

A Constitution

For the Union of Nigeria

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A Constitution

For the Union of Nigeria ⁽¹⁾

We the nationalities and peoples of Nigeria having cohabited as a country under arrangements conceived and imposed by colonial powers in their interests, wishing to continue our cohabitation as one country on the basis of our common consent in our own interest and with a view to encouraging peaceful, respectful and supportive relations between our nationalities and peoples, so as to advance our common interests, do through our freely chosen representatives, adopt this constitution for our Union of Nigeria .⁽²⁾

CHAPTER I

THE UNION

1. The nationalities and the peoples of Nigeria together form the Union of Nigeria ("the Union"). ⁽³⁾
2. The Union shall be governed as a federation of nationalities.
3. The territorial area and boundaries of each nationality within the Union shall be as set out in a Schedule to this Constitution. ⁽⁴⁾
4. The nationalities shall be organised for the purpose of governance as Regions ^[5]
5. The component nationalities of each Region shall be as set out in the Second Schedule to this Constitution.^[5]
6. Each Region shall be organised and governed as a federation of ethnic groups or nationalities in accordance with the provisions of this Constitution.
7. Where a Region is comprised of more than one nationality ("a Multi-Nationality Region), the component nationalities are designated Associated Territories.
8. Subject to Article 1.10 below, an Associated Territory may on application to the Union become a Region if the application satisfies the Commission on Nationality Matters of the House of

Nationalities that the territory has the resources and ability to discharge the tasks and responsibilities of a Region as set out in Part II of Chapter VI of this Constitution and has the support of three - quarters of the people of the territory.

9. Subject to Article 1.10 below a Region, *Associated Territory* or Province may only secede from the Union: ⁽⁶⁾
 1. where the demand to secede is approved by a three-quarters majority of the legislature of the Region, *Associated Territory* or Province concerned;
 2. Where the Commission on Nationality Matters has, within three years of formal notification of the decision of the legislature of the Region, *Associated Territory* or Province demanding secession, organised a referendum of the people of that territory and
 3. Where the demand for secession has been supported by three - quarter majority vote in the referendum.
10. No Region, *Associated Territory* or Province may take any action pursuant to Articles 1.8 or 1.9 above before the expiry of the 15th anniversary of the date of adoption of this Constitution.
11. Where a Region is comprised of a single nationality ("a Mono-Nationality Region"), the ethnic groups of which that nationality is comprised shall be designated Provinces but two or more of such Provinces may combine to be administered as one Province.
12. Every Region, *Associated Territory* and Province within the Union may have its own flag and emblem provided that the flag shall incorporate in its design the Union flag or such other emblem of the Union as may be prescribed by the Union Parliament. ⁽⁷⁾

CHAPTER II

FOUNDING PRINCIPLES

ARTICLE 1: Sovereignty and self-determination

1. Sovereignty resides in us the *nationalities* and peoples of the Union. ⁽⁸⁾
2. In exercise of this sovereignty we have adopted this Constitution as the expression of our will as to the basis on which we have chosen to remain together as one country. ⁽⁹⁾
3. This Constitution shall continue in full force and effect except as revised from time to time in accordance with the procedures set out in this Constitution and until such time as we the nationalities and peoples of the Union adopt a new Constitution for ourselves. ⁽¹⁰⁾
4. By this Constitution we delegate the exercise of our sovereign powers to the extent set out in this Constitution to the institutions and officers created by this Constitution that they may exercise the powers so vested in them for our protection and well being. ⁽¹¹⁾
5. We the nationalities and peoples of the Union reserve the right to exercise our sovereignty otherwise than through the agency of the persons and institutions referred to in Article 1.4 above in accordance with the procedures set out in Chapter VI of this Constitution. ⁽¹²⁾
6. Every citizen of the Union is of equal value before the law and is equally subject to the law. ⁽¹³⁾
7. All powers and authority vested by this Constitution in any institution or person is vested in them as trustees for us, the nationalities and peoples of the Union, for our benefit and convenience. Accordingly a person in whom such power or authority is vested is guilty of a crime against the people if he uses the power or authority entrusted to him:
 - (1) for the unjust enrichment or advantage of himself or any other person;
 - (2) to the unfair prejudice or detriment of the people; or
 - (3) to frustrate or otherwise impair the sovereign will of the people as expressed in or in accordance with this Constitution. ⁽¹⁴⁾
8. Any person or persons who by force of arms overthrows or attempts to overthrow a democratically elected government shall be guilty of treason.

9. A prosecution for treason under Article 1.8 above or for a crime against the people under Article 1.7 above may be brought by any citizen at any time and a person convicted of the offence shall be subject to the punishment prescribed by the Union Criminal Code. ⁽¹⁵⁾

10. A crime against the people may only be pardoned in accordance with Chapter VI of this Constitution. ⁽¹⁶⁾

ARTICLE 2: Economic and political balance

1. The Union shall uphold the principles of equity as between the nationalities of the Union. ⁽¹⁷⁾
2. The union shall work to secure and maintain economic and political balance between the nationalities of the Union. ⁽¹⁸⁾

ARTICLE 3: Exploitation of Natural and Mineral Resources ^[19]

1. All land forming part of the territory of the Union belongs to the person or persons, community or communities who are the owners of that land according to the customary laws applicable to that land ^[20].
2. All natural and mineral resources on land forming part of the territory of the Union belong to the person or persons community or communities to whom the land belongs. ^[21]
3. All natural and mineral resources in, under or upon the territorial waters of the Union and within its Exclusive Economic Zone belongs to the Union Government and the Government of the Region of which the waters form part ^[22].
4. The exploitation of the natural and mineral resources of any nationality, community or person shall be subject to the payment of appropriate compensation to the owner or owners.

ARTICLE 4: Democracy and Fundamental Rights ⁽²³⁾

1. The Union shall uphold the principles of liberty, democracy and the rule of law.
2. Every person has a right to life, and no one shall be deprived intentionally of his life, save in execution of the sentence of a court in respect of a criminal offence of which he has been found guilty in the Union.
3. Every individual is entitled to respect for the dignity of his person, and accordingly no person shall be subject to torture or to any other inhuman or degrading treatment.
4. The Governments of the Union shall owe a duty to the Citizens to comply with all international conventions and treaties on human rights and accordingly any law of any Government of the Union contravening such conventions and treaties shall be null and void to the extent of such contravention.
5.
 - (1) Every person shall be entitled to his personal liberty and no person shall be deprived of such liberty save in the following cases and in accordance with a procedure permitted by law -
 - (a) in execution of the sentence or order of a court in respect of a criminal offence of which he has been found guilty;
 - (b) by reason of his failure to comply with the order of a court or in order to secure the fulfilment of any obligation imposed upon him by law;
 - (c) for the purpose of bringing him before a court in execution of the order of a court or upon reasonable suspicion of his having committed a criminal offence, or to such extent as may be reasonably necessary to prevent his committing a criminal offence;
 - (d) in the case of a person who has not attained the age of eighteen years for the purpose of his education or welfare;
 - (e) in the case of persons suffering from infectious or contagious disease, persons of unsound mind, persons addicted to drugs or alcohol or vagrants, for the purpose of their care or treatment or the protection of the community; or
 - (f) for the purpose of preventing the unlawful entry of any person into the Union or of effecting the expulsion,

extradition or other lawful removal from the Union of any person or the taking of proceedings relating thereto:

(2) Any person who is arrested or detained shall be informed in writing within twenty-four hours and in a language that he understands of the facts and grounds for his arrest or detention.

