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Copyright Act
Chapter 68
Laws of the Federation of Nigeria 1990

This Act has been amended by

1. [Copyright \(Amendment\) Decree No 98 of 1992](#)
2. [Copyright \(Amendment\) Decree No 42 of 1999](#)

See also [Appointment of Copyright Inspectors Notice 1997](#)

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Copyright Act Chapter 68

Laws of the Federation of Nigeria 1990

An Act to make provisions for the definition, protection, transfer, infringement of and remedy and penalty thereof of the copyright in literary works, musical works, artistic works, cinematograph films, sound recordings, broadcast, and other ancillary matters.

Part 1
Copyright

1. (1) subject to this section, the following shall be eligible for copyright-

- (a) literary works;
- (b) musical works;
- (c) artistic works;
- (d) cinematograph works;
- (e) sound recording; and
- (f) broadcasts.

(2) A literary, musical, or artistic work shall not be eligible for copyright unless-

- (a) sufficient effort has been expended on making the work to give it an original character;
- (b) the work has been fixed in any definite medium of expression now known or later to be developed, from which it can be perceived, reproduced or otherwise communicated either directly or with the aid of any machine or device.

(3) An artistic work shall not be eligible for copyright, if at the time when the work is made, it is intended by the author to be used as a model or pattern to be multiplied by any industrial process.

(4) A work shall not be ineligible for copyright by reason only that the making of the work or the doing of any act in relation to the work involved an infringement of copyright in some other work.

2. (1) Copyright shall be conferred by this section on every work eligible for copyright of which the author or, in the case of a work of joint authorship, any of the authors is at the time when the work is made, a qualified person, that is to say-

- (a) an individual who is a citizen of, or is domiciled in Nigeria; or
- (b) a body corporate incorporated by or under the laws of Nigeria.

(2) The term of copyright conferred by this section shall be calculated according to the table set out in the First Schedule to this Act.

In the case of anonymous or pseudonymous literary, musical or artistic works the copyright therein shall subsist until the end of the expiration of seventy years from the end of the year in which the work was first published:

Provided that, when the author becomes known, the term of copyright shall be calculated in accordance with paragraph 1 of the First Schedule to this Act.

(4) In the case of a work of joint authorship, a reference in the First Schedule to this Act to the death of the author shall be taken to refer to the author who dies last, whether or not he is a qualified person within subsection (1) of this section.

3. (1) Copyright shall be conferred by this section on every work, which is eligible for copyright and which-

- (a) being a literary, musical or artistic work or a cinematograph film, is first published in Nigeria; or
- (b) being a sound recording, is made in Nigeria, and which has not been the subject of copyright conferred by section 2 of this Act.

(2) Copyright conferred on a work by this section shall have some duration as is provided by section 2 of this Act in relation to the same type of work.

4. (1) Copyright shall be conferred by this section on every work, which is eligible for copyright and is made by or under the direction or control of the Government, a State authority or prescribed international body.

(2) The term of copyright conferred by this section shall be calculated in accordance with the table set out in the First Schedule to this Act.

5. (1) Subject to the exceptions specified in the Second Schedule to this Act, copyright in a work shall be exclusive right to control the doing in Nigeria of any of the following acts, that is-

(a) in the case of a literary or musical work, to do and authorise the doing of any of the following acts-

- (i) reproduce the work any material form;
- (ii) publish the work;
- (iii) perform the work in public;
- (iv) produce, reproduce, perform or publish any translation of the work;
- (v) make any cinematograph film or a record in respect of the work;
- (vi) distribute to the public, for commercial purposes, copies of the work, by way of rental, lease, hire, loan or similar arrangement;
- (vii) broadcast or communicate the work to the public by a loud speaker or any other similar device;
- (viii) make an adaptation of the work;
- (ix) do in relation to a translation or an adaptation of the work, any of the acts specified in relation to the work in sub-paragraphs (I) to (vii) of this paragraph;

(b) in the case of an artistic work, to do or authorise the doing of any of the following acts, that is-

- (i) reproduce the work in any material form,
- (ii) publish the work.
- (iii) include the work in any cinematograph film,
- (iv) make an adaptation of the work,
- (v) do in relation to an adaptation of the work in subparagraphs (I) to (iii) of this paragraph;

(c) in the case of cinematograph film, to do or authorise the doing of any of the following acts, that is-

- (i) make a copy of the film,
- (ii) cause the film, in so far as it consists of visual images to be seen in public and, in so far as it consists of sounds, to be heard in public,
- (iii) make any record embodying the recording in any part of the sound track associated with the film by utilising such sound track,
- (iv) distribute to the public, for commercial purposes copies of the work, by way of rental, lease, hire, loan or similar arrangement.

(2) The doing of any of the acts referred in subsection (1) of this section shall be in respect of the whole or a substantial part of the work either in its original form or in any form recognisably derived from the original.

(3) Copyright in a work of architecture shall also include the exclusive right to control the erection of any building which reproduces the whole or a substantial part of the work either in its original form or in any form recognisably derived from the original, but not the right to control the reconstruction in the same style as the original of a building to which the copyright relates.

6. (1) Copyright in a sound recording shall be exclusive right to control in Nigeria-

(a) the direct or indirect reproduction, broadcasting or communication to the public of the whole or a substantial part of the recording either in its original form or in any form recognisably derived from the original;

(b) the distribution to the public for commercial purposes of copies of the work by way of rental, lease, hire, loan or similar arrangement.

(2) The exception specified in paragraphs (a), (h), (k), (l), and (p) of the Second Schedule to this Act shall apply to the copyright in sound recording in like manner as they apply to copyright in literary, musical or artistic work or a cinematograph film.

(3) The provision of the Third Schedule to this Act shall apply in respect of sound recording.

7. (1) Subject to this section, copyright in a broadcast shall be the exclusive right to control the doing in Nigeria of any of the following acts, that is-

(a) the recording and the re-broadcast of the whole or a substantial part of the broadcast;

(b) the communication to the public of the whole or a substantial part of a television broadcast, either in its original form or in any form recognisably derived from the original; and

(c) the distribution to the public for the commercial purposes, of copies of the work, by way of rental, lease, hire, loan or similar arrangement.

(2) The copyright in a television broadcast shall include the right to control the taking of still photographs from the broadcast.

(3) The exceptions specified in paragraphs (a), (h), (k) and (o) of the Second Schedule to this Act shall apply to the copyright in a broadcast, in like manner as they apply to copyright in literary, musical or artistic work or a cinematograph film.

8. (1) Where the owner of the copyright in any literary, musical or artistic work authorises a person to incorporate the work in a cinematograph film and a broadcasting authority broadcasts the film, the owner of the copyright shall, in the absence of any express agreement to the contrary between the owner and that person, be deemed to have authorised the broadcast.

(2) Notwithstanding subsection (1) of this section, where a broadcasting authority broadcasts a cinematograph film in which a musical work is incorporated, the owner of the right to broadcast the musical work shall, subject to this Act, be entitled to receive fair compensation from the broadcasting authority.

