

A BILL

FOR

AN ACT TO AMEND THE NATIONAL DIRECTORATE OF EMPLOYMENT ACT (CAP N28 LAWS OF THE FEDERATION 2010), TO ESTABLISH THE NATIONAL ARTISAN TRADE AND PRACTICES COUNCIL FOR THE DIRECTORATE, TO REGULATE AND STANDARDISE ARTISAN TRADE AND PRACTICES AND FOR RELATED MATTERS, 2019

Sponsored by Hon. Prestige Ossy

[] Commencement

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

1 1. The National Directorate of Employment Act, Cap N28 Laws of
2 the Federation- 2010 (in this Act referred to as the "Principal Act") is
3 amended as set out below. Amendment of
the Principal Act

4 2. Section 2 of the Principal Act is amended by inserting
5 immediately after paragraph (b) a new paragraph (c) and re-arranging
6 accordingly. Amendment of
Section 2

7 (c) make regulations for the standardization of artisan trade and
8 practices and create standards for accreditation, registration and
9 certification of artisans in order to enhance their quality of service delivery;

10 3. The Principal Act is amended by inserting immediately after
11 Section 5, a new sections 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13 and 14 as follows and re-
12 arranging the subsequent sections accordingly:

13 6 (1) There is hereby established for the Directorate a Council to be
14 known as the "National Artisan Trade and Practices Council" (in this Act
15 referred to as the "Artisan Council").

16 (2) The Artisan Council shall consist of a Chairman and the
17 following members who shall be appointed by the Minister that is:

18 (a) a representative from the following ministry;

- 1 (i) Employment Labour and Productivity;
- 2 (ii) Education;
- 3 (iii) Women Affairs and Youth Development;
- 4 (iv) Agriculture and Rural Development;
- 5 (b) a representative of the Nigerian Labour Congress;
- 6 (c) a representative of the Nigerian Employers Consultative
- 7 Association;
- 8 (d) three representatives of the Organized Civil Society
- 9 Group/Human Rights Community;
- 10 (e) five other persons, being persons who by reason of any requisite
- 11 ability, experience and special knowledge, have skills that would be useful to
- 12 the Artisan Council and would enable them to make effective contribution to
- 13 the work of the Directorate;
- 14 (f) six successful artisans being persons who have distinguished
- 15 themselves in any of the designated/listed artisan trade, occupation or craft.
- 16 (3) The Artisan Council shall:
- 17 (a) formulate policies for the standardization of artisan trade and
- 18 practices;
- 19 (b) define occupational standards, basic work tools, work
- 20 environment and set standards to enhance quality of service delivery of
- 21 artisans;
- 22 (c) develop standards for accreditation, registration and certification
- 23 of artisans;
- 24 (d) determine the course content for the various levels of skill
- 25 acquisition standard for the National Artisan Certification Standard set out in
- 26 the second schedule to this Act;
- 27 (e) determine occupations, crafts, and trades for which an artisan
- 28 certificate is required;
- 29 (f) advise the Board of the Directorate accordingly.
- 30 (4) The Artisan Council shall be constituted into such committees

1 relevant to its functions.

2 7. (a) The Directorate shall list occupations, crafts and trades for
3 which an Artisan Certificate is required and may remove any such
4 occupation, craft or trade from the list set out in the first Schedule to this Act,
5 if in the opinion of the Directorate an artisan qualification is no longer
6 required to practice that trade, craft or occupation;

7 (b) The Certificate awarded by the Directorate shall be known as
8 the National Artisan Skills Certificate and shall be classified in accordance
9 with the National Skills Certification Standard as set out in the second
10 schedule to this act;

11 (c) The minimum qualification for an artisan certificate shall be the
12 First School Leaving Certificate or its equivalent as set out in the National
13 Skills Certification Standard set out in the second schedule to this Act.

14 8. (a) Every person to whom this Act applies shall register with the
15 Directorate and be issued with a certificate of registration to practice that
16 trade, occupation or craft;

17 (b) The certificate of registration shall constitute evidence of
18 compliance with all the regulations of the Directorate entitling the artisan to
19 practice the trade indicated on the certificate;

20 (c) Such certificate shall be displayed conspicuously in the
21 designated place of work or office of the artisan or shall be produced upon
22 demand by a prospective client.