(3) Any person who is arrested or detained in accordance with subsection (1) (c) of this section shall be brought before a court of law within a reasonable time, and if he is not tried within a period of -

(a) two months from the date of his arrest or detention in the case of a person who is in custody or is not entitled to bail; or

(b) three months from the date of his arrest or detention in the case of a person who has been released on bail,

he shall (without prejudice to any further proceedings that may be brought against him) be released either unconditionally or upon such conditions as are reasonably necessary to ensure that he appears for trial at a later date.

(4) In subsection (3) of this section, the expression "a reasonable time" means -

(a) in the case of an arrest or detention in any place where there is a court of competent jurisdiction within a radius of forty kilometres, a period of one day; and

(b) in any other case, a period of two days or such longer period as in the circumstances may be considered by the court to be reasonable.

(5) Any person who is unlawfully arrested or detained shall be entitled to compensation and public apology from the appropriate authority or person; and in this subsection, "the appropriate authority or person" means an authority or person specified by law.

(6) Nothing in this section shall be construed in relation to subsection (3) of this section, as applying in the case of a

person arrested or detained upon reasonable suspicion of having committed a capital offence.

6.

(1) In the determination of his civil rights and obligations, including any question or determination by or against any government or authority, a person shall be entitled to a fair hearing within a reasonable time by a court or other tribunal established by law and constituted in such manner as to secure its independence and impartiality.

(2) Without prejudice to the foregoing provisions of this section, a law shall not be invalidated by reason only that it confers on any government or authority power to determine questions arising in the administration of a law that affects or may affect the civil rights and obligations of any person if such law -

(a) provides for an opportunity for the persons whose rights and obligations may be affected to make representations to the administering authority before that authority makes the decision affecting that person; and

(b) contains no provision making the determination of the administering authority final and conclusive.

(3) The proceedings of a court or the proceedings of any tribunal relating to the matters mentioned in subsection (1) of this section (including the announcement of the decisions of the court or tribunal) shall be held in public.

(4) Whenever any person is charged with a criminal offence, he shall, unless the charge is withdrawn, be entitled to a fair hearing in public within a reasonable time by a court or tribunal:

Provided that -

(a) a court or such a tribunal may exclude from its proceedings persons other than the parties thereto or their legal practitioners in the interest of defence, public safety, public order, public morality, the welfare of persons who have not attained the age of eighteen years, the protection of the private lives of the parties

or to such extent as it may consider necessary by reason of special circumstances in which publicity would be contrary to the interests of justice;

(b) if in any proceedings before a court or such a tribunal, the court or tribunal is satisfied that it would not be in the public interest for any matter to be publicly disclosed, the court or tribunal shall make arrangements for evidence relating to that matter to be heard in private and shall take such other action as may be necessary or expedient to prevent the disclosure of the matter.

(5) Every person who is charged with a criminal offence shall be presumed to be innocent until he is proved guilty. Provided that nothing in this section shall invalidate any law by reason only that the law imposes upon any such person the burden of proving particular facts.

(6) Every person who is charged with a criminal offence shall be entitled to -

(a) be informed promptly in the language that he understands and in detail of the nature of the offence;

(b) be given adequate time and facilities for the preparation of his defence;

(c) defend himself in person or by legal practitioners of his own choice;

(d) examine, in person or by his legal practitioners, the witnesses called by the prosecution before any court or tribunal and obtain the attendance and carry out the examination of witnesses to testify on his behalf before the court or tribunal on the same conditions as those applying to the witnesses called by the prosecution; and

(e) have, without payment, the assistance of an interpreter if he cannot understand the language used at the trial of the offence.

(7) When any person is tried for any criminal offence, the court or tribunal shall keep a record of the proceedings and the accused person or any persons authorised by him in that behalf shall be entitled to

obtain copies of the judgment in the case within seven days of the conclusion of the case.

(8) No person shall be held to be guilty of a criminal offence on account of any act or omission that did not, at the time it took place, constitute such an offence, and no penalty shall be imposed for any criminal offence heavier than the penalty in force at the time the offence was committed

(9) No person who shows that he has been tried by any court of competent jurisdiction or tribunal for a criminal offence and either convicted or acquitted shall again be tried for that offence or for a criminal offence having the same ingredients as that offence save upon the order of a superior court.

(10) No person who shows that he has been pardoned for a criminal offence shall again be tried for that offence.

(11) Subject as otherwise provided by this Constitution, a person shall not be convicted of a criminal offence unless that offence is defined and the penalty is prescribed in a written law, and in this subsection, a written law refers to an Act of the Union Parliament or a Law of a Region, any subsidiary legislation or instrument under the provisions of a law.

7. The privacy of citizens, their homes, correspondence, telephone conversations and telegraphic communications is hereby guaranteed and protected.

8.

(1) Every person shall be entitled to freedom of thought, conscience and religion, including freedom to change his religion or belief, and freedom (either alone or in community with others, and in public or in private) to manifest and propagate his religion or belief in worship, teaching, practice and observance.

(2) No person attending any place of education shall be *compelled* to receive religious instruction or to take part in or attend any religious ceremony

(3) Nothing in this section shall entitle any person to form, take part in the activity or be a member of a secret cult ⁽²⁴⁾

9.

(1) Every person shall be entitled to freedom of expression, including freedom to hold opinions and to receive and impart ideas and information without interference.

(2) Without prejudice to the generality of subsection (1) of this section, every person shall be entitled to own, establish and operate any medium for the dissemination of information, ideas and opinions.

10.

