Good morning National Director of SOS Children’s Villages the Gambia, the Director of Regional Mothers and Adult Training Centre, Members of Teaching and non-teaching staff of RMATC, Representatives of other SOS projects, Parents, Friends, Distinguished Guest Ladies and Gentlemen; good morning to you all once again.

My name is Binta Nget, a graduating student from Catering and Hotel Management Department of the Regional Mothers and Adult Training Centre. This center, Regional Mothers and Adult Training Center has long been called center of academic excellence because it has made positive developmental changes in the lives of its trainees yearly.

I am extremely delighted to be given this opportunity as one of the speakers in this graduation ceremony. Well, we did it. We have all accomplished one of the milestones of our lives: Skill Development Graduation. This is a major step in the journey of our lives, one that should be seen for its great importance. We all work hard to get to this day and our work did not go to waste because this opportunity would open doors of opportunities for all of us.

Graduation is not an end goal in itself, but the completion of one academic goal and commencement of another; it is instead a part of a larger journey of life. It is a starting point, pushing us to wherever our futures are meant to take us, whether we get ourselves a career, take up a trade or continue our education at college/vocational schools. There is a saying that nobody can climb the ladder of success with ones hands in ones pockets. We have already shown commitment to personal growth through making it to this ceremony today. I hope all of us here today can take this personal achievement as an example of how everything is truly possible when we put our minds to it. AS we continue on with our lives, let us take each new problem with confidence, knowing that we have achieved great heights and are equipped with the necessary tools to tackle our futures.

The road that lies ahead would not be easy. There would be obstacles and roadblocks, there would be time when each of us would feel like we cannot possibly go on. there will be time when each of us will think he/she is alone, a back against the wall. But we are not alone ---we are all in the journey together; why should we back out now? Nothing worthwhile is easy, and that includes making the most out of our futures.

This excellent school has taught us the fundamentals of personal attributes and great ways on personal discipline that would expose us to crucial customer service concepts. Catering and Hotel Management includes many career profiles: one could work in hotel, restaurant management, catering, tourism association, club management, food and beverage, front office sales and marketing and so forth.

From this day forward, let us make each decision with our best interest in mind. Let us believe in ourselves so that we may reach our goals and fulfill our dreams. Let us be the best we can be so that we may fulfill our lives and the lives of those closest to us with happiness and pride. We have already taken the first step by making to this graduation today.

Many thanks indeed to our lecturers and instructors in the various departments; you are truly a square peg in a square hole. Congratulations to the class of 2016!!!!!!!