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**NATIONAL IDENTITY MANAGEMENT COMMISSION
(ESTABLISHMENT) ACT, 2026**



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SCHEDULE

NATIONAL IDENTITY MANAGEMENT COMMISSION (ESTABLISHMENT) ACT, 2026

ACT NO. 3

FOR

AN ACT TO REPEAL THE NATIONAL IDENTITY MANAGEMENT COMMISSION ACT, NO. 23, 2007, AND ENACT THE NATIONAL IDENTITY MANAGEMENT COMMISSION ACT, 2026, TO PROVIDE FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A NATIONAL IDENTITY DATABASE AND THE NATIONAL IDENTITY MANAGEMENT COMMISSION CHARGED WITH THE RESPONSIBILITIES FOR MAINTENANCE OF THE NATIONAL IDENTITY DATABASE, THE REGISTRATION OF INDIVIDUALS, AND THE ISSUANCE OF IDENTITY CREDENTIALS; AND FOR RELATED MATTERS.

[26th Day of June, 2026]

Commence-
ment

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

PART I — OBJECTIVES AND APPLICATION

1. The objectives of this Act are to —

Objectives

- (a) establish a national identity database for the nation ;
- (b) establish the National Identity Management Commission charged with responsibility for the maintenance of the National Identity Database, registration of registrable persons, issuance of identity credentials and to superintend over identity management issues ;
- (c) strengthen the legal framework of national and digital identity, by creating an optimal foundational identification ecosystem that fosters inclusion, universal coverage and accessibility ; and
- (d) establish a harmonised foundational ID system that is governed by a regime that is less restrictive, less cumbersome, non-discriminatory, non-punitive, data-protection driven, cost effective, and compliant with global best practices.

2.—(1) This Act shall apply to registration of registrable persons within and outside Nigeria, the management and operation of the National Identity Database.

Application

(2) Without prejudice to subsection (1), this Act shall apply whether or not an act qualifies as an offence or contravention of this Act, is committed in Nigeria by any person, irrespective of nationality.

PART II — ESTABLISHMENT OF NATIONAL IDENTITY MANAGEMENT
COMMISSION

Establish-
ment of
National
Identity
Management
Commission.

3.—(1) There is established the National Identity Management Commission (in this Act referred to as "the Commission").

(2) The Commission —

(a) shall be a body corporate with perpetual succession and a common seal ;

(b) may sue and be sued in its corporate name ; and

(c) may hold, acquire and dispose of any property or interest in property, movable or immovable, for the purpose of its functions under this Act.

Membership
of the
Commission

4.—(1) There is established for the Commission a Governing Board (in this Act referred to as "the Board"), which shall consist of —

(a) a Chairman ;

(b) five Commissioners ;

(c) a representative each, not below the rank of a Director or its equivalent of the —

(i) Independent National Electoral Commission,

(ii) National Health Insurance Scheme,

(iii) Federal Road Safety Commission,

(iv) Nigeria Revenue Service,

(v) National Pension Commission,

(vi) Nigeria Police Force,

(vii) Nigeria Immigration Service,

(viii) Office of the National Security Adviser,

(ix) National Population Commission,

(x) Central Bank of Nigeria,

(xi) State Security Services,

(xii) Economic and Financial Crimes Commission,

(xiii) Chief of Defence Staff, and

(xiv) Corporate Affairs Commission; and

(d) the Director-General of the Commission, who shall also be the Secretary to the Board.

(2) The Chairman shall —

- (a) be appointed by the President ;
- (b) be citizen of Nigeria ; and
- (c) hold office on a part-time basis.

(3) The appointment of the Chairman and Commissioners shall be on the recommendation of the Minister.

(4) The Chairman and Commissioners shall each represent the six geopolitical zones of Nigeria.

(5) The Chairman of the Board shall have at least 15 years cognate experience in any of the fields of information communication technology, engineering, management science, law, business administration, economics or related fields.

(6) The Commissioners shall —

- (a) be appointed by the President ;
- (b) hold office on a part-time basis ; and
- (c) have at least 10 years cognate experience in any of the fields of information communication technology, engineering, management sciences, law, business administration, economics, mass communication, public relations, security management or related fields.

(7) The provisions of the Schedule to this Act shall apply with respect to the proceedings of the Board and the other matters mentioned in it. Schedule

5.—(1) The Chairman and members of the Board, other than ex-officio members, shall hold office for a term of four years in the first instance and may be reappointed for a further term of four years and no more. Tenure of office

(2) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (1), a member of the Board shall cease to hold office as a member if —

- (a) he resigns his appointment as a member of the Board by a notice under his hand, addressed to the President ;
- (b) he becomes of unsound mind ;
- (c) becomes bankrupt or makes a compromise with his creditors ;
- (d) he is convicted of a felony or any offence involving dishonesty or corruption ;
- (e) he becomes incapable of performing the functions of his office arising from infirmity of mind or body ; or

(f) the President is satisfied that it is not in the interest of the Commission or of the public for the person to continue in office and notifies the member in writing to that effect.

