Dr. Theo Gavrielides Race on the Agenda Unit 101 Cremer Business Centre 37 Cremer Street London E2 8HD

Our ref: TP/KG/105Gavrielides

Date: 9 April 2009

Dear Theo,

Thank you for your letter of 17 March, and apologies for the delay in responding.

I am pleased to see you had a constructive meeting with the Solicitor General and I trust that this will be part of an ongoing engagement between the coalition and ministers. It is interesting to see the two phases of the coalition's involvement, which I think will be complementary to the Commission's own approach to the Bill and its implementation.

Concerning the House of Commons committee and your evidence on the public duty, I would be very grateful if we could have a detailed conversation about the duty beforehand to try and come to a shared view. I also think it would be helpful if the Commission could be involved in the roundtable discussion with Baroness Howells.

Concerning resources for the coalition's ongoing work, you will be aware that the Commission has an annual grants programme which helps fund organisations for a range of purposes – although we cannot meet all the requests for funding that we receive. The call for applications for the 2009/10 funding programme should go out in May 2009. This would be the opportunity for ROTA and the coalition to apply for support. I suggest that you speak to Olu Alake, the Head of Grants, on 020 3117 0284, if you have any immediate questions about the process in advance of the call for applications being launched.

Equality and Human RightsCommission

3 More London Riverside Tooley Street London SE1 2RG

Tel: 0203 117 0235 **Fax:** 020 7407 7557

info@equalityhumanrights.com

I hope this is helpful and I look forward to continuing to work with you on the Bill.

Yours sincerely

Trevor Phillips

Chair, Equality and Human Rights Commission