(1) A citizen of the Union of a particular community, ethnic group, place of origin, sex, religion or political opinion shall not, by reason only that he is such a person:-

(a) be subjected either expressly by, or in the practical application of, any law in force in the Union or any executive or administrative action of the government, to disabilities or restrictions to which citizens of the Union of other communities, ethnic groups, places of origin, sex, religions or political opinions are not made subject; or

(b) be accorded either expressly by, or in the practical application of, any law in force in the Union or any such executive or administrative action, any privilege or advantage that is not accorded to citizens of the Union of other communities, ethnic groups, places of origin, sex, religions or political opinions.

(2) No citizen of the Union shall be subjected to any disability or deprivation merely by reason of the circumstances of his birth.

11. Subject to the provisions of this Constitution, every citizen of the Union shall have the right to acquire and own immovable property anywhere in the Union.

12.

(1) No moveable property or any interest in an immovable property shall be taken possession of compulsorily and no right over or interest in any such property shall be acquired compulsorily in any part of the Union except in the manner and for the purposes prescribed by a law that, among other things -

(a) requires the prompt payment of compensation therefore and

(b) gives to any person claiming such compensation a right of access for the determination of his interest in the property and the amount of compensation to a court of law or tribunal or body having jurisdiction in that part of the Union.

(2) Nothing in subsection (1) of this section shall be construed as affecting any general law.

(a) for the imposition or enforcement of any tax, rate or duty;

(b) for the imposition of penalties or forfeiture for breach of any law, whether under civil process or after conviction for an offence;

(c) relating to leases, tenancies, mortgages, charges, bills of sale or any other rights or obligations arising out of contracts.

(d) relating to the vesting and administration of property of persons adjudged or otherwise declared bankrupt or insolvent, of persons of unsound mind or deceased persons, and of corporate or unincorporated bodies in the course of being wound-up;

(e) relating to the execution of judgements or orders of court;

(f) providing for the taking of possession of property that is in a dangerous state or is injurious to the health of human beings, plants or animals;

(g) relating to enemy property;

(h) relating to trusts and trustees;

(i) relating to limitation of actions;

(j) relating to property vested in bodies corporate directly established by any law in force in the Union;

(k) relating to the temporary taking of possession of property for the purpose of any examination, investigation or enquiry;

(l) providing for the carrying out of work on land for the purpose of soil-conservation; or

(m) subject to prompt payment of compensation for damage to buildings, economic trees or crops, providing for any authority or person to enter, survey or dig any land, or to lay, install or erect poles, cables, wires, pipes, or other conductors or structures on any land, in order to provide or maintain the supply or distribution of energy, fuel, water, sewage, telecommunication services or other public facilities or public utilities.

13.

(1) Nothing in sections 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 of this Constitution shall invalidate any law that is reasonably justifiable in a democratic society

(a) in the interest of defence, public safety, public order, public morality or public health; or

(b) for the purpose of protecting the rights and freedom or other persons

(2) An act of the Union Parliament shall not be invalidated by reason only that it provides for the taking, during periods of emergency, of measures that derogate from the provisions of section 2 or 5 of this Constitution; but no such measures shall be taken in pursuance of any such act during any period of emergency save to the extent that those measures are reasonably justifiable for the purpose of dealing with the situation that exists during that period of emergency:

Provided that nothing in this section shall authorise any derogation from the provisions of section 2 of this Constitution, except in respect of death resulting from acts of war or authorise any derogation from the provisions of section 6(8) of this Constitution.

(3) In this section, a " period of emergency" means any period during which there is in force a Proclamation of a state of emergency declared by the Council of Ministers in exercise of the powers conferred on them under this Constitution.

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(1) Any person who alleges that any of the provisions of this Chapter has been, is being or likely to be contravened in any Region in relation to him may apply to a High Court in that Region for redress or compensation.

(2) Subject to the provisions of this Constitution, a High Court shall have original jurisdiction to hear and determine any application made to it in pursuance of this section and may make such orders, issue such writs and give such directions as it may consider appropriate for the purpose of enforcement or securing the enforcing within that Region of any right to which the person who makes the application may be entitled under this Chapter.

(3) The National Assembly -

(a) may confer upon a High Court such powers in addition to those conferred by this section as may appear to the Union Parliament to be necessary or desirable for the purpose of enabling the court more effectively to exercise the jurisdiction conferred upon it by this section; and

(b) shall make provisions-

(i) for the rendering of financial assistance to any indigent citizen of the Union where his right under this Chapter has been infringed or with a view to enabling him to engage the services of a legal practitioner to prosecute his claim, and

(ii) for ensuring that allegations of infringement of such rights are substantial and the requirement or need for financial or legal aid is real.

ARTICLE 5: Languages

1. The official language of the Union shall be English and, accordingly, all Union Government publications shall be made in the English language. (25)
2. The official languages in a Mono-Nationality Region shall be the English language and the language of the nationality and, accordingly, all Regional and Provincial Government publications shall be made in both English and the language of the nationality. (26)
3. The official languages in a Multi-Nationality Regions shall be English and such other language or languages as the Regional legislature may determine.[26]
4. Every nationality in the Union shall have the right to speak, write and develop its language and to adapt it for modern usage. (27)
5. The Union shall encourage understanding and exchange between the linguistic communities.
6. This Constitution shall be reproduced in each of the languages of the nationalities comprised within the Union. (28)

ARTICLE 6: Citizenship (29)

1. Any person who was a citizen of Nigeria immediately before the adoption of this Constitution is a citizen of the Union.
2. Any person born after the date of adoption of this Constitution either of whose parents is a citizen of the Union.
- 3.

(1) A person to whom the provisions of this section apply may be registered as a citizen of the Union, if the Commission on Nationality Matters is satisfied that -

- (a) he is a person of good character;
- (b) he has shown a clear intention of his desire to be domiciled in the Union; and
- (c) he has taken the Oath of Allegiance prescribed in a Schedule to this Constitution.

(2) the provisions of this section shall apply to-

(a) any woman who is or has been married to a citizen of the Union; or

(b) every person of full age and capacity born outside the Union any of whose grandparents is a citizen of the Union.

4.

(1) Any person who is qualified in accordance with the provisions of this section may apply to the Commission on Nationality Matters for the grant of a certificate of naturalisation.

(2) No person shall be qualified to apply for the grant of a certificate or naturalisation, unless he satisfies the Commission on Nationality Matters that -

(a) he is a person of full age and capacity;

(b) he is a person of good character;

(c) he has shown a clear intention of his desire to be domiciled in the Union;

[d] his financial means are such that he will be able to maintain himself without assistance from any other party;

[e] he is in the opinion of the Government of the Region where he is or proposes to be resident, acceptable to the local community in which he is to live permanently, and has been assimilated into the way of life of Nigerians in that part of the Union;

(f) he is a person who has made or is capable of making useful contribution to the advancement; progress and well-being of the Union;

(g) he has taken the Oath of Allegiance prescribed in the Seventh Schedule to this Constitution; and

(h) he has, immediately preceding the date of his application, either-

(i) resided in the Union for a continuous period of fifteen years; or

(ii) resided in the Union continuously for a period of twelve months, and during the period

of twenty years immediately preceding that period of twelve months has resided in the Union for periods amounting in the aggregate to not less than fifteen years.