(3) Where a member of the Board dies, resigns or otherwise vacates his office before the expiration of the term for which he is appointed, a fit and proper person shall be appointed for the remainder of the term of office of the predecessor, so however that the successor shall represent the same interest.

Emoluments

6. The Chairman and members of the Board shall be paid such emoluments, allowances and incidental expenses as the President may approve.

PART III — FUNCTIONS AND POWERS OF THE COMMISSION

Functions of
the
Commssion

7. The Commission shall —

(a) create, manage, maintain and operate the National Identity Database established under this Act;

(b) carry out the registration of registrable persons in accordance with the provisions of this Act and any regulations, guidelines and other documents issued under the Act ;

(c) serve as the repository of all biometric data capture for the management of identity in the country for proper coordination and harmonisation ;

(d) assign a unique National Identification Number to any person registered under paragraph (b) ;

(e) issue, to any person registered under paragraph (b), identity credentials it deems appropriate, having given due consideration to developments in applicable technology ;

(f) ensure the preservation, protection, sanctity and security of any information or data collected, obtained, maintained, or stored in respect of the National Identity Database ;

(g) provide a secure and reliable method to verify personal information in respect of registered persons, subject to such conditions and on payment of such fees and in such manner as may be specified by regulations ;

(h) research and monitor developmen: in the identity management sector ;

(i) in collaboration with the relevant agencies, carry out the registration of births and deaths in Nigeria for the effective and efficient management of the National Identity Database established under this Act ;

- (j) be the root certification authority and issuing authority responsible for the national public key infrastructure and digital public infrastructure; and
- (k) discharge such other duties which, in the opinion of the Commission, are necessary or expedient for the performance of its functions under this Act.

8. The Commission shall have the power to —

Powers of
the
Commission

- (a) request for any information or data from any person on matters relating to its functions under this Act;
- (b) harmonise and integrate the existing identification databases in government agencies and integrate them into the National Identity Database;
- (c) collate information obtained by the Commission in performance of its functions under this Act and reproduce such information as may be required, subject to, and in accordance with the provisions of this Act or regulations made under it ;
- (d) establish and maintain secured communication links with any relevant identity related database or agency ;
- (e) maintain secured communication links with end users ;
- (f) establish, manage, and maintain a national public key infrastructure and digital public infrastructure to ensure the security and integrity of digital identities ;
- (g) establish a framework for secure and efficient data exchange among government agencies, private sector organisations, and other entities ;
- (h) collaborate with relevant bodies and agencies in setting out standards and technical specifications for the communications links with organisations and for the devices utilised for such communications established or maintained under this Act ;
- (i) prescribe administrative sanctions for non-compliance with the standard operating procedures established by the Commission ;
- (j) fix the terms and conditions of service, including remuneration, of the employees of the Commission ;
- (k) establish and operate administrative and monitoring offices in the states, local government areas and area councils ;
- (l) monitor any matter that may affect the functions of the Commission ;
- (m) interface with all relevant agencies that perform biometric data capture for the purpose of identity management and administration ;

(n) enter into any form of agreement with any private or public sector-based agency or organisation for the development or establishment of the identity management solution or for the realisation of any of its functions ;

(o) set up facilitation centres and grievance redressal mechanisms for redressing the complaints and grievances of registered persons ;

(p) enter into an agreement to license persons or corporate bodies to enroll registrable persons within and outside Nigeria ; and

(q) do such other things which the Commission is required or permitted to do under this Act or any other enactment.

PART IV - THE DIRECTOR—GENERAL AND STAFF OF THE COMMISSION

The
Director-
General

9.—(1) There shall be for the Commission, a Director-General, who shall —

(a) be appointed by the President, subject to the confirmation of the Senate ;

(b) be the chief executive officer responsible for the administration of the Commission ; and

(c) subject to the general control of the Board, be responsible for —

(i) the execution of the policies and decisions of the Board and its operations and administration,

(ii) keeping proper records of proceedings of the Board, and

(iii) the direction and control of all other employees.

(2) The Director-General shall possess professional skills and at least 15 years cognate experience in any of the fields of information communication technology, engineering, management science, law, business administration, economics or related fields.

