



**FEDERAL MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR (PRESS & PR)**

REJOINDER

RE: ASUU BLASTS EDUCATION MINISTER

The attention of the Federal Ministry of Education been drawn to publications in some national dailies to the effect that the Academic Staff Union of Universities, (ASUU) has called on the Minister of State for Education, Hon. Chukwuemeka Nwajiuba, to resign his appointment and take up farming as a profession.

This is in response to a statement supposedly made by the Hon. Minister advising members of ASUU to resign from the teaching profession and take to farming instead.

We wish to categorically state that the Minister was quoted out of context.

The Minister was encouraging members of the Association and Nigerians in general to take up farming as an alternative source of income.

This is in line with the present administration's developmental agenda of refocusing on agriculture for economic diversification.

Furthermore, farming is the only profession in which civil servants are constitutionally empowered to engage in even while they are working.

Agriculture helps boost food security, National development, as well as provide economic empowerment for Nigerians.

The Federal Ministry of Education is therefore surprised at the outburst of ASUU on the Minister's statement as there is absolutely nothing wrong with taking up farming while still working. The Hon. Minister of State is on point.

The outburst of the Academic Staff Union of Universities is clearly a matter of transferred aggression, totally unfounded, misguided and absolutely unnecessary.


Ben Bem Goong

Director, Press and Public Relations

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