5.

(1) Any citizen of Nigeria of full age who wishes to renounce his Union citizenship shall make a declaration in the prescribed manner for the renunciation.

(2) The Commission on Nationality Matters shall cause the declaration made under subsection (1) of this section to be registered and upon such registration, the person who made the declaration shall cease to be a citizen of the Union.

(3) The Commission on Nationality Matters may withhold the registration of any declaration made under subsection (1) of this section if-

(a) the declaration is made during any war in which the Union is physically involved; or

(b) in his opinion, it is otherwise contrary to public policy.

(4) For the purposes of subsection (1) of this section.

(a) "full age" means the age of eighteen years and above;

(b) any woman who is married shall be deemed to be of full age.

6.

(1) The Commission on Nationality Matters may deprive a person, other than a person who is a citizen of the Union by birth or by registration, of his citizenship, if he is satisfied that such a person has, within a period of seven years after becoming naturalised, been sentenced to imprisonment for a term of not less than three years.

(2) The Commission on Nationality Matters shall deprive a person, other than a person who is citizen of the Union by birth, of his citizenship, if he is satisfied from the records of proceedings of a court of law or other tribunal or after due inquiry in accordance with regulations made by him, that -

(a) the person has shown himself by act or speech to be disloyal towards the Union; or

(b) the person has, during any war in which the Union was engaged, unlawfully traded with the enemy or been engaged in or associated with any business that was in the opinion of the President carried on in such a manner as to assist the enemy of the Union in that war, or unlawfully communicated with such enemy to the detriment of or with intent to cause damage to the interest of the Union.

7. The House of Nationalities may make regulations, not inconsistent with this Chapter, prescribing all matters which are required or permitted to be prescribed or which are necessary or convenient to be prescribed for carrying out or giving effect to the provisions of this Chapter, and for granting special immigrant status with full residential rights to non-Nigerian spouses of citizens of the Union who do not wish to acquire Union citizenship.
8. Any citizen of the Union having the right to move and reside freely within his own Region shall have the right to move and reside freely within the territory of all Regions.

CHAPTER III

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE UNION, THE REGIONS THE ASSOCIATED TERRITORIES AND THE PROVINCES

ARTICLE 1: Division of authority between the Union, the Regions, the Associated Territories and the Provinces

1. The Union shall have the legislative, executive and judicial powers expressly reserved to it and shall be responsible for the tasks assigned to it in Part I of Chapter VI of this Constitution. (30)
2. The government of a Multi-Nationality Region shall have the legislative, executive and judicial powers expressly reserved to it and shall be responsible for the tasks assigned to it in Part II of Chapter VI of this Constitution. [31]
3. In relation to a Multi-Nationality Region, all legislative, executive and judicial powers other than those clearly delegated to the Union or to the government of the Region by this constitution are reserved to the government of the Associated Territories of which the Region is comprised respectively or to the people. [31]
4. In relation to a Mono-Nationality Region, all legislative, executive and judicial powers, other than those clearly delegated to the Union by this constitution are reserved to the government of the Region or to the people. (31)
5. Mono-Nationality Regions and Associated Territories shall define in their Constitutions the tasks which they shall be responsible for within the limitations of their powers and the tasks which other organs of administration within their territories shall be responsible for. (32)

ARTICLE 2: Judicial and Administrative Cooperation between the Union, the Regions, the Associated Territories and the Provinces

1. The Union and the Regions shall collaborate and shall support each other in the discharge of their responsibilities. They shall grant each other

- administrative and judicial assistance. (33)
2. Union law takes precedence over contrary Regional laws in Union Matters and Regional laws take precedence over contrary Union laws in all other matters. (34)
 3. The Regions shall implement Union law in conformity with the Constitution and the relevant statute. (35)
 4. The Regions shall establish Regional Supreme Courts, Courts of Appeal, High Courts and Courts of First Instance.
 5. The minimum age of a judge of a High Court, Court of Appeal or Supreme Court shall be forty, fifty and sixty years respectively.
 6. The Regional Supreme Court shall have the highest and final jurisdiction over Regional matters.
 7. The Regional Supreme Court shall in addition to its jurisdiction in the Region assume the jurisdiction of the High Court. Decisions rendered by the Regional Supreme Court in its Union jurisdiction may be reviewed on appeal by the Union Court of Justice.
 8. The Regional High Court shall in addition to its jurisdiction in the Region assume the jurisdiction of the First Instance Court of the Union. Decisions rendered by the Regional High Court in its Union jurisdiction may be reviewed on appeal by the Regional Supreme Court. (35)

ARTICLE 3: Constitutional arrangements for the Regions and Associated Territories

1. Every Region and every Associated Territory shall adopt a democratic Constitution. (36)
2. The Constitution of a Region and Associated Territory must be approved by the people and must contain provisions for citizens' participation in the process of changing the Constitution that are substantially the same as those set out in Chapter IV of this Constitution. (37)
3. A Multi-Nationality Region shall be served by the following common institutions: a Parliament, a Federal Council, a Regional Central Bank, a Regional Court of Justice, a Regional Board of Accountants and a Regional Board of Auditors and the Associated Territories in

the Region shall enjoy equal representation in all such institutions.
(38)

4. The Union shall guarantee the Constitutions of the Regions and Associated Territories to the extent that they are not contrary to Union law and this Constitution. (39)
5. The Union shall on the application of the Legislature of a Region or of the Executive (when the Legislature cannot be convened) protect the Region against internal violence (39)
6. The Union shall safeguard the territory of the governments of the Regions and Associated Territories from invasion. (39)
7. Changes to the boundaries of Regions and Associated Territories are subject to the assent of the population concerned, of the Government of the territory concerned, and the assent of the Union Parliament. (40)

CHAPTER IV

Citizen's Participation [41]

ARTICLE 1: General Provisions

1. All Union citizens who are 18 years or older, and are not under guardianship because of mental illness or weakness, shall in all matters have the same political rights and obligations.
2. A citizen of the Union residing in a Region of which he is not a national shall have the right to vote in the Region of which he is a national or the Region in which he is resident but not both.

