

**Company No. 4084309**

**AFRICAN COMMUNITY COUNCIL FOR THE REGIONS  
(ACCR)**

**AUDITED ACCOUNTS**

**YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2008**



African Community Council for the Regions (ACCR)  
Prospect Hall, 12 College Walk, Selly Oak, Birmingham, B29 6LE  
Tel 0121 415 6690 ~ Fax 0121 415 6699  
E-mail [office@accr.org.uk](mailto:office@accr.org.uk) ~ Website [www.accr.org.uk](http://www.accr.org.uk)

A company limited by guarantee no 4084309 ~ Registered Charity no 1088205

## **AFRICAN COMMUNITY COUNCIL FOR THE REGIONS**

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## **AFRICAN COMMUNITY COUNCIL FOR THE REGIONS**

### **Registered Office**

African Community Council for the Regions (ACCR)  
Prospect Hall  
12 College Walk  
Selly Oak  
Birmingham  
B29 6LE

Tel 0121 415 6692 Fax 0121 415 6699

E-mail [office@accr.org.uk](mailto:office@accr.org.uk) Website [www.accr.org.uk](http://www.accr.org.uk)

### **Auditors**

R A Lea & Co Limited  
Chartered Accountants  
St Helens House  
23-31 Vittoria Street  
Birmingham B1 3ND

### **Bankers**

Unity Trust Bank  
Nine Brindleyplace  
4 Oozells Square  
Birmingham B21 2HB

## **AFRICAN COMMUNITY COUNCIL FOR THE REGIONS**

### **Chairman's Statement**

We have this year seen many changes within ACCR and the transition in funding that had begun last year has continued. This continues to be challenging for the whole voluntary sector and ACCR. We expect the opportunities in early 2009 to see the charity grow further which is coupled with the redesign of services that will be made in autumn 2008.

The income this year has dropped slightly again because of the changes in the sector and the delays in commissioning cycles which have meant that projects will be starting later than first thought.


The management and staff are working hard to explore new opportunities in order to meet the new objectives of the charity and the African communities it serves. However, the charity is in a good position and is considered within the funding community as a solid organisation. We have received excellent feedback from Birmingham City Council's Carers project and have participated well in many networks and events for the African community.

It is to be particularly mentioned that Daisy Savanhu-Marere continues to provide excellent work and support the unit in the Piers Road Centre which has been developed by Birmingham City Council and North Birmingham Housing Association where a wide range of activities for BME and new communities are available.

Disappointing delays have occurred in our African international work, which are understandable due to security instabilities, which are beyond our control. Therefore, a realistic view would be that these activities would be delayed until late 2009/2010.

We are looking forward to autumn 2008 when our new funding arrangements will be completed for the above Kushinga project and the further development of our new initiatives.

I would like to commend our staff and volunteers for their work on behalf of the African communities in Birmingham, for which they continue to provide with compassion and dedication.



**MS Al-Rahim (Chairman)**

**Date** 12/11/2008

**AFRICAN COMMUNITY COUNCIL FOR THE REGIONS**  
**(Limited by Guarantee)**  
**TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT**  
**YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2008**

**TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT 2007/2008**

The Trustees, who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act, present their report together with the audited accounts of the company for the year ended 31 March 2008. The Trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" revised in 2005 in preparing the annual report and accounts of the charity

The company is a registered charity, governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association and was set up on 5<sup>th</sup> October 2000

**Organisation**

The Council is a membership organisation and membership is free. Members may vote at the annual general meeting. Trustees are elected from the membership, which form a committee of volunteer Trustees (the 'board'). The Trustees who are also the Directors manage the organisation. One third of Trustees stand down at the annual general meeting and Trustees may, from time to time, co-opt additional members to the board if a need is identified for a particular expertise or area of knowledge.