9. (1) Copyright conferred by sections 2 and 3 of this Act, shall vest initially in the author.

(2) Notwithstanding subsection (6) of section 10 of this Act where a work-

(a) is commissioned by a person who is not the author's employer under a contract of service or apprenticeship; or

(b) not having been so commissioned, is made in the course of the author's employment,

the copyright shall belong in the first instance to the author, unless otherwise stipulated in writing under contract.

(3) Where a literary, artistic or musical work is made by the author in the course of his employment by the proprietor of a newspaper, magazine or similar periodical under a contract of service or apprenticeship as is so made for the purpose of publication in a newspaper, magazine or similar periodical, the said proprietor shall, in the absence of any agreement to the contrary, be the first owner of copyright in the work in so far as the copyright relates to the publication of the work in any newspaper, magazine or similar periodical,; or to the reproduction of the work for the purpose of its been so published; but in all other respects, the author shall be the first owner of the copyright in the work.

(4) In the case of a cinematograph film or sound recording, the author shall be obliged to conclude, prior to the making of the work, contracts in writing with all those whose works are to be used in the making of the work.

(5) Copyright conferred by section 4 of this Act, shall vest initially in the Government on behalf of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, in the State authority on behalf of the State in question, or in the international body in question, as the case may be, and not in the author.

10. (1) Subject to the provisions of this section, copyright shall be transmitted by assignment, by testamentary disposition or by operation of law, as movable property.

(2) An assignment or testamentary disposition of copyright may be limited so as to apply to only some of the acts which the owner of the copyright has the exclusive right to control, or to a party only of the period of the copyright, or to a specified country or other geographical area.

(3) No assignment of copyright and no exclusive licence to do an act the doing of which is controlled by copyright shall have effect unless it is in writing.

(4) A non-exclusive licence to do an act the doing of which is controlled by copyright may be written or oral, or may be inferred from conduct.

(5) An assignment or licence granted by one copyright owner shall have effect as if granted by his co-owner also, and, subject to any contract between them, fees received by the grantors shall be divided equitably between all the co-owners.

(6) For the purpose of this section, persons shall be deemed to be co-owners-

(a) if they share a joint interest in the whole or any part of a copyright;
or

(b) if they have interests in the various copyrights in a composite production, that is to say, a production consisting of two or more works.

(7) An assignment, licence or testamentary disposition be effectively granted or made in respect of a future work or an existing work in which copyright does not yet subsist; and the prospective copyright in any such work shall be transmissible by operation of law as movable property.

(8) A testamentary disposition of material on which a work is first written or otherwise recorded shall, in the absence of any contrary indication, be presumed to include any copyright or prospective copyright in the work which is vested in the deceased.

11. (1) The owner of a copyright has the right-

(a) to claim authorship of his work, in particular that his authorship be indicated in connection with any of the acts referred to in section 5 of this Act except when the work is included incidentally or accidentally when reporting current events by means of broadcasting.

(b) To object and to seek relief in connection with any distortion, mutilation or other modification of, and any other derogatory action in relation to his work, where such action would be or is prejudicial to his honour or reputation.

(2) The rights referred to in subsection (1) of this section, are perpetual, inalienable and imprescriptible.

(3) For the purpose of this section, "author" includes his heirs and successors-in-title.

12. (1) Notwithstanding any assignment or sale of original work, the authors or graphic works, three-dimensional works and manuscript shall have an inalienable right to share in the proceeds of any sale of that work or manuscript by public auction or through a dealer whatever the method used by the latter to carry out the operation.

(2) The right conferred by this section shall apply to originals of such work.

(3) The conditions for the exercise of the right conferred by this section shall be determined by regulations to be made by the Nigerian Copyright Council established under section 30 of this Act.

(4) The foregoing provisions of this section, shall not apply to architectural works or applied art.

(5) In this section, "author" includes heirs and successors-in-title.

13. Publishers, printers, producers or manufacturers of works in which copyright subsists shall keep a register of all works produced by them showing the following, that is-

(a) the name of the author;

(b) the title;

(c) year of production; and

(d) the quantity of work produced.

14. (1) Copyright is infringed by any person who without the licence or authorisation of the owner of the copyright-

(a) does, or cause any other person to do an act, the doing of which is controlled by copyright;

(b) imports into Nigeria, otherwise than for his private or domestic use, any article in respect of which copyright is infringed under paragraph (a) of this subsection;

(c) exhibits in public any article in respect of which copyright is infringed under paragraph (a) of this subsection;

(d) distributes by way of trade, offer for sale, hire or otherwise or for any purpose prejudicial to the owner of the copyright, any article in respect of which copyright is infringed under paragraph (a) of this subsection;

(e) makes or has in his possession, plates, master tapes, machines, equipment or contrivances used for the purpose of making infringed copies of the work;

(f) permits a place of public entertainment or of business to be used for a performance in the public of the work, where the performance constitutes an infringement of the copyright in the work, unless the person permitting the place to be used is not aware, and had no reasonable ground for suspecting that the performance would be an infringement of the copyright;

(g) performs or cause to be performed for the purposes of trade or business or as supporting facility to a trade or business or as supporting facility to a trade or business, any work in which copyright subsists.

(2) Notwithstanding subsection (1) of this section, or any other provision of this Act, where any work in which copyright subsists or a production of any such work is comprised in-

(a) the archives stored in the National Archives established under the Public Archives Act; or

(b) the public records of a State, being records for storage or custody of which provision is made by law, the copyright in the work is not infringed by the making or the supplying to any person, of any reproduction of the work in pursuance of that Act or law.

15. (1) Subject to this Act, infringement of copyright shall be actionable at the suite of the owner, assignee or an exclusive licensee of the copyright, as the case may be, in the Federal High Court exercising jurisdiction in the place where the infringement occurred; and in any action for such infringement, all such relief by way of damages, injunction, accounts or otherwise shall be available in any corresponding proceedings in respect of infringement of other proprietary rights.

(2) Where an action of infringement of copyright brought by the copyright owner or an exclusive licensee relates to an infringement in respect of which they have concurrent rights of action, the copyright owner or the exclusive licensee may not, without the leave of court, proceed with the action unless the other is either joined as a plaintiff or added as a defendant.

(3) Where in an action for infringement of copyright, it is proved or admitted that an infringement was committed but that at the time of the infringement, the defendant was not aware and had no reasonable grounds for suspecting that copyright subsisted in the work to which the action relates, the plaintiff shall not be entitled under this section to any damages against the defendant in respect of the infringement, but shall be entitled to an account of profits in respect of the infringement, whether or not any other relief is granted under this section.

(4) Where an action under this section, an infringement of copyright is proved or admitted, and the court in which the action is brought, having regard (apart from all other material considerations) to-

(a) the flagrancy of the infringement; and

(b) any benefit shown to have accrued to the defendant by reason of the infringement,

is satisfied that effective relief would not otherwise be available to the plaintiff, the court, in assessing damages for the infringement, shall have power to award such additional damages by virtue of this subsection as the court may consider appropriate in the circumstances.

