

**THE HIGH COURT OF THE FEDERAL CAPITAL TERRITORY,
ABUJA (NUMBER OF JUDGES) ACT, 2003.**



ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

SECTION :

1. Number of Judges of the High Court of the Federal Capital Territory.
2. Federal Character in the appointment of Judges, etc.
3. Cap. 49 LNN, 1963.
4. Interpretations.
5. Citation.

**THE HIGH COURT OF THE FEDERAL CAPITAL TERRITORY, ABUJA
(NUMBER OF JUDGES) ACT, 2003**

2003, ACT No. 15

AN ACT TO PRESCRIBE THE NUMBER OF JUDGES OF THE HIGH COURT OF THE FEDERAL
CAPITAL TERRITORY, ABUJA; AND FOR RELATED MATTERS.

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

(19th June, 2003)

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| <p>1. The High Court of the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja, shall consist of—</p> <p>(a) a Chief Judge of the High Court of the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja ; and</p> <p>(b) a maximum number of thirty-seven Judges of the Court.</p> | <p>Commence-
ment.</p> <p>Number of
judges of the
High Court of
the Federal
Capital
Territory.</p> |
| <p>2. The principle of “Federal Character of Nigeria” shall be applied in the appointment of judges of the Court provided that nothing in this Act shall affect or negate the proceeding of the Court by reason only that the number of judges of the Court remains at anytime below thirty-seven.</p> | <p>Federal
Character in
the appoint-
ment of
Judges, etc.</p> |
| <p>3. In the event of a conflict between the provisions of this Act and those of the High Court Law of Northern Nigeria, 1963, the provisions of this Act shall prevail and the relevant provisions of the said High Court Law in so far as they affect the Federal Capital Territory shall be deemed repealed to the extent of the conflict.</p> | <p>Cap. 49 LNN,
1963.</p> |
| <p>4. In this Act—</p> <p>“Constitution” means the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 ;</p> <p>“Court” means the High Court of the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja established by Section 255 of the Constitution ;</p> <p>“Federal Character of Nigeria” has the meaning assigned to it in section 318 of the Constitution.</p> | <p>Interpreta-
tion.</p> |
| <p>5. This Act may be cited as the High Court of the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja (Number of Judges) Act, 2003.</p> | <p>Citation.</p> |

I certify, in accordance with Section 2 (1) of the Acts Authentication Act, Cap. 4, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria 1990, that this is a true copy of the Bill passed by both Houses of the National Assembly.

IBRAHIM SALIM, CON.
Clerk to the National Assembly
17th June, 2003

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

This Act prescribes the number of Judges of the High Court of the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja to a maximum number of 37 Judges as permitted by Section 255 (2) (b) of the 1999 Constitution.

This Act also makes the application of the principle of "Federal Character" mandatory in the appointment of such Judges in compliance with Section 14 (3) of the 1999 Constitution.

SCHEDULE TO THE HIGH COURT OF THE FEDERAL CAPITAL TERRITORY, ABUJA (NUMBER OF JUDGES) BILL, 2003

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
<i>Short Title of the Bill</i>	<i>Long Title of the Bill</i>	<i>Summary of Contents of the Bill</i>	<i>Date passed by Senate</i>	<i>Date passed by House of Representatives</i>
The High Court of the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja (Number of Judges) Bill, 2003.	An Act to prescribe the number of Judges of the High Court of the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja ; and for Related Matters.	This Bill seeks to prescribe the number of Judges of the High Court of the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja to a maximum of 37 Judges as permitted by Section 255 (2) (b) of the 1999 Constitution. It also makes the application of the principle of "Federal Character" mandatory in the appointment of such Judges in compliance with Section 14 (3) of the 1999 Constitution.	17-10-2002	15-5-2003

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. 4, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria 1990.

I ASSENT.



IBRAHIM SALIM, CON
Clerk to the National Assembly
17th June, 2003

CHIEF OLUSEGUN OBASANJO, GCFR
President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria
19th June, 2003