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Vol. 1 Law No. 1 of 1960 No. 1
Federal State House, Lagos

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PLATEAU STATE MULTI-DOOR COURTHOUSE LAW, 2017

ENACTED by the House of Assembly of Plateau State as follows:

Citation and Commencement

1. This Law may be cited as “The Plateau State Multi-Door Courthouse Law, 2017” and shall come into effect on the 22nd day of December, 2017.

Interpretation

2. In this Law:
“ADR” means Alternative Dispute Resolution and includes the entire range of alternatives to Litigation that involves Third Party intervention to assist in the resolution of a dispute;

“ADR Judge” refers to a serving Judge of the High Court, Sharia Court of Appeal, Customary Court of Appeal and Magistrate Court of the State;

“arbitration” means a simplified method of dispute resolution without the technicalities of Litigation;

“centre for alternative dispute resolution” means the Centre set up by the State Ministry of Justice for the resolution of disputes by means other than Litigation;

“consent judgment” means a Judgment based on the agreement of the Parties;

“counsel” means a Lawyer licensed to practice Law in Nigeria or elsewhere;

“director” means the Director of the Plateau Multi-Door Courthouse;

“judicial service commission” means the Judicial Service Commission of Plateau State;

“in-house neutrals” include Mediators, Arbitrators and Neutral Evaluators or any other person who is engaged as such at the Plateau Multi-Door Courthouse;

“mediation” is a process of resolving disputes with the aid of a Neutral who assists Parties, privately and collectively to identify the issues in dispute and to reach settlement of the dispute and mutually accept them;

“neutral evaluation” is a preliminary, non-binding assessment of facts, evidence or Legal merits by a Neutral who shall be a Judge, experienced Lawyer or such person with the requisite background and expertise in a given field;

“panel of neutrals” refers to a Corps of Mediators, Arbitrators or Neutral Evaluators and any other person so appointed, who have considerable experience in their practice field and who are selected to carry out duties at the specific request of the Plateau Multi-Door Courthouse;

“settlement agreement” means the terms of Settlement or Memorandum of Understanding or any Agreement by whatever name reached through Mediation between disputing Parties and which shall be enforced as the Consent Judgment of the Court on due endorsement by an ADR Judge or any other person so directed by the Chief Judge; and

“state” means Plateau State of Nigeria.

Establishment of the Plateau Multi-Door Courthouse

3. (1) There is established a body to be known as the “Plateau Multi-Door Courthouse” (hereinafter referred to in this Law as “PMDC”).
- (2) PMDC shall be a:
- (a) body corporate with perpetual succession and a Common Seal; and
 - (b) court-connected Alternative Dispute Resolution Centre with its Offices located in Jos and such other suitable locations as the Chief Judge may approve.

Objectives of PMDC

4. The objectives of PMDC shall be to:
- (a) enhance access to justice by providing alternative mechanisms to supplement Litigation in the resolution of disputes;
 - (b) minimize Citizens’ frustration and

delays in justice delivery by providing a Standard Legal Framework for the fair, speedy and efficient settlement of disputes through Alternative Dispute Resolution (hereinafter referred to in this Law as the "ADR");

- (c) serve as the focal point for the promotion of ADR in Plateau State; and
- (d) promote the growth and effective functioning of the justice system through ADR methods.

Functions and Powers

5. The functions and powers of PMDC shall be to:

- (a) apply Mediation, Arbitration, Neutral Evaluation and any other ADR mechanisms in the resolution of such disputes as may from time to time be referred to it by the High Court of Justice of the State or other Courts of the State, Private Persons, Corporations, Public Institutions, Religious Bodies or other Dispute Resolution Bodies;
- (b) encourage disputing Parties to appear before it for the resolution of their disputes;
- (c) assist disputing Parties in the resolution of their disputes and act as Administrators in the conduct of Local or International Proceedings;
- (d) publicize its services by informing

and sensitizing the Public about its facilities;

(e) render assistance in the conduct of ad-hoc Arbitration or Mediation Proceedings;

(f) encourage disputing parties whose matters are already listed before the Court to appear before it to explore settlement options;

(g) register and maintain a data bank of suitably qualified persons to act as Mediators, Arbitrators or Neutral Evaluators, Conciliators, etc.;

(h) promote or undertake Projects or other activities which will further assist in decongesting the Courts;

(i) provide ADR services in all appropriate matters; and

(j) initiate and organize Workshops, Seminars, Training Programs and undertake Publications with regard to any findings or discoveries resulting therefrom.

