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**ANIMAL SCIENCE PRACTICE REGULATION
IN NIGERIA 2020**



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S. I. No. 17 of 2020

**ANIMAL SCIENCE PRACTICE REGULATION
IN NIGERIA 2020**

[5th Day of October, 2020]

Commence-
ment.

The Governing Council of The Nigerian Institute of Animal Science (NIAS), in exercise of the power conferred on it by sections 2 and 32 of the Nigerian Institute of Animal Science Act Cap N160, LFN 2007 as amended by the Nigerian Institute of Animal Science (Amendment) Act 2015 and of all the powers enabling it in that behalf, by the approval of the Council of the Nigerian Institute of Animal Science, hereby makes the following Regulation—

PART I

1. This Regulation seeks to Control and regulate the practice of Animal Science in Nigeria.

Scope.

2. This regulation aims, among others, to—

Objectives.

(1) Prescribe requirements for eligibility for the practice of Animal Science profession in Nigeria.

(2) Impact thriving career and trade in the practice of Animal science profession.

Part II

3.—(1) No one shall be regarded or addressed or ascribe to himself the nomenclature or title of Animal Scientist without passing through the resource verified First Degree course in Animal Science or such related resource verified course that qualifies the person to become a member.

Professional
Career in
Animal
Science.

(2) Any person trained outside of Nigeria and desires to practice the profession of Animal Science or operate as an Animal Scientist in Nigeria shall apply to the Institute, submitting his/her Certificate and Curriculum vitae for assessment, screening and evaluation. Such a person shall be required to take a prescribed examination. Provided that persons who have been trained and professionally certified as Animal scientists in countries that have existing mutual understanding with the Institute on professional certification shall be exempted from such examination.

(3) Subject to the foregoing paragraph, any person whose certificate has been screened and evaluated satisfactorily shall be issued a membership certificate by the Institute at a prescribed fee.

(4) Subject to the provisions of NIAS Act (as amended), any person that practices as an Animal Scientist or carries on or holds himself out as an Animal Scientist without a certificate of membership by the Institute shall be guilty of the offence of impersonation.

(5) Pursuant to the provisions of section 15 of the NIAS Act 2007, section 25 of NIAS (Amendment) Act 2015 and Subject to the provisions of subsection (4) above, no Corporate body or Individual shall carry out Animal Science practice including but not limited to trainings, seminars and workshops without engaging the services of a Registered Animal Scientist either on full-time or part-time basis. Such a Registered Animal Scientist so engaged, must have the current Annual Practicing License.

(6) Every RAS, AAS and GAS shall participate in Mandatory Continuing Professional Education (MCPE) and other trainings approved/recognized by the Institute and shall earn minimum hour required for the maintenance of his membership as a RAS, AAS or GAS.

Display of Certificate by members.

4.—(1) Every RAS or AAS shall display his annual practicing license in his office and shall maintain a high level of professionalism in all areas of operation.

(2) Any RAS or AAS who fails/neglects/refuses to comply with the provisions of subsection (i) above shall be guilty of an offence under this Regulation.

Application.

5.—(1) All applications for registration as Registered Animal Scientist, Associate Animal Scientist, Graduate Animal Scientist or Corporate Membership shall be made in writing and addressed to The Registrar/Chief Executive Officer, Nigerian Institute of Animal Science.

(2) Subject to the powers of the Institute to grant a waiver to an applicant, in exceptional circumstances and upon reasonable cause shown, any applicant whose application has been accepted and who refuses/fails/neglects to present himself/herself for induction for three consecutive induction years beginning from the year of acceptance will lose the acceptance and shall need to reapply for membership.

(3) Only Animal Science graduates from resource verified Universities who are in good standing with the Institute shall sit for the GAS Examination.

(4) Only successful candidates from GAS Examinations, who have been cleared by their respective University Senates shall be inducted into the Institute as Graduate Animal Scientists.

(5) A GAS can apply to be a RAS only after five years of his/her graduation from a resource verified University and shall be required to participate in at least two MCPE programmes before applying to become a RAS. Such GAS shall be exempted from RAS examination.

(6) All Animal Science degree graduates, seeking for registration as GAS, who graduated in the year 2013 and thereafter shall be required to sit for and pass the GAS examination and be inducted as GAS. Such candidates

shall be required to participate in at least two MCPes after GAS induction before applying for membership as RAS.