(3) The Director-General shall hold office —

(a) for a term of four years in the first instance and may be reappointed for a further term of four years and no more ; and

(b) on such terms and conditions as may be specified in the letter of appointment.

(4) The Director-General shall cease to hold office where —

(a) he resigns his appointment by a notice under his hand, addressed to the President ;

(b) he becomes of unsound mind ;

- (c) becomes bankrupt or makes a compromise with his creditors ;
- (d) he is convicted of a felony or any offence involving dishonesty or corruption ;
- (e) he becomes incapable of carrying on the functions of his office arising from infirmity of mind or body ; or
- (f) the President is satisfied that it is not in the interest of the Commission or of the public for the person to continue in office and notifies the member in writing to that effect.

10.—(1) The Board shall —

- (a) appoint for the Commission such other staff as it may deem necessary for the efficient performance of its functions under this Act; and
- (b) pay persons so employed such remuneration (including allowances) as may be determined by the National Salaries, Income and Wages Commission.

Appointment
of other staff
of the
Commission

(2) The Board may delegate to the Director-General, generally or specifically, the power to appoint such categories of staff of the Commission as may be prescribed by the staff regulations.

11. The Commission shall, subject to the approval of the Board, issue staff regulations relating generally to the conditions of service of its employees, particularly to —

Staff
regulations

- (a) the appointment, promotion, discipline and termination of staff of the Commission ; and
- (b) appeals by such staff against dismissal or other disciplinary measures.

PART V — FINANCIAL PROVISIONS

12.—(1) The Commission shall establish and maintain a Fund which shall consist of —

Fund of the
Commission

- (a) annual subvention from the Federal Government ;
- (b) fees and other charges received by the Commission under this Act ;
- (c) all other sums accruing to the Commission by way of grants-in-aid, gifts, testamentary dispositions, endowments, bequests and donations made to the Commission, subject to section 13 of this Act ; and
- (d) such other money as may accrue to the Commission.

(2) The Commission shall apply the proceeds of the Fund established under subsection (1) —

(a) to the cost of administration of the Commission ;

(b) to the payment of salaries, fees or other remuneration or allowances, payable to the officers and employees of the Commission, so however that no payment of any kind under this paragraph, except such as may be expressly authorised under any other enactment or regulation in effect, shall be made to any person who is in receipt of emoluments from the Government of the Federation of Nigeria or of a State ;

(c) to reimbursing members of the Board or of any committee set up by the Board for such expenses as may be expressly authorised by the Commission in accordance with the rates approved by the Board ;

(d) for the maintenance of any property vested in the Commission ; and

(e) for all or the functions of the Commission under this Act.

Power to
accept gifts

13.—(1) The Commission may accept any gift, grant or donation of land, money or other property from any person or organisation on such terms and conditions (acceptable to the Commission), as may be specified by the person or organisation making the gift or donation.

(2) The Commission shall not accept any gift or donation if the conditions attached to it by the person or organisation making the gift or donation are inconsistent with the functions of the Commission.

Annual
estimates
and accounts

14.—(1) The Commission shall, not later than 30 September in each year, submit to the President an estimate of its expenditure and income (including estimates of expected payments into the Fund of the Commission) during the next succeeding year.

(2) The Commission shall keep proper accounts in a form which conforms to accepted accounting standards, and proper records in relation to the account and the accounts shall be audited as provided in subsection (3).

(3) The accounts of the Commission shall be audited at the end of each calendar year by auditors appointed from the list and in accordance with the guidelines supplied by the Auditor-General for the Federation, and the fees of the auditors and the expenses for the audit generally shall be paid from the Fund of the Commission.

Annual
reports

15. The Commission shall, not later than six months after the end of each year, submit to the President, a report on the activities of the Commission and its administration during the immediate preceding year and shall include in

the report the audited accounts of the Commission and the auditors' comments on it.

PART VI — ESTABLISHMENT OF THE NATIONAL IDENTITY DATABASE

16.—(1) There is established a National Identity Database (in this Act, referred to as "the Database"), which shall contain registered information and other data relating to citizens of Nigeria and non-Nigerian citizens who are registerable persons within the meaning of section 17 of this Act.

Establishment
of the
National
Identity
Database

(2) The Database established under subsection (1) shall facilitate —

(a) the provision of a secured and a reliable method for ascertaining, obtaining, maintaining and preserving information and facts about registered persons, and the sharing of such information, in accordance with the provisions of this Act and data protection best practices and standards ;
and

(b) the harmonisation of existing identity card schemes in Nigeria.

(3) Any person in respect of whom an entry is made in the Database (in this Act referred to as "a registered person") shall be identified using unique and unambiguous features such as fingerprints and other biometric information.

