

## HOUSE OF COMMONS LONDON SWIA 0AA

Dear Colleague,

## Standing Conference On Racial Equality in Europe (UK)

The European Community raises issues of serious concern to black people throughout Europe. Despite promises of freedom of movement and equality of opportunity, there is no reason to believe that ethnic minorities will receive fair and equal treatment. On the contrary, the rapid resurgence of racism and fascism, the growing resistance to immigration from Africa, Asia and the Carribean, and the daily experience of black people across Europe, confirm that the European Community threatens to reduce their rights and worsen the conditions under which they live.

Over forty UK organisations have therefore decided to come together as a Standing Conference on Racial Equality in Europe to:

- \* co-operate in the exchange and dissemination of information about issues of concern to members of black and ethnic minority communities, including refugees and asylum seekers, in Europe;
- \* work for equality of condition for all those resident in member states of the European Community, regardless of their colour, race, nationality, ethnic or national origins, or religion;
- \* promote both action and legislation which will ensure equal treatment for black and migrant communities, and outlaw discrimination, in:
  - immigration to, and freedom of movement within, the European Community;

- the treatment of asylum seekers and refugees;

- the right to family life, including family reunion;

the criminal justice system;

- access to and the provision of training, employment and capital;
- access to and the provision of goods and services;
   and
- access to and the provision of education, housing, health and other social services;

- \* promote legislation which will outlaw harassment, or incitement to racial hatred or violence, whether by individuals, the media, or political or other organisations; and to
- \* liaise and cooperate with all groups and organisations with equivalent aims throughout the European Community.

Membership is open to all organisations which support the aims and objectives of SCORE (UK). I am writing as Chair of the Standing Conference to invite your organisation to take up membership, and to attend the inaugural meeting, which will take place on Saturday 24th. November 1990 in Birmingham.

Membership will allow you to play a full part in a positive campaigning organisation working for real action on issues of growing importance to black and ethnic minority groups throughout Europe. A fast and efficient information service will provide member organisations with the information on the developments in Europe which are increasingly affecting the lives of black people in Britain.

I sincerely hope you will want to be part of this important initiative.

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Bernie Grant MP.