(7) Applicants for registration as RAS, who graduated before 2013 from a resource verified University shall sit for and pass the prescribed Registered Animal Scientist Examination. Provided that the requirement for resource verification shall be effective only from the period the Institute commenced resource verification.

(8) Applicants for registration as RAS from universities that were not resource verified as at the time of their graduation must sit for and pass the prescribed Registered Animal Scientist Examination.

6.—(1) The Institute shall issue a membership certificate to all members who have been inducted.

Issuance of membership Certificate.

(2) None of the relevant membership Oaths, administered during induction, on persons seeking any of the different categories of membership shall be taken by proxy.

(3) Any member found to have contravened the provision of subsection (ii) above shall be guilty of an offence under this Regulation.

7.—(a) Every Registered Animal Scientist and Associate Animal Scientist shall be eligible to apply for Annual Practising license upon satisfactory participation in the Institute’s activities as may be required or prescribed from time to time.

Issuance and validity of annual practising licence.

(b) Subject to the power of the Institute to cancel Certificate of membership, Annual Practising License of a Registered Animal Scientist and Associate Animal Scientist shall be valid from January 1st to December 31st of the year of issue and shall be renewed annually.

(c) Payment for Annual Practising License shall be made on or before 31st December of the preceding year, failure for which a penalty shall apply as determined by the Council.

8. Membership obligations and privileges—

(a) At all occasions, the seniority status shall be accorded to FNIAS.

(b) Registered Animal Scientist may participate in any scheduled activities and programs as prescribed by the Institute and may serve on NIAS Discipline Committees, attend meetings and conventions.

(c) Registered Animal Scientists may use the designation “RAS” after their names.

(d) Registered Animal Scientist can print or be permitted to print or in any way, use the name, initials, emblem, seal, symbol, or insignia of the Institute or any component after due clearance and approval by the Institute’s Registrar.

Membership obligations and privileges.

(e) Registered Animal Scientist may have access to the “Members” portal of the NIAS website.

(f) Registered Animal Scientist shall pay all dues and meet other obligations as prescribed by Council.

(g) Registered Animal Scientist shall abide by the Registered Animal Scientist Code of Conduct.

(h) Registered Animal Scientist can vote or be voted into Council and Council Committees ;

(i) Registered Animal Scientist shall head Animal Science Departments in the Universities as well as Livestock Department in the State Ministry and Federal Department of Animal Husbandry Services ;

(j) Associate Animal Scientist may participate in any scheduled activities and programs as prescribed by the Institute and may attend meetings and conventions relevant to Associates ;

(k) Associate Animal Scientist may use the designation “AAS” after their names ;

(l) Associate Animal Scientist can print or be permitted to print or in any way, use the name, initials, emblem, seal, symbol, or insignia of the Institute or any component part after due clearance and approval by the Institute’s Registrar ;

(m) Associate Animal Scientist may have access to the “Members” portal of the NIAS website ;

(n) Associate Animal Scientist shall pay all dues and meet other obligations as prescribed by Council ;

(o) Associate Animal Scientist shall abide by the Associate Animal Scientist Code of Conduct ;

(p) Associate Animal Scientist shall be upgraded to RAS after meeting conditions prescribed by the Council ;

(q) Associate Animal Scientist cannot vote or be voted into Council and Council Committees ;

(r) Associate Animal Scientist shall not head Animal Science Department in the Universities as well as Livestock Departments in the State Ministries and Federal Department of Animal Husbandry Services except where there is no Registered Animal Scientist to take up such positions ;

(s) An Associate Animal Scientist will be assessed for two years before enrolling for the mandatory training at the NIAS post-Graduate College of Animal Science for those who want to be upgraded to Registered Animal Scientist ;

(t) At the end of the training, there must be a qualifying examination and the qualified AAS shall also apply for RAS membership ;

(u) A Graduate Animal Scientist shall serve under a Registered Animal Scientist in the discharge of his/her duties including but not limited to consultancy services ; and

(v) A Graduate Animal Scientist may participate in NIAS activities.

9.—(i) the Institute has discretionary powers to either approve or refuse an application for Membership and/or renewal of Annual practicing license.

Refusal to issue membership Certificate/ Annual Practising Licence.

(ii) where the institute exercises its power to refuse an application, the applicant shall be informed in writing the reason why his/her application was refused.

