

LEGAL REGIME OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS PROTECTION

IN NIGERIA: AN APPRAISAL

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ABSTRACT

Intellectual property rights protection has become a topic of public discourse due to its socio-economic importance to the world economy. It offers a lot of incentives for developing economies like Nigeria; but the absence of infrastructural facilities, poor leadership and political instability in the country poses a great challenge. Though Nigeria has assumed a position of prominence due to its strategic importance in Africa in particular and the world at large, one area that it would explore huge investment in is the area of intellectual property. The paper observed that more than fifty years after independence, Nigeria is still grappling to harmonise its intellectual property laws to meet international best practice, in spite of numerous institutional mechanisms put in place. It argued that for Nigeria to attract and benefit from foreign direct investment (FDI), it must provide an enabling environment for intellectual property to thrive. The paper concluded by making observations and proffering recommendations.

KEYWORDS: Legal Regime of Intellectual Property Rights, Socio-economic, Poor Leadership and Political Instability