

WELCOME ADDRESS BY THE PERMANENT SECRETARY, MBNP AT THE PRESS BRIEFING/ FLAG OFF AT THE SECOND EDITION OF THE NIGERIA NUTRITION WEEK 2017 AT SANDRALIA HOTEL UTAKO HOTEL ABUJA ON 3RD OCTOBER, 2017.

Protocol

It is with great delight and honour that I welcome you all to this Press briefing/Flag off of the second edition of Nigeria Nutrition Week 2017.

As you are all aware the Ministry of Budget & National Planning in collaboration with the Nutrition Society of Nigeria (NSN) is organizing the 2017 Nutrition Week.

This second edition aims at intensifying awareness creation on the important role of food and nutrition in child survival and its impact on productivity, economic growth and national development.

The Maiden Edition of the Nutrition Week featured the investiture of the Wife of the President, Her Excellency, Mrs. Aisha Buhari as the Nutrition Ambassador in Nigeria and the launch of the Revised National Policy on Food and Nutrition, amongst others, we have however gained some milestone achievements in the implementation of the Policy.

2. This year's event is targeted at high level stakeholders at the National and Sub-national level. It will also serve as platform to sensitize us on the relevance of mainstreaming Food and Nutrition policies and programmes into the Economic Growth and Recovery Plan (ERGP) at all levels of Government. The Nutrition Week with the theme: "Improved Nutrition and Empowerment" speaks to two of the three broad strategic objectives of the ERGP-Economic Growth and Investing in our People. We will use the occasion to show case how the Food and Nutrition Policy has been mainstreamed into the ERGP. This is more appropriate at this time to ensure that a budget line is created for food and Nutrition stakeholders in the relevant MDAs at all levels

3. We are highly honoured with the presence of the Honourable Ministers and their commitment to food and nutrition issues in Nigeria. Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen, the Ministry recognises the importance of nutrition as a developmental issue and would continue to provide the expected leadership in the coordination of Food and Nutrition activities in the country, thereby ensuring optimal nutrition and improved health status for our citizens especially the vulnerable ones among us.

4. On this note, I welcome you all to this Press briefing/Flag off of the Second Edition of Nutrition 2017 and we look forward to the most successful week of well-articulated activities.

Thank You.