ARTICLE 2: Initiative and Referendum

Popular Initiative for Total Revision of the Union Constitution

1. 1,000,000 citizens entitled to vote and spread over 1/3rd of the Regions may propose a total revision of the Constitution.
2. The proposal shall be submitted to a referendum that shall be approved by a simple majority.

Popular Initiative for Partial Revision of the Union Constitution

3. 1,000,000 citizens entitled to vote and spread over 1/3rd of the Regions may propose a partial revision of the Constitution .
4. The popular initiative for a partial amendment of the Constitution may be in the form of a general suggestion or a formulated draft.
5. If the Union Parliament approves an initiative in the form of a general suggestion, it shall prepare a draft of the proposed changes and submit it to the vote of the people and the Regions. If it rejects the initiative, it shall submit it to the vote of the people; the people shall decide whether the initiative should be followed. If the people approve the initiative, the Union Parliament shall formulate an appropriate draft.

6. An initiative in the form of a formulated draft shall be submitted to a referendum of the people and the Regions. The Union Parliament shall indicate whether or not it recommends the draft. If it does not recommend the draft it may submit its own alternative draft.
7. The people and the Regions shall vote simultaneously on the initiative and any alternative draft. The voters may approve both drafts. They may indicate which draft they prefer, should both be approved. Should one of the drafts obtain the majority of the people's votes and the other the majority of the votes of the Regions, neither of them shall come into force.

Mandatory Referendum

8. Revisions of the Union Constitution shall not be effective until they have been submitted to a referendum of the people and the Regions.^[9]
9. The entry by the Union into organisations for collective security or into supranational communities shall not be binding until they have been submitted to the approval of the Regions.
10. The following shall be submitted to the vote of the people.^[42]

[1] Popular initiatives for total revision of the Constitution;

[2] Popular initiatives for partial revision of the Constitution in the form of a general suggestion which has been rejected by the Union Parliament;

[3] The question whether a total revision of the Constitution should be carried out if both Houses disagree; and

Required Majorities

11. Proposals submitted to a referendum of the people shall be accepted if the majority of those voting approve them
12. Proposals submitted to the vote of the people and the Regions shall be accepted if the majority of those voting and the majority of the Regions approves them
13. The result of a popular vote in a Region determines the vote of that Region.

CHAPTER V

UNION INSTITUTIONS

PART I

ARTICLE 1: General

1. The Union shall be served by the following common institutions: a Parliament, a Council of Ministers, a Central Bank, a Union Court of Justice, a Board of Accountants and a Board of Auditors.^[43]
2. No person shall at the same time be a member of two or more of these institutions.
3. The following offices may not be held at the same time by persons from the same Region: President of the Union; Prime Minister; Chairman of the House of Nationalities; Speaker of the House of Representatives; President of the Union Court of Justice.

PART II

ARTICLE 1: Parliament⁽⁴⁴⁾

1. The Union legislature shall be composed of two chambers, namely the House of Representatives and the House of Nationalities.⁽⁴⁵⁾
2. Each House shall keep a record of its proceedings and shall from time to time publish the same.
3. The members of the Parliament shall receive remuneration for their services to be paid out of the Treasury of the Union of such amount as the Council of Ministers shall determine.^[46]
4. The members of the Parliament shall in all cases except treason, an imprisonable offence or breach of the peace be privileged from arrest during their attendance at the session of their respective houses and in going to or coming from the same; and for any speech or debate in either house they shall not be questioned against their will in any other place.
5. Every bill which shall have passed the House of Representatives and the House of Nationalities shall be passed to the President for signing into law.

ARTICLE 2: The House of Representatives

1. The House of Representatives shall be the lower house of the Parliament and shall consist of representatives of the people of the Union.
2. Representatives shall be elected by direct universal suffrage for a term of three years. ⁽⁴⁷⁾
3. The number of Representatives shall not exceed 240. ⁽⁴⁸⁾
4. Seats shall be allocated among Regions in reasonable proportion to population.
5. The House of Representatives shall, in accordance with this Constitution, enact laws on matters assigned to the Union Government.
6. The House of Representatives, including committees of the House, has the general right to question in public hearings any member of the Executive including members of the Civil Service, or any proposed member of the Executive or Civil Service.
7. The House of Representatives may, acting by a two-thirds majority of its members, dismiss any member of the Civil Service.
8. The House of Representatives shall elect its house speaker and deputy speaker and adopt its own rules of procedure
9. Except as specifically provided by this constitution, the House of Representatives shall act by a simple majority of the votes cast.

ARTICLE 3: The House of Nationalities

1. The House of Nationalities shall be the upper house of the Parliament and shall consist of representatives of the nationalities of the Union.
2. Each nationality shall have two representative who shall serve for a term of 4 years. ⁽⁴⁹⁾
3. The members of the House of Nationalities shall be drawn from the government of the Regions, according to procedures devised by the respective governments.

4. The House of Nationalities shall act as a constitutional council and a revising chamber for legislation. ⁽⁵⁰⁾
5. The House shall serve as the final court of appeal on constitutional matters. ⁽⁵⁰⁾
6. The House shall establish a body to be known as the Commission on Nationality Matters which shall have the following powers:
 - [1] to seek solutions to disputes arising between the Union, the Regions and Autonomous Territories;
 - [2] to decide upon questions arising with respect to the right of self determination of nationalities under Articles 1.7 and 1.8 of this Constitution;
 - [3] to deal with applications for citizenship pursuant to Article 6 of Chapter II to this Constitution; and
 - [4] to impose such penalties and sanctions as it deems fit on a Region, Associated Territory or Province (including suspension from membership of the Union) if that Region, Territory or Province has departed from the basic values or has violated the basic rules of the Union. In such cases the penalties and sanctions must be ratified by the House of Nationalities acting by a three-quarter majority.
7. The Commission on Nationality Matters shall consist of one representative of each nationality to be drawn from the government of the Regions according to procedure to be devised by the respective governments and shall sit as and when required by the House of Nationalities.
8. The House shall elect its Chairman and Vice-Chairman and shall adopt its own rules of procedure.
9. Except as specifically provided by this Constitution, the House shall act by a simple majority of the votes cast.

