16.

21 3. Section 3 of the principal Act is hereby amended by deleting the
 22 section and substituting a new section as follows :—

23 “3.—(1) There shall be an Executive Secretary to the board who
 24 shall be an officer in the public service of the Federation and who
 25 shall have such qualifications and experience as are appropriate for a
 26 person required to perform the functions of his office under this Act.

1 (2) Subject to the general direction of the Chairman, the Executive
2 Secretary—

3 (a) shall be responsible for the affairs of pilgrims and pilgrimages
4 generally ;

5 (b) shall be the head of the board's secretariat and be responsible
6 for the administration thereof and the direction and control of all
7 other employees of the board ; and

8 (c) shall be responsible for keeping proper records of the proceed-
9 ings of the board.

10 (3) The Executive Secretary shall be the accounting officer of the
11 board.

12 (4) There shall be two Deputy Secretaries to the board who shall
13 also be officers in the public service of the Federation and one shall
14 be responsible for the affairs of christian pilgrims and the other for
15 islamic pilgrims.

16 (5) The board shall have power to appoint either directly or on
17 secondment from any public service in the Federation such number
18 of employees as may, in the opinion of the board, be required to assist
19 the board in the discharge of any of its functions under this Act ; and
20 shall have power to pay persons so employed such remuneration
21 (including allowances) as the board may, after consultation with the
22 Minister of Employment, Labour and Productivity, determine."

23 4. Immediately after paragraph (c) of subsection 1 of section 4
24 insert the following new paragraph :—

25 "(d) such other approved persons appearing to the Minister to have
26 wide knowledge of and experience in pilgrimage as guides during a
27 pilgrimage."

Amendment
of section 4
of 1975,
No. 16.

Amendment
of section 6
of 1975,
No. 16.

1 5. Section 6 of the principal Act is hereby amended in subsection
2 (1) by deleting the words "Nigeria Airways Limited" where they occur
3 and substituting the words "the board".

Amendment
of section 8
of 1975,
No. 16.

4 6. Section 8 is hereby amended by deleting subsection (2) thereof
5 and renumbering the existing subsection (1) as section 3.

Amendment
of section 13
of 1975,
No. 16.

6 7. Section 13 is hereby amended by deleting subsection (3)
7 thereof and renumbering the existing subsection (4) as subsection (3).

Amendment
of the
Schedule to
1975, No. 16.

8 8. The Schedule to the principal Act is hereby amended as follows :

9 "2. The board shall consist of the following :—

10 (a) a chairman to be appointed by the President ;

11 (b) one member from each of the states appointed by the Minister
12 on the nomination of the respective Governors ;

13 (c) five members one each from the following Ministries :—

14 (i) the Federal Ministry of Aviation,

15 (ii) the Federal Ministry of Health,

16 (iii) the Federal Ministry of Internal Affairs,

17 (iv) the Federal Ministry of Finance, and

18 (v) the Federal Ministry of External Affairs ; and

19 (d) six members appointed by the Minister to represent religious
20 faiths ;

21 (b) For paragraph 5 of the Schedule there shall be substituted the
22 following new paragraph—

23 "5. The quorum shall be ten provided that the following nine
24 members are present, that is to say—

25 (a) three members under paragraph 1 (b) above,

26 (b) two members under paragraph 1 (c) above, and

27 (c) four members under paragraph (d) above."

- 1 (c) In subparagraph (1) of paragraph 8, delete the word "five"
- 2 where it occurs in the last line but one and substitute the word "three".
- 3 9. This Act may be cited as the Pilgrims Board (Amendment) Act Citation.
- 4 1981.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note does not form part of the above Act but is intended to explain its purpose)

The Act amends the Pilgrims Board Act 1975 and provides for one body to look after all Nigerian Pilgrims who make Pilgrimages to any part of the world. It further provides for the enlargement of the board to accommodate representatives from all religious faiths.

2. The Act does not make it obligatory for the board to uplift passengers by the Nigeria Airways only.