Collaborations with Centre for ADR

6. PMDC shall collaborate with and maintain working relationship with reputable and recognized Organizations, including but not limited to the Centre for Alternative Dispute Resolution of the State Ministry of Justice in their operations, services and referral of matters to it on Terms and Conditions agreed upon by the Parties.

Governing Council

7. (1) The overall supervision of PMDC, shall vest in the Governing

Council (referred to in this Law as 'the Council') and shall have the functions assigned to it in this Law.

(2) The Council shall:

- (a) consider and approve the Annual Budget of PMDC;
- (b) approve the Remuneration of and Conditions of Service of the Staff of PMDC;
- (c) initiate or validate proposals to restructure and expand PMDC;
- (d) foster the relationship between PMDC and other Private or Government Establishments;
- (e) assume responsibilities for existing Rights, Liabilities, Claims and Agreements entered into with regards to PMDC; and
- (f) do such other things as the Council shall consider appropriate for the overall development and growth of PMDC,
- (g) to enhance the effective administration and delivery of justice.

Appointment of 8 (1) The overall supervision of the

Council Members

Council shall reside in a Chairman who shall be appointed by the Chief Judge from two persons nominated by a reputable Dispute Resolution Organization upon the recommendation of the Judicial Service Commission of the State.

- (2) The Chairman shall:
 - (a) be a respectable and renowned professional with at least a Graduate Degree from a reputable University and not less than Twenty (20) years of cognate practical experience in his chosen field with relevant interest and qualifications in ADR;
 - (b) hold Office for a period of Three (3) years from the date of his appointment and may be eligible for re-appointment for a further term of Three (3) years in compliance with the Terms and Conditions as may be approved by the Judicial Service Commission of the State; and
 - (c) preside at the meetings of the Council and periodically report to the Chief Judge of the State on the activities and operations of PMDC.

(3) (a) the Governing Council shall appoint one of their Members as Vice- Chairman who shall be a respected and renowned professional with at least a Graduate Degree from a reputable University and not less than Ten (10) years of cognate practical experience in his chosen field and also relevant interest and qualifications in ADR; and

(b) the Vice- Chairman shall:
(i) preside over the meetings of the Council in the absence of the Chairman; and
(ii) hold Office for a period of Three (3) years in compliance with the Terms and Conditions as shall be approved by the Council.

(4) The Council shall appoint a Secretary who:
(a) shall be a Lawyer with not less than Five (5) years post call experience;
(b) may be a Staff of PMDC but not a

9 Composition of the Council

- (1) The Council shall consist of the following:
 - (a) a Chairman who shall be a seasoned professional with considerable knowledge and experience in Alternative Dispute Resolution;
 - (b) a Member of the Council; and
 - (c) shall perform such duties as the Council or the Director may determine.

(1) The proceedings of the Council shall be in accordance with the regulations contained in the Schedule to this Law.

(2) Subject to the provisions of this Law, a person appointed to be a member of the Council shall hold office for a period of three years from the date of his appointment and shall be eligible for reappointment for a further term of three years.

(3) A person shall cease to be a member of the Council if such member by a letter addressed to the Chairman of the Council resigns his appointment or is removed under section 10 of this Law.

Any member of the Council shall be removed by two-third majority of the members of the Council after consultation with the Chief Judge for any of the following reasons:

(a) incapacity;

(b) failure to perform the functions of his office;

(c) upon conviction of a criminal offence.

- (b) two ADR Judges of the High Court of Justice in the State appointed by the Chief Judge;
- (c) the Attorney- General of the State;
- (d) the Chairman of the Nigeria Bar Association (to be rotated amongst the branches in the State);
- (e) one representative of the Negotiation and Conflict Management Group (NCMG);
- (f) the Director of PMDC;
- (g) one representative of the Private Sector; and
- (h) one person whose membership in the opinion of the Council will assist with the promotion of ADR.

(2) The Members of the Council shall not exceed Nine(9) at any given time, including the Chairman, Vice- Chairman and the Secretary.