(4) The Commission, including its officers and agents shall ensure that every entry into the Database is accurate.

17. Every citizen and resident of the Federal Republic of Nigeria shall be entitled to obtain a National Identification Number by undergoing the process of enrolment in accordance with the provisions of this Act.

Registrable
persons

18.—(1) Every registrable person shall submit his demographic information, biometric information, and a government issued identification document at an enrolling agency.

Registration
of registrable
persons

(2) Any person having charge of a registrable person shall cause such person to be brought before the Commission or at any other place designated by the Commission for enrolment.

(3) The Commission shall take special measures to enroll and issue National Identity Numbers to persons who do not have any permanent place of residence and such other categories of individuals as may be specified by regulations.

(4) Where a registrable person is unable to submit a government issued identification documentation specified under subsection (2), the Commission may —

(a) require a relative of the registrable person to identify the registrable person under oath, provided that such relative is of legal age and has already been registered under this Act; or

(b) by regulation, prescribe the classes of persons who may identify the registrable person, where the registrable person has no known relatives.

(5) For the purpose of subsection (4), a relative or person who identifies a registrable person shall be known as an "Identifier".

(6) Every registrable person and Identifier shall present accurate information to the Commission.

(7) The Commission shall maintain a register of all Identifiers, and may, by regulations, prescribe the information required to be maintained in the register.

(8) The Commission shall, in such manner as may be specified by regulations, at the time of enrolment, inform the individual undergoing registration of the —

(a) manner in which the information shall be used ;

(b) nature of recipients with whom the information is intended to be shared ; and

(c) existence of a right to access such information, the procedure for making requests for such access, and details of the person or department in charge to whom such requests can be made.

(9) On receipt of the demographic information and biometric information, the Commission shall, after verifying the information, in such manner as may be specified by regulations, issue a National Identification Number to such individual, in a format the Commission deems appropriate.

(10) A National Identification Number, issued to an individual shall —

(a) bear no relation to the attributes or identity of the holder;

(b) not be re-assigned to any other individual; and

(c) be accepted as proof of identity of the holder of the National Identity Number for any purpose.

Contents of
the Database

19. The information to be entered in the Database shall include -

(a) the following information relating to the personal details of the registered person —

(i) full name,

- (ii) other names by which the person is or has been known,
- (iii) date of birth,
- (iv) place of birth,
- (v) gender,
- (vi) the address of the individual's principal place of residence in Nigeria,
- (vii) the address of every other place in Nigeria where the individual has a place of residence, and
- (viii) such other information as may be specified in the Schedule to this Act ;

Schedule

(b) information of a technical nature for use in connection with the administration of the Database, including the issuance and cancellation of identity credentials ; and

(c) such other information as the Commission considers necessary for the collection of information under this section.

20. The identity credential assigned to a registered person shall convey essential information about the registered person's identity and shall, in addition, consist of a reproduction, in figure codes, of the following particulars, and no other particulars, of the registered person to whom it is assigned —

Issuance of
identity
credentials

- (a) National Identity Number ;
- (b) the date of birth and gender of the registered person ;
- (c) whether or not the registered person is a citizen of Nigeria ;
- (d) serial, index and control number, where applicable ; and
- (e) such features as are necessary to safeguard data privacy and security.

Modification
of
information
and update
of the
Database

21.—(1) A registered person shall notify the Commission about —

- (a) every prescribed change of circumstances affecting the information or data recorded about him in the Database; and
- (b) every error in that information or data of which he is aware.

(2) The notification referred to in subsection (1) shall be made in the manner as may be prescribed in the guidelines issued by the Commission.

(3) Where a registered person has given a notification for the purpose of subsection (1), the Commission may, for the purpose of verifying the information or data, require the registered person to attend at a specified place and time, to —

Safety and
preservation
of identity
credentials

- (a) provide biometric information;
- (b) capture a photograph; and
- (c) provide such other information as may be required by the Commission.

22. A person to whom an identity credential has been issued shall notify the Commission, if he knows or has reason to suspect that the identity credential has been —

- (a) lost ;
- (b) stolen ;
- (c) damaged ;
- (d) tampered with ; or
- (e) destroyed.

Cancellation
and
withdrawal
of identity
credentials

23.—(1) The Commission shall cancel an identity credential where the identity credential —

- (a) was issued based on inaccurate or false information ; or
- (b) has been tampered with, or illegally altered.

(2) The Commission may require any person to surrender, within such period as it may specify, an identity credential in the possession of a person which, in the opinion of the Commission —

- (a) has expired, been cancelled or is otherwise invalid ;
- (b) bears or contains wrong information ; or
- (c) is in that person's possession in consequence of a contravention of a law.