(5) No injunction shall be issued in proceedings for infringement of copyright which requires completed or partly completed building to be demolished or prevents the completion of a partly completed building.

(6) In this section, "action" includes a counter-claim, and references to the plaintiff and to the defendant in an action shall be construed accordingly.

16. All infringement copies of any work in which copyright subsists, or of any substantial part thereof, and all plates, master tapes, machines, equipment or contrivances used, or intended to be used for the production of such infringing copies shall be deemed to be the property of the owner, assignee or exclusive licensee, as the case may be, of the copyright, who accordingly may take proceedings for the recovery of the possession thereof or in respect of the conversion thereof.

17. (1) An infringement of the rights conferred by section 9 of this Act is actionable as a breach of statutory duty owed to the person entitled to the right.

(2) In proceedings for infringement of the rights conferred by the said section 9 of this Act, the person whose rights have been infringed shall be entitled to an award of damages, injunction and any other remedies as the court may deem fit to award in the circumstances.

18. (1) Any person who-

(a) makes or causes to be made for sale, hire, or for the purpose of trade or business any infringing copy of a work in which copyright subsists; or

(b) imports or causes to be imported into Nigeria more than two infringing copies of such work; or

(c) makes, causes to be made, or has in his possession, any plate, master tape, machine, equipment or contrivance for purpose of making any infringing copy of any such work; shall, unless he proves to the satisfaction of the court that he did not know and had no reason to believe that any such copy was not an infringing copy of any such work, or that such plate, master tape, machine, equipment or contrivance for purpose of making any infringing copy of any such work, be guilty of an offence under this Act and shall be liable on conviction to a fine of an amount not exceeding N1,000 for every copy dealt with in contravention of this section or to a term of imprisonment not exceeding five years, or to both such fine and imprisonment.

(2) Any person who-

(a) sells or lets hire or for purpose of trade or business, exposes or offers for sale, or hires any infringing copy of any work in which copyright subsists; or

(b) distributes for the purposes of trade or business any infringing copy of any such work; or

(c) has in his possession other than for his private or domestic use, any

(c) has in his possession other than for his private or domestic use, any infringing copy of any such work,

shall, unless he proves to the satisfaction of the court that he did not know and had no reason to believe that any such copy was not an infringing copy of any such work, be guilty of an offence under this Act and shall be liable on conviction to a fine of an amount not exceeding N 1,000 for every copy dealt with in contravention of this section or to a term of imprisonment not exceeding two years or in the case of an individual to both such fine and imprisonment.

(3) Any person who, without the consent of the owner, distributes, in public for commercial purposes, copies of a work in which copyright subsists by virtue of sections 5(1)(a)(vi), 5(1)(c)(iv), 6(1)(b) or 7(1)(c) of this Act by way of rental, lease, hire, loan or similar arrangement, shall be guilty of an offence under this Act, and shall be liable upon conviction to a fine of N 100 for every copy dealt with or imprisonment for six months or to both such fine and imprisonment.

(4) (1) The court before which any proceedings are taken for any offence under subsections (1), (2) and (3) of this section, whether the alleged offender is convicted or not, may order all copies of the works, plates, master tape, machine, equipment or contrivance in the possession of the alleged offender, which appear, to be infringing copies, of the works, to be destroyed or delivered up to the owner of the copyright or otherwise dealt with as the court may think fit.

(5) Where an article has been seized by a police officer or an authorised officer in connection with a suspected offence under this Act, a court may on the application of the Attorney-General of the Federation of owner of the copyright in connection with which such offence is suspected to have been committed, order that the article be destroyed or delivered up to the owner of the copyright or otherwise dealt with as the court may think fit, notwithstanding that no person has been charged with the suspected offence.

19. (1) Where an offence under this Act has been committed by a body corporate, the body corporate and every person who at the time the offence was committed was in charge of, or was responsible to the body corporate shall be deemed to be guilty of such offence and shall be liable to be proceeded against and punished accordingly:

Provided that nothing contained in this subsection shall render any person liable to any punishment, if he proves that the offence was committed without his knowledge or that he exercised all due diligence to prevent the commission of such offence.

(2) Notwithstanding anything contained in subsection (1) of this section, where an offence under this Act has been committed by a body corporate and it is proved that the offence was committed with the consent or connivance of, any director, manager, secretary or other officer of the body corporate such director, manager, secretary or other officer shall also be deemed to be guilty of that offence and shall be liable to be proceeding against and punished accordingly.

(3) For the purposes of this section-
"body corporate" includes a firm or other association of persons; and

"director" in relation to a firm includes a partner in the firm.

20. Any person who-

(a) fails to keep a register required under section 13 of this Act; or

(b) makes or causes to be made a false entry in such register; or

(c) produces or tenders, or causes to be produced or tendered under this section and be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding N10,000.

21. Notwithstanding the provisions of any law to the contrary, it shall be permissible for both criminal and civil

actions to be taken simultaneously in respect of the same infringement under this Act.

22. (1) In any action for infringement of any right under this Act, where an *ex parte* application is made to the court, supported by affidavit, that there is reasonable cause for suspecting that there is in any house or premises any infringing copy or any plate, film or contrivance used or intended to be used for making infringing copies or capable of being used for the purpose of making copies or any other article, book or document by means of or in relation to

which any infringement under this Act has been committed, the court may issue an order upon such terms as it deems just, authorising the applicant to enter the house or premises at any reasonable time by day or night accompanied by a police officer not below the rank of an Assistant Superintendent of Police, and

(a) seize, detain and preserve any such infringing copy or contrivance;

(b) inspect all or any documents in the custody or under the control of the defendant relating to the action.

(2) Any person who knowingly gives false information under this section shall be guilty of an offence and liable on conviction to fine of N1,000.

Part 11 *Neighbouring Rights*

23. A performer shall have exclusive right to control, in relation to his performance, the following acts, that is-

(a) performing;

(b) recording;

(c) broadcasting live;

(d) reproducing in any material form; and

(e) adaptation of the performance.

(2) In this section, "performance" includes-

(a) a dramatic performance (which includes dance and mime);

(b) a musical performance; and

(c) a reading or recitation of literary act or any similar presentation which is or so far as it is, a live performance given by one or more individuals.

24. The right conferred by section 23 of this Act shall subsist in relation to the performance until the end of the period of fifty years from the end of the year in which the performance first took place.

25. A performer's right is infringed by a person who, without the performer's consent or authorisation in writing, does any of the following, that is-

(a) makes a recording of the whole or substantial part of a live performance:

Provided that where the consent sought is to make a recording of the work for research, private or domestic use, such consent shall not be

reasonably refused;

(b) broadcasts live, or includes live in a cable programme, the whole or a substantial part of the live performance;

(c) performs in public the whole or a substantial part of the live performance;

(d) shows or plays in public the whole or a substantial part of the live performance for commercial purposes;

(e) broadcast, or includes in a cable programme, a substantial part of the performance by means of recording which is, and which that person knows or has reason to believe was made without the performer's consent;

(f) imports into the country otherwise than for his private or domestic use, a recording of a performer's work which is an infringing recording; or

(g) in the course of trade or business, sells or lets for hire, offers, distributes or displays for sale or hire a recording of a performer's work which is an infringing recording.