Removal of Members 10 of the Council (1)

Any Member of the Council shall be removed by two- third majority of the members of the Council after consultation with the Chief Judge for any of the following reasons:

- (a) misconduct;
- (b) absence from meetings;
- (c) inability to perform the functions of his Office;
- (d) upon conviction of a fraudulent act; or
- (e) unsound mind.

(3) The proceedings of the Council shall be in accordance with the Regulation contained in the Schedule to this Law.

(4) Subject to the provisions of this Law, a person appointed to be a Member of the Council shall hold Office for a period of Three Years from the date of his appointment and shall be eligible for reappointment for a further term of Three Years

(5) A person shall cease to be a member of the Council if such member by a letter addressed to the Chairman of the Council resigns his appointment, or is removed under Section 10 of this Law.

(a) attend to the needs of
the Council
and officers
of PMDC
be responsible for
the administration of
PMDC including the
preparation of
Reports
be responsible for
other activities as
shall be required by
the Director to
further enhance
PMDC and
be directly
responsible to the
Director

The Centre Manager 11.

Subject to the provisions of this
Act, the Council shall make such
regulations relating generally to the
conduct of PMDC and without
prejudice to the generality of the
foregoing such regulations shall
provide for the appointment,
promotion and discipline of
employees of PMDC.

(2) The Council by a majority vote shall, after consultation with the interest (if any), represented by that member to the Chief Judge that such member be removed from the Council and his Office declared vacant.

(3) Subject to sub-section 1 of this Section, any Member who is absent from two consecutive Ordinary Meetings of the Council, except an ex- officio Member, must file his explanation in writing with the Secretary for consideration of the Council. If the explanation is not accepted by the Council, the Council shall by majority vote, request the Chief Judge to declare the Office of that Member vacant.

The Centre Manager shall:

- (a) be responsible for the management of PMDC facilities and any other business development initiatives of PMDC;
- (b) supervise the Staff and other Officers of PMDC;

PMDC Fund

a Fund which shall be applied towards PMDC's realization of its objectives and functions.

(2) There shall be paid and credited to the Fund established, pursuant to sub-section (1) of this Section, the following, all:

- (a) grants as may be provided by the Government of the State based on the Budget presented;
- (b) sums accruing to PMDC by way of Aid, Gifts, Testamentary Dispositions, Endowments or Contributions by Persons or Organizations;
- (c) fees paid for services rendered by the PMDC or for the utilization of its facilities; and
- (d) other sums which may from time to time accrue to PMDC in the form of Grants, Award or any other form of support by Private persons, Organizations or any other source.

(3) PMDC shall not accept any Aid, Gifts, Testamentary Dispositions, Endowments

a Fund which shall be applied to the PMDC's activities in its objectives and functions.

(5) There shall be paid and credited to the fund established pursuant to section (1) of this section the following:

(a) Grants as may be provided by the Government in the State based on the budget presented;

(b) Any amount received by PMDC by way of Aid, Gifts, Technical Disposition, Endowments or Contributions by persons or Organizations.

14. Power to Borrow

The Director shall from time to time borrow by verdraft or otherwise such sums as shall be required for the performance of functions of PMDC under this Law.

15. Service in PMDC and Pension

Notwithstanding the provisions of the Pension Law applicable in the State, service in PMDC shall be approved service for the purposes of that Law. Accordingly, other Officers and persons employed by PMDC shall be entitled to Pensions and other Retirement Benefits stated in the Contract of Employment or Staff Handbook.

or Contributions by Persons or Organizations if the conditions attached are inconsistent or inimical to the objectives and functions of PMDC; and

(4) PMDC may subject to the provisions of this Law and the conditions of any Fund created in respect of any Property, invest its funds, including any of its surplus funds on any Securities or such other profitable ventures as shall be directed by the Council.

(5) The Director shall from time to time borrow by verdraft or otherwise such sums as shall be required for the performance of functions of PMDC under this Law.

Notwithstanding the provisions of the Pension Law applicable in the State, service in PMDC shall be approved service for the purposes of that Law. Accordingly, other Officers and persons employed by PMDC shall be entitled to Pensions and other Retirement Benefits stated in the Contract of Employment or Staff Handbook.

Officers of PMDC 16. (1) The Director shall upon the approval of the Council appoint from time to time number of Staff needed for the efficient performance and actualization of the functions of PMDC.

(2) The Staff and appointed Officers shall hold office in compliance with the conditions as the Council shall approve from time to time.

