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**UEM mourns the death of Dr. Soritua A.E. Nababan,
Moderator of the UEM from 1996 – 2000**

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The United Evangelical Mission, Communion of Churches in three Continents, mourns the passing of Ephorus Dr. S.A.E. Nababan, who died in Jakarta, Indonesia, on May 8th, 2021, at the age of 87.

With him, the UEM loses a companion who played a decisive role in shaping and guiding the transformation of the German United Evangelical Mission into an international communion of churches and the v. Bodelschwingh Foundations Bethel.

Dr. Nababan was co-chair from 1988 to 1996 of the United in Mission Committee in which the transformation of the UEM took shape. This transformation was later enacted with the adoption of the Constitution by the General Assembly of Churches in Ramatea/Botswana in 1993 and its ratification in Bethel/Germany in 1996 at the constituent General Assembly of the UEM.

In 1996, Dr. Nababan was elected as the first Moderator of UEM. In this capacity, he led UEM until the second General Assembly in Windhoek, Namibia, in the year 2000.

With his rich experience from international ecumenism, in which Dr. Nababan was active in many leading positions, and his theological convictions and concerns about basic questions of mission, he contributed significantly, especially in the years of his leadership positions at UEM, to the holistic understanding of mission adopted in 1996, as it is still valid today in the Constitution of UEM.

He also helped to develop and shape the programs and structures within UEM and its three regions aimed at equal participation and cooperation in mission. These impulses were also reflected in the 1996 Constitution and continue to have an impact until today.

The UEM is deeply indebted to Dr. Nababan and will honor and keep in lasting memory his heritage and his legacy for the work of the mission.

Our special sympathy goes out to his wife Alida Nababan, who accompanied Dr. Nababan on his many engagements for the benefit of UEM, and to his entire family, his church, the Protestant Toba Batak Church in Indonesia (HKBP) and the Indonesian Council of Churches (PGI).

The Lord redeems the lives of his servants, and all who trust in him are set free from guilt. Psalm 34:23

On behalf of the United Evangelical Mission.
Communion of churches in three continents

For the Management Team

Volker Dally
General Secretary

John Wesley Kabango
Executive Secretary

Jochen Motte
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