The board of Trustees meet every month to oversee the business of the organisation. Day to day running of the organisation is delegated to the staff supervised by the Chair of Trustees. The Trustees/Directors who served during the financial year 2007-2008 and up to the date of this report, are shown below

**ACCR Trustees/Directors**

<u>NAME</u>	<u>OCCUPATION</u>	<u>DATE ELECTED/ RESIGNED</u>
M S Al-Rahim (Chairman)	Psychotherapist	Elected 10/07/2000
V O B Davies (Secretary)	Economist	Elected 05/10/2000
G R De'Ath	Lawyer	Elected 10/07/2000
B Ntivunwa (Treasurer)	Business Management	Elected 05/10/2000
S Bisani	African Community Worker	Elected 05/12/2007
Dr L L Deng	African Community Health Facilitator	Elected 05/10/2000 Resigned 25/05/2007

**Staff & Volunteers**

The African Community Council for the Regions' staff & volunteers did valuable work for the Charity during the year. The staffs provide both professional and administrative work for the ACCR. In addition, the volunteers provide administration support for the organisation from time to time and consultants are engaged to provide tailored development support, when needed by the Charity.

The Trustees/Directors value and appreciate the work done by staff, volunteers & consultants during the year

**AFRICAN COMMUNITY COUNCIL FOR THE REGIONS**  
**(Limited by Guarantee)**  
**TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT**  
**YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2008**

**Projects carried out by ACCR**

**African Community Links Projects:** - This project was funded through a three-year restricted grant of £170,502 by the Big Lottery Fund. This project provides services to individuals such as advice & information on Health, Education, Skill Training and access to mainstream benefits, while the community organizations received capacity building support in terms of fund raising and governance. The immediate and ultimate beneficiaries of this project include African community organizations and individual African people living in the West Midlands.

**The African Older People's Befriending, Advice and Information Service:** This project was funded by Birmingham City Council and SRB6 for £38,000 through a consortium of Asian Resource Centre and Wesleyan Community Centre. The activities of the project are to provide support for the elderly people aged 55 years of age and over, the project also assists in reducing isolation, stress as well as to support and empowering them.

**African Youth Project:** This project received funding from Big Lottery Fund for £59,921.50. The project arranged several social activities for young African youth in community centres, and hostels across the region. The project provided dictionaries and other learning games like scrabbles, board games, weight training materials at their hostels and community centres.

**The Inter-Generation Project:** This project received funding of £14,193 from The Award for All (£9,193) and Lloyds TSB (£5,000). The project activities include music and folk dance as form of tackling anti social behaviour among young African people.

**Supporting People:** - This is a funding regime from the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM) for £13,680 a year. ACCR is funded to provide a floating support to African refugees in Sandwell Borough Council.

**Kushinga:-** This project is funded for 3 years (2005-2008) for £21,000 a year by Birmingham Social Services to support African carers. The project activities include Training 6 Multi lingual Volunteers, support social cultural and spiritual network. Signpost carers to appropriate services, develop carers' skills in stress management health and safety.

**Ziba-Ufa Project (Closing the Gap)** - This project is funded for one year (2007-2008) for £49,479 by The Heritage Lottery Fund. The main aim of the project is to research into the journey and experiences as well as exploring positive angle of freedom and equality of African people from the time of slavery to the present through extensive research into the history connected to African slavery (1619 - 1807) and its impact on the abolition of slavery and the positive contribution in form of freedom equality and multiculturalism on African communities in Birmingham.

**Specialised Projects**

Throughout the West Midlands ACCR worked to improve access to mainstream services and enhance opportunities for African immigrants including students, Refugees and asylum-seekers giving them more knowledge of UK, as well as promoting integration and preventing racial harassment, more choice and more independence. Some projects are aimed at particularly vulnerable refugee groups such as women or young people. Our innovative project serves as a pilot for wide dissemination to agencies throughout the voluntary, statutory and private sector.