Disclosure
of registered
information
Act No. 23,
2023

24.—(1) The Commission shall comply with the provisions of the Nigeria Data Protection Act and best practices in data protection and privacy in its operation and management of the Database.

(2) Without prejudice to the provisions of subsection (1), a person shall not have access to the data or information contained in the Database with respect to a registered person except where —

- (a) the registered person has given and not withdrawn consent for the disclosure of the information; or
- (b) disclosure is necessary for —
 - (i) compliance with a legal obligation to which the requesting person or body corporate is subject,

(ii) the performance of a task carried out in the public interest or in the exercise of official authority vested in the requesting person or body corporate,

(iii) the prevention, detection, investigation, prosecution, or punishment of an offence ; or

(iv) the preparation or conduct of proceedings before a court.

(3) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, the Commission may, under an order of a High Court, without a registered person's consent, disclose the information referred to in subsection (2) (b).

(4) Disclosure of registered information under subsections (2) (b) or (3) shall be made in accordance with written law and in the interest of national security, public safety or the economic well-being of the country, for the prevention of disorder or crime, for the protection of health or morals, or for the protection of the rights and freedoms of others.

(5) The registered information that may be disclosed under subsection (2) are —

- (a) identity data ;
- (b) a photograph of the registered person ;
- (c) information that relates to residential status and personal reference numbers ;
- (d) the signature of the individual concerned ; or
- (e) information in respect of the questions and responses used to identify the registered person.

(6) Where a person is provided with registered information contained in the Database in connection with a particular purpose, the person shall not use that information for any other purpose unless the —

- (a) registered person to whom the information relates consents to the use of the information for that other purpose ;
- (b) use of the information for that other purpose is authorised or required by law ;
- (c) purpose for which the information is used is directly related to the purpose for which the information was collected ; or
- (d) information is used —
 - (i) in a form in which the registered person is not identified, or

(ii) for statistical or research purposes, and will not be published in a form that can reasonably be expected to identify the registered person concerned.

(7) Where any person uses or discloses registered information contained in the Database, he shall implement appropriate technical and organisational measures to ensure that such use or disclosure does not harm the rights and freedom of the relevant registered person.

(8) The Commission shall, in addition to the provisions of this section, issue guidelines on the access, use, retention and disclosure of registered information contained in the Database.

(9) Each request made for access to registered information on the Database shall state the —

- (a) purpose for which the information is required ;
- (b) period of retention of the information ;
- (c) recipient of the information ; and
- (d) security and confidential modalities for the disposal of the registered information which is no longer required.

Authentication
and
verification

25.—(1) The Commission shall have the power to license agents to carry out authentication and verification on its behalf, provided such agents shall store any registered information securely and only perform the services under the provisions of this Act and any directions provided by the Commission.

(2) Every registered person shall be entitled to obtain his authentication records in the manner as may be specified by regulations.

(3) The Commission shall not, either by itself, through any entity under its control, or its agents, collect, keep or maintain any information about the purpose of authentication.

Use of the
National
Identification
Number

26.—(1) The National Identification Number shall be presented for verifying the identity of the registered person for the purposes of the following transactions —

- (a) issuance of any government-recognised identification document, such as an international passport or voters' card ;
- (b) enrollment in any government-endorsed or mandated program, services, subsidy or benefits ;
- (c) financial transactions ;
- (d) opening of bank accounts ;

- (e) purchase of insurance policies ;
- (f) registration for telecommunications services ;
- (g) subject to the provisions of the Land Use Act, the purchase, transfer and registration of land by any individual or any transaction connected with it ; Cap. L5,
LFN, 2004
- (h) such transactions pertaining to individuals as may be prescribed and regulated by the Pension Reform Act ; Act No. 4,
2014
- (i) such transactions specified under the Contributory Health Insurance Scheme ;
- (j) such transactions that have social security implications ;
- (k) all consumer credit transactions ;
- (l) payment of taxes ;
- (m) such relevant government services ; and
- (n) any additional transaction that requires the verification of the identity of the individuals involved.

(2) Proof of identity shall not necessarily be construed as proof of eligibility to avail certain benefits and services which will be determined based on the applicable rules and regulations of the relevant entity or authority.

(3) The issuance of a National Identity Number or an identity credential under this Act shall not be construed as incontrovertible proof of citizenship.

(4) For the purpose of subsection (1), a person facilitating any of the transactions listed or providing the service shall verify the identity of the parties involved in the transaction, using the National Identity Number provided.