ARTICLE 4: The President and the Vice President of the Union

1. The President shall be the Head of State and Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces and of the Regional Guards of the several Regions when called into the actual service of the Union. ⁽⁵¹⁾

2. The President and the Vice President shall be the persons nominated for the posts by the government of their Region and approved for the posts by an Electoral College made up of the legislatures of the Union, the Regions and of the Associated Territories. [52]
3. The Regions shall by turns in alphabetical order supply the persons who are to serve as President and Vice President of the Union.
4. A person nominated for the post of President or Vice President shall be taken as having been approved for the post for which he has been nominated by the Electoral College if he has received the approval of the greater number of legislatures in the college.
5. In the event that any nominee for the post of President or Vice President is not approved for the post by the Electoral College, the Region by whom he or she was nominated shall nominate a replacement.
6. The term of office of the President and the Vice President shall be 1 year. No one may be appointed a President or Vice President for more than one term of office.
7. In the event of the removal of the President from office, or his death, resignation, or inability to discharge the powers and duties of the said office, the same shall devolve on the Vice-President and in the event that neither the President nor the Vice President is able to perform the office the Electoral College shall approve some other person nominated by the government of the Region that nominated the President to complete the term of office.
8. The President shall not during his term of office be a member of any legislature.
9. The President shall receive such remuneration for his services as shall be determined by the Council of Ministers.

PART III

THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH

ARTICLE 1: Executive Authority

1. The executive authority of the Union shall reside in the Prime Minister and the Council of Ministers. ⁽⁵³⁾

ARTICLE 2: Appointment of the Prime Minister

1. The first Prime Minister after each general election or when there is a new government shall be appointed by the President in accordance with this constitution.
2. The Prime Minister shall be the leader of the party or coalition of parties commanding the greatest number of seats in the House of Representatives.
3. The term of office of the Prime Minister shall be life of the Parliament three years.
4. The Prime Minister shall be the head of government, chairman of the Council of Ministers.

ARTICLE 3: The Council of Ministers

1. The Council of Ministers shall be the ultimate policy making body of the Union.
2. It shall consist of one representative of each Region to be appointed from the House of Nationalities by the Prime Minister.
3. The Council of Ministers shall consider, and when it so decides, promote laws and resolutions furthering the aims of the Union as set down in this Constitution.
4. The Council shall act by a simple majority system.
5. The Council shall fix its own rules of procedure.

ARTICLE 4: The Board of Accountants

1. The Board of Accountants shall take records of the revenue and expenditure of the Union and its institutions.

2. It shall provide the Parliament and the Council of Ministers with statement of accounts annually.
3. Each region shall nominate one member of the Board to whom the Accountant-General of the Union shall be responsible.
4. Each member of the Board shall act in the general interest of the Union. None shall seek or take instruction from any Regional Government or from any private interest.
5. The members of the Board of Accountants shall receive such remuneration as the Council of Ministers shall from time to time determine.

ARTICLE 5: The Board of Auditors

1. The Board of Auditors shall examine the revenue and expenditure accounts of the Union and its institutions.
2. At least once each year it shall provide the Parliament and the Council of Ministers with a statement of assurance as to the reliability of the accounts, and the legality and regularity of the underlying transactions. This statement shall be made public.
3. Each Region shall nominate one member of the Board to whom the Auditor-General of the Union shall be responsible.
4. Each member of the Board shall act in the general interest of the Union. None shall seek or take instruction from any Regional Government or from any private interest.
5. The members of the Board of Auditors shall receive such remuneration as the Council of Ministers shall from time to time determine.

ARTICLE 6: The Board of Governors of the Central Bank

1. The Central Bank shall be governed by a Board of Governors chaired by the Governor of the Central Bank.
2. Each Region shall appoint one member of the Board of Governors.
3. The Governor and Deputy Governor of the Central Bank shall be appointed as such for a term of 2 years. ⁽⁵⁴⁾
4. The Central Bank shall implement the monetary policy of the Union.
5. The Central Bank shall hold and manage the official foreign reserve of the Union. It shall have the exclusive right to authorise the issuing of banknotes and coins within the Union.
6. The Union Central Bank shall maintain an account for each Region and Associated Territory into which all sums accruing to the Region or Territory shall be credited and against which all liabilities of the Region shall be debited.
7. The members of the Board of Governors of the Central Bank shall receive such remuneration as the Council of Ministers shall from time to time determine.

PART IV

THE JUDICIAL BRANCH

ARTICLE 1: The Union Court of Justice

1. The judicial power of the Union shall be vested in the Union Court of Justice, and in such courts of the Regions as may be designated by this Constitution for the purpose.
2. The judicial power of the Union shall extend to all cases arising under this Constitution, the Laws of the Union, and Treaties made by the Union; to all cases affecting Ambassadors, other public Ministers and Consuls of the Union; to controversies to which the Union shall be a party; to controversies between two or more Regions or Associated Territories; between an Associated Territory and the Region to which it belongs; between citizens of different Regions and Associated Territories and between a Region or Associated Territory or its citizens and foreign states, citizens or subjects.
3. In all cases affecting Ambassadors, other public Ministers and Consuls of the Union, and those in which a Region is a party, the Court shall have original jurisdiction. In all other cases the Court shall have appellate jurisdiction unless Parliament shall have provided otherwise.
4. The Court shall be the supreme court of the Union in matters of Union law only, save that it may be overruled by the House of Nationalities on matters which the House considers to be constitutional in nature.
5. The court shall have appellate jurisdiction over inferior courts, including those of the Regions, in matters of Union law only.
6. Each Region shall appoint one judge to the Union Court of Justice, save that no appointment shall be made without the approval of the Parliament.
7. A judge in office may be dismissed only by a vote to that effect by both the Parliament and the Council of Ministers. The retirement age for judges shall be 70.
8. The judges shall elect a President of the Court from among their number, subject to the approval of the Upper Legislative House and shall fix their own rules of procedure according to the enabling acts.
9. The Parliament and the governments of the Regions and Associated Territories have the right to bring actions before the court. The court may choose to hear actions brought by private and legal

persons.

10. No judge shall seek or take instruction from any Regional Government or from any private interest.
11. The members of the Union Court of Justice shall receive such remuneration as the Council of Ministers shall from time to time determine.

CHAPTER VI

TASKS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

PART I

THE UNION

ARTICLE 1: Foreign and defence policy (55]

1. Foreign and defence policy are Union matters.
2. A declaration of war or a state of emergency in the Union may only be made by the President on the advice of the Council of Ministers and with the consent of the Union Parliament.
3. The country's membership of all organisations of states and its obligations under all international treaties shall cease and determine on the third anniversary of the date of adoption of this Constitution unless the Union shall have confirmed its continued membership after consultation with the Regions.

ARTICLE 2: Security, National and Civil Defence

Armed Forces

1. The Union shall have a standing army.
2. The standing army shall not exceed in number one member for every 100 of the Regional Guards in the Union.⁽⁵⁶⁾
3. The Union shall maintain an air force and a navy. ⁽⁵⁷⁾
4. The armed forces shall contribute to prevent war and to maintain peace. It shall defend the country and protect its population. It shall lend support to the civil authorities when called upon in accordance with this Constitution.
5. The use of the standing army, the air force and the navy is a Union matter except that they shall not be deployed in peacetime except with the consent of the Council of Ministers. ⁽⁵⁸⁾
6. Legislation on the organisation, the instruction, and the equipment of the army is a Union matter. ⁽⁵⁹⁾
7. There shall be a Union Defence Council which shall be made up of the head of the Civil Defence Council of each Region and the Union heads of the standing army, the air-force and the navy.

