

L.N. 54 of 1977

NATIONAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT
AGENCY DECREE 1977
(1977 No. 5)

Research Institutes (Establishment, etc.) Order 1977

Commencement : 29th September 1977

In exercise of the powers conferred on him by section 3 of the National Science and Technology Development Agency Decree 1977, and of all other powers enabling him in that behalf, the Head of the Federal Military Government, with the approval of the Federal Executive Council, hereby makes the following Order :—

1.—(1) There are hereby established Research Institutes (hereinafter referred to as “the Institutes”) designated as follows :—

- (a) the Federal Institute of Industrial Research ;
- (b) the Projects Development Institute ;
- (c) the National Institute for Medical Research ;
- (d) the Nigerian Stored Products Research Institute ;
- (e) the Nigerian Building and Road Research Institute ; and
- (f) the National Technology Development Centre.

(2) The Institutes shall be research institutes for the purposes of the National Science and Technology Development Agency Decree 1977.

2. The Federal Institute of Industrial Research shall conduct research in industrial materials and processes to pilot plant stages, including engineering design, development and fabrication, and shall in particular conduct research into—

- (a) nutritional quality of local foodstuffs and their suitability for industrial processing ;
- (b) processing of local foodstuffs of economic value ;
- (c) processing of vegetable oils of economic importance ;
- (d) processing of local woods for pulp and paper making and other uses ;
- (e) processing of textile materials and development of improved processes for the textile industry ;
- (f) processing of ceramic materials and other solid based minerals for industrial use, including development of ceramic, glass and mineral technology ;
- (g) mechanical engineering including engineering design, fabrication, machining and other processes ;
- (h) economic evaluation of industrial research results to establish their viability in industrial projects ;
- (i) technical, analytical and consultancy services for existing and planned industries ; and
- (j) any other related matters as may be determined from time to time by the Agency.

Establishment of the Research Institutes.

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Field of research of Institute of Industrial Research.

Field of
research of
Projects De-
velopment
Institute.

3. The Projects Development Institute shall carry out research in industrial materials and processes to pilot plant stages, including engineering design, development and fabrication, and shall in particular conduct research into—

- (a) materials science and technology, including metallurgy, foundry work, plastics and synthetic fibres ;
- (b) processing of ceramic materials and other solid based minerals for industrial use, including development of ceramic, glass and mineral technology ;
- (c) processing of local foodstuffs of economic value ;
- (d) mechanical engineering including engineering design, fabrication, machining and other processes ;
- (e) coal utilisation ;
- (f) electrical and electronic elements particularly electrical generators, motors, transformers and switchgear ;
- (g) science laboratory equipment development including apparatus for teaching of the physical sciences and engineering ;
- (h) economic evaluation of research results to establish their viability in industrial projects ;
- (i) technical, analytical and consultancy services for existing and planned industries ; and
- (j) any other related matters as may be determined from time to time by the Agency.

Field of
research of
Institute of
Medical Re-
search.

4. The National Institute for Medical Research shall conduct research into the health problems of the country generally and shall in particular conduct research into—

- (a) parasitic and infective diseases prevalent in the country ;
- (b) major non-infective diseases prevalent in the country, such as sickle cell disease ;
- (c) basic, applied and operational research for the control of diseases endemic in the country in co-operation with the Federal and States' Ministries of Health ;
- (d) provision of facilities for the training of research scientists in medicine in co-operation with medical schools and universities in Nigeria as well as collaboration with the Federal and States' Ministries of Health and other medical research units in the country ;
- (e) dissemination of the results of medical research to the Federal and States' Ministries of Health ; and
- (f) any other related matters as may be determined from time to time by the Agency.

Field of
research
of Stored
Products
Research
Institute.