**AFRICAN COMMUNITY COUNCIL FOR THE REGIONS**  
**(Limited by Guarantee)**  
**TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT**  
**YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2008**

**Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities**

The trustees are responsible for preparing the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the surplus or deficit of the company for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to

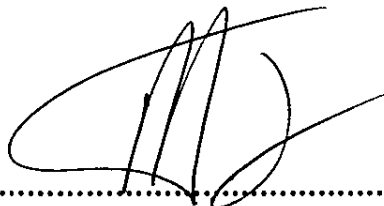
- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently,
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent,
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 1985. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

**Statement as to disclosure of information to auditors**

So far as the trustees are aware, there is no relevant audit information (as defined by Section 234ZA of the Companies Act 1985) of which the company's auditors are unaware, and each trustee has taken all the steps that he or she ought to have taken as a trustee in order to make himself or herself aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the company's auditors are aware of that information.

**Signed on behalf of the board of Trustees/Directors by:**



.....

Trustee/Director

12/11/2008

.....

Date

## **INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF**

### **AFRICAN COMMUNITY COUNCIL FOR THE REGIONS**

We have audited the financial statements of African Community Council for the Regions for the year ended 31 March 2008 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet and the related notes on pages 8 to 13. These financial statements have been prepared under the accounting policies set out therein and the requirements of the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective January 2007).

This report is made solely to the charity's members, as a body, in accordance with Section 235 of the Companies Act 1985. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

#### **Respective Responsibilities of the Trustees and Auditors**

As described in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities the trustees, who are also the trustees for the purposes of charity law, are responsible for the preparation of the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Our responsibility is to audit the financial statements in accordance with relevant legal and regulatory requirements and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland).

We report to you our opinion as to whether the financial statements give a true and fair view and are properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985. We report to you whether in our opinion the information given in the Trustees' Annual Report is consistent with the financial statements. We also report to you if, in our opinion, the charity has not kept proper accounting records, if we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit, or if information specified by law regarding trustees' remuneration and transactions is not disclosed.

We read the Trustees' Annual Report and consider the implications for our report if we become aware of any apparent misstatements within it.

#### **Basis of Audit Opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland) issued by the Auditing Practices Board. An audit includes examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. It also includes an assessment of the significant estimates and judgements made by the trustees in the preparation of the financial statements, and of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the charity's circumstances, consistently applied and adequately disclosed.

We planned and performed our audit so as to obtain all information and explanations which we considered necessary in order to provide us with sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or other irregularity or error. In forming our opinion we also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the financial statements.



**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF**  
**AFRICAN COMMUNITY COUNCIL FOR THE REGIONS (CONTINUED)**

**Opinion**

In our opinion

- the financial statements give a true and fair view, in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice of the charity's affairs as at 31 March 2008 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, in the year then ended,
- the financial statements have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985, and
- the information given in the Trustees' Annual Report is consistent with the financial statements

*R A Lea & Co Ltd.*

R A Lea and Co Limited  
Chartered Accountants  
Registered Auditors  
23-31 Vittoria Street  
Birmingham  
B1 3ND

Date *12/11/08*

**AFRICAN COMMUNITY COUNCIL FOR THE REGIONS**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES  
(INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE)  
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2008**

		<b>2008</b>			<i>2007</i>
	<b>Note</b>	<b>Unrestricted Funds £</b>	<b>Restricted Funds £</b>	<b>Total £</b>	<i>Total £</i>
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES:</b>					
<b>Activities in furtherance of the Charity's objects:</b>					
Donations and grants	3	<b>1,209</b>	<b>89,684</b>	<b>90,893</b>	<i>135,773</i>
<b>Activities for generating funds:</b>					
Other Income		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>89,684</b>	<b>90,893</b>	<i>135,773</i>
<b>TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>					
<b>Costs of activities in furtherance of the Charity's objects:</b>					
Delivery of charitable services	6	<u>-</u>	<u><b>119,524</b></u>	<u><b>119,524</b></u>	<i><u>128,441</u></i>
<b>NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS FOR THE YEAR</b>		<b>1,209</b>	<b>(29,840)</b>	<b>(28,631)</b>	<i>7,362</i>
<b>Transfer between funds</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>FUND BALANCES BROUGHT FORWARD AT 1 APRIL 2007</b>		<u><b>(1,111)</b></u>	<u><b>29,840</b></u>	<u><b>28,729</b></u>	<i><u>21,367</u></i>
<b>FUND BALANCES CARRIED FORWARD AT 31 MARCH 2008</b>		<u><b>98</b></u>	<u><b>-</b></u>	<u><b>98</b></u>	<i><u>28,729</u></i>