23 9. The Directorate shall:

24 (a) maintain a register of persons who have obtained an artisan
25 qualification pursuant to this Act;

26 (b) maintain a register of persons who are already practicing the
27 trade prior to the commencement of this Act who may be exempted from
28 taking a trade test;

29 (c) determine the criteria and procedure for the name of any person
30 to be included or removed from the register of artisans;

1 (d) determine the fees payable for registration;

2 (e) any matter necessary for maintaining the register of artisans.

3 10. (1) Without prejudice to section 9 subsection (4) paragraph (b), no
4 person shall obtain an artisan qualification or certificate unless such person
5 have successfully undergone a trade test administered by an accredited trade
6 test centre.

7 (2) The Directorate shall for the purposes of this Act, accredit and
8 approve test centres that meet the accreditation standard prescribed by the
9 Directorate; provided always that the accreditation procedures of the
10 Directorate are not cumbersome or stringent so as to encourage the
11 development and growth of artisan trade and practices in Niger a.

12 (3) A person shall apply to undergo a trade test in respect of a trade of
13 which he has satisfied the relevant apprenticeship or any other learning
14 programme, in-house company training, training workshop, job-based or
15 specialized training resulting in an occupational or vocational qualification
16 inclusive of prescribed work experience.

17 (4) The trade test conducted by the Directorate shall focus on the
18 practical and technical assessment of the standard and level of skill acquisition
19 by the artisan.

20 (5) Subject to the provisions of section 10 subsection 6 the Directorate
21 shall prescribe the fees chargeable by the training centres and test centres.

22 (6) In determining any fees payable by applicants, the Council shall
23 ensure that its fees are not excessive or prohibitive.

24 (7) The Directorate shall make regulations on any matter necessary
25 and incidental for the conducting or moderating of trade tests.

26 11.(1) The Directorate shall specify, maintain and monitor
27 occupational standards by prescribing the necessary basic working tools and
28 machinery for every occupation, defining the work environment and setting
29 standards for quality of service delivery by artisans.

30 (2) The Directorate shall review from time to time its occupational

1 standards, basic working tools and machinery, working environment
2 specification and quality of service delivery to reflect current trends and
3 international best practices in order to encourage the development and
4 growth of Nigerian Artisan Trade and Practices to international standards.

5 (3) Upon the coming into force of this Act, the Artisan Council
6 shall set deadlines for artisans to regularize their trade practices to conform
7 to its regulations, made pursuant to the provisions of this Act.

8 12.-(1) There shall be established for the Directorate in each State
9 of the Federation, a State Artisan Trade and Practices Committee (in this Act
10 referred to as the Artisan Committee), which shall:

11 (a) coordinate the activities of the Directorate in the States;

12 (b) liaise with the State Governments for the implementation of the
13 programmes of the Directorate in the State.

14 (2) The Artisan Committee shall consist of a Chairman who shall be
15 the officer in charge of the State Office of the Ministry and the following
16 members appointed by the Minister upon nomination by the Governor of
17 that State:

18 (a) five successful artisans who have distinguished themselves in
19 any of the designated/listed occupations, trade or craft;

20 (b) five other persons, being persons who by reason of any
21 requisite ability, experience and special knowledge, have skills that would
22 be useful to the Artisan Committee and would enable them to make effective
23 contribution to the work of the Directorate.

24 13.(1) Any member of the Artisan Council or Artisan Committee
25 not being a Public Officer shall be paid a sitting allowance in accordance
26 with the allowances duly approved from time to time by the Minister, as
27 provided by the Revenue Mobilization Allocation and Fiscal Commission.

28 (2) Any member of the Artisan Council or Artisan Committee not
29 being a public officer shall hold office for four years and shall be eligible for
30 reappointment for a further period of four years.

1 (3) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection 2 of this section, the
2 Minister shall have power to remove any member of the Artisan Council or
3 Artisan Committee.

