

Centa for Organizational Development, a registered gender proportionate and focused nongovernmental organization in Special Consultative Status with the United Nations Economic & Social Council (ECOSOC) in collaboration with Prime Center for Citizens Empowerment and Development, Achieving Sustainable Development & Health Initiative and support from Office of the Clerk of National Assembly in Nigeria host 2018 **CHILDRENS' & DEMOCRACY DAY INTERSCHOOL COMPETITIONS** Tagged **#KIDS TAKE OVER#** on Monday May 28, 2018 from 9am.

Children are said to be "Leaders of Tomorrow". If Nigerian children must live up to this cliché and expectation, deliberate efforts through awareness creation, sensitization, trainings and capacity building must be inculcated in their psyche early enough to arouse their interest to meet this expectation.

May 27 & 29 every year is set aside to mark the Children's day and Democracy day celebrations in Nigeria respectively. The days provide opportunity for us to call attention to Nigerian children, galvanize their interests in sustainable democratic practices while honing their skills to prepare them for leadership positions in their families, communities, state, country and indeed the global community as international and world class players.

Our Children's/Democracy Day event will feature panel discussions on "Nigeria of our dream - challenges and prospects from the children's perspective, Interschool's debates titled, "Is Democracy A Blessing in Nigeria - Discuss" as well as public speeches on children's understanding of the 2003 Child Rights Act, Universal Basic Education Act and Challenges of Leadership in Nigeria what options/opportunities for Nigerian children & youths. There would be Drama sketches on Unity in Diversity in the spate of religious conflicts and conflicts between herdsmen and farmers that are currently ravaging the country.

This event is for JSS2 and SS2 students of public secondary and private secondary schools within the Federal Capital territory.

It is expected that the competition on these topics by Nigerian children would among others:

- ❖ Strengthen the Children's public presentation and creative reasoning skills,
- ❖ Showcase the skills, competencies and personal aptitude of today's Children,
- ❖ Celebrate children as future leaders.
- ❖ Increase their self confidence and networking skills to mention but a few.

Education and academic competitions are two most important ingredients needed for the development of sustainable human livelihood. Inter-school competition increases students' creativity and public presentation skills. Competition forces students to do their best, giving room for higher aspirations. It is a realistic antidote to complacency and mediocrity. The best is brought out from our children through healthy competition and that is what we are seeking to encourage through this program/project.

At the end of this event, we would among others:

- ❖ Establish creative and teen' mentorship clubs in participated schools.
- ❖ Strengthen existing clubs in participated schools.
- ❖ Ensure continuity and sustainability of debate /competition clubs in public and private schools within the federal Capital Territory to mention but a few.
- ❖ Presentation of PRIZE Awards to best participating schools /students including One day excursion visit to National Assembly.