5. The Nigerian Stored Products Research Institute shall carry out research into bulk storage problems of export commodities and local food crops, and in particular it shall conduct research into—

- (a) improvement and maintenance of the quality of bulk export commodity crops including cocoa, groundnuts, palm produce (kernel and oil) ;
- (b) improvement and maintenance of the quality of local food crops including cereals, grains, pulses, tubers and any other local commodity under bulk storage ;

(c) special studies such as stored products pests, pesticide formulations and residues, and mycotoxin surveys ;

(d) provision of advice and training of extension workers in problems associated with stored products and materials used in storage and pest control including storage structures, new insecticides, new items of equipment and new techniques ; and

(e) any other related matters as may be determined from time to time by the Agency.

6. The Nigerian Building and Road Research Institute shall conduct research generally on building, road and allied construction materials and methods, socio-economics of construction and environmental factors that affect road and building performance in the country and in particular—

Field of research of Building and Road Research Institute.

(a) local building and road construction materials to determine the most effective and economic methods of their utilisation ;

(b) architectural design of buildings to suit Nigerian climatic conditions with respect to lighting, ventilation, thermal comfort and humidity ;

(c) the design and performance of functional units in buildings including electrical installations, plumbing, painting, drainage, ventilation and air-conditioning systems ;

(d) foundation and earth works for building bridges especially on problem soils ;

(e) local construction and building operations and methods to increase their effectiveness ;

(f) the economic and social aspects of the building and construction industry ;

(g) the design and construction of roads best suited to the Nigerian environment ;

(h) road safety including the occurrence of accidents and methods of reducing the number of accidents ;

(i) the economic and social aspects of road and transportation schemes, accident and safety measures ;

(j) structural designs of buildings and bridges and the development of design criteria, specifications and codes of practice ;

(k) provision of consulting services and professional, technical and scientific data relating to buildings, roads and transport to the building and road construction industry as well as Federal and State Government Ministries responsible for buildings, roads and allied construction activities ; and

(l) any other related matters as may be determined from time to time by the Agency.

7. The National Technology Development Centre shall serve as a task force centre for the development and adaptation of technologies on long and short term bases, and as a focal point for the transfer of technology to the nation and for this purpose it shall undertake research and development work, in the undermentioned fields including design and fabrication of specific technologies as may be determined from time to time by the Agency, that is to say—

Field of research of National Technology Development Centre.

(a) physical electronics and solid state physics, solid state devices, electronic instrumentation and control, communication systems, audio-engineering, vacuum tubes, design and manufacture to pilot stages of these appliances ;

(b) applied mechanical engineering research and development including design and fabrication of prototypes of selected equipments, automobiles and engines ;

(c) petroleum and petrochemical research including pilot plant design, processes and production techniques of petrochemicals ;

(d) solar energy research for food preservation, drying of agricultural produce, refrigeration, power generation, air-conditioning including other physical and technological problems connected with solar energy conversion ;

(e) development of basic standards of mass, length, time and temperature as well as derived physical standards for electricity, electronics and optics ;

(f) provision of technical consultancy services for adaptation and selection of technologies as well as on engineering design of processes and products to existing and planned industries particularly cottage industries ; and

(g) any other matters as may be determined from time to time by the Agency.

Vesting of
assets, etc.

8. On the coming into effect of this Order, all assets, properties and rights hereinbefore vested in and exercised by the specified Federal or State research agencies, institutes or departments shall without further assurance apart from this Order, vest in the respective research institutes specified hereinafter, being institutes established under this Order, that is to say—

(a) in the case of the Federal Institute of Industrial Research formerly of the Federal Ministry of Industries, the assets, properties and rights shall vest in Federal Institute of Industrial Research, and in the case of the Industrial Research Council of Nigeria, the assets, properties and rights thereof vested in the National Science and Technology Development Agency by virtue of the Decree are hereby transferred to and shall vest in the Federal Institute of Industrial Research ;

(b) in the case of the Projects Development Agency of the former East-Central State, the assets, properties and rights shall vest in the Projects Development Institute ;

(c) in the case of the Medical Research Council of Nigeria, the assets, properties and rights thereof vested in the National Science and Technology Development Agency by virtue of the Decree are hereby transferred to and shall vest in the National Institute for Medical Research ;

(d) in the case of the Nigerian Stored Products Research Institute formerly of the Federal Ministry of Trade, the assets, properties and rights shall vest in the Nigerian Stored Products Research Institute ;

(e) in the case of the National Road Construction and Research Institute of the Federal Ministry of Works, the assets, properties and rights shall vest in the Nigerian Building and Road Research Institute.

