

GHANA NATIONAL RESEARCH FUND BILL, 2020

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Ghana National Research Fund Bill, 2020

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BILL

ENTITLED

GHANA NATIONAL RESEARCH FUND ACT, 2020

AN ACT to establish the Ghana National Research Fund to provide for funds to support research in all fields of national endeavour, to provide for the management of the Fund and for related matters.

PASSED by Parliament and assented to by the President:

Ghana National Research Fund

Establishment of the Ghana National Research Fund

1. (1) There is established by this Act a body corporate with perpetual succession to be known as the Ghana National Research Fund.

(2) For the purpose of achieving the objects of the Fund, the Fund may acquire and hold movable and immovable property, dispose of property and enter into a contract or any other related transaction.

(3) Where there is a hindrance to the acquisition of property, the property may be acquired for the Fund under the State Lands Act, 1962 (Act 125) and the cost shall be borne by the Fund.

Objects of the Fund

2. (1) The objects of the Fund are to

- (a) provide financial resources to support, promote and publicise research, research infrastructure, technology generation and innovation in all fields of national endeavour;
- (b) evaluate the status and needs of research and development to align with national and international aspirations;
- (c) promote the transfer of technology and knowledge, and the implementation of research results and findings; and
- (d) protect the rights of researchers in respect of any discovery or invention.

(2) For the purpose of achieving the objects of the Fund, moneys from the Fund shall be applied to

- (a) promote and support research in the area of science, technology, engineering and mathematics;
- (b) promote and support research in the area of information and communication technology;
- (c) promote and support
 - (i) technology transfer and innovation;
 - (ii) research in economics and social sciences and humanities;
 - (iii) research in creative arts;
 - (iv) research into language and literature policy; and
 - (v) the goals and objectives of the Ghana Skills Development Fund Committee as specified under paragraph (a) of subsection (4) of section 45 of the Education Regulatory Bodies Act, 2020 (Act 1023);
- (d) support research into the science of biotechnology, genetics and genomics including human genome; and
- (e) any other matter necessary to achieve the objects of the Fund.

Sources of money for the Fund

3. The sources of money for the Fund are

- (a) seed money of fifty million Ghana Cedis specifically allocated for the start-up of the Fund;

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- (b) an amount of up to one per cent of the national revenue;
- (c) grants, donations, gifts and other voluntary contributions to the Fund;
- (d) moneys that accrue from the Endowment Fund created by the Fund;
- (e) moneys that accrue to the Fund from investments made by the Board;
- (f) moneys that may become lawfully payable to the Fund or moneys accruing to the Fund from property that may become lawfully payable to the Fund;
- (g) moneys realised from the implementation of research findings and technology transfer; and
- (h) any other moneys approved by Parliament for payment into the Fund.

Bank account of the Fund

4. The moneys for the Fund shall vest in the Board and shall be paid into a bank account opened for the Fund with the approval of the Controller and Accountant-General.

Governance of the Fund

Governing body of the Fund

5. (1) The governing body of the Fund is a Board consisting of
- (a) a chairperson;
 - (b) the Administrator of the Fund;
 - (c) seven persons with knowledge in industry and the relevant expertise in the following fields:
 - (i) science, technology, engineering and mathematics,
 - (ii) information and communication technology,
 - (iii) economics and social science,
 - (iv) biotechnological, genetics and genomics including human genome science,
 - (v) creative arts research,
 - (vi) language and literature policies, and
 - (vii) fund management,