26. (1) An infringement of a right protected by section 23 of this Act shall be actionable by the person entitled to the right as a breach of statutory duty and the performer be entitled to damages, injunction, account for profit or conversion.

(2) Where a person has in his possession, custody or control, in the course of trade or business or otherwise than for a private or domestic use, an unauthorised recording of a performance, a person having the performer's right or recording rights in relation to the performance under this section shall be entitled to an order of the court that the recording be forfeited and delivered up to him.

27. (1) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 25 of this Act, a person who does any of the acts set out in the said section 25 shall, unless he proves to the satisfaction of the court that he did not know that this conduct was an infringement of the performer's right, be liable on conviction-

(a) in the case of an individual, to a fine not exceeding N10,000;

(b) in the case of a body corporate, to a fine of N50,000;

(c) in all other cases, to a fine of N100 for each copy dealt with in contravention or to imprisonment for twelve months or to both such fine and imprisonment.

(2) A court before which an offence under this section is tried shall order that the recording or any other part thereof be delivered to the performer.

28. (1) Expressions of folklore are protected against-

(a) reproduction;

(b) communication to the public by performance, broadcasting, distribution by cable or other means;

(c) adaptation, translation and other transformations,

when such expressions are made either for commercial purposes or outside their traditional or customary context.

(2) The right conferred in subsection (1) of this section shall not include the right to control-

(a) the doing of any of the acts by way of fair dealing for private and domestic use, subject to the condition that, if the use is public, it shall be accompanied by an acknowledgement of the title of the work and its sources;

(b) the utilisation for purposes of education;

(c) utilisation by way of illustration in an original work of the author:

provided that the extent of such utilisation is compatible with fair practice;

(d) the borrowing of expressions of folklore for creating an original work of the author:

(e) the incidental utilisation expressions of folklore.

(3) In all printed publications, and in connection with any communications to the public, of any identifiable expression of folklore, its source shall be indicated in an appropriate manner, and in conformity with fair practice, by mentioning the community or place from where the expression utilised has been derived.

(4) The rights to authorise acts referred to in subsection (1) of this section shall vest in the Nigeria Copyright Council.

(5) For the purposes of this section, "folklore" means a group-oriented and tradition-based creation of groups or individuals reflecting the expectation of the community as an inadequate expression of its cultural and social identity, its standards and values as transmitted orally, by imitation or by other means including-

(a) folklore, folk poetry, and folk riddles;

(b) folk songs and instrumental folk music;

(c) folk dances and folk plays;

(d) productions of folk art in particular, drawings, paintings, carvings, sculptures, pottery, terracotta, mosaic, woodwork, metalwork, handicrafts, costumes, indigenous textiles.

29. A person who, without the consent of the Nigeria Copyright Council, uses an expression of folklore in a manner not permitted by section 28 of this Act shall be in breach of statutory duty and be liable to the council in damages, injunctions and any other remedies as the court may deem fit to award in the circumstances.

Part 111
Administration of Copyright

30. (1) There is hereby established a body to be known as the Nigeria Copyright Council (hereinafter referred to as "the council")

(2) The council shall be a body corporate with perpetual succession and a common seal and may sue and be sued in its corporate name.

(3) The council shall-

(a) be responsible for all matters affecting copyright in Nigeria as provided for in this Act;

(b) monitor and supervise Nigeria's position in relation to international convention and advise Government thereon;

(c) advise and regulate conditions for the conclusion of bilateral and multilateral agreements between Nigeria and any other country;

(d) enlighten and inform the public on matters relating to copyright;

(e) maintain an effective data bank on authors and their works;

(f) be responsible for such other matters as relate to copyright in Nigeria as the Minister may, from time to time, direct.

31. (1) The council shall have a Governing Body (hereinafter referred to as the "board") which shall be composed as follows-

(a) a chairman to be appointed by the president, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces;

(b) the Director of the Council;

(c) a representative of the Federal Ministry in charge of culture;

(d) a representative of the Federal Ministry of Education;

(e) a representative of the Federal Ministry of Trade and Tourism;

(f) a representative of the Federal Ministry of Internal Affairs

(g) a representative of the Federal Ministry of the Nigeria Police Force, not below the rank of a Commissioner of Police;

(h) a representative of the Federal Ministry of the National Library

(i) two persons knowledgeable in copyright matters to be chosen by the minister in charge of culture;

(j) fifteen representative of author's associations who shall represent as far as possible the following interests to be appointed by the Minister, that is-

(i) writers,

(ii) publishers,

- (iii) musicians and music-publishers,
- (iv) phonographic and videographic producers
- (v) cinematograph producers,
- (vi) theatre practitioners,
- (vii) broadcasting organisations,
- (viii) visual artists.

(2) The representative of the Ministries shall be officers not below the rank of Director.

(3) The Board shall adopt rules governing its procedure and method of operation.

32. (1) There shall be for the council of a Director who shall be the Chief Executive and shall be appointed by the president, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces on the recommendation of the Minister.

(2) The Director shall be responsible for the day-to-day administration of the Council.

(3) Without prejudice to the generality of subsection (1) of this section, the Council shall have power-

- (a) to appoint such other staff as it may determine;
- (b) to pay its staff such remuneration and allowances as it may, from time to time, determine;
- (c) as regards any staff in whose case it decides so to do, to pay to or in respect of such staff such pensions and gratuities as are payable to persons of equivalent grade in the public service of the Federation.

Part IV *Miscellaneous*

33. Where any country is a party to a treaty or other international agreement to which Nigeria is also a party and the Minister is satisfied that the country in question provides for protection of copyright in works which are protected under this Act, the Minister may by Order in the Federal *Gazette* extend the application of this Act in respect of any or all the works referred to in section 1 (1) of this Act-

- (a) to individuals who are citizens of or domiciled in that country;
- (b) to bodies corporate established by or under the law of that country;
- (c) to works, other than sound recordings and broadcasts, first published in the country; and
- (d) to broadcast and sound recordings made in that country.

34. (1) An affidavit made before a Commissioner for Oaths, notary public or other person competent to administer an oath in terms of the law of the country where the oath is made which-

(a) purports to have been made by or on behalf of the copyright in a work; and

(b) states that-

(i) at the time specified therein, copyright subsists in the work,

(ii) the person named therein is the owner of the copyright in the work,

(iii) a copy of the work exhibited to the affidavit is a true copy of the work,

(iv) the author of the work is a citizen of or domiciled in a country named in the affidavit,

(v) the author of the work is a body corporate established or incorporated by or under the laws of the country named in the affidavit,

(vi) the certificate attached to the affidavit is a true copy of the certificate of registration of that incorporation,

shall be admitted as evidence of the facts stated therein without further proof in any proceedings under this Act.

(2) The court before which an affidavit is produced under subsection (1) of this section shall presume, until the contrary is proved, that the statements made therein are true.