PART VII — OFFENCES AND PENALTIES

27.—(1) A person commits an offence where the person without lawful authorisation by the Commission, intentionally — Unauthorised
access

- (a) accesses or secures access to the Database ;
- (b) downloads, copies, or extracts any data from the Database or stores the data from the Database in any removable storage medium ;
- (c) introduces or causes to be introduced any virus or other computer contaminant in the Database ;
- (d) damages or causes to be damaged the data in the Database;
- (e) disrupts or causes disruption of the access to the Database;
- (f) denies or causes a denial of access to any person who is authorised to access the Database ;

(g) reveals any information or shares, uses, or displays information contained within the Database;

(h) destroys, deletes, or alters any information stored in any removable storage media or in the Database, or diminishes its value or utility, or affects it injuriously, by any means;

(i) steals, conceals, destroys, or alters, or causes any person to steal, conceal, destroy or alter any computer source code used by the Commission with an intention to cause damage; or

(j) uses or tampers with the data in the Database or in any removable storage medium with the intent of modifying information relating to a registered person or discovering any information.

(2) A person who contravenes subsection (1) is liable on conviction to —

(a) in the case of natural person, a fine of at least ₦10,000,000 or imprisonment for a term of at least five years; or

(b) in the case of a body corporate —

(i) to a fine of at least ₦20,000,000, and

(ii) to a fine of at least ₦10,000,000 or imprisonment for a term at least five years for every principal officer of the body corporate.

Giving false
information

28. A person who knowingly or recklessly makes a statement or provides information to the Commission, which is false in any material particular commits an offence and is liable on conviction to —

(a) in the case of a natural person, a fine of at least ₦2,000,000 or imprisonment for a term of at least two years; or

(b) in the case of a body corporate —

(i) to a fine of at least ₦10,000,000, and

(ii) to a fine of at least ₦2,000,000 or imprisonment for a term of at least two years for every principal officer of the body corporate.

Multiple
registration

29.—(1) A person who —

(a) engages in multiple registration ;

(b) makes use of a National Identity Number issued to another person under this Act ; or

(c) forges or fabricates a National Identity Number or identity credential, commits an offence and is liable on conviction to —

(i) in the case of a natural person, a fine of at least ₦10,000,000 or imprisonment for a term of at least five years, or

(ii) in the case of a body corporate, a fine of at least ₦20,000,000, and to a fine of at least ₦10,000,000 or imprisonment for a term of at least five years for every principal officer of the body corporate.

(2) A person who, being an officer or agent of the Commission, unlawfully —

(a) makes a false entry into the Database ;

(b) alters or modifies an entry in the Database ; or

(c) facilitates the issuance of a National Identification Number or identity credential, commits an offence and is liable on conviction to —

(i) a fine of at least ₦10,000,000 or imprisonment for a term of at least five years,

(ii) in the case of an officer of the Commission, be dismissed from the service of the Commission, or

(iii) in the case of a body corporate, a fine of at least ₦20,000,000, and a fine of at least ₦10,000,000 or imprisonment for a term of at least five years for every principal officer of the body corporate.

30. A person who impersonates or passes off as an officer or agent of the Commission, commits an offence and is liable on conviction to —

Impersonation
of an officer
or agent of
the
Commission

(a) in the case of a natural person, a fine of at least ₦10,000,000 or imprisonment for a term of at least five years; and

(b) in the case of a body corporate, a fine of at least ₦20,000,000, and to a fine of at least ₦10,000,000 or imprisonment for a term of at least five years for every principal officer of the body corporate.

31.—(1) A person who —

General
offences

(a) willfully obstructs any staff of the Commission in the due execution of his duties ;

(b) charges a fee for services for which the Commission has not prescribed a fee ; or

(c) charges a fee above the fee prescribed by the Commission for services, commits an offence and is liable on conviction to —

(i) a fine of at least ₦500,000 or imprisonment for a term of at least one year,

(ii) in the case of an officer of the Commission, be dismissed from the service of the Commission, and

(iii) in the case of a body corporate, to a fine of at least ₦2,000,000, and to a fine of at least ₦500,000 or imprisonment for a term of at least one year for every principal officer of the body corporate.

(2) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 28 of this Act, a person who commits an offence under subsection (1) (b) and (c), is liable to a further fine of —

(a) in the case of a natural person, ₦50,000 for every contravention reported; or

(b) in the case of a body corporate, ₦200,000 for every contravention reported.

(3) A person who commits an offence under subsection (1) (a) is liable on conviction to —

(a) in the case of a natural person —

(i) a fine of at least ₦2,500,000 or imprisonment for a term of at least one year, and

(ii) where the person is an officer of the Commission, to dismissal from the service of the Commission. or

(b) in the case of a body corporate —

(i) a fine of at least ₦5,000,000, and

(ii) a fine of at least ₦2,500,000 or imprisonment for a term of at least one year for every principal officer of the body corporate.

