

## **Oral Statement**

Human Rights Council 46<sup>th</sup> Session

Item 3: Interactive dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief regarding report on Anti-Muslim hatred and discrimination and the right to freedom of thought, conscience, religion or belief

3 March 2021

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The World Evangelical Alliance welcomes the report of the Special Rapporteur.

National evangelical alliances, who are members of the WEA, provide good examples of inter-faith solidarity, and of standing up against discrimination, exclusion and scapegoating.

The **Central African Republic** Interfaith Peace Platform models such cooperation, as Christian and Muslim leaders, including the President of the local Evangelical Alliance, have joined efforts for the sake of reconciliation and restoration. The Platform speaks up against religious stigmatization and hatred.

**In India and Sri Lanka**, our member alliances work closely alongside the Muslim communities in order to promote and protect the right to freedom of religion. They have condemned violence and discrimination against Muslims and other religious minorities.

**In 2014, the Swiss Evangelical Alliance** publicly condemned the arson attack on an Islamic center in Flums and, as a sign of solidarity, made a donation for its reconstruction.

We reaffirm the unique value of each and every member of the human family. We believe each one of us is created in the Image of God.

We ask the Special Rapporteur what governments can do to endorse inter-faith peacemaking and involve faith groups in combating hateful discourses against Muslims and other religious communities.

Thank you.