35. In any action for an infringement of copyright in a work, the following shall be presumed, in the absence of any evidence to the contrary-

(a) the copyright subsists in a work which is the subject matter of an alleged infringement;

(b) that the plaintiff is the owner of copyright in the work;

(c) that the name appearing on a work purported to be the name of the author, is the name of such author;

(d) that the name appearing on a work purported to be that of a publisher or producer of a work is the name of such publisher or producer;

(e) where the author is dead, that the work is an original work;

(f) that it was published or produced at the place and on the date appearing on the work.

36. (1) The owner of a copyright in any published literary, artistic or musical work or sound recording, may give notice in writing to the Department of Customs and Excise (in this section referred to as "the Department")

(a) that he is the owner of the copyright in the work; and

(b) that he requests the Department during the period specified in the notice, to treat as prohibited goods, copies of the work to which this section applies:

Provided that the period specified in a notice under this subsection shall not exceed five years and shall not exceed beyond the end of the period for which the copyright is to subsist.

(2) This section applies, in the case of a work, to any printed copy outside Nigeria which if it had been made in Nigeria, would be an infringement copy of the work.

(3) Where a notice has been given under this section in respect of a work and has not been withdrawn, the importation into Nigeria, at a time before the end of the period specified in the notice, of any copy of the work to which this section applies shall, subject to the following provisions of this section, be prohibited:

Provided that this subsection shall not apply to the importation of any article by a person for his private and domestic use.

(4) Where a notice is given under subsection (1) of this section in respect of any work, neither the Department nor any member, officer, servant or agent of the Department shall be liable to the owner of the work or to any other person for any act or omission by the department or its servants or agents in relation to the notice:

Provided that, where the owner has suffered loss as a result of any such act or omission and a fee has been paid or is payable to the Department in respect of the notice, an amount equal to the loss or to the amount of the fee for one year, whichever is less, shall be repaid by the Department to the owner or, if the fee has been paid, shall be waived.

(5) The Minister of Internal Affairs may make regulations prescribing the form in which notices are to be given under this section, and requiring a person giving such notice, either at the time of giving the notice or at the time when the goods in question are imported, or at both of those times, to furnish the Department with such evidence, and to comply with such other conditions (if any), as may be specified in the regulations; and any such regulations may include such incidental and supplementary provisions as the Minister of Internal Affairs considers expedient for the purposes of this section.

(6) Without prejudice to the generality of subsection (5) of this section, regulations made under that subsection may include provisions for requiring a person who has given a notice purporting to be a notice under this section to pay such fee in respect of the notice as may be prescribed by the regulations.

(7) For the purposes of the Customs and Excise Management Act any fee paid in pursuance of any regulations made under this section shall be treated as money collected on account of the Department.

(8) Notwithstanding anything in the Customs and Excise Management Act, a person shall not be liable to any penalty under that Act (other than forfeiture of the goods) by reason that any goods are treated as prohibited goods by virtue of this section.

(9) This section shall have effect as if it formed part of the Customs and Excise Management Act.

37. (1) Where no other provisions is made in that behalf, the Minister may make Regulations prescribing anything required to be prescribed for the purposes of this Act.

(2) Regulations may be made-

(a) in the case of works, the copyright in which is vested in the Government, by the Minister with the prior consent of the National Council of Ministers; and

(b) in the case of works, the copyright in which is vested in a State authority, by the State Authority or a person designated by the State Authority,

prescribing the public officer or other authority by whom licences may be granted for the production of the works in question and a scale of fees to be charged in respect of any such licence.

(3) Regulations made under subsection (2) of this section, shall be additional to and not in derogation of any enactment or other law regulating the custody of the National Archives of Nigeria or the public records of a State, and shall be without prejudice to the operation of section 11 (2) of this Act.

38. The Federal High Court shall have exclusive jurisdiction for the trial of offences or disputes under this Act.

39. (1) In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires-

"adaptation" means the modification of a pre-existing work from one genre of work to another and consists in altering work within the same genre to make it suitable for different conditions of exploitation, and may also involve altering the composition of the work;

"artistic work" includes, irrespective of artistic quality, any of the following works or works similar thereto

(a) paintings, drawings, etchings, lithographs, woodcuts, engravings and prints;

(b) maps, plans and diagrams;

(c) works of sculpture;

(d) photographs not comprised in a cinematographic film;

(e) works of architecture in the form of buildings models; and

(f) works of artistic craftsmanship and also (subject to section 1 (3) of this Act) pictorial woven tissues and articles of applied handicraft and industrial art;

"author" in the case of cinematograph film or sound recording means the person by whom the arrangements for making of the film or sound recording were made, unless the parties to the making of the film or sound recording, provide otherwise by contract within themselves;

"author" in the case of literary, artistic or musical works, means the creator of the work;

"author" in the case of photographic work, means the person who took the photograph;

"author" in the case of broadcast transmitted from within any country, means the person by whom the arrangements for the making or the transmission from within that country were undertaken;

"broadcast" means sound or television broadcast by wireless telegraphy or wire or both, or by satellite or cable programmes and includes re-broadcast;

"broadcasting authority" means any authority established under any law in Nigeria or elsewhere providing broadcasting services for public reception;

"building" includes any structure;

"cable programmes" means visual images, sounds or other information sent by means of a telecommunication system otherwise than by wireless telegraphy for reception-

(a) at two or more places (whereas for simultaneous reception or at different times) in response to request by different users; or

(b) for presentation to members of the public;

"choreographic work" means a composition of movements for dancing or any other patterned succession of gestures mostly created to accompany music;

"cinematograph film" includes the first fixation of a sequence of visual images capable of being the subject of reproduction, and includes the recording of a sound track associated with the cinematograph film;

"communication to the public" includes, in addition to any live performance or delivery, any mode of visual or acoustic presentation, but does not include a broadcast or re-broadcast;

"computer programme" means a set of statements, or instructions to be used directly or indirectly in a computer in order to bring about a certain result;

"copy" means a reproduction in written form, in the form of a recording or cinematograph film, or in any other material form, so however that an object shall not be taken to be a copy of an architectural work unless the object is a building or model;

"copyright" means copyright under this Act;

"court" means the Federal High Court;

"exclusive licence" means a licence signed by or on behalf of a copyright owner, authorising the licensee to the exclusion of all other persons (including the person granting the licence), to exercise any right which would otherwise be exercisable exclusively by the copyright owner;

"licence" means a lawfully granted licence permitting the doing of an act controlled by this Act;

"literary work" includes, irrespective of literary quality, any of the following works or works similar thereto-

(a) novels, stories and poetic works;

(b) plays, stage directions, film scenarios and broadcasting scripts;

(c) choreographic works;

(d) computer programmes;

(e) text-books, treaties, histories, biographies, essays and articles;

(f) encyclopaedias, dictionaries, directories and anthologies;

- (g) letters, reports, and memoranda;
- (h) lectures, addresses and sermons;
- (i) law reports, excluding decision of courts;
- (j) written tables or complaints;

"Minister" means the Minister charged with responsibility for culture;

"musical work" means any musical work, irrespective of musical quality and includes works composed for musical accompaniment

"re-broadcast" means a simultaneous or subsequent broadcast by one broadcasting authority of the broadcast of another broadcasting authority;

"reproduction" means the making of one or more copies of a literary, musical or artistic work, cinematograph film or sound recording;

"sound recording" means the fixation of a sequence of sound capable of being perceived aurally and of being reproduced but does not include a sound track associated with a cinematograph film;

"State authority" in relation to a State, means the Military Governor or Governor, as the case may be, or other governmental authority of a State;

"work" includes translations, adaptation, new versions or arrangements of pre-existing works, and anthologies or collection of works which, by reason of the selection and arrangement of their content, present an original character;

"work of joint authorship" means a work produced by the collaboration of two or more authors in which the contribution of each author is inseparable from the contribution of the other author or authors;

"year" means-

- (a) in section 36 of this Act, a period of twelve months; and
- (b) elsewhere in this Act, a calendar year, that is to say, a period of twelve months beginning on 1st January and ending of 31st December.

