

CHAPTER 1

ABANDONED PROPERTIES ACT

ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

SECTION

1. Right to sell abandoned properties.
2. Penalty.
3. Indemnity of members of the Committee and exclusion of rights.
4. Short title.

CHAPTER 1

ABANDONED PROPERTIES ACT

**An Act to make provisions for the sale, registration and maintenance of abandoned properties by the Implementation Committee set up for the purpose.** 1979 No. 90.

[28th September, 1979] Commencement.

1. (1) Every sale or disposition of abandoned properties conducted by the Abandoned Properties Implementation Committee (hereafter in this Act referred to as "the Committee") set up by the Federal Government shall be deemed to have been lawful and properly made and any instrument issued by the Committee which purports to convey any estate or interest in land, shall be deemed to have been validly issued and shall have effect according to its tenor or intendment. Right to sell abandoned properties.

(2) Any abandoned property sold pursuant to subsection (1) of this section shall vest in the purchaser free of all encumbrances without any further assurance apart from this Act

(3) The registrar or any other person in charge of registration of land, instruments, deeds or rights affecting land shall, upon presentation to him of a contract of agreement signed by or on behalf of the Committee, expunge from the relevant register the name of any person in whose name any interest is registered in respect of any property affected by this Act and substitute therefor the name of the new owner.

Penalty.

2. Any person who contravenes or fails to comply with any of the provisions of section 1 of this Act shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to imprisonment for one year without the option of a fine.

Indemnity of members of the Committee and exclusion of rights, etc.

3. (1) Any member of the Committee or any person acting on its behalf shall stand indemnified and no suit or other proceedings shall lie at the instance of any person aggrieved in respect of any property sold by the Committee or anything done in compliance with the direction of the Federal Government in respect of abandoned properties.

Cap. 62.

(2) The question whether any provision of Chapter IV of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria has been, is being or would be contravened by anything done or purported to be done by the Committee shall not be inquired into in any court of law, and accordingly, sections 40, 42 and 220(1) (b) of the Constitution shall not apply in relation to any such question.

(3) Any proceedings against the Committee or members of the Committee or any person acting on its behalf (whether criminal or civil) commenced before the date of commencement of this Act shall cease and any order or ruling already made shall be null and void and of no consequence whatsoever.

Short title.

4. This Act may be cited as the Abandoned Properties Act.

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**ABANDONED PROPERTIES ACT**

**CHAPTER 1**

**SUBSIDIARY LEGISLATION**

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*No Subsidiary Legislation*