8. The head of the Union Defence Council shall be appointed by the President on the advice of the Council of Ministers.
9. Every Nigerian between the age of 18 and 65 must render military service to the Union. ⁽⁵⁶⁾

Weapons and Military Material

10. The Union shall legislate on the use of weapons, associated equipment and ammunition.
11. It shall legislate on the production, acquisition, distribution, importation, exportation and transit of military materials.

Police Service

12. The Union shall maintain a police service to investigate and deal with federal offences.
13. No police officer shall be deployed to any territory unless he is a citizen of the nationality of that territory or being a resident of that territory he is fluent in the native language of the people of that territory. ^[60]

ARTICLE 3: Education, Research and Culture

Education

1. Education shall be compulsory for all children from the age of 6 until the age of 16. ⁽⁶¹⁾
2. Primary and secondary education shall be provided without charge.
3. There shall be a Union Education Council made up of the Regional heads of education.
4. The Union Education Council shall prescribe Union standards for professional education and minimum standards for other levels of education. ⁽⁶²⁾
5. The Union shall support the establishment of specialised educational institutions. ⁽⁶³⁾

Research

6. The Union shall encourage scientific research. It may make its support conditional, in particular, upon taking coordinating measures. ⁽⁶⁴⁾

Statistics ⁽⁶⁵⁾

7. The Union shall collect the necessary statistical data on the status and evolution of the population, the economy, the society, the territory, and the environment of the Union.
8. To facilitate the collection of data, the Union may legislate on harmonizing and keeping official registers.

Sport

9. The Union shall promote international sport and inter-Regional sports tournaments. ⁽⁶⁶⁾

Culture

10. The Union may support cultural activities of Union interest and encourage art and music. In so doing, it shall take into account the cultural and linguistic diversity of the country. ⁽⁶⁷⁾

ARTICLE 4: Health

1. There shall be free healthcare for all children up to the age of 16.
2. There shall also be free healthcare for senior citizens of 65 years and above.
3. There shall be a Union Health Council made up of the Regional heads of health.
4. The Union Health Council shall prescribe Union Standards for levels of healthcare and health education.
5. The Union shall support the establishment of specialised health institutions.

ARTICLE 5: Religion

1. The Union shall be a secular state and shall ensure that no Region Associated Territory or Province shall adopt any religion as a state religion or use government funds to support or promote any religion without the prior approval by referendum of not less than three quarters of the people of the Region, Associated Territory or Province. ⁽⁶⁸⁾

ARTICLE 6: The Environment

Environment

1. The Union shall legislate on the protection of man and the natural environment against harm and nuisance

Water

2. The Union shall legislate on water protection, on securing sufficient water supplies, on hydro-engineering, on the safety of dams and on interventions to influence precipitation.
3. On rights concerning international water resources and dues connected with them, the Union shall decide in consultation with the Regions concerned. If the Regions concerned cannot agree on rights to interregional water reserves, the Union shall decide.

Forests and Nature

4. The Union shall establish guidelines for the protection of forests, animals and plant life and on the preservation of their natural environment.

Trade and Importation of Animals

5. The Union shall regulate the importation of animals and animal products and the trade in animals.

ARTICLE 7: Public Works and Transportation

1. The Union shall prescribe standards by reference to which the governments of the Regions shall build and maintain their Regional highways and railways and for navigation, aviation and space.

ARTICLE 8: Energy and Communication

Energy Policy

6. The Union shall legislate on the generation, supply and transportation of energy and shall prescribe standards for postal and telecommunications services within the Union.

Radio and Television

7. There shall be a Union Broadcasting Council made up of representatives of each Region to allocate wavelengths

ARTICLE 9: Economy

Foreign Trade

1. The Union shall safeguard abroad the interests of the country's economy and shall take measures to protect the domestic economy.

Commerce

2. The Union shall strive to ensure the free movement of goods, and services, and capital within the Union but no Regional law regulating the taxation of income or profit shall be construed as an obstacle to the free movement of goods, or services, or capital.

Borrowing

3. The Union Government shall have power to borrow on the credit of the Union.

Currency

4. Currency is a matter for the Union.

Essential Goods and Services

5. The Union shall ensure the country's supply of essential goods and services in case of threats of military or economic war or severe shortages which the economy cannot counteract by itself.

ARTICLE 10: Residence and Domicile of foreigners (70)

1. Legislation on immigration, emigration, residence and domicile of foreigners and on granting asylum are Union matters

ARTICLE 11 : Civil and Criminal Law; (69)

The Union Government shall establish a common criminal and civil law code.

Article 12: Weights and Measures (69)

The Union shall make provision for a uniform system of weights and measures.

ARTICLE 13: State of the Union Review [70]

1. The Union Parliament shall conduct an annual review of the state of the Union with reference to foreign relations, the economy and social welfare and the Prime Minister shall present the report to the people.

PART II

THE REGIONS AND ASSOCIATED TERRITORIES

ARTICLE 1: Duties of Regions [71]

1. Union laws shall be implemented by the Regions insofar as the relevant law does not reserve this for the Union.
2. Each Region shall establish and maintain a parliament.
3. Each Region shall establish and maintain a civil service.
4. Each Region shall establish and maintain a judicial service with first instance courts, appellate courts and a supreme court.
5. Each Region shall make arrangements for levying and collecting taxes and duties within the limits of their power.
6. Each Region shall prepare and maintain its own budget and formulate policies for the effective management of its economy.
7. Within the limits of Union law, the Regions shall form and maintain Regional Guards to be organised as a militia and shall appoint and promote officers of such Guards and furnish their clothing and equipment and train them to such minimum standards as the Union may prescribe. (72)
8. The legislature of each Region shall legislate on the use of the Regional Guards to maintain public order within their territory, whenever the means of the civil authorities are insufficient to repel serious threats to internal security.
9. Each Region shall make arrangements for the maintenance of law and order within its territory. (72)
10. Each Region shall be responsible for ensuring the education of its children to the minimum standards prescribed by the Union.
11. Each Region shall be responsible for establishing and maintaining a system of basic healthcare for its citizens to standards prescribed by the Union.
12. Each Region shall make provision for the establishment and maintenance of a postal service within its territory.
13. Each Region shall establish and maintain a prison service for the safe custody of criminals

Article 2: Rights of Regions and Associated Territories

1. Every Associated Territory shall have the right to maintain by itself or jointly with other Associated Territories a police service to deal with offences within its territory. (72)
2. Every Region and Associated Territory shall have the right to own and operate its own radio and television stations.
3. Each Region and each Associated Territory shall have the right to establish and maintain its own trade promotion council.
4. Each Region and each Associated Territory shall have the right to establish and maintain a tourism promotion council.