Mode of Service of Documents on PMDC 17 The Notice referred to in sub-section 1 of Section 35 of this Law and any Summons, Process or other Document required or authorised to be served on PMDC under the provision of this Law, or any other Law shall be served by delivering the same to PMDC, or by sending it by registered post to PMDC's Office situate at the High Court of Justice of the State.

Practice Directions and Rules 18 Upon the recommendation of Council, the Chief Judge shall:

- (a) issue Practice Directions as are considered necessary for the effective utilization of PMDC in the Administration of Justice in the High Court of Justice of the State; and
- (b) make Rules or Procedure or issue Practice Directions as shall be necessary for the effective administration and Alternative Dispute

Resolution service.

Enforcement of Settlement Agreements 19

- (1) Upon the completion of the ADR proceedings, Settlement Agreements which are duly signed by the Parties shall be enforceable as a Contract between the Parties.
- (2) A copy of the Settlement Agreement shall be filed at PMDC upon the payment of prescribed Fees and when such Agreements are endorsed by an ADR Judge, it shall become a Consent Judgment of the High Court of the State and shall be enforceable by the Sheriff under the provisions of the Sheriff and Civil Process Law or any other Legislation for the time being in force.
- (3) Parties to such Agreements shall be required to appear before the ADR Judge prior to his endorsement of the Agreement or Memorandum and that appearance shall be within the:
 - (i) premises of PMDC;
 - (ii) open Court; or
 - (iii) Chambers of the ADR Judge.
- (4) Arbitration Awards shall be enforced as provided for in the Arbitration and Conciliation Act.

Refusal to submit to ADR 20

Where a Party or Parties refuse to submit to ADR at PMDC, such Party or Parties shall be brought before the ADR Judge who shall upon due consideration of the Parties' reasons and arguments give such directives as may be reasonable in the fulfillment of the overriding purpose of

PMDC.

Powers of Judicial Service Commission 21.

The Judicial Service Commission of the State shall have powers to Second, Promote and exercise Disciplinary control over the Staff of PMDC.

Duties of Chief Judge 22.

The Chief Judge of the State shall:

- (a) designate ADR Judges;
- (b) prescribe a Scale of Fees for the Panel of Neutrals;
- (c) receive Monthly Reports and updates on the activities of PMDC from the Director;
- (d) promote the growth and development of PMDC including its integration within the Judicial System; and
- (e) make other contributions towards the promotion of the activities of PMDC and further its objectives.

Appointment and Functions of Director of PMDC 23

- (1) The Chief Judge of the State shall designate a Director for PMDC from among the Staff of the State Judiciary.
- (2) The Director shall be:
 - (a) the Chief Executive and Accounting Officer of PMDC and shall be responsible for the overall administration of PMDC; and
 - (b) a Legal Practitioner of not less than Twelve(12) years experience with wide

knowledge and experience in ADR and managerial skills.

Tenure of Office of the Director of PMDC 24

The Director of PMDC shall serve in that capacity until such a time as the Chief Judge of the State re-assigns him.

Appointment and Functions of Registrar 25 (1)

The Chief Judge of the State shall designate a Registrar for PMDC from within the State Judiciary.

(2)

The Registrar shall:

- (a) be responsible for the day-to-day running of PMDC;
- (b) be responsible for the management of PMDC facilities;
- (c) supervise the Staff of PMDC;
- (d) attend to disputing parties;
- (e) be directly responsible to the Director;
- (f) effectively manage the dockets of PMDC;
- (g) receive or cause to be received all Fees and monies paid or deposited in respect of proceedings in PMDC;
- (h) keep or cause to be

Role of the Courts 26.

- (i) kept proper accounts of all monies so collected; and
- (ii) perform other duties as may be assigned from time to time by the Director.
- It shall be the responsibility of the Judges of the High Court of Justice of and other Courts of the State to further the cause of ADR and give effect to the overriding objective of PMDC by:
- (a) encouraging the use of PMDC for the settlement of disputes by Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) in accordance with the Rules of Court and refer cases that are suited to ADR to PMDC to facilitate the just and speedy disposal of such cases;
 - (b) avoiding the assumption of the role of a Mediator in the course of a Pre-trial Conference;
 - (c) inquiring from Parties, efforts made at ADR and examine the reasons stated for a failed attempt towards employing ADR in the resolution of disputes;
 - (d) ensuring that Parties and their Counsel show proportionate

(e) keep proper accounts of all monies so collected; and
(f) perform other duties as may be assigned from time to time by the President.