All incoming resources and resources expended derive from continuing activities

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year

The notes on pages 10 to 13 form part of these accounts

# AFRICAN COMMUNITY COUNCIL FOR THE REGIONS

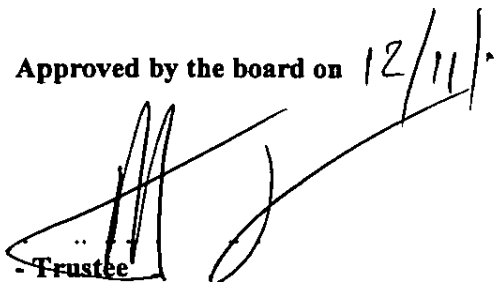
## BALANCE SHEET AT 31 MARCH 2008

	Note	2008	2007
		£	£
<b>FIXED ASSETS:</b>			
Tangible Assets	7	<u>2,933</u>	<u>2,579</u>
<b>CURRENT ASSETS:</b>			
Trade Debtors		-	-
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>5,721</u>	<u>35,594</u>
		<u>5,721</u>	<u>35,594</u>
<b>CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year:</b>			
Taxation and other social security costs		7,381	3,119
Other creditors		-	3,976
Accruals		<u>1,175</u>	<u>2,350</u>
		<u>8,556</u>	<u>9,445</u>
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS/ (LIABILITIES)</b>		<u>2,835</u>	<u>26,150</u>
<b>NET ASSETS/ (LIABILITIES)</b>		<u>98</u>	<u>28,729</u>
Financed By			
<b>FUNDS :</b>			
Unrestricted funds		98	(1,111)
Restricted funds	8	<u>-</u>	<u>29,840</u>
<b>FUNDS RETAINED AT 31 MARCH 2008</b>		<u>98</u>	<u>28,729</u>

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part VII of the Companies Act 1985 relating to small companies and with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective January 2007)

Approved by the board on 12/11/

2008 and signed on its behalf by:

  
- Trustee

The notes on pages 10 to 13 form part of these accounts

# **AFRICAN COMMUNITY COUNCIL FOR THE REGIONS**

## **NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2008**

### **1. BASIS OF ACCOUNTING**

The financial statements have been prepared under the historic cost convention and in accordance with the statement of Recommended Practice Accounting by Charities (SORP 2005) issued in October 2005, applicable accounting standards and the Companies Act 1985

The Trustees have prepared the accounts on a going concern basis which assumes that African Community Council for the Regions will continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future based upon the continued support of its principal funders

### **2 ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

The principal accounting policies adopted in the preparation of the accounts are as follows

#### **2.1 Incoming Resources**

##### **Donations and Grants**

Income from donations and grants, including capital grants, is included in incoming resources when these are receivable, except as follows:

- When donors specify that the donations and grants given to the charity must be used in future accounting periods, the income is deferred until those periods,
- When donors impose conditions which have to be fulfilled before the charity becomes entitled to use such income, the income is deferred and not included in incoming resources until the pre-conditions for use have been met,
- When donors specify that the donations and grants, including capital grants, are for particular restricted purposes, which do not amount to pre-conditions regarding entitlement, this income is included in incoming resources of restricted funds when receivable

#### **2.2 Resources Expended**

Resources expended are included in the Statement of Financial Activities on an accruals basis, inclusive of any VAT which cannot be recovered

#### **2.3 Fund Accounting**

Funds held by the charity are either:

Unrestricted general funds – these are funds which can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the Trustees, or

Restricted funds – these are funds that can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes

## AFRICAN COMMUNITY COUNCIL FOR THE REGIONS

### NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2008

#### 2.4 Tangible Fixed Assets and Depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation

Fixed assets are depreciated over their estimated useful lives as follows:

Computer and office equipment - 25% straight line basis

#### 3. DONATIONS AND GRANTS

The restricted grants received during the year were from the following organisations

	2008	2007
	£	£
Sandwell MBC	5,845	13,949
Big Lottery Heritage Fund	24,700	24,700
Big Lottery Youth Project	7,189	29,574
Awards For All England	-	9,193
Big Lottery Community Fund	-	1,540
SRB6 – Elderly Project	-	26,097
Kushinga 1	22,000	21,000
Kushinga 2	19,977	3,600
Kushinga 3	5,000	-
Others	4,973	-
	<u>89,684</u>	<u>129,653</u>

#### 4. FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS

At 31 March 2008, the company had no financial commitments other than the current liabilities shown on the balance sheet.

#### 5. STAFF COSTS AND TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION

	2008	2007
	£	£
Staff costs	<u>96,803</u>	<u>106,839</u>

	Number	Number
The monthly average number of employees during the year was as follows	2	4

No employee received remuneration amounting to more than £60,000

Dr L L Deng was a Trustee and received a salary of £3,868 during the year (£24,812 in 2006/7) as authorised by the Charities Commission and pursuant to empowering clauses in the constitution

# AFRICAN COMMUNITY COUNCIL FOR THE REGIONS

## NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2008

### 6. DELIVERY OF CHARITABLE SERVICES

	2008	2007
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds
	£	£
Wages and Salaries	-	96,803
Rent and service charge	-	2,679
Project costs	-	2,641
Office function expenses	-	280
General office expenses	-	3,791
Auditors' fees for audit services	-	1,175
Book-keeper	-	875
Volunteer expenses	-	758
Professional Fees	-	6,796
Bank charges	-	-
Hardship Payments	-	-
Training Costs	-	1,232
Sundry expenses	-	686
Depreciation	-	1,808
	<u>-</u>	<u>119,524</u>
		<u>124,581</u>

### 7. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Computer & Office Equipment £
<b>COST:</b>	
At 1 April 2007	11,321
Additions during the year	<u>2,162</u>
<b>At 31 March 2008</b>	<b><u>13,483</u></b>
<b>DEPRECIATION:</b>	
At 1 April 2007	8,742
Provision for the year	<u>1,808</u>
<b>At 31 March 2008</b>	<b><u>10,550</u></b>
<b>NET BOOK VALUE:</b>	
<b>At 31 March 2008</b>	<b><u>2,933</u></b>
<i>At 1 April 2007</i>	<i><u>2,579</u></i>

# AFRICAN COMMUNITY COUNCIL FOR THE REGIONS

## NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2008

### 8. RESTRICTED FUNDS

	At 1.4.2007 £	Incoming Resources £	Outgoing Resources £	At 31.3.2008 £
Sandwell MBC	-	5,845	5,845	-
Big Lottery Heritage Fund	24,700	24,700	49,400	-
Big Lottery Community Fund	1,540	-	1,540	-
Big Lottery Youth Project	-	7,189	7,189	-
Kushinga 1	-	22,000	22,000	-
Kushinga 2	3,600	5,000	8,600	-
Kushinga 3	-	19,977	19,977	-
Others	-	4,973	4,973	-
	<u>29,840</u>	<u>89,684</u>	<u>119,524</u>	<u>-</u>

### 9. ANALYSIS OF NET LIABILITIES BETWEEN FUNDS

Fund Balances are represented by	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total £
Tangible assets	-	2,933	2,933
Current assets	-	5,721	5,721
Current liabilities	-	(8,556)	(8,556)
Total Net Assets/ ( Liabilities)	<u>-</u>	<u>98</u>	<u>98</u>