



HOW STAKEHOLDERS CAN ENGAGE NASS DURING THE CONFERENCE COMMITTEE ON THE ELECTORAL BILL

The Electoral Act Amendment Bill 2021, having gone through First Reading, Second Reading, the Committee Stage, and Third Reading, is now at the Joint Conference Committee Stage. The National Assembly Conference Committee on Electoral Reform has been constituted to harmonise the differences between the House Bill and the Senate Bill. Stakeholders can engage NASS during the Conference Committee Stage in the following ways:

INEC

- INEC can appear before the Conference Committee to give explanations and clarifications, particularly regarding their capacity to transmit results electronically.
- INEC can conduct high-level meetings with specific members of the Conference Committee.
- INEC can release public statements expressing their views and opinions on key areas of divergence in the Bill.

Political Parties

- Political parties, particularly those that have members in the Conference Committee, can influence their members to vote in a particular way.
- Political parties can release public statements expressing their views and opinions on key areas of divergence in the Bill.
- Political parties can stimulate public discourse on issues in the Bill using their website, social media platforms, and other communication technologies.

CSOs

- Research-based CSOs can highlight the differences between the House Bill and the Senate Bill and make recommendations on which version should be adopted.
- Advocacy-based CSOs can conduct high-level meetings with members of the Conference Committee.
- CSOs can stimulate public discourse on issues in the Bill by organising events and webinars.

Women Groups

- Women groups can highlight the differences between the House Bill and the Senate Bill and make recommendations on which version better promotes gender inclusion.
- Women groups can conduct high-level meetings with members of the Conference Committee.
- Women groups can educate other women on key issues in the Bill and how they can engage in the process.

The Media

- The media can publicise key areas of divergence in the Bill and make opinion pieces on which version should be adopted.
- The media can publicise the contact information of members of the Conference Committee to encourage citizens to contact their representatives.
- The media can stimulate public discourse by publicising the Committee's findings and report.

Citizens

- Citizens can call and send letters to the representatives of their geopolitical zones within the Conference Committee.
- Citizens can express their views and opinions on issues in the Bill by utilising both traditional and social media.
- Citizens can engage in public discourse on the Bill by participating in events and webinars.

About The Electoral Hub

The Electoral Hub is a multidisciplinary strategic think tank committed to strengthening electoral governance, and accountability in Nigeria. The Electoral Hub works to enhance electoral integrity and credibility through research, documentation, electoral education, policy and legal influencing, and impact advocacy.

The main focus of The Electoral Hub's intervention in the electoral governance process is on complementing the roles and activities of the different institutions, stakeholders and drivers of the electoral process by providing back-end support services to them. Since its establishment, The Electoral Hub has grown into a leading research, knowledge and advocacy hub with the capacity to conduct ground-breaking research and analysis of electoral issues.

