



Policy, Research & Advocacy | Teacher Training & Placement  
School Management & Improvement Services | Civic Education

**COMMUNIQUE OF A ONE-DAY NATIONAL STAKEHOLDERS' CONSULTATIVE MEETING ON  
PROMOTING QUALITY CIVIC EDUCATION IN NIGERIA, HELD AT BARCELONA HOTEL, WUSE II,  
ABUJA ON THURSDAY, 24 NOVEMBER 2016.**

Riplington and Associates (RandA) with support from the Open Society Initiative for West Africa (OSIWA) and the Department for International Development (DfID) convened a National Consultative Meeting of Stakeholders on “Promoting Quality Civic Education in Nigeria” on 24th November 2016. The consultative meeting was attended by stakeholders in the education sectors which include, Federal Minister of Education; Commissioners of Education, Chairpersons of States Universal Basic Education Boards, Post Primary Education Boards, Provosts of Federal and States Colleges of Education from the projects’ three pilot states Borno, Enugu, and Kano states; Executive Secretary of National Education Research and Curriculum Development (NERDC), National Commission for Colleges of Education (NCCE); International Development Partners; Primary and Secondary School pupils and student; Human Rights Activists, and Civil Society Organisations, among others.

**Observations**

Participants at the National Consultative Meeting made the following observations:

1. That the school is a refuge for inculcating civic education in young people based on the social crisis in our society. This makes school driven civic education delivery very important.
2. That delivering civic education curriculum remains a vital mechanism for teaching young people about their rights and civic duties so as to function appropriately in the society.

3. That the collaboration between schools and concerned government agencies in promoting quality civic education in schools has remained frail. This has contributed to the culture of corruption, lack of regard for rule of law, derision for constituted authority, patriotism-deficit and youth involvement in unlawful activities, among others.
4. That civic education was made a compulsory subject in Nigerian schools in 2011 through the implementation of its curriculum. However, there was a key gap as it was accepted without a general debate and several concerns were not addressed. For example, teachers are not well informed on how to transfer such knowledge.
5. That through civic education, there are some key moral values and characters that must be imbibed in young people in line with our national identity.
6. Exam malpractices and several societal malaises, such as kidnapping, terrorism etc. driven by young people are being carried out by those that might not pass through civic education.

## **Resolutions**

Consequently, participants resolved as follows:

1. Students need to be very well taught about our nations' history, founding fathers and their efforts, and vision for our country.
2. Civic education content should be geared towards promoting the value of our democracy and highlighting the personalities of some of our eminent citizens.
3. Sensitization on citizen's rights is a key component of civic education curriculum and should be taken seriously. This would enable pupils, students and adults to understand their rights and that of others.
4. The content of the current civic education curriculum need to be reviewed and enriched with contemporary values.

5. Capacity of teachers need to be developed through training in civic education. Teachers have to lead exemplary lives to fully inculcate civic education in their students.
6. Our education system is in deep crisis and must be reformed to be able to deliver quality civic education curriculum.
7. A multi-sectoral National Centre for Civic Education should be established for efficient coordination of civic education mechanism and curriculum delivery.
8. It is key that civic education is extended beyond schools. Families, religious institutions, and media houses have vital roles to play.
9. In subsequent meetings on this subject, we should invite the leaders of our religious & traditional groups and more media houses.
10. There should be cross curriculum teaching of civic education. Teachers across all subjects should be prepared to deliver civic education when teaching their subjects.
11. We should ensure that we do not give citizens enabling environment to disregard law and order or do the wrong thing. We must stop several reprehensible acts of accommodating/praising looters, disobeying the law, and personally hold people to account.

***Adopted and issued in Abuja, 24<sup>th</sup> November, 2016.***