(4) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (2), a person who commits an offence under subsection (1) (a), is liable to an additional fine of -

(a) in the case of a natural person, ₦50,000 for every contravention reported; or

(b) in the case of a body corporate, ₦200,000 for every contravention reported.

PART VIII — ENFORCEMENT PROVISIONS

Power to
investigate

32.—(1) The Commission may investigate any complaint referred to it.

(2) The Commission may conduct investigations on its own motion in the absence of complaint to ascertain compliance with this Act where it has reasonable cause to believe that there might have been instances of non-compliance with the provisions of this Act.

(3) The Commission may request a person in writing to provide information or to attend at a time and place specified to provide information which the Commission considers reasonably necessary for the purposes of investigating a complaint referred to it.

(4) For the purposes of this Section, the Commission may exercise its powers through an authorised officer of the Commission.

33.—(1) The Commission shall apply ex-parte to a High Court, for the issuance of a search warrant for the purpose of obtaining evidence in relation to an investigation.

Power of
search, arrest
and seizure

(2) A judge may issue a warrant under subsection (1) on the satisfaction that —

(a) a person has engaged, is engaging, or is likely to engage in a conduct that contravenes the provisions of this Act;

(b) the warrant is sought to prevent the commission of an offence under this Act;

(c) the warrant is sought to prevent interference with an investigative process under this Act;

(d) the warrant is for the purpose of investigating security breaches of the Database, or obtaining electronic evidence; or

(e) the person named in the warrant is preparing to commit an offence under this Act.

(3) A warrant issued under subsection (2) may authorise the Commission to —

(a) enter and search any premises, where —

(i) an offence under this Act is being or about to be committed,

(ii) there is evidence of the commission of an offence under this Act or other relevant law, or

(iii) there is an urgent need to prevent the commission of an offence under this Act or other relevant law,

(b) stop and search any person found on such premises ;

(c) enter and search any conveyance found on the premises ;

(d) seize, seal, remove, or detain anything which is, or contains evidence of the commission of an offence under this Act ;

(e) use or cause to be used, a computer or other devices to search any data contained in or available to any computer system or computer network ;

(f) use any technology to decode or decrypt any coded or encrypted data contained in a computer into readable text or comprehensible format ;

(g) require any person, having charge of or conversant with the operation of a computer or electronic device in connection with an offence under this Act, to produce such computer or electronic device ; or

(h) arrest any person suspected of committing an offence under this Act.

(4) For the purpose of carrying out the mandate under subsection (3), the Commission shall collaborate with the relevant law enforcement agency.

PART IX — MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

Limitation
of suits
against the
Commission

34.—(1) A suit shall not be instituted against the Commission, a member of the Board, or staff of the Commission for an act done under or in execution of this Act, or any public duty of the Commission, unless —

(a) it is commenced within three months after the act, neglect, or default complained of ; or

(b) in the case of continued damage or injury, within three months after the ceasing of such act, neglect or default complained of.

(2) A suit shall not be commenced under subsection (1) before the expiration of one month after written notice of intention to commence the suit is served on the Commission, a Board member, or staff of the Commission by the intending plaintiff or plaintiff's agent.

(3) The notice referred to in subsection (2) shall clearly state the —

(a) cause of action ;

(b) particulars of the claim ;

(c) name and place of abode of the intending plaintiff ; and

(d) relief sought.

Power to
make
regulations

35. The Commission, with the approval of the Board, may make such regulations and guidelines as are necessary for giving effect to the provisions of this Act, particularly to —

(a) provide for the contents of the Database ;

(b) provide for the collection, collation, processing and alteration of relevant information in the Database ;

(c) provide for the operation and use of the key national public infrastructure and digital public infrastructure, including issuance, renewal,

and revocation of digital certificates for identity verification and authentication; and

(d) impose fees for —

(i) the issue or replacement of the identity credentials,

(ii) the update of entries made in the Database,

(iii) applications for the provision of information contained in the Database,

(iv) applications for verification of information; and

(v) licensing of agents.

36. Where the provisions of any other law or enactment, in so far as they provide or relate directly or indirectly to the registration of registrable persons and management of the National Identity Database, are inconsistent with any of the provisions of this Act, the provisions of this Act shall prevail.

Priority of
the Act

37.—(1) The National Identity Management Commission Act, No. 23, 2007, is repealed.

Repeal

(2) The repeal of the Act mentioned in subsection (1) shall not affect anything done or purported to have been done under the repealed Act.

