



**REMARKS**

**BY**

**DR DALHATU SARKI TAFIDA, OFR  
HIGH COMMISSIONER OF NIGERIA TO THE UNITED KINGDOM**

**ON THE OCCASION OF THE LAUNCHING OF THE BOOK ENTITLED  
THE REAL DEAL – THE JOURNEY OF AN INTERNATIONAL STUDENT IN  
THE UK**

**BY**

**MS OLANIKE ADEBAYO**

**AT THE**

**NIGERIA HIGH COMMISSION, LONDON  
FRIDAY, 21<sup>ST</sup> MAY, 2010**

## Protocol

It is with profound pleasure that I welcome you to today's event, which is the launching of the book by the title **The Real Deal: The Journey of an International Student in the United Kingdom** written by a young Nigerian lady, Ms Olanike Adebayo.

2. Today's event is the fourth occasion that we would recognise and celebrate such achievements by our compatriots in this country since I became the High Commissioner two years ago.

3. But this is a book with a difference. For one thing, it is written by a member of the younger generation of Nigerian achievers in the UK. It is also a mark of distinct achievement by Nigerian women in this country. Of the four books we have launched so far, three of them were written by young Nigerian women. I wish therefore to specifically congratulate our women compatriots on these truly remarkable achievements.

4. Today's occasion is also different for another reason. We are celebrating a book that takes its readers through the sojourn and personal experiences of the writer. Right from the time she arrived at the Heathrow Airport, the book records her encounters with the British culture and traditions. It also tells the story of her contacts with other cultures different from her own as she undertakes her studies at the University of Bradford and settles down to a career in Biomedical Science.

5. By drawing subtle comparisons with and inspirations from her Nigerian background and experiences in a rather engaging and humorous manner,

the book also projects the Nigerian culture to her readers. This is another feature that distinguishes this book from the others.

### **Excellencies, Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen,**

6. I will like to congratulate this young writer, Ms Olanike Adebayo, for the sacrifice of her time and commitment in writing such a simple, readable and yet highly informative book. This should make a compelling read for any one interested in a safe, hitch-free and stress-free adjustment into the social and academic life of the UK. This young writer is a source of inspiration to Nigerian youths in the UK, who should be encouraged to put a greater premium on education, literary activities and scholarship as the greatest assets that can be bequeathed to them, for a greater tomorrow.

7. As the High Commissioner committed to the welfare of my compatriots once they step into the shores of the UK, I find the book very refreshing as it also prepares the new comer for what to expect of life in the UK. May I also seize this opportunity to assure all Nigerians that the High Commission, under my watch will continue to accord special recognition to every Nigerian achiever in all fields of human endeavour in this country regardless of ethnic, gender or social background.

8. With these few remarks, it is now my honour and privilege to launch the book entitled **The Real Deal: The Journey of an International Student in the United Kingdom**. I launch the book in the name of the Federal Government of Nigeria, to the glory of all Nigerians in the UK, especially the women, and to the greater glory of God.

9. I am also buying ten (10) copies of the book for the use of the High Commission.

10. Once again, I thank you for honouring us with your presence this evening and for your attention.

11. I wish you a happy and enjoyable evening.