9.—(1) Subject to the provisions of the National Science and Technology Development Agency Decree 1977, the affairs of each Institute shall be managed by a Board (in this Order referred to as "the Board").

Constitution,
etc. of the
governing
Board of
each
Institute,
1977 No 5.

(2) Each Board shall consist of—

(a) six persons (of whom not more than two shall be representatives of appropriate Federal Ministries) who shall be persons with wide knowledge and experience in the field of research of the Institute and who shall be appointed by the Federal Executive Council ;

(b) the Executive Secretary of the National Science and Technology Development Agency or his representative ; and

(c) the Director of the Institute concerned who shall be an ex-officio member but without the right to vote.

(3) There shall be a Chairman of the Board of each institute who shall be appointed by the Commissioner with the approval of the Federal Executive Council and designated as such from among the members of the Board.

(4) The Chairman and any member of the Board (not being an ex-officio member) shall hold office for a term of three years from the date of their appointment and may be eligible for appointment for one further term of three years.

(5) Without prejudice to the foregoing provisions, the Commissioner may appoint any person to act as temporary Chairman or member of the Board of any Institute during the absence or temporary incapacity by illness or other cause of the Chairman or such member and a person so appointed shall, while the appointment subsists, have the same powers as are exercisable by the Chairman or the member.

(6) The Chairman or any member of the Board (not being an ex-officio member) may resign his appointment by a letter addressed to the Commissioner, and if accepted, the resignation shall take effect from the date the Commissioner received the letter of resignation.

10. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 9 (2) above, where the Board desires to obtain the advice of any person on any matter the Board may co-opt that person as a member of the Board for such period as it may deem necessary, so however that such a co-opted member shall not be entitled to vote or count towards a quorum.

Co-opted
members.

11.—(1) The Board of each Institute may make standing orders regulating the proceedings of the Board or any committee thereof.

Proceedings
of the Board.

(2) The quorum of the Board shall be four and the quorum of any of its committees shall be determined by the Board.

(3) The validity of any proceedings of the Board or any of its committees shall not be affected—

(a) by any vacancy in the membership ; or

(b) by any defect in the appointment of a member ; or

(c) by reason of the presence or participation in the proceedings of the Board or any of its committees by a person who is not a member thereof.

Special
disclosure
by a member.

12. Any member of the Board of any Institute or any committee thereof who has a personal interest in any contract or arrangement being entered into or proposed to be considered by the Board or any committee thereof shall forthwith declare and disclose his interest in such contract or arrangement to the Board and shall be disqualified to vote on any question relating to such contract or arrangement.

Board
meetings.

13. The Board of each Institute shall meet not less than twice in each year and the Board may meet on such other occasions as the Board may deem necessary.

Association
of Institutes
with univer-
sities, etc.

14. The Board of an Institute may with the approval of the National Science and Technology Development Agency enter into association agreement with the competent authorities of any university or other institution of higher learning in Nigeria for the purposes of promoting or furthering mutual co-operation in transferring scientific and technological expertise to the Institute.

Citation.

15. This Order may be cited as the Research Institutes (Establishment, etc.) Order 1977.

MADE at Lagos this 29th day of September 1977.

A. L. CIROMA,
Secretary to the Federal Military Government

EXPLANATORY NOTE

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

The Order establishes Research Institutes and provides for their constitution and functions and other matters as required by the National Science and Technology Development Agency Decree 1977. The Order provides for the transfer of properties and other rights now vested in certain Federal and State Government agencies or departments to the Institutes established by the Order. Further provisions are made in the Order for the facilitation of mutual co-operation in research and teaching between the Institutes and universities or other institutions of higher learning in Nigeria.