(g) It shall be the responsibility of the Judges of the High Court of Justice and other Courts of the State to further the cause of ADR and give effect to the overriding objective of PMDC by encouraging the use of PMDC for the settlement of disputes by Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) in accordance with the Rules of Court and other cases that are stated to ADR in PMDC to further the just and speedy disposal of each case;

(h) avoiding the assumption of the role of a mediator in the course of a trial;
(i) inducing from Parties efforts made at ADR and outside the reasons stated for a failed attempt towards exploring ADR in the resolution of disputes;
(j) ensuring that Parties and their Counsel show proportionate

and responsible behaviour in their pursuit of exploring or adopting ADR in the resolution of disputes;
(e) controlling and managing proceedings in Court and issue Orders which would encourage the adoption of ADR methods in dispute resolution, including the mandatory referral of Parties to explore settlement at PMDC whenever one of the Parties to an action in Court is willing to do so;
(f) adopting best known international practices and appropriate measures towards the promotion and development of an ADR consciousness among Litigants and their Counsel including Orders as to Costs and such other Orders or Directions as the Court may consider appropriate;
(g) discouraging the continuation of proceedings in Court until Parties referred to PMDC have through their Counsel or by themselves confirmed submission to proceedings at PMDC and a Report has been duly filed in Court by PMDC;

- (d) dispute on behalf of the Corporation or Body;
attend the ADR session in good faith without undue requests for adjournments or unwarranted delays and comply with Directives from the Court and PMDC Practice Direction; and
- (e) prepare adequately for an ADR Session, be actively involved and willing to explore various options towards settlement.

Panel of Neutrals 29. (1)

- There shall be established for the PMDC a Panel of Neutrals which shall comprise of persons who shall:
- (a) be experts in their chosen fields; or
 - (b) have considerable relevant experience in their particular field of ADR practice; and
 - (c) be trained and duly certified by a reputable and recognized Organization in such field of expertise.
- (2) The Fees payable to the Panel of Neutrals for services rendered at PMDC shall be in

Funds and Accounts

30.

(1)

accordance with the Scale of Fees prescribed by the Chief Judge.

PMDC shall establish and maintain a Fund which shall be applied towards the realization of its objectives and functions.

(2)

There shall be paid and credited to the Fund established pursuant to subsection 1 of this Section, the following:

- (a) all Grants as may be provided by the Government;
- (b) all sums accruing to PMDC by way of Aid, Gifts, Testamentary Dispositions, Endowments or Contributions by Persons or Organizations;
- (c) Fees paid for services rendered by PMDC or for the utilization of its facilities; and
- (d) other sums which may from time to time accrue to PMDC in the form of Grants,

- (h) recognizing and giving effect to Dispute Resolution Sections contained in Agreements between Parties; and
- (i) ensuring the adoption and enforcement of Terms of Settlement and Awards reached at PMDC in the same manner as a Judgment or Order of Court.

Role of Counsel

27. (1) The responsibility of Counsel in regard to ADR is to the Court, PMDC and the Legal Profession in promoting a better and more efficient justice delivery system.

(2) Counsel has a duty to expose Clients to alternative methods of dispute resolution and explore with them the most appropriate mechanism in the resolution of matters brought before them.

(3) Counsel shall:

- (a) give due consideration and support to Suggestions, Orders and Directives from the Courts for an amicable settlement or the referral of on-going matters to PMDC;

Role of the Parties

- 28. (1) Disputing Parties have responsibility to PMDC and to the ADR process and are to cooperate with Officers of PMDC in the resolution of their dispute.
- (2) Parties shall:
 - (a) consider seriously the possibility of ADR procedures for resolving their Claims or Issues when encouraged to do so by the Court, their Counsel or PMDC.
 - (b) initiate the resolution of an on-going dispute through ADR and have due regard to Notices and Directives from PMDC;
 - (c) ensure personal attendance at ADR Sessions and where the Party is a Corporation or Body, ensure attendance of a suitable high ranking Official with authority to settle the

Awards or any other form of support by Private Persons, Organizations or any other lawful source.