38.—(1) Anything made or done or having effect under the repealed Act and having any resulting effect shall be treated, as from the commencement of this Act, as if it were made or done by the Commission established under this Act.

Savings and
transitional
provisions

(2) Any proceeding or cause of action pending or existing immediately before the commencement of this Act shall be regarded as having been commenced or existing under this Act.

(3) All assets, rights, liabilities and obligations of the Commission under the repealed Act shall, by virtue of this Act, be deemed to be that of the Commission established under this Act.

39. In this Act —

Interpreta-
tion

"agent" means a person, including a body corporate and agency of government, appointed, designated, or contracted by the Commission to perform functions on its behalf ;

"biometric information" includes fingerprint, facial scan, iris scan, or the capturing of such other biological attribute of an individual as may be specified by regulations ;

"Board" means the Governing Board of the Commission ;

"*Chairman*" means the Chairman of the Board ;

"*Commission*" means the National Identity Management Commission ;

"*Court*" means the Federal High Court, the High Court of a State or the High Court of the Federal Capital Territory ;

"*Database*" means the National Identity Database established under this Act ;

"*demographic information*" includes information relating to the name, date of birth, address, and other relevant information of a registrable person, and such other information specified in a regulation for the purpose of issuing a National Identification Number ;

"*government issued identification document*" means —

(a) a valid international passport ;

(b) a valid driver's license ;

(c) a valid residence permit ;

(d) a valid certificate of acquired citizenship ; or

(e) any other document recognised by the government evidencing the identity of a person ;

"*Minister*" means the Minister responsible for Interior, or such other Minister as may be designated by the President ;

"*National Identification Number*" means the National Identification Number assigned under this Act ; and

"*principal officer*" means the director, manager, or persons occupying similar positions.

Citation

40. This Act may be cited as the National Identity Management Commission (Establishment) Act, 2026.

SCHEDULE

Section 4 (7), 19(a)(viii)

SUPPLEMENTARY PROVISIONS RELATING TO
THE COMMISSION

Proceedings of the Board of the Commission

1. Subject to this Act and section 27 of the Interpretation Act, Cap. I23, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004, the Board may make standing orders regulating the proceedings of the Board and any of its committee.

2. Every meeting of the Board shall be presided over by the Chairman and if the Chairman is unable to attend a particular meeting, the members present at the meeting shall elect one of their members to preside at the meeting.

3. The quorum at a meeting of the Board shall be the Chairman or the person presiding at the meeting, under paragraph 2 of this Schedule, and nine members.

4. Where, on any special occasion, the Board desires to obtain the advice of any person on any particular matter, the Board may co-opt that person to attend for as many meetings as may be necessary.

Committees

5. Subject to its standing orders, the Board may appoint such number of standing or ad-hoc committees as it deems fit, to consider and report on any matter with which the Commission is concerned.

6. The decision of the committee shall have no effect until it is confirmed by the Board.

Miscellaneous

7. The affixing of the seal of the Commission shall be authenticated by the signature of the Chairman and of the Director-General of the Commission or such other member authorised generally or specifically by the Commission to act for that purpose.

8. Any contract or instrument, which if made by a person not being a body corporate, would not be required to be made under seal, may be made or executed on behalf of the Commission by the Director-General or by any other person generally or specifically authorised by the Commission to act for that purpose.

9. Any document purporting to be a contract, instrument or other document signed or sealed on behalf of the Commission shall be received in evidence and, unless the contrary is proved, be presumed, without further proof to have been so signed or sealed.

10. The validity of any proceedings of the Commission or a committee of the Board, shall not be adversely affected by —

- (a) any vacancy in the membership of the Commission ;
- (b) any defect in the appointment of a member of the Commission or committee ; or
- (c) reason that a person not entitled to do so, took part in the proceedings.

11. A member of the Board or committee of the Board, who has a personal interest in any contract or arrangement entered into or proposed to be considered by the Commission, shall immediately disclose such interest to the Commission or committee and shall not vote on any question relating to the contract or arrangement.

I, certify, in accordance with Section 2 (1) of the Acts Authentication Act, Cap. A2, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004, that this is a true copy of the Bill passed by both Houses of the National Assembly.



KAMORU OGUNLANA ESQ.
Clerk to the National Assembly
21st Day of May, 2026

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

This Act repeals the National Identity Management Commission Act, No. 23, 2007 and enacts the National Identity Management Commission Act, 2026 to establish a National Identity Database for the country and the National Identity Management Commission as the statutory body charged with the responsibility of maintenance of the National Identity Database, registration of registrable persons, and issuance of identity credentials.