4 14.(1) No person whether employed or self-employed shall hold
5 himself out to be qualified as an artisan in a listed trade, craft or occupation
6 unless that person is registered as an artisan pursuant to section 6(3) of this Act.

7 (2) Any person who contravenes subsection 1 of this section shall be
8 guilty of an offence and upon conviction shall be liable to 3 years imprisonment
9 or a fine of N10,000.

Amendment of
Section 11
subsection 2 of
the Principal Act

10 4. Section 11 subsection 2 of the Principal Act is amended by deleting
11 paragraphs (a) and (b) and replacing same with a new paragraphs (a) and (b).

12 "2(a) annual budgetary allocation from the federal government;
13 (b) examination fees, registration fees, and accreditation fees;"

Amendment of
Section 19 of
the Principal Act

14 5. Section 19 of the Principal Act is amended by adding the following
15 new interpretations;

16 "artisans" shall include but not limited to auto technicians, refrigerator
17 technicians, barbers, mechanics, electricians, welders, masons, hair dressers,
18 plumbers, carpenters, tailors, vulcanizes, refrigerator technicians, vehicle and
19 house painters, and such other craftsmen as may from time to time be added to
20 the list by the Artisan Council;

21 "artisan trade" means occupation, trade or craft carried on by artisans and such
22 other trades or crafts as may be so designated by the Artisan Council;

23 "artisan council" means the national artisan trade and practices council
24 established by this act;

25 "First School Leaving Certificate or its equivalent", for the purposes of this Act
26 shall include the ability to understand and communicate in English language to
27 the satisfaction of the Directorate or any other certificate acceptable to the
28 Directorate.

Citation

29 6. This Bill may be cited as the National Directorate of Employment
30 (Amendment) Bill, 2019.

SCHEDULE 1

LIST OF DESIGNATED TRADES, OCCUPATION AND CRAFTS FOR WHICH AN ARTISAN CERTIFICATE
IS REQUIRED

1. BLACKSMITHING,
2. WOODCARVING,
3. GOLDSMITH,
4. SILVERSMITH,
5. AUTO TECHNICS/MECHANICS,
6. REFRIGERATOR REPAIRS,
7. MECHANICAL, ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC REPAIRS
8. IRON MONGERY/WORKS,
9. MASONRY,
10. HAIR DRESSING,
11. PLUMBING,
12. CARPENTRY,
13. TAILORING,
14. VULCANIZING/TYRE REPAIRS,,
15. VEHICLE AND HOUSE PAINTING,
16. SUCH OTHER CRAFTS, OCCUPATIONS AND TRADES AS MAY FROM TIME TO TIME BE ADDED TO THE LIST BY THE DIRECTORATE.

SCHEDULE 2

NATIONAL ARTISAN SKILLS CERTIFICATION STANDARD

	LEVEL OF SKILL ACQUISITION	QUALIFICATION/YEARS OF EXPERIENCE	TEST	CERTIFICATION
1.	BASIC	FIRST SCHOOL LEAVING CERTIFICATE, 3 YEARS TRAINING/ APPRENTICESHIP, PLUS 2 YEARS PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE.	NATIONAL ARTISAN TRADE TEST I (NATT I)	NATIONAL ARTISAN CERTIFICATE (BASIC)
2.	INTERMEDIATE	FIRST SCHOOL LEAVING CERTIFICATE, 3 YEARS TRAINING/ APPRENTICESHIP, PLUS 5 YEARS PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE.	NATIONAL ARTISAN TRADE TEST I (NATT II)	NATIONAL ARTISAN CERTIFICATE (INTERMEDIATE)
3.	ADVANCED	FIRST SCHOOL LEAVING CERTIFICATE, 3 YEARS TRAINING/ APPRENTICESHIP, PLUS 10 YEARS PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE.	NATIONAL ARTISAN TRADE TEST I (NATT III)	NATIONAL ARTISAN CERTIFICATE (ADVANCED)

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

This Bill seeks to amend the National Directorate of Employment Act to establish the National Artisan Trade and Practices Council to make regulations for the standardization of artisan trade and practices and create standards for accreditation, registration and certification of Artisans in Nigeria with a view to improving quality of service delivery and welfare of Artisans.