(2) The following provisions shall apply with respect to publication, that is to say-

- (a) a work shall be deemed to have been published if copies of it have been made available in a manner sufficient to render the work accessible to the public;
- (b) where in the first instance, a part only of a work is published, that part shall be treated for the purposes of this Act as a separate work;
- (c) a publication in any country shall not be treated as being other than the first publication by reason only of an earlier publication elsewhere if the two publications took place within a period of not more than thirty days.

40. (1) The Copyright Act 1970 is hereby repealed.

(2) Sections 491, 492 and 493 of the First Schedule to the Criminal Code Act are hereby repealed.

(3) The transitional and saving provisions in the Fifth Schedule to this Act shall have effect notwithstanding subsection (1) of this section or any other provisions of this Act

41. This Act may be cited as the Copyright Act.

First Schedule Terms of Copyright

<i>Type of work</i>	<i>Date of expiration</i>
1. Literary, musical or artistic works other than photographs.	Seventy years after the end of the year in which the author dies; in the case of government or a body corporate, seventy years after the end of the year in which the work was first published.
2. Cinematograph films and photographs.	Fifty years after the end of the year in which the work was first published.
3. Sound recordings.	Fifty years after the end of the year in which the recording was first made.
4. Broadcasts.	Fifty years after the end of the year in which the broadcasting first took place.

Second Schedule Exceptions from Copyright Control

The right conferred in respect of a work by section 5 of this Act does not include the right to control-

(a) the doing of any of the acts mentioned in the said section 5 by way of fair dealing for purposes of research, private use, criticism or review or the reporting of current events, subject to the condition that, if the use is public, it shall be accompanied by an acknowledgement of the title of the work and its authorship except where the work is incidentally included in a broadcast;

(b) the doing of any of the aforesaid acts by way of parody, pastiche, or caricature;

(c) the inclusion in a film of a broadcast of an artistic work situated in a place where it can be viewed by the public;

(d) the reproduction and distribution of copies of any artistic work permanently situated in a place where it can be viewed by the public;

(e) the incidental inclusion of an artistic work in a film or broadcast;

(f) the inclusion in a collection of literary or musical work which includes not more than two excerpts from the work, if the collection bears a statement that it is designed for educational use and includes an acknowledgement of the title and authorship of the work;

(g) the broadcasting of a work if the broadcast is approved by the broadcasting authority as an educational broadcast;

(h) any use made of a work in an approved educational institution for the educational purposes of that institution, subject to the condition that, if a reproduction is made for any such purpose it shall be destroyed before the end of the prescribed period, or if there is no prescribed period, before the end of the period of twelve months after it was made;

(i) subject to the Third Schedule to this Act, the making of a sound recording of a Literary and musical work, and the reproduction of such a Sound recording by the maker or under licence from him, where the copies thereof are intended for retail sale in Nigeria and the work has already been previously recorded under licence from the owner of the relevant part of the copyright whether in Nigeria or abroad, subject to such conditions and to the payment of such compensation as may be prescribed;

(j) the reading or recitation in public or in a broadcast by any person of any reasonable extract from a published literary work if accompanied by a sufficient acknowledgement: Provided that such reading or recitation is not for commercial purposes;

(k) any use made of a work by or under the direction or control of the Government, or by such public libraries, non-commercial documentation centres and scientific or other institutions as may be prescribed, where the use is in public interest, no revenue is derived therefrom and no admission fee is charged for the communication, if any, to the public of the work so used;

(l) the reproduction of a work by or under the direction or control of broadcasting authority where the reproduction of any copies thereof are intended exclusively for a lawful broadcast and are destroyed before the end of the period of six months immediately following the making of the reproduction or such longer period as may be agreed between the broadcasting authority and the owner of the relevant part of the copyright in the work, so however that any reproduction of a work made under this paragraph-

(i) may if it is of an exceptional documentary character be preserved in the archives of the broadcasting authority (which shall for the purpose of this paragraph be deemed to be part of the National Archives) established under the Public Archives Act

(ii) subject to this Act, shall not be used for broadcasting or for any other purpose without the consent of the owner of the relevant part of the copyright in the work;

(m) the broadcasting of a work already lawfully made accessible to the public and subject (without prejudice to the other provisions of this Schedule) to the condition that the owner of the broadcasting right in the work shall receive a fair compensation determined, in the absence of agreement, by the court;

(n) news of the day publicly broadcast or publicly communicated by any other means;

(o) the communication to the public of a work, in a place where no admission fee is charged in respect of the communication, by any club whose aim is not profit making;

(p) any use made of a work for the purpose of judicial proceeding or of any report of any such proceeding;

(q) the making of not more than three copies of a book (including a pamphlet, sheet, or music, map, chart or plan) by or under the direction of the person in charge of a public library if such a book is not available for sale in Nigeria;

(r) the reproduction for the purpose of research or private study of an unpublished literary or musical work kept in a library, museum or other institutions to which the public has access;

(s) reproduction of published work in Braille for exclusive use of the blind, and sound recordings made by institutions or other establishments approved by the Government for the promotion of the welfare of other disabled persons for the exclusive use of such blind or disabled persons.

Third Schedule

Special Exceptions in respect of Records of Sound Recording

1. The copyright in a sound recording is not infringed by a person (in this Schedule referred to as "the record producer") who makes a record of the work or of an adaptation thereof in Nigeria, if-

(a) records of the work, or, as the case may be, of a similar adaptation of the work, have previously been made in, or imported into Nigeria for the purposes of retail sale, and where so made or imported by, or with the licence of, the owner of copyright in the work;

(b) before making the record, the record producer gave to the owner of the copyright the prescribed notice of his intention to make it;

(c) the record producer intends to sell the record by retail, or to supply it for the purpose of its been sold by retail by another person, or intends to use it for making other records which are to be sold or supplied; and

(d) in the case of a record which is sold by retail, the record producer pays the owner of the copyright in the prescribed manner and at the prescribed time, a royalty of an amount ascertained in accordance with the provisions of this Schedule

2. Subject to the following provisions of this Schedule, the royalty mentioned in sub-paragraph (d) of paragraph 1 of this Schedule shall be of an amount equal to a percentage of the ordinary retail selling price of the record calculated in the prescribed manner.

