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STATEMENT: ACONI DENOUNCES DUP MP DIVISIVE STATEMENT

ACSONI (African and Caribbean Support Organisation Northern Ireland) denounces the inflammatory and racist language used by DUP MP, Gregory Campbell to criticise the BBC's Songs of Praise Gospel of the Year Programme. Mr Campbell's divisive statement should be universally condemned.

We, at ACONI, seek to create a more inclusive and integrated society in Northern Ireland. We are approaching the Northern Ireland Executive and the DUP to find an opportunity to discuss the impact of Mr Gregory's statement and to find solutions for moving forward.

If we are to make progress on the problems of race in our community, it is important that we address the difficult and sensitive issues head on, when they occur. This is how we can make the changes that matter to people.

The ACONI BOARD OF TRUSTEES