(3) PMDC shall not accept any Aid, Gifts, Testamentary Disposition as Endowments or Contributions by Persons or Organizations if the conditions attached are inconsistent with or inimical to the objectives and functions of PMDC.

Bank Accounts 31.

PMDC shall, subject to the approval of the Chief Registrar of the High Court of the State, open and maintain Accounts in any Bank.

Annual Report and Audit 32

(1) The Director shall submit to the Chief Judge an Annual Report of the activities of PMDC, including statistics of cases during the immediate preceding year or for such periods as the Chief Judge may require.

(2) The Annual Report shall include the audited Accounts of PMDC and the Auditor's Report on those Accounts.

Exemption 33

PMDC shall not be liable to Tax on its

from Tax

Provision of Library Services 34

Legal Proceedings 35

Income, Expenditure or other transactions by any Government or Authority in the State.

PMDC shall establish and maintain a Physical and Virtual Library comprising Books, Records, Reports and Publications as shall be necessary for the advancement of knowledge in the areas of activities undertaken by it, for research purposes and for other purposes connected with the functions of PMDC or pursuant to this Law.

- (1) No Suit shall commence against PMDC before the expiration of Thirty (30) days after written Notice of intention to commence the Suit shall have been served on PMDC by the party intending to sue or by his Solicitor and such notice shall clearly and explicitly state the:
 - (a) cause of action and the particulars of claims;
 - (b) name and place of abode of the Party intending to sue: and
 - (c) relief sought.

- (2) No Legal Action shall commence in any Court of

The Notice referred to in section 18(1) of this Law and any summons, process or other document required to be served on PMDC under the provisions of this Law, or any other Law, shall be served by delivering the same to PMDC Office by sending it by registered post to PMDC Office in the State.

The Chief Judge shall make Rules of Procedure or some other instrument as the court may deem necessary for the effective administration and efficient delivery of ADR services in PMDC.

Law against PMDC or any of its Officers in relation to any activity or matter conducted in the course of business without an initial submission of the dispute to Mediation.

No Member of PMDC or any Member of PMDC Panel of Neutrals shall be liable for any act or omission committed in relation to the conduct of Mediation, Arbitration, Neutral Evaluation or other ADR Processes except the act or omission is of a fraudulent nature.

(4) No Suit shall lie against PMDC, the Director or any Employee of PMDC for any act or omission done in pursuance or execution of the functions conferred upon PMDC by this Law or be instituted in any Court of Law unless such commences within One Hundred and Eighty (180) Days after the act, neglect or default complained of or in the case of continuance of damage or injury, the period of cessation thereof.

Notices 36

The Notice referred to in Section 35(1) of this Law and any Summons, Process or other Document required or authorized to be served on PMDC under the provisions of this Law, or any other Law, shall be served by delivering the same to PMDC Officers or by sending it by registered post to PMDC Office situate in the State.

**Rules of Procedure 37.
and Practice Directions**

The Chief Judge shall make Rules of Procedure or issue Practice Directions as are considered necessary for the effective administration and efficient delivery of ADR service at PMDC.

Supplementary Provisions relating to the Council Proceedings.**Powers**

1. The Council shall make Standing Orders to regulate its own proceedings or of any Committee created by it which shall be in accordance with the provisions of Section 27 of the Interpretation Law.
2. The quorum of the Council meeting shall be Five (5). If a quorum is not formed at the time of any meeting, the members present shall have the power to adjourn such meeting:
Provided that the quorum of any Committee of the Council shall be determined by the Council.

Tenure

3. The Council shall elect one of its members to be the Vice Chairman of the Council for Three (3) years, however, a Vice Chairman who ceases to be a Member, shall cease to be the Vice Chairman.
4. At any time while the Office of the Chairman is vacant or the Chairman is in the opinion of the Council, permanently or temporarily unable to perform the functions of his Office, the Vice Chairman shall perform such functions and the references in this Law to the Chairman shall be construed accordingly.

Meetings of the Council

5. The Council shall meet at least twice in each Calendar Year.
6. Subject to the Standing Orders of the Council, the Council shall meet whenever it is summoned by the Chairman and if the Chairman is required to do so, by notice given to him by not less than Five (5)

other Members, he shall summon a meeting of the Members, he shall summon a meeting of the Council to be held within Fifteen (15) days from the date in which the notice is given.

