

NECARF 2nd MEETING  
12th July, 2020 at 2:00PM

Moderators: Mr. James Pochury.

## **THE MINUTES**

Agenda No. 1

Organizational Structure & Mandate of NECARF. (Presented and moderated by Mr. Siile Anthony.)

Northeast Catholic Research Forum (NECARF) to be PAN India. To be non-political in its approach.

Inclusion of "India" in the Nomenclature of the Forum was considered though no final resolution was arrived at. This will be discussed and a consensus built over WhatsApp in due course.

Registration of the Forum will be initiated to avail various benefits - such as subsidized rates on papers and postage, etc. and to avail projects/schemes.

Mr. John Shilshi, Chairman of Working Draft Committee, will lead in this, as also in other initiatives mentioned below.

NECARF will act as a catalyst and facilitator for knowledge sharing through writing and publications, inclusive of socio-economic, cultural and spiritual/religious aspects, as a think tank, a facilitator for the common people at the village level on various issues including Agrarian, Cultural and bio diversity, Forests and Environment, Climate change, etc. and various issues relevant to the potential and needs of the North East region.

NECARF will be a free-thinking group, free from the control of religious institutions (e.g., Diocese/parish).

Concerning Organizational structure, NECARF, for the Initial Phase will have the following Core functionaries:

Convenor

Co-convenor

Secretary (Supplementary to Co-convenor if the need arises)

Treasurer/ Finance Secretary.

NECARF to have an Editorial Board of five members for editing or writing in co-ordination with the Core members.

Chief Editor will be chosen by the members from amongst themselves (out of the five).

The Editorial Board to be selected or nominated in the WhatsApp group of the Forum.

The addition of an Advisory Board could be considered at later stages.

#### Agenda No.2

Inclusion of the Clergy of Northeastern Domicile

Minutes recorded by Dr. Raile R Ziipao

The resource person for this session was Rev. Fr. Stephen Touthang and moderated by Raile R. Ziipao. Fr. Stephen succinctly summed up research as a scientific process and deliberated on objectivity and its ramification. He posits for the inclusion of clergy in Northeast India Catholic Research Forum wherein it would create a space to learn, unlearn and relearn for both clergy and laity in the pursuit of knowledge. Fr. Stephen asserts that the inclusion of clergy in this forum would leverage for mutual sharing and growth. This would open a new avenue to synchronize different worldviews.

The house unanimously agreed for the inclusion of Clergy in the forum. The issue of membership was also deliberated.

#### Agenda No.3:

Resource Mobilisation

Presented and moderated by Mr. David Boyes

Short term/immediate resource mobilisation:

The meeting decided to levy one time membership fee of Rs. 1000/ (One thousand only) from the members of the forum.

It was further decided that the forum shall solicit free will donations from individuals and appropriate organisations.

Long term resource mobilisation:

The Forum shall take up research projects, research publications and invite advertisements in relevant publications to generate resources for self-sustenance and sustainability of the Forum.

We will also build linkages with like minded organisations, research institutions in India and abroad, NGOs and International organisations to harness material, human, intellectual and financial resources.

#### Agenda No. 4:

Constitution of Drafting Committee for Position paper/Working Structure.

The meeting/members present decided to have a position paper/working structure of the Forum. Consequently, the following individuals were nominated to be the Drafting Committee Members for the same:

- |                              |          |
|------------------------------|----------|
| 1. Mr. John Shilshi          | Chairman |
| 2. Rev. Fr. Stephen Touthang | Member   |
| 3. Dr. Raile Rocky Züpao,    | Member   |
| 4. Dr. Tiborlang             | Member   |
| 5. Dr. Veronica              | Member   |

Note: Another woman member is yet to be nominated/selected as Member of the Drafting Committee.

The full speech of Fr. Stephen Touthang is attached below.

Yours sincerely,

Mr. Ngachonmi Jonah Raskan  
On behalf of the Rapporteurs