

---

**From:** Theo Gavrielides  
**Sent:** 27 July 2009 09:43  
**Subject:** Meeting with the new GEO Minister

Dear colleagues and coalition members,

A quick email to share with you my letter to Michael Foster MP, the new GEO Minister. The letter covers the key themes that were discussed during our meeting on 15 July 2009.

The GEO has already responded to some of the concerns raised in the letter. I will be providing you with more detailed feedback at our scheduled meeting in September.

A gentle reminder to send me your nominations for joining the action group (see below).

If you would like to know more about the meeting or the attached letter please do not hesitate to contact me.

*You have received this email either because your organisation has signed up to the ROTA-led Winning the Race Coalition, or because you have asked us to add you to the coalition email list. For previous updates and information on the coalition please visit <http://www.rota.org.uk/pages/WTRC.aspx> If you no longer wish to receive updates from ROTA please email me. If you have received this email by mistake please accept my sincere apologies and inform us immediately so that we can remove you from the email list. If you have any negative or positive feedback on our updates, then we would love to hear from you.*

Best wishes,



**Dr. Theo Gavrielides**  
**Chief Executive**

Race On The Agenda

Waterloo Business Centre, Unit 217 & 208

117 Waterloo Road, London SE1 8UL

020 7902 11 77, Direct line 020 7902 1966, mobile: 07720057750

[www.rota.org.uk](http://www.rota.org.uk)

**Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail or its attachments.**

\*\*\*\*\*

The information contained in this email and any attachments is intended only for the use of the named recipient(s). If you have received this e-mail in error, please notify the sender immediately and then delete it. If you are not the intended recipient, you must not use, disclose or distribute this e-mail without the author's prior permission. We have taken precautions to minimise the risk of transmitting software viruses, but we advise you to carry out your own virus checks on any attachment to this message. We cannot accept liability for any loss or damage caused by software viruses. If you are the intended recipient and you do not wish to receive similar electronic messages from us in future then please respond to the sender to this effect.

Race On The Agenda is a Registered Charity 1064975 and a Company Limited by Guarantee 3425664

If you have any doubts about the authenticity of an email purportedly sent by us, please contact Race On The Agenda immediately on 020 7902 1177.

---

**From:** Theo Gavrielides  
**Sent:** 13 July 2009 17:55  
**To:** Theo Gavrielides  
**Subject:** Updates from the Winning the Race coalition on the Single Equality Bill

Dear coalition members,  
I am writing to provide you with several important updates on the Single Equality Bill. You have received this email either because your organisation has signed up to the ROTA-led Winning the Race Coalition, or because you have asked us to add you to the coalition email list. For previous updates and information on the coalition please visit <http://www.rota.org.uk/pages/WTRC.aspx>

### **The Equality Bill passes Committee scrutiny**

On 7 July 2009, the Equality Bill successfully passed scrutiny by MPs on the Public Bill Committee in the House of Commons. The Committee debates ranged across a number of key themes in the Bill including the socio-economic duty on public authorities; the definition of gender reassignment; the definition of disability and the distinct nature of protection for disabled people; the balance between competing rights, for example, in relation to religion or belief and sexual orientation; gender pay gap reporting; positive action; the public sector Equality Duty; equal pay; and age discrimination.

The Bill was strengthened in two important ways. A Government amendment was accepted which will protect people against dual discrimination so a black woman discriminated against because of this particular combination of characteristics could bring a single claim for combined sex and race discrimination. A change to the Bill was also made regarding pregnancy and maternity provisions. It will now be clear beyond all doubt that a pregnant woman or a woman nursing her baby, for example, should not be treated unfavourably for those reasons.

### **Proposed Amendments**

I have attached a summary of all the tabled amendments. The Bill will now progress to Report stage in the House of Commons when MPs as a whole will have the chance to debate and propose amendments.

### **Roundtable race discussion with the EHRC**

Coalition members and other third sector organisations with an interest in race equality met with EHRC Chair and staff. The minutes from the meeting are attached.

A new roundtable meeting with the EHRC Chair has been proposed for **8<sup>th</sup> September at the EHRC, 14.00 – 16.00**. Please let me know if you will be able to attend. Travel expenses will be covered.

### **Next step for the coalition**

As the Bill will be progressing to Report stage, we would like to form a small action group that will take some of the coalition's recommendations forward. This will include: lobbying peers, continue to provide evidence from the BAME and equalities third sector, and continue to provide policy, voice and other capacity building services to the BAME and equality third sector. We would also like to discuss with members ROTA's new training programme on the Bill.

Initially, we will be looking to recruit up to 5 coalition members. We acknowledge the recourse limitations of members and hence we will ensure that they are compensated for their time and expenses (full details to follow). We would like to hold the first meeting of the action group on the same day as the EHRC roundtable for members' convenience. We therefore propose **8 September 10:00 - 12:00** followed by lunch. Members who are interested in joining the group are kindly requested to send me their expression of interest in the form of an email by end of July.

### **Senior Stakeholder Group meetings with EHRC**

As part of the EHRC's commitment and role in providing leadership and coordination in equality matters, a senior stakeholders group has been formed. Members of the group meet regularly with the EHRC chair and other senior staff to agree on next steps and ensure consistency in our messages. ROTA is a member of this group. Happy to provide you with more information should you need it.

If you no longer wish to receive updates from ROTA please email me. If you have received this email by mistake please accept my sincere apologies and inform us immediately so that we can remove you from the email list. If you have any negative or positive feedback on our updates, then we would love to hear from you.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Best wishes



**Dr. Theo Gavrielides**  
**Chief Executive**

Race On The Agenda

Waterloo Business Centre, Unit 217 & 208

117 Waterloo Road, London SE1 8UL

020 7902 11 77, Direct line 020 7902 1966, mobile: 07720057750

[www.rota.org.uk](http://www.rota.org.uk)

**Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail or its attachments.**

\*\*\*\*\*

The information contained in this email and any attachments is intended only for the use of the named recipient(s). If you have received this e-mail in error, please notify the sender immediately and then delete it. If you are not the intended recipient, you must not use, disclose or distribute this e-mail without the author's prior permission. We have taken precautions to minimise the risk of transmitting software viruses, but we advise you to carry out your own virus checks on any attachment to this message. We cannot accept liability for any loss or damage caused by software viruses. If you are the intended recipient and you do not wish to receive similar electronic messages from us in future then please respond to the sender to this effect.

Race On The Agenda is a Registered Charity 1064975 and a Company Limited by Guarantee 3425664

If you have any doubts about the authenticity of an email purportedly sent by us, please contact Race On The Agenda immediately on 020 7902 1177.