

# **Recommendations: Workshop on Partnership and Subtle Racism**

Windhoek, Namibia, 25 to 31 October, 2022

We as Christians from Africa, Asia and Germany were gathered by invitation of UEM in an International Workshop on Partnership in Windhoek, Namibia, from 25th to 31st of October 2022 on the theme “Partnership and Subtle Racism”. After the intense discussion and consultation, we find that racism is a reality in the society. Therefore, we come to recommendations as follows. As Christians, we should ask ourselves what Jesus would have done and we as participants try to follow his example.

## **Recommendations for UEM members and partnership groups**

1. We ask the members to mobilize resources together on an anti-racism campaign.
2. We ask the churches and the partnership groups to promote the anti-racist movement.
3. We ask the members and partnership groups to appoint responsible persons for the implementation of the following tasks:
4. We ask all partnership groups to raise awareness and talk about it, provide information, have debates, allow for dialogue on racism and make sure that the partners are well informed about subtle racism. Information can be obtained from UEM and will be provided there.
5. We ask the members to ensure that all members of partnership groups have attended an antiracism-seminar before visiting their partners or being actively involved in partnership work.
6. We ask the members to create safer spaces to encourage people to speak openly about racism.
7. We ask the churches to involve the youth, women and men in all processes about antiracism.



## **Recommendations for UEM**

1. We ask UEM to develop and give contextual tools to members to practice anti-racism training to transform attitudes and mentalities.
2. We ask UEM to empower the trainers of antiracism to train working on different levels and with different target groups (e.g. children, teenagers and adults), conduct visits to Sunday schools, early childhood development centres and confirmation classes.
3. We ask UEM to facilitate research and to implement seminars on racial trauma healing.
4. We ask UEM to continue the process of reconciliation of the wounds of colonialism (e.g. genocide, land-grabbing).
5. In our seminar we learned with great concern about the devastating effects of the colonial period, genocide and apartheid in Namibia. Especially the German Church should take more responsibility for this. Therefore we ask the UEM to get in contact with EKD and to organize for example a visit of the EKD Council accompanied by ELCRN and other UEM members in Namibia. The UEM community within its 26 year history of internationalization and the process of overcoming structural racism can function as the facilitator between ELCRN and EKD.

**That's our recommendation, hopefully they could be approved and applied for much better partnership. Thank you!**