

[AS PASSED BY THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY]

A

*Bill*

*to re-organize and create the National Institute of Health*

**CHAPTER I  
PRELIMINARY**

**1. Short title, extent and commencement.**- (1) This Act shall be called the National Institute of Health (Re-organization) Act, 2020.

- (2) It extends to the whole of Pakistan.
- (3) It shall come into force at once.

**CHAPTER II  
DEFINITIONS**

**2. Definitions.** In this Act, unless there is anything repugnant in the subject or context;

- (a) "Board" means the Board of Governors of the NIH established under section 6;
- (b) "center" means a center established under section 4;
- (c) "Chairperson" means the Chairperson of the Board;
- (d) "Chief Executive Officer" means the chief executive officer of NIH appointed by the Board;
- (e) "Chief Financial Officer" means the person appointed under section 22;
- (f) "confidential national data" means such data as may be defined as confidential in the national or security interests of Pakistan by the Federal Government;
- (g) "Executive Director" means the Executive Director of an institute or center appointed by the Federal Government;

- (h) "Institute" means an institute provided for under section 4;
- (i) "National Institute of Health" or "NIH" means the National Institute of Health established under section 3;
- (j) "prescribed" means prescribed by rules or regulations made under this Act;
- (k) "rules" means rules made under this Act;
- (l) "regulations" means regulations made by the Board under this Act; and
- (m) "unit" means a unit established within an Institute or center.

### CHAPTER III

#### NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF HEALTH

**3. Establishment of the National Institute of Health.-** (1) Immediately and not later than thirty days after the commencement of this Act, the Federal Government shall establish an autonomous body, in accordance with the provisions of this Act, to be called the National Institute of Health.

(2) The National Institute of Health shall be an autonomous body corporate having perpetual succession and a common seal with power, subject to the provisions of this Act, to acquire, hold and dispose of property, both movable and immovable, and shall by its name sue and be sued.

(3) The headquarters of the National Institute of Health shall be at Islamabad.

(4) The National Institute of Health shall be subject to policies of the Federal Government

**4. Institutes and Centers of Health and Disease Control.-** (1) The following institutes and centers for health and disease control shall be setup and operate under the control and authority of the National Institute of Health;

- (a) Center for disease control;
- (b) Health Research Institute;
- (c) National Health Laboratory;
- (d) Health Data Center;
- (e) Institute of Nutrition and Health;
- (f) Vaccine and Biological Products Center; and
- (g) center for environmental and occupational health.

(2) Each institute and center shall be headed by an Executive Director appointed in accordance with the provisions of this Act.

**5. Search and nomination committee.**— (1) The Prime Minister shall constitute a search and nomination committee, for recommendations of persons suitable to be appointed as members of the Board of Governors, which shall consist as per following Table, namely:-

**Table**

<b>Sr. No</b>	<b>Person appointed or nominated</b>	<b>Status</b>
(1)	(2)	(3)
a.	Minister in-charge or a Federal Minister nominated by the Prime Minister	Chairman
b.	Secretary Establishment Division	Vice Chairman
c.	Secretary Ministry of National Health Services	member
d.	The head of a renowned public or private medical university	Member
e.	The head of a public or private medical institution renowned for research	member
f.	A representative of civil society with substantial contribution to public healthcare to be nominated by the Prime Minister	Member
g.	a senior member of the medical profession to be nominated by the Prime Minister	member

(2) The Chairman shall chair the meeting of the search and nomination committee and in his absence, the vice Chairman shall chair the meeting.

(3) A member nominated under sub section (f) or (g) shall, unless otherwise directed by the Prime Minister, hold office for a period of three years and shall be eligible for another term of three years or part thereof as the Prime Minister may deem appropriate:

Provided that the appointing authority, may remove a member other than ex-officio member at any time after giving him an opportunity of being heard.

(4) A quorum for a meeting of the Committee shall be five members of which at least three are members appointed under clause (d) to (g) of sub-section (1). All decisions of the Committee shall be taken by a majority.

**6. Board of Governors.**— (1) There shall be a Board of Governors of the NIH to administer and manage its affairs and shall have overall superintendence and control over the functions of the NIH and the Institutes and Centers functioning under the NIH and all related matters.

(2) The Board shall comprise of the following nine members, none of whom shall have a conflict of interest including any affiliations with interest groups or non-governmental organizations;

- (a) Secretary, Ministry of National Health Services, Regulation and Coordination; Ex-officio
- (b) Surgeon General of Pakistan;
- (c) an Infectious disease specialist of recognized high repute and standing with not less than twenty years' experience in the field;
- (d) a Pathologist of recognized high repute and standing with not less than twenty years experience in the field;
- (e) a scientist in the basic health fields, such as physiology, immunology, neurosciences, genetics, proteomics etc of recognized high repute and standing with not less than twenty years experience in the field;
- (f) a Microbiologist or Molecular Biologist of recognized high repute and standing with not less than twenty years experience in the field;
- (g) a person specializing in research in health nutrition, occupational health or environmental health and of recognized high repute and standing with not less than twenty years experience in the field;
- (h) a clinical research scientist of recognized high repute, as assessed, amongst other qualities, by number of peer reviewed publications in indexed journals, citation index and impact factor; and
- (i) any person nominated by the Prime Minister.

(3) The members under clause (c) to (h) of sub section (2) shall be appointed and notified by the Government on the recommendation of the Search and Nomination Committee constituted under section 5, provided that the members shall hold office for a period of three years and be eligible for re-appointment for one further term.

(4) The Chairperson shall be appointed by the Prime Minister from amongst the members appointed under clause (c) to (i) of sub section 2 and he shall preside over the Board meetings. In case of his absence, the Board shall elect an acting Chairperson.