

**PART II - CONSTITUTION, MEETINGS AND FUNDS
OF THE COMMITTEE**

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| Constitution of the Committee | 3. | | There is hereby constituted in Ondo State a Committee to be known as Committee on Maternal Deaths in Ondo State (hereinafter referred to as "the Committee). |
| Appointment and constitution of members | 4. | | The Committee shall consist of 7 members who shall be appointed by the Governor on the recommendation of the Commissioner except the ex-officio members and shall comprise:

(a) the Chairman who shall be an Obstetrician/Gynecologists ;

(b) a public health specialist from the :

(i) Ministry of Health;

(ii) Local Government Service Commission;

(c) a representative of the Ministry of Justice not below the rank of a Deputy Director;

(d) a representative of the Department of Medical Records of the Health Management Board;

(e) the Secretary shall be the Director Planning, Research and Statistics of the Ministry of Health who shall be responsible for the day to day activities of the committee. |
| Tenure and Remuneration of members | 5. | (1) | The Chairman and members, excluding ex-officio members, shall

(a) hold office for a period of 2 years in the first instance and shall be renewable for another 2 years.

(2) (b) shall be paid such emoluments, allowances and benefits as the Governor may determine from time to time. |
| Meetings of the Committee | 6. | (1) | The Committee shall meet regular basis to carry out their duties and it shall be held at such place and time as the Committee may determine. |

- (2) The Chairman shall preside over all meetings of the Committee and in his absence members may elect one of the members to preside.
- (3) The quorum of the Committee shall be four members including the Chairman or member presiding in the absence of the Chairman .
- (4) Subject to the foregoing provisions of this section, the Committee shall have the power to regulate its proceedings

Regulations 7.

- (1) The Committee may, with the approval of the Commissioner make regulations for carrying out the provisions of this Law.
- (2) All regulations made under subsection (1) of this section shall be laid before the State Executive Council as directed by the Commissioner.

Functions 8.

- (1) The Committee shall:
 - (a) be responsible for the confidential enquiry into maternal deaths in the State ;
 - (b) ensure mandatory reporting of the death of a woman in pregnancy or puerperium irrespective of the cause or where the death occurred;
 - (c) make recommendations based on the analysis from data collected to:
 - (i) lay the foundation for the accurate measurement of MMR in the State;
 - (ii) determine the common causes and complications associated with MMR;
 - (iii) determine the geographical distribution of maternal deaths in the State; and
 - (iv) determine the common factors contributing to maternal deaths.

Power of the
Committee 9.

In carrying out its functions the Committee shall have powers to:

- (1) make an inquiry into any maternal death and request the appearance of any person, after due notice:
PROVIDED it is for the purpose of carrying out their functions under this Law.
- (2) enter into any facility or premises which is under suspicions of a contravention of this Law
- (3) order the closure of any facility which is suspected to have contravened this Law.

Funds of
the
Committee 10.

The funds and resources of the Committee shall consist of:

- (a) such sums as may from time to time be made available to the Committee by way of grant by the State Government;
- (b) any sums or property which may in any manner become payable to or vest in the Committee in respect of the performance of its functions;
- (c) such gifts in cash or in kind as may be given by the State, Federal and International donor agencies.

Liability
of
members 11.

No member of the Committee shall be personally liable for any act or default of the Committee done or omitted to be done in good faith in the course of the operations of the Committee.

PART III – REPORTING OF MATERNAL DEATHS

Process
for
reporting 12.

Where a maternal death, in or outside a facility occurs, it shall be reported by the relatives or care providers within 48 hours of death to:

- (1) A designated data collecting officer at the ward or community level who shall:

- Sch. I
- (a) verify information received;
 - (b) complete a Maternal Death Notification Form in triplicate;
 - (c) submit within 7 days two copies of the MDNF; at the Disease Surveillance Section at the Local Government Area Headquarters.

(2) The Officer at the Disease Surveillance section shall submit every two weeks the original copy to the State Central Office in the Directorate of Planning, Research and Statistics in the Ministry.

(3) The State Central Office shall:

- (i) collect;
- (ii) collate;
- (iii) analyse;

all data received, monthly, and shall forward the data and their findings to the Committee.

Direct reporting 13. Any relative or care provider may also report directly to the:

- Sch. II
- (a) Disease Surveillance Section of the Local Government;
 - (b) State Central Office; or
 - (c) all centers enumerated in Schedule II to this Law.

Protection of informants and information. 14. The identity of any person who volunteers any information which may be useful in enquiry of maternal deaths in the state shall be protected and such information volunteered shall be treated as confidential.

Concealment of maternal death unlawful. 15. (1) It shall be unlawful for any person, body or facility to conceal the death of a woman:

- (a) woman in pregnancy; or
- (b) woman who dies within the peuperium.

Failure to report	16.	<p>(1) A person or facility who:</p> <p>(a) fails to report all deaths of women that occur in pregnancy or puerperium; or</p> <p>(b) willfully obstructs the Committee or any authorized officer or person in the exercise of any of the powers conferred on the Committee by this Law; or</p> <p>(c) fails to comply with any lawful enquiry or requirements made by any authorized officer or person in accordance with the provisions of this Law;</p>
<p>Commits an offence and is liable on conviction to imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months or to a fine of thirty thousand naira or both, for individuals. While a facility shall be liable to a fine of N100,000.00 and/or closure.</p>		
Accessory after the fact to concealment of a maternal death	17.	<p>Any person who becomes an accessory after the fact to concealment of a maternal death and keeps such secret, refuses or neglects to disclose such fact commits an offence and is liable on conviction to imprisonment of three months or to a fine of ₦50,000.00 or both.</p>
Power of arrest	18.	<p>Any member of the Nigeria Police or any law enforcement agency authorized by the Committee to enforce the provisions of this Law may arrest any person who commits an offence under this Law</p>
Trial of offences	19.	<p>A Magistrate Court shall have original jurisdiction to try offences created by this Law.</p>

This printed impression has been carefully compared by me with the bill which *has been passed by the Ondo State House of Assembly and found by me to be a true copy of the said Bill.*

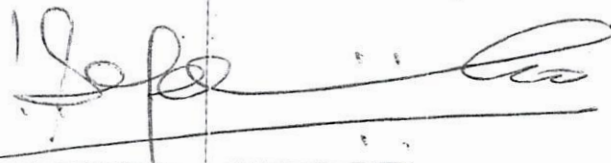

Rt. Hon. Adesina Samuel Ajayi
Speaker, Ondo State House of Assembly


Alh. (Barr.) Y.J.A Dada
Permanent Secretary/Clerk
Ondo State House of Assembly.

GOVERNOR'S ASSENT

I hereby signify my assent to this Bill

GOVERNOR'S SEAL


Dr. Olusegun Mimiko
Governor of Ondo State of Nigeria

Dated this 24th day of May 2010