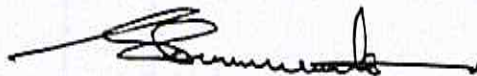
7. At any meeting of the Council, the Chairman or in his absence, the Vice Chairman, shall preside, but if both are absent, the Members present at the meeting, shall elect one of their Members to preside at the meeting.
8. Where the Council desires to obtain the advise of any person on a particular matter, the Council shall co-opt him as a Member for a period as it deems fit but that person who is a Member by virtue of this paragraph, shall not be entitled to vote at any meeting of the Council and shall not count towards a quorum.
9. **Miscellaneous**
 - (1) The fixing of the Seal of the Governing Council shall be authenticated by the signature of the Chairman or of some other Members authorised generally or specially to act for that purpose.
 - (2) Any Contract or Instruction which if made or executed by any person not being a Body Corporate would not be required to be made under Seal, shall be made or executed on behalf of the Governing Council by any person generally or specially authorized for that purpose by the Council.
 - (3) Any document purported to be a document executed under the Seal of the Governing Council shall be received in evidence and shall, unless the contrary is proved, be deemed as if it were so executed.

10. Members of the Council shall be paid out of monies at the disposal of PMDC such Travelling and Subsistence Allowance in respect of any period spent on the business of PMDC.
11. The legality of the proceedings of the Governing Council relating to vacancy shall not be affected by any vacancy in the membership of the Council or Committee, or by any defect in the appointment of a Member of the Council or of a person to serve on the Committee or by reason that a person not entitled to do so took in the Proceedings.
12. Any Member of the Council and any person holding office on a Committee of the Council, who had a personal interest in any Contract or Arrangement entered into or proposed to be considered by the Council or its Committee shall immediately disclose his interest to the Governing Council and shall not vote on any question relating to the Contract or Arrangement.

This printed impression has been carefully compared by me with the Law which has been passed by the Plateau State House of Assembly and found by me to be true and correctly printed copy of the Law.

Ayuba Gongu
Clerk,
Plateau State House of Assembly

I assent this 21st day of December, 2017



Rt. Hon. Simon Bako Lalong
Governor,
Plateau State of Nigeria.

Repassed by two- thirds majority

This _____ day of _____ 2017

Rt. Hon. Peter Ajang Azi
Speaker,
Plateau State House of Assembly.

Governor of
Plateau State,
Government Office,
Rayfield, Jos.

**FORWARDING A LAW TO ESTABLISH PLATEAU MULTI-DOOR
COURTHOUSE AND FOR MATTERS CONNECTED FOR ASSENT**

Following the presentation by you of the Multi-Door Courthouse Law 2017 on the 18/01/2017, the House, after a careful consideration of same passed the Law as follows:

SCHEDULE TO THE LAW

SHORT TITLE OF THE Law	LONG TITLE OF THE Law	SUMMARY OF THE CONTENTS OF THE LAW	DATE PASSED
Plateau Multi-door Courthouse Law.	A Law For A Law to Establish Plateau Multi-door Courthouse and for Matters Connected.	The Law seeks to Establish the Plateau Multi-door Courthouse and for Matters Connected.	20/7/2017

2. In accordance with Section 100 (3) of the 1999 Constitution (As Amended), I forward to you the Law as passed for your assent.

Rt. Hon. Peter Ajang Azi
Speaker

Director of
 Planning and
 Government Office
 Regional, Inc.

**FORWARDING A LAW TO ESTABLISH PLATE MULTI-DOOR
 COURTHOUSE AND FOR MATTERS CONNECTED FOR ASSENT**

Following the presentation by you of the Multi-Door Courthouse Law 2017 on the
 18th of the House, after a careful consideration of same passed the law as
 follows:

SCHEDULE TO THE LAW

DATE PASSED	SUMMARY OF THE CONTENTS OF THE LAW	LONG TITLE OF THE LAW	SHORT TITLE OF THE LAW
2017	The law seeks to Establish the Plate Multi-door Courthouse and for Matters Connected.	A Law to Establish Plate Multi-door Courthouse and for Matters Connected.	Plate Multi- door Courthouse Law.

In accordance with Section 100 (3) of the 1999 Constitution (as
 amended), I forward to you the Law as passed for your assent.

For Your Faithful Agent
 Speaker

10/18/17

10/18/17

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