10.—(a) a person whose application was refused may, within 3 weeks of receipt of notice of refusal, make a formal appeal to the Council of the Institute ;

Appeal against refusal.

(b) the appeal shall be accompanied by a sworn affidavit and additional information countering the reason for refusal ;

(c) the Council, if convinced, may reverse its decision ; and

(d) the decision of the Council on this appeal shall be final.

11. The Institute may make and periodically review existing guidelines and publish codes of conduct in relation to any field of animal science practice.

Publications of guidelines and code of conduct.

12.—(1) Any person who contravenes a provision of this Regulation shall be guilty of an offence and liable on conviction—

Offences and penalties.

(a) in the case of an individual, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or to a fine not exceeding ₦500,000 or to both imprisonment and fine ; and

(b) in the case of a body corporate, to a fine not exceeding ₦1,500,000 ;

(c) in the case of a multinational corporation, to a fine not less than ₦5,000,000.

(2) Where an offence under this Regulation is committed by a body corporate or firm or other association of individuals, every—

(a) director, manager, head, secretary or other similar officer of the company ;

(b) partner or officer of the company ;

(c) trustee of an Incorporated Trustee Organization concerned ; or

(d) person concerned in the management of the affairs of the association ;

shall be “guilty of that offence and liable to be proceeded against and punished for the offence in the same manner as if he had himself committed the

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offence UNLESS he has a plausible defense that the offence was committed without his knowledge, consent or connivance.

(3) Any person found guilty of an offence of impersonation under this Regulation is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding ₦1,000,000 or imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months.

(4) Any member of the Institute (RAS and AAS) who defaults in the payment of his/her Annual Practicing fee, shall be denied all benefits enjoyed by financially up-to-date registered members such as but not limited to eligibility to be nominated into any elective or non-elective position in the Institute, eligibility to serve as sponsor to intending applicants for such and eligibility to be voted for or appointed to any of the Institute's positions.

(5) Any institution running animal science programme that is not resource verified by NIAS is guilty of an offence and, in addition to the power of the Institute to close down the programs that are not resource verified, all the management of the Institution may be proceeded against for the fraudulent activities of running a programme that is not resource verified contrary to Sections 21 of the NIAS Act 2007 and Section 19 of NIAS (Amendment) Act 2015.

(6) Any certificate issued from programmes that are not resource verified shall not be recognized by the Institute and the holder of such unrecognized certificate is not eligible to be registered by the Institute.

(7) Where the offender or one of the offenders is an Animal Scientist, the provision of part 'J and the Schedule of Nigerian Institute of Animal Science Act, 2007 on professional discipline shall be applicable to him/her.

Review and amendment.

13.—(i) This Regulation shall be reviewed for the purpose of amendment if any, within 5 years of its commencement or of the last amendment in the case of 2nd or subsequent amendments.

(ii) Notwithstanding the provision of subsection (i) above, the fact of non-review of the Regulation as when due shall not invalidate the provisions or implementation of the Regulation.

Definitions.

14. Definitions—

“AAS” means Associate Animal Scientist ;

“*Corporate Membership*” means Registered Companies involved in practice of animal husbandry ;

“*council*” means the Governing Council of the Nigerian Institute of Animal Science ;

“*FNIAS*” Fellow of Nigerian Institute of Animal Science ;

“*GAS*” means Graduate Animal Scientist ;

“*GAS Examination*” means Graduate Animal Scientists Examination ;

“*Induction*” means the ceremony held by the Institute to mark the formal entry of qualified persons into the relevant category of the Institute’s membership ;

“*Institute*” means Nigerian Institute of Animal Science ;

“*MCPE*” means Mandatory Continuing Professional Education ;

“*NIAS*” is Nigerian Institute of Animal Science ;

“*Practice of Animal Science*” means the practice of the profession of “Animal Science” as defined in Section 24 of the NIAS (Amendment) Act 2015 ;

“*RAS*” means Registered Animal Scientist ;

“*RAS Examination*” means Registered Animal Scientists Examination.

“*Resource Verification*” means visitation by NIAS team to Animal Science Programme in a college, polytechnic or university to assess adequacy or otherwise of teaching and research facilities.

15. This Regulation may be cited as the Animal Science Practice Regulation in Nigeria 2020. Citation.

Made at Abuja on this 5th day of October, 2020.

PROF. E. A. IYAYI, RAS, FNSAP, FNIAS
Registrar/CEO
Nigerian Institute of Animal Science