

**REMARKS BY THE HONOURABLE MINISTER OF STATE FOR  
EDUCATION PROFESSOR ANTHONY ANWUKAH AT THE PUBLIC  
PRESENTATION AND DISTRIBUTION OF THE NEW HISTORY  
CURRICULUM FOR PRIMARY AND JUNIOR SECONDARY SCHOOLS  
IN NIGERIA HELD ON THE 27TH MARCH, 2018 AT THE  
CONFERENCE HALL OF THE NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR  
COLLEGES OF EDUCATION GARKI- ABUJA, NIGERIA**

**PROTOCOL**

- Your Excellency, the Senate President;
- Right Honourable Speaker, House of Representatives;
- The Minister of Education, Malam Adamu Adamu;
- Chairman, Senate Committee on Basic and Secondary Education;
- Chairman House Committee on Basic Education and Services;
- Honorable Commissioners of Education here present;
- Education Secretary, FCT;
- The Permanent Secretary, Federal Ministry of Education;
- Heads of Parastatals of the Federal Ministry of Education and other Ministries here present;
- Executive Chairmen/Directors State Basic Education Boards
- Directors of the Federal Ministry of Education;
- Directors of NERDC;
- Representatives of the Historical Society of Nigeria;
- Gentlemen of the Press;
- Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen.

It gives me great pleasure to address this very important occasion of the public presentation of the History Curriculum and its accompanying for teaching and learning as a stand-alone subject in primary and junior secondary schools in Nigeria. Today is very important and historic day not because it is only about history, but it marks the beginning of the recovery of Nigeria's history that our children are deprived for long period. Most importantly, today's event is coming at a no better time than now when the primary

focus of governance is value change and social reengineering for stability and economic growth.

The importance of History to human and national development cannot be overemphasized. A nation without history is a nation without a better future because it cannot understand nor address the present. This type of situation creates a filthy atmosphere of uncertainty and historical ignorance that can breed instability. The good, glorious and bitter lessons of our existence as peoples and evolution as a nation are not known by our younger generation and swept aside by the adults. This situation is not a good recipe for nation building, patriotism, and industry, social and economic stability.

In order to move education forward in Nigeria and make it play its catalytic role as instrument for human and national development, the present dispensation of the Federal Ministry of Education came up with Ministerial Strategic Plan for the Development of Education 2016-2019. The Strategic Plan encapsulated among many focal activities, the reintroduction of teaching and learning of history as separate core subject in primary and junior secondary schools in Nigeria. This was informed by the desire for change, attainment of national goals and also as a response to popular clamour.

I am glad to state that a solid foundation for the actualisation of our desire and attainment of the goals has been strengthened through the instrumentality of the History Curriculum for Basic Education. I congratulate all of us as we await the public presentation of the History Curriculum for Basic Education (Primary and Junior Secondary Schools) and the accompanying Teacher's Guide.

Thank you.

**Honourable Minister of State for Education**  
**Professor Anthony Anwukah**