

**AMENDMENT OF THE
NATIONAL BIOSAFETY
MANAGEMENT AGENCY
ACT, 2019.**

**A BILL
FOR**

AN ACT TO AMEND THE NATIONAL BIOSAFETY MANAGEMENT AGENCY ACT, 2015 TO ENLARGE THE SCOPE OF APPLICATION OF THE ACT BY INCLUDING THE EMERGING ASPECTS OF MODERN BIOTECHNOLOGY AND BIOSECURITY IN NIGERIA WITH A VIEW TO PREVENTING ANY ADVERSE EFFECT TO HUMAN HEALTH AND THE ENVIRONMENT, AND FOR RELATED MATTERS.

ENACTED by the National Assembly of the Federal Republic of Nigeria as follows

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1) AMENDMENT OF THE NATIONAL BIOSAFETY MANAGEMENT AGENCY ACT, 2015.

The National Biosafety Management Agency Act (in this Bill referred to as the “Principal Act”) is amended as set out in this Bill –

2) AMENDMENT OF SECTION 3

Section 3 of the Principal Act is amended by –

(a) inserting a new paragraph “j” as follows –

(j) “put in place measures to ensure bio-security.

(b) **re-numbering the existing paragraphs (j) – (q) as paragraphs (k) – (r).**

3) AMENDMENT OF PART VII

Part VII of the Principal Act is amended by inserting a new Section 25A as follows –

25A. Application of gene drive, gene editing and synthetic biology

“No person, institution or body shall carryout gene drive, gene editing and synthetic biology except with the approval of the Agency”.

4) AMENDMENT OF SECTION 43

Section 43 of the Principal Act is amended by inserting the following definitions in alphabetical order –

“Biosecurity” includes measures to prevent, respond to and recover harmful biological substances or genetically modified organisms that may threaten the health of humans, animals, environment and the economy.

“Gene drive” means a genetic engineering technology that can propagate a particular suite of genes throughout a population by adding, deleting, disrupting or modifying genes. Gene drives can only spread from sexually reproducing parents to their offspring.

“Gene editing” means a type of genetic engineering in which DNA is inserted, deleted, modified or replaced in the genome of a living organism.

“Synthetic biology” means the design and construction of novel artificial biological pathways, organisms or devices, or the redesign of existing natural biological systems.

5) SHORT TITLE

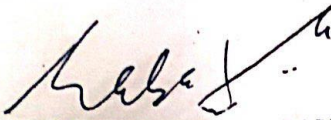
This Act may be cited as the National Biosafety Management Agency (Amendment) Act, 2019.

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

(This memorandum does not form part of the Bill, but is intended to explain its purport)

This Bill seeks to amend the National Biosafety Management Agency Act, 2015, to enlarge the scope of its application to ensure the regulation of gene drive, gene editing, synthetic biology and bio-security and related matters.

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 THIS BILL PASSED BY BOTH HOUSES OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY.




MOHAMMED ATABA SANI-OMOLORI
CLERK TO THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY


28th DAY OF JUNE, 2019

Schedule to the National Biosafety Management Agency (Amendment) Bill, 2019

SHORT TITLE OF THE BILL	LONG TITLE OF THE BILL	SUMMARY OF THE CONTENTS OF THE BILL	DATE PASSED BY THE SENATE	DATE PASSED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
National Biosafety Management Agency (Amendment) Bill, 2019.	An Act to amend the National Biosafety Management Agency Act No. 20, 2015 to enlarge the scope of application of the act by including the emerging aspects of modern biotechnology and biosecurity in Nigeria with a view to preventing any adverse effect to human health and environment; and for related matters.	This Bill amends the National Biosafety Management Agency Act No. 20, 2015 to enlarge the scope of application of the act by including the emerging aspects of modern biotechnology and biosecurity in Nigeria with a view to preventing any adverse effect to human health and environment	23 rd May, 2019	8 th May, 2019

I certify that this Bill has been carefully compared by me with the decision reached by the National Assembly and found by me to be true and correct decision of the Houses and is in accordance with the provisions of the Acts Authentication Act Cap. A2, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004.


MOHAMMED ATABA SANI-OMOLORI
 Clerk to the National Assembly
 28th Day of June, 2019


MUHAMMADU BUHARI, GCFR
 President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria
 29th Day of June, 2019
 July

I ASSENT