CHAPTER VII

FINANCES

PART I

THE UNION

ARTICLE 1: Taxation [73]

1. The Union shall have power to levy and collect tax on income from the employees of the Union Government, of public enterprises owned by the Union Government and of international (not for profit) organisations.
2. The Union shall have power to levy taxes in respect of transportation by air, rail and by sea
3. The Union shall have power to levy and collect fees from licences issued and services provided by organs of the Union Government.
4. The Union shall take the necessary measures to prohibit and prevent inter-Regional double taxation.
5. The Union shall establish principles on the harmonization of direct taxes of the Regions and the Associated Territories.
6. The harmonization shall concern tax liability, tax object, taxation period, and procedural and criminal law on taxation. Harmonization shall not cover tax scales, tax rates and tax-exempt amounts.

ARTICLE 2: Customs Duties

1. Legislation on customs duties and other levies on trans-border goods traffic is a Union matter. (74)
2. Duties levied on goods coming into the Union shall be collected by the Union Government and shall be distributed between the Union Government and the Governments of the Regions and Associated Territories as the Union Parliament shall prescribe.

ARTICLE 3: Emergency Grants [75]

1. To promote financial stability within the Union the Union shall establish and operate a Contingencies Fund.
2. The Union Government may apply the Contingencies Fund to make grants to the Government of any Region in the event of a natural disaster or catastrophe or an emergency.
3. The Contingencies Fund shall be maintained by levies from the Regions such levies to be paid and collected by the Central Bank by way of debits and credits to and from the accounts of the Regions with the Bank.

PART II

MULTI-NATIONALITY REGIONAL GOVERNMENTS ⁽⁷⁶⁾

ARTICLE 1

1. The excess of the Regional Government's total expenditure for any financial year over its internally generated revenue is to be borne in equal shares by the Associated Territories of which it is comprised by way of a levy on each Territory.
2. The levy shall be collected by the Union Government on behalf of the Regional Government by way of debits from the accounts of the Associated Territories to be maintained with the Central Bank and corresponding credits to be made to the account of the Regional Government with the Bank.
3. For the purposes of calculating the levy due from the Associated Territories for any financial year, the Government of the Region shall prepare a Budget setting out in sufficient detail:

[1] The total amount of internally generated revenue anticipated for the financial year

(2) the expenditure that it estimates that it will incur in the year in performing the functions assigned to it under this Constitution and the Constitution for the Region and that it will charge to a revenue account for the year;

(3) an amount that it estimates will be appropriate for contingencies in relation to expenditure to be charged to a revenue account for the year; and

(4) the financial reserves which it estimates it will be appropriate to raise on account for meeting its estimated expenditure to be charged to revenue account for the next following financial year.

4. The Government of the Region shall submit the Budget to the Legislature of the Associated Territory for approval not later than the end of the first quarter of the preceding financial year.
5. The Legislature of an Associated Territory may within ninety days of receipt of the Budget propose amendments to it stipulating the percentage by which it should be reduced or increased.
6. If the Budget is changed by one-third or more of the number of Associated Territories in the Region the Budget shall be amended by the median percentage change specified by the Territories that have proposed the changes.

CHAPTER VIII

GENERAL

ARTICLE 1: Impeachment

The President, Vice President and Prime Minister of the Union shall without prejudice to any other prescribed punishment be removed from office on impeachment for and conviction of a crime against the people, an imprisonable offence or for gross incompetence.

ARTICLE 2: Abrogation of inconsistent laws

Any law presently in force which is inconsistent with the provisions of this constitution is to the extent of that inconsistency hereby abrogated with effect from the coming into force of this constitution.

ARTICLE 3: Entry into force

The ratification by referendum of two-thirds of the nationalities of the Union shall be sufficient for the establishment of this Constitution between the nationalities ratifying the same. (77)

CHAPTER IX
TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS AND SAVINGS

Signatories

Schedule

Component Nationalities of the Regions

The Mono-Nationality Regions

1. Ibibio Federation
2. Ijaw Federation
3. Igbo Federation
4. Urhobo Federation
5. Edo Federation
6. Yoruba Federation
7. Tiv Federation
8. Nupe Federation
9. Fulah Federation

10. Gwari Federation

11. Kanuri Federation

12. Hausa Federation

The Multi-Nationality Regions

- 13 Federation comprising Minorities of Cross River & Akwa Ibom States (i.e. Eket, Annang, Oron, Ibeno, Efik, Ejagham, Korop, Boki, Bakwara, Yakurr, Yala)
14. Federation comprising Minorities of Bayelsa & Rivers State (i.e. Ikwerre, Etchei, Ekpeye, Engeni, Ogba, Eleme, Ndoni, Ogoni, Andoni)
15. Federation comprising Minorities of Edo & Delta States (i.e. Ika, Ndokwa, Warri, Isoko)
16. Federation comprising Minorities of West Middle Belt (i.e. Zuru, Kambari, Bariba, Bussa, Karekare, Ngizim, Angamo, Bola, Funne, etc.)
17. Federation comprising Minorities of Central Middle Belt (i.e.

(a) Ebira Group: Ebira, Uku, Ebira-Ugu, Ebira-Panda, Etuno-Igarra, Ebira Mozun, Bassa-Nge

(b) Igala Group

(c) Upper Benue Group: Alago, Eggon, Gwandara, Mada, Kakanda, Mighili, Bassa-Komu, Ninzon, Arum, etc

(d) Nok Group: Atyap, Ham, Bajju, Ninzam, Ikullu, Kamanton, Gwandara, Kahugu, Kwasam, Hori, Ninkyop, etc)

18. Federation comprising Minorities of East Middle Belt (i.e.

(a) Plateau Group: Ngas, Berom, Afezere, Taroh, Goemai, Mavo-Jukun, Amu, Pyem, Youn, etc

(b) Taraba Group: Chamba, Jukun, Kuteb, Mambila, Kona, Kunni, Kaanab, Ngoro, Abakwa, Mumuye, Yububen, etc

(c) Savanna Group: Burra, Tangale-Waja, Bachama, Manghi, Kilba, Yungur, Mwanna, Bwazza, Mbula, etc)