3. If, at any time after the end of the period of one year beginning with the coming into operation of a prescribed rate of royalty it appears to the Minister that the ordinary rate of royalty, or the minimum amount thereof, as prescribed has ceased to be equitable, either generally or in relation to any class of records, the Minister may hold a public enquiry, the Minister is satisfied of the need to do so, he may make an order prescribing such different rate or amount, either generally or in relation to any one or more classes of records, as he may consider just:

Provided that-

(a) no order shall be made under this paragraph unless the order has been approved by the National Council of Ministers; and

(b) where no order comprising a class of records (that is to say, either a general order or an order relating specially to that class, or to that class together with one or more other classes of records) has been made under this paragraph, no further order comprising that class of records shall be made thereunder less than five years after the date on which the previous order comprising that class (or, if more than one, the last previous order comprising that class) was made thereunder.

4. In the case of a record which comprises (with or without other material, and either in their original form or in the form of adaptations) two or more musical works in which copyright subsists, if the owners of the copyright in the works are different persons, the royalty shall be apportioned among them in such manner as they may agree or as, in default of agreement, may be determined by arbitration.

5. Where a record comprises (with or without other material) a performance or a musical work, or of an adaptation of musical work, in which words are sung, or are spoken incidentally to or in association with the music, and either no copyright subsists, the conditions specified in paragraph 1 of this Schedule are fulfilled in relation to that copyright,

then if-

(a) the works consist or form part of a literary or dramatic work in which copyright subsists; and

(b) such previous records as are referred to in sub-paragraph (a) of paragraph 1 of this Schedule were made or imported by, or with the licence of the owner of the copyright in that literary or dramatic work; and

(c) the conditions specified in sub-paragraph (b) and (d) of paragraph 1 of this Schedule are fulfilled in relation to the owner of that copyright, the making of the record shall constitute an infringement of the copyright in the literary or dramatic work;

Provided that this paragraph shall not be constructed as requiring more than one royalty to be paid in respect of a record; and if copyright subsists both in the musical work and in the literary or dramatic work and their owners are different persons, the royalty shall be apportioned among them (or among them and any other person entitled to share thereof in accordance with the last preceding sub-paragraph) as they may agree or as, in default of agreement, may be determined by arbitration.

6. For the purpose of this Schedule, an adaptation or a work shall be taken to be similar to an adaptation thereof contained in previous records if the two adaptations do not substantially differ in their treatment of the work, either in respect of style or (apart from any difference in number) in respect of the performances required for performing them.

7. Where, for the purposes of sub-paragraph (a) of a paragraph 1 of this Schedule, the record producer requires to know whether such previous records as are mentioned in that sub-paragraph were made or imported as therein mentioned, the record producers may make the prescribed inquiries; and if the owner of the copyright fails to reply to those inquiries within the prescribed period, the previous records shall be taken to have been made or imported, as the case may be, with the licence of the owner of the copyright .

8. The provisions of paragraph 7 of this Schedule shall apply in relation to records of part of a work or adaptation as they apply in relation to records of the whole of it :

Provided that paragraph 1 of this Schedule-

(a) shall not apply to a record of the whole of a work or adaptation unless the previous records referred to in sub-paragraph (a) of that paragraph were records of the whole of the work or of a similar adaptation; and

(b) shall not apply to a record of part of a work or adaptation unless those previous records were records of, or comprising , that part of the work of a similar adaptation.

9. Nothing in this Schedule shall be construed as authorising the importation of records which could not lawfully be imported apart from this Schedule; and accordingly, for the purposes of any provision of this act relating to imported articles, where the question arises whether the making of a record outside Nigeria would have constituted an infringement of copyright if the record had been made in Nigeria, that question shall be determined as if paragraph 1 of this schedule had not been enacted.

10. In this Schedule "prescribed" means prescribed by Regulations made under this Schedule by the Minister and any such Regulations made for the purpose of sub-paragraph (d) of paragraph 1 of this Schedule may provide that the taking of such steps as the Minster considers most convenient for ensuring the receipt of the royalties (by the owner of the copyright) shall be treated as constituting payment of the royalties in accordance with that paragraph.

Fourth Schedule

Compulsory Licences for Translation and Reproduction of Certain Works

1. In this Schedule-

"qualified person" means-

(a) a citizen of Nigeria or an individual domiciled in Nigeria; or

(b) a body corporate incorporated under any written law in Nigeria; or

"research" shall not include industrial research, or research carried out by bodies corporate (not being bodies corporate owned or controlled by the Government), companies, association or bodies of persons carrying on any business;

"purposes" of teaching, research or scholarship" includes-

(a) purposes of instruction activity at all levels in educational institutions; and

(b) purposes of all types of organised educational activity.

2. (1) Any qualified person may apply to the Council for licence to produce and publish a translation of a literary or dramatic work which has been published in printed or analogous form of reproduction for the purposes of teaching, scholarship or research.

(2) Any application under this paragraph shall be made in such form as may be prescribed and shall state the proposed retail price of a copy of the translation of work.

(3) Every applicant for a licence under this paragraph shall along with his application, deposit with the Council such fee as may be prescribed.

(4) Where an application is made to the Council under this paragraph it may, after holding such inquiry as may be prescribed, grant to the applicant a licence, to produce and publish a translation of work in the language mentioned in the application subject to the condition-

(a) that the applicant shall apply to the owner of the copyright in the work royalties in respect of copies of the translation of work sold to the public, calculated at such rate as the court may, in the circumstances of each case, determine in the prescribed manner, except that the royalty shall be consistent with the standards normally operating in the case of licences freely negotiated between persons in Nigeria and owners of translation rights in the country of the owner of the right of translation; and

(b) that the licence shall not extend to the export of copies of the translation of the work outside Nigeria and every copy of such translation shall contain a notice in the language of such translation that the copy is available for distribution only in Nigeria.

(5) Sub-paragraph (4) of this paragraph shall not apply to the export by the Government or any authority under the Government of copies of such translation in language other than English to any country if-

(a) such copies are sent to citizens of Nigeria residing outside Nigeria or to any association of such citizens outside Nigeria; or

(b) such copies are meant to be used for purposes of teaching, scholarship or research and not for any commercial purpose,

and in either case, the government of the country to which the copies are exported has agreed to the receipt of distribution, or both, of the copies exported to the country.

(6) No licence shall be granted by the Council under this paragraph until the expiration of whichever of the following periods is applicable-

(a) one year from the date of first publication of the work where the application is for a licence for translation into any language spoken in Nigeria other than English;

(b) three years from the date of first publication of the work where the application is for a licence for translation into English.

(7) No licence shall be granted by the Council unless-

(a) the Council is satisfied that no translation of work into the language in question has been published in printed or analogous forms of reproduction, by or with the authorisation of the owner of the right of translation, or that all previous editions in that language are out of print;

(b) the applicant has proved to the satisfaction of the Council that he had requested and had been denied authorisation by the owner of the copyright to produce and publish such translation, or that he was, after due diligence on his part, unable to find such owner;

(c) where the applicant was, after due diligence on his part, unable to find the owner of the copyright, he had sent a copy of his request for such authorisation by registered air-mail post to the publisher whose name appears from the work, not less than two months before the application for the licence;

(d) the applicant had the time he submitted an application under this paragraph informed any national or international information centre designated for this purpose by the government of this country in which the publisher of the work to be translated is believed to have his principal place of business;

(e) the Council is satisfied that the applicant is competent to produce and publish a correct translation of the work and possesses the means to pay to the owner of the copyright the royalties payable to him under this Act;

(f) a period of six months in the case of an application for the licence for translation into English or nine months in the case of an application for a licence for translation into any language spoken in Nigeria other than sub-paragraph (7) (b) of this paragraph or where a copy of the request has been sent under sub-paragraph (7)(c) of the said paragraph from the date of sending of such copy, and the translation of the work in the language mentioned in the application has not been published by

in the language mentioned in the application has not been published by the owner of the copyright in the work or any person authorised by him within the said period of six months, as the case may be;

(g) the name of the author and the title of the particular edition of the work proposed to be translated are printed on all copies of the translation;

(h) if the work is composed mainly of illustrations, the provisions of section 3 of this Act are complied with;

(i) the author has not withdrawn from circulation copies of the work; and

(j) an opportunity of being heard is given, wherever practicable, to the owner of the copy in the work.

3. (1) Where, after the expiration of the relevant period from the date of the first publication of an edition of a literary or artistic work-

(a) the copies of such edition are not made available in Nigeria; or

(b) such copies have not been put on sale in Nigeria for a period of six months,

by the owner of the right of reproduction or by any person authorised by him in that behalf to the general public, or in connection with systematic instructional activities at a price reasonably related to that normally charged in Nigeria for comparable works, any qualified person may apply to the Council for a licence to reproduce and publish such work in printed or analogous forms of reproduction at that price at which such edition is sold or at a lower price for the purposes of systematic instructional activities.

(2) Every such application shall be made in such forms as may be prescribed and shall state the proposed retail price of a copy of the work to be reproduced.

(3) Every applicant for a licence under this paragraph shall, along with his application, deposit with the Council such fee as may be prescribed.

(4) Where an application is made to the Council under this paragraph it may, after holding such inquiry as may be prescribed, grant to the applicant a licence, not being an exclusive licence, to produce and publish a reproduction of the work mentioned in the application subject to the conditions that-

(a) the applicant shall pay to the owner of the copyright in the work royalties in respect of copies of reproduction of the work sold to the public, calculated at such rate as the Council may, in the circumstances of each case, determine in the prescribed manner, except that the royalties shall be consistent with the standards normally operating in the case of licences freely negotiated between persons in Nigeria and owners of reproduction rights in the country of the owner of the reproduction right;

(b) a licence granted under this paragraph shall not extend to the export of copies of the reproduction of the work outside Nigeria and every copy is available for distribution only in Nigeria.

(5) No licence shall be granted to an applicant under this paragraph unless-

(a) the applicant has proved to the satisfaction of the Council that he had requested and been denied authorisation by the owner of the copyright in the work to reproduce and publish such work or that he was, after due diligence on his part, unable to find such owner;

(b) Where the applicant was unable to find such owner of the copyright, a copy of his request for such authorisation by registered air-mail post to the publisher whose name appears on the work not less than three months before the application for the licence;

(c) The applicant had informed any national or international centre designated for this purpose by the government of the country in which the publisher of the work to be reproduced is believed to have his principal place of business;

(d) The Council is satisfied that the applicant is competent to reproduce and publish an accurate reproduction of the work and possesses the means to pay to the owner of the copyright the royalties payable to him under this paragraph;

(e) The applicant undertakes to reproduce and publish the work at such price as may be fixed by the Council, being a price reasonably related to the price normally charged in Nigeria for works of the same standard on the same or similar subject

(f) A period of six months in the case of an application for the reproduction and publication of any work of natural science, physical science, mathematics or technology, or a period of three months in the case of an application for the reproduction and publication of any other

work, has lapsed from the date of making the request under sub-paragraphs (5)(a) of this paragraph, or where a copy of the request has been sent under sub-paragraph (5)(b) of the said paragraph, from the date of sending a copy, and a reproduction of the work has not been published by the owner of the copyright in the work or any person authorised by him within the said period of six months or three months, as the case may be;

(g) The name of the author and the title of the particular edition of the work proposed to be reproduced are printed on all the copies of the reproduction;

(h) The author has not withdrawn from circulation copies of the work; and

(i) An opportunity of being heard is given, wherever practicable, to the owner of the copyright in the work.

(6) No licence to reproduce and publish the translation of a work shall be granted under this paragraph unless such translation has been published by the owner of the right of translation in a language spoken in Nigeria.

(7) The provisions of this paragraph shall also apply to the reproduction and publication, or translation into a language spoken in Nigeria, of any text incorporated in audio-visual fixations prepared and published solely for the purposes of systematic instructional activities.

(8) For the purposes of this paragraph

(c) For the purposes of this paragraph-

"relevant period" , in relation to any work, means a period of-

(a) seven years from the date of the first publication of that work, where the application is for the reproduction and publication of any work of, or relating to fiction, poetry, drama, music or art;

(b) three years from the date of the first publication of that work, where the application is for the reproduction and publication any work of , or relating to natural science, physical science, mathematics or technology.

4. (1) Any broadcasting organisation in Nigeria or any qualified person who is the holding of a licence for a television or broadcasting may apply to the Council for a licence to produce and publish the translation of-

(a) a work referred to in paragraph 2 of this schedule and published in printed or analogous forms of reproduction; or

(b) any text incorporated in audio-visual fixations prepared and published solely for the purpose of systematic instructional activities,

for broadcasting such translation for the purpose of teaching or dissemination of the results of specialised, technical or scientific research to the experts in any particular field.

Fifth Schedule

Transitional and Savings Provisions

1. Subject to this schedule, this Act applies in relation to works made before the commencement of this Act as it applies in relation to works made after the commencement of this Act.

2. (1) Subject to this paragraph, proceedings under section 25 of this Act for infringement of copyright may be taken notwithstanding that the alleged infringement occurred before the commencement of this Act.

(2) Where an act done before the commencement of this Act was then an infringement of copyright but is not an infringement of copyright under this Act, proceedings in respect of the act may be taken as if this Act had not been made.

3. (1) Subject to sub-paragraph (2) of this paragraph contracts for the licensing of any act in respect of copyright which were effective immediately before the commencement of this Act, shall continue in force as if they related to the corresponding copyright under this Act.

(2) A notice given under section 15 of the repealed copyright Act and not withdrawn before the commencement of this Act shall continue in force as if it had given under section 36 of this Act.

(3) Any subsidiary legislation made under the repealed Act which was in force immediately before the commencement of this Act shall remain in force, subject to any necessary modifications, as if it had been made under this Act, and may be added to, amended, revoked or varied accordingly.

No subsidiary legislation
